

PERELANDRA #131

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Fantasy Football openings

Phil Reynolds (philreynolds@delphi.com) is running a FREE NFL Fantasy Football league by e-mail. However, *Perelandra* is now so late that it's probably already underway. If you're interested, you could email Phil to see where it's at. My apologies to Phil that I couldn't run his 'ad' any earlier.



our first formal 'family' portrait

REYNOLDZKAY / Railway Rivals

SetUp

ANZSAR (Rich Irving, orange): Rotorua
Brown (Doug Brown, brown): Thames
BRW (Brendan Whyte, blue): Hamilton
NECK (Eric Brosius, green): Auckland
SHEEP (Richard Weiss, black): Auckland
YES (Andy York, red): Tauranga

Dice for Round Once: 4-5-4

Deadline for Round One is September 25.

I will hold over if any of you still have map questions.

Acronyms (Doug didn't send a name):

ANZSAR: Australia-New Zealand Sail and Rail
Company

BRW: Bunnikins Rail Way

NECK: Name? Everyone Chooses "KIWI"

SHEEP: Society to Help Engineers, Extra-terrestrials
and Pensioners

YES: York's Express Service

Eric had a couple of questions for me and a couple for Brendan. For me as GM: *Is it possible that the Round 1a die will be so small that the Auckland starters cannot use it?* No. *Are you planning to allow conditional builds like you used to?* No, I'm not. My houserules should be somewhere in this issue, comment welcome.

Also on GMing, Doug: *Will you be offering us any and all races or will there be a number limit on how many we can run each round?* No limit. *Will this be a standard scored game with winners getting 20 points, second place getting 10... or the growing-in-popularity Buss Boss scoring?* I don't believe in Bus Boss.

Brendan on map questions: "Thanks heaps for the Auckland RR start. In answer to queries raised, ALL southern dots are connection points for the special runs to Wellington (ie south), just as all eastern ones are for Kawerau.

Estuaries (ie fingers of water) ARE only crossable at crossing lines: near Tauranga, Thames and the bottom of Auckland. The cost is +3 (rivers are +2 as normal).

I realise Auckland may be too important. Perhaps one of its special runs should be to the East instead. The dots between Papakura and Auckland were intended to stop starters in Auckland making it impossible for others to reach Auckland, but are probably unnecessary. I'm happy to let you or the players decide on this. Perhaps the start should be Papakura instead of Auckland itself (Papakura is the southernmost suburb of Auckland metropolis), and/or one of the specials to Auckland or one of Papakura's runs should be to the East... or to Tauranga. All suggestions are welcome. With 2 players in Auckland I think the importance of it will be diluted between them, so cancels out the monopoly one can get by getting the choice routes out, and blocking others.

[[Reynoldzkay continues on page 9]]

THE INTERIM #9

by BRUCE MCINTYRE

[[Readers of the former zine Excelsior will recognize an old argument of Bruce's—and one I agree with! —Pete]]

The day that Morris Steil, head of the International Olympic Committee, finally and irrevocably snapped, was an August scorcher where outdoor shade meant survival, and finding someone to fix the air conditioning was worth using as many accumulated favours as the IOC was owed. Luckily, the IOC was owed many, for repairmen were understandably busy on the hottest day since 2011. This, however, is circumstantial, and there is no real evidence to connect the heat wave with Steil's breakdown.

"Is the building secure?" was Steil's first question to his chief aide, Sally Smith, when she arrived for the daily briefing. He meant "Is the air-conditioning working?"

"Temperatures are within the comfort zone now, and should be near normal room temperature within an hour," reported Sally. We've been asked to cool the building slowly to avoid overloading the system while they perform checks. They say the lower floors are cooler: we could move this meeting to my office on three if you want."

Steil loosened his tie and unbuttoned the top button of his shirt. "It's not too bad up here. So, what's today's agenda, Sally?"

"There are three decisions for you to make today, sir. The International Ballroom Dancing Federation has proposed a solution to the controversy at last year's finals. You remember how, after the South African couple won with the Pakistani couple second, the TV cameras clearly showed that the crucial slip-up by the Brazilian couple was blocked to some of the judges by the Chilean couple, and yet somehow the South African judge and the Pakistani judge, both clearly blocked, marked the Brazilian couple down, and later claimed they had seen it when they couldn't have? It's been in the papers, and the IBDF Board has met and need your approval for their solution."

Steil eventually raised his head. "Which is...?"

"They want to suspend the two judges for two years, and re-rank the final based only on the marks of the other judges. This would mean medal transfers: the Brazilians would be second, the Pakistanis first, and—"

"I don't understand, Sally. You're saying that the Brazilian couple messed up, but that enough of the judges shouldn't have been able to see it, so they would have finished higher by sheer luck, except that some of the judges might not have seen it but pretended they did? You have the videos and the prominent cyberspace opinions, I presume? Well, we'll deal with that this afternoon. What else?"

Sally paused. "Fox has sent us their choices as co-hosts for the American coverage of the '20 Summer Games next year. They are, mm, controversial. Pete Rose and O.J. Simpson."

"Is Rose not about to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame? How can he be controversial? He did an excellent job for Fox at the Super Bowl last year: I nearly forgot about how boring the game was after Toronto gave up three touchdowns in the first ten minutes, because of his excellent work in the broadcast booth. Who's the other one?"

"O.J. Simpson, sir. Polls show that nearly 75% of Americans now believe he got away with murder twenty-three years ago. He has been doing a fine job as Fox's sports director, but has not been behind a camera in years."

"How is this possible? I recall that when the not guilty verdict came down—and you're too young to remember this, but everybody watched the trial, it got more coverage than Watergate—only 35% of Americans believed he did it. Did I miss something—did more evidence come up after the trial ended?"

"The pollsters believe that the reason for the opinion change is—"

"No matter," interrupted Steil. "The IOC cannot interfere in these decisions except in cases of obvious—obvious—unacceptability. To not forgive these two men for possible past crimes when we have forgiven so many sporting heroes for their proven past crimes—I'm sure I don't have to list the steroid takers, judge bribers, and on and on for you—this would look incredibly petty on our part." He paused for thought and then added quietly, "But let Fox know that certain IOC Board Members—you know which ones—are unhappy about this. We expect their bid on the '22 Games in the next few weeks."

"That's the third item," said Sally. "We have a new bid for 2022, for the American pay-TV rights."

"This needs to be looked at today? We're swamped as it is with the Ballroom Dancing decision: I don't like the sound of that IBDF decision, and I'll want to go over this carefully."

"The new bid might wait, sir, but I really think you should look at it before you leave. One other thing: in order to get the building cooled down, I asked for a favour from the *Times*—they had similar problems this morning—and I had to sacrifice a half-hour of your time to get it."

"Who wants to interview me now?"

Sally waited. "I'm sorry, sir, but Mr. Kleeerhedd said it was very important."

"You granted a half-hour interview with Barry Kleeerhedd? The one who calls me 'Steil over Substance?' Oh my dear Lord."

"He's waiting, sir. Shall I send him in?"

Barry Kleeerhedd, unlike his critics, claimed that his name was the one he'd been born with. He was one reason why the *Times* (unrelated to any ink-on-paper newspaper with the same name) became the foremost on-line news service. His daily column was incredibly popular, especially when it appeared twice a week in the sports section. Making things worse for Morris Steil was the fact that Kleeerhedd was still quite young, not yet thirty-five. Young—and arrogantly confident. He had called the IOC head "Steil over Substance," because Steil's inclusion of more and more judged sports was, to Kleeerhedd, making the Olympics a farcical event, and never seemed to tire of asserting his opinion that judged events were not true sports and should be kept out of the Olympics. In a prize-winning series, he had begun by admitting his own habit of tossing his TV remote control in the air in various combinations of twists and rotations, and eventually concluded that this should be an Olympic event.

Kleeerhedd had suppressed these opinions for a few months in order to support a movement to split the Olympics into annual events, with Summer Olympics in even-numbered years and Winter Games in odd-numbered years. His influence carried the day, and his proposal to divide the games so that each Olympic rendezvous covered either objective sports or subjective ones was accepted by an IOC Board beginning to realize that the Games were growing to a huge, unworkable size. Kleeerhedd's proposal kept the Games to a reasonable size, made it possible to hold an Olympics every year, while still holding the Olympic finals in each sport once every four years, as tradition demanded. It seemed a perfect solution. And Kleeerhedd's columns denouncing what he called the "non-sports" just didn't appear until the new-look Olympics came into being.

But within one Olympiad cycle, the problems were apparent. The Summer Games of 2014 (judged sports only) got far less in TV money, and did poorly in the ratings, because the TV people claimed that compared with track and field, basketball, and swimming, there was far less of an audience for ballroom dancing, synchronized swimming, and rhythmic gymnastics. They were right: the judged events were particularly prone to bad judging in 2014, along the usual nationalistic lines, as well as judge bribing in a few inglorious cases. In the end the 2014 Games barely scraped together a profit for the IOC, and the 2018 Games had in fact lost money. (Of course, the non-judged Summer Games of 2016 in Odessa had been the biggest cash cow in IOC history.) The Winter Games showed similar trends, with hockey and speed skating far more popular with the public than freestyle skiing and ice dancing.

Steil's solution to the growing problem had been to invite as many judged sports as he could to the judged games. The Summer Games of 2018 included barefoot waterskiing, glass blowing, and skateboarding as medal sports, with demonstration sport status bestowed on contests in improvisational theatre, cooking, essay writing, and clothing design. The Winter Games of 2020 would feature snow sculpture and something titled zamboni art. Outwardly he gave speeches about human endeavour being often subjective, and claimed that "where there is competition, whether judged or umpired, there is sport." Inwardly he hoped that the inevitable judging fiascos would be less conspicuous with twice as many events on the schedule.

Kleeerhedd had reverted to his former stance. "Having shown conclusively, by isolating them, that the non-sports are ludicrous," he wrote, "and no longer wishing to conceal that this was my ultimate goal in proposing the annual Olympics, I now urge the IOC to do the obvious and cut the non-sports loose. Let them gather if they wish, but without the Olympic status they do not deserve. The Games motto, surprisingly, has never been changed from the venerable "Faster, Higher, Farther," even though when the non-sports take over it should probably be changed to "Nicer, Cuter, Better."

[[continues on page 3]]

PLAYERS! PAY ATTENTION!

CHANGES TO NMR INSURANCE POLICY

I am re-establishing no-moves-received insurance. If, when the mail arrives on deadline day, I don't have orders from you, I will try to contact you to get them. However, this is a pain in the neck for me, so here are the rules:

- You must specifically request to get such a service.
- Every time I try to contact you, it'll cost you one issue from your subscription. As always, I'll deduct cash first, then free issues you might have earned when your cash is used up.
- If you have email, I'll send you a message that way. If you don't but you give me your phone number, I'll call—twice, in case the line is busy or there's no answer. I will leave a message, or tell you you're late, but I won't stay on the line to get orders. You'll have to call back or fax or whatever.
- Right now, assume that the emails and phones listed in the Cast List are the only ones I have. If yours isn't there, send it to me again (if you want it listed, say so—I'll assume it's unlisted unless you say otherwise).
- Subscription balances will be listed in Cast List—some of you pay no attention to the mailing label or messages written on the outside of your zine, so here's another place I can try to catch your attention when your sub is up.

Let's see how this works. I hate having to call standbys, especially having to call four or five standbys in one issue, even more than I dislike having to call players for moves. The easier we make it for me to run this zine, the better chance I have of getting out on a steady schedule!

[[*The Interim continued from page 2*]]

Steil began, without looking up, in a weary tone as Kleerhedd walked in. "Close the door and sit down, Mr. Kleerhedd, and let me begin by telling you that I am not happy to see you. Seven years ago, you duped the International Olympic Committee into the mistake of separating the judged and non-judged sports, and now you shriek with glee as the judged Games encounter minor problems. I have no time for you sir, but as this has been arranged, I will endure it. But I'll give you nothing for print unless you clear it with me first."

Kleerhedd smiled. "I'm not here to get a quote. I'm here to find out how I can do my best to help you."

"This is your opinion then, that I need help?"

"Surely, Mr. Steil, you know as well as I do that you are beaten. My sources tell me you have received the checkmating blow that spells the inevitable end of judged sports, at least as Olympic events. I am concerned that you may be thinking of resigning, because for all my criticism of your stance on judged sports, I must admit that you have done an excellent job in overseeing the objective sports. The Olympics of 2016 were the best I can remember. So my goal here today is to plan a way for you to reverse your stand without public humiliation. This may be impossible but as an influential sports personality I feel I should do whatever I can."

"I'll assume that your sources are the usual good ones," said Steil after quite some time, "and that you know that Fox is proposing Pete Rose and O.J. Simpson as co-hosts next year. I do not see this as controversial at all: if others do, that is their problem. In any case, this is irrelevant to judged sports, since next year's Games will be the non-judged sports."

Kleerhedd laughed. "You are fencing with me, sir. I've known about the Fox co-hosts for weeks. Compared to the checkmating blow, this is a minor push of a pawn. You are helplessly squeezed and you know it: why waste time trying to finesse me when I am here—honestly, sir—to help you out of this."

"Checkmate? Squeezed? Pushing pawns and finesses? You allude to Chess? To Bridge? These are not judged sports. My decision to make them medal sports was a logical one, especially since both sports have long histories of international non-Olympic competition. TV may not cover them, but neither does TV cover shooting or archery or handball."

"I agree, Mr. Steil. I applauded your decision on Chess and Bridge when it was made, after a little research showed that your facts were right."

"So why waste my time with this talk of my job being in danger? You have fifteen minutes."

