

LIFE OF MONTY

JUNE 21, 1986

20
pages
65c

#62

For those of you who asked "Does Monty refer to Python", I'll give you a hint: the foot has nothing to do with stamping grapes...

DIPLOMACY OPENING GM: DICK MARTIN NO FEES - 7 NEEDED

HAVE YOU GOT THE MESSAGE? I thought I'd make at least one decent effort to fill my latest Dip game. If you haven't guessed by now, this is LIFE OF MONTY, published every five weeks by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, phone (415) 461-2692, CompuServe ID 70017,714, but no phone calls before 5 PM or after 11 PM (Fridays until midnight - all times Pacific). The cost of this 'zine depends on the size of the issue: 50c for 12 pages, 55c for 16, 60c for 20, and anything higher than that is a rarity.

OK, back to the regular stuff you all know and love....

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by THE COMBINED POLICE FORCES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY (CA.) - trespassers on University property removed at low rates - ask for the Shantytown Demolition Service

THE MARCO POLL - Dan Stafford, 1637 Hampton Knoll, Akron, OH 44313, has announced the 1986 Marco Poll, this year including the Whitestonia Players Poll. Vote for up to five persons for Best Player (numbered 1 for the best, 2 for second best, and so on), five 'zines for best 'zine, and three subzines for best subzine. (Make sure your votes are numbered beginning with 1 in each category.) Sign and date your ballot, and mail it to Dan by JUNE 6.

FRESHMAN ZINE POLL - did you know that LOM was part of the first FZP? (It was won by JIHAD, probably because its publisher, Glenn Overby, ran the poll back then - that is, if polls are "won") Anyway, Daf Langley, 2296 Eden Roc Lane #1, Sacramento, CA 95825, is running the current poll, which is similar to the Runestone poll (i.e. rate 'zines and subzines on a 0-10 scale) except that only 'zines/subzines that began in 1985 are eligible. Mail your ballot in to Daf by APRIL 30. (That's going to be a bit difficult, since this was mailed on the 20th.)

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LATE NEWS (it's a few weeks late): According to the latest WHITESTONIA/KATHY'S KORNER, Daf Langley became seriously ill while on vacation in New Mexico, and underwent surgery in late March. (That's all I have on this at the moment.) Sound familiar? Remember that Kathy Byrne also became sick and was forced into the hospital in January 1983. The only problem is, this time it's somebody who ISN'T immortal that's ill. Those of you who believe that AD&D spells are real, find a sixth level cleric that knows the "heal" spell and get him to where Daf is (since the spellcaster must be touching the recipient). Failing that, get out your "lucky dice" and make those saving throws!

XENOLOGIC

SON OF STAB OF THE

Just when you thought this monster had been
killed and buried

CENTURY

Some things just won't quit,
will they?

Out of the ashes of the BYRNE-MARTIN CHALLENGE of 1981 and the original STAB OF THE CENTURY in 1984 comes....SON OF STAB OF THE CENTURY! For those of you who don't remember the stories of the first two.... the BYRNE-MARTIN CHALLENGE also included John Michalski, Steve Arnawoodian, Dava Grabar, Mark Lew, and Scott Hanson, after an article from Kathy (or was it Ieapo Stabo) in RETALIATION prompted me to get this game together. However, a combination of factors resulted in the game being abandoned after Fall 1901. As for STAB OF THE CENTURY, it featured Kathy Byrne and John Caruso, Scott Hanson and Frauke Petersen, Dick Martin and Julie Glass, and Gary Coughlan - however, complications developed before this game was able to begin.

Now, after a two-year wait, it's time to try again. (Yes, I am a glutton for punishment.) Once again, this will be a "couples format"; that is, three couples will take six of the seven countries, and a seventh player (or, perhaps, another couple alternating Spring/Fall) for the remaining country. (Each of the couples play two countries that would normally be played by one person in a four-player game; the seventh player gets the remaining country. According to the latest rules, this would be Austria/France, Germany/Turkey, Italy/Russia, and England.)

Just how many Dip-couples are there? Well, looking through the current LOM subber list, I can see Kathy Byrne/John Caruso, Dick Martin/Julie Martin, and Cathy Ozog/Eric Ozog. (Well, there's also Judy Winsome/Jerry Lucas, but I don't think that counts....) Anybody else out there? Scott and Frauke, perhaps? (I won't name Steve & Daf until I get the word that Daf is out of the hospital and can handle another game - not that either of them sub/trade to LOM, but there's no guarantee that I can get the first three signed up....) Am I leaving any others out? If YOU (yes, I'm talking to YOU) happen to know of any couples that might be interested in SON OF STAB, let me know - let them know - let somebody know!

What kind of a game is SON OF STAB? For one thing, it's a variant. (It certainly isn't considered regular, because of the couples.) The original STAB started with the regular rules, but the players (and the GM) could submit one rules change proposal per season, which would be part of the rules if all of the players (plus the GM) voted in the following season to accept it. (The GM wouldn't submit a proposal for a vote if he didn't want it himself - that is, a proposal from another player that the GM would vote against would not be shown to the players. After all, the GM shouldn't have to abide by a vote for a rule which would substantially bog the game down.)

What about the seventh player? Well, if YOU want to get in on this game as England, let me know. In all fairness, this game is supposed to be for the couples, so the seventh player will have to be approved by the other six. If you can't agree to that condition, don't call me (and I won't call you). (However, once the game starts, none of the players can ask for the seventh to be thrown out - for that matter, nobody can ask for anybody (other than themselves) to be removed from the game.)

IF YOU ARE AN INTERESTED COUPLE (OR ONE PERSON INTERESTED IN PLAYING ENGLAND), LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS YOU FEEL LIKE IT. (I wouldn't want to RUSH anybody. Tomorrow is soon enough....) If, however, you don't, and, as a (totally unrelated) result, LOM happens to fold, let it be on YOUR heads!

LETTER COLUMN

You've probably guessed it by now - this can't possibly be LIFE OF MONTY. However, by some MIRACLE, it IS, and YES, this is a REAL letter column, featuring letters written by OTHER people. Well, LETTER, anyway. Speaking of which, here it is, straight from Bruce Linsey....

Thank for Life of Monty #61, here today, and thanks especially for the Runestone ballot and the Beyond Supernova flyer.

I'd appreciate the opportunity to clear up a few matters that you discussed. Starting with Beyond Supernova; yes, the title is reflective of my interest in astronomy, and yes, my name is going to appear on the front page. But I don't understand why this should be a point of great concern, except to those who are going to denigrate the handbook anyhow. In other words, I don't view the fact that I'm publishing the thing as a liability...if I did, I wouldn't have gone ahead with the project to start with.

