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Agents: USA: Jerry Kaufman, 4326 Winslow Place North, Seattle, WA 98103.

NZ: Nigel Rowe, 24 Beulah Avenue, Rothesay Bay, Auckland 10.

Europe: Joseph Nicholas, 22 Denbigh St., Pimlico, London, SW1V 2ER, U.K.

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intersected action

AUSTRALIA

WINS

WORLDCON

BID

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At the Baltimore Convention Center, at the 1983 World SF Convention, it has been decided that the 1985 World SF Convention will be held in Melbourne, AUSTRALIA. Roughly 700 votes were recorded in the ballot to decide the site, and the AUSSIECON II received 640-odd of these votes. Other Australian sites to receive votes were 'Rottnest Island' (as in the 1983 vote) and the 'Woolamaloo Kangaroo Sanctuary', both locations receiving one vote each. There was no sizeable number of votes for any other site.

AUSSIECON II Guest of Honour is Gene Wolfe.

Fan Guest of Honour is Ted White.

AUSSIECON II will be held at the Southern Cross Hotel, in the heart of the city of Melbourne. Dates for the convention are: from the 22nd of August, a Thursday, till and including Monday the 26th of August, 1985

The first WorldCon held(ten years ago) in Australia. Aussiecon I, is to date the largest Australian convention, with an attending membership of over 600 people. AUSSIECON II is expected to top that easily. Already, as a result of the vote in Baltimore, a couple of hundred people (presumably, most of them Americans) have become attending members of the con, and indeed it may prove interesting to see how the AUSSIECON II committee responds to the challenge of coping with a crowd of perhaps a couple of thousand.

MEMBERSHIP RATES: If you voted in the 1985 WorldCon Site Selection
Ballot, you are already a Supporting Member of AUSSIECON II. To convert from a Supporting to an Attending Member will cost you US\$15 or A\$17 (or the equivalent in US dollars in your local currency). For those who did not vote, the following rates will apply up until the 31st of December,

1983: Supporting Membership: US\$25 / A\$28

Attending Membership: US\$40 / A\$45

For more information, or in order to join, there is both a general mailing address, and a list of overseas agents: The Australian address is:

AUSSIECON TWO, GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne 3001, Victoria, AUSTRALIA

The 1983 HUGO AWARD WINNERS

Best SF Novel......Foundation's Edge....Isaac Asimov

Best SF Novella.....Souls....Joanna Russ

Best SF Novelette......Fire Watch....Connie Willis

Best SF Short Story.....Melancholy Elephants....Spider Robinson

19/10/00 Million Commission of the Commission of

Best Professional Editor.....Ed Ferman (F&SF)

Best Professional Artist Michael Whelan

Best Dramatic Presentation....Bladerunner

Best Fanzine.....Logus....ed. C.Brown

Best Fan Writer.....Richard Geis

Best Fan Aftist......Alexis Gilliland

The John W.Campbell Award for Best New Writer...went to Paul O.Williams (in his second and final year of eligibility). The award, while not an actual Hugo, is presented and voted on at the same time as the Hugo Awards. Speaking of things named after Campbell, there's also...

The John W. Campbell Memorial Award

This award is given for the best novel of the previous year, although it is awarded by a panel of judges, as opposed to being a popular award, as are the Hugos.

Helliconia Spring, by Brian Aldiss, was this year's winner. The award is one of the three major novel awards for sf, the other two being the Hugo and the Nebula. Helliconia Spring was on the final ballot for the Nebula, as well as actually winning the annual British SF Novel Award. Second place for the JNC was No Enemy But Time by Michael Bishop - the winner of this year's Nebula.

As well as the Hugo Awards, many other awards are presented at each WorldCon. This year's list is no less tediously long (oh! sorry! what am I saying?!) but it's probably worth mentioning that winner of the First Fandom Award was the worthy Manly Wade Wellman.

The NASFiC

Another eagerly-sought prize announced at this year's WorldCon was the right to hold the 1985 NASFiC - the big convention that North Americans have whenever the WorldCon is not held in North America, that year. The vote result was pretty predictable:

AUSTIN..... 393 votes

DETROIT... 132 votes In other words, the bid from Austin won the right to hold the COLUMBUS... 69 votes 1985 NASFIC.

They have two Professional Guests of Honour: JACK VANCE (yes, that's right - Jack Vance) and RICHARD DOWERS. Fan GoH is Joanne Berger and Toastmaster is Chad Oliver.

