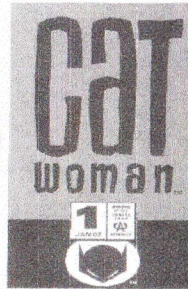




BROOKEN  
COOKE  
ALLRED



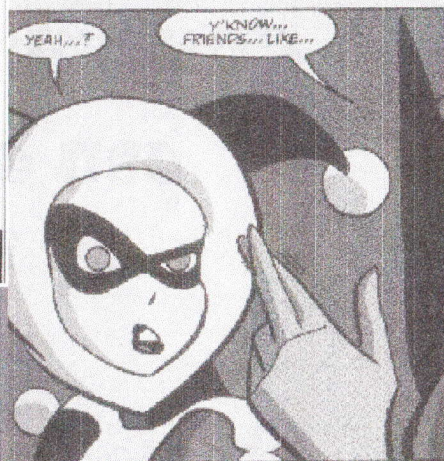
OH, IVY CAN'T HURT ME. SHE SAVED ME A SPECIAL SHOT ONCE SO WE CAN PLAY AND I WON'T GET SICK AT ALL.

YOU MEAN YOU TWO...?



WHAT?

YOU AND IVY ARE... WELL... FRIENDS...



YEAH...?

Y'KNOW... FRIENDS... LIKE...

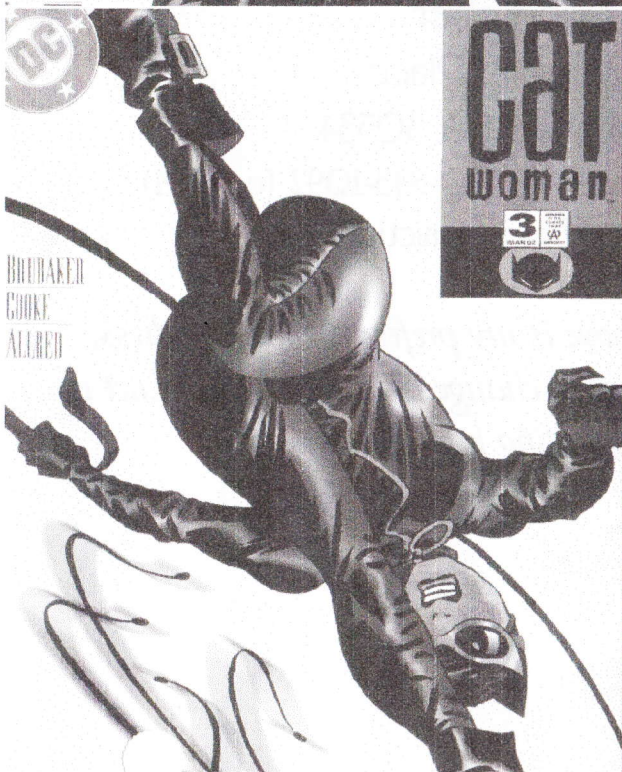


LIKE WHAT EVERYBODY SAYS ABOUT YOU AND SUPERGIRL?

WHAT? WHO SAYS...? FORGET IT! FORGET IT!



BROOKEN  
COOKE  
ALLRED





Between 1950 and 1952, a bored weatherman, stationed north of Hudson Bay, left a monument that neither government nor time can eradicate.

Using a bulldozer abandoned by the Air Force, he spent two years and great effort pushing boulders into a single word.

It can be seen from 10,000 feet, silhouetted against the snow.

Government officials exchanged memos full of circumlocutions (no Latin equivalent exists) but failed to word an appropriation bill for the destruction of this cairn, that wouldn't alert the press and embarrass both Parliament and Party.

It stands today, a monument to human spirit. If life exists on other planets, this may be the first message received from us.  
-- The Realist, November, 1964.

Welcome to  
...a monument  
that neither  
government nor time  
can eradicate...

a SFPazine from  
mike weber  
162 Spring Place  
Dawsonville GA 30534  
706-265-7610 (home) or 770-843-1092 (cell/VM)  
mike.weber@electrionictiger.com

*((Incidentally, the above is my preferred e-mail address, especially as I may have to change ISPs soon -- Alltel.net is rapidly degenerating into uselessness))*

## Handcuffs and Peanut Butter/J.Copeland/

The concept of a national ID card doesn't bother me that much, because we effectively already have it, though in a piecemeal and disorganised fashion, in driver's licenses, passports, Social Security and so on. I cannot think of any data that Big brother might want that isn't pretty easily available; the only difference would be that it would be a little easier for them to collect and collate it. Let's face it, if you don't already have some form of ID that's acceptable to the Nice Officer when he asks for it, you're likely to get a free ride downtown anyway.