You are the third person to mention that I've omitted some rather prominent names from the list of people being asked to contribute. Ah, but did you read the announcement carefully? What I said, for the record, is that "I am soliciting pertinent articles from any hobbyist who cares to contribute" and that people actually named "are just a few names that leap to mind". I'd love to have the whole hobby participate, and in fact I did send Caruso an invitation to do so. I'll get a similar note in the mail to Dick Martin after I'm done writing this letter. Fair enough? For the record, I don't think they'll choose to contribute, but it's not going to be for my lack of trying.

On your crack about "throwing players out of games", please note that this occurred once (over six years ago) in Voice of Doom's history (unless you're also going to count people who NURDed out or let their subs lapse). The GM deception was (eventually) proven, and if questions are going to resurface about the propriety of my actions, I still have all of the documentation. It surprised me, frankly, that you brought the matter up.

You are correct to chastize me for forgetting to list Julie Martin's subzine on the ballot. Darn. But, that's what the blank spaces are for. Alas, I left off a few other 'zines as well, like The Home Office. I tried hard to be complete this year; looks like I'll have to try still harder next year.

On the other hand, I think you're wrong on the matter of W/KK, for a number of reasons. KK has always been listed as a subzine in past polls, including the '85 PeerIPoll, and Kathy never complained about it.

And - let's face it - KK hasn't changed all that much over the years. In the latest Whitestonia, KK reads just about the way it did three or four years ago, perhaps occupying a somewhat larger percentage of the entire zine, but so what? I did offer a forum (in "Polltalk" in Excelsior) for discussion about what exactly constitutes a subzine, although neither you nor Kathy nor anyone else chose to contribute. Given that, why haggle the point now, after the ballots have already been distributed?

Some other points: Kathy has never written me about this matter, so even if I were inclined to consider KK a zine all of a sudden at her request, she hasn't made such a request. Moreover, even disregarding KK's unrequested status as a subzine in pre-Linsey polls, Kathy herself mentioned (when I was working on the Zine Register) that she would tell people that "I don't have a 'zine". Well, if it isn't a subzine and it isn't a zine, what is it?

One final point. Even if both Kathy and John hold different opinions than I do about what does or does not constitute a subzine, I am not obligated to abide by their criteria. Yes, the case of W and KK is certainly a debatable one. But supposing you were to write me and say, "Bruce, Life of Monty is a subzine and I request you list it as such." I'm afraid I'd have to ignore your request. A custodian (or pollster, or whatever) cannot operate effectively if he allows all his decisions to be dictated by the individual whims of each publisher.

DIP WARZ

Last time, Bulk Bogus was attempting to defend his Interplanetary Hyperwrestling title against King Kong Porky (with his manager, Bobby the Brainless). After about 30 minutes of back-and-forth action - that is, one guy is on the attack for a few minutes, then the other, but, amazingly enough, neither one can score the pin. Just then-

"The Bulkster closes in - now he slaps on a triple-neckbreaking double-armtwisting shoulder-smasher! There's the pin....1....2....but Porky MIRACULOUSLY kicks out of it before the 3 count. Now Bogus throws Porky into the ropes - Porky steps out of the way as Bulk tries to follow it up and lands headfirst against the steel post! Porky grabs Bulk - now he lifts him over his head and....SLAMS him onto the mat! Porky climbs up on the top rope and dives off - the Bulkster gets up and plants one right in the stomach on the way down! Now it's Bulk with an elbow smash - a head butt - a drop kick - Porky is kicked into the referee, who is knocked out! Now Bulk Bogus slaps on his patented Supersleeper - but the referee can't do the three count....wait a minute! Here comes Bobby the Brainless with a STEEL CHAIR - he SMASHES it over the Bulkster's head - into the stomach - across the back - over the head again - now he drops the chair, picks Bulk up, and drops him head first on it! He's going over to King King Porky - now he wakes him up - Bobby the Brainless dives out as the referee comes to - Porky gets on top of Bulk - there's the count....1....2....JUST in time, Bulk Bogus INCREDIBLY gets up enough strength to push Porky off! Porky runs right into Bobby the Brainless, who's still on the ring apron outside of the ropes - as he falls onto the concrete floor, Bulk trips Porky and covers him....1....2....3....the crowd goes wild as Bulk Bogus retains his Interplanetary Hyperwrestling title!"

And just in time, too, as it's time for the final debate between the current EMPEROR LORD SACKS FIFTHAVENUE and the challenger, Rod Seaparter. This debate, like all of the others, is sponsored by the League of Female-Species Voters. (For those of you who want to know why there isn't a league of MALE-Species voters, there are TWO - in the United States on Earth, they are known as "Republicans" and "Democrats". What confuses a lot of people is that women CAN be members of these "leagues of men voters".)

"Gentlemen, here is the first question: should the galaxy be invaded by aliens from another galaxy, which only makes sense, since we can't be invaded from within, what would you do? Emperor?"

"Well, first I'd destroy of the invaders, and then, I'd take care of the people who were obviously responsible for leading the aliens here, the rebels."

"Good answer! Seaparter, how about you?"

"Well,-"

"I'm sorry, but one of the rules of this debate is that you have to stop as soon as Lord Sacks Fifthavenue wants you to."

"But-"

"Furthermore, for talking beyond your allotted length, you have to be removed from the studio and replaced with an empty chair. Next question: where's THE BOURSE?"

"The rebels are obviously withholding it in their attempt to take over the galaxy and turn the free beings into slaves. I'd like to see my opponent deny that!"

"OK, chair, what do you think?"

"

"See? He won't deny it!"

"OK, here is the final question: what do you intend to do to your enemies if you win?"

"Speaking for the current government, I guarantee that they will be painfully eliminated, totally annihilated, completely disintegrated, and absolutely exterminated."

"How about you?"

"

"Well, you're consistent, anyway. I guess that ends the debate...."

Well, the debating continued - the chair never made a fool of itself, and it even won a debate by default - Lord Sacks Fifthavenue was putting down a revolt somewhere in the usual efficient method (i.e. he couldn't tell the good guys from the bad guys, so he destroyed the planet) - and so did the campaigning, but in the end it came down to....

LIVE, from Election Central somewhere on the Uni-hack planet, Megabyte star system, it's time to figure out who has been elected EMPEROR of the Diplomatic Galaxy, the second election in - oh, however long it's been since the last election. For those of you who don't know how this works, it's quite simple, which is supposed to be illegal under the Expansion of Paperwork Act, but since nobody can understand the entire act, nobody knows how to prosecute. Anyway, every planet has its own size rating, ranging from 1/4 to 4 based on voting population and a few "mystery factors" which usually have to do with how likely it is to re-elect the incumbent. Whichever candidate receives a majority of these size ratings (i.e. the sum of the ratings of the planets voting for that candidate is a majority of the sum of all of the ratings) is elected, except for a few loopholes that are usually brought up after the election is over, which just goes to show that it's never over until it's over - and even then, it's occasionally not over. Hold on - I've just received a report that the Graustark planet in the APAQ star system is about to report....