Boy, are they going to be sorry about choosing Vance! Ask anyone who was at last year's Australian National Con, or the year before's Beneluxcon, in Europe. (Apart from this rather significant lapse, the Austin Committee appears to be pretty much on its toes, and should provide an enjoyable con.) For membership details and all the rest, write to: FACT, P.O.Box 9612, Austin, Texas TX 78766. (("Vance!"chortle))

More Convention Fun

Looking (much) further ahead, places bidding for to hold the 1986 WorldCon are: New York, Philadelphia and Atlanta. For 1987, 't's BRITAIN, SAN Diego and Phoenix. Note: decided at Constellation, as of '86, bids are 3 years in advance. Meanwhile, back in the land of Oz, the 1985 National Australian Convention, Spawncon, to be held (semi-secretly ("we won't tell them about it")) in conjunction with Norwescon, in Seattle, is negotiating, if that's the right term for it, with Norwescon, for there to be an Australian Guest of some sort at the con. Meanwhile, the Adelaide convention that was supposed to be going ahead to host the 1985 Aus.NatCon Business Session, and do the Ditmar Awards, has not yet been heard of. Hm, maybe this was the best thing ever to happen to Australian NatCons have them taken permanently off our hands, so we can concentrate on running WorldCons and Relaxacons. For Spawncon information, write to Clifford Wind, #206, 308 Summit E, Seattle, WA 98102, U.S.A.

The convention at which Seattle was chosen as the site of the 1985 National Australian SF Con was also the one at which Harlan Ellison was Guest of Honour. Pursuant to the Syncon'83 con reports which appeared in Thyme 26, Mr Ellison writes:

'Many thanks for sending along Thyme 26. It is always fascinating to learn how one has been perceived by casual acquaintances and kindly strangers. Particularly when one has had such a splendid time in a far place, and come to think of its natives with deep and abiding affection. In other words, I am in love with Australia (the mulga more than the cities, and particularly the Flinders Ranges) and find myself startled now to number among my most valuable friends a group of Australians and New Zealanders who made my visit easily the most wonderful travel experience of a lifetime filled with hegiras to mysterious locales. I fear I have been making a bit of a bore of myself since my return, regaling friends, radio audiences, lecture attendees and unfortunate derelicts on the streets of America with my effusive tales of the wonders of Oz.

'I would, however, like to respond to a couple of idle remarks that were passed by Christine Ashby in Thyme 26. (I Hope everyone who read Ian Porter's casual remark about "Friday night at the con saw the opening speeches, and the destruction of Jack Herman's watch by Harlan Ellison" knew Mr Porter was indulging in humourous hyperbole. Jack's watch was not, in fact, harmed in any way. My dropping it into a glass of water was a bit of badinage intended to amuse ((it did)), and was done only after I'd studied the face of Jack's watch where the words "water-resistant" appeared.)

'Ms Ashby's observations of me, apparently from a distance, are most complimentary, in the main; and I thank her for the kind words. Yet two elements of her observation strike me as the king of gratuitous denigration one gets from those who watch, say, TV chat shows and make snap value judgements about the personalities of the guests. In specific, Ms Ashby states that I am a person "with an overpowering need to be the centre of attention." Yet only four lines earlier she says, "I don't think there can be any doubt that... fans and complete neos alike, came to see Marlan Ellison, Guest of Honour." And eight lines later she opines, "Certainly Harlan Ellison was wonderful value as GoH...."

'I submit that when one is schlepped over 10,000 miles to be the centre of attention, that viewing the "wonderful Value" as being in the limelight may more likely indicate the view of the observer than an "overpowering need". It's a no-win situation, but I don't suppose Ms Ashby thought of that. If I'd been reclusive, I would not have been such "wonderful value" and would have been pilloried (as previous Yank guests have been) for being stuck-up and distant. But since I took my job to be one of giving full value for the huge sum of money expended to bring me to the Syncon, I tried to be open and available to everyone at all times. Which seems to be a lesser felony in Ms Ashby's eyes, indicating that I have this mad urge to be stared at, which unhinges me if it is thwarted. I do hope : without rancor - that Ms Ashby will consider these words and give it the barest possibility that her interpretation may say more about her than it does about me. Had she said, "He seems to be an individual with etc. etc." I would have no quibble. But she makes it a statement of fact, which she could not possibly know. I suggest also that her own world-view may have caused her to confuse a desire to be "worthy", the overpowering need to be a model of rectitude, with a desire to get the ego stroked.

'Her other remark, offhanded and perhaps not meant to be insulting, speaks of my "well-known writing in public routine. sitting in the foyer tapping out a story which he said he was making up on the spot (and for which he had fortuitously done the necessary research)."

'The inference is clear that Ms Ashby thought I was trying to pull a fast one. I made it clear this was a story I had wanted to write while in NZ and Australia, and had bro brought along the necessary research material for just that purpose. I began the story in Wellington. I "made it up as I went along" as any writer does with any story they writ

'Writing it in the lobby of the Shore Motel was another attempt to be available to the convention membership, to get a little work done, and to complete a story that I could read to the Syncon by way of special thankyou. There were those who hung out around my typing area, who will vouch for the originality of the effort, that I was not copying it from secret papers hidden in my lap, for instance, and that the presence of research notes was not a devious ploy to make my writing seem more or less spontaneous.

