

ISSUE 21

February 15, 1986

Game Openings: Diplomacy!

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Happy Valentines day to everyone!

How many of you get Bruce McIntyre's zine Exelcior? He has wisely dodged any liability by printing a disclaimer on the cover of his most recent issue, and by living in Canada. He warned us that reading his zine might get us all sick, and now half of Austin, including Polly and I, have some sort of respiratory infection! That little Canuck already ruined my valentine's day ("Honey, sniff, I, cough, hack, love you, sneeze, cough, wheeze.") and I am still sick for the second weekend in a row. He is going to pay!

Plans for DipCon are progressing very well. We have come up with a pretty reasonable price, and I am working on getting some discount air fares. I think we should be able to get a good turnout, but it will take some help from all of you. I am hereby challenging the MadLads and LA Crowd to a turnout contest. Most specifically I challenge Mark Frueh and Ron Spitzer to head recruiting drives in their respective areas. Whichever group gets the highest turnout gets some sort of prize, eg. the other groups buy them a round of drinks. If these two aren't up to the task maybe we need better representatives, but I am willing to challenge anybody! Not only that, the Texas delegation will fair better than any other region on average. Last year we fell slightly behind LA, but that was a fluke. Enclosed is an entry form for DipCon and the most recent issue of the official newsletter, but then you probably already saw all of that.

Speaking of DipCon, how many of you noticed that the Hobby Small Fry Protection League (HSFPL) has now taken over the Administrative Committee? Snuck up on you, didn't we?!

Speaking of the HSFPL, the second ARLINGCON will be held at Pete's place on April 19 and 20th, at 3121 E. Park Row # 165 Arlington, Texas. Spouses are invited to attend, if not to participate then to see Dallas and keep each other company. As one of the Charter attendees of the first con, I can say that it should be a lot of fun and good Dip. You should go if only to meet Cathy, and if you don't know who Cathy is, go to find out!

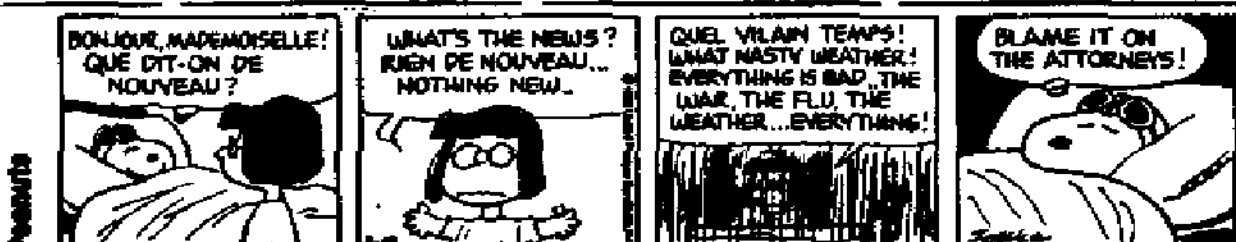
One piece of personal news: I just got my final official notice from the UT Law School that I have definitely been accepted for admission to the May class. Up until now they could have backed out of it; now it's too late. I hope the world has room for one more conservative Texas Lawyer!

As you may have noticed by the heading, I have decided to open a game of regular Diplomacy! The deadlines will be monthly, same as Presidential Politics, and the game fee will be \$5 plus a sub to PF. The NMR fee will also be an innovative prize fund. The original players will give me \$10 which I keep in escrow. Every year they are alive they get 25¢ back, and they also get 25¢ for each home supply center they own up to three. So you can get a possible \$1 back each game year. Once the original ten is gone that's all you get, except the winner(s) get whatever is left in the escrow fund. This will have an effect on how the game is played, but then I don't know a set of houserules that don't have an effect. Let me know if you are interested. I will open as many games as I get checks for, and I am expecting to get two games open. Houserules on the next page.

HOUSE RULES FOR DIPLOMACY!

- 1) I will follow the latest rulebook except as noted here.
- 2) When a player NMR's all units will hold in CD and a standby will be called. If the original player NMR's the next season the standby's orders will be used, and other countries may make their orders conditional upon who is playing the position. Dropping or resigning from a game will result in the loss of the NMR/Prize fee. If a player resigns by turning a set of last orders and informing me of his intention to resign, then I will refund whatever amount has been earned back from the escrow fund. No standby will be called for two different countries, nor will an eliminated player be called as a standby. Standby's play for free and do not qualify for the prize fund.
- 3) Game fee is \$5 and a sub to FF. The NMR/Prize fee is \$10. Every game year that an original player's country is still alive his account is credited with 25¢. The player is also credited with 25¢ for every home supply center still owned, up to three. Once the escrow account is used up for each individual player, no more money can be earned. The funds left over in the escrow account at the end of the game will be given to the winner(s). Only original players and standbys who have donated to the escrow fund are eligible for the prize.
- 4) Deception of the GM will not be tolerated in any form.
- 5) The first winter season will be separated. After that it can be separated by a majority vote of the players. If, in the GM's opinion, this is being abused the rule will be revoked and no separations will be allowed at all. Separations are limited to Winter only.
- 6) Passwords may be used, but are not necessary. I recommend using them if you plan to phone your orders in. There will not be any NMR insurance, and don't count on me being home to answer the phone. In addition, the phone deadline will be one day prior to the regular deadline without exception.
- 7) Press is accepted, and encouraged to be game related. If you want to talk about something else, send me something for the letter column. Press will be edited for excessive length, obscenity, or tactlessness.
- 8) I will endeavor to provide maps, and I will maintain a 5 day turnaround here. If the zine is going to be delayed for any reason, I will send the adjudication out separately, but I don't think I will have a map with these releases.

That's about it. If you have any questions just ask and I will provide an answer. This is all pretty common stuff. One thing that I would like to try, if all the participants are game, is a game with conditional retreats. I have seen game played where the retreats and builds were included with the Fall orders, but I don't think I want to run one like that. But the idea of including retreats with each set of orders appeals to me, so let me know what you think.



PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS NOTES

DUE NEXT TURN: (FF only!)

Media bids and Spotlight issues in Pacific States Regional Primary; maintain whatever organizations that you have already set up; seven days travel. I would also like to get a conditional set of orders for the primaries in California, Ohio, and New Jersey. You are certainly welcome to change these orders once you have seen the results in Pacific. I would like to get a little ahead so that I can prepare for the convention turn.

DEADLINE: (FF) March 14, 1986 and (HPG) March 7, 1986

Below is a recap of the delegate race to date. E.V. is the number of Electoral Votes each state gets, which will be the only number that really matters when we run the General Election game. Hopefully I will have the first Harras Poll ready for the General Election along with the California ET AL results. That will consist of which candidates get how many votes in each state. It will only include what I consider the contenders at the time. Please check the numbers below, and if you have any questions, please let me know.

STATES/ E.V.		REPUBLICANS					DEMOCRATS					
		DELE	DAVE	TY	JAMES	DAN	DELE	JIM	PETE	JAKE	MARK	STEPHEN
IA	8	37	6	11	13	7	50	4	14	6	17	9
OK	8	34	6	12	10	6	42	12	8	12	3	7
MS	7	22	5	2	8	7	32	11	3	4	2	12
NH	4	22	5	7	5	5	19	4	5	4	4	2
MA	14	42	9	15	8	10	111	23	26	29	33	0
FL	17	51	0	0	51	0	100	0	20	24	17	39
IL	26	102	25	28	26	23	179	60	43	0	38	38
AL	9	27	9	7	7	4	56	0	0	18	13	25
NY	41	123	23	34	36	30	282	55	58	49	63	57
NE	7	88	0	29	28	31	111	20	42	20	16	13
WI	11	34	0	0	0	34	75	18	15	16	26	0
LA	10	31	31	0	0	0	51	0	6	0	17	28
IN	13	54	0	54	0	0	90	17	29	44	0	0
SA	33	119	22	16	60	21	204	0	0	0	105	99
BS	40	100	13	58	13	16	179	0	0	65	50	64
PA	27	83	13	29	24	17	185	12	21	43	64	45
NP	29	130	0	23	23	84	169	0	0	99	70	0
VA	12	51	6	12	17	16	82	0	0	29	23	30
TX	26	80	19	12	22	27	152	24	0	43	24	61
RM	35	179	0	28	22	129	168	0	0	79	0	89
MY	21	30	0	0	0	30	59	0	0	22	37	0
MI	10	82	0	0	26	56	141	0	0	57	84	0
KY	9	27	0	5	3	19	50	0	0	22	10	18
PS	22	99					127					
CA	45	168					306					
NJ	17	66					113					
OH	25	77					161					
NREC							NDEC					
100		18	22	21	39	100	23	22	15	27	13	
TOTAL		2058	210	404	423	611	3394	283	312	700	743	649
STATES WON		2	7	6	12		1	3	6	8	9	

If we assume that Dan is going to win all of the remaining states for the Republicans and Stephen wins all but one of the remaining Democrat contests, then the above represents the number of states won by each candidate.