"Yes, it's been a flurry of excitement here, as this Class 3 1/4 planet, oldest of the known voting planets, is ready to report! Here it is.... Seaparter wins this one by a 52 to 49 margin! And so - wait a minute. That's 101 percent. That was a FAKE result! On this planet, the penalty for such actions is painful death followed by resurrection and immortality in a tomb of impenetrable stone. There's the flash of the destruction weapon now....the ACTUAL result is 99% for the current EMPEROR Lord Sacks Fifthavenue, and 1% for Rod Seaparter representing the rebels. By some coincidence, the people destroyed in the last attack had their names printed in a recent newspaper as Seaparter supporters."

We interrupt that report to bring you news from the Philip Pine planet in the Iselda System #372:

"The result has been announced: 65 percent for Seaparter to 35 percent for the current emperor. This means that Seaparter has a chance to receive the 1 1/4 rating points for this planet, if the Planetary Council happens to agree with this vote count. The council is voting right now....and they have voted to accept the count of 127 percent for EMPEROR Lord Sacks Fifthavenue to -27 percent for Seaparter, as supplied by the Imperially-backed (not to mention machine-gun-backed) counting firm of Dewey, Cheatem, and Howe. Tough luck for the rebels there." Can't win them all. I've just been told that the traditional election method on the Winsome-Drawsome planet, Wee-Neverlose system, in which representatives of the two sides attempt to kick the Orb of Decision into the Net of Superiority, has been called off because of rain. As a result, according to recent legislation signed by The Emperor, the Emperor receives the 1 vote for that planet, since "Any and all election points not decided due to the inability of the planets in question to come to a decision for any reasons are considered to be in the favor of the incumbent." Strangely enough, a fleet of Imperial Rainmaking ships was seen leaving the planet just moments ago.... Now for a report from the Ilopirt planet in the Aybil system, where things are exploding, and quite literally at that!

"It was announced moments ago that, after a third-class private in the Ilopirt Militia sneezed in the general direction of an Imperial Dip-Trooper, the Empire has just completed a mission of self-defense with 'purely defensive' nuclear weapons which, of course, were not targeted at civilian areas, although one or two may have gotten a little sunburn as a result of the blasts. The Emperor announced that it was in retaliation to the blatant attempt to disrupt the empire through germ warfare. This scheme backfired, however, as the 'sunburned' population was pro-Lord Sacks Fifthavenue, allowing Seaparter to come away with the election by over 2 to 1. The news isn't all bad for the incumbent, however, as the population reduction lowers the planet size from 2 to a mere 1/4."

Not to mention that the Empire chose the one planet that DOESN'T have active Ilopirt Terrorist troops! (After all - why would they bother blowing up their own troops & civilians?) (Then again, if you can't get rid of their fanatical leader, who IS on the planet, you're not doing a whole lot of good - not to mention, but I will anyway, that it's the one planet where you KNOW where the targets are.)

Say, doesn't that remind you of something closer to home?

Next time, DIP WARZ just might have the final result....

And now...the moment you've all been waiting for....no, not the folding of LOM....it's time to announce the results of THE LIFERS! The results will be listed by the top three finishers (with two exceptions) with their point totals (scored 15 for each first-place vote, 10 for second, 5 for third, 3 for fourth, 1 for fifth).

DIRTIEST FOLD: 1) NORTH SEALTH WEST GEORGE (73)
2) THE CONCERT OF EUROPE (50)
3) DIPLOMACY WORLD (41)

Note that DW votes were accepted despite the fact that it didn't exactly "fold"; however, when it changed hands, sub monies were swallowed in the exchange. (I realize that it's what the subbers voted for, but that's beside the point.)

HOBBY GENIUS: ***** NO AWARD *****
Highest three: 1) LARRY PEERY (58)
2) BOB OLSEN (52)
3) STEVE HUTTON (45)

Larry was one vote short of the 30% necessary; Bob Olsen had the minimum number necessary, but isn't the winner since he only had the second-highest point total.

MOST IMPROVED 'ZINE: ***** NO AWARD *****
Highest three: 1) COSTAGUANA (45)
2) THE CANADIAN DIPLOMAT (40)
3) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ DIPLOMACY WORLD

Only one 'zine was less than two votes short of the minimum: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ DIPLOMACY WORLD.

BEST 'ZINE FOR HOBBY NEWS: 1) EUROPA EXPRESS (102)
2) MAGUS ~~(89)~~ (89)
3) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (73) KAISA (75)

BEST LETTER COLUMN: 1) WHITESTONIA/KATHY'S MORNOR (100)
2) NO FIXED ADDRESS (75)
3) EUROPA EXPRESS (48)

Note that votes for "Whitestonia" and "KK" were combined, as well as for "Rebel" and "High Inertia".

BEST GAME OTHER THAN DIP/VARIANTS: 1) TRIBIAL PURSUIT (55)
2) TITAN (42)
3) CIVILIZATION (40)

ONLY TP, CIU, and LIAR'S DICE got more than one first-place vote.

PERFECT ALLY: BOB OLSEN ~~(78)~~ (78)

Only Bob Olsen received more than one first-place vote.

This one will not be brought back next year, most likely. It is apparent that almost everybody has a different idea of what the perfect ally is.

BIGGEST HOBBY PERSONALITY: 1) KATHY BYRNE ~~(140)~~ (140)
2) LARRY PEERY (88)
3) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ STEVE ARNAWOODIAN (71)

HARDEST COUNTRY TO PLAY: 1) AUSTRIA ~~(185)~~ (185)
2) ITALY ~~(144)~~ (144)
3) GERMANY ~~(115)~~ (115)
4) RUSSIA ~~(83)~~ (83)
5) TURKEY ~~(70)~~ (70)
6) ENGLAND (41)
7) FRANCE (37)

Changes made after I received two last-minute votes
(sorry about the inconvenience)

And now for the newest member of the TRUE HOBBY MASTERS SOCIETY.... who will be the one to join Kathy Byrne as members of this elite group of hobbyists? Who will wield supreme control over things you probably didn't even know about? Who will appear on the DIPLOMACY COMMEMORATIVE SERIES of the PBM POSTAL SERVICE POSTAGE STAMPS, once the appropriate postal unions allow for non-government mail services? (Then again, what government owns FEDERAL EXPRESS? PUROLATOR COURIER? AIRBORNE? U.P.S.?)

