

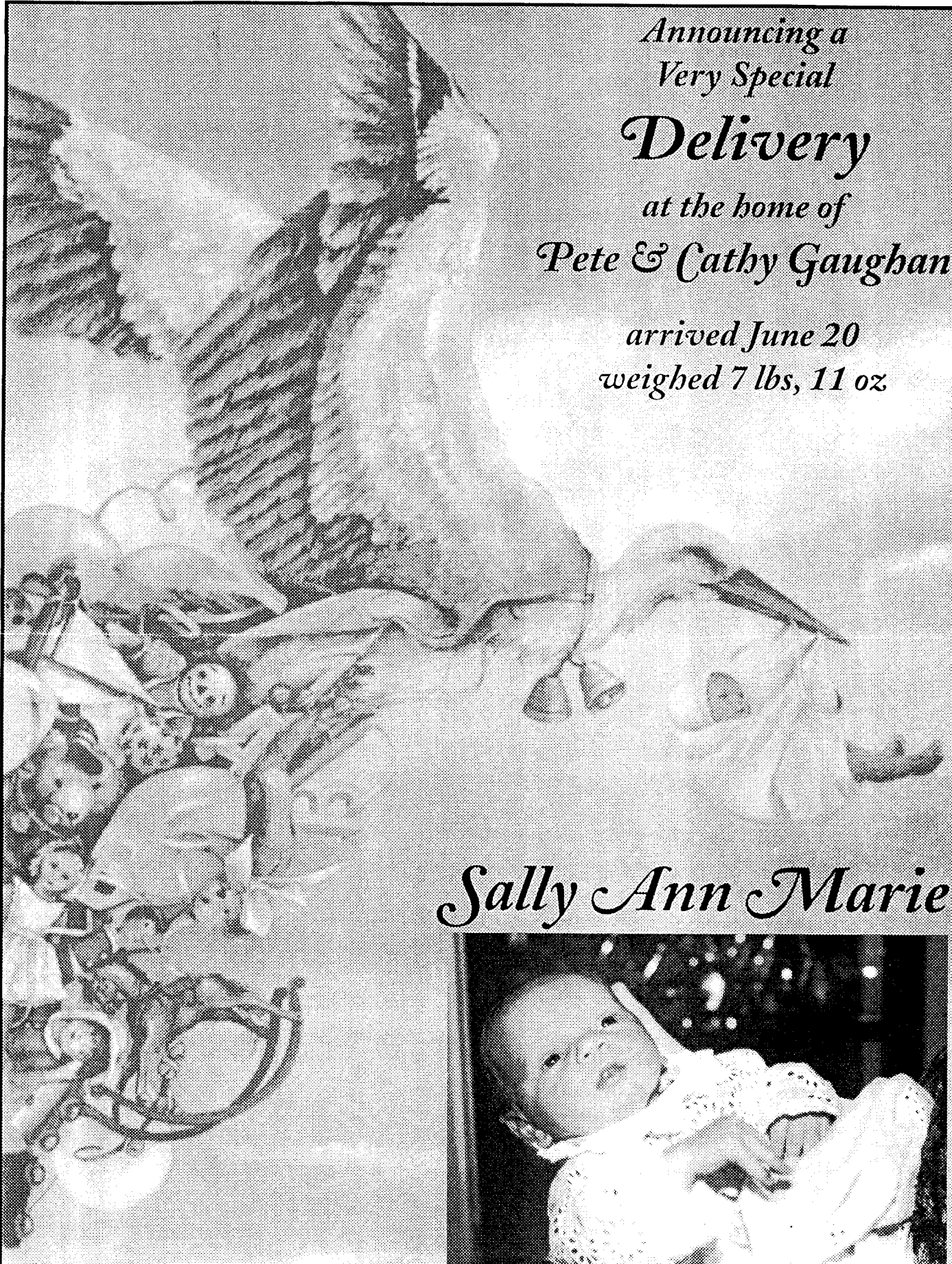
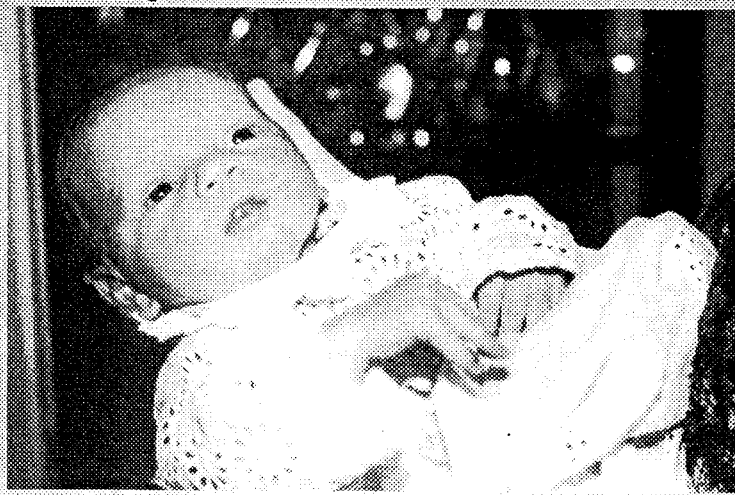
*Announcing a
Very Special*

Delivery

*at the home of
Pete & Cathy Gaughan*

*arrived June 20
weighed 7 lbs, 11 oz*

Sally Ann Marie



AMONG THE TREES

by Pete Gaughan

The baby is here.

Sally Ann Marie Gaughan (Sally Ann is her first name) was born Tuesday, June 20, 1995; 8:45 pm PDT, after nine hours in the hospital and only twenty minutes of hard pushing by Cathy.

It was wonderful, it was the greatest stress I've ever faced, it was a worrying week, it was wonderful. Those who don't want the lowdown on labor, delivery and babies can skip this column—and several more in the future months.

Cathy woke up Tuesday at 4:30 with what felt like gas pains. When they came back, 15 minutes apart, she knew otherwise, but didn't wake me up—she told me when I woke up at 7:30. By 9:00 we were sitting around timing contractions, which had gotten harder and about ten minutes apart.

We were at the hospital by noon, and spent the afternoon enduring Cathy's regular pains. She progressed well until about 4pm, when she was dilated to 8 cm. Then the contractions became more draining—Cathy hadn't had any rest between contractions at all, so her tolerance disappeared. But her water still hadn't broken, so the midwife broke it and found there was meconium (fetal poop) in the fluid. This triggered a lot more medical intervention (IV, internal monitor) than we wanted, since if the baby breathes in meconium it's at high risk for pneumonia.

Cathy worked for two hours, then we found that she was only dilated to 6cm, so we were both tense and worried about whether she could have the baby at all.

Around 6:30 we finally had her get a shot of Nubain, a painkiller but not a major block. She was able to calm down emotionally, and rest (nearly fall asleep!) between pains. Also, a nurse was able to convince her of something I couldn't: to use the LaMaze breathing pattern she was supposed to go into in the last stages of labor.

I split to relax a bit and get dinner—her aunt and my mom were with her off and on all day—and when I returned she was already pushing hard, having turned around and dilated completely. Within a couple of contractions we were wheeling her across the aisle into a delivery room, and within a half-dozen more the baby was born—all white and still. The midwife quickly cut the cord and moved the baby to a pediatrician in the corner of the room, who pumped her lungs and stomach before she could cry. It took several nerve-wracking minutes for her to move, and to gain any color, turning pink by ten minutes. (In fact, it took a few minutes to get one of the nurses to tell us whether she was a boy or girl!)

I followed Sally Ann as she was delivered to the Intensive Care Nursery and immediately put on pure oxygen. She had cardiopulmonary and skin-temp monitors taped on and a fiber optic on her toe to measure her blood oxygen content! Mom recovered overnight in the hospital, and although she was offered the chance to stay another night (considering her girl was going to be staying) she decided she could relax better at home, in her own bed and away from all the other moms who had their babies in their rooms.

We spent Wednesday through Friday visiting two or three times a day to the ICN; a couple of times the staff tried to wean Sally Ann off of oxygen only to have

her blood O₂ drop. Finally, on Friday morning they were able to let her breath room air, and at the same time get past several other steps so we could finally hold her and she could take oral feedings instead of IVs. Cathy had a chance to put her to the breast a couple of times on Friday, and all her other feedings were expressed breast milk.

Saturday morning we took a class in infant CPR offered by our HMO, then went directly over to visit. We had hoped all week that she could get off of antibiotics and phototherapy (on top of and unrelated to everything else, she was slightly jaundiced!), and sure enough she was ready to be discharged.

The short story of her problems is very simple; like about 20% of babies, she had a hard time figuring out how to switch from a non-breathing, placental-circulation system, to using her lungs and her own heart. She was clearly stressed somehow in labor—we have no idea how or why—and the precautions taken against her aspirating meconium also wound up cushioning her against her struggle to learn to breathe.

But she is now home, and we were able to spend several days learning all the strange things we would have learned, but four days late. For instances:

- Sally Ann was originally a very sleepy, quiet, lazy baby. Her day is mainly spent sleeping, and it was difficult at first to wake her to feed. On the other hand, she had been on intravenous glucose for three days, and then on a strict every-three-hours bottle in the ICN, so she

nonroutine 'weight check' appointments. So we started waking baby to be fed every two hours, instead of every three or four—we thought she'd wake herself and cry if she got hungry—and soon she got the idea, to the point that we're both worn out from her crying to be fed every 90 minutes or so!

The worst part is feeding and changing her, holding her through a half an hour of crying while she digests what she's eaten, and then discover that she still won't stop crying. The worst feeling I've ever had is to be angry at a helpless, mindless infant, disappointed that my rocking her doesn't calm her at all. We've had stretches of an hour or more of yelling, waiting for Cathy to get enough milk to quiet Sally Ann down again. Fortunately, Cathy and I get frustrated on opposite schedules, so when one is ready to throw in the towel the other can patiently put up with the screams.

We love her, of course. I was told several times that it was astonishing how suddenly and completely you could love someone who you'd never met and couldn't even talk to, but I couldn't gauge what people meant. I'd had no experience of babies *at all* before this; but holding her and sitting and simply staring at her seems perfectly natural.

Still, she gives us few opportunities to do that. Between feedings it seems she's either sleeping or crying. (At least she does the sleeping at night at the crying during the day!) I've found a sitting-up hold-and-bounce

that calms her down; and sometimes she will lie for all of ten minutes on her blanket, gazing at the wall and gently waving her arms and legs. But then the Stomach Demon returns from its cigarette break and possesses her again, and the movements become the overwound tin soldier, arms and legs flailing in time to the yells.

Groan.

She has Mom's chin, but no dimples in her cheeks yet (she has the traditional newborn chin dimple). She has

dark blue eyes for now, but with babies that can always change. I've kidded that she has my hairline, or my sneeze, but otherwise she's entirely her own person.

She's already disrupted my game playing—Jason, Mark and Clark were going to come over to try out 1856 for the first time, on the night she decided to be born! On the other hand, her timing was excellent: I got *Zine Register* mailed out on Monday morning, and Cathy's aunt Dorothy arrived Monday afternoon. We had a leisurely evening looking at old pictures and swapping stories before labor began.

My father has an entirely new gleam in his eye; he sat outside the labor area all day Tuesday and came hurrying to find me late that night, when he discovered he couldn't visit her without a parent along. Both my folks, my sister and brother and sister-in-law, and Sally's namesake have all visited; for several days all we've done is sit and watch or hold baby. I did manage to fit in a sales call, plus a couple of sightseeing stops with Dorth, who'd never been to S.F. before.

Baby has been an excellent traveller, riding through the Napa Valley to a picnic in Calistoga, and twice to Marin County to visit Nana. (I probably wouldn't have spent \$400 on the air conditioning in the car except for Sally Ann having to ride in it!)

Overall we're off to the usual good start. More, natch, in future issues.

Sometimes I think
life is like a ro-de-o.
The point is to ride
and make it to the bell.

PERELANDRA

issue #130 / July 1995

edited by Pete Gaughan

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probably didn't even know what 'hungry' meant until she came home and slept right through it at first.

- It took her two days at home to really cry hard. At first, when she finally woke up hungry, she whimpered and wriggled, then cried once; after a couple of minutes, she'd cry again a couple of times. It almost seemed her own cries put her back to sleep! But by Monday night we got one of those what-can-you-do yelling sessions that took an hour to solve, so she's more my idea of 'normal' now.

- It took a full day for her to 'get' the idea of sucking a real nipple. I was really tense, worried that she wasn't getting enough to eat, but had to remind myself that not only had she had the easy way with plastic nipples, but also that her first day home was the equivalent of her first day, when normally Mom and baby are both learning to breastfeed. Cathy's four-day headstart had made me expect more than we got.

- Sally Ann came home on the hottest day of the year around here: 108° in Concord! All weekend we had our one little wall air conditioning unit on steady, and more people in the pool than any time all last year.

After all of that, though, things shifted into a more standard new-baby mode. Her first checkup, at two weeks, we discovered she'd lost too much weight—down to 6 lbs 13 oz. The doctor indicated we should pick up her feeding schedule and have her in for a couple of

It's Me Again! #129

by Cathy Gaughan

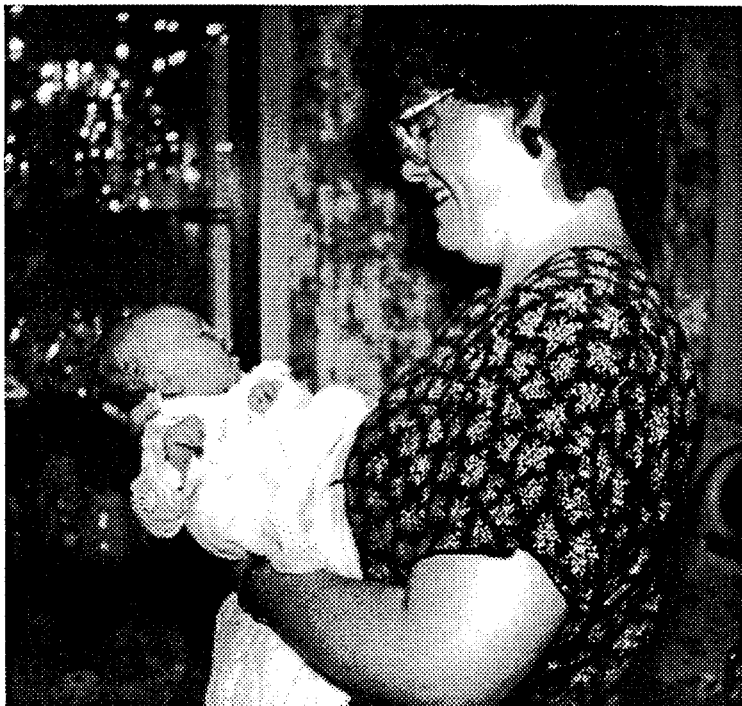
[[editor's note—this is the column I forgot to include lastish!]]

Well, I'm starting my 36th week of pregnancy. I'm quite large. Pete's Mom is having a Baby Shower for me this coming Saturday the 3rd. I've been trying to get the house ready for a baby. You know, kicking Pete out of the spare bedroom that used to be his office. Well, it's now the baby's room. His office has been moved to the kitchen. At first I don't think he was too keen on the idea, but I think he's getting used to it. I love it cause when he's working on the computer I can be in the same room with him. I just hope he doesn't go crazy. We've been moving furniture around making things fit. I still need some stuff for the baby's room, but I am trying to wait until after the shower so I don't duplicate anything.