The convention rules can be changed by a majority vote of the Executive Committees. An example of a possible rule change would be for the Republicans to declare the Winner-Take-All primaries

invalid and apportion those states delegates proportionately. You can also change the make up of the National Committee by voting in some other method of representation, like having the candidate who won a state's primary get both of their Executive Committee delegates. A rule change needs to be submitted as a proposal which I will take votes on.

I am bringing this up because I have the legitimate fear that the Democrats may end up in a deadlock, depending on the outcome of these last four elections. To avoid dragging the game out for several months, a few rule changes may change the delegate count enough to nominate somebody. I will start accepting rule proposals now, if anyone has any.

HALVERSTADT, YOUNG WIN IN KENTUCKY

While the young juggernaut continued to roll in the Republican race, both Wilcox and Larzelere were set back by Halverstadt's unexpectedly strong showing in Kentucky today. The difference in the Democrats race turned out to be travel, since the Colorado governor was the only Democrat to visit the state. Senator Larzelere of Maryland hadn't even opened an organization in the state, and used last weeks wins in Michigan and Maryland to garner just over 20% of the vote and qualify for donations. The Halverstadt victory came as a complete surprise in the Wilcox camp since the Texan had purchased three media shares.

There were no surprises in the Republican primary as Senator Young of California racked up his 5th win in a row, and evidence of cooperation with the Hare campaign became even more evident. The Hare media campaign sounded more like a Young advertisement as Hare emphasized the Military Draft issue. It is widely known that the Kentucky Republicans heavily favored the measure, while Hare had previously announced his opposition. Once again James Wall of Wisconsin sat out the campaign, and only got 10% of the vote. For all intents and purposes, the wall campaign is over. California Media is 160 CFP per share and Wall only has 13 CFP left. Though his name remains on the ballots, he isn't expected to do much campaigning.

Oddly enough it has been Wall who will keep Young from getting the first round nomination. Over the last two weeks he has earned enough delegates to hold Young under the 1030 he needs to claim an outright victory. The latest delegate counts place Young at 611 and there are only 410 Republican delegates left to be gained. Even if he picks up all of the remaining delegates, he can only get 1021. There may be fireworks at the convention when it comes time to nominate the VP; either Hare or Wall could easily nominate Young by committing their delegates, and Wall has pointed out that he won the electoral rich states of New York and Florida. Both candidates will be trying to prove they are the better draw for the ticket.

There will be fireworks at the Democrats convention, since no candidate will have a clear lead. Wilcox is favored in all of the remaining primaries because of his superior financial position, and he is starting to use that financial advantage in his travel plans. He visited 12 cities in 7 days last week. That should be enough to propel him to the delegate lead by the time of the convention, but still far short of the 1698 needed for nomination. Pollsters indicate that the final Delegate totals for Halverstadt, Larzelere, and Wilcox should be 892, 940, and 967 respectively. Any combination of two of these three will clinch the nomination, effectively eliminating any power that Burgess and Gaughan had hoped to yield. The two candidates eliminated early on had hoped to be part of a winning coalition, but they only control 595 delegates between them.

In both parties the delegates are bound for the first ballot only, but as usual they are expected to abide by the wishes of their chosen candidate. The Democrats may get into a rules fight, which bodes well for Larzelere who controls 27 of the 100 NDEC members. Wilcox and Halverstadt combined only control 28. Any delegate challenges will be answered by the Executive Committees.

A recent audit of the elections held thus far showed some delegates had been miscounted, and the current totals reflect the changes made. In the Republican party almost 150 delegates hadn't been counted at all, and for the Democrats Larzelere lost seventeen delegates while Halverstadt and Wilcox picked up 12 and 11 respectively. This latest count came from painstaking research by re-totalling all of the delegates awarded as published in the final election reports. Officials refused to comment on how the discrepancy occurred.

KENTUCKY

YOUNG LOOKS UNSTOPPABLE

CANDIDATE	DAVE	TY	JAMES	DAN
ISSUES:				
Alaska	*	+ 22	+ 22	- 92
Draft II	*	- 30	- 30	+ 75
SPOTLIGHT ISSUE		Draft II	-----	Alaska
VISITS: days/votes				
Louisville	*	*	- *	1.8/ 89
Lexington	*	*	*	.9/ 30
ORGANIZATION:				
weeks/votes	*	1/ 16	*	4/ 35
MOMENTUM BONUS:				29
MEDIA:				
votes	*	29	*	29
Number/cost	*	1/10	*	1/ 10
TOTAL VOTES:	*	97	52	379
PERCENTAGE:	*	18.37	9.84	71.78
DELEGATES:	*	5	3	19
CFP GAINED:	*	4	-0-	21
This week:				
BALANCE	3	147	13	301
SPENT	-0-	<52>	-0-	<98>
GAINED	-0-	4	-0-	21
BALANCE	3	99	13	224
TRAVEL:				
DAY 1	*	*	*	Salem/Eugene
DAY 2	*	*	*	Spokn/Tacoma
DAY 3	*	*	*	Hnlul/Prtlnd
DAY 4	*	*	*	Seatl/Lima
DAY 5	*	*	*	Hmltn/Lorain
DAY 6	*	*	*	Cantn/Yngstn
DAY 7	*	*	*	Akron/Toledo
ORGANIZATIONS:				
Pacific	N	2	N	3
California	N	1	2(-5)	3
New Jersey	N	1	N	2
Ohio	N	1	N	2
DECLARED FOR:				
Pacific	N	Y	Y	Y
California	N	Y	Y	Y
Ohio	N	Y	Y	Y
New Jersey	N	Y	Y	Y
TOTAL DELEGATES:	210	404	423	611

KENTUCKY

HALVERSTADT OVER A STUNNED WILCOX BY 10 POINTS

CANDIDATE	JIM	PETE	JAKE	MARK	STEPHEN
ISSUES:					
Nuke	*	*	+ 20	+ 20	- 96
Housing	*	*	+ 27	- 82	+ 27
Nuke Waste	*	*	- 82	+ 27	+ 27
SPOTLIGHT ISSUE ----		----	Waste	Housing	Nuke
VISITS: days/votes					
Louisville	*	*	1.8/ 89	*	*
Lexington	*	*	1.8/ 30	*	*
ORGANIZATION:					
weeks/votes	*	*	5/ 37	*	3/ 32
MOMENTUM	*	*	*	29	*
MEDIA:					
Votes	*	*	58	*	87
number/cost	*	*	2/ 20	*	3/ 30
TOTAL VOTES:	*	*	343	158	269
PERCENTAGE:	*	*	44.55	20.52	34.94
DELEGATES:	*	*	22	10	18
CFP GAINED:	*	*	14	4	7
BALANCE	<72>	<12>	369	313	594
This week					
SPENT	-0-	-0-	<78>	<163>	<112>
GAINED	-0-	-0-	14	4	7
BALANCE	<72>	<12>	305	254	489
TRAVEL:					
DAY 1	*	*	LA	Anaheim	Newark
DAY 2	*	*	"	S. Diego	Nwrk/Brns
DAY 3	*	*	"	Rvrside	Jers/LBrnch
DAY 4	*	*	Seattle	S. Jose	Ptsn/Trntn
DAY 5	*	*	Portlnd	Sermnto	Atln/Vnlnd
DAY 6	*	*	Civland	Oxnard	Stkt/Bkrsf
DAY 7	*	*	Cincy	Fresno	Frns/Oxnrd
ORGANIZATIONS:					
Pacific States	N	N	4	3	2
California	N	N	3	3	2
New Jersey	N	N	3	3	2
Ohio	N	N	3	3	1
DECLARED FOR:					
Pacific	N	N	Y	Y	Y
California	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Ohio	N	N	Y	Y	Y
New Jersey	N	N	Y	Y	Y
TOTAL DELEGATES: 283		312	700	743	649
NEW ISSUES					
Fuel Assistance	?	?	+	+	+
Rail Deregulation	?	?	-	-	-
Indian Fuel	?	?	+	+	+