	1	2	3	4	5	POINTS
NONE/KATHY BYRNE	6 ●	1	0	1	0	103
BRUCE LINSEY	2	1	2	1	0	55
MARK BERCH	1	2	0	0	1	36
BILL QUINN	1	2	0	0	0	35
STEVE LANGLEY	1	0	2	2	0	33
ROD WALKER	1	0	1	1	0	24
LARRY PEERY	1	0	0	3	0	24
LEE KENNYER SR.	0	1	2	0	0	22
STEVE HUTTON	0	2	0	0	1	21
DAN STAFFORD	1	0	0	0	1	16
BOB OLSEN	1	1	0	0	1	26
JOHN BOARDMAN	0	1	0	2	0	16
EDI BIRSAN	1	0	0	0	0	15
FRED DAVIS	1	0	0	0	0	15
ELMER HINTON	1	0	0	0	0	15
JOEL KLEIN	1	0	0	0	0	15
CONRAD VON METZKE	0	1	0	0	1	11
AL PEARSON	0	1	0	0	0	10
JULIE MARTIN	0	1	0	0	0	10
RONALD KELLY	0	1	0	0	0	10
JOHN CARUSO	0	0	1	0	2	8
CHRIS CARRIER	0	0	1	0	0	6
MIKE MAZZER	0	0	1	0	0	6
NANCY IRWIN	0	0	1	0	0	6
DICK MARTIN	0	0	1	0	0	6
GARY COUGHLAN	0	0	1	0	0	6
MELINDA HOLLEY	0	0	0	0	3	3
FRAUKE PETERSEN	0	0	0	1	0	3
PAUL RAUTERBERG	0	0	0	1	0	3
GEORGE GRAESSELE	0	0	0	1	0	3
			13	13	10	

STEVE
NEARWOODIAN
1 second-place
10 points

For those of you who didn't know, since Kathy was elected to the society last year, all votes for her were considered votes of "NONE" (which meant that nobody was to join Kathy in the society). Since "NONE" received the most points, Kathy remains the only TRUE HOBBY MASTER for another year. No, Kathy, you don't get another T-shirt.

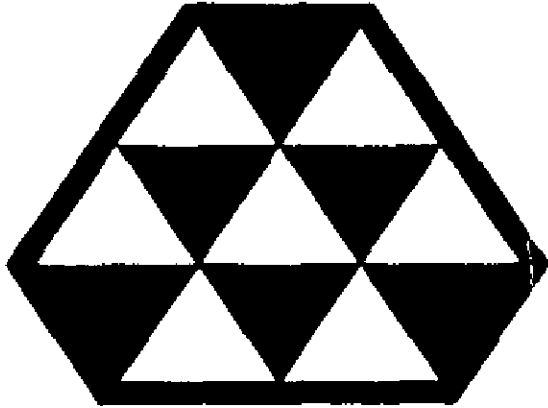
This is another thing that will probably be changed next year - instead of a weighted voting system, a system similar to IDHOF's (and the Baseball Hall of Fame's) will be used, in which each voter lists as many persons whom he/she thinks should be "true hobby masters" as he/she feels like listing, with those persons on at least 2/3 (or 3/4) of the ballots becoming members. But I'll get around to that next year.

~~SPEAKING-OF-POLLS-SPEAKING-OF-POLLS-SPEAKING-OF-POLLS-SPEAKING-OF-POLLS-SPEAKING~~

Don't forget - deadline for the Runestone Poll is June 21 (for mailing to Nelson Heintzman, P.O. Box 203, Bowmansville, NY 14026) or June 28 (for mailing to Bruce Linsey, 73 Ashuelot Street, Apt. 3, Dalton, MA 01226). There aren't any ballots in this issue of LOM, since I figure that LOM readers would have used the one in issue 61, and it costs the readers (and me) cash to include additional ballots.

ALSO, if you missed the front page, go back and read about the Marco Poll and Freshman 'Zine Poll.

PAGE 8 wanted a "best poll page" T-shirt, but they don't come in extra-thin.



INSTITUTE FOR DIPLOMATIC STUDIES

Gaming & Simulations Studies

P.O. Box 8416 • SAN DIEGO, CA 92102, U.S.A. • (714) 238-0893 LAWRENCE WM. PEERY, Director

6 April 1986

To: All Diplomacy Publishers

From: Larry Peery, Administrative Secretary, Don Miller Memorial Award, Rod Walker Award, and John Koning Memorial Award

Re: 1986 Nominations and Balloting

Reply by: 17 May at the absolute latest

1. Enclosed is the list of nominees for the 1986 Don Miller Memorial Award, the 1986 Rod Walker Award, and the John Koning Memorial Award, along with a sample ballot that I ask each of you to reprint in your zine or publication during the next month or so. In addition a master ballot, including all the various awards and poll forms, will be distributed with the next issue of DIPLOMACY WORLD.
2. I also request that you solicit donations to help cover the costs of these awards. Donations should be sent to Fred Davis, Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207. Checks, made payable to Fred, may be sent in with the ballot.
3. I am also looking for volunteers to serve on next year's committees for these awards and, especially, I am looking for a volunteer to assume my role as administrative secretary for the awards.
4. These awards represent one of our few chances to recognize those who serve our hobby well. I hope you will encourage all of your players and readers to participate in them.
5. The recipients of the awards will be announced at DIPCON and, if present, the winners will be presented with their individual plaques and custody of the permanent plaque for a year. I hope to be present to make this year's announcements, if not I'll ask Fred Davis to do so on behalf of the committees.

1986: THE AWARDS STORY

If you liked the 1986 Oscars results you'll love this year's major Diplomacy hobby awards list. There's something for everyone.

Over the last year a number of committees drawn from all kinds of Diplomacy players and hobby activists has been actively searching for candidates for this year's awards. The oldest is the Don Miller Memorial Award for service to the hobby. This year there are six nominees, each of whom has made a major contribution to the hobby in the last year and, in many cases, before that. Major publishers, providers of key hobby services, and creators of new hobby services are all represented in an impressive group. The quality of the nominees reflects the importance the hobby attaches to this award, its most prestigious.

Second in terms of longevity is the Rod Walker Award for literary excellence, jointly sponsored by Avalon Hill Game Company and the Institute for Diplomatic Studies. This year's nominees include some of the best writers and players in the hobby and a few unknowns. The diversity of the nominees makes a choice difficult. The long running fiction series, A Dip Pilgrim's Progress, by Pete Gaughan is balanced by Elmer Hinton's massive essay on the game and hobby in Kaissa #100. Serious strategy and tactics articles from Dan Stafford, Randolph Smyth are balanced by humor and fiction from Bruce McIntyre, social discourse from Daf Langley, on hosting cons, and Chris Carrier, on the feud. Even the titles, "Ever Seen Mt. Kilimanjaro?" and "Disaster Strikes" suggest the drama and suspense of the game and hobby.