As to the irritation factor in travelling by air, it doesn't really sound that much worse than travelling international already was, and will probably ease off somewhat as everyone gets more used to their roles.

I'd be really really careful about holding up Nuremberg as a shining counter-example of probity and judicial openness and respect for the rights of the accused to Bush Minor's tribunals. Nuremberg was remarkable for how well the kangaroos were trained to hop in time to the music. Anyone who thinks that the main message of Nuremberg was the the only true "war crime" is losing would do well to look into why Admirals Doenitz and Raeder were originally to be brought up on capital charges and why they subsequently were not.

Not that most if not all of the Nuremberg defendants didn't deserve everything they got (as did some who got off scot-free because the US Government decided it could use them), but the Tribunal wasn't exactly a shining ray serene of even-handed jurisprudence.

Which is not to say that otherwise i don't agree with you 100% about the Bush/Ashcroft Star Chambers...

I rented "Driven" and then didn't get around to watching it. I wonder if Stallone has learnt to shift gears yet? (Or maybe CART constructors have figured out how to put automatics in the cars...) Back when he played a truck driver/arm wrestling champion in "Over the

Top", they had to rig an 18-wheeler with an automatic so he could drive it.

Penn and Teller amuse me fitfully. My favourite schtick of theirs was as Rebo and Zooty.

If Kate shakes the cold/flusshe seems to be developing quickly, i may drag her out to "Lord of the Rings" for Christmas.

I liked the "All five hundred?" ending of "Swordfish". Obviously the same focus group that decreed that Mel Gibson not die at the end of "Lethal Weapon 2" didn't. At least they were able to salvage a more coherent and rhythmically-workable ending out of existing footage than that ghod-awful "I'm not dead yet!" thing they stuck on LW2.

The only MicroSoft software on this system (at least, that i use) is Windows 2000 itself. ((We do have Works and Word left over from previous jobs of Kate's but they only get used if something comes in that requires them.)) If and when they finally come up with a GUI/emulator for Linux that will run the majority of Windows programs, Windows may go into the Great Recycle Bin In The Sky itself.

I can get into Recreational Shopping, expecially in places like electronic surplus shops and Very Large Shops Full Of Kitchen Gadgetry. [One of the local malls has/had (been a year or so since i've been in that mall) an entire shop devoted to hot sauce and related products; i love of-the-wall places like that.] Kate, on the other hand, hates malls and shopping, while, to me, the easy availability of Really Big Malls is one of the basic requirements of civilisation. Go figure.

*Carter's* idea of a line-item veto, neh? Which the Republicans stopped.

Former Girlfriend Mel Clark was rather hurt when neither i nor her husband would allow her to practice doing prostate examinations on us when she was in med school. Oh, i liked and enjoyed and appreciated the



These MCs, obviously, were intended to be in last mailing.

There's a good chance that the MCs intended for this mailing will appear next mailing.

Sorry.



glass-blowing stuff in "Shattered". It was the story that he/they hung on it that was Decidedly Lame.

Maybe it wasn't "Doesn't take well to strangers", but it was a bit of a warning that This Might Not Work without some negotiation, possibly -- sort of like you give someone who's negotiating with your cat that has its own ideas about how friendly one should get at first acquaintance. Picking her up was pretty much reflex for me, since that was the period when i was in my "Honorary Daddy" phase to Miss Julia in New Orleans who's about the same age, and the Divine Miss J.'s mother has minor physical disabilities that made it logical for me to be the pack mule when kid-carrying was indicated.

Krispy Kreme. Feh! Even more horrid than White Castle!

The Indians at AMI had Great Problems understanding how to manage resources, with the result that we regularly worked sixty-to seventy-hour weeks to produce little if any more than could have been done in forty with logical scheduling.

"Isn't 'inarticulate Hall of Famer' redundant?"? Listen to Atlanta baseball broadcasts (the ones by the Atlanta broadcasters, not the Fox or whatever network ones) for a counter-example.