FALL 1907

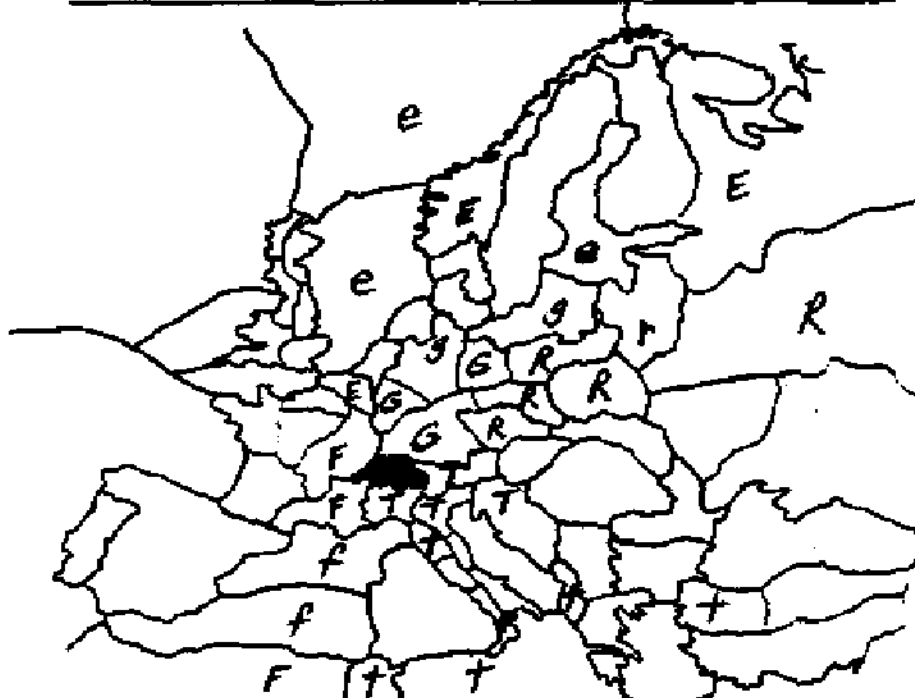
ENGLAND A BEL H (F NTH S), A Fin-STP (A NWY, F BAR S), F BOT-Liv
FRANCE A BUR S Ger A MUN, A MAR-Pie, F LYO-Tyr, F WES-Tun (A NAP
S)
GERMANY A MUN H (A RUH S), F BAL-Ber (F KIE S)
RUSSIA A BOH-Mun, A MOS-War, A Stp-Mos (ANN), A WAR-Pro, F
LIV-Bal, A PRU-Ber (A SIL S)
TURKEY F AEG MS F GRE, A PIE H (A TYO S), A Apu-VEN (A TRI S), F
TYR-Tun (F ION S), F NAP-Tyr (F TUS S)

ENGLAND	Home, Nwy, Bel, Swe, STP	7	+1
FRANCE	HOME, Spa, Por	5	-
GERMANY	HOME, Hol, Den	5	+1
RUSSIA	Mos, Sev, War, Rum, Vis, Bud, mun, stp	6	-2*
TURKEY	Home, Italy, Bul, Ser, Gre, Tri, Tun	11	--

ENGLAND (Declines Build) A BEL S Fre A Bur (F NTH S), F BOT-Liv
(A STP S (A NWYS)), F Bar-NWG
FRANCE A BUR S Ger A Mun, A MAR-Pie, A NAP-Tun, F WES-Tyh (F GOL
S)
GERMANY Build Army Berlin; A MUN H (A RUH S), A BER H (F KIE S),
F BAL S Eng A Stp-Liv (NSO)
RUSSIA A BOH-Mun, A MOS-Stp (F LIV S), A PRU-Ber (A SIL S), A
WAR S F Liv
TURKEY F Gre-ALB, F Aeg-CON, F Tyr-TUN (F ION S), A PIE H (A VEN
S), A TYO S Rus A Boh-Mun (A TRI S), F NAP-Tyr (F TUS S)

All proposals fail by a vote of 2 Yes, 2 No, and 1 NVR. An illegal proposal: Concession to GM. Please skip the vote on that one by next deadline.

DEADLINE FOR FALL 1908 IS FEBRUARY 23, 1985



HODDING CARTER, III

FALL 1904

AUSTRIA A SER MS A GRE, A BOH-Mun (A TYO S), A VEN-Rom
ENGLAND F Mid-POR, A BRE S Fre A PAR, F Nth S Ger F Den-Ska (NSO)
(Ret. Edi, Eng, Hel, Lon, Yor, OTB) (F NWG S)
FRANCE F Mar-SPA(sc), A PAR S Eng A Bre-Pic (A GAS S)
GERMANY A BUR S A Mun (A MUN, A BEL S), F HOL & F DEN S Rus F
Ska-Nth, A PIC-Par
ITALY A Rom-APU, F Wes-TYR, F TUS-Rom
RUSSIA F Ska-NTH (F NWY S (A FIN S)), F Arm-ANK (F BLA S), A BUL
U, A RUM-Gal, A RUM-Con (Double ordered), F AEG-Smy
TURKEY F NAP-Rom, F Ank-Arm (ANN) (A SMY S), A CON S Aus A
Gre-Bul (NSO)

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

AUSTRIA	Home, Ser, Gre, VEN	6	+1
ENGLAND	Home, Bre, POR	5	+1
FRANCE	Par, Mar, Spa, por	3	-1
GERMANY	Home, Hol, Den, Bel	6	-
ITALY	Rom, Tun, ven	2	-1
RUSSIA	Home, Rum, Swe, Nwy, Bul, ANK	9	+1*
TURKEY	Con, Smy, Nap, ank	3	-1*

SPRING 1905

AUSTRIA Build Fleet Trieste; F Tri-ADR, A Boh-MUN (A TYO S), A
VEN-Rom, A Gre-ALB, A Ser-BUL

ENGLAND Retreat Fleet North to Edinburgh; Build Fleet London; F
Por-MID, A Bre-PIC, F Edi-NTH (F LON, F NWG S)

FRANCE F SPA(sc) U, A Gas-MAR, A Par S ENG A Bre-Pic (Ret. Bre,
Gas, OTB)

GERMANY A Bel-RUH, F Hol-BEL, A Pic-PAR (A BUR S), F Den-KIE, A
Mun S A Bur (Ret. Ber, Sil, OTB)

ITALY Remove Fleet Tuscany; A Apu-NAP (F TYH S)

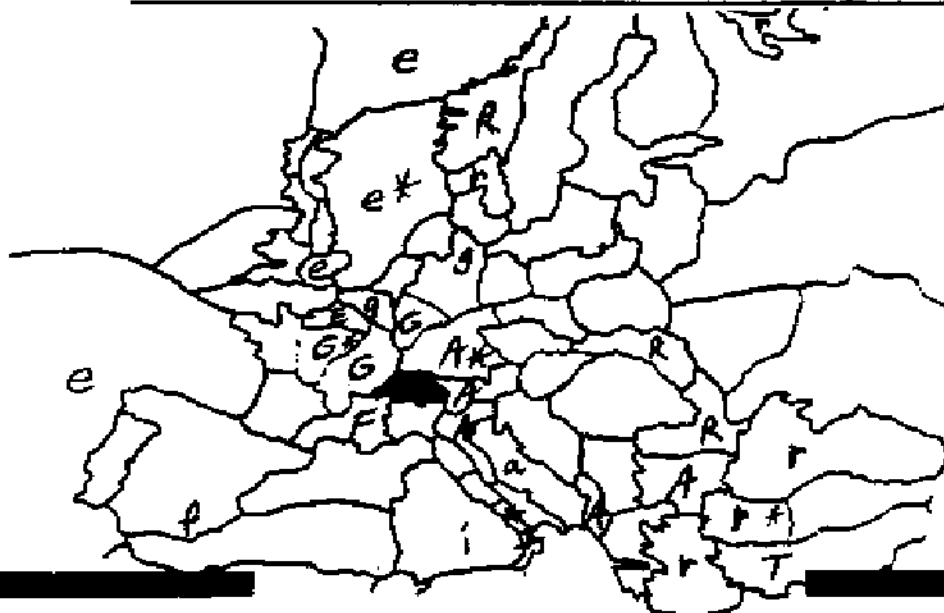
RUSSIA Build Fleet St.Pete (nc); A Bul-RUM, A Rum-GAL, A
Fin-NWY, F Nwy-SKA, F Stp(nc)-BAR, F Nth C Ger A Bel-Yor
(NSO) (Ret. Den, Eng, Hel, Hol, Yor, OTB), F AEG-Smy, F
Ank-Con (F BLA S)

TURKEY A SMY MS A Con (ANN), F Nap-Rom (Ret. Ion, OTB)

Please note that I allowed the French player to illegally remove the fleet in Spain when I sent out the adjudication. The fleet is still there, and it is now listed as unordered. The players affected by this change have all been notified.

PROPOSAL: A/R Draw. Please vote by next deadline.

DEADLINE FOR FALL 1905 IS FEBRUARY 23, 1986



LETTER COLUMN

Steve Langley (01/28/86)

Having to move entire neighborhoods to build large highways so that a much larger number of people can get from one part of Austin to another sounds like an instance of too many people in a small area. Doesn't the reality of over population as a problem make itself obvious here?