I'm getting a little anxious for the pregnancy part to be over. I think that's because it's just getting harder and harder to do normal things like walk, or sit for long periods of time, or sleep. Just turning over in bed has become a major project. Pete's been great though because he massages my back and hips and makes them feel much better. We've been quite creative in figuring out satisfying positions while in bed. The main thing I'm still worried about (but we have a class on it June 7th) is breast feeding. I have read many books on the subject, but just can't quite picture how it all comes together. It looks like it will hurt! And I'm not into pain. Hopefully the upcoming class will put my mind at ease. Because I'm pretty sure I was just as nervous about labor and delivery, but the LaMaze classes we're taking have helped me to know more of what to expect. It's just the totally unknown that scares me.

Well, Pete and I had our 8th Anniversary on May 25th. I think we finally passed the honeymoon stage. We did go out for lunch together. But that evening I had a quartet rehearsal and Pete had some guys over to play games. It was really romantic.

Yesterday we went and saw the Mountain Play. It was "Guys and Dolls" this year. It has been going on in Marin County on Mt. Tamalpais for something like 82 years. It's a big outdoor theater on top of the mountain. Pete and I have gone every year since we've lived here. The only difference this year was I am extremely pregnant, so sitting on the rocks (even with blankets and back support) was very uncomfortable after a while. Also my allergies went bonkers. But the play itself was great!



It's Me Again! #130

by Cathy Gaughan

Well, Pete forgot to put my writing in last month! But it's probably OK, since I was just worried mostly about breast feeding. Anyway as I'm writing this Sally Ann is doing her usual screaming in the background. I have fed her, but she seems to like to cry when she's not eating. I know I shouldn't complain, but when do they start to know me as more than a milk factory?

I'm very happy to have her at home. It was a real scare not being able to bring her home with me on the day after she was born. But she's doing fine now. When things don't go the way you think they should it's really hard to deal with. I was afraid to go and look at her while I was in the hospital by myself. I didn't know what to expect and was afraid that she might die. So I didn't see her until Pete came to see me the next day. Well, I had seen her for a few seconds in the delivery room before they whisked her away. I didn't really like the hospital stay because the lady next to me snored and she was also able to get her baby in the middle of the night to feed it. It just made me sad because I couldn't have Sally Ann. So, I called the ICU nursery and asked how she was doing.

My labor was nothing like I had imagined it might be either. Let's just say it was HELL!!!! But delivery was actually much easier and faster than I thought. Only about 20 minutes of pushing. One thing that I remember so vividly is while I was pushing everyone in the room is yelling, "push, push". Suddenly I hear a deep resonate voice yell, "PUSH". For a moment I thought maybe God was ordering me to push, but it was Dr. Brown [[the pediatrician who was waiting to attend Sally Ann]]. He hadn't said anything any earlier so I didn't even realize he was in the room let alone telling me to push. Anyway it must have been what I needed to hear because the next push got the head out.

I know probably most of you (especially John Galt) don't want to hear all this baby stuff. But right now it's all that's on my mind. I have gone to my Sweet Adeline rehearsal the past two weeks. It was very nice to get away from the house for a while. Life as I had known it will never be the same, but I hope that I can adapt. I am starting to figure out how to live on less sleep.

Pete has been just wonderful. When I have my hormonal mood swings, he's been there to see me though. He has changed more diapers than I have. He seems to be better at calming Sally Ann down especially when I am about to lose it.

Congratulations to Rich Irving on guessing the due date. I'm glad at least someone else had her coming early. My guess (of course I didn't enter the contest) was June 21st. Rich's was June 19th, so Sally Ann came on the 20th. I can't imagine having gone any longer. My Aunt Dorothy arrived here from Texas the day before she was born and stayed until July 3rd. She was a big help most of the time. She did go sight-seeing on her own in San Francisco and fell and injured her right arm, so I felt like I needed to take care of her for a while, but she was finally able to hold the baby again after about two days.

Well, I hope you all don't get too bored with all the baby talk. Catch ya next month!!!

Later,

Cathy

KAIDER III / 1995?? Diplomacy

Capture The Flag

by Harry Andruschak

I wonder how many reading this have ever played an actual game of "Capture The Flag"? I did, back when I was in the boy scouts mumble mumble years ago, and went to those 2 week long summer camps. For those of you who have not, it is a game of two teams playing over a huge field. Each team has a flag. Each team tries to "capture" the other team's flag and protect their own flag. Rules vary as to whether a person needs to be tagged, stopped, or even wrestled to the ground to be captured.

Well, we now have a fun computer game that simulates this experience. "Capture The Flag" can be found in many shareware CDs, and on many BBS systems for downloading. The graphics are neat, the controls are easy, there is an ongoing help mode, and all in all this is one easy game to learn to play, if not to win.

The shareware version gives you one computer opponent, one map, and one scenario that has 7 members on each team. It didn't take much to convince me to buy the registered version. That has 8 different computer opponents, 40 maps, and 200 scenarios. You have 10 other options, so the total number of different setups and games is substantial enough to avoid boredom. If you like strategic games with minimal luck and no need for superb eye-hand coordination on a joystick, the registration fee is worth the cost.

The Shareware version has one computer opponent, Grant, who splits the forces about 50-50 between those who go off running to find and grab the enemies' flag and those who stay behind for defense. The registered version gives you 7 more players. Wildman throws 100% of his team into the attack, Patton throws about 2/3 into the attack, Grant is 50-50, McClellan is almost 2/3 defense, and Stonewall is almost 100% defense with 1 or 2 attackers. And then there is Lee, who mixes his strategies, is unpredictable, and tends to be the strongest computer opponent.

Your players have 10, 20, or 30 movement points per turn. You can have the computer set up both sides, or do it yourself. I just let the computer do it and regard it is an extra challenge to correct any mistakes in placement.

Tip #1: In scenarios where some of your units have 30 movement points, and the rest do not, some of the 30s will be held back in defense. Forget that. Send them forward into hostile territory to find the flag. Pull your 20s back close to the flag for tight defense, and your 10s as a scouting screen further away. The 10s spot the approaching team players, and the 20s intercept and capture.

Tip #2 concerns the 30s. As they search for the opponent's flag, keep sending them to the rear. If playing Team Blue, send them to the west, and if Team Red send them to the east. Sooner or later they will get intercepted. If they are not captured, don't stay in the area and be a looky-loo. The flag may or may not be in the area, but if it is, more defenders will show up.

Instead, keep moving all the way to the rear. The computer tends to have an out-of-sight = out-of-mind attitude if it sees your runners moving away from its flag. Once you reach the edge, you can start coming back on your search patterns. I have often been able to sneak up on the flag from the rear whilst all the guards are looking the other way. Of course, I also advise placing some of your 10s to the rear of your flag to watch out for the computer pulling off this stunt. And if you face Wildman or Patton, you may have to pull more of your team back into the defense line.

Produced by Carr Software, PO Box 3919, Merced CA 95344-1919. Credit card orders: 1-800-487-9231. Cost of the registered version is \$33 postpaid.

Held Over

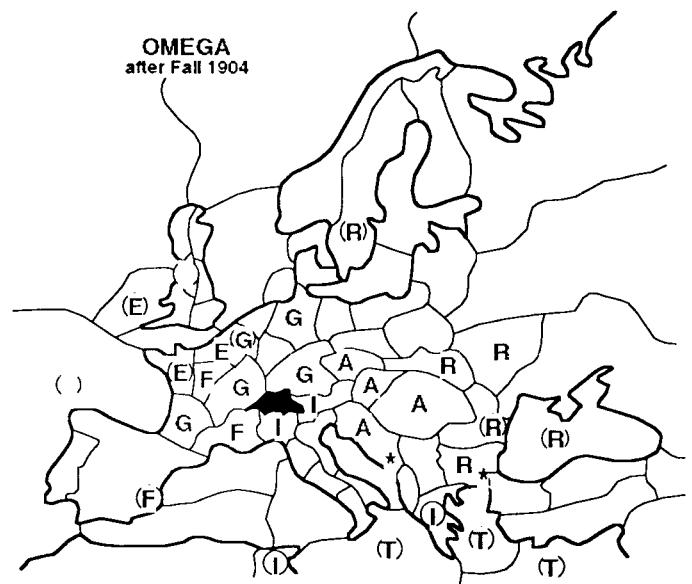
Austria (Kevin Wilson): a vie, a bud, f tri.
England (Paul Gardner): f lon, f edi, a lvp.
France (Gerry Paulson): a par, a mar, f bre.
Germany (Dennis Lynch Greg Ellis): a mun, f kie, a ber.
Italy (Robert Greene): f nap, a ven, a rom.
Russia (Tim Goodwin): f stp/sc, a war, a mos, f sev.
Turkey (Nelson Heintzman): a con, a smy, f ank.

Deadline for Spring 1901 is July 31.

Two people failed to show up for this game, so for a while I thought I was going to have send it back to the Game Openings list. Dennis Lynch resigned, on the day of the deadline as a matter of fact, without ever sending orders. Another player didn't get orders in until a week after the deadline.

Calling a Spring 1901 standby is a pain, but I'm going to do it; I've told Greg in advance what's happening and he agreed. I'm very sorry to keep you all waiting, but my houserules do say that I won't start a game without seven players. I *urge* you all to negotiate quickly with Greg so he'll have a chance to play on a level field.

Dennis Lynch is a jerk. His subscription balance is confiscated so the other players who got orders in on time can each get this issue free to repay them for the delay.



OMEGA / 1994D

Autumn Retreats: Austrian f bul/sc; Italian a tri.
Winter 1904: France builds; Germany builds; Italy builds; Russia builds; Turkey disbands.

Held Over

Austria (Michael Gonsalves): a tri, a bud, a boh, a vie, f con.
England (Bob Acheson): a pic, f mid, f bre, f iri.
France (Jack Garrett): a mar, a par, f lvp, f spa/sc.
Germany (Andy York): a kie, a mun, a bur, a gas, f bel.
Italy (Stan Johnson—note COA in Cast List): a tyo, a pie, f gre, f tun, f nap.
Russia (Doug Kent): a ukr, a gal, a bul, f bla, f rum, f swe.
Turkey (Frank Wranovic Eben Kurtzman): f eas, f ion, f aeg.

Eben, would you take over as Turkey? Thanks—you've got two free issues as a reward.

Look, I only have two sets of orders for this game, although all but one of you said you would continue to play it out. Here's the deal: by next deadline I want orders from all seven players, or I will take a vote on whether to abandon the game where three 'yes's will pass. If you said you'd play why not get moves in also? <boggle boggle> Bob Acheson and Doug Kent are the only two original players left after the *first* time this game was orphaned. If both of them want to drop it, it will take a unanimous vote of the other five to continue.

Deadline for Spring 1905 is July 31.

The Roar of the Greasepaint

(the letter column)

Um, yes, I still have email—I left that AND my phone number out of lastish. I also omitted Cathy's column entirely! Erp! Blame pregnancy for making me scatter-brained.

Tim Stabosz

Interesting to see you mention Bly & Iron John. I tried to read this one a year or so ago myself. I wanted to be able to like it, but I just couldn't. Bly is a rambling poet. Someone who'll give you a delicious morsel every 50 pages, and the rest is just ethereal fog. Still, I was impressed with what he had to say when I caught a Bill Moyers interview of him a couple years ago, so I still have an affection for the man. I think he is fairly clear about the problem he is trying to solve... it's just that he doesn't look at it as some kind of "if then else" type problem, Pete. He's trying to help men get back in touch with their souls, or in any case a more real and true sense of identity. That the history of myths has critical lessons to us "modern men" is without doubt. To reflect on the rituals and rites that men engaged in together throughout the ages, the importance of the "initiation" of boys into manhood, etc... these are not insignificant notions, Pete. Bly is certainly onto something... the only problem I have with him is that (when he writes at least), he isn't honed. Many of the long stories he gets into are just plain boring.

Interesting to see your mention of *Upstart's* folding. I had gotten a couple sample copies of the zine, and have seen Garrett in print elsewhere. I have almost never seen someone who was so judgemental, hostile, critical, insensitive, and shaming as Garrett. I hope he has grown up.

I guess that's all for now. Let us know how your father is doing. And, let me know whether Cathy has delivered yet! Oh, I really like the name "Sally Ann Marie". It rolls off the tongue in a way that seems to evoke the notion of "clean", "decent", and "beloved". I like the pairing of something more traditionally "humane/soft/vulnerable" (Sally Ann) with something so "refined/dignified" (Marie). It makes for a wonderful combination. A fine choice, I say.

[[Thanks for your notes on Robert Bly—I've never seen him, but it sounds like Joseph Campbell—uninspiring as a writer (Campbell is too academic), but a fascinating and sometimes animated speaker. I might track down a tape of Bly, I like the sound of him. If you ever get the chance to hear Kenneth Pike or Robert Longacre (linguists who focus on folktales) do so, they are similar visionaries.

[[I don't dispute that modern man (male or female) could learn a lot from our own folklore. I claim that Bly has gone public in a major way before ever identifying what we can learn, and whether it is something worth learning.

[[Garret has been out of the hobby for quite a while; I was just making the 'official' pronouncement.

Dennis Lynch

I regret to say that I have to resign (if I haven't already been kicked out) from Kaider III. I'm going to concentrate on gunboat no-press dip and online dip. Many apologies for not resigning sooner.

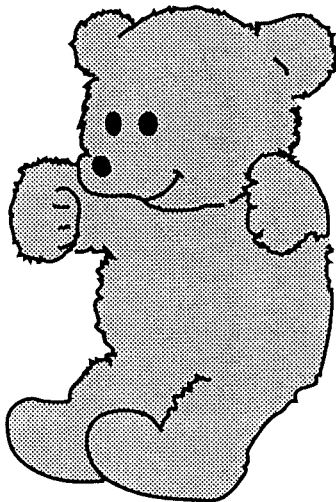
Lance Anderson

Thanks for your kind inquiry as to my whereabouts on the latest *Pere*. I regret that my situation has changed for the worse and I am now working two jobs to make ends meet while attending school part time. As a consequence, I will be unable to continue in the games that I am a part of in *Pere*. Please allow the standbys you selected to assume the positions as I felt that the persons chosen would be good adversaries for my opponents. I would like to continue to receive *Pere* so please convert my sub from C to per issue and I will send \$\$ directly.

Hope the pregnancy is progressing well and am looking forward to the announcement of a new Gaughan any day now. Best to you and Cathy.

[[Readers: please compare and contrast the two statements. I blew up at the first, and was sadly disappointed but understanding at the second. Another player started to resign this month for what I considered inappropriate reasons, and I talked him out of it at least temporarily.

[[It's been a long time since this zine was without Lance playing in something. Get back soon, my friend.]]



Richard Weiss

Best of luck. It's hard. It's wonderful. It's the greatest growth experience that can help lead towards wisdom/maturity. I have faith.

Rikko is hot-cited. I remember that "Rikki-Tikki-Teddy-Poo." Geez, was it only that short a time ago.

[[Yeah, NovaCon was only four months back but I never got my review finished for publication! The Rikko Bear now occupies a (large) seat of honor in the nursery.]]

As to Railway Rivals, I'm not particularly keen to play on the Auckland map, but I think it's a visual presentation issue and that a teensy bit of the upper-right rules were off my page. I'm happy to play anything and Auckland is OK.

Marcelo Triunfo

Hello again—regards to you and Cathy, and your father! My thoughts are with you in these times; I trust that you will be the bearers of glad tidings sometime soon.

As I mentioned previously, my brother's family has been expecting another baby in mid-July. Early Sunday morning (6/25), Falcony took Lourdes to the hospital because she was having contractions, and they left Zak with a neighbor. When they were able to go home, I went to stay with them for most of the day, so I could take care of my nephew in case another trip to the hospital became necessary. The day's developments left us all expecting a delivery by the end of the week, and my mother's gotten off jury duty to take care of Zak in the meantime. But as of last night, Lourdes has stopped having contractions, so the situation has slipped into uncertainty.