▲▲▲▲ = > / GH LIII / Periodically i go to Google's image search, set adult-content-filtering to "Off", enter "Supergirl" or "batgirl" or "Harley Quinn" and let it rip. Actually, i've found a few others i probably wouldn't want to run in a SFPA-zine that might get back to someone at DC... (At least one of which, featuring Supergirl and Cousin Kal, refers directly to Niven's "Man of Steel, Woman of Kleenex".)

Peter David's rework of Supergirl over the past five-plus years has been fascinating; the amusing thing is how (in some ways) it parallels the continuity on "Buffy"...

Fluffy the Scorpion Slayer hasn't made any kills lately, but i'm always afraid that if she does, she'll put it where she insisted on keeping her ball for a while last month -- in my left boot.

"T.M.Maple" as in "The Mad Maple" -- Canadian letterhack, used to seem to be everywhere. Just did a little googling -- found him as early as Elfquest #5, in 1979. He may well have beaten your total;

**Quick note to Gary Brown and  
Uncle Lon's Box Scores: Except for the last  
one, "those undersized zines" of mine are no more  
undersized than Jeff's -- often a bit less, actually,  
since i often use smaller type than he does.  
I wish Alan and Stven had been around to see that zine,  
though...**

Home with the Armadillo/LCopeland/Our waterbed sprung a leak the other month, also. I suspect kittykat intervention, prolly Fluffy the Scorpion Slayer. It was a small and modest leak, so we didn't notice it until water accumulating in the frame was deepish. It was obviously a small breach, a probably patchable hole, but we couldn't find it, so i ran out to WalMart and bought a new mattress, Kate got out the hose with the syphon attachment, and we had the new one in place by the next day. I slept on the futon in the guest bedroom for a week or so until the vinyl stopped outgassing.

The only time anymore that i get a full night's sleep during the night time is when i sleep sixteen or eighteen hours after a week or more of four-hours-beginning-at-about-seven-AM.

If armadillos are moving into Georgia it must be because they think up here people will swerve to avoid them on the highway.

Actually, Helm isn't even that involved -- he's explaining to the local sheriff why his fellow-agent, the father of one of the students killed, is hunting down cops involved in the shooting. He says the final straw must have been that the cops were obviously shooting at random; the sheriff asks if it would have made it all right with him that they killed his



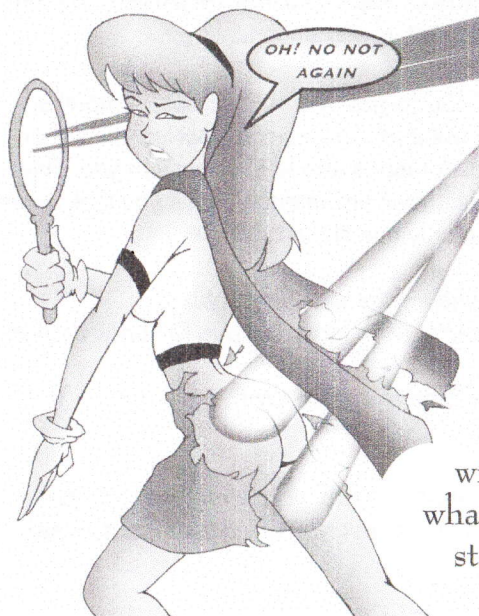
daughter if he thought they'd been aiming at her. Helm says not necessarily "all right" but, that if it were obvious that they had at least some reason in their minds to be shooting and some idea of what they were shooting *at* and were actually *aiming* rather than firing at random, the guy might be suing their asses off in court rather than hunting them down like animals.

I happen to agree with the Helm position. I mean, sure, if i'm shot dead, i'm dead whether the guy shooting aimed or not; but i'd prefer to think that anyone who shoots me has a **reason** -- at least in his own mind -- rather than that i just happened to be standing in front of the muzzle when he happened to pull the trigger.

((It's an aspect of this whole sort of thing that makes Bogdanovich's **Targets** so creepy, especially the sequence on top of the gas storage tanks overlooking the freeway...))

I suspect Guy was talking about the "41 Bullets" shootings in New York, when four plainclothes cops fired that many shots at a guy who was reaching for his wallet. Having once been in a somewhat analogous position to where those cops were and having (luckily) fired at nothing

more important than a wild pig, i cannot excuse what happened but can understand \*how\* it happened, even unto the number of



shots fired. (Among other things, one of the cops fell during the shooting, and his buddies thought he'd been shot, which confirmed their belief that they were in danger and defending themselves...)

