

# THE NATIONAL LIFER

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This is the **SECOND** ANNIVERSARY ISSUE of the LOM ORGANIZATION. There have been 21 issues called LIFE OF MONTY, and one each of STRENGTH THROUGH DIPLOMACY, DIP BOWL, FLYING CIRCUS, and...

**75¢**

This looks like THE NATIONAL LIFER insofar as that's what this is, and it's brought to you by Don Del Grande from 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904, phone (415) 461-2692, but no calls between noon and midnight Pacific time.

## DOES PLAYING AUSTRIA CAUSE CANCER?

The University of California, San Francisco's Medical Center and Stanford University have not

been seen working on experiments to see what effect playing Austria has on the national cancer rate. Therefore, it is apparent that these experiments are a closely guarded secret. Nobody at either institution has denied that "there has been a definite lack of Austrian wins in the past few years, and Austria tends to have an 'unliked' approach. For example, people who draw Austria have a sudden gloom over them, and the other players usually team up on the Austrian player. We think that the Austrian position represents a subliminal danger to the others, as well as the actual player. After beginning experiments, we have found that 100% of all of the rats that have played Diplomacy as Austria have developed cancer." However, nobody bothered to mention how many rats can actually play Diplomacy. Could this be another scientific discovery that these medical maniacs are hiding? Let's take a look at the facts.....

- 1) Let's face facts....when was the last time that John Boardman played an Austrian position?
- 2) Self-acclaimed smoker Kathy Byrne, in MANIACAL, led a charge against Austria, and had a grudge against Austria in RETALIATION's R5.
- 3) Nobody at All has denied that the real reason that the wooden blocks were removed from Diplomacy sets was because the Austrian blocks contain traces of Red Dye #2.

All this evidence leads to one of two conclusions: either playing Austria causes cancer, OR we at the LIFER are a bunch of liars. Tell you what: according to the law of dichotomy, it either is or isn't the case that 10 coins, when tossed, will all come up heads. I'll toss 10 coins; if they're all heads, then this stuff is a lie. Let's see....(sound of 10 coins being tossed)...only 5 heads. I wonder what that means?

When I go back to Berkeley (issue 25), the price goes back down - sorry about the temporary raise

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by the publishers of the National LIFER - "if it's not in the LIFER, we'll never know why"

NEWS HAS COME IN that Prince William Arthur Phillip Louis of Wales is personally responsible for the British Rail and Underground strike. After all, his name was announced on the first day of the strike. Maybe railroad types prefer the name "Butch."

IS DIANA REALLY THE MOTHER OF THE NEW PRINCE? Nobody ever actually saw real medical evidence that she was pregnant. It's amazing what you can do with a pillow and a lot of press. This opens up the question of who the true mother of Prince W is. The latest rumor is that bets are being taken at this moment in betting shops across Britain, but the current strike has overshadowed this news.

FLASH! IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION that the National LIFER was caught attempting to lay a fortune on the identity of the mother of Prince W of W (WOW). Obviously, with the recent news, nobody would even think of betting on Diana, now would they? Then again, how else can we afford to put this rag out every time?

CONTROVERSY IN CREW: It seems that somebody scheduled the National Crew Championship at the end of the University of California's final exam week, putting said crew (ranked #1) at a definite disadvantage for the race, which the team finished LAST in.

Would somebody mind telling me what the differences are between the original SPI and new Avalon Hill versions of FREEDOM IN THE GALAXY besides the obvious (e.g. mounted map, separate TRC, AI-type counters)?

Here's the latest "playlist" top-of-the-chart: in "computer games," the big winner in Berkeley is ROGUE, a D&D-type game complete with numerous potions, staves, wands, rods, spells, and no less than 26 varieties of monsters, including leprechauns (they steal your gold, which is the ONLY measure of success), nymphs (they steal magic rings, wands, etc.), rust monsters (that's too bad for your armor), and mimics (these guys camouflage themselves as doors and stairways - when you're running away from nasty things and you head for what looks like a door in the corner, have fun!). It's not quite available for your friendly neighborhood microcomputers as of yet, but keep waiting - I'm sure that Kathy can talk the guy into anything; besides, as a last resort, we won't let him play NUCLEAR WAR.

MORE NEWS FROM CREW: The old ~~Alma Mater~~ high school stroked home with the national high school 8-man crew title. That's the third national title in 6 years (add to the titles in baseball and rugby).

~~88888888~~ STROKE, STROKE, STROKE, STROKE

FILLER: Farms...in Berkeley? (that's the phrase used in Berkeley Farms dairy commercials) Well, why not? After all, there are goats roaming the streets of New York....

By the time you read this, ORIGINS will be over....so it's safe to put in one of these: PACIFICON, the annual (except when pre-empted by PACIFIC ORIGINS) Labor Day bash out west, returns to the Dunfey in San Mateo on September 3-5 (I think they meant 4-6). For information, write to PACIFICON, Box 5548, San Jose, CA 95150. Better hurry - only one month left! And if you see somebody drinking out of a carton marked "DOG FOOD - NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION", keep quiet - it's probably the big boss....

Don't eat this PAGE 2

JUST OUR LUCK.....The University of California DID get an invitation to Henley for the Regatta - and were put against the English National rowers. Better luck next year (maybe).