Kleerhedd looked at Steil for a long moment. Then he frowned. "Is it possible?" he asked. "Perhaps somehow you do not know. Maybe I am wasting your time." His look changed to one of pity as he rose and headed for the door. "You will understand; perhaps today, perhaps tomorrow, maybe a bit later. Judged sports cannot continue, that much is certain. Call me when you find out what I know." He walked back to Steil's desk and placed a card on it. Steil waited until he left and then put it into the disposal.

Sally Smith knocked and entered not long after Kleerhedd left. "So what did he want, sir?"

"Vague threats, mostly. Quite a stupid man. Do we still have the secret link to the Times computer network?"

"We do. I take it you want me to read the articles he submits for the next few weeks."

"Yes. Contact me if there is any mention of my name. Now let's get started on the ballroom dancing decision."

"Are you sure you don't want to see the new bid on the 2022 Games from—"

"Later with that. This ballroom fiasco is an important decision, let's get to it."

And they did. Over lunch, Steil and Smith watched tape of the controversial final, and later Steil read and viewed the comments culled from news services (Kleerhedd's column on the subject was unusually tame, thought Steil), and looked over the results of a world-wide poll which had been performed the previous week. Near the end of the day, Steil reluctantly concluded that the IBDF decision was the best of several bad options. At least the IOC could make some money by selling the TV rights to the medal ceremony.

"All right Sally," Steil said when the preliminary plans for the ballroom dancing medal ceremony had been communicated to the officials downstairs that would deal with them, "I think I'll call it a day. Have my car waiting."

Sally did not move. "Sir, I think you should have a look at the new bid for 2022 before you go."

"Have you got it with you? I'll take it with me and read it tonight."

"Is that secure?" asked Sally, trying to sound concerned enough to get Steil to take off his jacket and go back to his desk.

"Fine," said Steil irritably as he opened the door. "Fax a copy to my home computer, and one to my car—I'll read it on the way home."

Forty minutes later, the centre of attention on the shoulder of the Expressway was Steil's driver. "He asked on the intercom what the temperature was outside and if the air conditioning was working. I thought it was: I said yes, and asked him if he wanted it adjusted. I didn't receive a reply for a few minutes, then I heard a thump. I pulled over and drew the curtain and saw him laying there, and I called you. Then I saw his computer screen."

Steil had typed "MY GOD. KLEERHEDD IS RIGHT. CUT ALL JUDGED SPORTS LOOSE IMMEDIATELY. WE CANNOT HAVE X" and then apparently had slumped over. A few IOC Board Members were embarrassed when they tried later to claim that the driver had typed the message, but policemen take dying messages very seriously, and it was easy to prove this impossible. The non-embarrassed members decided to treat Steil's message as an order, and formed enough of a majority to make it all happen.

[[*continues on page 4*]]

[[The Interim continued from page 3]]

Oddly enough, it was almost fifty years before the mystery of Steil's sudden demise (not to mention just what the mysterious X referred to) was solved. Steil survived his heart attack, but lost much of his memory, and lived only five more years in an institution, where his most frequent visitor was a man he did not recognize named Barry something. Sally Smith, shortly after informing the bidders on the 2022 Games that there would probably not be a 2022 Games, made certain that the police handed over Steil's computer once they had determined conclusively that the message could only have been typed in by Steil himself. For years she thought that she alone knew what had happened, and kept the secret safe.

But Barry Kleerhedd's sources could not be denied. In his last column before retiring, he reminisced several of the recurring themes and opinions printed under his by-line. "My greatest success", he wrote, "was in finally purging the judged sports from the Olympic Games by first criticising them and then isolating them until it became clear that they did not belong. My greatest regret, however, was in letting poor Morris Steil find out for himself the ultimate evidence, which I knew would be a shock." Billions of viewers then read the short proposal Morris Steil had read in his limosine in the hot August sun:

Dear Mr. Steil:

Our network would like to bid for the American pay-TV rights to the 2022 Olympic Games. We propose to pay, for the subjective sports Games, five times the fee for the more popular objective sports Games in 2020, and in return for this extremely generous offer we ask only that medal status be given to a neglected subjective sport that we assure you is absolutely non-trivial and far more relevant to everyday life than glass-blowing or snow sculpture. Appended to this proposal are regulations and judging standards which conform to IOC guidelines for this new sport, which we agree to feature extensively (as we have for the past twenty-two years) on our network until the Olympics begin. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,
R. Tonelli
president, EroticaWorld TV

[[Many many thanks, Bruce! I couldn't agree with you more, and I hope you get this argument across to more people! But I can't help imagining this coming true...]]

It's Me Again! by Cathy Gaughan

Gee, what a difference a month can make. Sally Ann is 8 weeks old now! She has actually grinned at Pete and me. We were so excited. She still usually eats and cries. Every once in a while for about 5 to 15 minutes she "plays". Playing right now consists of tracking toys with her eyes. Anyway, it's tons better than what she was doing.

I know that life will never be back to exactly the way it was before Sally Ann, but it's starting to feel normal again. Not so scary and unknown. I've figured out she's a lot tougher than I had imagined that babies were. In other words, she doesn't break. You can put her down when she's screaming if you want and the world doesn't end or anything.

We've taken her to two baseball games. First was the Oakland A's vs. Texas Rangers. She lasted till the 8th inning and the Rangers won! That was kind of a warm up for what Pete considers the real game—the Dodgers vs. the Giants, which is the National League which (from my training from Pete) is REAL baseball. Anyway, Sally Ann made it all the way through that game, but the Dodgers lost.

We got to go see the play that Pete's Dad is in. Nana, Pete's Mom, babysat for us. We have a prop keepsake from the play that reminded us of Sally Ann. The play was "Black Comedy". It is very funny. I had no idea what was going on when the play began totally blacked out. I, of course, soon figured out what was happening when the lights came on or off however you want to look at it. It was very funny.

I've been keeping pretty busy with Sweet Adeline stuff. We have a show coming up in Oct, so we've been learning new music all summer. My quartet is now singing with a new lead; it's like starting over again. But I like the experience this lead has so I don't think it will take her long to have all of our repertoire learned. It will just be getting our voices to blend with that great barbershop sound. We will be getting coached this coming Saturday by the director of our chorus. Should be really fun and educational.

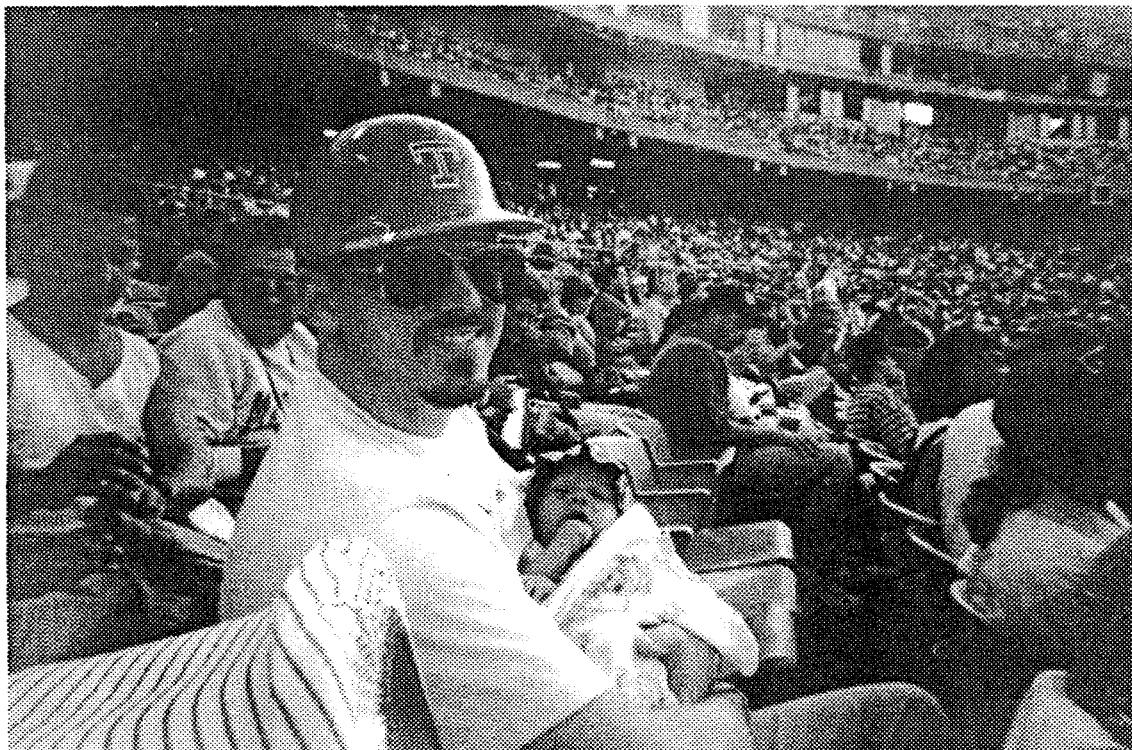
Sunday the 13th, Pete and I went to the Annual Chorus Picnic. We had a fun time. Sally Ann slept through most of it, so she made it easy for Daddy and Mommy to eat and play without interruption. Pete was tossing around the baseball with some folks while I checked out all the great food to eat. Of course we ended the afternoon with all the ladies singing our favorite barbershop songs.

Since I now spend a lot of time in one place while I'm nursing Sally Ann, I ask Pete to suggest some books for me to read. He was reading a collection of stuff by Orson Scott Card. So, he suggested the trilogy *Ender's Game*, *Speaker for the Dead*, and *Xenocide*. I read them all and could hardly put the books down. I was a bit disappointed with the last one because it left so many things kind of hanging. But the other two were just wonderful. So now I'm asking for suggestions from you guys as to what I should read next.

Oh, I want to thank all of you for all the well wishes for Sally Ann and cute stories about babies in general. They are very sweet and entertaining.

Later, dudes & dudettes!

Cathy



Sally Ann enjoys her first baseball game (Texas 3, Oakland 1 in 11 innings)

The Roar of the Greasepaint

(the letter column)

Doug Kent

Congratulations on the baby—now I don't have to have any!

to which I responded, "AHA! I WIN! My slower-but-surer plan for Hobby Domination comes to fruition!" and Doug said,

No, I win! I'll control your daughter... kids never listen to their parents, I'll feed anti-Gaughan thoughts to her secretly.

Alex Simmons

Congrats on the arrival of Sally Ann Marie (Sam? Sammy? Maybe not :-). I hope that sleep deprivation isn't among the many new experiences in your life. ... P.S. It seems that in my copy of the 'zine, someone opened the issue and defaced your picture. :-)>

Brendan Whyte

Got *Perelandra* at the weekend. Congratulations on the baby, and my best to Cathy. You look different from how I pictured you. Must be the fuzz... :-)

[[More from Brendan on RR late in the letter column; also, he's moving to L.A. for grad school this month!]]

Larry Peery

Pete, that beard and mustache make you look like Basil Rathbone. You'll be great as Robin Hood someday.

[[Y'know, when I went to include that picture, that's when I realized that most of you didn't know I'd grown a beard (back in January). Hope it wasn't too much of a shock, though of course you were all busy looking at the women in my life right?]]

Conrad von Metzke

[[Note: Conrad declared some time ago that he would never open mail with a Nixon stamp on it. (I swore I'd never buy the stamps either.) Well, I sent Conrad a letter with a Nixon stamp—on an envelope where the printer had laid out a man in a suit behind bars, just the right size and shape to paste Tricky Dick's postage on the head.]]

Your letter arrived about 8 hours ago. Ever since I've been trying to remember when I have ever laughed so hard, and I still haven't come up with anything. Someone in Santa Cruz is a true, unadulterated genius!

... I said it in *Costa* generally, but it should also be said personally—best possible wishes to the three of you, and to please *please* have some fun with your big adventure. If I could impart one piece of gratuitous advice, that would be it—kid-rearing can be a hell of a lot of fun if you allow it to be. (I even made a game out of changing poopy diapers, and believe it or not, it too got to be fun.) (Though in all honesty, Ross' diapers were more fun than Eric's. By Eric's day the joy was wearing a wee bit thin...)

[[Diapers have been the very least problem—not even an annoyance. I've cleaned up bigger (and smellier) messes after preparing a fancy meal. Though I'm told that once the child is on something other than breast milk, that duty isn't quite so sweet.]]

My private guess is that you two will make the best parents that a child could have, because I sense two qualities about you that are absolutely critical (and distressingly rare)—calmness and involvement. I'm sure you're capable of anger, but I find it inconceivable that you could ever truly "lose it". And as to the other, go back and read some of your own writings if you've any doubt.

[[I accept the compliment, and certainly Cathy holds up under these tests, but what you can't know is the depth of my temper. I've kept it generally in check for some years now but I do feel, when I get angry, that I'm just a moment away from breaking something expensive. I think a big part

o the problem is that I get the worst of Sally Ann's time, when Cathy is out and so food is not immediately available. If you look at all the times she's cried for more than ten minutes at a stretch, they've all come when I was alone with her!]]

Stephen Glasgow

First, congrats on the newborn with 4 names! You may have heard we just became parents of son #2, Braham Harrison Glasgow, on May 17. He's also a noisy one, but apparently not in Sally Ann's league! Try some Colic Drops (simethicone), works for his belly cramps. Good luck, and both try to get some sleep!

[[to whom I said congratulations, and likewise congratulations to...]]

Eric Ozog

Thanks! Ryan Michael was born on June 23, 8 lbs 4 oz. I read in *Perelandra* about the complications with Sally Ann—scary—I'm glad everything turned out okay.

RBM should be out by the 19th. Gosh, are two cubs a handful!