I also read somewhere (a couple of different somewheres at different times) that one or more of the four is in heavy counselling of his own volition, that at least one has been relieved of street duty at his own request and that one has quit the force entirely.

I rather like the Liberty-with-a-gun illo.

Bujold's "Chalion" struck me as being set in something very like a just-pre-Columbus Spain.

**Yngvi**/TKFW/Movie Reviews: The review makes "Bandits" (which we wanted to see but didn't yet) sound like another make of a '60s novel called, ummm, *The Chase* -- filmed once before with Peter Fonda as something like *Dirty Mary Crazy Larry*; the "exploding-car-hitting-railroad-car" clip at the beginning of *The Fall Guy* episodes is from it. But i doubt it.

Comments on *Fosse* -- wonder if Charlotte has seen Fosse's film *All That Jazz*?

**Oblie**/G.Brown/Sorry, Gary, too little real content to make comments on.

**The Sphere**/D.Markstein/I agree fully that the bad guys in Rwanda need to be Removed. Unfortunately, we have even less pretext for going after them than we do for going after bin Laden.



**I also have to agree with your next comments -- from its beginning (well, since Saul stole the election, as it were), Christianity has been really really good at trying to muscle its way in where it's not wanted and then whining about how persecuted it is when it finds itself on the short end of other peoples' laws.**

**The reason for bombing Afghanistan is that the man we wanted seems to be/heve been there at the time.**

**Did you ever get/check/post the *Spirit* and Gil Shelton errata i sent you for Toonopedia?**

# The UseNet Guide to Power Troll Posting

Reportedly from alt.binaries.e-book but I don't have an attribution.  
(Much of the following is, of course, also applicable to apa feuding.)

1. Conspiracies abound: If everyone's against you, the reason can't possibly be that you're a fuckhead. There's obviously a conspiracy against you. You will be doing the entire net a favor by exposing it. Be sure to mention the CIA, FBI, Oliver North and the Army as co-conspirators.

2. Lawsuit threats: This is the reverse of Rule #1. Threatening a lawsuit is always considered to be in good form:

"By saying that I've posted to the wrong group, Charlie has libeled me, slandered me, and sodomized me. See you in court, Charlie."

3. Force them to document their claims: Even if Jane Jones states outright that she has menstrual cramps, you should demand documentation. If Newsweek hasn't written an article on Jane's cramps, then Jane is obviously lying.

4. Use foreign phrases: French is good, but Latin is the lingua franca of UseNet. You should use the phrase *ad hominem* at least three times per article. Other favorite Latin phrases are *ad nauseam*, *veni, vidi, vici*, *E Pluribus Unum* and *fettucini Alfredo*.

5. Tell 'em how smart you are: Why use intelligent arguments to convince them you're smart when all you have to do is tell them? State that you're a member of Mensa or Mega or Dorks of America. Tell them the scores you received on every exam since high school. "I got an 800 on my SATs, LSATs, GREs, MCATs and I can also spell the word 'premeiotic'".

6. Be an armchair psychologist: You're a smart person. You've heard of Freud. You took a psychology course in college. Clearly, you're qualified to psychoanalyze your opponent. "Polly Purebread, by using the word 'zucchini' in her posting, shows she has a bad case of penis envy."

7. Accuse your opponent of censorship. It is your right as an American citizen to post whatever the hell you want to the net (as guaranteed by the 37th Amendment, I think). Anyone who tries to limit your cross-posting or move a flame war to e-mail is either a Communist, a Fascist or both.

8. Doubt their existence: You've never actually seen your opponent, have you? And since you're the center of the universe, you should have seen them by now, shouldn't you? Therefore, they don't exist! Call 'em an AI project, to really piss them off.

9. Laugh at whatever they write: A good HAHAHAAAAAAAAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA should intimidate just about anyone.

10. When in doubt, insult: If you forget the other rules, remember this one. At some point during your wonderful career on UseNet you will undoubtedly end up in a flame war with someone who is better than you. This person will expose your lies, tear apart your arguments, make you look generally like a bozo. At this point, there's only one thing to do:

Insult the dirtbag!!!

"Oh yeah? Well, you do strange things with vegetables."