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In fact, I do not understand Ms Ashby's seemingly cynical remark. I was, in fact, plotting the story as I wrote it, though I knew before I left California what the general outl-ne of the story would be. That I wrote much of the work in public seems in no way tainted because I'd xeroxed the data I knew I'd needed, beforehand.

'Apart from these snippets of grue, I thank Ms Ashby, and Thyme, for the good thoughts. I hope to return to NZ and Australia soon, and will create from scratch, in public, for Ms Ashby, if she so desires.

All best otherwise,

Harlan Ellison'

Well, what does one say? Anyone who was there will be able to testify just how 'available' a Guest of Honour Harlan Ellison was - not to say popular, both as an orator and a person. When commissioning the Syncon Con reports, I was after someone who had "been there done that etc. etc." (Christine), someone attending their first con of any real scope (Ian) and... someone from the committee, so they could tell in public all the great little stories floating around about this, that and the other aspects of the con that have already amused some in private. Alas, 'twas not to be.

Meanwhile, in the recent fannish File 770 poll held in America, the poll to decide most popular/best GoH saw our own, beloved Harlan easily win first place; those damn yanguis

In connection with Syncon, and Harlan Ellison, Thyme announces... a VIDZINE.

knew all along what it took us Antipodean types until June'83 to learn

There exists, on two, separate, Beta video cassettes, what I believe is a complete record of Harlan Ellison's appearances at Syncon. Copies of these cassettes are currently available for showing to these incrested.

In Melbourne, I am the person to contact (417 1841). There will be a screening of the tapes some time in the next two weeks. Never fear, the tapes are not about to vanish in a puff of smoke - I've been given these copies on a more-or-less permanent basis, and in the next Thyme there should be a notice of another, further-in-advance-notice-given screening. Additionally, the tapes will doubtless be popping up regularly at conventions....

In Sydney, let's talk about the person responsible for the whole idea of a 'vid-zine': John Porter. John is at 29 Bapaume Parade, Matraville 2036 (part of (Sydney). (phone: (02) 661 5315.) Similar showings of the cassettes as proposed above for Melbourne are certainly possibilities. John explains the idea of a 'vid-zine' at length:

'Until the end of the year it will probably be only in 'Beta' format, until I buy a VHS machine. After the two Syncon tapes... there is only one more edition due before December

"I'll be recording conventions and other sf events for it, as well as doing interviews with people of interest to fans (if I can get them). I'd like to do a tape on the SCA, for instance.' John is also interested in hearing from people interested in acting as reporters/interviewers, when he's, say, down in Melbourne or up in Queensland. John hopes to send a Syncon tape to Conquest '83 later this year. John also adds that he'd like to hear from anyone who's worked with sf or fantasy on 8mm film or on tape before.

All in all, the vid-zine sounds like a great idea (what will someone think of next?). Above all, it is an obvious but clever and useful way of keeping some permanent record of things such as the performances of OS Guests of Honour. (Who knows? Perhaps even the splicing of such events together, or even more...) Congratulations, John Porter!

CONQUEST '83 (yes, this means you've just slipped, unknowingly, into the CONS UPDATE bit)

Dates: 24th/25th September

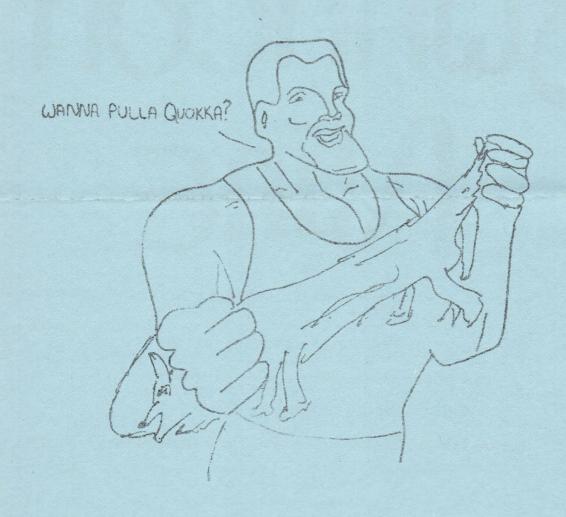
Venue: Brisbane Park Royal, Brisbane

Rates: at the door: per day: \$15 full/\$10 half.

Accommodation: \$52 per night per double/twin, +\$10 per extra person (e.g. \$152/12 people) Conquest '83 is the first, official National Media Convention, and should prove to be both good fun and good value, if the cons put on before by the same people organising this one are any guide.

Well, apart from Conquest 83, there's not much happening - on a large scale - in the near future. Australia seems to have had most of its big regionals, etc., all in a buchh, earlier in the year. So the next big con will be... SWANCON 9 --->

Real fen don't kick quokkas.