Andrew York

Congrats on the new addition to the family—yet another generation of gamers!! I'm glad that everything worked out; even if it was rocky at the start. I'll look forward to more updates.

I have to agree with Jim Bailey on the toy front. Getting solidly built and versatile toys are much better than the latest flashy, flimsy plastic gizmo. Even as a kid, I would play with the old standbys much longer than the overly hyped trinket.

Richard Weiss

Happy Parenthood, Pops, and what do you call yourself, Cathy?

What a wonderful surprise to see beautiful pictures and read the good news! Congratulations. My heart went out to you in reading the narrative. There are enough totally unnerving and scary parts of childbirth and the delivery few minutes without something really wrong going on. Congratulations on bonding anyway and nursing. Feel proud of yourselves for all of that.

I wished someone had told me they got mad at their babies when I had my first one. I felt extremely guilty and as though I were a real deviant. I was shocked to hear you mention it so casually, but, congratulations there too, it is healthy to be real and to acknowledge all thoughts and feelings. It proved good for me to have a tag team approach, because a team is the best way. I believe you will be wonderful parents and hope to see for myself before too long.

I believe in the Eastern philosophies that the personality of the child is a gift from "somewhere" and not really a true reflection of the parents. How they act may be a reflection, but not the personality. Remember that when you most want to be judged a perfect parent and to have a wonderful child, there will be crying, or pooping, or vomiting, or swearing, or whatever. It's great though. I heard how much you were living and enjoying Sally Ann. Keep on.

[[Thanks for the encouragement, I sure need it.]]

Reply to Harry Andruschak: I played Capture the Flag dozens of times. My parents ran a summer camp for teenage boys in rural Vermont. I've often tried to get a game going as an adult, never really succeeded. In San Francisco there is a store by the name of "Ring-a-leevio", which was another name for the same game. I always smiled as I went past, thinking of playing Capture the Flag, usually about 9pm on a long, light summer night.

I once worked with a friend on designing interactive games, Virtual Reality, held in places like movie theaters, and the game I was furthest along on in the devel-

opment and the one I was most excited about was a version of Capture the Flag. I really appreciate software/game tips and think I will get this and 1830.

Seems like "Majipoor" should be on the India map. *[[You're probably right! But Majipoor is also a planet, like all the game names in my zine.]]*

... I used to believe that the most pernicious influence on a child was hearing that "they lived happily ever after." Life is not static. There is no perfect state. There is no goal. There is no path. Indeed, for want of a better childhood 'scripting' story, I've chosen "The Bear Went Over the Mountain" as the most acceptable. The only bad part is that it does imply getting to the top of a mountain is a goal, and that he saw another mountain, not the valley or the clouds or just *was* somewhere.

Ah, now I know. I will give Sally Ann a copy of one of my favorite stories, which has no message that I know of, it's just fun. And when I come up with the childhood story with the most PC message, I'll let you know.

Enjoy. Cherish. It goes by too fast, so do stop and smell the poo-poo.

Vince Springer

Greetings. Sorry so late—I have been out of town moving my girlfriend up to Chicago. Hope all is well with the baby, your father, and life in general.

[[Thanks. My dad is doing fine, we all believe the open-heart was just what he needed... that, and having his first granddaughter!]]

David Schlosser

Congratulations on the successful delivery of your package. Just remember that the first six months are the easiest. It may be worrisome, but at least Sally won't be motile while you learn the basics.

[[Wow. The last thing I expected was anyone telling me this was the easy part.]]

Buz Eddy

Dear Sally Ann

Sorry to hear that your arrival was a bit unpleasant, but I am pleased that you have started your work in making the world right. I have two children well into their teen years, both quite accomplished I suppose, but different. My youngest is a straight A accelerated honors program student, and there is a common thread of stories that run among parents of such children. "There was something different about that baby." Your mom's stories about your long and vehement protests about whatever injustice or discomfort attracts your attention reminds me very much of my academic super-star. At breast there was hell to pay if the milk wasn't immediately ready and fast flowing. The swing was only good for three minutes at a time. And in general she was a very good educator on how it might be possible for an unstable person to cause physical harm to an "innocent" defenseless baby.

You have been born into many societies and cultures that will influence your life. The USA has values and norms particular to it, as does your State of California, as does the "Bay Area". Beyond that you belong to the mercantile middle class, which carries values that cross time and national barriers. One of the sub-cultures that will influence you is one that your mom and I call harmony. I hope you have the chance to experience the richness of the musical world in whatever way your spirit leads you.

The reason I know about you is because of a very very small, and probably dying, sub-culture of postal Diplomacy. This sub-culture has values like "never subscribe to anyone else's norms" which make self-perpetuation unlikely. But your Dad and all of his readers have spent time and effort in this culture which is based on



the gaming premise of kill before you get killed. Of course, all gaming is based on that premise, but in this culture it is a little more blatantly brutal. But gaming is pretend, fantasy, and unreal, so it is socially acceptable. You may or may not become a gamer, Sally Ann, but what this cultural environment will give to you is encouragement to let your wildest imagination soar with unfettered abandon.

I'll make a wish for you, and since I'm a Christian it's also a prayer. May you always have the satisfaction of feeling that you tried to leave things better than you found them.

[[Buz, that's wonderful. Thank you.]]

John Mirassou

[[John is a long-lost Dipster; I met him at Dafcon in 1983 or -4! So I asked what he's up to...]]

Well, I started working at a company called E-mu systems about a year ago. We build samplers, sound modules, and other various electronic music gear. So it's rather fun being able to combine work with music. There are many musicians who work here, which is part of why I'm getting back into playing guitar again. I'm not sure how well you know this area, but we're located in Scott's Valley. Which means that Santa Cruz is a convenient place to live. Which also means that I can now live within walking distance to the beach (something I'd hoped for since college. Don't know why I never thought of going to UC Santa Cruz when I applied to college, though...).

I would like to see what some of the hobby old timers are up to. It's a bit scary to think that the first zine I published (*Command Post*) started back in 1972/73/something like that.

Daf Langley

Great picture on the front of *Perelandra*. What a sweetie! I'm so sorry to hear about her stomach problems. Sort of a baptism by fire. Christopher was like that, we didn't get a lick of sleep for quite a few weeks. But then he got over whatever it was and started sleeping. I'll be glad you two are elated and exhausted all in one. I'm so glad the baby is home.

Cathy, I am probably really late with this news, but I found breast feeding to be wonderful. I thought it would hurt, and it does make you cramp a little in the beginning, but once your full milk comes in, there's nothing better than having it sucked out. Once the little one has teeth, then it's a different story. But you've got a few weeks yet.

Take care and get sleep when you can. I'm in the "let sleeping babies sleep" club. I figure if they are asleep, they aren't hungry or upset or anything, so let them stay that way.

But she's up to 8 lbs. 9 oz. after six weeks, and growing an ounce a day.]]

John McLaurin

I hope everything is going well with you all. Judging by your writings, there were some tense moments for Sally Ann!

The eagle was an interesting choice for the graphic carrying the "bundle". As it is a bird of prey, wouldn't we expect that it is carrying its "load" away as lunch?

[[In this household, raptors are the highest form of life. If a bird was going to symbolize the arrival of my child, it was going to be a bird with real talons! (I've never trapped an eagle, but then I couldn't find the right size falcon graphic quickly enough to mock up a peregrine delivery.) In short, I was playing around with the combination of baby arriving + my volunteering—don't analyze it too deeply!]]

Rick Kohman

Being "part of a family-unit" is a tad different from being "half of a couple", ain't it? It's demanding, and frightening, and labor-intensive, and nerve-racking, and altogether worth every minute when all is said and done, huh?

So, ya didn't want to consult Uka Rick before naming the polliwog... as if you couldn't learn to live with something like "Persephone d'Arc"! i could have told you that Ann(e) and Marie are safe bets... but Sally? Never much cared for that one. And you surprised the heck out of me by not sticking a Maureen or Colleen in there somewhere!

[[Cathy was against anything remotely ethnic (ie. Irish). My first choice was Bridget, and she squashed that quick.]]

But the more I let the entire phrase "Sally Ann Marie" flow through my head, the more I feel the music. (It's that anti-climactic "Gaughan" sour note that needs work...)

Taking into account that it's impossible to get a decent photo from the b&w offset printing process, I've gotta admit that your ugly little bald worm is among the cutest I've seen; as ugly little bald worms go... give her six months, then she'll be verifiably cute! And those fingers! She's destined to be either a virtuoso pianist, or the Dodgers' first female Cy Young winner!

[[She already has a Dodger uniform...]]

In re: the zero population growth question. I will defend to my death anyone's right to promote any illogical, self-centered, anti-survival cult s/he chooses to espouse. Thank Gawd that this particular aberration isn't genetic, or there would never have been a ZPG advocate; and we need radicals at both ends of every

[[Strange the way social niceties change—I've found myself discussing breasts with three or four women I hardly know, including our apt. manager, who was sympathetic over a near-disaster—our freezer nearly quit, which would have thawed out three bottles of pumped breast milk.

[[We have finally reached the point where we can leave Sally asleep past her next official 'feeding time' (IF she sleeps). For a while, when she was behind in weight, we didn't dare.

spectrum to define the median. (Sigh!) I just wish "they" would grant me the same tolerance to espouse my own illogical, self-centered, anti-survival pipe-dreams...

[[I though maybe I had offended John Galt to the point where he wasn't coming back (his subscription was up)...]]

John Galt

I want to apologize to Cathy for the bad timing of my commentary on kids; I wish her good luck in her ordeals, and I won't be the one to bring up the subject here again for awhile.

But Pete, I feel that some of your comments were similarly out of line. For one thing, my statement that having kids should bear a tax penalty is because they impose costs and nuisances on others, and have bad effects on the environment that extend into the indefinite future. (As a libertarian, I feel taxes should only be imposed to make someone pay for the results of his own actions, and only when the market does not do this on its own.) When you say it would be equally fair to tax my computer, you beg the question, what costs am I now imposing on others by using it?

And no, I'm not getting the dole; are you?

[[That wasn't the issue. I don't have a philosophical objection to it. You do.

[[What costs are you imposing on others by using your computer? None. I didn't say you were. I said it would be just as reasonable to tax computer owners as it would to tax parents. You said we should tax kids for their existence. Besides being abhorrent on principle, this is unfair taxation. Every piece of garbage my child generates; every mile she travels, whether by public or private transit; every item of clothing she wears; every activity in her life that imposes a cost on others will be taxed. What possible cost could she impose on society that won't be recovered already? (Careful—don't list anything that is merely manners, habits or interpersonal relations! If you want society to reimburse you because you don't like kids yelling in public, watch out for society coming back to charge you for your mannerisms.)

[[Also, why are you suggesting what amounts to a poll tax, but only on newborns? Some reason why 23-year-olds shouldn't pay this same tax? And, finally, it amounts to involuntary servitude, since Sally Ann had no say in its passage or her subjection to it.

[[Face it, John, yours was not a suggestion that needs to be taken seriously (though stating it a second time forced me to do so). Consider the topic dropped.]]

Rich Irving

Not much to talk about. But I have an award to present.

And the "Screw Your Customers" Award goes to: Monterey Peninsula Cable TV. (I know you don't care about this, but I'm putting this in anyway.)

Better fill you in on story. When I first transferred I canceled my cable. I wasn't going to be home to watch it, so why not. No problem. Now that I'm back home I call to get re-installed. The operator said it'd be installed Wednesday, they'd leave the bill and I wouldn't have to be home. No problem or so I thought.

On Wednesday, I hooked it up and nothing but only static appeared. No bill, so maybe they fell behind. Of course, tomorrow there still was no cable, so I called the "customer service rep".

After being placed on hold for 5 minutes, she informed me that the installer couldn't figure out which wire was connected into my house and so I have to have someone home to verify. But since it was disconnected only three months ago, obviously the stupid "dis-installer" didn't mark my wire. ("Oh, don't waste a minute on that, nobody gonna use that again!") Of course, I also had no note telling me they didn't do the job and when

I called the rep was saying this was because of their 20 year old technology. (When it was really a failure to use 5000 year old technology (i.e. writing).) Since I now need a weekend or late afternoon slot, I wait 3 weeks to get installed. It'll probably show up on my bill!

When competition finally comes here, I'll be first to jump off MPTV's bandwagon.

I'm sure this cable story is not too uncommon, but this one was particularly idiotic.

John Schultz

First of all... *congratulations!* You two are in for one wild ride, my friends. It's such a wonderful-terrible thing, becoming parents, and looking forward to grandchildren. May every moment be perfection. May every decision you make be guided by reason and foresight... and if there is a God... may (s)(h)e look upon you all compassionately.

I didn't vote for the Runestone this time. I'm sorry to hear it didn't get a better response than it did. I kept meaning to and putting it off. That's the way my life has been going the last couple of years. No time for anything but school and art. No time. Still, I should have voted... and I will next year. That's a promise. If I had voted, I'd have given three tens. You, Doug and Andy. Neapolitan. Three flavors and all great.

Short stories were quite enjoyable. I especially liked the second one. Reminded me a lot of an extremely brief interpretation of *Citizen Kane*. I don't suppose the tricycle had a name... like "Rosebud"?

[That story was a formal exercise—write a biography in only 12 sentences. I'd never written anything with such an artificial limit before.]

Jim Bailey

I also had problems doing any story writing over the last month. I did start on the *final* rewrite of TOT, though. I think I have a clear idea of what I want to do to make it as vivid and compelling as it deserves to be. I still have to see if my writing skills are up to standard I hope to achieve, but this will at least be a BIG push that should see those skills progress a very large step.