IN THE MEANTIME, there has been a rush of GIs applying for the guest spots. See the GAME OPENINGS for details. Note that two of the three received as of this writing read about it in EUROPA EXPRESS. That's from Gary Coughlan, 4614 Martha Cole Lane, Memphis, TN 38118, and send a few stamps to Gary C for a sample. Expect EE to rank high in the Leeder Poll....which Gary is boycotting. Did you ask WHY? Well, John Leeder (605 15th Street NW, Calgary, ALB T2E 1N9, CANADA), who runs the poll (that's why it's called the Leeder Poll - he also publishes RUNESTONE; that's why it's sometimes called the RUNESTONE poll), decided to publish the results in DIPLOMACY WORLD first. Since DW only comes out every three months, this causes a slight delay, which irks Gary to no end. (Note that the extended deadline for the poll is July 31, and the deadline for articles in the next DW is two weeks later - even if it makes it in time, the results won't be received in our hands until mid-September or so, instead of when they were supposed to be out - mainly, NOW.) In response to this, Gary will not "plug, publicize or print the results of any poll whose results are not available on an equal basis to all zines" (that's a direct quote from EE).

Now you know as well as I do (unless you're not into the hobby - there ARE some of you) that just about every 'zine around will have the results of said poll (however, LOM was one of the very few that printed the REVISED results of the latest poll). (This probably goes to show how much people REALLY care about the poll!) This probably means that Gary's protest won't fall upon too many ears. Say, Gary, why don't you run your own poll? The Leeder poll is relatively new, after all, and even presidential election polls aren't done by one group. I can just see it now...THE COUGHLAN POLL! Maybe THE ELSIE POLL! How about THE PRESLEY POLL?

AND SPEAKING OF POLLS, Michael Mills (26 Laurel Road, Sloatsburgh, NY 10974) is running the IMMINENT AWARDS. Just list what you think are the best 'zine, GM, new 'zine, most improved 'zine, best 'zine for Diplomacy, best for other games, the best Dip variant, the best 'zine for hobby news, the best letter column, the best looking 'zine, and somebody who deserves the "Distinguished Service" award. Deadline is September 4. While you're at it, ask why LOM wasn't in the 1982 ZINE DIRECTORY.

ALL RIGHT....when I said "Speaking of polls," who immediately thought of John Michalski? SHAME, SHAME.

MARK PAUL asks in a recent VOICE OF DOOM (Bruce Linsey, 24A Quarry Drive, Albany, NY 12205), "Why do so many game designers think that they can imitate the richness of DIPLOMACY by adding hundreds of rules to their games?" Tell me - if DIPLOMACY is so rich, how come it's unbalanced? YES - it's another NATIONAL LIFER EXPOSE! To answer people who say, "Every country can win at Diplomacy" - every country can win at the original BATTLE OF THE BULGE and at WAR AT SEA - it's just that some do it more often than others. (When WAS was first played at ORIGINS, the Axis won twice as many times as the Allies. That's balanced?) For those of you who think that rules are boring, try playing SPIES!. Let's see what else Mark had to ask....(I know I answered these questions in THE VOICE OF DOOM, but I think these are worthwhile questions that the LOM readers should look at)

OOPS - there's no room left on this page. No room on its right, either.

There's some down here - used to  
tell you this is PAGE 3

"Why does SPI pride itself as being dedicated to realistic simulation, while coming out with such games as THE CREATURE THAT ATE SHEBOYGAN?"  
\*\*\*\*\*Tell me, what about THE CAMPAIGN FOR NORTH AFRICA and WAR IN THE PACIFIC? You can't get much more realistic. CNA, for example, requires placement of EVERY INDIVIDUAL TANK, GUN AND AIRPLANE (plus individually-rated fighter pilots) at all times on a map from Tunis to the Suez Canal!

"How come a great game such as A HOUSE DIVIDED comes in such a big box when its contents could fit in a record album cover?"  
\*\*\*\*\*I had the same trouble from GDW with YALU. Not everybody knows what a 1-inch thick box is.

"When in the world is THE GAME OF LIFE going to die out?"  
\*\*\*\*\*Let me put it this way - in the past year, I've seen ONE commercial from Milton Bradley - guess what they were pushing?

"How come excellent sports games such as WIN, PLACE & SHOW go unplayed while hundreds of stupid baseball and football games sell like hotcakes?"  
\*\*\*\*\*Hundreds of stupid baseball and football games are based on real statistics reflecting the most recent season and don't get old quickly. If there was a way to rate each horse in any given real race, and more than six are allowed to run (somehow) in any given race, WP&S will be worth playing. If it wasn't for ALL-STAR REPLAY, I'd never play WP&S.

"EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES has a simple yet elegant combat system, but (Mark thinks) it's easier to split the atom with a toothbrush."  
\*\*\*\*\*CAMPAIGN FOR NORTH AFRICA has a simple yet elegant combat system. Need I say more?

Now for some game-player spotlights....

THE MAH JONGG PLAYER loves those titles, which sell for \$50. The game is 80% luck and 100% boring.  
\*\*\*\*\*So true.

THE TRAVELLER PLAYER still uses swords & daggers in 5000 A.D., mainly because the game is D&D with a bit of Buck Rogers thrown in.  
\*\*\*\*\*No. D&D allows characters to learn more as the game progresses. TRAVELLER doesn't. Play UNIVERSE instead!