Real fea go to Swancon nine.

"THE NATCON! HAVE WHEN I'M

"THE NATCON! HAVING A NATCON."

(Anon.) Trad.)

SUANCON

The ninth Western Australian Regional Science Fiction Convention.

GUEST OF HONOUR: HARRY HARRISON.

Fan Guest of Honour: Roy Ferguson.

Australia Day Weeken 27th-30th January, 1984.

Venue: Weston Motor Inn Canning Highway, South Perth, 6151, Western Australia.

Rates: \$15 until 30th November, 1983. \$5 supporting.

All cheques should be made payable to

The West Australian Science
Fiction Convention Club.

Beady-eyed questions and enquiries to:

Swancon Nine Committee P.O. Box 318, Nedlands, 6009, Western Australia.

THE TIM DUCK.

So. The next proper Swancon Progress Report will soon be out - write to the committee for your copy. Sounds like Swancon will be the Big convention of next year; already a lot of people are talking of making the long haul west for it - but before we move onto the subject of people on the move (permanently, or otherwise), let's check out the ...

FAN FUND NEWS

- A report in TSN 7 suggests the setting up of a fund to pay for a a) PHONEZ? trans-pacific phone call between Seattle, USA and Australia. Seattle is of course the site for the 1985 Australian NATCON, while the Business Session and the handling of the Ditmar awards (Australian SF Achievement) have been "given" into the care of an Adelaide con which will be held goodness-knows when, next year. If both conventions are held at the same time (unlikely, from reports, but possible), the phone call would connect one Australian fan with one American fan, at the two ends of the line. A ballot would have to be held to determine which lucky people were accorded the honour and privilege of speaking to each other, for free, across the Pacific. It all sounds highly improbable, but then who would have guessed before the event that the Business Session at Syncon 83 would award the 85 NatCon to a Seattle bid? Strange times, strange ideas.
- Hm... as all readers of the excellent Ansible will know, there are currently four people standing for GUFF this year - Roger Weddall, Justin Ackroyd, Jean Weber and Someone/EldeShayne McCormack. Well, I'm not the sort of person to really push myself on others (although John Foyster, Chairman of Aussiecon Two, might disagree), so I have been refraining from making a big noise (or, indeed, any noise) about my GUFF candidacy in Thyme. I've argued this decision over with myself:

"Why not tell everyone that you're standing for GUFF and you'd dearly like to wim?" "Well, Thyme is a newszine, innit. It isn't supposed to be full of all sorts of propaganda that I just happen to believe in."

"Nonsense! Haven't you ever heard of news commentary?"

"But-"

"Look, there's nothing wrong about being honest about wanting to win, you know...." "Yeah, but I just don't want to be pushy " Well, that's correct, I don't want to be pushy - but I do vant to win GUFF, very much. On the face of it, it's a difficult choice (all four of us have been to Europe before; all four of us have well-established fannish credentials) - does it help that I'm poverty-line poor (especially after mailing costs for this issue), there's no way I could afford to go, unless I win? But forget all that - I reckon you should help me win GUFF by voting for me because I'm a really nice fellow and I'd like to have lots of fun meeting all the interesting people over there who I've only read about or written to, and I'd have a bloody good time over there and well, what better reasons are there for wanting to win? Oh yeah, I'd be lots of fun over there and I'd help rid Britain of the Mexican scourge, tequila, and I'll convince lots n lots of people to come out to Aus for the FooldCon - look; it's really simple. All you have to do is remember: "Don't do it because you feel you ought to, do it because it feels *** क्रक्रक्रक right - Vote Roger for GUFF! ***

Administrators: U.K. - Joseph Nicholas, 22 Denbigh Street, Pimlico, London, SWIV 2ER, U.K. Australia: John Foyster, 21 Shakespeare Grove, St.Kilda, 3182, Australia

Aus administrator John Newman writes that already three Australians have said they will stand for FFANZ next year - the closing date for such nominations is way off - the end of the year. It costs \$10 and the recommendations of three people (one nominator, and a seconder from both Aus & NZ) to run, and the winner will attend the 1984 National SF Convention, to be held in Auckland. Fund-raising has already got off to a good start, especially with the help of the Syncon auctions, but there is still, John reports, a long way to go as far as \$\$\$ are concerned. For more details, including nomination forms, write to John or NZ administrator Tom Cardy.

Administrators: N.Z. - Tom Cardy, P.O.Box 5516, Dunedin, New Zealand Australia - John Newman, P.O.Box 4, Thornbury, 3071, Australia

Turning the page, passing by the Official Announcement of the Shaw d) DUFF Fund, you will find staring you in the face the latest in the way of DUFF news, and a DUFF voting form on the back of that sheet. Read on

Introducing... THE SHAW FUND!

The SHAW FUND is a special, one-off fan fund designed to bring BOB SHAW
TO THE! 1985 WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION in Melbourne, Australia.