The standard I'm setting is no less than to equal the strength of all of the Hugo and Nebula award nominees for Novella, all of which I've read. It was probably the strongest overall category in SF writing last year. It may be a stretch for me, but one that I look forward to trying. I honestly believe the material has the underlying strength, I just have to do the story *justice*.

Voyager script is on hold, though. I've come to the realization that I wasn't doing a story that would help me achieve the goal of reaching the next level in the process. Since they are probably already doing the "Q on Voyager" story in-house, there would be no reason to look very hard at mine, so they would probably just send it back. I have to really concentrate on following the

guidelines for what an acceptable spec script should be. I'll probably finish this one up for practice, as well as comparison purposes when Q does hit Voyager, then work on story ideas for a *real* script.

Continuing best wishes for you, Cathy and Sally Ann (can't get [the name] wrong when it's on the cover!)

Steven McKinnon

[[Steven said he was headed back to school, and I asked "Which school?!"

I'm going back to RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) in Troy, just up the road. Michael Alterio and Alex Simmons both went there. I am finishing the final year of my Chemical Engineering B.S. From that I intend to go into teaching, probably Chemistry, Physics or most likely, Maths.

I originally started there in 1984, but time and money ran out. I have finally gathered the time, energy, money and motivation necessary to work and go to school. But I have no idea how much I'll have left once the festivities begin, so I'm playing it safe. I know if I have schoolwork and Dip to do that the schoolwork will get the "I'll do that later." This is a preemptive strike.

Peg Gaughan

hi dear...

Just a note re *Pere* page 14, the question about "Cracking toast, Grommet!". It's from a claymation film called "The Wrong Trousers". I wish I could recall who dunnit, but Mom & I sat up late watching a "making of" show about it way back around Xmas, I think. 'Tis a British producer, and I think it won an Oscar. Totally enjoyed the short fiction by yourself, by the way.

Meanwhile, not much else new. I am much obliged to you for using my pix in the zine... wow... I've made the printed page :D ... or photocopied as the case may be. If'n I'd been reading it at the library I couldn't figure out who the short story writer was, but hey, gotta let somebody else have some fun.

How's the kid? (Cathy as well as Sally.) Did you go to Dad's opening night? *[[No—went a couple weeks later (Black Comedy by Peter Shaffer).]]* I have a dead cat on my desk... no, wait, it's purring and wagging. Hm.

Found a listing in the alt.tv.x-files group called "People you don't wanna be on the X-Files." Some joker put in "A guy in a red uniform." "Captain, I've found the alien! It's right here!! AAAUUUGH!!" Oops—wrong show." There's going to be an *X-Files* con here next weekend, but somehow I don't think it'll have the party atmosphere of STrek...but then again, what does?

By the way, if you need any late-night video fare (you & la S), *Star Trek: Generations* is supposed to be out on video this weekend. Also try *Speed*, which isn't very restful but has a really macho Keanu Reeves (dude!) and a really sexy Sandra Bullock. Or *Stargate*, which has no plot but lots of safe 2-dimensional characters and

great special effects. Not to mention Jaye Davidson, the one of dubious gender from *Crying Game*, as Ra the sun god. "Next time somebody asks if you're a god, you say... YES!!"

Don Scheifler

Catherine Maria Gihe Scheifler arrived today [Wed., July 19] at 11:34am, weighing in at 8lbs 10oz!

After Nayol had been on medication for weeks to prevent premature labor, we ended up having to induce to persuade the baby to come out. Our appointment was for 5:30 this morning. By 6:30, she was all hooked up to the modern blessing of epidural anesthesia, having mild contractions without any discomfort. All was quiet (we both even slept some) until just short of 11:30.

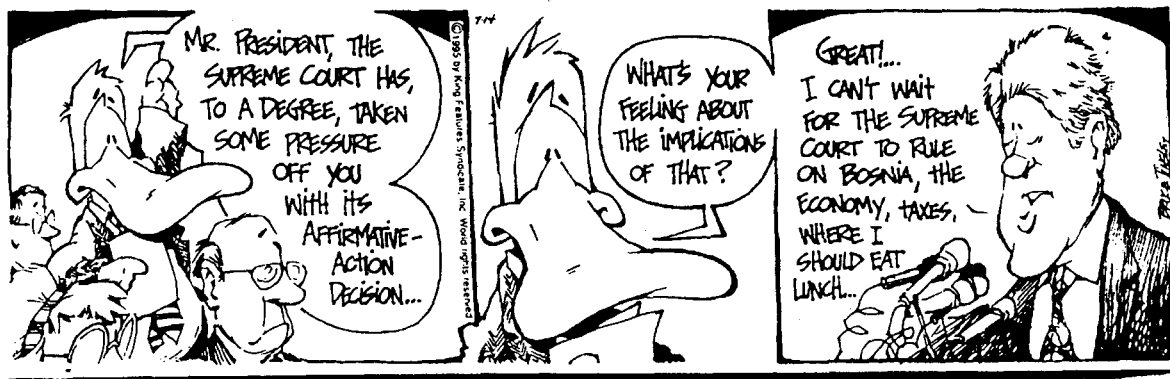
Suddenly her contractions became so strong that Nayol started to cry from the pain. Our nurse (Cathy, by coincidence) quickly called the OB, the pediatric nurses, and the anesthesiologist, while quickly preparing Nayol for the imminent delivery. The OB and pediatric nurses arrived just in time to deliver Catherine. The anesthesiologist didn't arrive in time to offer any increased pain relief. The contractions during the final stages of delivery just came on too rapidly for an increase in dosage to be made. Nayol experienced just enough of the more painful aspects of childbirth to now realize how torturous it would be without any pain relief. Fortunately, it only lasted about five minutes!

Catherine has Nayol's overall facial features, similar to those of Alexander and Nicholas: big almond eyes, a small nose, and broad cheeks. Her hair appears to be dark brown right now, similar also to what Alexander and Nicholas have.

Her big brothers, now 5 ½ and 2 ½, were excited to finally meet "li'l sisser" later in the afternoon. They wanted to take her toys to play with, and some of their clothes to wear, not realizing just how small Catherine was. I stopped to buy Nayol some flowers, and they bought some for their sister. When they met Catherine they immediately wanted to pose for pictures. Needless to say, Catherine immediately opened her eyes and smiled. Every Scheifler is a ham from birth.

Pete, you asked me previously: "So tell me—what is *your* connection to a certain (dead) royal family??" None, but as you point out, the names we've chosen sure suggest it! Before our first child, we wanted a name that could be used for either a boy or girl, depending on what we were blessed with. Nayol wanted a strong sounding name to go with a Korean middle name that meant "strong leader". Thinking of Alexander the Great, I suggested Alexander/Alexandra, and she liked it. Then for our second, we wanted another 3-4 syllable name. Once we found we would have another boy, we settled on Nicholas. For this baby girl, I wanted Maria (has always been my favorite), but Nayol wanted a longer name which was also that of some famous leader. She

MALLARD FILLMORE / Bruce Tinsley



Rich Novak felt my cartoon selection needed a little balance... thanks, Rich!

originally wanted Cleopatra, but I'm afraid I put the nix on that one without a lot of serious consideration. The only other names we could think of that fit were Elizabeth and Catherine. Fortunately, we both liked Catherine. So although we must sound like Romanov wannabes, it just worked out that way. So, let's see, the next group of kids will have to be Ivan, Peter, Elizabeth, Fedor...

Oh, I didn't mention earlier—Catherine has two middle names so that we could have Maria in there for me, and a Korean middle name as we did with the boys. In Korean, Gihe (pronounced Jeehay) means "wisdom". This poor kid is gonna have a tough time learning to write her name! Oh, well, life is full of little challenges.

All are well. Alexander and I just finished hanging our "It's a Girl!" banner on the front of the house, in preparation for their coming home tomorrow. I'm taking a couple weeks of vacation, and Nayol will take several weeks off. Plenty of time to fully enjoy some of Houston's sweltering summer season.

Hope Sally Ann, you and Cathy are all well and happy!

[[Fantastic! Congratulations, roomie, and thanks for letting me print all this. It's wonderful to see what's going on my readers' lives, especially folks we've known well.]]

Brent McKee

First congratulations on the birth of your daughter, Sally Ann Marie (ever notice how few Sallys there are nowadays?). They get over that Winston-Churchill-look-alike phase soon enough.

Then there's the Runestone Poll. I can't judge *Maniac's Paradise* because I don't see it, but it's obviously pretty good to muster a 10,000 on the preference score. Still, *Perelandra* is tops in my books. The thing about *Perelandra* is that it has been consistently good (and highly-ranked because of it) for a long time. I don't think you'd want it any other way.

Obviously the small turnout is a disappointment since it clearly reduced the number of zines that made the main list. I'll be interested in seeing how many zines got only 8 or 9 votes. A larger turnout would probably have increased their vote.

Interesting discussion of California politics. In the British Parliamentary system which we use in Canada, the sort of shift you are discussing could have more far-reaching implications, like a new general election, or none at all. If as a result of an MP switching sides on an important vote the government loses, the Prime Minister may be obliged to call an election since he has lost the confidence of the House of Commons and will be unable to push his policies through the House. I'm not sure which system's better.

Probably the most famous person to cross the floor was Winston Churchill. In 1905 he left the Conservatives to join the Liberals (and in the next election was elected as a Liberal and served in the Cabinet). During his two years out of Parliament he rejoined the Conservatives, since the Liberals had been decimated in the 1922 elections.

In connection with Rich Irving's comments on Bob Dole's rather silly comments on movies, I recently saw a listing of TV shows that one of those right-wing media groups thought were "bad" and "good". To be fair they were right about some of those shows, just as Dole is right about some of the movies is criticizing; but the operative word in both cases is "some". Calling a show about teenaged angst bad because it has teenagers disobeying their parents (*My So-Called Life*) is bizarre.

[[I believe it should be far less important which party a politician belongs to. If they were elected on and voting by their principles, presumably their party affiliation wouldn't affect how they vote, or how they are voted for (well, not much).]]

Hugh Magen

I have resurfaced. i move in sunday 8/20. i will be using this email address; though once school starts i will probably be using one that they give me (i suppose that i am getting one). school doesn't start until late september, so i will have some time on my hands until then. right now i am at my brother's in san francisco. the trip was a blast. israel, italy, spain, with some short stops in geneva, paris, london. we took over 22 rolls of film, but we should cut that back some for the albums-don't worry, no one but my parents will get subjected to every picture.

more later. hope your summer is going well and cooler than it is at davis (the 3 days we were looking for a place to live it was about 105 degrees).

[[Welcome to Northern California, Hugh! I hope you can meet while you're here. Tell us about your studies! And while you were gone, of course, your game ended with you winning...]]

Greg Ellis

Comments on Giedi Prime: (you already have the congrats on SAM)

[[Editor's note: People are certainly welcome to address our daughter as 'Sam', but they can expect to have her ignore them...]]

This was a tough, tough game. I started the game with two 3-way alliances against the other witches: England and Turkey. Unfortunately, neither alliance was comfortable; both Germany and Austria were sounding too demanding and likely to flake. Was it a case of self-fulfilling prophecy, or did have them both called right from the beginning? Austria stabs me early (long before Turkey is in dire straits) and Germany claims I stabbed him by not following his directions for the attack on England. So much for the 3-ways. By this time Melinda Holley has dropped as Turkey so I go for an alliance with the new player, Andy York. He doesn't trust me, but he has little choice, so we start to tentatively work together.

During the entire game, Turkey and I MAYBE exchanged 4 letters, and it was one of the most solid and well coordinated alliances I have ever enjoyed. We sent in moves without ever discussing the options and supported each other to rather impressive advances against the solidly allied I/A. That lasted until Italy FINALLY saw that Austria was more in the way than helping and took him out in two seasons. In the meantime E/F/G kept messing with each other (and me to some extent) until Italy had all but taken all three out.

For most of the game I had to play defense. Once again I will claim the moral victory because but for Germany's obsession with me, Italy couldn't have claimed victory! So, Hugh, you are welcome!

[[Oh, right, take the credit. "Moral victory" in our unabridged dictionary... hmm, hmmm... "(n.) loss suffered by someone detached from reality." Hmm.]]

Vince Springer

Greetings. I have received my confirmed placement for New Mexico. My address will be:

Vincent M. Springer
Shiprock Reservation BIA Dormitory
PO Box 1180
Shiprock NM 87420

This address will be effective from Aug 5 to Dec 12.

Thanks for the comments about a possible zine start up on my part. Hopefully I will get some feedback next issue from your subscribers. You were correct in saying that I am planning to cut Dip things back a bit this fall. My letter to you stated that I would be starting it up NEXT fall — fall of 96. Hopefully, I will be settled in Chicago, with a job, and an October wedding.

Mark Lew

I want someone to refresh my memory on the rules for Parcheesi. I was thinking P would be a nice beginner's project in my new effort to become a Mac software developer. The problem is, I only sort of half remember the rules. Specifically: (1) shape of the map, ie distance between safe spaces, and distance of the final entry corridor. (2) What number do you roll to get out? (3) Do you get an extra turn for doubles? I thought not, but someone else I asked thinks so. (4) If two different-colored pawns are on a safe space, do they make a blockade? (5) Can there be more than two pawns on a safe space? I think that's all I need.

[[Anyone out there help? Send answers to Mark at MarkDLew@aol.com .

[[Discussion of Brendan's New Zealand Railway Rivals map is in the Reynoldzkay section, but here's the other rail chatter.]]