THE SCRABBLE NUT studies his dictionary for "ttyfil" and "xyotile".  
\*\*\*\*\*It's easier to play CAMPAIGN FOR NORTH AFRICA....but SCRABBLE players don't get writer's cramp.

THE SIMULATION GAMER hopes to learn how to play his game within one year. Then both he and the designer will know how to play it.  
\*\*\*\*\*I will admit that most monster games are never played out by the designers, but not every game requires an encyclopedia of rules.

THE CANASTA NUT had to actually think about a play last week.  
\*\*\*\*\*There are two games played in Berkeley - bridge and Diplomacy. (Not including KILLER or computer games or D&D-type things)

THE FANTASY ROLE-PLAYER shells out money for new adventures every week. He calls classic wargames sick and violent, but sees nothing wrong with clubbing a dwarf to death.  
\*\*\*\*\*Really! Not only do I not buy adventures (I actually rolled up an entire universe - with moons - for UNIVERSE), but I see nothing wrong with either FRPping or "adventure gaming" (wargaming).

The FINAL TYPE....the WORST OF ALL (according to Mark)...is on the next page.

Is PAGE 4 the worst kind  
of page?

THE PERSON WHO PLAYS "LIFE", "MASTERPIECE", AND OTHER GAMES WHICH REQUIRE A ROOM TEMPERATURE IQ will, no doubt, marry a canasta player sometime. \*\*\*\*\*Nobody keeps on playing those games, except for "pro Monopoly players."

Mark forgot the SUPREMELY WORST GAMER OF ALL....the BACKGAMMON CONVERT. This is somebody who started playing Backgammon only after it became fashionable. I occasionally play the game myself - however, how many of you have heard of Tim Holland, world Backgammon champion in the early 1970s? Almost as bad: chess players. During every world chess championship (these things are VERY political - look at Victor Korchnoi), each man gets an average of 16 minutes per move for the first 2½ hours! I'm surprised that the winner's National Anthem isn't played after each match! However, they ARE professionals, just like backgammon types. Gambling is obviously more widespread in backgammon, thanks to "the doubling cube" (each game starts at a value of "1"; either player may raise it to 2 - after that, the player who didn't make the last double may double the point value, and his opponent may accept the double or concede the game at the current point level). How to get rid of gambling? Get rid of the doubling cube. That'll probably get rid of backgammon. If you want to gamble, though, play poker.

You never see gambling in Diplomacy, now do you?

Let's hope that DIPLOMACY never becomes a fad....on the other hand, there'll be \$25,000 tournaments, and we (well, not myself, but other hobbyists) will clean up!

DICHOTOMY?

Good night!

WONDER-WHAT-DICHOTOMY-MEANS-WHY-DON'T-I-ASK-A-SCRABBLE-PLAYER-YOU-ASK-?-BUZZ-OFF

I just heard from ORIGINS....let's hear it for the NEW CHAMP!

\*\*\*\*\* KONRAD BAUMEISTER \*\*\*\*\*

In other news....FIX! FIX! The Byrne-Hanson feud ended in a TIE! (For Pete Tamlyn types: it was a DRAW) Meanwhile, the big feud news is Rod Walker vs. Kathy Byrne with others thrown in. Seems Rod took Kathy's agreement with Gary Coughlan's feelings about the Leeder Poll too seriously. Rod, it seems, PAID John Leeder for the right to print the results first. (This is what I think happened; I got my info from WHITESTONIA) I didn't get the big details - ask somebody who was there. In Diplomacy, Kathy Byrne's performance in the tournament was described as "awful" (or was it "miserable") - I think it had something to do with a concession to Eric Ozog, but it was a bad connection to NYC. Meanwhile, John Caruso ALMOST comes through. In the next issue of LOM, we'll see what Rod Walker says at PACIFICON.

Yes, I'll be at PACIFICON, but I doubt VERY much that I'll be in the Diplomacy tournament. I might stop by and see how things are doing dipwise. Let's hope I get a room this time (it CAN'T be sold out). Which reminds me....less than a month before PACIFICON happens! P.O. Box 5548, San Jose, CA 95150 gets the information. If we're lucky, it'll be ROUND 2 of THE DIPPERS VS. DIPLOMACY WORLD. (If we're REALLY lucky, that WON'T happen.) Lots of action....thrills....suspense.... Diplomacy....too bad it's only PACIFICON, or maybe we'd get some of these things. No cannon salute for Baumeister, though....I'm saving up for the 1812 Overture with cannon for a special 4 A.M. concert in Phyllis Byrne's ~~my~~ room....

TRUE STORY! There was a big fire 1 block from where I make my copies - ON THE SAME DAY! (PAGE 5)

I wonder what 5 heads out of 10 does mean? In an upcoming MONTY, we'll have the usual stuff, some more DIP BOWL action, some more news and comment, a lot of filler, the PACIFICON report (which will probably also appear in THE VOICE OF DOOM, albeit in a slightly different form), maybe a game review or two, probably some 'zine reviews, and some other garbage.

I'm typing this section after DIP BOWL, and I'm trying to space it right. I was going to run a quiz, but all of the good questions were used up for DIP BOWL.

"I heard that"

Who said that?