Bob Shaw is a man of many talents. Quite apart from having written Light of othereDays, having won a Hugo Award for his fan writing, Bob gives the most incredible speeches at conventions and demonstrates the fine art of fannish drinking. Bob was the Guest of Honour at B'HamaCon II, the 1981 DeepSouthCon. He impressed the folk there to the point that the committee got together and paid his fare over for BoShCon, a Birmingham regional convention. His speeches at British Eastercons are reputed to be one of the few programme items that will draw the fans out of the bar.

That's easy. You see, Bob has never been to an Australian convention and we felt it was our turn. After all, Bob has been to conventions in the United States, Britain, Europe, and even Poland. The 1985 WorldCon in Melbourne will be a very special event, and we'd like to have Bob as a very special guest.

We thought you'd never ask. Naturally, to bring Bob Shaw to Australia, we're going to have to spend money. That's where you come in. We could, I suppose, run a race - but with Bob as the only candidate there wouldn't be much competition. Thus we'll have to resort to the time-honoured means of extorting money from fans, i.e. auctions, donations and stand-over tactics. For a start there'll be a postal auction starting early in the new year, with a signed BoShCon t-shirt as a major item. This will be followed by auctions at Eurekacon, the 1984 National Australian Convention, plus any other regionals we can hit. In addition, donors will be given the opportunity of becoming a Shaw Thing, and certificates to that effect will be sent out to those people donating \$10 or more to the fund.

"WHERE?" 'THE SHAW FUND', % GPO BOX 2708X, Melbourne 3001, Victoria, Australia.
Administrators: Marc Ortlieb, and Justin Ackroyd.

'What's On' (continued from page 13): Meanwhile in Perth, preparations for Swancon 9 are well underway. The committee has all sorts of unusual things planned for the con, including an auction at which people can bid for the right to throw custard pies at various members of the committee - lots of money is expected to be raised by this particular item. A rock/filk group will perform at/during the masquarade (Slippery Jim & the Racquettes, eh?) Well it all sounds rather unusual but possibly lots of fun - Be There!

Back to Melbourne, and the subject of KINKON - Chairman of FUNCON, John Newman, writes: Dear Roger,

I've been amused to read in recent issues of Thyme about how much better KINKON is going to be than FUNCON. While it is great to see this sort of competitive approach to giving fen a good time, there are perhaps a couple of things that need pointing out.

'The first is that some embarrassing holes in the FUNCON programme were not meant to be holes and were, in fact, meant to be full of items being run by people now associated with KINKON. The particular example here being the Video Programme which, while touted as being better than that at FUNCON, will presumably be done by the same person. Strange, no?

'The other point to note is that the vast majority of FUNCON attendees had a Damn Good Time, even if the now-KINKON-committee was out of its collective head the whole time.

'I'm glad to hear that the folk now in the KINKON committee want to dissociate themselves from FUNCON, but it's not news; they did it during the convention! Let's hope that, next year, they're not involved with something else, promising it won't be like KINKON!

All the best, John Newman.

KINKON - Dates: 9th - 11th of June, 1984. Rates: Attending - \$20/Supporting - \$10

Venue: The Victoria Hotel, Little Collins St., Melbourne

All Mail: KINKON Committee, % 29 Alexander Avenue, Dandenong 3175, VIC.

DUFF: The Down Under Fan Fund was created in 1972 to encourage closer ties between fans in Australia and North America.

With host country alternating each year, there have been eleven exchanges of fan representatives since then, supported entirely by voluntary contributions from fans all over the world. DUFF representatives visit a major of convention in the host country and visit with fans they might otherwise never meet in person. DUFFers are treated as special guests, and are always well looked after.

DONATIONS: DUFF exists solely on the contributions of fans and always welcomes material that is auctionable and donations of money. There will be auctions of DUFF material at future conventions. Contributions may be brought to a convention, or sent to the local administrator. Anyone may contribute, even if ineligible to vote, and donations in excess of the voting donation are gratefully accepted. Cheques should be made out to Down Under Fan Fund, or Jerry Kaufman (in North America) or Marc Ortlieb (in Australia)

VOTING: Any fan active in fandom since January 1983 may vote. Ballots must be signed and be accompanied by a donation of at least \$2-00. Each person is allowed only one vote. If you think your name may not be known to the administrator, please include the name of a fan or a fan group who can vouch for you. We will not count unverifiable votes.

ALL VOTES MUST REACH AN ADMINISTRATOR BY NO LATER THAN

FEBRUARY 29, 1984

DUFF usus the Australian Preferential system of balloting to guarantee an automatic run-off and a majority win. You rank the candidates in order of preference (1,2,3,4...). If there is no absolute majority for one candidate after the first count of votes, first place votes for the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped and the second place votes on those ballots are assigned to the candidates named. This goes on until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second, third and fourth places, especially if you choose to write in a candidate. (You are not required to fill in more than your name and your first choice.)