Your argument that a show of strength (ie. bomb an airport to discourage hijacking) fails in two areas. The most obvious is the overwhelmingly negative response such an act would receive from most of the world (the general US population would be a large part of such a reaction). The second is that many, if not most, terrorists are fanatics. You would not teach any lesson other than that a martyred few could be the fuse for a huge amount of destruction.

I would seriously expect that the US would lose what little influence it has in other parts of the world should we drop such a bomb and that terrorists would be encouraged to hijack other planes in hopes of prodding us into a second such over reaction.

((It is true that this is a difficult situation to deal with successfully. Eliminating the immediate perpetrators accomplishes little, if anything, other than revenge. One thing that I disagree with is the American reaction to such a strike, and I site the reaction to Carter's failed rescue attempt and the reaction to the invasion of Grenada. In both instances there was a general approval, and the reason for the approval was that it made us feel like we could do something. Nothing is more frustrating than feeling totally helpless, and the American populous has felt helpless for a long time now. Maybe a strike won't act as a preventative to future hijackings, but it would probably be well received in the US.

The problem can only be solved at the source, and that means action against the financing mechanisms. The PLO has a financial empire worth billions of dollars, including stock ownership of US companies and financial institutions. Though I think the PLO is moderating somewhat, I would still like to know how they have been financed and who built this holding company for them. Without the money to buy the guns and bombs it will be hard for a terrorist organization to do anything.

Several candidates and political groups here in Austin have made the same point that you do above. Their solution is stop the growth, and then all of our problems would be gone. Though I agree that growth causes hardship, it is not near the hardships that would be caused by no growth. Detroit is a city that has been falling apart because it is losing jobs and population. As more people become unemployed there are fewer people paying taxes to help the newly unemployed. I would still like to hear your solution to the population problems.))

Dan Young (2/11/86)

As far as the current Liesnard-Ellis "argument" goes, I am much more inclined to disagree with Mr. Liesnard than yourself. I'm neither eloquent nor informed enough to present a convincing argument in support of my views. I should note, however, that though your argument may not have been in the "Lincoln-Douglas tradition" that in itself doesn't mean your argument is without merit. I find it interesting that some of your critics were no less guilty of failing to live up to the "Lincoln-Douglas tradition" than you were.

Though I don't think it is possible to over sympathize of pay too much attention to the seven crew members who gave their lives for the space program, it seems to me that the schoolteacher, Christa McAuliffe, is getting a disproportionate amount of fame, sympathy, etc. Not to down play her achievements (giving your life for your country should hardly be down played), but I wonder if anyone else out there feels that her name will be remembered long after the other six are forgotten.

((I was stunned the day it happened, and found myself repeatedly saying, "It had to be the one with the teacher on it." Somehow, that did make the tragedy worse for me. I also had to question why these seven lives effected so many more people than the 200 who died in the crash in Newfoundland. I guess we knew that airplanes could crash, but none of us ever believed the Shuttle would. More on Michel Liesnard next...))

Scott Hansen (2/11/86)

I was initially a bit hurt, as Michel is one of my better friends in the hobby. He helped Frauke while she was immigrating to the US, and we are both forever grateful. But it won't do any good for to come charging after you in revenge with a 2x4 in my hands. Please think of this as private advice, though you're certainly free to print it if you wish.

I think your reprinting of the letter was bad publishing judgement. I certainly claim no monopoly on good judgement; one can look back on past issues of IRKSOME! for plenty of examples of bad judgement. Michel wrote his letter to Gary Coughlan for publication in EE. It was part of a running discussion there on US/European relations that I'm sure has been running since EE began publication. For you to pull the letter out of that context, with no seeming relation to any topics you've discussed in FF, does Michel a real injustice. You say nothing about asking Gary's permission to run the letter, or even sending Michel a copy of your comments. You seem to have pulled his letter out of thin air for the purpose of insulting Michel. After all, you wouldn't have reprinted it if you thought all your readers had seen it in EE.

You seem to imply that you judge a man's character by his politics. I guess that's your prerogative, but I'd have no respect for you if you do. It's as if I said of your response "I'd expect such intolerance from a Texan," a more applicable analogy than "I'd expect a Texan to support tax reform." To conclude that Michel hates the US from who he works for involves a quantum leap of logic. To be sure, his politics are far to the left of you and even me, but I see that as no reason to judge a person. My ideas on foreign policy probably match Michel's; would you conclude that I hate the US? How would you account for the fact that I'm still here when I've had ample opportunity to leave.

You certainly have every right to disagree with Michel and to press the argument with him, but EE would have been the appropriate place to pursue it. To have brought Michel without his knowledge into FF when his letter was irrelevant was a mistake. To judge his character by that letter was inexcusable. I hope you can admit your mistake, offer apologies to Michel, and continue with the otherwise fine standards you've set in FF.

End of advice. Now for the fun stuff.

Your comments that the contras are OK because they are pro-US, and that nothing else matters, seem to typify everything that is

wrong with American foreign policy. By that logic, butchers like Marcos and Pinochet are better allies than the countries in NATO with whom we have our disagreements. This seems to go against the good liberal* background you have for your domestic views. Alliances should be based on mutual interests, not charity or loyalty. The US "rescued" Europe in two world wars not because we were nice guys or because they were our friends, but because it was in our best interest to do so. To expect loyalty or eternal gratitude for it is absurd. A society works best when people act in their own best interest, not when they are trying to guess what the US wants. How can they guess when the US State Department hardly seems to know?

(* of course I mean liberal in the classical sense; whoever decided that in America liberal would mean "left-wing" should be strangled with the tongue of Hubert Humphrey)

What should the interests of the US be? I'd propose that they be free trade and stable relations. That has nothing to do with supporting and deposing regimes at our whim. That makes relations less stable and inhibits trade. To assume that US style democracy or any US imposed government is best for any country is chauvinism at its worst. US democracy has been developing over 200 years and is far from perfect. But we have developed it ourselves as a way to govern ourselves. To transfer it lock, stock, and barrel to Nicaragua, Philippines, or anyplace else is a joke. By the way, what kind of government do the contras advocate for Nicaragua? I've never heard the program they have in mind. Since most of their leaders are from Somoza's National Guard, should we assume they favor a return to Somoza's style of rule?

((First, thanks for the advice and the kind words. If this has been my only transgression in your eyes, I have been doing a better job than I thought! Unfortunately, I still don't think I owe anyone an apology. If I did attack Michel's character it was unintentional. I don't have a copy of the last two issues to read back on, but I don't think I made any comments concerning his character at all; it is possible that the tone conveyed that, but tone is difficult to control in print. It may be that you saw the attack on his views as an attack on him personally. I don't know his personality, and would not comment on it here if I did. I found his comments about the US and his ideas of the "rich" owing the "poor" incredible. I wanted to discuss those thoughts here for several reasons. First, I had just cut my sub to EE, and second, I wanted to use this outside opinion to stimulate discussion here. Every now and then I get afraid that my readership has become too homogenous. Gary received a copy of my response I told him he was welcome to reprint it as my response in EE. I don't know if he has or not. I did not send Michel a copy, nor did I send Russell Baker or Joe Bob Briggs a copy of the issues that I reprinted their columns in. Though I haven't done it yet, I have thought about including some editorial columns to stimulate discussion, and I have no intention of sending those authors a free copy either. Maybe I should change that policy; any other opinions?

I do not judge character by politics. I do judge ideas and opinions on their source, which has to be considered when determining if a certain opinion is representative or not. In looking back on it, I probably was wrong to say the Michel hates the US, because he never actually said that. I was not wrong to say that he probably has a low opinion of US foreign policy based on the fact that he works for governments that also hold that opinion.

NOW can I get some comments on his ideas? Do the rich owe the poor a living? Does Europe owe the US anything for our actions in the past? Should the US continue to support NATO and protect the middle east oil supplies that keep Japan and Europe running?

As for your comments regarding Latin America, I have to agree with 90% of it. We should act only in our own self interest, and anything else is a disservice to the American people. Foreign policy should not be based on ideology or our personal standards of morality. We should therefore, in our own self interest, boycott Nicaragua, Libya, Iran, and any other nation that has dedicated itself to the destruction of the US. Many would include the Soviet Union in that list, and certainly a strong argument can be made for that. If we did base our foreign policy on morality then the USSR would have to be the top offender in our eyes.

I seem to read that you are against Marcos, and other like "butchers," but then you say that we should ignore everything but self interest. Well, Marcos has been good for trade relations and in providing the military bases, so according to your own argument we should continue to support him. I would argue that his government is about to fall in a violent revolution, and if we are to protect our own interests we should assist a pro US faction in that struggle and depose Marcos as soon as possible. We may be able to accomplish that by officially recognizing Cora Aquino as the ruling government in the Philippines. But you are against working to depose regimes, so we seem to disagree on this point. You then favor keeping Marcos in power.