"Jerry Jones, from Pasadena, CA....Jack Masters, who thought he'd finish the season before retiring, from Valencia, CA....Red Walker, from Encinitas, CA....Ron Brown, from Bakersfield, CA....those are the varsity dippers from the defending champion SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DIPSY-DOODLERS.....  
...Bruce Linsey, from Albany, NY....Mike Barno, from mediocre capital of the world, Endwell, NY....Tom Swider, and just to prove his point, I'm also from Endwell, NY....Bob Wyatt, from Springfield, NY - er, MO.... and those are the varsity dippers from the ENDWELLIAN SOCIETY OF MEDIOCRITY.....It's time to match stabs with the champions in America's favorite game with plastic pieces, the varsity sport of the month,

# dip bowl

another sure way to use up space -  
large logos

The twelfth game of the 1982 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT comes to you almost LIVE from Berkeley, CA.....

(TWEEET) "And there's the opening whistle - the bonus is worth 30 points, now here's the first tossup: we might as well start off with a Diplomacy question. For 10 easy points, how many articles in Lew Pulsipher's four-part series in THE GENERAL were printed?" (Pause) (Pause) "Any takers? No? Well, only three-" (BUEZZ) "-just a fraction late; three articles appeared"

Linsey blurts out, "I was about to say that - we teachers deserve SOME mercy." (Loud booing from the audience)

"Here's the next tossup: no means now - in KINGMAKER, what river determines the area-(RRRING)"

"Dipsy-Doodlers, Walker.....The Thames?"

"Nope, and there's a 5-point penalty - as I was saying, what river determines the area where the Warden of the Northern-" (BUEZZZ)

"ESM, Wyatt....The Tees"

"I'll drink to that - didn't he say tea? Oh, well, here's the bonus.

For 30 points, ALL OR NOTHING, begin at the upper left corner of a Diplomacy map and name the country names on the edge going clockwise."

"What's 'clockwise'? We're used to digital!"

"Never mind.....Germany, Russia, Turkey, Austria-Hungary, Italy,

I had to switch places to make the  
reductions because of the fire - that's  
why it's hard to read (PAGE 6)

France, and England."

Comment from the SCDD: "What luck."

"Maybe, but it's worth 30 points. The next bonus is also worth 30, and here's the tossup: multiply the number of armies that start a DIPLOMACY game on the map by the number of Crown Cards each player gets in a four-player KINGMAKER game, and add this sum to the maximum number of supply centers a person controls in a DIPLOMACY game that ends with three survivors and the person mentioned did NOT win, nor was there a draw or concession. For 10 points-" (RRRRING)

"Dipsy-Doodlers, Masters....136"

"Five point penalty....ESM, for 10 points, double this result, and what do you get?" (BUZZZZ)

"ESM, Linsey....372"

"What a coincidence; that's what you get if you double Masters' guess...."

~~--- INTERRUPT THIS GAME FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT IT'S NOT EXACTLY IMPORTANT BUT WHAT THE~~

I've got some good news and some bad news....THE GOOD NEWS: Marion Bates LIVES ON! THE BAD NEWS: That's more than can be said for PLAGUE TIMES. There goes another trade....but seriously, folks, PLAGUE TIMES was an excellent 'zine (while it lasted). No, I don't say that about all of the folds - take BORN TO DIP, for example. And at least Marion comes out and says that he's folding, unlike Dave Manuel and his "REMOTE chance of folding", or Steve Shaddix and his "I never said anything about how often THE WHITE DUKE comes out".

As per the standard tradition, MARION BATES gets the official LIFE OF MONTY cannon salute.

# BOOM

As an EXTRA SPECIAL BONUS, all federal/municipal/official buildings on the MARION BATES planet (the closest planet to Beta Comae, as listed in the OFFICIAL 3D6 GUIDE TO PLANETS which was written by, of course, myself, with a little help from "SPI's" UNIVERSE) will remain closed for a period not to exceed 15 rotations about the planet's axis (I know Ian Engle got 90, but DIPLOMACY types only merit 15 according to common law).

And now, back to the game....the ESM holds a **253-205** lead with scant seconds remaining....."and here's the next tossup: all armies are equal in DIPLOMACY, but army units in THE GUNS OF AUGUST-" (RRRRING)

"Dipsy-Doodlers, Masters....England has the strongest armies"

"Exactly, and here's the 20-point bonus: for 10 points each, what two SCs begin with vowels?"

"Edinburgh and, er, uh, um, A-ANKARA!"

"Did you hear that answer, or should he speak up? That's right, and here's the next tossup: every major power in Dip has three non-SC provinces except for two - for 10-" (BUZZZZ)

"ESM, Swider....Russia.....BRUX, why did you elbow me?"

"Time - we needed TWO, and that'll cost 5-" (RRRRING)

"Dipsy-Doodlers, Jones....Russia and Turkey"

"That's right, and you've cut their lead to 5 points, with a 30-point bonus coming: in the game SPIES!, each secret is given a specific point value from 1 to 5 based on its importance. For 30 points, there is ONE secret worth 5 points - what?"

(They're obviously in a hurry) "Let's put it this way - what's SPIES?"

Who cares? As long as you can  
read PAGE 7

"The answer is the A-bomb, and here's the tossup: break out your crystal balls....for 10 points, the previous page of THE NATIONAL LIFER marks what milestone?" (RUMRRING)

"Dipsy-Doodlers, Walker....It was the 300th page of LOM ever"

"He MUST be God to know that one (TWEEEEET) and there's the final whistle....it's official! The final score is 250 for the Endwellian Society of Mediocrity to 255 for the Southern California Dipsy-Doodlers. The SCDD wins!"