This year's new award is the John Koning Memorial Award named for the founder of DIPCON, publisher and gamesmaster of such great magazines as STAB and VALHALLA, and one of the best players ever. The six nominees represent some of the best Diplomacy players active today, regardless of style or type of play. J.R. Baker, the man who went from the bottom of the heap at DIPCON XVII, in Dallas, to the top of the mountain at DIPCON XVIII, in Seattle; Phil Redmond, who plays better than the pack in one of the best packs around; Jay Shufeldt, who can con anybody out of anything if it will keep him alive in a game; Ron Spitzer, who has made himself a reputation all over the face to face and postal hobbies as a superb negotiator and salesman; Dan Stafford, perhaps the best postal Diplomacy player in the hobby today; and Alan Stewart, the man of a million curls in his signature and his style of play.

It's a fine field of candidates for the hobby's three most important awards and I hope you'll be at DIPCON XIX in Virginia this May to see who receives them. In addition we'll have the announcement of the recipient of this year's Dot Happy Award, given to a publisher who wraps up his or her Diplomacy affairs in a responsible manner.

All in all 1985 was a year the hobby will be able to look back on with pride.

1986 DON MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINEES

Instructions:

1. Ballot must be signed and voter's affiliation with the hobby (player, pubber, etc.) identified.
2. Ballot must be returned by 17 May, 1986 to: AWARDS, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102.
3. Write-in votes are allowed.

The Nominees are:

1. Kathy Byrne; For her contributions as DW's General Editor, editor of Kathy's Korner, host of Byrnecons, and promotion of the game and hobby of Diplomacy.
2. Gary Coughlan; For his promotion of Diplomacy's international ties, publication of Europa Express.
3. Steve Hutton; For publication of NO FIXED ADDRESS and providing a free and open forum for discussion of The Feud.
4. Steve Knight; For founding and administering the International Subscription Exchange.
5. Bruce Linsey; For running the 1985 Runestone Poll and publication of The Cream Shall Rise.
6. Bill Quinn; For service as Boardman Number Custodian.

1986 ROD WALKER AWARD NOMINEES

Instructions:

1. Ballot must be signed and voter's affiliation with the hobby (player, pubber, etc.) identified.
2. Ballot must be returned by 17 May, 1986, to: AWARDS, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102.
3. Write-in votes are not allowed. Vote only for items you have actually read. If you need a copy of a nominated item send a SASE to Ken Peel, 9708 First Ave., #T-2, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-495-2799). Enclose a stamp for each item requested

The nominees are:

1. Ivo Bouwman; "Ever Seen Mt. Kilimanjaro?" in Europa Express #50.
2. Chris Carrier; "Illuminated Megadip." in The Megadiplomat #2.
3. Pete Gaughan; "A Dip Pilgrim's Progress" in Magus (a series).
4. Elmer Hinton; Kalsea #100
5. Steve Knight; "Disaster Strikes" in It's a Trap #4
6. Daf Langley; "Making of a Major Con" in Diplomacy World #39
7. Bruce McIntyre; "Masculine Attribute" in Excelsior #9
8. Randolph Smyth; "Castles in the Air" in Fol Si fie #167
9. Dan Stafford; "Winning Strategy for France" in Masters of Deceit

1986 JOHN KONING MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINEES

Instructions:

1. Ballot must be signed and voter's affiliation with the hobby (player, pubber, etc.) identified.
2. Ballot must be returned by 17 May, 1986, to: AWARDS, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102.
3. Write-in votes are not allowed.

The Nominees are:

1. J.R. Baker: from last at DIPCON XVII to first at DIPCON XVIII, as well as winning the local Houston tournament, and other local Diplomacy events.
2. Phil Redmond: Twice a winner in The Diplomat, a distinction no one else holds, Phil demonstrates excellent control of the game.
3. Jay Shufeldt: From house games, to small cons, to major tournaments Jay has a way of building alliances to lead to victories or draws for himself and his Allies.
4. Ron Spitzer: Has done for FTF play of Austria what Conrad von Metzke did for PBM play of Austria. Perhaps the best con artist in the hobby.
5. Dan Stafford: Currently at the top of the DTRS with 6 wins, 9 draws, and 1 elimination, his 1985 game finishes consist of 2 wins and 4 draws.
6. Alan Stewart: Although a relative unknown his mastery of diplomacy and the game's strategy is already formidable.

Normally, I don't mention polls, other than the Runestone Poll and the LIFERS. However, John Boardman has decided to run a slightly different poll, and since LOM is a "slightly different" 'zine, I figured that I could fit it into this issue. Well, "fit it in" isn't quite right - you know as well as I do that I need as much filler as I can lay my hands on.

NOTE: This is copied from John Boardman's ballot - any comments I have added are in parentheses.

THE RHINESTONE POLL - 1986

The Rhinestone Poll is an attempt to collect the opinions of postal Diplomacy players and then decide what to do with them. Your ballot should be mailed to John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11226, by MAY 3, 1986. (When they actually arrive is anybody's guess.) The ballots will be given an honest count or a Linsey count, depending on how I feel at the moment. (OF COURSE, when John says "Linsey count", he probably means that they'll be counted a few times, each time subjected to a different rating system, and then the ratings will be squeezed together - could he POSSIBL have meant anything else?) Anyone is authorized to reproduce and circulate these ballots, except for Mr. Linsey and his Bruxelles (a.k.a. The Legion Of Doom). This ballot should not be confused with any others that have similar names, unless you really want to. Vote by single vote, numbered preferences, or ratings on a scale of 1 to 37%, whichever you feel like.