[[It astonishes me how common this is, even more so considering nobody ever mentioned the possibility of having real contractions for an extended period as much as six weeks before the due date. Cathy didn't go through it, but three mothers of the six in our LaMaze class did, and although they were stopped with drugs because they were too early, none of the medicos thought anything of them going ten days or more with regular pains!

[[May Lourdes not be subjected to any more pain

that it takes to have a healthy baby!]]

Jim Bailey

First off, congratulations to Cathy and yourself! I heard from Rich Irving that the DAY finally came. :-) I'm sure we'll hear all about it whenever you find enough energy to get *Pere* out. :-) Put priorities where they belong, though, I don't mind waiting if that's what you need.

... I'll let you get back to your daughter, Daddy (does it sound right yet?). If you ever need lots of junk toys, I'm your source! Seriously, I try to steer people to classic toys like blocks, dolls that don't go burp, and cars that you have to supply your own "vrooom" to. That's really hard when everything is now tied to the latest fad or promotional tie-in. I'll have to give you a nice long letter on the subject closer to Xmas.

[[I like your toy ideas! Be sure to let us know what toys kids and adults can enjoy together.]]

Dave Schlosser

But Pete, even if the Democratic Party's been losing strength in the south for years, I find it highly suspicious that the Congressmen from there waited until after the election in a year the GOP took a majority. (The same for Ben Campbell in Colorado.) The point is that the California GOP is acting like a bunch of spoiled brats—"He won't do what we want him to so we'll make sure he can't play." And now they're trying to work the same stuff with Doris Allen (the new, GOP, speaker) for daring to work with the Democrats. If the voters don't like it, fine. But what business is it of the representatives from other districts? They may campaign if the recall is beyond the Pale in my view.

[[You're quite right. I hadn't looked at these party switches this way and I was wrong.

[[For those from out of state, Doris Allen is a Repo Assemblywoman. Willie Brown is the Ass. from S.F. and has been Speaker of the Assembly for seventeen years; last November we elected 40 Reps and 39 Demos, so Jim Brulte should have taken over as Speaker. BUT! Brown made sure that one Repo (who simultaneously won election to the upper house, the Senate) was disqualified, and got one other to vote for him. Brown knew his time was up—but first he wanted to change the rules to the coming Repo Speaker wouldn't have as much power as he did, and then he wanted to make the GOP agree to certain terms (like committees being 50-50!) before he banded the job over.

[[Well—after a special election made it 40-39 again (we have yet another vacancy at this point!) Brown looked around for a GOP member with a lot of grudges against the Repo leadership, and found that in Doris Allen; Willie and Doris had worked well together in the past. So with 39 Demo votes plus her own, Allen is now the Speaker and Brown's rule changes are in effect. She won't last past the next special election, but Brown gets out of the way in time to avoid the blame for this summer's upcoming budget fiasco, and Allen gets the perks and power of the Speakership that her party would've never allowed her, even temporarily.

Rich Irving

I got transferred again! I heard rumors that this might happen, so I'm not entirely surprised. My new location is in San Jose (the big substation just off 101 south of town, Metcalf Sub). At least it's only a 40 minute commute, and I don't actually have to get into heavy traffic.

On Railway Rivals, basically any map except Texas is fine. I'm starting a game in *Rambling Way* using that particular map, so I don't think Richard Weiss, Eric Brosius or Andy York will want it either. On the Auckland map, it looks interesting. It's really hard for

me to judge without playing on it, but I'd go for it. But anything else is fine.

Eric Brosius

Here're my comments on the map choice:

France is tolerable, but I don't think it's a very good map. I haven't seen the new south-central US map. The Auckland map appears to be unsatisfactory because Auckland is just too important. I'd like to play on TX/NM, which is best with a lot of players (i.e., 7 or 8.)

Andy York

The map you sent for RRivals was just fine. I wouldn't mind using it; or any other you come up with.

Brendan Whyte

I played the NZ RR map friday night, and it was not too bad. The guy starting in Auckland won convincingly, with Hamilton 2nd, and me in Thames third. Four player or 5 should balance it out a bit more, probably three starting in Hamilton is better than three in separate cities. A straight line Auckland to Rotorua certainly paid off for Auckland's player.

Has anyone done maps of the Baltic states or Germany (east, west, prewar or reunited)? Nigeria would be good too, and the new Yugoslav republics, esp Slovenia, Czech and Slovak republics too, and Poland, again, prewar or modern. Russia pre WWI would be interesting, esp now Bill Brown has done a USSR map. How about Ukraine and Belarus?

[[I'm not versed in Railway Rivals lore—perhaps the mavens out there could respond?]]

Doug Brown

Thanks for the Auckland map. I'd love to play it! I've played most of the others (or all of 'em) and new maps are great fun. Some questions though: Is Auckland just a special destination and what are all those dots around it? Are dots at bottom all Wellington? Those little "fingers" around Glenbrook are not crossable—right?

I'm in the middle of an Alaskan vacation and have no paper. Also little time to write or game. We've seen grizzly bears, moose, caribou, fox, dall sheep, eagles, and more. Mt. McKinley was clear on the days we were heer, offering a truly breathtaking view! It's been clear three days this year, so we were extremely lucky! It's the tallest mountain in the world, measured from base [2000 ft elevation] to peak [20,320] almost straight up.

[[Brendan and others will challenge you on the tallest-peak bit, but I think you mean in sheer ascent (Mauna Loa is underwater; Mt. Everest rise from an already-high range at its base).]]

[[Okay, I'm convinced—the Auckland map it is. Auckland is not a destination, but it is a start city. I think the dots SE of Auckland represent both the legal endpoints for special run #1,2 AND the hexes where Auckland starters are limited to 4 built spaces—right Brendan? All the dots at the bottom are 'Connection for Wellington' (Wellington being well south off the map. And yes, since there are no crossing marked over the Glenbrook estuaries, they can't be built across.]]

Jim Burgess

[[on kids]] Once they become self-sufficient it is a whole different ballgame. Since mine are "steps", I never experienced the "baby" stage. Take advantage of this stage and each stage as it appears. And I'm not jealous, I'm really happy for you! Again, the selfish personal statement wonders (a) if I still will get your zine (b) whether I still will like reading it. But you *know* that I support doing zines as purely selfish endeavours, if other people like them, then great. If you do that, than I believe you'll keep publishing and I might even enjoy reading it. If it goes away then I surely won't be able to

enjoy reading it... but I didn't want to talk about all that, because I really did want to wish you all the best of health, happiness, and family fun.

[[And I replied: OTOH, I can picture this one growing up to be "the girlfriend you wish he'd marry". I keep projecting my best traits and Cathy's onto this mindless, self-obsessed little shape.]]

But of course, it's much more fun than projecting the negative ones. I think Charlotte's kids are neat adults and I do better than Charlotte. But of course, it's much more fun than projecting the negative ones. I think Charlotte's kids are neat adults and I do better than Charlotte at not getting too worried about the negative traits of both of their parents showing up. Nevertheless, even Charlotte is damn pleased at how they are doing... especially since they BOTH have dynamite girl friends at the moment.

Tim Goodwin

I can't find Bruce [McIntyre]'s address in 'Tonight's Cast', but I have an answer for his round-robin schedule dilemma. So, if you could pass this on to him, I appreciate it.

[[Cast List only shows non-Gunboat players. McBruce is at 6636 Dow Avenue #203, Burnaby, British Columbia V5B 3C9 Canada.]]

Bruce,

As I understand your conditions for setting up the 13 team round-robin schedule, you wanted to have each team play in exactly two 3-ways over the six week period. This is impossible. If there is one 3-way each week times six weeks that is a total of 18 teams that will be participating in 3-ways. Yet, if each team plays in two 3-ways that is 2 times 13 equals 26 teams that need to play in a 3-way. 26 does not equal 18. Even if you varied the number of 3-ways each week you could not fulfill your requirement that each team play in exactly two 3-ways, because 26 is not divisible by three. I would be very surprised if it was *not* possible to have each team play in *at most* two 3-way matches.

By the way, the grid published in *Perelandra* has eight teams (ABDFHJLM) playing in only one 3-way. So, if you were using that as your starting point you were never going to get an answer.

Daniel Wartko

Just checked to see if you had been in (fingering your account) and got the message about your daughter. Congratulations!

[[For these and many similar comments from others, thank you all!]]

I've got a new address that's a little shorter: wartko@worldweb.net. My official address (for sending moves & press) will remain:

Daniel_J._Wartko@csgi.com

[[And then there's Daniel's signature file:]]

"I don't want to achieve immortality through my work. I want to achieve immortality through not dying."
- woody allen

Matthew Lahtinen

Well, summer is here on this side of the range. For those not in this area, it snowed a week and a half ago (June 17) here in Reno. Just a few flakes, but it was cold.

You may be right about baseball, but the Red Sox are in first, so I'm happy for now.

Sincere there is a lot of talking about politics, I'll throw in my two cents. I have always regarded them as kids in a sandbox, throwing sand at each other and yelling "Mine!"

Vince Springer

I was thinking about starting a small zine next fall that would concentrate on diplomacy variants. It would

include regular dip games but the majority would be variants. Think it would fly? I am not as exposed to the hobby as someone like you (I sub to only 3 zines) and from what I know it appears that interest in dip variants seems to be waning. Think the zine would be a shot in the arm for dip play or would it be a waste of time? I value your opinion on this. Feel free to print it in your letter column to open it up for discussion. Thanks.

[[I think it's a good idea, provided you have small goals—three games and four pages before you commit to start more games, say. And definitely see a few more zines before you take the plunge. But didn't you say something last month about cutting back Dip activity while you're teaching on the reservation?]]

Matt Heppe

I'll probably be sending updated orders in a few days but I want to make sure this [[email]] works first. I'll probably also send something for the Greasepaint. Thanks for your support in last month's zine. I really must have lit a fire in Steve McKinnon's shorts. Too bad his urban renewal remark blows up in his face. Last month I completed a course in teaching English as a Second Language and I have just been assigned my first student. We have a large Vietnamese/Indian/Latino community in our area (for the most part they work in meat packaging) and I will be tutoring my student two to four hours per week. Volunteerism is another subject I would like to write about.

[[Regarding Steven McKinnon!...]]

Steven McKinnon

No, no, no, no, no. See, the way it's supposed to work is this: I write in and you print it and everyone says, "My Lord! How absolutely fantastic! McKinnon has laid out the solution before our very eyes. Bravo, bravo. Bra...vo!"

Essentially you distilled what I had said down to what I meant. The Urban Renewal crack wasn't meant to be below the belt. I really mean that those who feel local life sucks should go ahead and pitch in. It wasn't meant to be "yeah, you complain but I bet you don't do shit."

Priorities are it, and I can control the addiction. I don't care how many Raiders' games are on Monday Night Football. I am not watching abc.

Now, a bit of fun. Perhaps you'd like to hear my recollections of Brad Wilson's ShoreCon?

This event has the grand distinction of having lured me out of my pit to the sunny clime of Avalon, on the South Jersey shore. This is no small feat!

Extra thanks should go to David Wang for providing the urging and planning necessary to move my lazy t.v.-addicted ass. "There is only one thing worse than going to Shorecon, and that is going by yourself." Bravo, Dave, Bra...vo!

I journeyed to MetroPark station in North Jersey, where Dave picked me up. We then sped down south at a rate of knots fueled by Dave's leaden foot, and a good deal of talk about all the important things in life; to wit: babes, sci-fi, babes, babes, and babes.

Forewarned by Dave that most at the con would be Philadelphia Flyers fans I wore my Albany River Rats (Devils affiliate) jersey. So the first people I meet are Paul Kenny and Sandy Styles, a Hershey Bears (Flyers affiliate) fan. Such famous DipDom names. Most were at the beach, but Steve Courtemanche and Robert Sacks were gaming and (believe it or not, it *does* live) Jack McHugh napped heavily on the famous sleeping couch of Shorecon.

Day one began, after prime beach time ended, with a Dip game that Dave and I sat out to watch the Devils *crush* the Flyers 4-1. Dip ended in a suspension, with Brad (England), Tom Swider (Austria), France and

Tuskey about equal. Ken Samuel's Russia dawdled, Italy was gone, and Steve C., after an astounding Sp'01 A Mun-Tyo, was gone as Germany.

Dave then kicked four of our asses at Trivial Pursuit before he and I ran away with a "Dirty Words" victory. What a rude game. Dave must overcome his shyness at such use of English.

The king game of the weekend started up at 2am or so and ran to 5 or so, picking up the needed 8 players as it went. This was "The Great Dalmuti", a simple social-card game by M:tG's Richard Garfield. Players are ranked each hand by how fast they rid themselves of their cards, and lording it over your inferiors is half the game. Life is not fair, and neither is "The Great Dalmuti". This should be a staple at housecons at least.

After an attempt to watch the sunrise was thwarted by haze on the horizon, I managed about two hours of sleep before young Erin's breakfast revelry roused me. "Time enough for sleep in the Grave!" And on to day two.

There was lots of beaching (not by me, though) and I learned Boomtown. I lugged into victory, though, and apparently was a bit full of myself. Later, Brad ceded his spot in a second game to me, and everyone dumped on my neighbourhoods. I alone finished with a negative score. Thanks, Brad!

Further highlights were me winning TP, and Brad smashing everyone when he, too, played. There was a trip to the Boardwalk, me in a New Jersey Devils jersey and cap that got a split reaction from other boardwalkers (Devils won 5-2), breakfasts at a local joint, and me essentially enjoying meeting and talking with lots of folk. I finally got young Bobby C. to talk to me without him running for the hills, by the last day. I want to thank everyone for a very enjoyable time, especially Dave for getting me there and Brad for his hospitality.

Oh! And I got to see Janeway in her underwear again!

Rich Irving

My LAN system at work has been down for a few days (and thus no Internet). I haven't had any luck with any type mail at all lately, snail or E

Congratulations to you and Cathy on the birth of Sally Ann Marie Gaughan! I'm glad to hear both mother and baby are doing well. How is the daddy doing?

The AMAZING thing about Presidential elections is that they take forever and the candidates spend all of their time talking about substantive issues, like Oliver Stone's latest movie, and not wasting the voters attention with unimportant things like the budget and the direction of US foreign policy.

For those who haven't heard or cared, Senator Bob Dole has said in several speeches about the immorality of such Hollywood movies, such as "Natural Born Killers" and "Priest", corrupting America, while meanwhile praising "True Lies" and "Die Hard" (which star well-known Republicans Arnold Schwarzenegger & Bruce Willis.) as "fine family pictures". (Notwithstanding the fact that all of these films have R ratings.) Other than the blatant hypocrisy of opposing violence in movies (which because, in the end, he can never do anything about because of the First Amendment) but supporting lifting the ban on assault rifles, Dole has it completely wrong on at least three counts.

1) The "Family" movies he's praising show violence in an extremely unrealistic manner. The bad guys are completely evil with no redeeming qualities whatsoever, so we don't feel any concern for them when they are mowed down. Bullets and bombs fly everywhere but no good guys or innocent people are ever hurt. When the bad guys are slain by the hundreds they simply die—no disgusting gore or pain. Violence is OK so long as they don't show the real emotional & physical pain it causes.