By the way, that WAS the 300th page of LIFE OF MONTY printed. That ends the quarter-final round of this year's tournament. Next time, the STARS & BARS (Mike Conner, Peggy Gemignani, Gary Coughlan, and John Daly) meets the WHITESTONIA INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST (Kathy Byrne, Dave Grabar, John Caruso, and Steve Heinowski); after that, the DIPLOMATIC OLD GUARD (Robert Sacks, John Boardman, Allan Calhamer, and Doug Beyerlein) meets the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DIPSY-DOODLERS (Jerry Jones, Jack Masters, Rod Walker, and Ron Brown). The winners meet for this year's WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. There's one hitch: there are three games remaining, whereas there are four issues left in this year. (If you're lucky, I can pull the fourth issue to early January 1983.)

~~FOOTBALL-FOOTBALL-FOOTBALL-FEATURING-THE-LOS-ANGELES-TRAITORS-I-MEAN-RAIDERS-FUNN~~

Did you notice that both of the meetings between the \_\_\_\_\_ Raiders and the Super Bowl champion San Francisco 49ers will be in San Francisco? And speaking of football.....

# THE KAPP IS BACK

100 YEARS OF BLUE & GOLD  
1882 - 1982

That's right....JOE KAPP, ex-Cal quarterback who led the Golden Bears to their last Rose Bowl win (in 1938), is back as coach to lead the Blue & Gold out to their 101st season - even though two of our stars left the team. In yet another LOM space-using tradition, we proudly present the 1982 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE....

Oops - it won't fit on this page. Well, nobody's perfect. Anyway, it's one helluva lot better than printing the local high school football schedule, although some Southern California types might notice Sir Francis Drake High School on that schedule; that's the school that took top honors at the State Boys AND Girls Small-School Basketball tournament. But who cares? It's almost football season!

PAGE 8 - SO MUCH FOR ANOTH



# 1982 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (Berkeley, CA) FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

September 11 - at Colorado

18 - SAN DIEGO STATE

25 - ARIZONA STATE

October 2 - WASHINGTON STATE

9 - at Washington

## 16 - OREGON

23 - UCLA

30 - at Oregon State

November 6 - at USC

## 13 - WASHINGTON STATE

## 20 - STANFORD

Note that USC is on NCAA probation this year, but the game counts anyway. Don't count on any TV coverage, though. Isn't this great? The centennial opening home game is against - SAN DIEGO STATE? You wanted a guaranteed victory, huh, Kapp? Why don't we play Oregon or Northwestern that day? (Last year's two victories were against Arizona (14-13) and Oregon State (45-3) (yès, we won by 42 POINTS) (we also didn't play Oregon, who's just as bad as their neighbor).

PS\$?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S? HAVE YOU RENEWED LATELY \$?\$?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?

Get this: Allan Calhauer has come out with a baseball game! Called NATIONAL PASTIME, there are no chance elements involved; what it comes down to is, you have to guess what pitches your opponent is going to throw and bat accordingly. Available for \$6 from OUTPOST, 501 N. Stone, La Grange Park, IL 60525.

The game openings won't fit in this white space, so I'm telling you in case you're wondering why the game openings aren't here.

# **GAME OPENINGS**

Announcing, for the first time in a long while, DIPLOMACY GAME OPENINGS! DON'T GO AWAY - I have guest GMs willing to do the job - take your choice.

- DICK MARTIN....\$1 game fee, with deadlines one week before mine (i.e. about three weeks from 'zine publication to deadline). Seven openings.
- MARK KELLER....9536 Shumway Drive, Orangewale, CA 95662. The guy sounds new, but even John Daly was new once. Details unknown. Seven openings.
- J. MEINEL (I'm not sure what his first name is)....22440 Benson Road SE, Apt. E-3, Kent, WA 98031. This guy says he's been in the hobby for about a year, and takes from BB, VOD, EE, and LSD, so he claims he's good. 7 openings. I wonder what his first name is?
- JOHN MICHALSKI....I thought he wanted to open a game, but he sent me a new sub check. In case he does, he prefers \$3 or \$4 game fee, and the games are run separately from LOM with 2 or 3-week deadlines. (LATE WORD - he doesn't)

If you want to enter a game or games, contact ME and not the individual GM. Each GM can use his own house rules if he desires.

\*\*\*\*\*

We've lost another one, apparently. Another one licked. Another one bites the dust. Monday, June 20 - a date which will live in infamy. Our old friend and comrade, DICK MARTIN, has gone on to bigger and better things. He has taken that giant leap forward. No, Dick did not pass away - it's the fate WORSE than that. You guessed it. Dick went and got himself a bride. Congratulations to Dick and Alic-

What do you MEAN, he married JULIE GLASS? Well, congratulations to Dick and Julie Martin (how about Julie Glass-Martin) (I'm certainly not going to say "Mr. and Mrs. CRUD", "Bride of CRUD", etc.). Another peer into the crystal ball....I can see the name "Dick Martin Jr. (alias CRUD and son)" listed as Turkey in 95CN (that's a Boardman number for a future game) in LOM #180 some 13-14 years from now. Which brings up....