BEST FELD

- ___ Bernie Oaklyn vs. Buddy Tretick
- ___ Pecos Benedictine Monastery vs. Father Daniel Gorham
- ___ Dan Brannan vs. The Men With Big Nets
- ___ Buddy Tretick vs. The Real World
- ___ Gary Coughlan vs. John Michalski
- ___ Conrad Von Metzke vs. Eutiquio Jose Revillagigedo
- ___ Herb Barents vs. Noah Webster
- ___ Larry Peary vs. John Beshara
- ___ Brux Linsey vs. the Entire Postal Diplomacy Hobby

BEST FAKE IDENTITY

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| ___ Karel Alaric | ___ Carol Buchanan | ___ George Phillias |
| ___ Robert Ames | ___ Walter Mondale | ___ Buddy Tretick |
| ___ Mark Berch (?) | ___ Bernie Oaklyn | ___ David Perlmutter (?) |
| ___ Eric Blake | ___ Larry Peary (?) | ___ Conrad von Metzke (?) |

BEST 1985 CONVENTION

- ___ Shea Stadium meeting of people slandered by Brux Linsey (??)
- ___ People who said nothing at great length in NO FIXED ADDRESS
- ___ People who said nothing at great length in THE NOT FOR HIRE
- ___ Gary Coughlan Fan Club, third phone booth to the far right, Trailways depot, Memphis
- ___ Empiricon
- ___ Using your bid to tell your partner how many aces you have (e.g. Blackwood response to 4 NT)

OFFICIAL FRUIT OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| ___ The Otney | ___ El-Zakkum | ___ Terry Dolan |
| ___ Burgundy Grapes | ___ Adam's Apple | ___ Cherries |
| ___ Smyrna Figs | ___ Idhunn's Apples | ___ Jack Kemp |
| ___ Chiquita Banana | | |

FAVORITE IMAGINARY COUNTRY

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| ___ Graustark | ___ Ruritania | ___ Laputa |
| ___ Lilliput | ___ Brobdingnag | ___ Bangladesh |
| ___ Costaguana | ___ Pontevedria | ___ Kakania |
| ___ Perelandra | ___ Siunik | ___ The Triune Monarchy |
| ___ California | ___ Moominland | ___ of Scythnia-Pannonia- |
| ___ Skandalutz | ___ Grenada | ___ Transbalkania |

Bruce Linsey has just announced that he plans to publish a "Publisher's Handbook", to be called BEYOND SUPERNOVA. He wants in it an article on ethics. This article should be written by:

— Buddy Tretick	— Mark Berch	— Father Daniel Gorham
— Dan Brannan	— Scott Mensinger	— Gary Coughlan
— William Highfield	— Walter Buchanan	— Brux Linsey
— Larry Peery	— Carol Buchanan	— Robert Ames
— David Perlmutter	— Bernie Oaklyn	— Henry Kissinger
— E. Gary Gygas	— James Allan	— Richard M. Nixon

There is a common opinion in postal Diplomacy that we wouldn't know how to enjoy our hobby without some central authority that gets to direct anything in it. (You mean there isn't one already?) This central authority ought to be:

— Robert Sacks	— Rodney C. Walker	— Brux Linsey
— Walter Buchanan	— Mark Berch	— Larry Peery
— Gary Coughlan	— Father Daniel Gorham	— nobody (WHAT? You LIKE the hobby without someone in charge?)

MOST PREPOSTEROUS CHRISTIAN IN WAR-GAMING:

— Pat Pulling	— William Highfield	— Pete Gaughan
— Dr. Thomas Badecki	— Jack T. Chick	— David Staples

(If you need help, here is one publisher's choices:

BEST FEUD - Ric Flair (National Wrestling Alliance world champion) and allies vs. Dusty Rhodes & friends

BEST FAKE IDENTITY - "Charles" (the "person" whose pseudonym is Karel Alaric)

BEST 1985 CONVENTION - ORIGINS (where John Boardman tried to explain the ways of Californians - before I told him who I was)

OFFICIAL FRUIT OF POSTAL DIP - who wants to mail fruit?

FAVORITE IMAGINARY COUNTRY - any one that DARES commit terrorism against Americans - if they aren't imaginary YET, just wait

ETHICS AUTHOR - how about the guy that ran a 1968 Presidential poll, saying that no voters' names would be revealed, and then revealed the names of the Wallace supporters?

CENTRAL AUTHORITY - let everybody who wants the job share it; they'll destroy each other trying to impose their wills. Alternative: the "reward of Babilon" - grant them immortality, immediately followed by entombing them in stone

MOST PREPOSTEROUS CHRISTIAN - aren't those two words redundant? No, just the ones who claim that they're doing good with things like this....)

Your name should appear below. If it doesn't, or if some unlikely pseudonym is used (e.g. Blackleaf, Elfstar, Cutter, Bernie Oaklyn), I might count the ballot or I might not.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

KINGMAKER, TURN 8 - ORDERS? WE DON'T NEED NO STINKING ORDERS!

Robert M. Miller's faction is now called the KRIKKIT KONFEDERATION. Apparently, some rules clarifications are in order, which will be mentioned after the turn results (but before the press).

KRIKKIT KINFEDERATION (Miller)

NEVILLE (Raby)-w18-m6-m5-m23-m28
GREY, GREYSTOKE, POLE (Rhuddian(g))-
w7-Chirk(g)*
TALBOT, Earl of Shrewsbury (Ludlow)-
w18-Stokestay(g)*

WACKY WABBITS OF WONDERLAND (Gestiehr)

BOURCHIER and CLIFFORD (h3)-Stokestay*
STAFFORD (Leeds)-Blackheath-London
PLANT-LANC (h3)-Ludlow-w18-Ludlow-
Stokestay(g)*
BEAUFORT (Corfe)-Weymouth-h51*
SCROPE (Masham)-Masham-m6-m5-m23-m28

WHITE DUCHESS (Ozog)

HOLLAND (Dublin)-Ireland
Le ROSE remains in Dublin
Le LUCAS (Dublin)-s1-s2

SACRED ORDER OF THE MIRACULOUS -
PANTY-HOSE (Mazzer)

CROMWELL and Le NICHOLAS (Calais)-
s24-s22-s20-s18-Corfe(g)
(this is allowed, since
he is in the siege)
COURTENAY, Warden of the Cinque
Ports, with Flemish Crossbowmen
(Okehampton)-d10-Exeter(g)*
ROOS (Belvoir)-Grantham-Tattershall
Le TRINITY (Rye)-s24-s22-s20-s18
(since it didn't carry troops
to the siege, it can't enter
Corfe)
Le GEORGE (Rye)-s24-s26-s27-s28-
Caister

RAMPANT ROYALISTS (Wilson)

FITZALAN remains at Chirk, but
goes onto the green
PLANT-YORK remains at Stokestay,
but goes onto the green
AUDLEY remains at Wallingford

COMBAT: Beaufort and Courtenay bump into each other trying to go between h51 and Exeter. (Courtenay has a 100-30 advantage) Bad Weather delays the attack (Peasant Revolt-Mowbray, B. Norwich, Admiral, Marshal).

Grey, Greystoke, and Pole meet Fitzalan on Chirk green (120-100). Two cards discarded (MUTINY Le Michael, MUTINY Le Swan); the battle has no result (EMBASSY - King to Rye), but Pole dies (Pole and Burgundian Crossbowmen to discards).