You also favor keeping Ortega in power in Nicaragua, I assume. I don't think his government has the support of its people either, and it certainly isn't in the interests of the US to try and deal with him. We should support a democratically chosen government and work to get that government of the people in control of the nation. The contras are not a democracy, but they are fighting a dictatorship and if successful, would hopefully create a democracy. If they didn't, then their days would also be numbered, and therefore the government should be considered unstable and not deserving of American support.

Why can't American democracy work in other parts of the world? I would argue the opposite, since people from all over the world live here and seem to do fine.

I agree that the labels in American politics are confused and contrived. I call myself a conservative, but I don't identify with the religious right. I don't want anyone telling my children who to pray to in school (imagine the horror of the Baptist parents who live in Rajneesh, Oregon!), and I would rather pay for a little birth control than unwanted children. To some, those views make me a liberal. On the other hand, I think the only reason to have a federal government is to provide for a common defense, and almost every other function should be given back to the states. That makes me pretty conservative, doesn't it? I still want an article from James Wall on these labels, or at least a better one from Ron Spitzer explaining his "ultra-neo-nazi-leftist-whatsits." From now on I am a State's Rights Progressive!

Again, thanks for the letter. Sorry about the long winded response. In reading back over this I worry about the tone. It sounds a little sarcastic, even to me. I assure you that it wasn't meant that way, but since I just got this letter I had to rush the response. I have a lot of respect for Scott, and his letter deserved a serious answer. I hope I accomplished that.)) See you on St. Paddy's Day!

may 30 thru june 1
DIPCON XIX - MARYCON IV
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE number 2

This is For Immediate Release,
the official newsletter of the Dipcon
Administrative Committee for Dipcon XIX, the
1986 version of the National Diplomacy Tournament.

This years' committee has finally settled down to include:
Chairman Pete Gaughan (3121 East Park Row #165, Arlington TX 76010;
817-633-3208); Ken Peel (8708 First Avenue #T-2, Silver Spring MD 20910;
301-495-2799); Greg Ellis (700 Rio Grande, Austin TX 78701; 512-343-8202).
All Dipcon-related material should be sent first to the Chairman, who publishes this.

I realize we haven't come your way for a couple of months. In the interim, Ed Wrobel has resigned, and Greg Ellis is back on the Committee. By default, I (Pete) wind up as Chair again (Ken's job is too hectic, and Greg is facing both work and school). Let me drag out the most pertinent facts first:

Dipcon XIX will be held at Washington-Monroe College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, which is more than an hour south of Washington's Dulles National Airport. PLAN TO ARRIVE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FRIDAY, MAY 30; the con will conclude about 6pm Sunday, June 1. There will be a shuttle available from National to the college, and complete dorm and dining facilities at the school.

Prices: There are two packages, 2-nights or 1-night. The 1-night package includes lunch and dinner Saturday, room Saturday, pub events that night, and two meals Sunday; this costs \$50. The 2-night package adds dinner Friday, pub events that evening also, room Friday, and breakfast Saturday, for a total of \$75. Don't send money to the Committee; Dick Warner at Washington-Monroe College Dept. of History and American Studies has all this info and more (the college address is 1301 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5358). In addition to the above fees, there will be a \$1 or \$2 surcharge for Dipcon Committee expenses.

As part of the Dipcon-MaryCon agreement, MaryCon will provide all trophies. Consideration will be given to starting a rotating, annual Dipcon fund.

The tournament itself: A scoring system has not yet been discussed. Available from the Chairman is a comparison of four types of systems, including two used at Dipcons XVII & XVIII and one from MaryCon.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE MORE THAN TWO ROUNDS OF DIPLOMACY PLAYED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Many Dipsters have expressed concern that the old two-round pattern was insufficient. Last year at Seattle, due to exceptional circumstances, we were able to offer seven rounds, with three being the required minimum for scoring. This year, again, you will be required to play three games to qualify (two plus Sunday's final round), but we will limit the tournament to four or five time slots; tentatively, games will start at 5pm Friday, 9am and 5pm Saturday, and 9am Sunday. The Dipcon Society Meeting will convene Saturday afternoon between rounds, and there will be open gaming and etc. in the pub both nights. This would give us seven-hour rounds. Also note: there will be no seeding or power-matching on Sunday.

In an effort to get this to you ASAP, it's being kept short. For any Dipcon questions or comments, please write to Pete. If you can pass this information on to other Dipsters please do so, since, despite the delays, this is shaping up as a whale of a con. Keep in mind that it's coming up quick--less than four months by the time you see this.

One final, nearly-forgotten note: for airfare information, write to Greg. He's trying to work up group discounts.

DipCon at MaryCon '86

DipCon at MaryCon '86 is a three-day Diplomacy and Diplomacy variant tournament, Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 1, on the campus of Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, VA (50 minutes south of Washington, D.C. on interstate 95 - ground transportation available hourly from Washington National Airport). Those unable to arrive before Saturday can still participate in DipCon, the annual national Diplomacy championship, by selecting DipCon (option #2). A minimum of two rounds of Diplomacy must be played to be eligible for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place plaques, or the seven "best country" trophies.

Friday events: VariMaryCon (Diplomacy variant tournament), Tournament of Champions (one-round tournament for 7 top placers of past MaryCons), first round DipCon (standard Diplomacy tournament, run by the national DipCon administrative committee), round table seminar with Allen Calhamer (inventor of Diplomacy), and open gaming beer party. Saturday events: additional rounds DipCon, DipCon Society meeting (which will select the site of 1987 DipCon), and open gaming beer party. Sunday events: final round DipCon, and awards ceremony.

For additional information on travel, schedule, or other matters, contact MaryCon at the address below (see form), or contact Ken Peel, 8708 First Ave. #T-2, Silver Spring, MD 20910, tel.# (301) 495-2799.

PRICE PACKAGES INCLUDE:

VariMaryCon* (May 30) lunch, dinner, beer party, lodging;
(May 31) breakfast.

VariMaryCon (local) (May 30) lunch, dinner, beer party.

DipCon (option #1) (May 30) dinner, evening beer party, lodging;
(May 31) breakfast, lunch, dinner, beer party, lodging;
(June 1) breakfast, lunch.

DipCon* (option #2) (May 31) lunch, dinner, beer party, lodging;
(June 1) breakfast, lunch.

DipCon (local) (May 31) lunch, dinner, beer party; (June 1) lunch.

*Those attending both VariMaryCon and DipCon should select
"VariMaryCon" and "DipCon (option #2)." Total cost = \$87.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL. #: _____

() VariMaryCon*.....\$35
() VariMaryCon (local)..\$20
() DipCon (option #1)...\$77
() DipCon* (option #2)..\$52
() DipCon (local).....\$32

Total enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "MARYCON," AND MAIL TO:

MaryCon '86
1309 Hanover Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

NOTE: Every effort will be made to room you with the person(s) of your choice. All rooms are double occupancy and are connected to another room (total of 4 persons). Sheets and pillow cases are provided. You must supply your own blankets.

Butter Battles

This is BB number 12. It is also the first late BB. Send complaints and sympathy cards to me at 3702 Tarragona Lane, Austin, TX 78727.

What was keeping me from BB was mostly deadlines at work. Now you'd think that when IBM finally announced the RT/PC (the computer whose operating system I've been working on for the past couple years) you'd think the developers would be given a little R&R, right? Wrong. What we get is a week of flying about giving demonstrations for the announcement. After which (surprise!) guess who's two weeks behind on his schedules? Don't let me fool you though - I love it!

Before we into the game results I have something to share with fellow **TITAN** players. The chart below is the output of a simple TITAN simulation. What I did was run 500,000 battles between each possible pair of creatures. (This took over three hours on an RT/PC, but over fifty on a PC/AT.) For simplicity I ignored rangestriking and assumed that all battles took place in the plains.

How do you read the chart? Well, the first line of numbers, for example, says that when a GArgoyle fights an OGre, the GArgoyle wins 23.3% of the time, they mutually annihilate each other 37.7% of the time, and the rest, 39.0%, are victories for the OGre. The last two numbers, 0.37 and 0.82, tell you that after an average battle the GArgoyle is 0.37 hits away from death, and the OGre is 0.82 away.

A C program for this simulation is available upon request. That includes an excellent random number generator - very fast and has a cycle length of over 4 billion.