CANDIDATES: Each candidate has posted a \$5-00 bond, provided signed nominations, and has promised to travel to the 1984 World Science Fiction

Convention, LA CON II, in Los Angeles U.S.A. to take place August 30th till

September 3rd, 1984. Platforms are reproduced on the reverse side of this form, and the ballot is below.

ADMINISTRATORS: JERRY KAUFMAN 4326 Winslow Place North, Seattle, WA 98103, U.S.A. MARC ORTLIEB c/o G.P.O. Box 2708X Melbourne 3000, AUSTRALIA

| i vote for (list 1 | ,2,3,4) | SIGNATURE |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------|
| JACK R. HERMAN | ••• | NAME AND ADDRESS |
| JOHN PACKER | ••• | |
| HOLD OVER FUNDS | ••• | |
| NO PREFERENCE | ••• | |
| WRITE IN | • • • | (please print all information re address) |

If you think you may not be known to the administrator, please give the name of a fan or a fan group to whom you are known.....

Reproduction of this form is encouraged, provided that the text on both sides is copied VERBATIM. Please indicate who is producing the ballot.

This original Australian ballot produced by Marc Ortlieb 9/8/'83.

PLATFORMS

JACK R. HERMAN

I have finished with heresy. I used to mix good honest fanac with soul-destroying things like running the Sydney Science Fiction Foundation, organising major conventions, including two National Cons, one Unicon and various regionals, and heading a bid for a WorldCon. Now I've retired from all that to be a good fan; editing WAHF-FULL (now through 12 issues), maintaining membership in four apas, catching up on loccing incoming zines and answering correspondence. Now I want to go to the States - meet the people I've been writing to, find new names for the mailing list and see a real WORLDCON. To the city that gave Evil a Bad Name - the DUFF candidate they deserve.

NOMINATED BY: Justin P.Ackroyd, Shayne MCCormack, Christine Ashby, Clifford Wind & Marty Cantor.

---000---

JOHN PACKER

I'm not the person to win DUFF. I can't speak or write (it took the threat of a broken arm to get this). I can't remember names or faces. Entirely the worng person. However, I am fannish.

I have read the Lensman series. I gave up reading ANALOG when Campbell died. If you want to send someone to a con who has a rat as a badge logo, then I'm your man. After all, the rat is a delightful, intelligent animal, much maligned and misunderstood. The rat is heavily into zen. The rat is loyal, brave, trustworthy, and good design. But I see my time is up. Thank you.

NOMINATED BY: Mark Denbow, Tom Cardy, Terry Frost, Joyce Scrivner, Charlotte Proctor & Brad Foster.

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No platforms were received from Hold Over Funds, No Preference or Write In, so you will ahve to judge them on their merits.

---000---

REMEMBER The voting deadling is February 29, 1984.

film news views reviews

ColingBaker is the new Doctor Who. At first it was reported that Brian Blessed would be taking over from Peter Davison; rumour has it that Baker was chosen over Blessed because Baker agreed to sign a five-year contract whereas Blessed would only accept a two-year fixed term. Colin Baker has appeared in various roles, in War & Peace, The Brothers and Doctor in the House, as well as having appeared (no comment) in an episode of Blake's 7. Additionally, in celebration of the programme's 20-year continuous run, the BBC is planning a special, 90 minute episode, entitled The Five Doctors. A stand-in will be used in place of William Hartnell, the first Doctor in the series, who died some years ago. It's said that in The Five Doctors Patrick Troughton, 2nd Doctor, will fight yeti. Well, it would make a change from fighting Evil Black Eternal Monster Master Guardians....

The excellent television mini-series Whoops Apocalypse, recently shown on Australian tv, has now been edited down into a video for commercial release in Britain. ODOTalking of television, the American network ABC has finished work on a three-hour movie The Day After. It is reportedly 'an unflinching look at the aftermath of an atomic bomb hit on Kansas.' One wonders just how 'unflinching' the Americans consider 'unflinching' to be, when one thinks terrible commercial reception given world-wide to 'The War Game', the much earlier, British, ruthlessly honest look at the consequences of such a blast. In any event, the ABC made-for-television film, directed by Nicholas Meyer (Time After Time; StrTrk II: Sweetness & Light, Inc.), was shown this year at Cannes, and it is possible Australians will be seeing it as a cinema release (a la Cuttlefish Ballistica, - shown on U.S. tv as 'pilot' to the series, but which only saw cinema release here). DDDA similar fate may befall V, a recent NBC shown-in-two-parts production. Locus reports that while some critics felt that 'lizard nazis from outer space, coming to Earth to steal our water((!!)) was a concept beyond endurance, ' the show proved popular with viewers. The network was apparently considering turning the show into a series but the projected production costs of US\$1 million per hour-length episode decided them against it - although rumours persist to the effect that the series will go ahead. The current, stated intention is to deliver instead an occasional series of movies for television - in effect, a series of sequels ((Piers Anthony, Stephen Donaldson, eat your hearts out.)) (SFChronicle, also Locus)

reviews (ratings: 0 - 10.) (≥5, it didn't seem like a waste of money)