2) The films Dole is attacking take a look at serious issues whereas the films he is praising are simply for entertainment. "NBK" is about how the media makes celebrities out of brutal murders, a very relevant topic, given the everlasting OJ Simpson trial, the Menendez Brothers, and Ted Bundy. The violence is intentionally shocking to point out how brutal these criminals really are. You can certainly argue that Oliver Stone was more successful at glorifying crime than making his point about the media, but he still does make his point. "Priest" is about homosexuality in the Catholic priesthood. Although I don't think that this is rampant, it is foolish to say that these issues shouldn't ever be explored. I challenge anyone to find any issues in "True Lies" or "Die Hard", which are both ostensibly about terrorism, but neither use the issue for anything but to provide a handy set of villains for the good guy to shoot at or blow up.

3) The movies that Dole attacked were seen by relatively few people. Neither "NBK" or "Priest" was a major hit—especially when compared to the "True Lies" or "Die Hard" (which each grossed over \$100 million). Since Bob's recommended movies were both much more popular and espouse violence (without showing it's effects), obviously they would have a much more negative affect on American morality (if they have any effect at all!), than a movie seen by almost no one. (I wonder how many times (OK City bomber) Timothy McVeigh saw "Die Hard".) Also I have to believe that very few children or teenagers saw the films that Dole held up as his example. They were made and marketed for an adult audiences. I think a lot more kids will see such violent "children's" movies like "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers", "Street Fighter" or "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" because they are targeted for them.

This is not to say that any of the movies I mentioned are appropriate for children. Of course they aren't, but that for each parent to decide. I just have a problem with politicians who have no moral backbone of their own (Anything you say, Rev. Robertson!) limiting my choices because someone thinks something might affect their children. And then being extremely inconsistent at that!

A few years ago when Martin Scorsese made "The Last Temptation of Christ". There was a protest by the local churches where a picketer said, "I am protesting this movie because they don't portray Christ as normal person." That's a rather odd position for a Christian to take—that He was the Son of God, but deep down Jesus was just normal guy. I think everyone who is not Christian recognizes that Jesus was most certainly an extraordinary person, even if they don't believe he was the Messiah. (Considering the movie's theme was Jesus' ultimate rejection of temptation (in this case, the temptation of sex.), their protests seem even more hollow.)

I just wonder where these picketers were when Friday the 13th. Part VII came out about the same time. I guess under the hockey mask, Jason (or was it Freddy) went to church every Sunday.

[[You're preaching to the choir here. Tom Tomorrow's comic strip, This Modern World, said it best: "Bob Dole has pinned the blame for all of America's problems... on fictional representations of those problems?"]]

Mike Quist

Just so the surprise does not "do you in" I should warn you that I expect TRCRG to be in the mail this week (hopefully tomorrow—provided I am in a collating mood when I get home tonight—which is open to question.) This will be I hope be a pleasant surprise to the Rail gaming community as I think the outlet is needed. Now that every one thinks the beast is dead, I am refusing to let it die. In fact I am planning to be the first PBM zine published on the Internet World Wide Web.

With any luck at all I expect to have the Home page and the current issue up and running on the web at "http://www.rivercity.com" by the end of the weekend. At the moment all that there is a generic startup file. I expect to keep three issues on line with hyperlinks to the earlier issues so the user working on his orders can click and go directly to the previous report of that game. Graphics and maps in color of course, though not in the first issue. This might well be the next big move in PBM gaming and I am quite excited about it. I also intend to have a fairly large web area devoted to railroad history which is also badly needed and a political area ("Mike's Soapbox") which will be a bit right of center <g>.

What more can I say about the zine, I am clearly becoming a master of procrastination.

Eben Kurtzman

Congratulations again on the baby. I assume we'll find out name, size, sex, time of delivery... in the next *Perelandra*. I hope the delivery went well and that everybody is home, happy and healthy.

Life is getting busy here. I have an attempted murder trial set for Monday. Wish me luck.

regarding J.R. Baker's letter: J.R., I'm glad nobody was hurt. I used to be a volunteer fire fighter, and I've seen these things turn into real tragedies. For those of you who are familiar with fire fighting you may want to skip this, anybody else might be interested. J.R.'s son had the right idea with the salt, but he wanted to use baking powder. It smothers grease fires. The theory behind smothering (throwing a blanket on) a fire is that you remove the oxygen from it. The heat remains, so once the blanket is removed, and the oxygen returned, the fire reignites. If you smother a fire out, be *certain* the combustible material has cooled before the smothering material is removed. In case someone doesn't know, never throw water on a grease fire. The grease floats on the water and the fire spreads.

Of course baking powder is a distant second to spending ten dollars on a dry chemical (ABC) fire extinguisher. The A is for wood and paper fires, the B for grease and liquid fires and the C for electrical fires. J.R.'s fire had all three of these involved, the towels were "A", the grease was "B" and the stove was "C". This is why the dry chemical extinguisher is the best for a house.

Put the extinguisher in the kitchen where it can be easily accessed by someone walking into the kitchen. Do not put it next to the stove, oven, microwave or toaster where you might not be able to reach in a fire and do not put it in a location that you have to walk past the stove, oven, microwave or toaster to reach it. Finally do not put it behind anything like flour bags or rice jars where it is hard to access or find. I say these things because people have made these mistakes. A fire extinguisher is useless if you can not get to it quickly and safely.

Be sure to learn how to use the extinguisher. This includes where to point it as well as how it operates. You do not want to blast the combustible material spraying it all over the room with the extinguisher. Your local fire department should happily teach you how to use the extinguisher. Finally, replace dry chemical extinguishers every two years. I am told that the chemicals can lose their potency.

[[Thanks for the pointers—I'll add that to all the earthquake lore I've stored up.

[[A note for Eben and for others who want to send their stuff on disk—whatever computer or program you use, I don't care, I can read 'em all IF (and only IF) you Save As Text. This means no underlining, no bold, etc, but it also save me retyping. If you send me a WordPerfect, or Ventura Publisher, or PageMaker document, I make no promises as to whether I'll be able to pry it open. Of course, since I publish in QuarkXPress I can read those documents directly.]] ☺☺☺

SILVERRUN/Snowball Fighting ASF31

Turn Five: Approaching Minimal Activity

WARRIOR	Player	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	vp	hp	sb-di
Atog	Wang	kit	chomp chomp	gulp, burp	-V8-U7-T6-S5	S5	5	10	2-0
Dirty ol' Man	Baker	kit	sit		-V8-T8-R8-P8-O9-M9	RR at RD (95,22)	M9	7	7
Fearless Reaper	Narhi	M1	RR at PF (95,60)		-N2-O3-P4	collect Di	P4	6	3
Glacial Gladiator	Brown	W9	Di at GW (50,85)	collect Di		Di at GW* (60,07)	W9	10	1
Guess Who?	McKinnon	S7	RR at GG (95,35)	-T6, collect Sb		RR at IS (80,02)	T6	7	0
Haggis Hound	Andruschak	H6	collect 2 Sb	RR at RD (70,46)		RR at RD (70,32)	H6	6	8
Ice Sickle	Hurst	V6	swill suds	suck scotch		-V8-U9-V10	V10	10	9
Puff&Fresh Snowboy	Schultz	U1	Di at FR (55,17)	collect 2 Sb		collect Di	U1	11	8
Rude 'Dolf	Gardner	L10	nmr	nmr		nmr	L10	6	6
El Zorro de Plata	Kohman	R12	Di at RD (40,92)	collect Di		Di at DOM (45,06)	R12	8	3

Weather roll = 54. * marks conditional orders. Remember, we're playing to 20 vp. GW gets out of the kitchen on Turn 7, Segment 2.

Deadline for Turn Six is July 31.

I remind everyone that you cannot collect weapons on a path hex!

Segment One: With Atog, Dirty ol' Man and Ice Sickle indoors, it's business as usual out in the yard. Haggis Hound packs ammo while everyone else hurls. El Zorro de Plata flings a Dirigible past a comatose Rude 'Dolf. Puff & Fresh Snowboy and Fearless Reaper trade shots, each scoring one point before Fearless moves off after other game. Glacial Gladiator and Guess Who? also swap shots; GW hits but GG's is the more fearsome (and more difficult) Dirigible attack and he misses.

Segment Two: D-Man races out of the house and up the path. Haggis Hound zings one of his new 'balls at the back of Rude 'Dolf's head; everyone else regroups.

Segment Three: Ice Sickle reels out of the house and toward the snowman; Atog exits the other direction, running past Guessman who is throwing a Snowball at the Ice Sickle with excellent results. Gladiator tries the Di again and this time he scores off Who! HH repeats his attack on Rudy, and Dirty joins in beating on the helpless 'Dolf. However, El Zorro fires away and scores three points at Dirty ol' Man's backside.

SM: Unka Rikko takes a press break this month...

Food for Atog: Back Issues of *Upstart*. The Berlin Wall went down, the U.S.S.R. splintered, Cuba's in trouble and Garret packed it in. Gain +5% to hit North Koreans, Mainland Chinese and other Communists.

SM to Foodie: Oh, come on, the North Koreans are easy targets these days. Give us something that nails Shining Path terrorists.

S(hic)-E to Gang: Jush need shumthin' to improve ma haim... (burp!).

McKinnon remembers: The Meatmen. Remember the masterpiece on that album, "Tooling for Anus"? Most of my dorm will. For a long time.

Puff & Fresh to Che-Guess-Tay: Hey! Keep your observations to yourself. I might have gone this whole game without anyone throwing at me. And still lost. Now we'll never know.

Haggis Hound to Cathy: (after lifting kilt) See? Not A Simulation!

Atog to Cathy: Who needs simulations when you already have the real thing at home? (There you go, Pete. The check's in the mail, right?)

SnowMaster to Atog: Yep. Although, just now the last thing on Cathy's mind is getting more of the Real Thing.

Food for Atog: Catcher's Mitt. 10% chance of preventing hit on you by opponent, and add one Sb to inventory. No Boleros allowed.

Sick-O to Atog: The quality of the pun is measured by the intensity of the groans. (It also helps throw off your aim.)

Janeway to GM: You ARE really easy to get along with most of the time.

SM to Jane: And just plain easy the rest of the time.

Torres to GM: If you're lucky I'll come over there and slap you around a little.

SnowMaster to Torres: As they always say, it ain't where you come but who with.

Puff & Fresh to Everyone: Boy! I praise everyone for their wonderful press and the minute I do everybody forgets to direct any press at me. Except that half-handed item from Gussy. I'm hurt. Really.

SnowMaster to Puffy: You're *not* hurt, and that's why you're upset. Maybe you should ask Torres to slap you around a little. Or a lot.

Food for Atog: Sony Walkman. Listen to aggressive music by bands like Pantera, White Zombie, Entombed and, yes, Tool. Suffer no % loss due to range, weather, dodge, movement or BB.

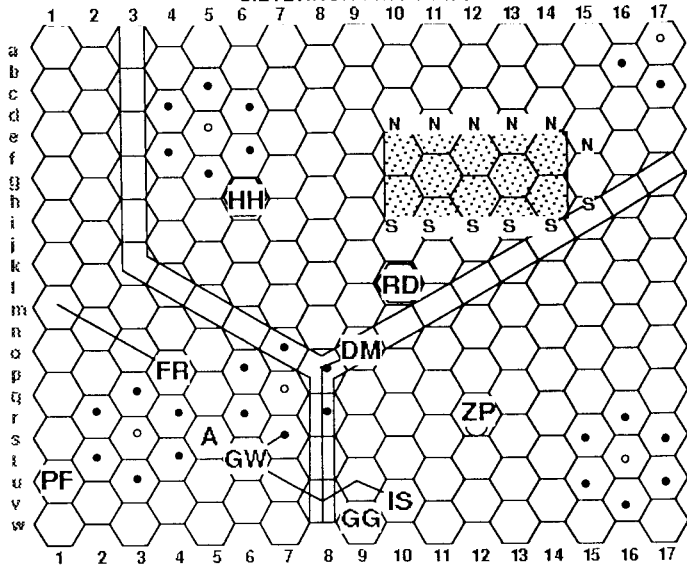
SnowMaster to Foodie: I saw a teenager with a "TOOL" t-shirt the other day. He looked like someone without a clue. And the shirt was lame: plain white block letters on a plain black shirt. So much for your avant-garde, multimedia kings.

Atog to Fiercly Rancid: You don't get "assigned" a special ability. You either have it or you don't!

SnowMaster to Atog: I think we'll have to equate the Reaper with Orgg.

GG: I'm studying glaciers in Alaska. Yesterday was one of three days this year (!) that Mt. McKinley was visible. It was spectacular! One snow-fueled avalanche looked through telescopes to be about 20 miles long and 10 miles wide. Now that's some hit points!

SILVERRUN after Turn 5



SnowMaster to Glacial: I wonder how we incorporate that into the rules... in fact, it makes me think of something completely new. How about a Snowball Fighting map set on a tree-full hillside??

Food for Atog: Lifesize Barney Toy. All other players throw orders become "... at Barney" in automatic killing frenzy. Lasts until end of turn only.

SnowMaster to Foodie: So, are we going to find the Lifesize Barney Toy doing the nasty with the Inflatable Janeway Action Figure?

Señor Beavis to FR: Heh, heh, you said 'breasts.' Thingies are cool! Heh, heh.

Harry to Pete: You use your computer for... something serious? How quaint. As far as I am concerned, my computer is just a wonderful TOY.

SM to All: Okay, okay—I'm officially putting out a plea for games that can be played on a monochrome monitor (more techspeak: Mac System 7, 9megs RAM, no CD).

Food for Atog: Mr. Microphone. Reduce one other player's to hit by -15% by yelling his name and he can't figure out where it's coming from. No BB or collection allowed.

Janeway to McKinnon: Have you got 75 years to kill worshipping the very ground I walk on? Thought you did. You can start by gazing rapturously at my magnificence and squirming in delight at the sound of my voice.

SnowMaster to Janeway: If you think a couch potato like Señor Beavis is going to live another 75 years, you're living in another quadrant, lady.

Haggis Hound to Rich Irving: Thanks for the review of 1830. I may buy it later on when it is thoroughly debugged and the price comes down. Right now I am playing a lot of CAPTURE THE FLAG. Might even do a review if Pete asks for it.

SnowMaster to Yard: Well, I asked for it...

Señor Beavis to Fearless: Heh, heh, you said 'cojones.' That's like, nads, in German. Heh, heh. Nads. That's cool.

Seska to GW: Want to run away and be spies together? I'll let down my hair and make you some soup.

SM: ??? Seska???

Food for Californians: "All this food's s'posed to be so good for you, but it tastes like nothing. It's yuck." —Julie Richmond, *Valley Girl*

Haggis Hound to SnowMaster: I agree with David Wang that sb-di ratio needs to be changed. I suggest reducing the damage done by a di from 3 to 2.

SnowMaster to HH: I'll take rules suggestions, but that's pretty radical. Let's talk after this game.

TRALFAMADORE / 1994Xm22, Youngstown XV

Rules question: "Is support allowed *through* Hawaii?" I assume so, since the exception listed in the rules was about convoys.

Summer Retreats: English f north atlantic-mid atlantic; German armies dar es salaam-uganda, a burgundy nrr, blown up.

Fall 1903: Mutual Non-Recognition Pact

Australia Z (Doug Brown): f coral sea-new guinea, f great australian bight-east indian ocean, f south cape-tasman sea, f fiji-mid pacific (f new zealand s), a south australia pleads for peace with Chile.

Austria A (Steven McKinnon): a ubangi-basoko, a leopoldville-zaire, a galicia-ukraine, a budapest s turkish a bul-rum /nso/, a vienna-tyrolia, f greece s egyptian f cyr-ion /nso, dislodged/ (a serbia s).

Brazil B (Charles Goetz): f azores-cape verde (f horse latitudes s), f leeward islands wishes a fond adieu to the US (f windward islands s), a amazon s chilean a columbia, a sao paulo-mato grosso.