		WIN	"TIE"	LOSS	UNHIT1	UNHIT2
GA versus						
	OG	23.3%	37.7%	39.0%	0.37	0.82
	CE	25.8%	37.0%	37.2%	0.42	0.55
	LI	7.1%	30.4%	62.5%	0.10	1.36
	TR	1.9%	11.4%	86.7%	0.03	3.01
	MI	3.3%	20.8%	75.9%	0.05	1.61
	WA	1.3%	11.7%	87.0%	0.02	2.61
	CY	0.3%	4.0%	95.6%	0.00	4.34
	WY	0.1%	2.7%	97.2%	0.00	3.95
	GR	0.2%	5.2%	94.7%	0.00	2.94
	BE	0.0%	0.3%	99.7%	0.00	5.25
	GU	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.23
	UN	0.0%	0.7%	99.3%	0.00	4.24
	DR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	6.48
	GI	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	5.44
	HY	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.65
	SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	15.06
	AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.61
	CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.64
OG versus						
	CE	24.9%	26.5%	48.6%	0.50	0.78
	LI	9.5%	36.0%	54.5%	0.16	1.07
	TR	2.2%	20.3%	77.5%	0.03	2.34
	MI	2.4%	13.2%	84.4%	0.04	1.94
	WA	1.4%	17.6%	81.0%	0.02	2.17
	CY	0.4%	7.6%	92.1%	0.01	3.67
	WY	0.1%	5.4%	94.5%	0.00	3.52
	GR	0.1%	3.8%	96.1%	0.00	2.99
	BE	0.0%	1.1%	98.9%	0.00	4.93
	GU	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	7.82
	UN	0.0%	0.5%	99.5%	0.00	4.33
	DR	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	6.30
	GI	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	5.67
	HY	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.58
	SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	14.85

AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.95
CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.98
CE versus					
LI	14.7%	29.2%	56.1%	0.20	1.21
TR	14.9%	20.7%	64.4%	0.21	2.07
MI	5.8%	24.1%	70.1%	0.07	1.44
WA	3.6%	13.6%	82.8%	0.05	2.36
CY	6.3%	12.3%	81.5%	0.08	3.23
WY	0.5%	4.0%	95.4%	0.01	3.65
GR	0.8%	7.1%	92.2%	0.01	2.69
BE	0.1%	1.0%	98.9%	0.00	4.94
GU	0.2%	0.9%	98.9%	0.00	7.14
UN	0.1%	1.0%	99.0%	0.00	3.96
DR	0.0%	0.1%	99.8%	0.00	6.18
GI	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	5.15
HY	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.37
SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	14.37
AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.36
CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.42

LI versus					
TR	13.9%	34.8%	51.3%	0.23	1.28
MI	15.5%	38.0%	46.5%	0.26	0.80
WA	8.0%	34.8%	57.2%	0.12	1.29
CY	4.3%	21.0%	74.6%	0.07	2.36
WY	1.7%	16.4%	81.9%	0.02	2.48
GR	2.0%	19.6%	78.4%	0.03	1.89
BE	0.2%	4.9%	94.8%	0.00	3.84
GU	0.0%	1.3%	98.6%	0.00	6.37
UN	0.1%	5.4%	94.5%	0.00	3.24
DR	0.0%	1.0%	99.0%	0.00	5.21
GI	0.0%	0.9%	99.1%	0.00	4.61
HY	0.0%	0.1%	99.8%	0.00	6.54
SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	13.89
AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.09
CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.21

TR versus					
MI	22.7%	29.3%	48.0%	0.48	0.88
WA	18.5%	42.1%	39.4%	0.36	0.79
CY	10.1%	41.8%	48.1%	0.18	1.15
WY	4.2%	29.0%	66.7%	0.07	1.66
GR	3.0%	14.1%	82.9%	0.05	2.15
BE	0.7%	13.7%	85.6%	0.01	2.75
GU	0.1%	4.7%	95.2%	0.00	4.68
UN	0.2%	4.2%	95.6%	0.00	3.30
DR	0.1%	4.7%	95.2%	0.00	4.03
GI	0.0%	1.0%	99.0%	0.00	4.33
HY	0.0%	1.2%	98.8%	0.00	5.46
SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	13.04
AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.06
CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	8.36

MI versus					
WA	23.2%	37.9%	38.9%	0.36	0.82
CY	29.4%	31.2%	39.4%	0.48	1.04
WY	8.1%	25.2%	66.7%	0.12	1.78
GR	7.1%	30.3%	62.6%	0.10	1.37
BE	1.9%	11.5%	86.6%	0.03	3.01
GU	3.9%	11.0%	85.2%	0.05	4.13
UN	1.2%	11.8%	87.0%	0.02	2.61
DR	0.3%	4.0%	95.6%	0.00	4.34
GI	0.1%	2.6%	97.2%	0.00	3.96
HY	0.1%	1.2%	98.7%	0.00	5.67
SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	12.03

	AR	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	6.48
	CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.65
WA versus						
	CY	20.4%	40.8%	38.8%	0.37	0.91
	WY	8.9%	38.0%	53.1%	0.14	1.22
	GR	9.6%	36.0%	54.4%	0.16	1.07
	BE	2.2%	20.4%	77.4%	0.03	2.34
	GU	0.6%	8.6%	90.8%	0.01	4.26
	UN	1.3%	17.7%	81.0%	0.02	2.17
	DR	0.4%	7.6%	92.0%	0.01	3.67
	GI	0.1%	5.4%	94.5%	0.00	3.52
	HY	0.0%	2.0%	98.0%	0.00	5.08
	SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	12.32
	AR	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	6.30
	CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.57
CY versus						
	WY	13.0%	40.4%	46.6%	0.25	1.04
	GR	9.3%	23.6%	67.1%	0.18	1.55
	BE	3.0%	25.7%	71.3%	0.05	1.96
	GU	1.0%	15.1%	83.9%	0.02	3.19
	UN	0.9%	8.4%	90.7%	0.02	2.87
	DR	0.5%	12.0%	87.5%	0.01	3.06
	GI	0.0%	2.3%	97.7%	0.00	3.97
	HY	0.1%	4.3%	95.6%	0.00	4.30
	SE	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	11.67
	AR	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	6.29
	CO	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.00	7.73
WY versus						
	GR	26.7%	41.6%	31.7%	0.54	0.57
	BE	9.5%	40.3%	50.2%	0.16	1.18
	GU	4.5%	26.0%	69.6%	0.08	2.34
	UN	6.2%	32.7%	61.0%	0.10	1.36
	DR	2.7%	23.8%	73.5%	0.04	2.21
	GI	0.9%	15.7%	83.4%	0.01	2.46
	HY	0.6%	10.2%	89.2%	0.01	3.49
	SE	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	10.39
	AR	0.0%	1.2%	98.8%	0.00	5.21
	CO	0.0%	0.2%	99.8%	0.00	6.64
GR versus						
	BE	13.8%	34.8%	51.5%	0.23	1.28
	GU	22.0%	32.5%	45.6%	0.37	1.64
	UN	8.0%	35.0%	57.0%	0.12	1.29
	DR	4.3%	21.1%	74.6%	0.06	2.36
	GI	1.8%	16.4%	81.9%	0.02	2.48
	HY	1.0%	9.9%	89.1%	0.01	3.64
	SE	0.2%	1.5%	98.4%	0.00	9.11
	AR	0.0%	1.0%	99.0%	0.00	5.21
	CO	0.0%	0.1%	99.9%	0.00	6.64
BE versus						
	GU	17.7%	42.5%	39.8%	0.36	1.02
	UN	18.5%	42.1%	39.4%	0.36	0.79
	DR	40.2%	41.9%	47.9%	0.18	1.15
	GI	4.3%	29.1%	66.7%	0.07	1.66
	HY	3.1%	26.5%	70.3%	0.05	2.12
	SE	0.0%	1.4%	98.6%	0.00	8.26
	AR	0.1%	4.7%	95.2%	0.00	4.04
	CO	0.0%	1.2%	98.8%	0.00	5.46
GU versus						
	UN	18.6%	34.8%	46.6%	0.45	1.01
	DR	16.3%	43.4%	40.2%	0.34	0.99
	GI	3.9%	17.9%	78.2%	0.07	2.40
	HY	4.9%	31.1%	64.0%	0.09	1.90