Andrew York

To answer some of Brendan's questions on RRivals maps, I have played on a Lithuania map and there is a Czech and a Ukrainian/Russian map as well. I'm not sure of the others; but I'm sure there is a German map around somewhere.

Eric Brosius

In response to Brendan's question, there are RR maps for Lithuania (drawn by James Goode) and Germany (drawn by Scott Cameron.)

In response to Rich's comment, I actually prefer playing two games at once on a map, ideally in different zines. This is more interesting because one can compare the two games. Of course, I may be biased because I play in a dozen games at a time, so it's no big loss to do two games on the same map. I'm signed up for Andy York's TX/NM game, but I'd like to play another. The game I was GMing on this map just finished, and it was an interesting game.

Brendan Whyte

I am trying to do maps for Southland and Canterbury too, but not as successfully. I played Bill Brown's South Africa map on the weekend: very close result with 4 of us, but i do not like his cartography, in that it looks nothing like South Africa as a map. His shape is all wrong. But it plays well.

Doug Brown

Scott Cameron made a great Germany map with cool rules. You start in East or West Germany and must stay on your side until a predetermined time when the countries unite. Then you can build anywhere. Actually, in one variant you start on both sides and can build in either with your one roll. Then when sides unite you can build across what was once the border. I'm pretty sure there are Yugoslav and Czech maps too. No Slav maps that I know of.

Note to All: Perhaps we should all get together at ChuffCon. Chuff doesn't know about this—but if we all just show up...! No, but maybe Chuff will consider late August, or there's always 1996!

[[Chuff has gotten himself a CNN assignment in London for a year, beginning in October! So he better have his buddies over to play games soon or we'll disturb his renters!]]

[[Actually, the Bay Area gamers have been busy lately. We've had half a dozen games of 1856 and numerous Magic meetings this summer. Seven of us played History of the World at Chuff's the last Sunday in July (Clark finished first with the Edi Birsans second and third); then Mark Lew, Clark and I stuck around to play 1856 with Chuff until 4 a.m.]

[[“C” you all in a month!]]



SILVERRUN/Snowball Fighting ASF31

Turn Six: Behind the Garden Wall

WARRIOR	Player	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	vp	hp	sb-di
Atog	Wang	S5	T6-S7-T8-S9	collect Di	Di at IS* (55,47)	S9	8	5	2-0
Dirty ol' Man	Baker	M9	Q9-R10-S11	collect Di	Di at ZP (60,42)	S11	10	7	1-0
Fearless Reaper	Narhi	P4	Di at A (35,14)	run indoors	sit	kit	9	10	2-0
Glacial Gladiator	Brown	W9	HH at IS (80,41)	run indoors	sit	kit	11	10	2-0
Guess Who?	McKinnon	T6	run inside, turn on tv	turn to UPN	stare at Janeway	kit	7	10	2-0
Haggis Hound	Andruschak	H6	collect 2 Sb	RR at RD (25,84)	RR at RD (80,74)	H6	7	8	0-0
Ice Sickle	Hurst	V10	RR at GG (95,60)	collect Di	Di at A* (55,76)	V10	11	4	1-0
Puff&Fresh Snowboy	Schultz	U1	Di at FR (50,32)	RR at A* (75,17)	RR at A* (65,08)	U1	16	8	0-0
Rude 'Dolf	Gardner	L10	nmr	nmr	nmr	L10	6	5	3-0
El Zorro de Plata	Kohman	R12	SH at DM (65,85)	collect 2 Sb	RR at IS (95,55)	R12	9	0	0-0

Weather roll = 83. * marks conditional orders. Remember, we're playing to 20 vp. GW gets out of the kitchen on Segment 2, FR & GG on Segment Three, ZP on Turn 8/Seg 2. Deadline for Turn Seven is September 25.

Segment One: Rude 'Dolf stands around staring at the sky. Guess Who? runs inside to begin drying out. Atog clomps over toward Ice Sickle; Haggid Hound packs snowballs. El Zorro de Plata chucks the sloppy, fake Snowman's head at Dirty ol' Man but misses. Dirty ol' Man lets out a terrible growl and shakes the snow from last turn off like a dog coming out of water, then turns to run at his attacker. Fearless Reaper takes aim at the retreating Atog and smacks him with a Dirigible; Puff & Fresh Snowboy, in turn, smacks Fearless with his own massive weapon, sending Fearless to the showers. Ice Sickle and Glacial Gladiator trade shots—that's the last point for GG also, he joins the now-crowded kitchen.

Segment Two: With so much indoors action, and with several players (A, DOM, IS, ZP) packing snow, it's a short segment. Haggis Hound throws one of his new 'balls at Rude 'Dolf, but the shot is so bad that it even misses the Snow Fort! Puffy, though, shoots straight, nailing Atog for a hit point.

Segment Three: Everyone back in action this time. Dirty ol' Man gets immense hang time and slam dunks his Dirigible on El Zorro, who is busy slinging a Simple Snowball at Ice Sickle, whose Dirigible at Atog goes way wide of the mark, although Atog's Dirigible back at Icy is right on target. Puff & Fresh *his* Atog at long range again, moving way out into the lead. Haggis tries again at 'Dolf and this time scores.

Sickie to SnowMaster: 1) How about reducing initial "to hit" percentages (before modifiers are applied) by half? 2) Also, allow "run by" snowball and dirigible throwing. Have you ever seen a kid stand still in a snowball fight except to pack ammo? (For you benighted heathens who shun snow, substitute a water fight for snowball fight.) Range must be 1 at 50% to hit. Snowball (or Dirigible) can be thrown any time during movement. Carrying capacity checked at the beginning of movement. If other player moves, the ammo is lost with no hit made. Throwing hex must be declared in attack orders.

SM to Ice Sickle: That's the best innovation I've ever heard for this game.
 Puff & Fresh to SM: I know you said to wait 'til after the game, but if Di's were reduced to two vps I envision a lack of incentive to pack them together. And everyone just slinging RR's at each other. Yuck! Booooring!
 Fearless to Puffboy: OK, here is a press for you. Who hides in the corner afraid of the action...?

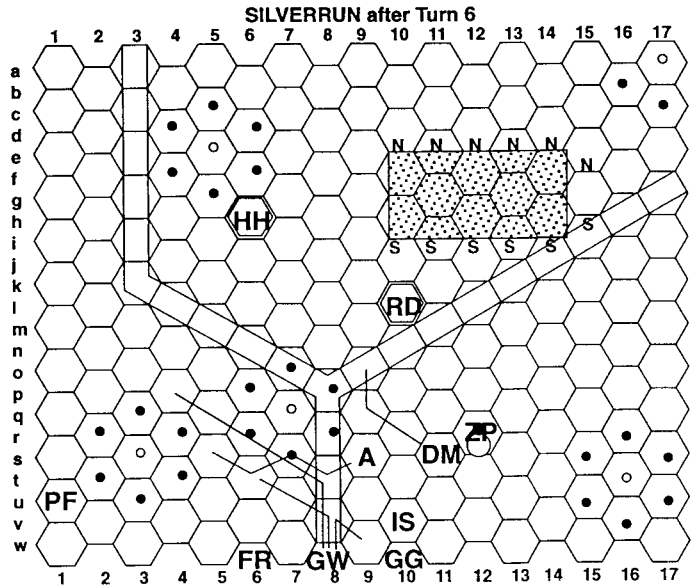
GG to PF: I'd direct some press your way if you weren't HIDING in the corner!
 Fearless Reaper answers: Well it sure seems to work for him.
 Puff & Fresh to Torres: Hey! You want somebody to slap around? Well, step on over my way and help yourself. Once again, I'm threatening a win... just before I find a way to lose. In the words of the infamous "Mask", "Somebody STOP meeee!" You could be the hero!?

SnowMaster to Puff: We don't need another hero.
 Puffy to SM: Your suggestion is my command!
 SM to Puff: That's the spirit!
 Haggis Hound to Rude 'Dolf: Darn all this snow on my glasses. Hard to see anybody but you in your snow fort.

ZP to DM: <script stolen without protest from Olive Oyl> You! You pantie-waisted puller-offer-of-heads from defenseless aboriginal shrines, you bully you! You... You... You keep your hands to yourself, that's what you are! Ooh, I'm gonna swat you left-wise with my scythe (no... that's somebody else...) with me... my clump of maggot-ridden haggis (oh, my, that isn't right neither...) humph! You make me so frustrated I'm gonna shove this stupid head of this stupid snowman down your stupid gizzard, you idol-molestor, you. So there! How do you like them apples, huh?

Rikko to Board: Methinks Señor Zorro has ridden Diablo too long and too hard... not to worry, though, Diablo's doing fine!
 Andruschak to World: Last month I was called for Jury Duty. Wore my kilt every day to Jury Duty and for some strange reason I was always challenged by the lawyers and not allowed to be on an actual jury. I can't think why.

Reaper to McKinnon: Ah, yes, it is so nice to meet someone with such esoteric musical tastes as mine own. Toolin was such a classic. I recall tormenting my dorm with the Butthole Surfer's "The Shah sleeps in Lee Harvey's Grave"
 GG to Janeway: Come to the kitchen with me and don't even talk to McKinnon. You



know the prime directive doesn't permit you revealing yourself to lower life forms.
 Harry to Pete: My latest obsession is playing the game SimTower. I doubt if you need a review from me since it has been reviewed in several gaming magazines.
 Puff & Fresh to Atog: Eat this, Mr. Always Looking for a Cheap Meal. Glad to see you back on the yard. You move so slowly. But, what they hey, I'd be glad to see you even if you moved at light-speed. Why? Kuz... u jes 2 cu-ul.
 Food for Atog: Choke on it!
 GG to Yard: Will you bozos start slinging some heavy slush at Snowboy and his Ice Sickle? Just how many wheels does an Ice Sickle have?
 Fearless to SM: Orgg? Is some sort of Magic the Blathering thing?
 SnowMaster to FR: Yes, and an unusually sick piece of Magic it is.

[[Plateau press concludes at the bottom of page 13.]]

The last hope, a lone human, missed the alarm as he was laughing too much watching MST3K.

With the first thought subject one created Timothy Leary (see NSA file #0083562 and FBI file #AJ9532 for more information). Its second, *Perelandra* (all known government files worldwide destroyed for safety of the spacetime continuum.

Now it was full grown and free. It formed its third thought. Subject one created within its mind the most evil thought ever conceived. A Diplomacy variant beyond all others.

Youngstown XV, played Gunboat, with the Wild Bill Donovan variant and Stab! rules.

Thankfully the collected anguish of GMs and players worldwide killed subject one before it could create another hostile variant.

Deputy Duck was scrambling backwards in a panic. The huge beast raised its head. Now it was slavering. Its eyes, larger than pancakes (well, larger than some pancakes, not the really big pancakes that you get at IHOP... not even the piddly things you get at McDonald's, but larger than some pancakes) looked like the bores of twin .45s to Deputy Duck. He pushed himself backwards using both wings. His tailfeathers mopped a clean streak in the otherwise dusty street. The dog, curious now, trotted up and gave Deputy Duck a big juicy lick.

"Phaugh, yuck!" exclaimed Deputy Duck as the mangy dog licked his beak. "What else can go wrong today?"

The mangy dog lifted his leg.

TRALFAMADORE / 1994Xxm22, Youngstown XV

Errors: Russia's f stp-nwy succeeded; England and Russia's build counts were off (England due to retreats, Russia due to declining a build last winter). Russia's a warsaw-galicia should have been underlined. Turkish a nejd and English a cunene were misplaced on the map. France actually *did* have a removal to make, but J.R. didn't make one and his phone isn't working, so I had to do it myself (sorry my friend!).

Autumn Retreats: Austrian f greece off the board; English f norwegian sea—edinburgh & f north sea—london; US f micronesia off the board (out!).

Winter 1903: Austria builds a trieste; Canada builds fleet montreal/nc; Egypt builds a suz; Ethiopia disbands a wabi; France (GM) disbands a picardy; Germany builds a munich; India builds f madras; Italy builds f naples; Japan builds f tokyo; Mexico builds f guadalajara, f monterrey, waives third build; Morocco disbands a french sudan, chooses french nigeria as build center (doesn't have five centers yet); Russia builds f st petersburg/nc, waives second build; Transvaal builds f durban.

Spring 1904: Wailing Souls

Australia Z (Doug Brown): f coral sea—arafura sea, f east indian ocean—andaman sea /dislodged/, f tasman sea—coral sea, f mid pacific h /dislodged/, f new zealand—south cape, a south australia h.

Austria A (Steven McKinnon): a zaire—basoko (a ubangi s), a galicia—silesia, a tyrolia s french a burgundy—munich /nso/, a trieste—venice, a serbia s russian a rum—bul /nso/ (a budapest s).

Brazil B (Charles Goetz): f horse latitudes—gulf of guinea (f cape verde s), f leeward islands—puerto rico, f windward islands—azores, a amazon—recife, a mato grosso—sao paolo.

Canada C (Jamie McQuinn—note COA in Cast List): a saskatchewan—nebraska, a alaska h, f boston—grand banks, f montreal/nc—labrador sea, f grand banks—north atlantic (f norwegian sea & f iceland s).

Chile L (John Bryden): f south pacific & f antofagasta s mexican f baja—mid /nso/ (f south atlantic s f south pacific), a peru—ecuador, a colombia—ecuador.

Egypt Y (Daniel Wartko): f cyrenaica—tripolitania, f cairo h, f anglo-egyptian sudan—red sea, a suz—anglo-egyptian sudan (a adis ababa s), a asmara—wabi.

England E (Matthew Lahtinen): f north atlantic—labrador sea /dislodged/, f mid atlantic—north atlantic (f irish sea s), f edinburgh h (f clyde s), f london h, f gulf of siam—johore, f cambodia—thailand/ec, a cunene unordered.