Canada C (Jamie McQuinn): a saskatchewan-vancouver, a alaska-vancouver, f grand banks-boston, f north atlantic-norwegian sea (f iceland s), f labrador sea-grand banks.

Chile L (John Bryden): a colombia h, f south pacific h (f antofagasta s), a ecuador-peru, f tierra del fuego-south atlantic.

China X (John Galt): nmr. a kansu unordered.

Egypt Y (Daniel Wartko): f cyrenaica s turkish f eastern med-ionian (f cairo s), f red sea-anglo-egyptian sudan, a addis ababa s german a uganda-junglei /nso/ (a asmara s), sues canal closed to all fleets.

England E (Matthew Lahtinen): f liverpool-north atlantic (f mid atlantic, f irish sea, f clyde all s), f norwegian sea-norway /dislodged/ (f north sea s /dislodged/), f gulf of siam-bornco, f cambodia-gulf of siam, a ovamboland-cunene.

Ethiopia P (Michael Quist): a mogadiscio ms a kenya, a wabi-addis ababa (a junglei s).

France F (J.R. Baker): f gulf of guinea-abidjan, a gold coast-abidjan, f saigon-south china sea, a brest-picardy, a burgundy s moroccan f spa/sc-mar /nso/ (a gascony s), f portugal-spa/sc.

Germany G (Ward Narhi): a zaire-basoko (a uganda s), a belgium s a burgundy /nso/, f holland-north sea (f helgoland s), a denmark h.

India H (David Schlosser): f west indian ocean-somali sea, a calcutta-burma, a sikang-hankow, a burma-sikang, a annam-vietnam, f somali sea-mogadiscio (f gulf of aden s).

Italy I (Doug Kent): f tyrhenian-western med, f ionian-tunis, a corsica h, f western med-casablanca (f algeris s), a marseilles-spain.

Japan J (Jim Bailey): f philippines sea-micronesia (f northwest pacific s), f south china sea s indian a annam-saigon /nso/ (f canton s, f formosa s), f philippines-philippines sea.

Mexico M (Vince Springer): f bahamas-hispaniola (f caribbean s), a norfolk s canadian f grand banks-boston, f mid-pacific-hawaii, f guadalajara-yucatan/wc, a panama builds canal, a colorado-los angeles (f baja california s).

Morocco O (Rich Irving): f spain/sc-western med, f canaries-casablanca, a senegal h, a british nigeria-french sudan (a guinea s).

Netherlands East Indies N (~~Brad Wilson~~ Jim Grose): f palembang-andaman sea (f malay sea s), f banda sea-celebes sea, a brunci-borneo, f celebes sea-brunci, a hollandia-new guinea.

Russia R (Alex Simmons): f st petersburg/nc-norway (f skaggerak s), a omsk-turkestan, a sinkiang-irkutsk, a moscow-ukraine, a ukraine-rumania (f sevastopol s), a war-saw-galicia, a rumania-serbia, a norway-sweden, a inner mongolia h, a peking s indian a sikang-hankow, f yellow sea s japanese f canton.

Transvaal V (Eben Kurtzman): declares Katanga as a build center; f cape of good hope-cape fria, a dar es salaam ms a katanga, f mozambique channel s a dar es salaam, a tanganyika s a katanga.

Turkey T (Matt Heppie): a armenia unordered, a turkestan-iran, a transjordan-nejd, a asir-yemen, f eastern med-ionian, a bulgaria-greece (f aegean s [f smyrna s aegean]), a constantinople-bulgaria.

United States U (~~Martin Johnson~~ Tom Hurst): f northeast pacific-oregon, f sargasso sea-boston, f puerto rico-sargasso sea, f micronesia-northwest pacific /dislodged/.

Autumn Retreats: Austrian f greece; English f norwegian & f north; US f micronesia.

Deadline for Winter 1903/Spring 1904 is July 31.

Seasons will *not* be separated—send builds/removals and Spring moves.

Netherlands East Indies to India, Japan: Let's unite and push the decadent European imperialists back into the sea.

India to the World: Down with Imperial Colonialism! Up with Colonial Imperialism!

Japan to India: My support will be there next turn if you need it.

Japan to NEI: Your note about the border is fully acceptable. After this move, we can see what areas of cooperation we can enter into.

France to Japan: You don't have to have a point to have a point!

GM to France: Point that out again?

Austria to GM's Music List: Hootie and the Blowhards!? "In all my years of judging I have never heard before of something more deserving of the full penalty of law!"

GM to Austria: I respect any rocker who can 1) sing well, 2) write good modern poetry, or 3) blend southern blues with basic rock. To do all three gets me every time. Dave Matthews Band is another recent find in this category, though Dave's voice is too weird at times. [aside: so much for McKinnon's tolerance of musical taste]

Songs they should have written: "Janeway Pie"; "Back in Janeway"; "Que Será, Janeway"; "Janeway Mountain High."

Japan's Musical Babe O' the Moment (preliminary ballot): The girl from Moonpools and Caterpillars. I need to see a video or photo to confirm this entry, but her voice on "Hear" is pretty neat.

Austrian Babes o'the Moment: Danella Forta; Marjorie Monaghan; Justina Vail.

Egypt to Japan: What did the Buddhist say to the hotdog vendor?

... a conversation overheard. Brazilian diplomat: "So my Transvaalian friend, what do you think, the same?" Emissary from Transvaal, "[yawn] Yeah, the same. [a thought striking him, he brightens noticeably] Y'know though, sometime in the future, the near future, I may have to address that triviality in Leopoldville. A friend's help in these situations is always appreciated." Nodding his agreement, the Brazilian diplomat replies: "But, of course, what are friends for."

Australia: I'm in Alaska until deadline so received no negotiation proposals from anyone. I still yearn for peace with the American continents.

Brazil to Germany/Austria: Not answering emails is a very curious way to go about this game. Of course, if you keep going the way you are, I am going to have to mail my letters for the year after next to your European capitals. It is amazing to consider, but France will last longer than either of you (from losing Burgundy to gaining Ruhr, amazing.)

GM to Brazil: I remind everyone that there is more than one way to negotiate; I know, for instance, that McKinnon's email account is 'borrowed' from his roommate.

Movies they should have made: *Around the World in Janeway*, *Return of the Janeway*, *Body of Janeway*.

English Films of the Month: *Once Were Warriors*, *the Secret of Roan Inish*.

Austrian Film o'the Month: *Stargate*. Really dumb stuff, but it looks and sounds great. With Snake Plisken.

GM to World (rolling eyes): He likes *Stargate* and doesn't like Hootie. This proves the existence of antimatter—McKinnon is the AntiGaughan!

Ebert: Our next movie is "Casablanca II: The Wrath of Rick." I don't know, Gene, but this is another one of those pointless sequels that Hollywood seems to churn out every year. Can we have an original idea, for once?

Siskel: Wait a second, Roger. I LIKED this movie. I felt completion in the characterization of Rick and Ilse's relationship that the original movie left hang...

Ebert: I can believe you said that!

Siskel: Don't interrupt...

Ebert: The ending of the original was one of the brilliant pieces of film ever made, and this sequel only demeans it.

Siskel: Well, how's this for demeaning! Fatso!

Ebert: Same with you! Cue Ball!

A-Kaiser to G-Kaiser: For better or for worse, cousin. One who chooses to ally with the Russian should have his taste taken with a vat of brine. Your slight of our National Religion means WAR! The Janeway Jihad awaits you!

Did anybody else notice the correlation between ST:Vger fans and lack of television ownership?

GM to Did: Well, it's not 100% anyway.

Austria to Australia: If you pinch your nose and press on your throat you can do a good impression of Janeway. Here in Austria all speech on our Holy Days must be enacted thus, in honour of her Righteousness Janeway.

GM to Tralf: I like music and movies as much as the next guy. But we now return you to your regularly-scheduled *game* press...

Japan to Australia: Both of our purposes are served by your occupation of Mid-Pacific. Let me know how I can help you achieve this.

GM to Japan: Just wish it so!

For Sale: Large land mass surrounding the Black Sea. Only one owner. Some neglect.

Turkey to Russia: Maybe they bought it this time.

Egypt to Brazil: "We will now discuss in a little more detail the struggle for existence." - Darwin.

Egypt to World: The Suez Canal has been closed this season for the "Pharaoh's Pool Party." You're all invited, so bring your #8000 sunscreen. (I must insist, however, that the French shower first.)

Brazil to World: Who wants to bet that I receive yet *another* post from Austria saying I should go elsewhere?

Austria to Brazil: Looks like that Portuguese to Spanish dictionary doesn't have a word for convoy, eh?

Yankee to Montezuma's Revenge: Is there anything besides Kaopectate that will get you to stop bothering me?

TRALFAMADORE / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1903

Nation	centers	had	has	builds/removals
Australia	melbourne, perth, sydney, new zealand, tasmania, fiji?	6	6?	even or disband one
Austria	leopoldville*, vienna, budapest, trieste, kameron, serbia, congo	7	7	even or build one
Brazil	recife, rio de janeiro, sao paulo, la plata, leewards, british guiana	6	6	even
Canada	vancouver, montreal, toronto, iceland, alaska*, newfoundland, BOSTON	6	7	build one
Chile	santiago, antofagasta, peru, bolivia, colombia	5	5	even
China	hankow, peking	2	0	out
Egypt	suez, cairo, anglo-egyptian sudan, cyrenaiaca, asmara, ADDIS ABABA	5	6	build one
England	johore, cape colony, london, edinburgh, liverpool, thailand, cunene*, namaland, cambodia	9	9	build one
Ethiopia	addis ababa , kenya, junglei, mogadiscio	4	3	disband one
France	abidjan, saigon, paris, brest, gold coast, formosa , portugal	7	6	even
Germany	dar-es-salaam* , munich, kiel, berlin, holland, denmark, belgium, BASOKO	7	7	build one
India	calcutta, delhi, madras, ceylon, burma, madagascar, vietnam, HANKOW	7	8	build one
Italy	naples, venice, rome, tunisia*, corsica, marseilles, CASABLANCA	6	7	build one
Japan	kyoto, osaka, tokyo, karafuto, canton, philippines, FORMOSA	6	7	build one
Mexico	mexico city, guadalajara, monterrey, guatemala, baja california*, cuba, norfolk, nicaragua, LOS ANGELES, HISPANIOLA, HAWAII	8	11	build three
Morocco	marrakech, casablanca , senegal, french nigeria, spain	5	4	disband one
Neth E Indies	palembang, jakarta, hollandia, new guinea, borneo, brunei	6	6	even
Russia	omsk, irkutsk, vladivostok, sr petersburg, warsaw, moscow, sevastopol, manchuria, korea, rumania, norway, sweden, sinkiang, outer mongolia, PEKING	14	15	build one
Transvaal	durban, pretoria, barotseland, rhodesia, katanga*, DAR ES SALAAM	5	6	build one
Turkey	baghdad, constantinople, smyrna, ankara, yemen, bulgaria, iran, greece, asir*	9	9	even
United States	boston, los angeles, hispaniola, hawaii , FIJI?	4	0?	out?
Panama: Mexico. Sinai: neutral. (tracked for canal-closing purposes) * indicates a declared build center.				

Mexico to Pacific Powers: Approx 30 fleets for 20 Pacific sea zones... Can't we all just get along?

Austria to Bailey-san: We enjoyed your stories, too. Nice and clever, and wry too, we like wry. Good luck making a wad of \$ publishing them.

GM to Mexico: There's Austria doing his part for global peace!

Austria to GM: Global schmobil, as long as I'm rich.

GM to Mexico: Make that global piece...

Brazil to Mexico: So, what next?

Brazil to Australia: You wouldn't be thinking... Naw, couldn't be, that would take a year before you even got close enough to see shore. Still, the prospect is amusing.

India to Australia: We hope this is a defensive posture and not the first step to breaking an agreement that's held, so far, through 2 1/2 changes of governments. Or maybe this is your McGruff impersonation—taking a Bight out of crime?

Egypt to India: Did you see what that dirty Ethiopian rat tried to do to me?? An ambush on my way to a peace conference! Good thing I was riding my armored camel.

Austria to Egypt: While you're over there, I hope you managed to find out exactly what it is that Germany thinks he's doing, buddying up to us and then helping our enemies.

France to Morocco: I had a dream...

O to F: Unfortunately, we stand Back to Front to Back.

Egypt to Cartographer: Thanks for properly placing Egypt at the Center of the Universe.

Mexico to Japan: Letters have been sent but no reply as of yet. Is your complete silence that helpful to your game or is the world already divided into two camps??? Some kind of communication would be duly appreciated.

GM to Japan: ...Or else we'll subject you to really bad puns, like...

Egypt to Japan: "Make me one with everything."

The Sultan: Boy, something sure stinks around here! Oh, hey, wait... it's me.

GM to Sultan: No, it's the joke. Well, maybe you *and* the joke.

London to Berlin: We seem to have received some mail of yours. There is an invitation here for you from the Swedish Bikini Team. Suggest you accept.

GM to London: Any mail from Japan?

France to Friends: Thanks for all the mail.

GM to France: Any mail from Japan?

Brazil to Egypt: Glad to see that you got things worked out with Turkey. Your two fighting over sea spaces while Russia grows is not a good plan for either you or the rest of us. I hope *others* follow your example. They too should make peace with states bordering on Russia for the good of the game.

Yankee to Canuck: If you don't know if you'll like moose tamales for Christmas dinner next year, I could use some help.

GM to Yankee: Some help making a more traditional dish, like roasted snake?

England to Canada: How long are you going to fight me, with the Mexicans coming up fast? I don't see them stopping south of your border.

Austria to GM: Can you call Don Williams as a standby? There's not enough press in this game.

France to Austria: Yes, yes, a hundred times yet. Your slightest wish is my command.

GM to Austria: I could call him, but I don't like being verbally abused over my own phone.

India to Turkey: Don't look now, but one of your armies seems to have gotten lost in a sandstorm. Now if you were a cast member living in Phoenix I could see your wanting Turke-Stan.

The Sultan replies: Like I'm worried. Look I'm shaking.

Jim Grose to GM: Why not produce six overlapping maps (one per continent, including surrounding bodies of water) and mail them to the appropriate players so we don't have to refer to an atlas to deduce which unnamed provinces we occupy? You could send all six maps to each of us just once, at the beginning of the game.

GM to Jim: Hmm. Each of the starting players got a copy of the original map I received—a 30-sheet hand-drawn, tabletop monstrosity which had two or three major gaps in it. I could make a copy of that for each of the standbys also; you would at least have the complete spelling of each province name. If any standby player wants such a map, say so (so I can make those copies all at once!). I hadn't thought about needing completely spelled-out names.

Producing larger-scale maps is more problematic. I don't like to have to remember "So-and-so gets this, but this guy gets *that*" when stuffing envelopes. I would also have to spend a few hours figuring out how to re-tile the map which Michael Alterio graciously drafted. And some players might prefer to get the whole board. Let me hear some more feedback from the others on this.