And, if all else fails: remember that you can always fall back on the favorite defense of soc.women:

"Who cares what you think—this is soc.women!".

Add "DAMMIT!" for effect.

11. Be sure to have a cute signature that proclaims that you hate one or more of the regulars: No one will respect you unless it's made clear that you hate them.

**Oblio -- G.Brown** -- "'Alternative' to what?" you ask?

"Alternative to what the record labels were pushing on us ten or twelve years ago. Of course, these days it's just another record-company "format" to push product on people who buy by "format". Your comments on country music lead me to ask if you've heard anything much by Hank Williams III?

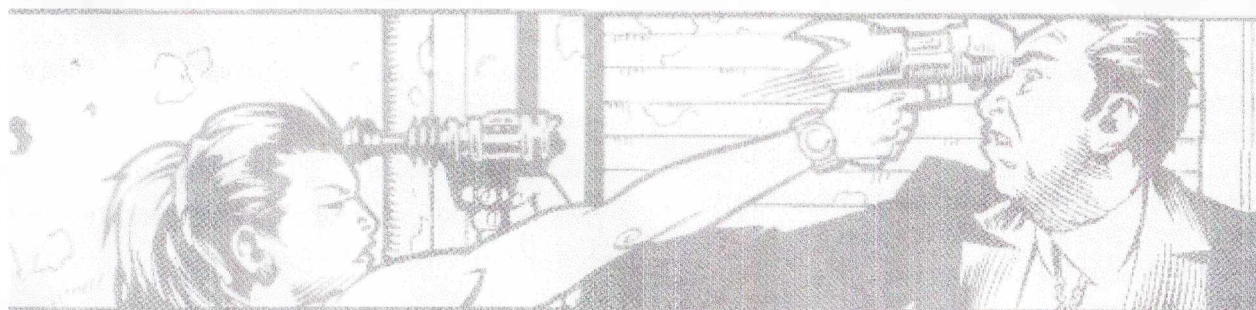
I see disclaimers as to how long Priority Mail takes/may take all over the place. Certainly, the radio and TV spots promoting it say "As quickly as..." X days. It used to be guaranteed two-day/three-day delivery, but not any more. Actually, all "Priority Mail" means is First Class handling for larger objects.

I get the cartoons from all over the place -- periodically i use the "Advanced" function on Google in conjunction with "Image Search" -- at least

some of them were collected originally by another guy who posted them on a newsgroup.

#### QUICK COMMENTS ON CARTOONS IN JANICE'S ZINE:

The "FBI checking everyone is scared" cartoon put me strongly in mind of Addams, and i loved the Wilson "Any volunteers?" one. Also, the "Geek Hierarchy" is all too true.



**TYNDALLITE -- N.METCALF** -- Have you ever encountered a story entitled "Brain-Stealers of Mars" (or something Very Similar)? I forget who told me the story about this, but apparently this is by John Campbell, published under a one-shot pseudonym at about the same time as "Who Goes There?" As i was told the story, Campbell used "Who Goes There?" and "Brain-Stealers", which has the same basic gimmick and structure but told in pure purple pulp prose as a sort of visual aid when dealing with established authors who claimed they couldn't write the "new-fangled" sorts of stories JWC wanted. He would hand the

writer tear sheets of both stories, and say "This {pointing to "Brain-Stealers"} is how we used to do it, but \*this\* {pointing to "Who Goes There"} is the way I'd like to see it."

And, if they still insisted that they couldn't change that much, then Campbell said "Well, I did..."

I sincerely doubt that any battery-powered electric locomotive (properly referred to as an "electric motor". BTW; a "locomotive", short for "locomotive engine" generates its own power) of any substantial size or power was in use anywhere much at the time Verne wrote "20,000 Leagues" -- we're just barely beginning to see them as yard switchers now.

Verne's "hydraulic shock absorbing" system would have been very insufficient. I forget the length of the gun's barrel, but i shudder to think of how much delta-v one would go through in a launch of that type.



12. Make things up about your opponent: It's important to make your lies sound true. Preface your argument with the word "clearly".

"Clearly, Fred Flooney is a liar, and a dirtball to boot."

14. Cross-post your article: Everyone on the net is just waiting for the next literary masterpiece to leave your terminal. From rec.arts.wobegon to alt.gourmand, they're all holding their breaths until your next flame. Therefore, post everywhere.