Ethiopia P (Michael Quist): a mogadiscio h /dislodged/, a kenya—uganda, a junglei—adis ababa.

France F (J.R. Baker): f gulf of guinea—abidjan (a gold coast s), f saigon—south china sea, a burgundy—marseilles (a gascony s), f portugal—spain/sc.

Germany G (Ward Narhi): a uganda—junglei (a basoko s /dislodged/), a belgium—burgundy (a munich s), f north sea—belgium, f helgoland—holland, a denmark—kiel.

India H (David Schlosser): f west indian—east indian (f madras s), a burma—thailand, a hankow h, a sikang—laos, a vietnam—annam, f gulf of aden—mogadiscio (f somali sea s).

Italy I (Doug Kent): f naples—ionian, f tunis—western med (f casablanca s [f algiers s casa blanca]), a corsica—tunis (f tyrrhenian c), a marseilles unordered /dislodged/.

Japan J (Jim Bailey): f tokyo—northwest pacific, f northwest pacific—hawaii (f micronesia s [f philippines sea s]), f south china sea—phillippines, f formosa—south china sea (f canton s).

Mexico M (Vince Springer—note COA in Cast List): f guadalajara—mid pacific (f yucatan/wc s, f baja california s, f hawaii s /hawaii dislodged/), f monterrey—gulf of mexico, f hispaniola—sargasso sea (f caribbean s), a norfolk h, a panama build canal /canal now complete/, a los angeles h.

Morocco O (Rich Irving): f spain/sc—gulf of lyon, f canaries—marrakech, a senegal—mauritania, a guinea—senegal.

Netherlands East Indies N (Jim Grose): f andaman sea s indian f madras—east indian /nso/, f banda sea—timor sea, a brunei—borneo (f malay sea s), f celesbes sea—brunei, a hollandia—new guinea.

Russia R (Alex Simmons): a warsaw—galicia, f st petersburg/nc—barents (f norway s [a sweden s nwy]), f skaggerak s german f north sea /otm/, a turkestan h, a irkutsk h, a moscow—warsaw, f sevastopol—black sea, a rumania s turkish a bul—ser /nso/ (a ukraine s), a inner mongolia—sinking, a peking h waiting for duck (forgot to order ahead), f yellow sea s japanese f canton.

Transvaal V (Eben Kurtzman): f durban—natal, f cape fria—ovamboland, a dar es salaam—uganda, a katanga—barotseland, f mozambique channel—cape of good hope, a tanganyika—dar es salaam.

Turkey T (Matt Heppie): a iran h, a nejd—asir (a yemen s), f ionian—adriatic, a grece—serbia (a bulgaria s), f acgean—grece, f smyrna—acgean, a armenia—smyrna.

<Deep breath...> Summer Retreats: Australian f east indian & f mid-pacific; English f north atlantic; Ethiopian a mogadiscio; German a basoko; Italian a marseilles; Mexican f hawaii.

Deadline for Fall 1904 is September 25.

Canadian PM to World: Please note COA. Email address remains the same.

Sultan Heppie to All: My email address is mheppe@mciunix.mci.k12.pa.us . It has been out of service but I should have it back by the time this comes out.

India to All: A Eureka—Clyde. We'll be in Scotland for the latter half of August so don't expect much communication until Labor Day or so. I will have time to at least read letters after we get back so do write if you need to.

Transvaal to World: I'm out of town from August 11–21 so my communications may be down next move.

F to I: Well, if you won't negotiate then I suppose we can settle our differences the old-fashioned way.

A man sat at a large desk by the Thames. He held a note telling him about the past season's battles. His thoughts turned to the foes arrayed against the isles.

The Russians, always a formidable foe from their vast frozen steppes.

The Canadians, proving themselves strong sailors, learned from the icy waters.

Noble foes both to be challenged by in war.

But, this Kaiser. What manner of madness did grip the mind of this one? The people of the Germans should realize the foolishness of this man, if he could even be called that, and send him to a gentle rest in a quiet home.

These are but idle thoughts and the enemies around the German heartland will soon awaken its people to their peril.

Yankee to Monti's and Mounties' collective revenge: Thanks for the easiest four free issues I ever will receive. Let's do this again some time!

GM to Yankee: I wasn't sure you'd have the smarts to do it this way. I salute you!

GKaiser to GM: I like the maps the way they are. Dat is my vote.

GM to GKaiser (and NEI Sultan): I way way way misunderstood Jim's comment. He meant he needs a blank map (which I had neglected to provide when I called him to standby). My error—anyone else need a blank?

Egypt to Transvaal (and to anyone else who cared): That wasn't my post (about what you were going to do to Austria). I wrote the one above it. I'm sorry that someone blew your cover.

GM to Egypt: It is understood that any press item without a dateline is anonymous; and any press item with a dateline that doesn't include the name of a country, could be authored by anyone.

MahaSchlosser to Sultan: Strange not hearing from you for the interim. I must be paranoid if I let that make me suspicious of you.

Perth to Tokyo: I agree with whatever you say! What do you say?

India to Japan: No threat to Canton intended by my moves. It's just that I find silence worrisome as a response to letters. Just remember, Sikang you will find.

His Imperial Japanese Majesty deigns to speak: Since We are the Divine Incarnation Of Something-Or-Another, We feel it is unnecessary to communicate Our will to mere mortals. Only through deepest meditation and self-sacrifice will inspiration of what we wish come to thee.

Mexico to Japan: Fine, if that is the way you want it.

The Japanese foreign minister speaks: Uh, the head honcho has REALLY got a bug in his bonnet about this god thing. I suggest to everyone that you ignore this almighty aloofness stuff and talk directly to me. I'm the one who actually does all the work anyway. So, keep sending "tokens of appreciation" to the emperor, but send the REAL messages to me: Hirachi Kamamoto, c/o Japanese Foreign Ministry Building, or e-mail at samuraistud23@world.dominion.com

F to B: Thanks you for your co-operation.

Brazil to Chile: Don't be a Chilly-Willy, write sometime.

Australia to Chile: Don't even think about circumnavigating the world just to attack me some more!

[Hey if I win the 1/2 issue subscription in the trivia contest, does that mean I could get the half of the 'zine without Janeway references? :-]

If pinching your nose and pressing your throat doesn't help you do a good Janeway imitation, try covering your ears and closing your eyes to do an imitation of a Janeway fan (nose holding optional).

Mexico to Australia: Hope this is the beginning of a fruitful relationship.

Australia to Brazil: So why does Austria want you going elsewhere AND just where are you going?

GKaiser to AKaiser: Did you get my letter? You, sir, are a traitor to our alliance. Bravo, I say... bra-vo!

Brazil to Austria: [nah, it isn't even worth the effort.]

NEI to England: Your decadent Australian toady will fail to halt the liberation of SE Asia.

Canadian PM to His Majesty the King of England: So sorry, can't stop the attack now.

You have offended the sensibilities of the world by the rape of your colonies to support your fleet habit. What amazes me is the way your colonial neighbors support this habit. Enablers, all of them.

Kaiser to NEI/India: Just recall that Germany is NOT a colonial power.

Egypt to Canada and England: Maybe it's that I have the wrong perspective, but it sure looks like you two are fighting over a whole bunch of nothing (and using a lot of fleets to boot). Don't you have more pressing issues at home?

[[Tralf press continues on page 12.]]

[[Tralf press continues from page 11.]]

England to Egypt: Do you have valet service for dreadnaughts?

GM to England: What do you need, steam cleaning or just pressing? He has some other pressing orders ahead of yours.

Egypt to Brazil: "I like that painting. One dog goes this way and one dog goes that way."

Sydney to Osaka: Buddhism you say? Sure!

Germany to Turk: What's up? Haven't heard from you in a very long time.

Brazil to Transvaal: You got concerns. I got concerns. What do you say that we take our concerns elsewhere? Are you up for another year of the same?

Brazil to Morocco: You don't call; you don't write....

Brazil to France: You don't call; you don't write....

Brazil to India: You don't call; you don't write....

GM to Somebody, Anybody: He's on 'tilt', somebody slap him on the side.

Egypt to Germany: What's the matter? Don't you talk?

GM to Somebody: Thank you.

Germany to Brazil: Such a good movie named after your country. I apologize profusely for being remiss in my mail. I do believe my mail is best sent to the continent from now on. That African mail system leaves a lot to be desired with that Transvaalian as postmaster general.

USA out of USA!

Egypt to India: Have you tried the latest Viennese whine?

NEI to Australia: What did you hope to accomplish with F EIO?

Brazil to Egypt: Thank you kind host, I enjoyed the pool party. My nose told me that it was some of the European's first opportunity to bathe in quite sometime. They are a stinking lot. If only for that reason, then, your party was a success. Regarding your border spat in the south, allow me to quote the noted, and much revered Brazilian prophet, Ezekiel: "The path of the righteous man is beset on all sides by the iniquities of the selfish and the tyranny of evil men." Stay righteous. May you reduce your enemies to Pulp, and then to Fiction. See you at the next pool party.

Egypt to Turkey: I've got a great guide book for you (from my recent travels). It's called "Italy through the back door." Pass it to Austria when you're done with it (or him).

Russian moments in late-night Babaciousness: Sure, you actually watched Leno to see Hugh Grant. But the night was made when Jill Hennessy walked out (and much improved for having escaped from the conservative lawyerware we have to put up with on Law&Order (a tv show, pete :-)).

Berlin to London: Swedish Bikini Team? Now I haven't had a blonde in quite some time.

Egypt to Ethiopia: I'd like to rename you "New Egypt." Whaddaya think? Catchy, isn't it?

Scene from *Casablanca III: Return of the Jiddah*.

Dirth Nader: Rick, you will join me, your father, in the POWER of the Dark Side!

Rick: I'LL NEVER JOIN YOU!!!!

Dirth Nader: OK, well the Emperor Vito Corleone has an offer you CAN'T refuse! Join the Dark Side or he'll break'a ya face!

Rick: Wait a second! This is ridiculous!!!!

Director: CUT!!!!

TRALFAMADORE / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1903

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

Railway Rivals Houserules

(with thanks and apologies to Tom Nash's and Eric Brosius's rules)

1. A game will consist of 12 rounds, 6 building and 6 racing.

2. In case of an NMR during a building round, the GM will build track following the apparent logic and plan of prior builds, and any general or tentative orders previously submitted. No appeals will be entertained on the nature of these builds.

3. In case of an NMR during a racing round, the GM will enter that player in all races which involve only his track.

4. If a player NMRs in consecutive rounds, he will be dropped and a standby called. The standby will be given the opportunity to order the second NMR round if possible. If no standby can be found, the railroad will collect rents, parallel and junction fees but will make no further builds or race entries.

5. Each building round consists of three segments, to be labelled a, b, and c. Each segment has its own die roll and builds must conform to each die roll separately. The first building die will always be at least sufficient for all players to build; the first building round will always be at least 7 pips total.

6. Payments for simultaneous parallel builds are reduced to a base of 1 per half hex instead of 2. If a player's builds in one round produce a payment of over 15 points to a single rival, the rival only receives 15 of the total amount, however the full cost is deducted from the building player.

7. Any build notation may be used (it is not necessary to list every hex built so long as start hex, end hex, each town, and each turn are listed), but ambiguous orders will result in the GM using his discretion without appeal. Builds may not be conditional on previous events within that round.

8. Each town "key number", whether an actual number or playing card, will come up twice, once in rounds 7-9 and again in rounds 10-12. The actual number of races offered each round will depend on the total number of "key numbers" on the map. Races will be sectored so that each involves a different sector, and so that pairs of sectors come up as evenly as possible. It is possible for two towns which are not yet connected to be drawn as a race.

9. Players may enter as many races as they wish. A race which draws no entrants will be re-offered each subsequent round until someone runs it. Regular dice will be used for racing.

10. Race entries may be conditional on the acceptance of 'joint runs' or 'exchanges of running powers' by other players; if such conditionals create a paradox, the conditions are assumed *not* to be met. JRs, XRPs, and track rentals must be as specific as possible—the GM will not interpret ambiguous orders in these circumstances. Players should state the length of their routes (counting *all* mountain hexes as two).

11. Players will be allowed to build 3+d6 hexes of track, at their own expense. at the end of each racing round. Such builds will be 'timed' by hex, not by cost, for purposes of deciding junctions and parallels.

12. In the event of any tie, racing or building into a town, revenue will be split among the tying players, fractions rounded down.

13. Standard metagame rules apply. Players may not impersonate or deceive the gamemaster, under penalty of expulsion;. Errors *may* be brought to the GM's attention. Errors involving only one player's score will be corrected at any time, but errors involving more than one player, or involving any track build, must be corrected by the next deadline or the erroneous report will stand.

Sorry, in *Perelandra* games there will be no:

- Bus Boss scoring
- Borrowing / spending into debt
- Average dice
- 'Saving' of dice to overcome mountains, rivers and other obstacles

VEXVELT / 1992R

EFT draw: EF yes, T nvr. GM repropose EFT draw. NVR = yes.

Fall 1914: Bold Moves

England (John Schultz): a yor-nwy (f nts s), a den-pru (f bal s, a lvn s [f bot s lvn]), a pru-sil (a ber s, a mun s [a kie s mun]), f stp/nc h.

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 & a gal s sil, a ukr s war, f tus s pie, a sev s mos, f ion & f rom s tyn; a tyo, a vic, a war, a sil, a mos, f tyn, f pie, a tri, and f bla all dream of Janeway.

Deadline for Winter 1914/Spring 1915 is September 25.