Speaking of the whole board, here are the 'standings' or history for this game so far:

	00	01	02	03	
Australia	3	4	6	6	Michael Alterio (res W01); Doug Brown
Austria	4	6	7	7	Steven McKinnon
Brazil	3	4	6	6	Charles Goetz
Canada	3	5	6	7	Jamie McQuinn
Chile	2	4	5	5	John Bryden
China	3	2	2	0	John Galt (elim W03).
Egypt	2	4	5	6	Victor Thomas (drop Sp01); Daniel Wartko
England	5	8	9	9	Matthew Lahtinen
Ethiopia	2	4	4	3	Michael Quist
France	5	8	7	6	Steve Nicewarner (drop F02); J.R. Baker
Germany	4	7	7	7	Ward Narhi
India	3	6	7	8	David Schlosser
Italy	4	6	6	7	Chris Warren (drop F02); Doug Kent
Japan	3	6	6	7	Jim Bailey
Mexico	3	6	8	11	Vince Springer
Morocco	2	4	5	4	Rich Irving
N. E. Indies	3	6	6	6	David Kovar (res F02); Brad Wilson (drop Sp03); Jim Grose
Russia	7	10	14	15	Alex Simmons
Transvaal	2	4	5	6	Eben Kurtzman
Turkey	4	7	9	9	Matt Heppe
United States	3	5	4	0	Martin Johnson (drop Sp03); Tom Hurst
neutral	65	19	1	0	

DURLA / 1994Wrb32 Gunboat Diplomacy

Winter 1903: Austria builds f tri; England builds a lon, f edi; Italy builds a ven; Turkey builds a ank.

Spring 1904: Slippin' Slippin' Slippin'

Austria: a ser h, a rum-sev (a ukr s), a gal s ukr, a bul-con, f gre-aeg, f tri-ven.

England: a lon unordered, f edi-nts, a stp-lvn, f bar-stp/nc, f den-bal, f nts-hel, a swe-den.

France: f lyo-wes, a mar-pic, a bel-bur (a pic s), f wes-naf, f rus-rom /dislodged/.

Germany: a kie ms a hol, a ruh-mun, a mun-ber.

Italy: a tun s turkish f ion-ryn /imp/, f tyn-tus (f rom s, a ven s).

Russia: a war-ukr (a mos s).

Turkey: a ank-arm, f smy-aeg (f ion s, f con s).

Welcome to new German player; thanks to the unused Italian standby.

Deadline for Fall 1904 is July 31.

AH to England: Yeah yeah... Everybody is the bad guy but you. Shall we address you as the all powerful one?

London to GM: Why do you assume Germany was my friend?

GM to London: Excusing me, please!

F to E: If Germany grabbed Bel on me this turn, I desperately need you to support my A Bur-Bel in Fall 1904. Okay? Please?

Cockney to Frog: You're right, never mind.

AH to GM: Wow... that went pretty well last season. Does the good fortune continue??

Beavis to Butthead: Heh!Heh!Heh!... Looks like Turkey's getting its ass kicked!! Heh!Heh!Heh!... By Archduke Cornholio, no less. Heh!Heh!Heh!

Butthead to Beavis: Heh!Heh!Heh!... You said Ass!!!... Heh!Heh!Heh!... Cool.

Germany yelp: Yikes! I'm under attack. Oh, well, maybe not. I see our friends the English just wanted to "incorporate" all of Scandinavia "into the Commonwealth," and that they hope "some repair" of our relations will succeed." Isn't that sporting. I guess we are all friends again so that we can sit down together to discuss all the wonderful merits of friendship and spread goodwill towards one another and live in safety without the fear of being crushed under the heel of turn-coat, backstabbin former friends who are bigger and stronger than we are and who menace us by flexing their strength at our expense. (long-distance run-on sentence brought on by stammering fear). Sure, O.K. Fine, we can repair our relations. See, repaired. Done. I *wanted* you to have Swe and Den. We *can* still be on the same side together still, can't we? Oh pleease say so. I want to be on the same side with SOMEONE.

Durlans: I hope this trend of dropping out with the frist sign of adversity does not continue. Obviously, the Czar (despite the tastelessness of a thong swimsuit) seems to be the honoral exception.

AH to France: I would be careful about your strategy my friend. Italy may appear to be easy pickings but leaving your coast from Brittany to Holland bereft of fleets is an open invatation to you know what. England already has all of Scandanvia. What is going to happen to you once he takes Kiel??

Germany to France: By all mean, YOUR wish is MY command (low bow, left arm held out, wrist cocked in foppish flourish)... Ruhr vacated. I regret to inform your excellency that our former ambassador fell ill or disappeared or something. I am pleased, however, to carry on with all former agreements. DMZ created. Good luck in Italy. By the way, would you be interested in a mutual support order for Hol & Bel? You would still be abiding by your non-aggression pact with E, and cementing our DMZ/alliance at the same time.

F to G: My move to Bur from Bel was purely defensive. Not knowing whether you are the "old" or "new" Germany, I needed to ensure the safety of Burgundy in the Spring. My plans are to move BACK to Bel in the fall, with the support of A Pic.

R to E: Thanks for the support. If you can send troops it would be much more helpful.

London to Moscow: Help is on the way.

Italy to Austria: Better pay attention over here. Your backside is about to become someone else's frontside. I think I'm caving in, but maybe it is "vexing" in. I was never very sure about "concave" and "convex". Probably the GM is an expert, though. I'm too proud to ask; but I ain't too proud to beg.

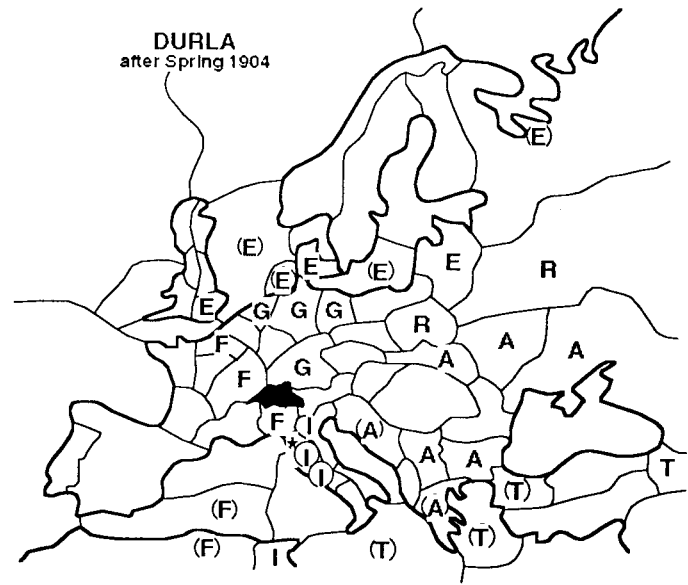
AH to Germany: As you can see, no Magyar cavalry is heading your way.

Italy to France: Please, please, please go away.

Germany to Austria: What a pity to hear of you intending war with Germany. Couldn't you show some solidarity with your fellow Germanic peoples? It would take a long time to switch fronts, during which time you would be ripe for a Turkish stab. Where else does Turkey have to go anyway? I would accept the German hand of friendship if I were in your shoes. You may not have as many friends as you think you do, and one more couldn't hurt.

GM to Germany: Maybe he has a case of athlete's wrist?

England to Austria: I guess our Turkish friend need no longer worry about the French and English "love fest" as it appears he will be too busy entertaining Austro-Hungarian occupation forces.



BARSOOM / 1993HI

Spring 1907: Facing the Music

England (Jim Grose): a nwy-swe, f nts-eng, a fin-stp, f wes-mid /dislodged/, a den-lvn (f bal c).

France (Paul Rauterberg): f bre-mid, f mar-lyo, a par-pic, f spa/sc-wes (f tun s), a kie-mun (a ruh s), a ber-sil, a ven-tyo (a pie s), a bel-hol.

Italy (Dave Collins civil disorder): nmr. f nap u, a rom u.

Russia (Nelson Heintzman): a arm-sev (a mos s), a ukr-rum.

Turkey (Tom Johnston): a tri-ven (a tyo s /dislodged/), a vie-boh, a gal-ukr, a con-bul, a ank-arm, f smy-con, f gre-alb, f eas-ion (f aeg s), f sev unordered /dislodged/.

Summer Retreats: English f wes, Turkish a tyo, f sev.

Deadline for Fall 1907 is July 31.

England to GM: You risked the wrath of Johnny Canuck by printing my Spring 1907 press with my Winter 1906 removal!

GM to England: Damn, I'm good at that! Sorry!

Marseilles to Edinburgh: You're hot as a hornet, but who got stung, eh?

England to Turkey: Deal.

Paris to London: Come and get me, Screw!

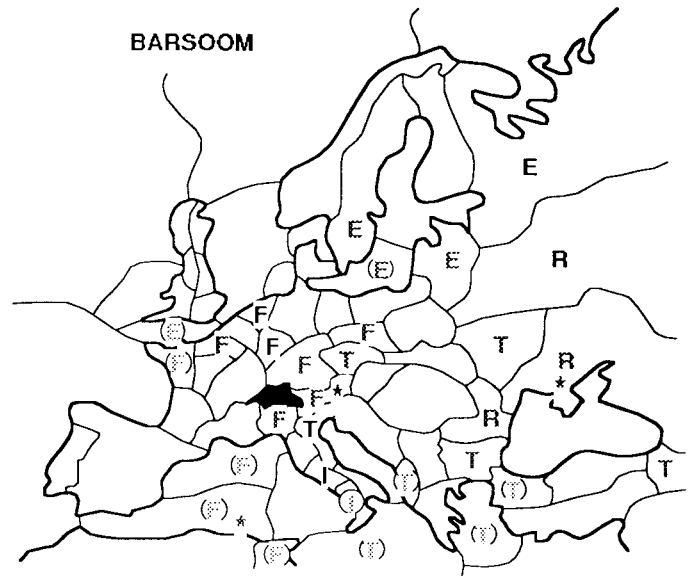
England to France: Your fate is sealed.

Brest to Liverpool: Spare us the effluvia of your overwrought temper. You're embarrassing yourself, old boy.

England to Russia: Much obliged for your hospitality.

Tunis: Shoots the moon (crescent?) at the Sultan, and hope he sees stars.

England to Italy: Well, 4th or 5th is better than 6th or 7th.



LAMETH / 1992AJ

Autumn Retreats: French a bur unordered, blown up; Turkish a rum-bul.
 Winter 1912: England builds a lon; Turkey builds a smy.

Spring 1913: Draw Win the Inevitable Conclusion

England (Stan Johnson—note COA in Cast List): a lon-bel (f eng c), a wal h, f bre-gas (f mid s), f nat & f iri s f mid, a bel-ruh, f kie h, f bal-den, f stp/sc h, f ber h.

France (Martin Johnson civil disorder): nmr. f gas /annihilated/, f por.

Russia (James Bailey): a rum-ukr (a sev s [a mos s sev]), a ukr-war.

Turkey (Tim Goodwin): a bur-par, a mar-bur (a mun s), f spa/sc h (f lyo s), f wes h, f naf h, a bul-rum (a ser s, a bud s), a con-bul, a ank-sev (f bla c, a arm s), a smy-con, a gal h.

Deadline for Fall 1913 is July 31.

England to World: Where has Cousin Martin gone?

Russia: The Tsar, huddled in the corner of his palace bedroom, hugging his royal teddy-bear Pooka, whimpers, "mommy..."

PLATEAU / 1994HJ

Map Error: England army was indeed in Yorkshire, not Liverpool.

SC Chart Error: Both Russia and England were getting credit for Sweden. Russia had an extra unit as a result. This was repaired by disbanding his A Galicia this time.

Russia only had three units in 1904, thus he only had one turn (Sp05) with an excess unit.

Stray Comment from Anonymous Player: "With all this press, this game is turning into its own zine." While there is precedent for that (and Don was involved in such a game!), I don't think it'll be the case here *unless you guys start working a lot harder!*

Summer Retreats: Austrian a tri-ser; Russian a gal off the board; Turkish f ion-aeg. E/F draw: F yes, I no, AEGRT nvr. France reproposes E/F draw, please vote again.

Fall 1905: Triple Digits

Austria (Matthew Lahtinen): f adr s french a tyo-ven, a gal-rum, a ser-tri (a bud s, a vie s).

England (Tim Goodwin): a lvn s french a sil-war, a stp h, a yor-den (f nts c), a den-pru (f bal c), f nwg unordered, f kie-ber.

France (Don Williams): f mid h, a sil-war, a ruh-mun, a mun-tyo, a tyo-ven, f ion-nap (f tyn s), f tun-ion, f lyo-tus.

Germany (James Battle): nmr. a boh unordered.

Italy (Phil Reynolds): a tri-ven /dislodged/, f apu-ven, f nap s french f tyn-ion /nso, dislodged/.

Russia (Jeff August): a mos ms a ukr.

Turkey (Dave Collins John McLaurin): f aeg-ion (f gre s, f eas s), a bul s gre, a sev h (f bla s).

Autumn Retreats: Italian a tri, f nap.

Deadline for Winter 1905/Spring 1906 is July 31.

Food for Atog [guest press]: Maginot Line. Previously thought to be a massive concrete structure extending along the Franco-German border from Switzerland to Belgium, this is now known to be simply the collected press of Don Williams in microfiche form. The unabridged book version can be viewed along the Chinese-Mongolian border. Allows only French troops to cross between Burgundy and Ruhr or Munich.

AH to Italy: Yeah, wave as he goes through you. That will be good.

GM to AH: Somehow I think the way France is passing through *will* set up some waves.

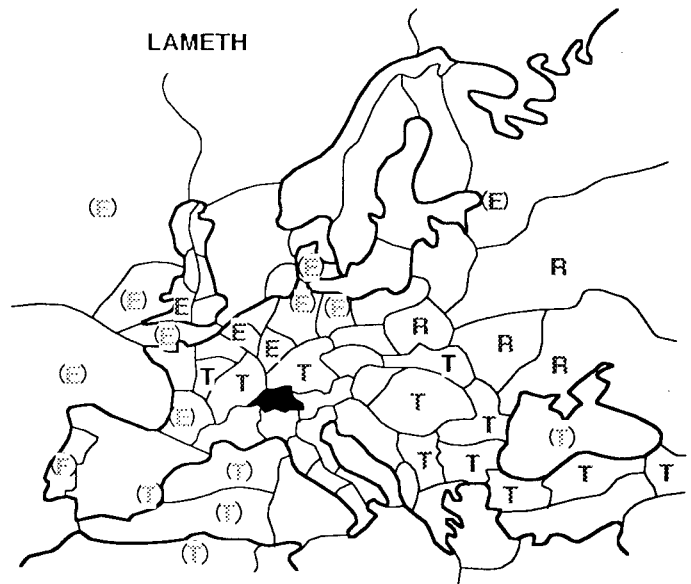
Great Moments in Press, Part I: When asked to give a short answer to the question, "When did you first become addicted to press?" in morse code, Don Williams' reply becomes the drum solo on the live version of 'Inna Gadda da Vida.'

McKinnon to Mouth: Um...

AH to Turkey: Are you still there, Sultan Dave?

GM to AH: Sorry, you're breaking up, Major Tom...

LAMETH



GIEDI PRIME / 1992AK

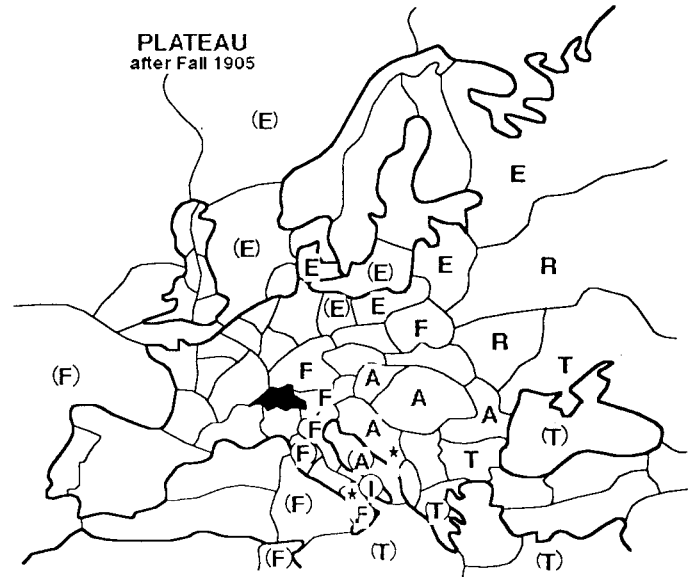
Austria: Roger Cox (res F11); civil disorder. England: Mike Magnuson (drop Sp04); Jamie McQuinn (out F12). France: Pat Conlon (res F07). Germany: Lance Anderson (surv). Italy: Hugh Magen (wins). Russia: Greg Ellis (surv). Turkey: Jon Rosenthal (drop F01), Andy York (surv).