	SE	0.0%	1.8%	98.2%	0.00	6.64
	AR	0.0%	1.4%	98.6%	0.00	4.96
	CO	0.0%	0.3%	99.7%	0.00	6.00
UN versus						
	DR	20.3%	40.9%	38.7%	0.37	0.91
	GI	8.9%	38.1%	53.0%	0.14	1.22
	HY	8.0%	30.3%	61.7%	0.13	1.79
	SE	1.6%	8.5%	89.9%	0.02	5.89
	AR	0.4%	7.6%	92.0%	0.01	3.67
	CO	0.1%	2.0%	98.0%	0.00	5.07
DR versus						
	GI	13.1%	40.4%	46.5%	0.25	1.04
	HY	10.7%	42.8%	46.5%	0.20	1.14
	SE	0.1%	6.3%	93.6%	0.00	6.11
	AR	0.5%	12.1%	87.4%	0.01	3.05
	CO	0.1%	4.3%	95.6%	0.00	4.30
GI versus						
	HY	27.1%	43.9%	29.0%	0.55	0.65
	SE	11.2%	29.3%	59.4%	0.20	3.00
	AR	2.7%	23.7%	73.6%	0.04	2.22
	CO	0.6%	10.2%	89.3%	0.01	3.49
HY versus						
	SE	0.8%	16.5%	82.7%	0.01	4.13
	AR	2.1%	22.6%	75.4%	0.03	2.28
	CO	0.4%	10.5%	89.2%	0.01	3.36
SE versus						
	AR	13.2%	41.3%	45.5%	0.41	1.15
	CO	4.4%	25.4%	70.2%	0.10	2.45
AR versus						
	CO	10.7%	43.0%	46.2%	0.20	1.13

"Zwiilniks" (1985A) Spring 1906, 2/15/86

FRANCE HOLDS ON; FINLAND SUCCEUMBS

Spring:

England (Stephen Wilcox, 5300 W. Gulf Bank #103, Houston TX 77088)

F den-KIE, F edi-NWG, F HEL S F den-KIE, A HOL S F den-KIE, F mid-BRE, F nth-DEN, F nwg-BAR, A NWY-stp, A pic-BEL, F SKA-swe.

France (Steve Langley, 2296 Eden Roc Lane #1, Sacramento CA 95825)

A PAR H.

Italy (Steve Arnawoodian, 602 Hemlock Cr., Lansdale PA 19446)

A BUR-mun, F EAS-aeg, F nap-APU, A TRI-ser, A TYR-boh, F tyr-ION, A VIE-bud.

Russia (Ronald Spitzer, 761 N. Bundy Dr., Los Angeles CA 90049)

A BER S A MUN, F BAL S SWE, A BUD S A GRE-ser, F BUL(sc)-aeg, A CON-bul, A GRE-ser, F GUL S A stp-FIN, A MOS-stp, A MUN S A SIL-boh, A RUM S war-GAL, F sev-BLA, A SIL-boh, A SMY S ITALIAN F EAS-syr\NSO\, A stp-FIN, F SWE S A stp-FIN, A war-GAL.

GAME NOTES:

- Deadline is Friday, **March 14th** for Fall 1906.
- The concession to RUSSIA failed. FRANCE and ITALY vetoed that by not voting. New proposals: please vote on concession to RUSSIA, an ENGLAND/RUSSIA draw, an ENGLAND/ITALY draw, and an ENGLAND/ITALY/RUSSIA draw.

PRESS:

Russia-England:\R I am starting my withdrawal from our disputed territory. I mean what I said in my letter. I will be strictly defensive against you and will not be offensive. Kiel is now yours.

Russia-Italy:\R Woody it's been lot's of fun. Goodbye.

Russia-GM:\R I want Finland back!

GM-Russia:\CSM OK. This time. (But implied retreats still don't work around here.)

FRANCE to ZWILNIKS:\F You'll note the depth of my strategy in a turn or two. A PAR H is very close to civil disorder, except your neighbours worry more.

Russia-France:\R Hold on! Help's on the way.

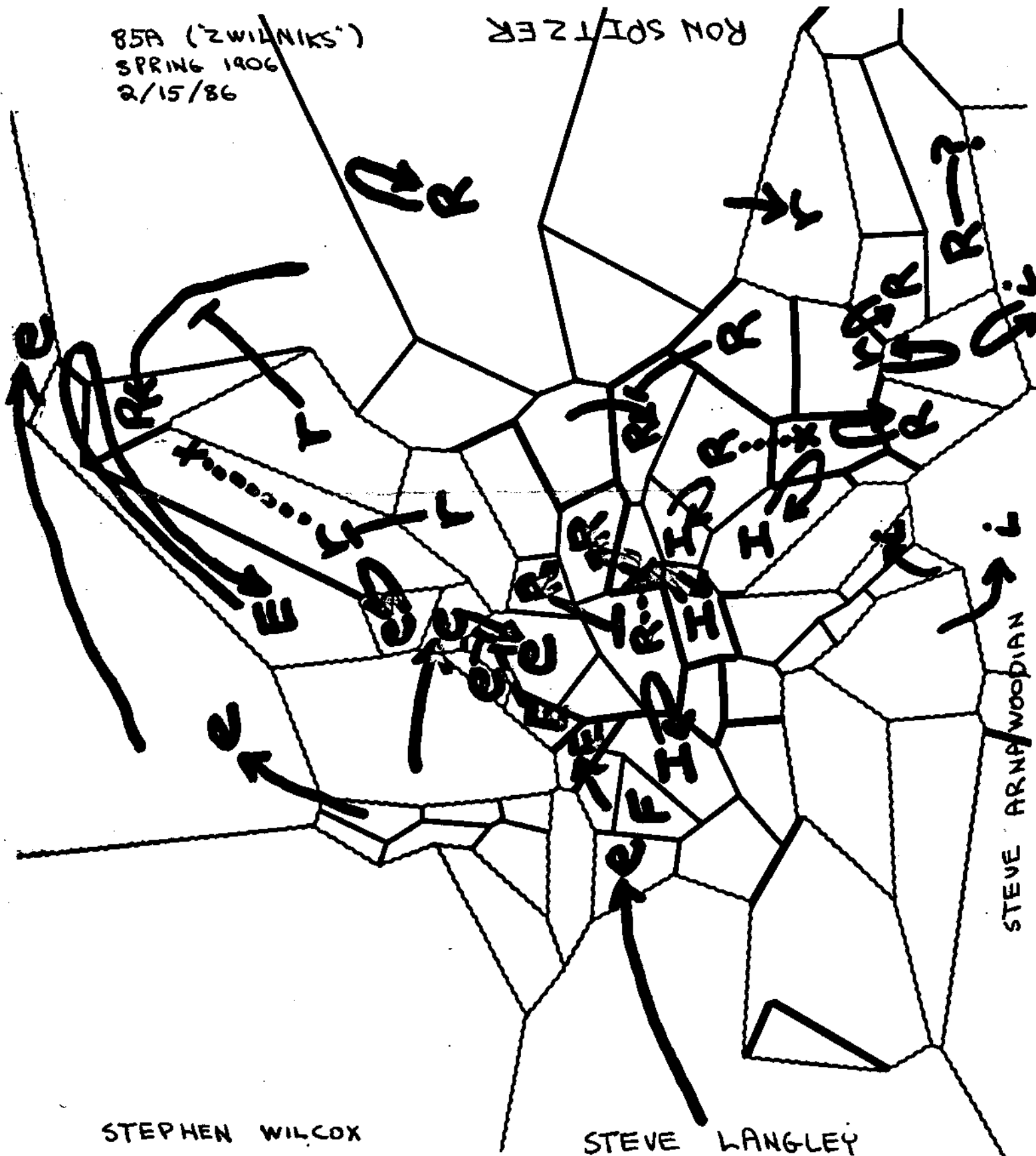
FRANCE to THE GUY WITH THE STRINGS:\F So, where are my strings? Hey - hey - no crowding. Take a number.

Russia-Russia:\R Greg Ellis is right about Stephen. He is better than I am in tactics. Well I tried!

Ron-Woody:\R Let's talk WoodyCon.

85A ('ZWILNIKS')
SPRING 1906
2/15/86

RON SPITZER



People find it difficult to resist
your persuasive manner.

Sing and rejoice; fortune is
smiling on you.

The sky's the limit this month.

Your dearest wish will come true.

A cheerful letter or message is
on its way to you.

Good news will be brought to you
by mail.

You are sympathetic, helpful,
and generous.

Your future is as boundless as the
lofty heaven.

God helps those who don't try to
take over His work.

Be self-reliant and your success
is assured.

No vice is as bad as advice.

The great fault in women is the
desire to be like men.

You have a yearning for perfection.
Manners are the happy ways
of doing things.

You have the power to influence
all with whom you come in contact.

The eyes believe themselves;
the ears believe other people.

The will of the people is the best law.

Watch your relationships with
other people carefully; be reserved.

Attitudes are contagious —yours
are worth catching.

Don't press your luck too far

75726

Show your love and your love will
be returned.

707

Don't press your luck too far

He that is slow to wrath is of
great understanding.

With clothes the new are the best;
with friends the old are the best.

Luck in love is bad today; but in
business sure to pay.

You are very positive, somewhat
cynical, and possess considerable
latent talent.

You have a fine capacity for the
enjoyment of life.

You could accomplish many things
that you give up in despair.

Loan no money on this day;
if you do they'll not repay.

A woman is like your shadow
follow her, she flies; fly from
her, she follows.