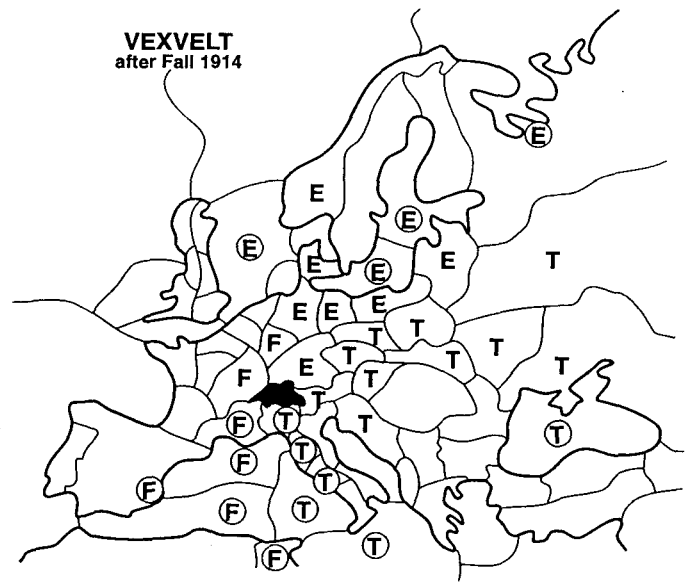
Tom to John: It's an easy way to get four free issues. Just keep repeating moves until the GM tells this Turkey to go home!

GM to Tom: You know the schedule as well as I do.

England to Turkey: Man, I ain't had sex with anybody but myself for sixteen years.

There's a lotta gals I'd love to have stir my coals. And Janeway wouldn't be on that list if I had to last another 16 years. Get some taste, man. It's embarrassin'. Go to Babeousness training school or somethin'.

GM to England: Where is that? Or is it a correspondence course? (Steve probably thinks he's qualified to conduct master clases or some such.)



VEXVELT / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1913

England	lvp	lon	edi	hol	kie	den	mun	ber	nwy	stp	swe	.	.	.	.	.	.	11
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	bel	tun	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	gre	tri	ser	sev	nap	bud	rom	rum	ven	vic	war	mos	.	16

PLATEAU / 1994HJ

Error: Frances "f tun-ion" should've been underlined.

Autumn Retreats: Italian a tri-alb, f nap off the board.

Winter 1905: England builds a lon; France builds f bre, a par, f mar; Italy disbands f apu; Russia removes a ukr.

E/F draw: EF yes, AFIRT nvr. France repropose E/F draw.

Spring 1906: War of the Worlds

Austria (Matthew Lahtinen): f adr-alb, a tri-ser (a rum s [a bud s rum]), a vic-tri.

England (Tim Goodwin): a lon-den (f nts c), a stp-mos (a lvn s), a den-pru (f bal c), a pru-sil, f nwg-nat, f ber-kie.

France (Don Williams): f wcs-spa/sc /nsu/, f mid u, f bre-mid, a par-pic, f mar-lyo, a war s english a stp-mos, f nap-apu (a ven s [a tyo s ven [a mun s tyo]]), f tun-ion (f tyn s), f tus-rom.

Italy (Phil Reynolds): a alb-ser.

Russia (Jeff August): a mos s french a war /dislodged/.

Turkey (John McLaurin): f ion h (f gre s, f eas s), a bul s austrian a bud-ser /nsol/, a sev s austrian a rum (f bla s).

Deadline for Fall 1906 is September 25.

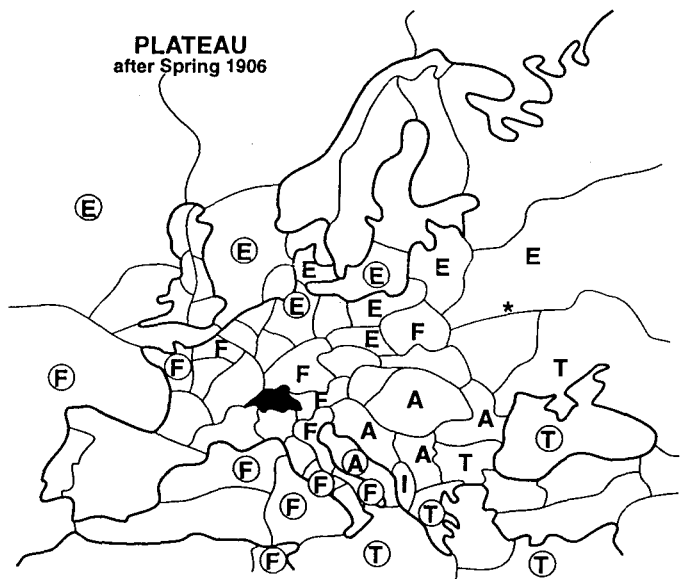
The mangy dog staggered to his feet. His part in the drama was over. He looked around, his eyes filmed through dehydration. A shimmering form cast a long dark shadow which pointed straight at the dog. The dog moved closer. His swollen tongue forced his jaws wide, giving him a fierce cast that was strictly illusion. One step, then another, weaving but not wavering, the dog moved towards the shape.

Deputy Duck backed away as the slaving beast stalked him. Well, there was no slaver. In fact the beast's tongue looked dusty. It looked like the animal was sick. Perhaps it was a case of anhydrosphobia.

AH to GM: Waves are fine as long as they don't crash on me.

Deputy Duck was worried. There was a stranger in town. A stranger who had just gone into the barbershop. The huge gun that the stranger wore looked as if it had seen a lot of use. Deputy Duck looked at his own gun. There was no doubt it, the stranger had a bigger gun. Deputy Duck blushed as he realized that the only time his gun had seen use was when he had been alone.

Italy to Austria: What choice did I have with no help from you or Turkey? I waved goodbye to this game a long time ago. But I'm giving you—yes, you, Matt—one last finger-flash.



The mangy dog staggered onward. The shimmering form he followed seemed ever to recede. Then, the form fell backwards. Deputy Duck, not watching where he was going, had backed into a horse trough. The splash threw sparkles into the stream of daylight. Water, warm, dirty, but water, hit the dog full in the face.

"Hey," thought the dog, "that's what I've been needing." Forgetting about the shimmering form, the dog put his muzzle into the horse trough and proceeded to drink.

Deputy Duck watched in a fascinated trance of fear as the water receded. The dog was licking up the last few drops from the bottom of the trough when Deputy Duck finally shook himself and backed away, falling out of the trough.

The incredible silence brought about by the lack of press and lessening of postal workers' complaints created a single psychic event that reached one certain mind.

This mind, buried deep below the missile silos of South Dakota, awoke. The batteries of fail-safe programs, instant annihilation wigwams, and other things all failed.

[[Plateau press concludes at the bottom of page 10.]]

PLATEAU / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1905

Austria	vic	tri	bud	ser	rum	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	stp	swe	den	kie	ber	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
France	par	mar	bre	por	spa	bel	mun	hol	tun	nap	ven	war	.	.	.	.	.	12
Italy	rom	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Russia	mos	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	sev	gre	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6

DURLA / 1994Wrb32 Gunboat Diplomacy

Summer 1903 Retreat: French f tus-lyo.

Fall 1904: Abrupt Turn

Austria: a sev-mos, a gal-war (a ukr s), a bul ms f gre (a ser s bul), f tri-adr.

England: a lon-hol (f nts c, f hel s), a lvn s russian a war, f stp/nc unordered, a den-kie (f bal s).

France: a pic-ven, a pic-bel (a bur s), f lyo-ty-n, f naf-tun (f wes s).

Germany: a kic ms a hol /a hol dislodged/ (a mun & a ber s a kie).

Italy: a tun-nap /annihilated/, f tus & f rom s turkish f ion-ty-n /nso/ (a ven s tus).

Russia: a war ms a mos.

Turkey: a arm-sev, f aeg-bul/sc (f con s), f ion-nap.

Deadline for Winter 1904/Spring 1905 is September 25.

Russia to England: Any thoughts on how to proceed?

Germany to France: Help! Forget the DMZ! Come on over with an army or two and lend some support orders, if you would, please. I believe the English are intent on dissecting our coastline and our respective countries. How about an army each in Bel & Ruhr, unless English fleets move into the Channel?

England to the "old" "new" Germany: I am pleased with your generosity, so much so that I'm sure you *want* me to have Holland too. Perhaps we can be friends again. This may result in Peace in our time.

F to G: Your mutual support proposal sounds more than reasonable. A love fest between you, me, and England seems like it could easily last for a few years anyway. This "new arrangement" would be my desire... and would no doubt be advantageous to us all. In any case, if these turn results show you having lost Holland to England in Fall 1904, I WILL support your move A Ruhr-Hol in the Spring of 1905... assuming you retreat there. As for my A Bur, I hope it doesn't upset you too much, but I just thought it would be better to be there, should you decide you need me/it. Too, flexibility concerns regarding my war with Italy make said positioning desirable. I hope it is possible to reassure you that no hostile intent towards Munich exists.

GM to G: Yeah, after all—what has Munich ever done to him?

AH to I: Consider the AH harassment around Venice ended. I was doing it to keep you honest but I get the feeling that French perfidy is going to keep you busy. I will help you if I ever get the chance to take the Ionian away from the Turk.

GM to AH: Here's your chance... sort of.

Turkey to France: This should help open the door down here. Keep driving east, I bet you can hit the Austrian before he's ready for it.

GM to France: Gee, *everyone* wants you to move their way. Your gonna need more pieces...

F to E: Here's hoping you're not overly upset here. Note that I've only got 6 units to your 8. Note also that I would deem a shift in your attitude towards Germany to be highly desirable at this point, and auspicious for all 3 of us. With deepest respect, then, I would ask for your forbearance towards him, and a new arrangement, with we 3 working together to secure the 3 remaining Russian centers for you, Austria for Germany and you, and Italy for me. Your feelings?

London to Vienna: Do you have a point or are you just covering up more chicanery on your part?

Russia: Thank you for the comment, even if I did act like a dead dog for a while.

AH to E: Blah blah, blah blah blah blah BLAH!!

GM to AH: Where's the beef?

Germany to England: You know, there is a route around me without going into Kiel. Here, let me show you: Nth, Den, Bal... (whoops! you stepped into Hel accidentally). Here, let me show you again: first Nth, then Den (whoops! you stepped into Hel again). Oh my goodness, we are just a little wobbly today aren't we? Yes, well, let's try to walk a straight line again; Nth, Den, Hel, no no no, then Bal. Oh, and here, what are you trying to do in Kiel? That's not the way at all. This will not do. Now go away and don't come back until your head is cleared.

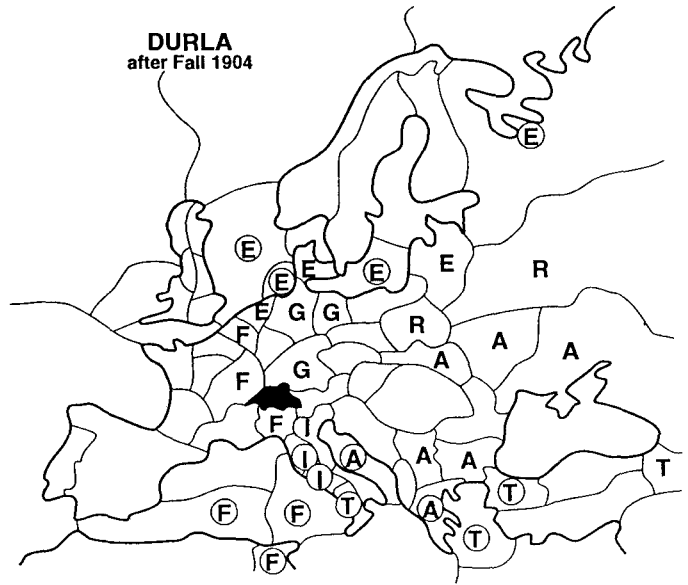
Russia to Italy: At this point for me, beggars can't be choosers.

GM to Russia: You can always choose not to beg.

Turkey to Austria: It will be 3-4 game years before you get any further against me. I hope for your sake that I don't tie down too many of your units in the interim...

English King to Sultan: I suggest you follow my lead and fire Mr. Chamberlain.

GM to English King: You mean all this time you haven't already put a round in the chamberlain?



KAIDER III / 1995HF Diplomacy

Please note that Andy York has issued Boardman Number "1995HF" for this game.

Spring 1901: Visions of Invasion

Austria (Kevin Wilson): a vie-tri, a bud-ser, f tri-ab.

England (Paul Gardner): f lon-eng, f edi-nth, a lvp-yor.

France (Gerry Paulson): a par-bur (a mar s); f bre-mid.

Germany (Greg Ellis): a mun-bur, f kie-hol, a ber-kie.

Italy (Robert Greene): f nap-ion, a ven h, a rom-apu.

Russia (Tim Goodwin): f stp/sc-bot, a war-ukr, a mos-stp, f sev-bla.

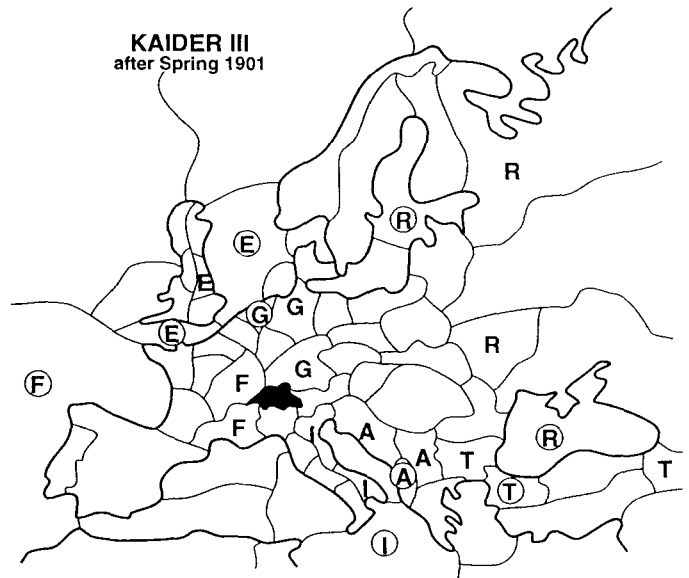
Turkey (Nelson Heintzman): a con-bul, a smy-arm, f ank-con.