15. Use the smiley to your advantage. You can call anyone just about anything as long as you include the smiley. On really nasty attacks add "No flames, please". When they bitch, call them an ass for not being able to recognize sarcasm when they see it.

16. Threaten to destroy ABEB if your opponent refuses to give up. This at least gives you an appearance of power, even if nobody on the net gives a damn about what goes on in ABEB.

17. Should you post something exceedingly stupid and later regret it, don't worry. You needn't cancel the article.

That only shows what a wimp you really are.

Deny that you ever sent it.

"It must be a forgery!" (Yeah, that's the ticket, it's a forgery!)

"Someone broke into my account and sent it!"

"It's that damn backbone cabal out to get me!"

Take your pick, they've all been used before.

17. A really cheap shot is to call your opponent a Fascist. By itself, it really does nothing. But, when used often, and in enough articles, it can make you a net-legend.

19. Obfuscation is the key. Always edit your subject line when following up so that no-one knows what the fuck you're responding to, or why. This drives 'em wild.

Be sure to follow up to as many articles as possible, even if you have nothing to say. The important thing is to get "exposure" so that you can be called a "regular" in your pet newsgroup.

20. You don't own this group!

Since you're obviously a networking/computer genius (this would explain your usage of Outlook Express to access UseNet) your opinion means

more than anyone else's.

Be sure to proclaim "Who voted you xxx of this group?!?", "Is this group moderated—nope, I didn't think so!" or, that old classic, "Usenet is Anarchy!" to justify your pointless, off-topic flames and general mayhem on Usenet. After all, if it were against the rules, you wouldn't be able to post it in the first place, right?

So it must be okay!

Always change the nym of the person you're responding to when following up; make sure it's something derogatory for full effect.

Dump a hundred lines of previous posts in every article.

Make sure you never contribute anything useful to the groups, as that would defeat the entire purpose of your meaningless existence.

Found this at <http://www.flin.demon.co.uk/alhist/auth.htm#part10>. Some of us ought to find it funny...

<Quote>

*I never could stand that Boromir. Stuck up and arrogant. Still, I fixed him good in his turn. I remember thinking when the halflings rushed off, that's yours, Boromir.*

*But I'm getting ahead of the story. It all started back in Rivendell. It was all Gandalf's fault, of course. Nearly every disaster of the Third Age was. But this time he outdid himself. His idea of a good plan was to take this wonder weapon we had chanced upon, and throw it away.*

*Couldn't even throw it away in the sea like any sane chap. No, his plan was to take it all the way into the middle of enemy territory, where there were millions of orcs and others, and throw it into a volcano, knowing that the damned thing will explode.*

*There was a long silence, and Gandalf then said "Volunteers only, of course."*

*Then everyone looked towards me...*

</Quote>



I think that Campbell made the remark about "SatEvePost stories from 500 years in the future" in a letter to an author, but i'm not sure.

Actually, most of the science in "The Black Cloud" existed at the time and was accurate; about the only speculative material in the story was the existence of sentience in the Cloud itself.

## *Spiritus Mundi -- GHLIII --* Shelley Duvall's kid-

die teeveer endeavour, "Faerie Tale Theatre" was/is available on video. Her adaptation of "Beauty and the Beast" was, basically, a 60-minute version of Jean Cocteau's version film, but in colour. Klaus Kinski wore the same makeup and costume as Jean Marais had in Cocteau's film, and all of the special effects and sets were derived directly from the Cocteau film. As i recall, they mainly cut back on the subplots involving Beauty's sisters and brother and his friend.

"Paul Smith" -- allegedly not his real name (though it's the only one the IMDB has for him); he's Israeli, and i don't think i ever knew his real name if it is different -- has appeared since "Dune" in "Red Sonja", "Gor" and the Mel Gibson "Maverick" (plus a number of others, many of which sound Israeli).

I'd guess the green trail a meteor you saw was due to the ionisation levels in its wake; maybe also to how far away it was.

"What's 'The Syndic'?" Are you serious? Novel by Kornbluth in which the Mob has taken over the US and the "legal" government is in exile in England, as i recall. Had a paperback edition with a Chaykin cover sometime in the Seventies.



I run online searches for the cartoons, for the most part; Google will search images if you tickle it right.