## **WAYS TO BRING UP YOUNG KIDS SO THAT THEY'LL KNOW BETTER WHEN FACING DIPLOMACY MATTERS**

1. Play lots of University of California fight songs - this way, they'll learn to hate all things that are red, especially Austria. We don't want the young ones to start off on the wrong foot.
2. Do NOT get them interested in 20th Century European History. If they learn the truth about the comparative strengths of Russia and Turkey in 1901, forget about DIPLOMACY. Also, if they realize that there was a BIGGER and BETTER World War, break out WAR AT SEA, sit back, and hope that they'll realize that DIPLOMACY means something. (Most wargamers HATE "area-movement" (no hexes) games)
3. Don't show them any tops (the kind that spin). Any college student knows that physics exams are loaded with questions about them, because they drive physics PHDs crazy, and we don't want any more like JB the PHD on our hands - once is enough!
4. Wait a long while before letting them in on THE FACTS - that Greg Costakyian designed SPI's SWORDS & SORCERY, that Steve Heinowski

**doesn't read this PAGE 10 -  
nor any other page of LOM**

was rated fifth in the Avalon Hill AREA ratings for wargamers - back in 1976, when DIPLOMACY and KINGMAKER weren't allowed to be played for AREA points, that there are multi-player games EASIER than Diplomacy (but even SPIES! has its ambiguity- is Rome a port?), and that even I make mistakes - if John Boardman is 56 and his parents just celebrated their 50th anniversary, something's fishy.

5. OK, I didn't mean that one JB is enough. I meant, one AT A TIME.
6. Ignore such useless facts as: despite having a 2-9 season last year, Cal's football team (with a 1-4 home record) OUTSCORED their opponents at home by 19 points! Now, that's USELESS to every one of you, especially since they were outscored on the road by more than 100 points. Strange that a team that beat Cal by one point beat a team that beat Cal 28-0 (i.e. Washington - Wash. State).
7. MOST IMPORTANT! There is absolutely NO.....way number 7.
8. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN NUMBER 7! LIVE IN THE EAST! When people like Scott Hanson know about Dick Martin's wedding and I don't - that proves my point. Besides, of the past 8 ORIGINS (there have only been 8), seven have been in the east - and the eighth wasn't very good. ALSO - even when DipCon happens (every once in a blue moon or so) to be out west, nobody seems to give a damn in hell or high water about it, unless you happen to live out here OR you're Mark Berch/Richard Kovalick/somebody who feels like flying out here. We're just second-class dippers out here. It's so bad that the Las Vegas Diplomacy World Championship would be held in Atlantic City! Then again, look at John Michalski - he may NEVER see a DipCon!
9. About number 8....actually, the only "national champion" that people actually HEARD about (thanks partly to the controversy caused by a tiny ambiguity in the Bumpas scoring system) was Ron Brown (the American version - as you recall, I was his FIRST ally (maybe second) on the way to the title, before I was pinned in by surrounding armies), who won in California! Besides, there are virtually no hurricanes out west! Droughts, maybe. Flooding, probably. Medflies, well, we don't have to worry - Jerry Brown isn't running for governor. He's moving away from here to a place where he can't do much harm - he'll be a senator in Washington, DC. If you're ever in DC, say hello to Barbara Boxer (congressman (even though she's a woman, I like the term "congressman") from the sixth district of California, formerly held by John Burton, brother of the person who redesigned the congressional districts (Boxer and Burton are democrats - Burton recently decided not to run for re-election, and Boxer won the democratic primary)). Tell her that I sent you - it's a miracle, but she's the congressman from a place called....well, you've seen Sue Martin and "Where in the hell is Slippery Rock?"? How about Boxer and "Where in the hell is....GREENHAE, CA?"? (Sound familiar?)
10. How do I know that she's going to win? Seems that Burton (Phil, not John) drew the sixth district so that it includes all of Marin County plus the city of Vallejo and a strip of San Francisco and Daly City (south of SF). Note that Vallejo and Marin County are nowhere NEAR each other - but, since the districts touch somewhere in SF Bay, they're "connected". By no coincidence, the district is heavily democratic. (By the way, the people of California voted to have the districts redrawn AGAIN for the 1984 elections.)

Hold those heads high - STEVE HEIOWSKI is back in the AREA TOP 50 (rated 46th) - dippers are good for something, after all

Mainly, they're good for reading

PAGE 11

# FUDGE



ANOTHER RATING SYSTEM?? But THIS one has a twist!

For every game, one player for each country gets a rating. There are two parts: the first part treats all countries equally, and the second gives extra points to countries that happen to be harder to win with. (Or haven't you noticed that DIPLOMACY is not perfectly balanced?)

**PART ONE:** Divide the maximum number of SCs controlled (controlled after any Fall/Autumn) by 18 and multiply by 50 (but this is never more than 50, even if the country had more than 18 SCs at the end); then, divide the number of winter seasons the country lasted (including a "winter" which wasn't played because a country gained its 18th SC in the preceeding fall) by the total number of winters, and multiply by 50. (Note that a winter when a country was reduced to zero SCs doesn't count as a winter the country "lasted"; also, any country with at least one SC in the last winter before the game ends gets 50 points, obviously.) Add these together, and add the sum to 50 times the number of Calhauer points earned. (Therefore, a country with an 18-SC win always gets 150 points here; also, an 18-SC win is worth more than a concession to the winner.)