WarGames. Originally incorrectly advertised as a kiddieflick, WarGames is a little masterpiece of light entertainment. After taking its time - but not too much time - to adequately establish the initial background to the storyline and the motivation of the main characters, the film moves along at a brisk but even pace. Plot complications unfold effortlessly, naturally, and their eventual solutions are equally plausible (for the main part). The futility and yet real possibility of nuclear war is a topic of such import, so open to cinematic *** interpretation, but WarGames neatly treads the line between escapist farce and pretentious, ponderous sermon. The film looks good, the story flows well and, if in the end the makers have finally painted themselves into too tight a logical corner, it's not too hard to forgive them their slightly shaky 'Happy Ending'! P.S. Australia gets it, every time - three submarines (nationality unspecified). Rating: Seven and a half.

Krull.

"It was foretold to me that a Queen would take a Man to be her King, and they would have a Son, and that Child would rule Half the Galaxy." So opens Krull, possibly the worst film I have ever seen. To attempt to describe the plot of the film would be to flatter it. The acting is atrociously inept; I've seen dead bodies put on more show of life than any of the wretches employed to act in this artless montage of celluloid debris. Billed as a 'science fiction/fantasy epic', it has nothing to recommend it. It is not even worth seeing for free. Rating: one half.

Blue Thunder. This is your standard nice-but-psycho anti-hero versus bad guy shoot-em-out transplanted into the skies above Los Angeles. For an action/adventure flick principally featuring helicopters, the air-chase footage is surprisingly ordinary, coming nowhere near the standard of such sequences as in the otherwise uninteresting Capricorn One. The less said about the plot, the better. Rating: 4

The Twilight Zone. A collection of four vignettes, linked only tenuously, it's essentially four different directors looking back fondly to the days of The Twi-

light Zone, the deservedly famous American tv series of yesteryear. Whether they recapture the feel of the series in this movie format is arguable. Looking at it segment by segment, it seems fair to say that the whole is less than the sum of the parts. The mood & feel of the four pieces are not even vaguely in keeping with each other. Best is final section, directed gby George Miller (Mad Maxes) - a nice, tightly directed helping of horror, well acted - it's almost worth going to see the film for this segment, alone. Rating: Five and a half. P.S. Don'tmiss the sf short on before the main feature. A good example of how to do a reasonable, low-budget sf flick, it's better than most of the main film.

Meanwhile, the Return of the Jedi will open in Australia late in October. The film continues to break all sorts of records in the US. More than limillion people saw the film on its first day of screening, it grossed >\$100 million in only 23 days, has currently passed the \$200 million mark and is the fourth-biggest film ever, to date. And speaking of block-buster film epics, MCM/UA has announced that work will begin on the film version of 2010: Oddyssey Two later this year. (Credits: the bones of much of the 'short' news items on film and video which appear here are seen first, usually, in one or more of the four printed sources Thyme refers to: Twilight Zone, Cinefantastique, SF Chronicle and Locus. Where information is garnered from a specific sour e, that source is credited alone.)

LOCUS: the new direction in Punk Humour: in a masterpiece of tactless, bad editing, immediately one turns a page - in the August edition - dealing largely with the death of Philip K.Dick, one is confronted with a boldface ad, declaring, Philip K.Dick and others... DEATH TO ALL CLICHES! We think it 'mazing.

We Wuz Wrong Dept. In Thyme 27 it was reported that, along with Bruce Gillespie, recipients of the World SF 'Harrison Award for Increasing the Status of SF Internationally' were Takumi Shibano and Matjaz Sinkovec. Wall, cover me in breadcrumbs and deep-fry me for the holidays, the report was totally in error; it was in fact Sam Lundwall and Krsto Mazuranic who received the award, along with Bruce. The next meeting of WSF will now be at Eurocon 9 in Britain, 1984.

WHAT'S ON WHERE IS WHO DID WHAT? (including the dreaded CHANGES of ADDRESS)

Canada: Annonce de changemant d'adresse - Mike Glicksohn has moved house. Son nuovelle adresse est 508 Windermere Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3L6. Phone: (416) 766 9975.

Jugoslavija: Matjaž Sinkovec (Gregorčičeva 13, Ljubljana 61000) writes to talk about the Osmi Evropski Znanstvenofantastični Kongres (that's Eurocon 8 to you, mate) and all the work involved. Obviously driven to distraction by the massive workload, Matjaž foolishly offers horash space 'to anyone from Oz' (oho, well, there are only 15 million of us, I suppose).