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Austria	6	7	7	7	7	7	5	6	4	4	1	0	
England	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	2	2	2	0	
France	4	6	4	4	4	2	1	1*	0				
Germany	5	4	6	6	6	6	6	7	9	8	10	7	
Italy	4	5	6	6	5	7	8	8	10	11	14*	15**	18
Russia	6	5	4	4	4	4	6	5	4	4	4	4	3
Turkey	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	4	5	5	6

The only note I received on this game was way back in... Spring 1903

ENGLAND: I thought I had an understanding with Pat. Looks like I was wrong. Italy's attack on Germany really surprised me too. I thought he was going after Austria. Go figure.

PLATEAU after Fall 1905



PLATEAU / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1905

Austria	vic	tri	bud	ser	rum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5/5	even
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	stp	swe	den	kie	BER	.	.	.	.	8/9	may build one
France	par	mar	bre	por	spa	bel	mun	hol	tun	NAP	VEN	WAR	.	9/12	may build three
Germany	ber	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1/0	out
Italy	nap	ven	rom	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/1	disband two
Russia	mos	war	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/1	disband one
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	sev	gre	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6/6	even

VEXVELT / 1992R

Winter 1913: England builds a lvp.

T win: T yes, F no, E nvr. E/T draw: T yes, F no, E nvr.

England proposes EFT draw.

Free Ride is Over: Anyone who was getting a life-of-game sub for Vexvelt (from the 1992 PDORAuction), it's over. Check the mailing label to see when you have to start subscribing in order to keep getting *Perelandra*.

Spring 1914: Cream Filling

England (~~Lance Anderson~~ John Schultz): a hol-kie, a lvp-yor, a edi-den (f nts s), a mun h, a lvn-pru (a ber s, f bal s), a stp-lvn (f bot s), f bar-stp/nc.

France (Tom Hurst): a ruh & a bur s english a mun, f tun ms f wes, f lyo ms f mar, f spa/sc s lyo.

Turkey (Steve McKinnon): a boh-mun (a tyo s), a vic-boh, a war-pru (a sil s [a gal s sil]), a ukr-war (a mos s [a sev s mos]), f tyu-tyu (f ion s), f rom-tyu, f pie h (f tus s), a bud-tri, f bla fantasises /sic/ about Janeway.

Deadline for Fall 1914 is July 31.

Shameless Plugz: Sponge, *Rolling Piñata*, Vangelis, *Antarctica*, Big Country, *The Crossing*.

Cool quote o'the month: "Feels good in your mouth." —Sarah McLachlan.

Biggus Avius to Toad of Toad Hall: Hey! A bronze platter would have been just fine. Come on! Tell a joke!

England to Turkey: If you're reading this, vote for the three-way. If you're counting on me handing you the game... forget it. If you're counting on my nmr... forget it. The stalemate line is established. I understand your frustration but, alas, I'll not be the one to alleviate it.

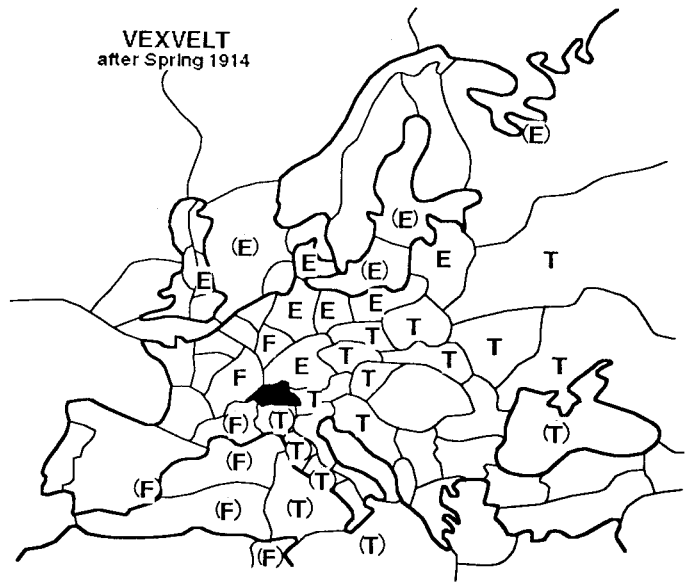
Turkey's Film o'the Month: *Hot Shots! Part Deux* with Brenda Bakke and Valeria Golino.

Great Moments in Babeousness, Part VIII: Brenda Bakke, covered in her own blood, crawling around in *Gunmen*.

Babes o'the Moment: Kate Vernon, Maura Tierney, Claudia Parker.

TV Shows they should have made, Part II: "Janeway P.D. Blue"; "60 Janeways"; "Monday Night Janeway"; "Beavis and Janeway".

VEXVELT after Spring 1914



[guest press] Attention creature who has inhabited Steve McKinnon's body: Take him.

Take the "janeway" as well. Just let the rest of us live.

TV to GM: But of course! I play the Janeway-ian love interest in all cases.

John to Tom: Hi! I'm with you bud. This won't last more than a couple seasons.

Elements o' Babeousness: A vicious streak.

GM to Elemental: You mean, like that woman on the English cricket pitch?

Butt Trek: The Newest Generation: "Spock's Butt"; "Amok Butt"; "Butts of Force"; "The Butt Manoeuvre"; "City on the Edge of the Butt," or "The Butt on the Edge of Forever."

Turkey sings: "Oh the quiet child awaits the day when she can break free the mold that clings like desperation."

Re that quote: She was eating an APPLE at the time.

X-23 / 1994IC

Summer Retreat: English f stp/nc-bar.

Winter 1902: Austria builds a tri, a vie; England builds f lon; Italy disbands a sil; Turkey builds f smy.

Spring 1903: Three Grunt War

Austria (Vince Springer): a tri-ven, a vie-tyo, a ven-rom, a gal-war, f alb-ion, a gre-ser.

England (Ward Narhi): f lon-nts, f bar-nwy (a swe s), f eng-mid (f iri s).

France (Phil Reynolds): a bur ms a bel /bur dislodged/ (a pic s bel), a mar s bur /dislodged/, f mid ms f bre.

Germany (Jim Bailey): a mun-bur (a ruh s), a hol-bel, f bal-bot, a kie-mun.

Italy (Jim Robertson): f wes-spa/sc, a pic-mar (f lyo s).

Russia (Stan Johnson—note COA in Cast List): a fin-stp, f stp/sc-bot, a mos-war.

Turkey (Doug Brown): f smy-cas, f bla-con, f ion-nap, a sev-mos, a ukr-war, a rum-ukr.

Summer Retreats: French a bur, a mar.

Deadline for Fall 1903 is July 31.

France to all: My e-mail address is philreynolds@delphi.com.

Rome to AH: Ouch. What a brutal stab. Talk about throwing the game to Turkey. You'll rue the day...

GM to Rome: Some nations are all talk, but some are doing something about it.

Moscow to Rome: Not necessarily. The best way is to have something others want; something I sadly lack here. P.S. you will look terribly silly when A/T eats you alive.

Germany to GM: You're the second GM this month to mix up France and Germany in games I'm in. The difference is obvious: one has cooks that can't fight, and the other has fighters that can't cook.

GM to Germany: Hey, on a b&w screen all Great Powers look alike!

Rome: "Help me... I'm melting!"

Turkey to World: I'm mailing this move from Healy, Alaska, very near Mt. McKinley, so sorry for almost no communication this turn. I'll be back by next publication.

At the time of my leaving I received no diplomatic mail so I didn't get any of your lovely suggestions for me. Better coordination next time for sure.

AH to T: You chose correctly my friend...

German Kaiser muses: A three front war? No problem!

Magnetic "Travel Diplomacy" Boards

A genuine Avalon Hill Diplomacy conference map mounted on a 13x9 steel cookie sheet. Magnetic armies and fleets in seven colors included. \$12 for first board, \$10 for each additional board in the same order. Overseas inquire for price. Order from:

Eric Brosius

CompuServe: 72060,1540

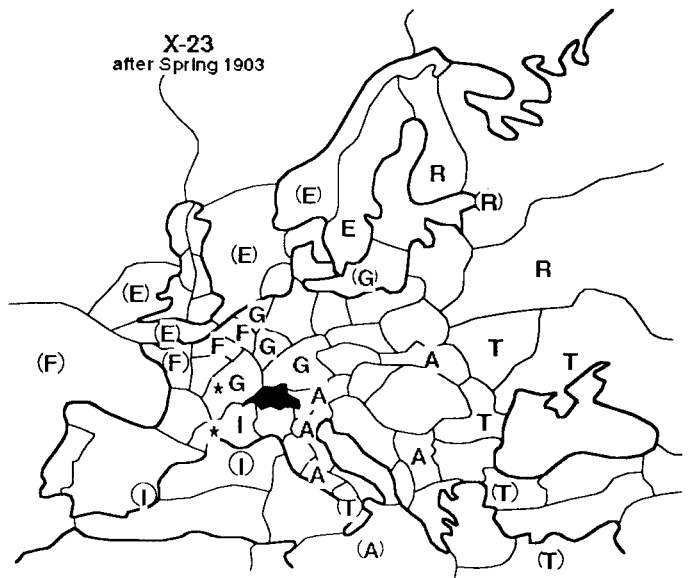
41 Hayward Street

Internet:

Milford, MA 01757 USA

70206.1540@compuserve.com

X-23 after Spring 1903



BELT 17 / 1993F

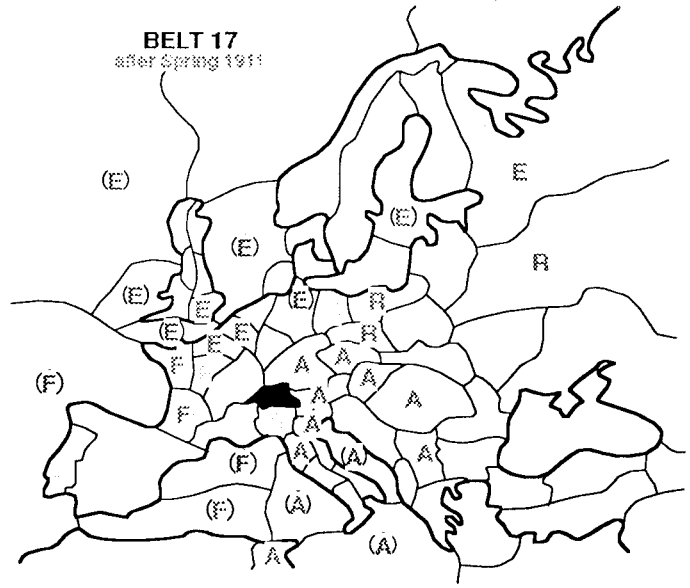
AER draw: AER yes, F no. Austria reproposes AER draw, please vote again.
 Winter 1910: Austria builds f tri, a vie, a bud; England builds a lon; France disbands a ber, f naf.

Spring 1911: Antiestablishment Clause

Austria (Rich Irving): f tri-adr, a bud h, a mun-kie, a tyo-mun (a boh s), a vic-tyo, a tun h, a ser h, a rom-tus (a ven s), f nap-tyn (f ion s).
 England (Les Casey): a bel h (a pics), a stp h (f bot s), f kie prays to oden, f hol-nts, f nts-eng (f iri s [f nat s iri]).
 France (Randy Havens): f mid-spa/nc, f tus-lyo (f wes s), a bur-par, a bre-pic, a gas-mar.
 Russia (Nathan Trent): a pie-mar, a pru-ber (a sil s), a mos h, a war-pru, f lyo-spa/sc /annihilated/.

Deadline for Fall 1911 is July 31.

Russia to GM: Did I really send these orders? Damn. It must have been one of those pesky leprechauns what made me err. I could have sworn I sent good orders. Have you had your place treated for leprechauns recently? Maybe they opened my mail and changed it. You can get free pest control estimates, you know.
 GM to Russia: Oh, so you share Austria's invidious views on Little People, eh? Just for that I SQUASH one of your units like an insect!
 Austria to GM: With such subversive ideas, I expect the X-files agents will be knocking down my door any day now!
 Archduke to Tsar: Sorry, I failed to write. I got transferred for the second time in three months (Although this time it's closer to home. No more hanging out at the Motel 6. :-D) And the Post Office decided to hang on to my mail (including *Pere*) for 2 weeks before forwarding it to me :- (Hope this works for you!
 Russia: Someone mentioned toast last issue, and it made me think of a good trivia question—in what British animated short movie did Gromet's lazy master say the famous line, "Cracking toast, Gromet"? (Clue: you have to be well versed on last year's Cannes, or watch PBS.)
 GM to Russia: ...And I'm neither. Gromet? A small rubber knob, right?



Bridge Puzzle

Robert Greene

From Champaign Regional Big Ten Knockouts:

NORTH: ▲T973
 ♥4
 ♦AQ32
 ♣Q832
 SOUTH: ▲AKJ2
 ♥A97532
 ♦J
 ♣54

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 Heart	Pass	Pass
Double	1 Spade	Pass	3 Spade
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Playing precision, partner clearly didn't like the alternatives on the first round and tried to catch up. Whatever you think of our bidding, you are now asked to find nine tricks.

West leads the KH to my ace. I try to ruff a small heart and am overruffed with the four. You look stupid being overruffed but if hearts break this badly, these small hearts are losers anyway. East now cashes ace and king of clubs and exits with a small club, everyone following but you. Do you now:

A: Crossruff the hand.

B: Since East is short in hearts he hates to have queen length of spades. Finesse the spades and set up the long hearts.

C: Since there are four spades left, play ace, king of spades and hope the queen drops. If this fails, fall back on the diamond finesse.

Answer to be published nextish...

LITERARY QUIZ

From Last Time

AA129: "Yes, we went to school in the sea," said the Mock Turtle to Alice, and so began the description one of the most astonishing courses of study ever undertaken. I'll give you the six basic divisions of the 'regular course', and you tell me what variation on them the Mock Turtle and Gryphon took. Get them all right and win a free issue. Then, for two more freebies, list the three additional courses, plus the two they *didn't* study under the 'old crab'.

Here's the 'regular course': Reading, Writing, and the different branches of arithmetic: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division. Well, of course these were Reeling and Writhing, Ambition, Distraction, Uglification and Derision. The additional courses were Mystery (ancient and modern), Seaography, and Drawing (specifically, Drawing, Stretching and Fainting in Coils). The "old crab" was a Classics master who taught the Gryphon (but not the Mock Turtle) Laughing and Grief.

Tim Goodwin had the right answers submitted within four days of mailing! Jason Bergmann was next, getting his in over the phone the next day; others with the right answers were Paul Bolduc, Brendan Whyte, and Marcelo Triunfo. Nathan Trent had everything except the 'additional courses'—"French, music and washing" were in fact offered but mentioned much earlier in the passage.

Brendan says: "I knew the Big Sleep Ben Hur bit last timer, I'd only seen the movie 2 weeks before. Then I forgot to write in... darn!" Hey, this is a participation event—you always score more for trying than you do for sitting out!