**PART TWO:** The tough part. Note that only games reported in EVERYTHING are rated. Each issue of E gets its own set of FFs (Fudge Factors). (NOTE: Issues 49-52 have the same FFs.) To determine each country's FF, count the number of games in the given issue of E and the previous three issues. Then, from these games, determine each country's Calhauer Point Count (i.e. total points divided by games - the sum of all seven averages is one) average per game, and determine how many standard errors (SEs) away from the "balanced average" (i.e. 1/7) each country is. To do is, subtract 1/7 from the country's point average, and divide this by the SE (which is 1/7 of the square root of (6 divided by the number of games)). Note that if the country's point average is less than 1/7, the result is negative. Multiply this result by -0.2 (that's right - NEGATIVE 0.2) and add one.

A person's FFR for a game is the product of parts one and two; a person's total FFR is the average of the game FFRs of all games the person played that were reported as ended in any of the four previous issues of E. To appear in the TOP TEN in LOM, you must have played in at least 2 games that qualify; keep in mind that a non-conceded Russian win in E #52 is worth 102.29, while the same win as Italy is worth 200.06! That's how bad Italy is! (At least for now....)

And now for the TOP TEN:

1. Dave Claman (2 games), 142.89	
2. Kathy Byrne (5), 138.23	3. John Vogel (2), 133.90
4. Jack Masters (8), 126.79	5. Jeff Richmond (2), 122.16
6. Bill Bryg (3), 121.87	7. Al Pearson (2), 120.83
8. Jim Lawniczak (3), 119.27	9. Greg Haskew (5), 119.06
10. Wade Fowble (2), 118.03	

AND-NOW-FOR-SOMETHING-COMpletely-BORING-A-PUBLIC-SERVICE-MESSAGE-FROM-DOWN-SOUTH-

Want some GOOD game openings? Send a SASE to Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024, and ask for the latest PONTEVEDRIA. You new pubbers - ask for the PONTEVEDRIA SUPPLEMENT, which contains a list of "new blood"; probably mainly young, naive dippers just asking for it (i.e. suckers for your 'zine). Contributions to Rod are most welcome.

DECEASED: Don "Miller Numbers" Miller. We'll miss him. (I suppose....) I'd give him a cannon salute, but there's a one-per-LOM rule; besides, I promised Dick & Julie one - you can use Marion's if you wish.

# PAGE 12 LIVES ON!

# DIPLOMA

ANOTHER ENDING - AND ANOTHER FIRST FOR LOM?

Dick Martin, claiming that this game is no contest, resigned - which legalized

the A/T draw, which, because NOBODY sent in orders, PASSED. HOWEVER, Turkey is in CD! That's right - somebody split a draw with a CD power! Since Dave Carter was the last Turkish player, I assume he splits the draw with Mike Barno. Here's the result:

GAME: 81Prb21 (Second Chance Dip) ZINE: LIFE OF MONTY  
GM: Don Del Grande PLAYERS....AUSTRIA: Mike Barno (DRAW F '04).  
ENGLAND: Mike Rollin. FRANCE: Mark Lew (resigned F '01), CD.  
GERMANY: Dick Martin (res S '04). ITALY: Richard Carlson (dro S '02),  
CD through F '02, Bill Hugh (res S '04). RUSSIA: Jeff Noto (res F '01),  
CD through F '02, James Daugherty. Turkey: Dave Carter (res F '03),  
CD (DRAW F '04).

	01	02	03
AUSTRIA	5	5	5
ENGLAND	3	1	4
FRANCE	3	2	1
GERMANY	5	7	12*****
ITALY	3	3	4*
RUSSIA	5	3	1
TURKEY	4	6	7*

\* denotes 1 short

\*\*\*\*\* denotes FIVE short

END-OF-A-PRIMARY-MEANS-THAT-NANCY-REAGAN-CAN-RESUME-BLINKING-WHEN-LOOKING-AT-R  
.....Mark Russell

# DIPLOMA

SUMMER/FALL 1905....IT'S GETTING CLOSE

Italy didn't retreat, and so he loses his only unit.

AUSTRIA (Lucas): A Ven-TYO, A MUN-Ber, A Ser-RUM (s A BUD, A Bul) (A Bul dislodged and can retreat to SER, OTB), F Ion-AEG, A Rom-NAP, A Vie-BOH

FRANCE (Winger): A Yor-HOL (c F NTH), F EDI & F ENG S F Nth, A Ruh-KIE (s F HEL), A Bur-RUH, A Spa-MER, A Tus-PIE, F TUN II

RUSSIA (Sherwood): F Kie-Ber (ann), A DEN H, A Arm-SMY (s A CON), A Ukr-GEL (s A WAR), A Rum-BUL (s F BLA), F Nwy-NWG, F Nwy-CLY, F SKA S A Den

TURKEY (CD) has F ELS and F GRE; F Smy was dislodged & removed

## SUPPLY CENTER CHART FOR WINTER 1905

AUSTRIA: Home, Ser, Rom, Mun, Ven, ~~MM~~, NAP, RUM - 9, build 1 or 2

FRANCE: Home, Spa, Por, Lvp, Lon, Edi, Bel, Hol, TUN, KIE - 12, build 2

ITALY: ~~MM~~, ~~MM~~ - 0, out

RUSSIA: Home, Swe, Nwy, Ank, Den, Ber, ~~KIA~~, ~~MM~~, BUL, SMY - 11, even

TURKEY: Con, Gro, ~~MM~~ - 2

AUTUMN and WINTER 1905 and SPRING 1906 are due by SEPTEMBER 2. Press:

It's on the next page

Mainly, PAGE 13 is this page

AUSTRIA-RUSSIA: No, I haven't been sleeping around. I've been too preoccupied wondering what you and France are up to. France is just lamenting the scarcity of sleeping partners. In other words, he's not getting any.