Melbourne: I'm beginning to think I must be living in a Registry Office - what are all these people doing, getting married. As reported earlier, Paul Stevens & Kit Driver are to wed quietly in November, but the party to celebrate both engagement and wedding, held last weekend but one, was huge, fannish and anything but quiet. An exceptionally large and varied crowd assembled to make merry and wish Paul & Kit well.000 Another occasion for celebration will be the housewarming party on Saturday the 1st of October. Robyn & Torbjörn, recently married in Sydney, are now living at Torby's newly acquired house at 121 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury 3071 (telephone 480 5006). The party's BYO, and starts at the usual sort of time. One week later is the wedding of Asms & Karen. Meanwhile, Karen is still on the lookout for snaps of Harlan Ellison & bub Adric... speaking of kids, Alf & Karen Katz saw the arrival on the 3rd of August of their second child, one Hayden Katz. DDD Henry Gasko and Judy Clarke are to wed, on Friday the 21st of Oct. The party to celebrate the wedding is at their place on Sunday the 23rd, RSVP - but that's not all: main reason for the wedding is so that the child Judy is expecting earlyish next year will be eligible for dual Canadian/Australian nationality. DDD Christing Forbes & son James have moved around the corner from where they were to 20 Emma Street, Collingwood. As of last weekend, LynC is now living at 483 George Street, Fitzroy 3065. It has been arranged that sometime in November, when George Street must be evacuated, Justin shall definitely be moving into 57 Park Street, with Clively & LynC, until Marc Ortlieb moves across to Melbourne early next year, at which time it is expected he and Justin shall be sahring a house. Andrew Brown has moved from Terry's place, citing "musical differences" as the reason. He is now at 21 Shakespeare Grove, St. Kilda 3182 - John Foyster's place.

Angus Caffrey has moved to 24 Glen Fern Avenue, Ferntree Gully 3156.000 John Breden and a freend have started up an, er, 'travel organization, called Nightshift Tours. The idea is to take tour groups to Thailand but to leave the days completely free while showing customers around the nightspots of Bangkok and other locales... it is at the very least an imaginative concept. Contact John on 557 4926 for further details.000 George Turner, Australian (occasional sf) author of note is currently working on his autobiography. George's most recent work, Yesterday's Men completed the set of three novels begun with Beloved Son.000 As mentioned earlier in this issue, Harlan Ellison gave a marvellous performance at Syncon '83. John Porter got it all down on video cassette, and the tapes are now available for viewing. In Melbourne, the first session will be at Peter Burns' place, that's 2/207 Union Street, West Brunswick 3055 (387 9979), on this coming Sunday, the 25th of September, sometime after 2pm. Anyone is welcome to come along and see Harlan 'work the audience' - if you weren't at Syncon, make an effort to see this, tape. NSW/Humeralla: Marjorie & Cary Lenehan, happily ensconced on their farm: 'August Moon Farm', Countegany Road, Numeralla 2630, are now expecting a child, mid-April.

Perth: Michella Muysert, recently of Melbourne, previously of NZ, has moved to Perth and is temporarily staying at the YMCA, 119 Murray Street, Perth. Jo Masters is back at her mother's place: 51 Valencia Avenue, Churchlands 6018. Steve Gunnell is temporarily at Unit 7/572 Newcastle Street, West Perth 6005. Bob Ogden has moved further afield to Adelaide, to be with Linda Smith. He and Linda have just announced that they are to be engaged. Del With Bob's move, the commission to hold the Annual Bad Taste parties has been handed over to Julian Warner, 'winner' of last year's Bad Taste Award. Din-Con, an event held at Geoff & Barb's to raise money to help bring Transfinite out for Swancon 9, went well. Ratcon 30 - a birthday-party affair for Sally Beasley, seems to be an on-again off-again affair - more news on this as it comes to hand. (Continued on page 8)





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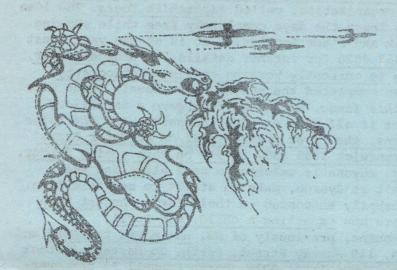
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...thus draws to a close yet another issue of Thyme. Perhaps you're wondering why you've received it in the first place; the matter admits of two possible explanations.... I have been sending Thyme unsolicited to people who I think may find it interesting (I hope), and with respect to this particular issue, I'm hoping to reach as many people as possible (especially Australians & New Zealanders) to tell them about the 1985 World SF Convention, AUSSIEON TWO. So there you go. *** Special thanks for help with this issue goes to Steve, Seth, Marc, Sally, Asms, Justin, especially Andrew but even more than that JOHN, without whom etc. etc. Okay, seeyuz 'round, Roner.

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