Actually, Guy, i'd say that Sherman's March and the way it helped to bring the War to an end more quickly, saved us a lot of bitterness and divisiveness; if the South had hung on and fought to the bitter end, i can guarantee you that it would have been even worse than what's been projected if we'd had to invade Japan at the end of WW2. Plus, in large part, Sherman was targetting strategic resources, such as railroads and the like, rather than civilian targets.

Variations on a Theme -- R.Lynch -- I use WS-FTP; it works good.

"Shrek" was "not even as good" as "Iron Giant"? Obviously you and i have rather different opinions as to how good "Iron Giant" is. By me it's one of the better animated features ever made.

Due to court decisions rendered the day before Germany invaded Czechoslovakia, Budvar is "Czechwar" in this half of the world. It's fairly easily available, apparently, if you look around.

The "Cassette on a string" has been available since portable CD players were available; it has a tapehead mounted in the cassette shell, along with a drive belt between the two hubs to prevent your player from deciding the "tape" is at end and reversing or kicking out the "cassette"; it lugs into the headphone jack of the CD player. As to anti-skip; the newer players have 45 to 90 seconds of anti-skip memory capacity, and even older ones fo dine in the car if you cushion them somewhat. I've been using them for fifteen or so years...

**NEW PORT -- NEED --** First, as i point out in my comment to Norm, it's "electric motor", not "electric locomotive". A lot of electric-powered railroads run on DC.

Actually, the batteries in diesel boats are capable of more than "short time" operation; they are effectively what powers the



boat whenever it is submerged. You certainly aren't going to be running a diesel engine 200 feet down while sneaking up on convoy.

Right -- Cavorite blocked gravity. I remember a really cheesy hack SF novel that took that principle a step further, and replaced "Universal Gravitation" with "Universal Repulsion" (empty space repels matter, matter blocks the repulsion) and came up with a truly neat reactionless space drive.

I think that the Fahrenheit system sets its zero point where it does because that was the coldest that could be produced with crushed ice and salt; i forget why the boiling point is 212, though.

Aircraft transponders are under the control of the crew because they are used to communicate with the ground in various ways; controllers assign a "squawk ID" for the crew to set their transponder to to distinguish aircraft on the screen, and being able to send a code to ground without using voice comms can come in handy at times.

The problem with "Wind Done Gone" is not plagiarism, it's that it is a "derivative work" within the meaning of copyright law.

My great-grandfather used to regularly make "winter wine" by freezing out the water in wine during Chicago winters. The trick isn't getting it Very Cold, it's getting it cold enough that water freezes but alcohol doesn't.

## CAN'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING... --

**JCOPELAND** -- Somehow i seem to keep missing the appeal of the "Boondocks" strip. It strikes me as a black "Doonesbury", only less funny. Which means that on most days, i have to read at least one really funny strip immediately after i read "Boondock" in order to arrive at a zero net humour intake.

Kate and i rented "Moulin Rouge" to see what all the fuss was about. We bailed at fifteen minutes in.

Westlake seems to be hard to film; i haven't seen "What's

the Worst..." but "Bank Shot" and "Cops & Robbers" were mediocre at best. "Stark", OTOH, seems to film well. Go figure.

I've never really been convinced that the comma theory of What "The Prisoner" Means is valid. It sounds like fanboy post-rationalisation to me.

Technically, yes, Tripp wasn't fired, since, as you say, she was an appointee and her appointment was up. However, if they had really wanted to, the new Administration could have re-appointed her.

Re "Yorkie/Furry bouquet" comment -- I wanna see someone catch the yorkie.

So who or what (having watched the dubbed version) is "Princess Mononoke"? (Since no-one seems to be named that in the dubbed version).

The article you reproduce about neutron weapons puts me in mind of what Fred Pohl said at the time everyone was so enthusiastic about the neutron bomb -- suppose you toss one at a Soviet armored division, but miss by a bit (or that the division is near the intended target)? You have a fully-equipped modern armored division made up of men who (A) know they are going to die (B) Know that by comparison to how they are going to die, getting blown to pieces is merciful and (C) Know who did it to them.

Pohl said we have a word that would apply to such men. And that word is "berserker".

" $F=2xC+30$ ", hmmm? 100C therefore equals 230F. I dunno if i'd call an error of 8.5% "surprisingly accurate". Also, by the same formula, take -40C --  $2 \times -40C + 30 = -50F$ , a rather larger error...