BOURCHIER, CLIFFORD, and PLANTAGENET-LANCASTER, plus TALBOT, meet PLANTAGENET-YORK on Stokestay green (130-50). The larger force is victorious (PARLIAMENT MUST BE SUMMONED/Majority), and Plant-York is captured. Clifford dies (Clifford goes ~~back to the main hand~~ to discards; Duke of Exeter to chancery).

Cromwell tries to besiege Corfe, but doesn't have enough strength (the SOMPH wanted to give a card to Cromwell, but since there was no siege, I withheld it - you can give it back to Cromwell before the movement next turn if you want to). This means that LE NICHOLAS has been snatched by the town, and can't be moved by the SOMPH until Corfe is friendly.

YOUR TURN 8 CROWN CARD:

TURN 9 EVENTS: MUTINY - Le Nicholas (Le Nicholas to discards); FRENCH RAID (Courtenay to Okehampton); PEASANT REVOLT (No effect); ROYAL HEIR ESCAPES (No effect, since Cathy drew the card, and Edmund can't get to a neutral town/city/castle); PLAGUE-Lincoln, Newark; EMBASSY-King to Burgundy (no effect, but another Embassy event will result in a reshuffle).

RULES TALK

Robert, you only have to specify (g) at the end of a move, since that's the only time anybody can enter a town, city, or castle. Also, you cannot make a move conditional on other moves in the same turn, except that a free move can be conditional on "regular" moves.

Ken, you cannot combine road and non-road movement. Since you couldn't get from Leeds to Shrewsbury via road (you don't control London), your movement stopped there. (By "road movement phase 3", I mean that all road moves take place in their entirety in phase 3.)

Cathy, I hope you realize that Holland can't leave the island he's on (i.e. Ireland/Dublin) since Ireland, where Holland is, is not the same place as Dublin, where the only ship is. (Well, he can't leave at the beginning of turn 9, anyway.)

Turn 9 Road Movement Phase is 1. (LATE CORRECTION: The KK control DEADLINE for TURN 9 is MAY 22. Here's the press: Kenilworth)

KRIKKIT: The ZIP code should be 90249.

KK: The Earl of Shrewsbury, having spent the last few years pursuing his studies abroad, has returned to Ludlow for some needed peace and quiet. But what does he find? Vile Royalists camped outside his city. He sends forth his messengers to gather those who love Shrewsbury and cannot bear to see it polluted. After completing the police call outside the castle grounds, he calls his friends inside the city for a feast celebrating the victory. The following sign is posted on the roads leading into the city for all Royalists to see: WELCOME TO SHREWSBURY, NOW GO HOME. And at the castle wall: KEEP SHREWSBURY CLEAN, WHEN YOU LEAVE, TAKE SOMEONE WITH YOU.

GM-KK: Trouble is, when he called the police, he did so from inside one of those blue boxes....

WACKY WABBITS-RAMPANT ROYALISTS/ RODENTS: Guess what the Easter Bunny brought us! (Hint: what we always wanted, wot!) He left you all the unclaimed eggs.

WWW-SOMPH: You're right about a terror snatching everything on sight in England. It's Richard: he thinks he has everyone under his thumb, not just you!

WWW-GM: How did RR gain Kenilworth?

GM: My mistake - the KK control Kenilworth.

WWW-EDMUND: After your secret rendezvous with the White Duchess, you should be ready to conquer the world!

WWW-HOLLAND: Everyone should have a dream.

WD-GM: Acute Paranoia? Is that a new version of the game (PARANOIA)?

GM-WD: You have to ask? Report to the nearest termination center - or the nearest store selling AP. (It's an expansion.)

IRELAND: The people in Ireland came out in hordes to cheer the passing of three people through their land. The young and dark Edmund rode on a white charger and next to him a lady in white rode on a gentle horse. He stayed close to her. Behind them the loyal Holland led his host of men, who seemed to be endless. Holland was smiling the whole time. How different from his escape from Ipswich.

Edmund took the lady to a cool glade and offered her wine.

"Lady, I do love Ireland but I want to know of England. How fair my father and brothers?"

The White Duchess gave a sigh and rested on his lap. "Your father is in a violent mood. He wishes to kill your older brother Edward. So far Edward has held him off. After he finishes Edward, he will come after you! But you are safe now, with Holland to back you. Your brother George is drunk in France - hiding away with his toady Cromwell. And Richard is dead."

Edmund held the lady closer to him as though to protect her. "I can't believe my father would act in this manner! Someone must be putting thoughts into his head. To attack Edward! Edward is lazy and will probably die an early death from his woman and drink, but that is no reason to attack him!"

"Hush my sweet - your father is surrounded by the evil Fitzalan and Audley. They have made him think these thoughts. Give me time and we will protect Edward."

Edmund sighed and tipped his head to one side. "Well, since we have time - I will rest here with you - my brothers can wait." And they worked on other matters together.

PAGE 16: Sorry about the white space.
You paid for it - I'll let you use it!

DIPLOMACY 84CI.....DELAYED (thanks to my ~~slow~~ printer - I could have bought a new HP Laser printer cheap (less than \$300!), but it's not Atari-compatible yet)

In issue 60, I typed in "A Kie" to my word processing software - however, the printer/copier combination made it look like "F Kie" five weeks later, and so that's what I put down. Dick Martin caught the error; however, Dan Young, the French standby, didn't (he probably didn't see the results in LOM 60), and retreated F Kie to Hel. Problem: it's ARMY Kiel, but Dan didn't know that.

Since it is an army, and the army had no legal retreat from Kiel (England occupies DEN and HOL; France occupies MUN and RUH; the dislodging unit came from BER), it is removed.

I tried to call Dan - but I don't know his number, and information didn't have any number for his address in Culver City. I could simply use his orders without his "F Kie" - then again, I could ask Dick Martin to play both England and France, since that would make the game just as irregular. (Which reminds me - I heard that Steve Heinowski will be the BNC if and when Bill Quinn leaves. Good choice. Here's some BNC trivia: Steve was the first GM to be allowed to GM AREA-rated Diplomacy - and one of the few ever allowed to do so, since multi-player games are no longer AREA-rateable, which means that a handful of people who paid the \$6 to play AREA DIP and KM are out the \$6 unless they learn something like RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN or SQUAD LEADER....)

OK, this game is delayed. FALL 1908 orders are now due by MAY 23. I have orders for Italy and England; Dan, I can't keep your orders since I assume these were made based on your retreat of "F Kie", unless you tell me that the remaining orders (i.e. the orders not including the "retreated" unit) can be used.