PARIS: Please note that the Great French Embassy is settled and receiving mail at: P.O. BOX 13043, DENVER, CO 80201.

FRANCE-RUSSIA & AUSTRIA: What are we going to do now that the easy part is almost over?

FRANCE: The French emperor has announced that he is sick of fish & chips and is developing a taste for weiner schnitzel, kippers, pizza, borscht, and whatever Turks eat.

MOS-VIE: Sorry to do this, but with not hearing from you this season and anti-Russian move(s) last season, what else could I do? Just getting defensive....

LOOKS-LIKE-THIS-GAME-IS-GETTING-BETTER-EVERY-TIME-I-ONLY-HOPE-IT'S-NOT-DECLARED-I-REGULAR-SINCE-NOBODY-EVER-WROTE-ORDERS-FOR-ENGLAND-NO-THANKS-TO-SOME-WILSON-THANKS

KINGMAKER

TURN 9 - DEATH  
FILLS THE AIR

According to the rules, any prisoners (nobles, that is) not immediately ransomed back are executed at the end of the turn - thus, AUDLEY, HASTINGS, PERCY, CROMWELL, and PLANTAGENET-YORK are dead. Also, LE ROSE lands at Chichester.

GREY and LE ROSE (Chichester)-s20-s22-s24-Continent  
GREYSTROKE, HERBERT, and STANLEY (m30)-m36-Newcastle-Chirk(c)  
BEAUFORT and COURTENAY remain in w31  
LE LUCAS remains in Maldon  
LE SWAN remains in Caister  
BERKELEY, HOLLAND, MOWBRAY, NEVILLE, STAFFORD, and TALBOT remain at Coventry(c)

BERKELEY et al siege Coventry. The siege succeeds (CATASTROPHE-1 round) and Margaret is grabbed. With the exception of Richard of Gloucester, all living royal heirs are controlled by Berkeley and company. However, none of them are crowned - and George dies because they've owned heirs of both houses for the limit.

TURN 9 CROWN CARD:

TURN 10 EVENTS: Parliament MUST be summoned; French Raid - Garden of the Cinque Ports to Rye with 2 ships; Storms At Sea; French Siege-Captain of Calais to Calais.

Remember that BERKELEY is the Captain of Calais! Should he answer the call, he can enter & take Richard - should this happen, that faction controls all of the nobles. Also, the event calls come before the Parliament - speaking of which, Mike La Beau drew the card and names the site of Parliament. ALSO, would the player(s) controlling the nobles-owning faction tell me who owns which nobles - the player owning the sole surviving royal heir (that happens to be crowned) wins the game. Press....GLASS UNION-BLACK HAND: Since I have not heard from you, I'm ordering exactly as you suggested last time.

The location of parliament and nobles attending are due by SEPTEMBER 2. I use the JEMAD! parliament system, which will be explained on the next page.

Not on this PAGE 14, though

PARLIAMENT RULES: We've gone through the "call upon players to name nobles attending & location of parliament" bit. Next issue, I'll publish the location and who's attending, plus the total number of attending votes in each house, and the list of cards in Chancery. The four eligible nominators, according to the rules, each name their nominees for the titles/offices; should one player be eligible to nominate more than once, said player(s) should make as many lists of nominees as necessary. After that, the nominations are listed in order (all nominations are listed at once). Then, the vote takes place (and the players list which nobles return to their home castles). This way, we don't go through an unbelievable number of turns in case it takes four rounds of voting. (Thanks to Glenn Overby for thinking these up)

SEEM TO HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL ROOM LEFT OVER I HOPE TO GET A PICTURE FEATURE IN

It seems that the semi-expected story about the Flushing girl who was visited by ET-type aliens who were punished for not cleaning up their rooms and proved their point in Flushing (let's face it - no mere human little girl can make THAT much of a mess to a room) didn't make the deadline - which is OK, since I wanted to put it on the cover, but the cover's been printed. See this amazing story - and the picture proof of this girl's room (she shall remain nameless - but her initials are PB and her mother has this thing about winning as Italy) (well, she'll be nameless in THIS issue) - in the next NATIONAL LIFER (which could very well be the last one), which, hopefully, will come out right after PACIFICON, which ends on September 6. Sorry about the long wait for this one - I miscounted the length of time before the deadline.

Now to answer a question - no, I will NOT fold when the two games currently running end. And yes, I WILL change the ribbon before the next issue comes out. I'm not planning on entering the Diplomacy tournament at the next PACIFICON, but I might stop by & watch the action. (Besides, a score of zero will be my best yet!)

---

AMOUNT LEFT IN SUB \_\_\_\_\_

YOU TRADE XENOLOGIC

☐ SAMPLE/COMPLIMENTARY

Let's hope the pages are in order  
this time!

This should be PAGE 15

DON DEL GRANDE  
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GREENBRAE, CA 94904



ARRY PEERY  
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FIRST CLASS MAIL