Guard against impatience

Woe to him that is alone when he
falls, for he has not another to
help him up.

Confucius say: Honeymoon over
when husband looks in paper
instead of wife's eyes.

You have great ability, but it lies
dormant until a serious crisis
awakens you.

You have a yearning for perfection.

The life of man: school tablet,
aspirin tablet, stone tablet.

The only rose without a thorn
is friendship.

Your native wit should be your
fortune.

The current year will bring you
much happiness.

You will take a trip to the desert.

You'll never have to worry much;
for luck is on your side.

Now is the time to try
something new.

You will always get what you
want through your charm and
personality.

You are a good listener.

A sudden journey with a
pleasant fellow traveler is in your

In quiet and silence the truth is
made clear.

Your future is as boundless as the
lofty heaven.

high plains gonzo
jake halverstadt
1106 castlerock drive
fort collins, colorado 80521

LARZELERE WINS TIGHT PACIFIC RACE, ELLIS CONTINUES COAST TO VICTORY

Maryland Sen. Mark Larzelere picked up important momentum in his drive for the Democratic presidential nomination with a 1.5 percentage point win in the Pacific States regional primary yesterday.

Larzelere picked up 28 percent of the vote in a tight four-man race, besting New York Mayor Nick Felella's 26.5 percent. The victory brought the Marylander 61 of the region's 127 delegates.

In Republican voting, Texas Sen. Greg Ellis ran virtually unopposed by rival James Wall. It now seems clear that the GOP will meet in convention to rubber-stamp an Ellis-Wall ticket for the upcoming presidential elections.

The broad-based Larzelere victory seems to have put to rest the possibility of the Becker-Anderson "Michigan Dream Ticket." Operatives in the camps of both Michigan candidates have all but confirmed that Becker, the Michigan governor; and Anderson, the senior senator from the state, had met on several occasions to forge an agreement that would make Becker the Democratic nominee.

But the current delegate breakdown and Gonzo polling seem to indicate that the Michigan politicians will not be able to win enough delegates to wrap up the nomination.

Just 580 delegates remain to be won in the "Super Tuesday" group of states that remain to be contested next week. Becker and Anderson would need to win two-thirds of those remaining delegates to be able to call the shots at the convention.

The best chance either of the Michiganders has in an upcoming election is in Ohio, where Becker runs three percentage points behind Felella and Larzelere. But Ohio is good for just 161 delegates, and Felella and Larzelere are running a torrid race there.

Wild card in the race to the nomination is California Gov. Douglas Brown, with 297 delegates at his command. If Brown were to throw his delegates to the Michigan team, they would be almost unbeatable.

Who's the kingmaker? And, who's going to be king?

If the latest Gonzo polls are correct, the Democrats will go to convention without a clear-cut nominee, throwing open the door for wheeling and dealing for the top spot on the party's ticket.

Pollsters say that Maryland Sen. Mark Larzelere is likely to go to the convention with approximately 900 delegates, about 150 more than his nearest competitor, but just over half the number he needs to win the nomination outright.

Key to the nomination may be the Ohio primary. The latest Gonzo polling in the Buckeye State shows Larzelere and New York Mayor Nick Felella in a dead heat with 27.5 percent of the vote.

A Larzelere win in Ohio could bring the Marylander enough delegates to be able to pick his running mate without consulting anyone else, that Larzelere can trade the vice-presidency for another candidate's consent.

A Felella win in Ohio probably means that three power brokers will have to agree on a two-man ticket.

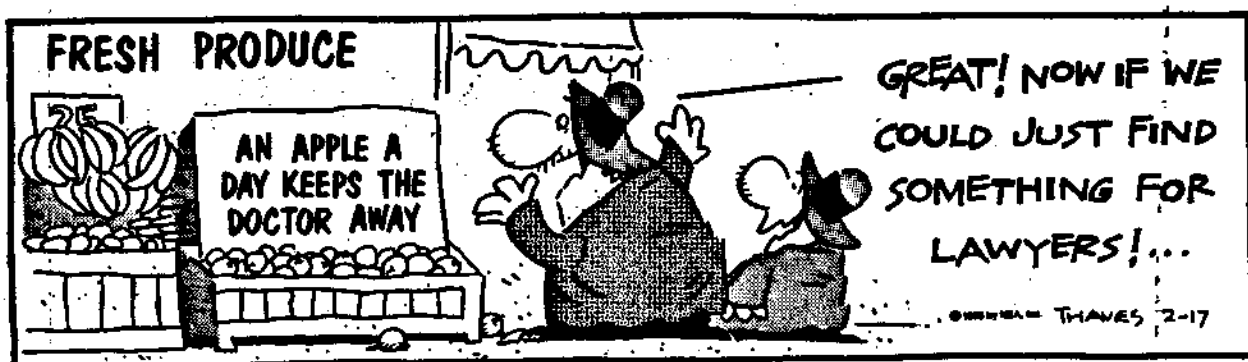
The big lode of delegates lies in the California primary, and Larzelere is a clear favorite there. According to up-to-the-minute polls, Larzelere will get 32 percent of the vote. Michigan Sen. David Anderson runs second in California with 24 percent, Felella scores 23 percent, and Michigan Gov. Bill Becker gets 21 percent.

In New Jersey, Felella seems to have a lock on the primary with 36 percent of the vote. Becker runs second with 23 percent, Larzelere 22 and Anderson 19.

Calling Ohio an absolute draw, a division of delegates gives Larzelere a final total of 894, Anderson 738, Becker 717, Felella 639 and California Gov. Douglas Brown 297.

Brown has made no public declaration of preference for the nomination.

FRANK & ERNEST/by Bob Thaves



A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER
OF THE REVOLUTION

By the time you get this you'll have heard that pitchers and catchers have reported to the major league baseball spring training camps. And, not long after that, we'll see the birth of the new Gonzo Baseball League, GMed by Chuff Afflerbach. According to Chuff there was a great deal of interest in the league, and several potential players were shut out.

The new version of Presidential Politics will be out soon, quite possibly within six weeks. I've done a lot of last-minute work trying to simplify play, making many of the percentage-based scoring opportunities flat-rate propositions.

The game will, for the time being, be accompanied by just a 1968 variant. I do intend to create a 1960 variant and a fictional (well, even more fictional than the one we're playing) game.

And, believe it or not, I just have one roadblock between me and the completion of the Flashpoint game. For those of you who may have forgotten the concept of that game, it is to be a multiplayer game of global politics/economics/diplomacy/warfare. In just about that order, I might add. Players will be forced to walk the line between guns and butter in dealing with their national economies. Too many guns and the player risks being voted out of office or even overthrown. Too much butter and he may find himself overrun by that Far Eastern industrial power or even that oil producer on the Gulf.

As I said once before, get ready for economic cartels, arms races and cutthroat diplomacy.

Is anyone aware of surveys or polls done by any zine to determine what games besides Diplomacy are being played in the PBM hobby? I'd like to see what other games are popular.

Speaking of which, Alex Pyle and I are working on a play-by-mail version of Monopoly. Don't get your butts in an uproar about this, though, as we seem to have two different versions in mind. Maybe someday....

DEMOCRATS

<u>PACIFIC STATES</u>	Anderson	Becker	Felella	Larzelere
Domestic Spending	160	117	117	117
Rail Deregulation	96	208	64	208
Alaska Lands	96	96	224	96
Int Dev Banks	64	192	64	192
Decision Bonus	96	96	0	96
Media points	115	0	230	230
Seattle		74	44	29
Portland		51	38	25
Honolulu		12	48	12
Other cities		76	22	27
Organization	180	180	180	180
Momentum	58		115	
TOTAL	865	1102	1146	1212
Percentage	20.0	25.5	26.5	28.0
Delegates Won **	15	19	32	61
Delegate total	632	630	478	668
CFP Won	3	3	6	13
CFP Balance	55	196	139	172
<u>CALIFORNIA</u>				
Weeks organized	3	1	0	3
Travel: Days/cities	14/11			7/7
Media	s u b m i t	n e w	b i d s	
Momentum		80	160	
<u>NEW JERSEY</u>				
Weeks organized		1	3	3
Travel: Days/cities			1/1	
Momentum			20	39
<u>OHIO</u>				
Weeks organized		1	3	3
Travel			35	70
Momentum				

** California Gov. Douglas Brown controls 297 delegates

YOUR MAILING CHECKLIST

1. Somehow CFP totals did not get from me to you. Several candidates complained that they could not be sure how much to bid on media. I'd have spent and let the GM figure it out, but since nobody did that to me, I'll give you one more shot at media in the last three states.
2. Spotlight issues for the last three states.
3. Organization for the last three states.
4. Seven days' travel in the last three states.
5. Stands on any issue you have not addressed.
6. It's the first week in June. The convention looms ahead. Win those delegates.