Speaking of France, Dan got his orders in, whereas Jim Bjornsson didn't, so Dan is the official French player. As for credits, it's my policy that, since none of you are in any other LOM game, those players who didn't NMR (only Ken Peel did) get 65¢ credit (that is, they get this issue free); in addition, Dan gets a 50¢ bonus for his first standby orders.

Here are the positions after SPRING 1908:

ENGLAND (Martin) has A PIC, F ENG, F NMG, A STP, F KIE, A HOL, F LVP,
F LON, F DEN, A EDI

FRANCE (Young) has F WES, F IRI, F MAO, A BUR, A WAL, A MUN, A RUH

ITALY (Stegeman) has F ION, F TYH, F NAP, A BOH, A SIL, A GAL, A SMT,
F CON, F AEG, A VEN, A TYO

RUSSIA (Peel) has A BER, A ARM, A PRU, A MOS, A LVN

~~-LATE-BREAKING-NEWS-LATE-SNAPPING-NEWS-LATE-CRASHING-NEWS-LATE-SMASHING-NEWS-LATE-~~

Guess what? My car just got closer to joining the long tradition of Dippers' Wrecks. On my way home last Friday (April 18 - the 80th anniversary of the San Francisco earthquake), I was making a long curve on a 2-lane undivided road with very little shoulder when somebody coming in the other direction decided to pass somebody else, which required getting into my lane. By the time we noticed each other, all I could do was swerve to the right - off the shoulder and into a barbed-wire fence! Fortunately, I didn't even get scratched - the car, however, did. (I was lucky that the fence didn't flatten the tires.) To make matters worse, I didn't notice anything about the other guy or his car - I just backed myself back onto the road and continued driving. (Besides - we didn't touch each other, so it's not exactly hit-and-run.)

ANYWAY, until next time, remember that there are only 2 issues until issue 64, the SIXTH ANNIVERSARY issue, and I don't have any articles yet - however, this year, if you send your article to DIPLOMACY WORLD instead, you will NOT have to report to the termination center.

PAGE 17 is glad I was wearing my seat belt

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

number 3
This is For Immediate Release, the
official newsletter of the Dipcon Admin-
istrative Committee for Dipcon XIX, the 1986
version of the National Diplomacy Tournament. The
Committee includes:

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; and Greg Ellis / 700 Rio Grande / Austin TX 78701 /
512-343-8202.

Although this is being typed on time, it stands a good chance of being held up due to lack of funds on my part. The Committee has no forwarding balance from last year, so I (Pete) have to pick up the tab and hope to get reimbursed at MaryCon. (A note there: I will not be at Dipcon personally. I made this clear a year ago, but a few Dipsters apparently are expecting to see me there. Sorry, folks.)

Among the people who will attend are Russ Rusnak, Greg Ellis, Ron Spitzer, and Don Scheifler so most of the country will be represented. In addition, Malcolm Smith (from Belgium by way of Norway) will be in the States for the convention again this year.

AIR WARS: There will be a group-discount airfare available IF we can assemble 20 people from either L.A., Houston, or Chicago. Greg Ellis (address above) is your contact for this. There should be a description of the times and prices enclosed.

There will be a prize to anybody who signs up the most bodies in their city: a free ticket! (This is providing that city gets the 25-person free-ticket minimum.) For instance, if Ron in L.A. gets 18 people to pay, and Jay gets 8, Ron gets his seat free. Call Greg ASAP, and start rounding up Dipsters.

CORRECTIONS: to last issue. There will be only a two-round minimum for the Dip Tournament but there will be four rounds available. Also, the college is still named Mary Washington College; the name change to Washington-Monroe isn't yet in effect. Finally, I have been duly reprimanded by Ed Wrobel for confusing National Airport and Dulles International. The Fredericksburg shuttle runs to/from National; the group air plan runs out of Dulles, but there is another shuttle between the airports.

MORE MERRY PEOPLE: In addition to the well-known players and publishers from all over the United States and Canada (though I'm not sure which Canadians, I've heard that some are coming Allan Calhmer, inventor of Diplomacy, and Rex Martin, editor of The General, will both be on hand.

NEW SITES: In addition to Madison, WI, we now have a bid from the New York Game Board to run Dipcon XX, either at Origins (which may be in Baltimore) or at NYCone 2 (apparently a N.Y.-local con which I haven't heard of). The Houston contingent is ALREADY making plans for a 1988/Dipcon XXI bid.

I have received NO interested comments on Charter amendments, so I've decided not to spend my money and yours on printing proposals. These include specifying methods of succession (?) for the Committee, providing for an ongoing Dipcon monetary fund, and (again) rotation. Now, somebody is sure to write and say, "You have to open public discussion on these amendments." But I have and nobody has discussed, so I'll leave it to the convention attendees.

I do want your input!

Some last-minute news--Ken Peel will be printing and distributing this, so we can get it to you sooner.

Believe me (as I beat a dead horse) we'd love to hear from you. We have to go to the Dipcon Society with recommendations on how to amend the Charter and how to spend the tourney fees, but we'd rather not have to decide all by ourselves. That's our job but your help would enable us to do it better.

Respectfully, Pete Gaughan

LESS MERRY PEOPLE: I won't be there.
I will be at ORIGINS in LA from
July 3 to 6. (I hear Baltimore will host
ORIGINS '87)

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

TEL. #: _____ Total enclosed: \$ _____

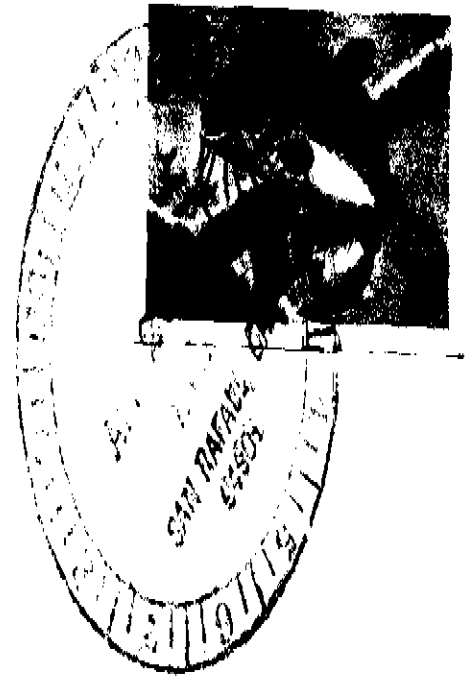
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "MARYCON," AND MAIL TO:

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.

Howzabout making ORIGIUS 87/
ATLANTICON the site for the '87
DIPCON? Then I may actually show
up...

DON DEL GRANDE
142 ELISEO DRIVE
GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1339



LARRY PEGRY
P.O. BOX 8416
SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

FIRST CLASS MAIL