For Next Issue

He wrote of a Mexico that Americans always suspected but never had the courage to investigate—a Mexico where wandering bandits weren't heroes or criminals, simply migrant workers, and where a single gringo might live in a log cabin which no one had laid claim to, dispensing alcohol as medicine and using a telescope as a crystal ball. In his most famous story, he follows a nonexistent man into a hillside to arrive in the ancient Aztec city of Tenochtitlan. Who was this short story writer, and what (for two free issues) was the name of his best-known story?

Special Free Issue Announcement

Mark McGwire recently made news for being the second player to hit five home runs over two consecutive games *twice*. Ralph Kiner did it in August and September of '47; fourteen others have done it once. Half an issue if you can tell me one of the two players to ever hit five home runs in *one day*.

WHICH ONE OF THESE "FAMILY-VALUES" CRUSADERS HAS NOT BEEN DIVORCED ?



BONUS POINTS:
 Write an essay explaining the breakdown of the Republican family.

WASSERMAN
 © 1995 WESTINGHOUSE
 1ST BRICK - MICHIGAN

Austria: Kenneth Burke.

England: Mick Taylor.

France: Don Scheifler (2way draw, Su07).

Germany: Donald Yates (res Sp01); Roger Cox (res W05); John Schultz (sur).

Italy: Bob Ozerov-Clark (res F02); J.R. Baker (sur).

Russia: Michael Quist.

Turkey: Vincent Springer (2way draw).

	01	02	03	04	05	06
Austria	3	3	1	1	1	0
England	3	3	2	0		
France	4	5	7	8	11	12
Germany	5	6	6	9	8	7
Italy	5	4	4	4	3	3
Russia	5	7	7	2	0	
Turkey	6	6	7	10*	11	12

* one unit short following Spring

John Schultz/Germany: When I took this position it was clear to me that the best I could hope for was a draw or a survival. That's the way it is with most standby positions. I survived. I fulfilled my obligation to myself.

When I first arrived Don asked if I would help him solo. Perhaps it was jokingly, because he must have known I would refuse. By the same token he should have also realized I would never allow Turkey to solo, either... if I could help it. I considered waiting around to see if someone would take out J.R. I thought I might be able to maneuver for a piece of the draw at that point, but indications were that J.R. would probably last quite a while.

Bottom line—the conclusion of the game is justified, at least in my opinion.

J.R. Baker/Italy: Well it was not the way I would have liked to play it but it was the hand dealt to me... The trouble with taking over a position is that you have to make a snap decision and then live by it. I didn't think Austria would play *with* me so I didn't give him a chance. It could have been a whole different game if he had written me before I sent my turn in.

Thanks to France for being a faithful ally. Thanks to Turkey for keeping it interesting.

Vince Springer/Turkey: This game was one of my first two when I returned to the hobby. I know a lot of players espouse a "win only" philosophy but I am quite content with the two way draw. Not bad for a returning rookie so to speak. I just couldn't see the alliance structure changing. I needed Germany and France needed Italy. Since France had the North Sea and the Ionian covered it appears to me the game was stalemated. I could have given a bunch of centers to Germany so he could build fleets but there was no guarantee that his home centers would be open for builds.

I feel pretty lucky to have made it this far. The play of the Austrian ensured that I would be around for a long time but the Russian and I had problems from the start. We both were willing to cooperate with one another but we really didn't trust each other either... I guess this was one game where the corner position was a blessing. J.R., you are always a tough adversary. I am sure we will meet again on a level playing field. I doubt if you remember this but you were in my first dip game ever back in 1984 in a zine out of Indy (the name escapes me right know). [[Ed.: *Dave Kleiman's The Diplomat*]] I was AH and you were Italy and you tried to force a Key opening on me from the start. I don't really remember what happened but you were a headache for years! I wish you well. And Pete, thanks for the game—it was fun to play.

Don Scheifler/France: Roger was a great ally, while that lasted, and I thoroughly enjoyed our letters. I'm still not sure whether he was stabbing me, or realized that I was stabbing him. I had decided to take a shot at a win because it looked like R/A/I could bottle up the Turk. I was expecting Roger to build armies, to keep his options open, but he built two fleets. Maybe he had the same thoughts of winning himself, or was just reacting to my letter announcing a "defensive" convoy back to Belgium from the British Isles. At the time it appeared he had decided to ally with the Turk, but perhaps not. Due to his resignation, I never learned his thoughts on the matter.

My thanks to J.R. for holding the Med against the Turk, allowing the 2-way. And to John for standing in with real class as the final German. I look forward to playing with Vincent again, hopefully in a situation where we may have more motivation to communicate. He appears to be both a good player and one who would be fun to negotiate with.

Congratulations to all for a well played game. I enjoyed every turn!

Other comments received on this game were...

Spring 1905 FRANCE: Given the evident I/R animosity towards Turkey, I may actually have a chance to win this game, rather than settle for a two-way F/G as previously planned. It's now or never, so I'm conveying to Bel and hoping the German buys my explanation!

Fall 1905 FRANCE: I either screwed up royally by sending that letter to Germany last season, prompting him to ally with Turkey, or they were planning to ally anyway and I inadvertently slowed Germany down in his own stab of me by announcing my convoy. Or, who knows? I guess I'll find out later.

short short story by Pete Gaughan

Ring tinga ting ting tinga ting ting tinga tinga tinga tinga ting tinga ting. Ting Ting. Ring ting ting tinga ting ...

The door whirrs and then leaps open, old rubber mats still active, a narrow space to enter through. I walk in, make a hard right, through another (open) door and join the line.

Standard assortment—"demographic," it's called. A woman in a business suit is at the head. The man behind her doesn't wait patiently; he's rumpled but sane, his tousled black hair tossing about as he steps back and forth, to and fro. His movements carry him out of line, back in place, out again, in. Disturbing.

"You know the big Bank building on Clayton Road?" says a clerk to my left. "It's right behind that." Voices at the counter subside to a murmur again.

There's a step and a shuffle and a click to my right. The beige knit scarf and hat in front of me turn toward it—an old woman with pale blue eyes. I tense, expecting a line-jumper; it's an old man out of the corner of my eye, tall and gnarled. "I'll be here," he tells the woman as he leans against a writing table. "It could be a large package." His voice is tar, low and dark and without emotion. He looks exhausted.

The old woman smiles—no wrinkles but the small effortless smile of age—and nods, turns back. I haven't seen the people behind me but I feel the line is long now. We take our turns, the impatient man goes ahead and there is only a Filipino woman, the beige scarf and then myself. I hear the click repeated as the old man picks up his aluminum cane and sets it back down. My predecessor shuffles forward to a window, and in a moment it's my turn.

On the way out I stop at a counter in the lobby, back within hearing of the bell, to stamp my letters. I hear the old man walk past behind me; the old woman says brightly, "Well, there you go! It came." I follow them out and the cane and the Christmas bell converse: Ringa tinga step click! ringa ting ting tinga step click! ringa ting. Ringa tinga step click! ting ringa ting.

Be a Man

short short story by Pete Gaughan

He didn't remember being born, but on his fourth birthday his father assembled a shiny red tricycle in the living room, and on Christmas four months later he found the last of the heavy metal nuts under the davenport. By then he was angry with his parents because the tricycle had been left out in the rain so often it was a rusted wreck.

His sixth-grade teacher smelled of lilacs and taught them all the wrong names for rivers (he looked them all up in encyclopedias at home); he forgot her name but learned that authority was not always to be trusted. When the draft came his parents drove him to the post office to register, in that old green Ford wagon with the aroma of vinyl. "Go on, be a man," beamed his father, and he came back out to the car and pretended that he had.

He still didn't remember being born, but when he met Carol he figured that the light-headed feeling and lack of concentration must be a lot like birth. Carol married him but he couldn't remember whether their vows said "to love, honor and cherish" or "to love, honor and protect", and eventually he didn't do either one and she forgot to come home one night and every night after that.

His wedding license still said, "You're married!" but he had learned that authority was not always to be trusted, and he was angry and frustrated, so he went to dusky bars to meet women with padded figures and forgettable names. He went to the plant every morning, even on weekends, and resented the other steelworkers for their families and their RVs.

His parents died, one at a time so he would notice, and he said "I love you" in a sanitized hospital room. After that the plant asked him to take a watch and retire, so he went fishing and forgot all about his job.

He didn't remember dying, and he was still upset about the tricycle.

CALLBOARD

Game Openings

TRONDHEIM / Snowball Fighting (no gamefee):

Brown, Hurst (Huge Richard), DLangley, McCrumb (Winter Warrlock), McKinnon (Duckman), Schultz, Weseman signed up; can take up to three more. This game will be played to 20 VP.

REYNOLDZKAY / Railway Rivals: Weiss, Brosius,

Brown, Irving, York, Whyte and Wordelmann signed up—this game definitely on the Auckland map. Startup is inside.

MAJIPOOR / Railway Rivals (\$3 gamefee): Brosius

and Wordelmann signed up and paid—this game on the TX/NM map.

SOLARIS / Regular Diplomacy (\$5 gamefee): Greg

Ellis signed up and paid—can take six more. Sorry, just not enough interest in variants. Karl, your gamefee has been moved to your subscription; let me know if you want to use it somewhere else!

EAGLESON / Blind Diplomacy 1901 (\$5 gamefee):

Steve McKinnon, Doug Brown, Ward Narhi, Eben Kurtzman, Vince Springer currently signed up and paid; can take two more. (Vince, I took the gamefee off your subscription.)

circulation of this issue: 107

Poetry Shelf (the standby list)

Bounty for Standbys has been increased. Standbys now receive two free issues for each game they are called into, plus two freebies if they play the position to the end.

The Poets are, for Diplomacy: Jeff August, J.R. Baker, Doug Brown, Jack Garrett, Jim Grose, Randy Havens, Tom Hurst, Stan Johnson, Doug Kent, Eben Kurtzman, Steve McKinnon, John McLaurin, Ward Narhi, Phil Reynolds, John Schultz, Nathan Trent, Mark Weseman, Andrew York.

For Diplomacy variant games (some for certain variants only): J.R. Baker, Doug Brown, Jim Grose, Randy Havens, Tom Hurst, Steve McKinnon, Nathan Trent, Mark Weseman, Andrew York (lr).

CALLED THIS MONTH: Greg Ellis for Kaider III/Germany.

Conventions

Peericon: July 28–30

Larry Peery is once again hosting a Diplomacy tournament and "other bizarre events". Sit at the feet of the master by writing to him at 6103 Malcolm Drive, San Diego CA 92115; phone (619) 582-2904; or email peeriblah@aol.com

AvalonCon: August 2–6

The Dip tournament here will host DipCon XXVIII, with Jim Yerkev GMing. Held at the Hunt Valley Marriott, outside Baltimore. Write to Avalon Hill for more information.

Calendar

Yeah, these are birthdays unless otherwise noted!

July: 24 Tom Johnston

August: 15 Brent McKee, 16 Brendan Whyte, 29 Don Williams

September: 29 Jim Burgess

October: 4 Harry Andruschak, 28 Andy York

November: 5 Doug Brown

December: 1 Bruce

McIntyre, 6 Brad Wilson

January: 8 Lance Anderson,

19 Pete Gaughan, 25

Chuff Afflerbach

February: 9 David Hood

March: 16 Claire Brosius,

29 Casey Elaine Ellis, 31

Daf Langley.

April: 30 Cathy Gaughan

May: 12 Richard Weiss, 19

Steve Langley, 25 Pete &

Cathy's anniversary, 26

Walter Devin Ellis

June: 1 Fred Davis Jr., 12

Ed Wrobel, 20 Sally Ann

Marie Gaughan

Waiting Pool

Betting on the birth of Sally

Ann Marie Gaughan—

actual birth was 6/20,

20:45. Rich Irving (6/19,

12:30) gets \$4.50; James

Hardy (6/26, 02:30);

Dave Anderson (6/28, 04:15); Ward Narhi (6/28,

21:15); Steven McKinnon (7/4, 18:16—that is,

17:76); Berry Renken (7/5, 09:15). Rich, I credited

your *Perelandra* account, let me know if you prefer a

check!

June 20, 1995

Birthday of: Danny Aiello, Jr., Chet Atkins, John Goodman, Anne Murray, Andre Watts, Cyndi Lauper, Olympia Dukakis, Lionel Richie, Brian Wilson.

First bank chartered by Congress: National Bank of Philadelphia, 1863.

First Doctor of Science earned by a woman: Caroline W. Baldwin, Cornell U. (Ithaca NY), 1895.

West Virginia Admission Day, 35th state, 1863.

Anniversary of the adoption of the Great Seal of the U.S., designed by Charles Thompson, 1782.

Sign of Gemini, ruling planet Mercury; Chinese lunar calendar Year of the Pig; Hebrew year 5755.

Picks and Pans

Zine Register is out!

Zine Register is now available, from me (cost \$2 in North America, \$4 elsewhere). It's a bibliography and review of every North American zine and dozens from overseas, with comments by more than a dozen different postal Dipsters.

WWPDC

I am corrected by David Hood on the Worldwide Postal Dip Championship team from the U.S. It is:

Austria: Fred Townsend

England: Melinda Holley

France: Mike Gonsalves

Germany: Marc Peters

Italy: Edi Birsan

Russia: Steve Koehler

Turkey: Ron Cameron

standbys: Dan Mathias & David Hood

PDORA

Doug Kent is soliciting donations for the People's Diplomacy Relief Auction. This annual event raises funds for hobby services and custodians. He doesn't need the actual material—just your promise to send the stuff after the auction is over to whomever bids high.

Doug can use almost anything, Dip-related or not.



First Shotz: Mom & Dad & Sally Ann in the ICU

subscriptions to zines, game openings, games, horoscopes, coins, stamps, old zines, Dipdom memorabilia, photographs, books, CDs, tapes and about anything else folks might pay for.

Write to Doug and tell him what you'll put up: 6151 Royaltown Drive, Dallas TX 75230; fax at (214) 750-5892; email at 73567.1414@compuserve.com.

Runestone Poll Results

Well, it had to happen and finally did and I'm glad. Doug Kent's *Maniac's Paradise* won the Poll, after finishing second to *Pere* the past three years. Doug runs the biggest, fastest zine in the hobby, and has his fingers in several other large Dip pies (taking over *Diplomacy World* recently, PDO auction above, etc), and finally gets the formal recognition that his toadies should've paid him long ago.

Cathy's "It's Me Again" finished, again, just at the midpoint amongst subzines; Andy York's "WAYwords" was sixth overall, and McBruce's "The Interim" didn't gather the five votes needed for inclusion. Somehow, I got placed fourth in the GM voting—a huge injustice as several people behind me (Carlberg, Ozog, von Metzke that I know of personally) are far better gamemasters than I. Andy Lischett won the GM Poll.

The only disappointing thing about this year's poll is the turnout: 64 votes, half of last year's count and the fewest since the second year of the poll. I hope some of you *Perelandra* readers sent your ballots in (27 people did rate *Pere*, more than any other zine). The biggest reason for the small turnout has to be the reduced number of zines—only two new zines made this year's listing minimum, there were several folds, and some of the continuing zines didn't distribute ballots as they had in the past. Two of the disappearing acts were among the largest circulations (*Diplomacy World*, *Cognoscenti*). All of this meant less publicity and fewer voters.

A British tradition which I've observed in the past is to review the zines in the Poll, and give a minireview of each zine. Well, since I have just published my reviews (and many others) in the current *Zine Register* I'll not do that this year— you can pay me \$2 to see all that. However, if any of my U.K. readers wants pointers on U.S. zines to try out, but doesn't want to pony up the \$4 for *ZR* over there, let me know what you're looking for and I'll try to give you a couple of informal tips.

Again, congratulations to Doug, and thanks to pollsters Eric & Claire Brosius for their hard work on the Runestone again this year.