Deadline for Fall 1901 is September 25.

Austria to Turkey: If you have written, I didn't get it. If you haven't written, why not?

Austria to France: Is anybody home?

GM to Kaiderians: Thanks very much for finally getting this rolling. Good luck!



DURLA / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1903

Austria	vic	tri	bud	ser	rum	gre	bul	SEV	.	.	.	.	.	7/8	build one
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	stp	den	swe	HOL	.	.	.	.	.	7/8	build one
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	bel?	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6/6	even or disband one
Germany	mun	kic	ber	hol	BEL?	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/3	even
Italy	nap	ven	rom	tun	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/3	disband one
Russia	mos	war	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/2	even
Turkey	con	ank	smy	sev	NAP	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/4	even

LITERARY QUIZ

From Last Time

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?

B. Traven, "The Night Visitor". Nobody even took a stab at this!

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. I offered half an issue if you could tell me one of the two players to ever hit five home runs in *one day*.

Stan Musial (May 2, 1954) and Nate Colbert (Aug 1, 1972), each spread over two games of a doubleheader. Jack Garret had Musial, and guessed Bench for the other. John Galt: "Re. your sports question: I believe Will Clark got five HRs in one day in the '89 playoffs. I don't know who the other one was who did it." The major league record is 4 homers, last done by Mark Whiten in 1993. The post-season record is three, performed by Babe Ruth, 1926 World Series and 1928 World Series; Reggie Jackson, 1977 World Series; Bob Robertson, 1971 NLCS; and George Brett, 1978 ALCS.

Clark has seen postseason action twice, with the Giants in 1987 and 1989. He had a outstanding Game 1 in 1989, hitting two homers (one a grand slam off Greg Maddux), and drove in the eventual winning run in the last game of the series.

Somebody else scribbled their answer on an envelope but now I don't remember who!

Richard Weiss says, "George Foster may have been one five-homer guy. I'll go with Dave Kingman for the other guess. I think neither was a superstar and one was fairly recent, probably in the '80s. Which player hit four consecutive homers over the longest span of time and which took the most games to do it? Which little girl has the cutest eyes ever? (Just to see if you are really reading this instead of holding her. My two favorite positions were in the shower with one arm, head in hand, butt in elbow; and sitting with my knees up, cradled in my lap.)"

For Next Issue

LD910: In 1935, Edmund Wilson wrote to John Dos Passos, saying another's relationship is "the most complete example of human symbiosis I have ever seen." Of what pair was he speaking? (half-issue)

WHC62: Whitney Balliett reviewed a novel for the *New Yorker* in 1961, saying, "[The author]" wallows in his own laughter and finally drowns in it. What remains is a debris of sour jokes, stage anger, dirty words, synthetic looniness, and the sort of antic behavior that children fall into when they know they are losing our attention." Who was the author and what was this childish book? (one free issue)

BW1: Who insisted "that the world should be made safe for democracy, ie anyone except pillion-riders, pedestrians, foreigners, natives, capitalists, communists, Jews, riffs, R.A.F.S., gun-men, policemen, peasants, pheasants, Chinese, etc. ..." Free issue if you guess it; two free issues to Brendan Whyte if we get three answers but nobody gets it right.

Robert Greene's Bridge Puzzle

Last month's puzzle:

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

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

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 rates 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:

A: East overruffs with the queen and returns a spade to limit you to one successful heart ruff in dummy. You now need the king of diamonds to drop third. Not today.

B: You just pitched your long heart. Were you watching when East overruffed? Were you reading when I said these hearts are losers anyway?

C: Ding ding ding. This line is cold. East holds the spade length for his double. With 10 or more minor suit cards, he would have reopened something else. West would have responded a four-card minor if he had one since his partner's failure to open with a singleton marks West with at least eight points. He is almost certainly 2-5-3-3. Play AK of spades and watch the queen drop; then take the diamond finesse. Whether it wins or not, you have two diamond tricks to go with four trumps in your hand, a heart ruff, a club and the ace of hearts.

This month's puzzle:

You're playing in the Grand National Pairs in Racine. If you win here you get a free trip to Phoenix for last spring's National. [Don't ask about how we transport you back in time, just go with the flow...] Playing South, you and your partner reach 6NT with the following cards:

NORTH:	♠7	SOUTH:	♠AQ62
	♥KT84		♥AQ
	♦AK4		♦J983
	♣AQ973		♣KJ2

You win the opening 3of hearts lead, East contributing the 9. When you unblock the hearts West plays the 2. Their card is marked as smallest from three cards, fourth best, standard signals. On the run of the clubs, West follows twice and then pitches three small spades up the line. East follows three times and pitches two small diamonds. You pitch two small spades. Now you can set up your diamonds unless West has all four remaining diamonds. On the ace of diamonds East pitches a spade. Do you

A) Since West led a five-card heart suit, he cannot have a spade left. Take the marked spade finesse.

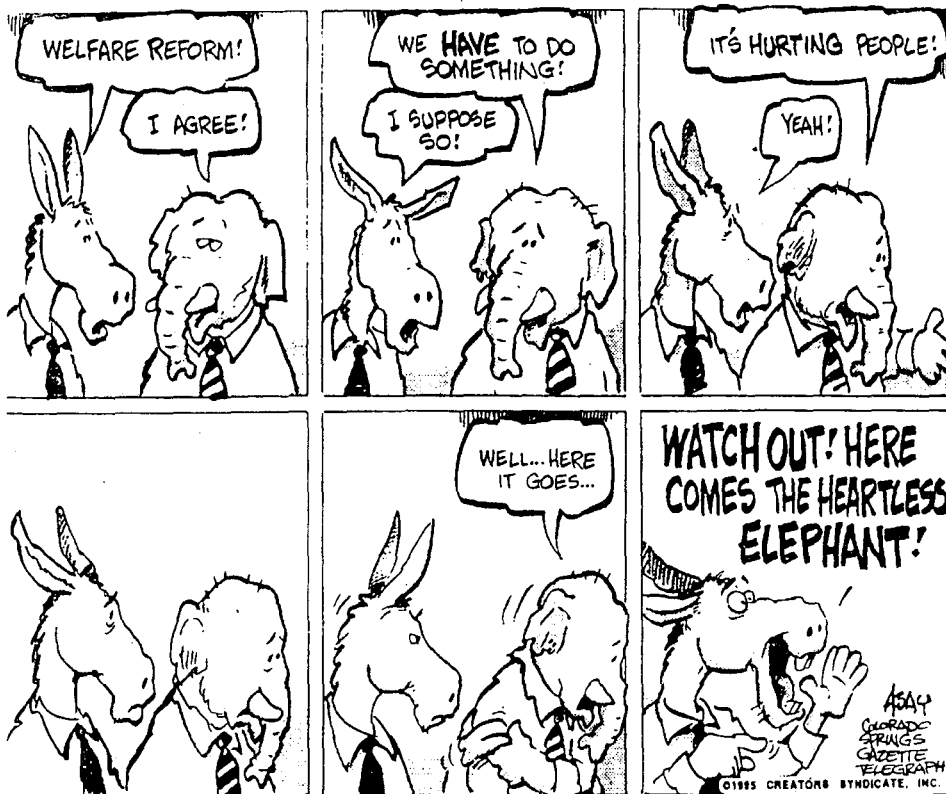
B) Duck a diamond to rectify the count.

C) Duck a heart to rectify the count.

D) Play king and another heart, endplaying West into a spade or diamond return. (No points awarded unless you explain what do you do if East shows out on the King? West shows out?)

Pete, since you are going to publish the solution nextish, I think the fair thing to do is to give you an equal chance to get it wrong like everybody else.

[[I'll send my answer to Robert with his copy of the zine.]]



BARSOOM / 1993HI

Summer Retreats: English f wes-naf, Turkish nrr, a tyo & f sev off the board.

Fall 1907: Russian Fails to Make Save

England (Jim Grose): a swe-den, f naf-mid (f eng s), a lvn-mos (a stp s), f bal-ber.
 France (Paul Rauterberg): f bre-mid, f lyo-tyl, a pic-bre, f wes-naf (f tun s),
 a mun-boh, a ruh-kie, a sil-ber, a tyo-ven (a pie s), a hol-bel.
 Italy (civil disorder): f nap, a rom.
 Russia (Nelson Heintzman): a sev h?? (a mos s /dislodged/), a rum-ser.
 Turkey (Tom Johnston): a ven /dislodged/, a boh, a ukr, a bul, a arm, f con, f alb, f
 ion, f aeg all hold.

Reminder: "!" and "?" are my editorial opinion only.

Autumn Retreats: Russian a mos; Turkish a ven.

Would Rich Shipley please stand by for Turkey?

Deadline for Winter 1907/Spring 1908 is September 25.

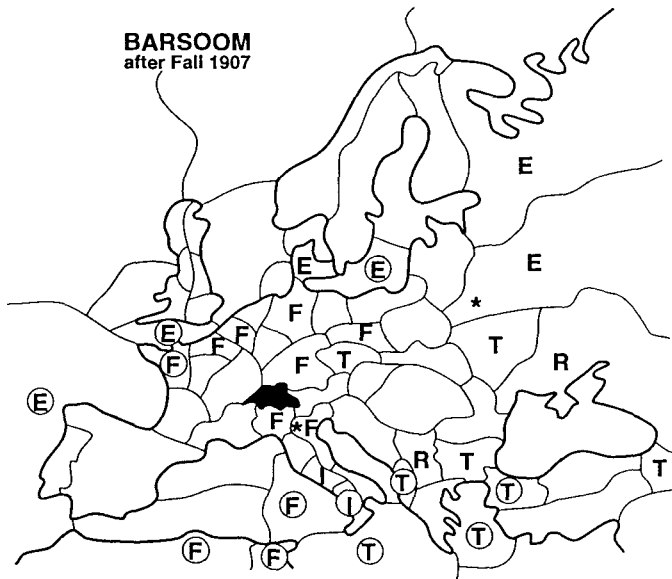
France to England: So you are writing the moves for R and T? Somehow I can't believe that!

England to France: Your diplomatic way with words amazes me. After Russia voluntarily cedes me StP and Mos it's two against one.

Marseilles to Liverpool: If you'd have conveyed to Lvn before, there might never have been any F/E war. Slow learner?

England to Turkey: Por and Spa are mine. Tun, Nap and Rom are yours. Agreed?

BARSOOM after Fall 1907



Paris to Moscow: Nice move, to Rum! Now it's Budapest, next stop?
 England to Russia: I'll protect your citizens from the slimy Frogs.

BARSOOM / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1906

England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	swe	den	MOS	STP	.	.	.	.	.	6/8	build two
France	par	mar	por	bel	hol	bre	mun	kie	ber	tun	spa	ven	.	12/12	build one
Italy	nap	rom	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/2	even
Russia	stp	mos	war	SER	SEV	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/3	even or build one
Turkey	con	ank	smy	gre	sev	bul	rum	bud	tri	vie	sev	.	.	11/9	even or build one

X-23 / 1994IC

Autumn Retreats: French a bur-par, a mar-gas.

Fall 1903: Northern Steps

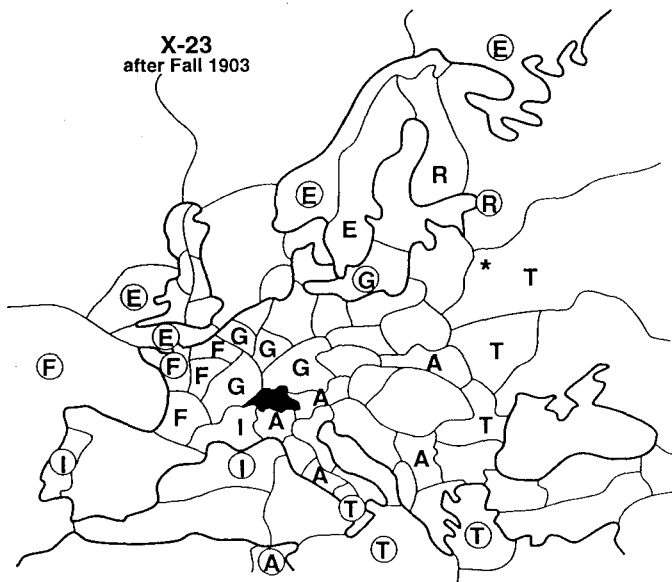
Austria (Vince Springer—note COA in Cast List): a ven-pic (a tyo s), a rom h,
 a gal-war, f ion-tun, a ser h.
 England (Ward Narhi): f nts-nwy (a swe s), f nwy-bar, f eng dithers (f iri s).
 France (Phil Reynolds): a pic-bre (a par s), a bel-pic /annihilated/, f mid-spa/nc (a gas
 s), f bre-eng.
 Germany (Jim Bailey): a bur-pic, a hol-bel (a ruh s), f bal-bot, a mun-tyo.
 Italy (Jim Robertson): f spa/sc-por, f lyo-spa/sc (a mar s).
 Russia (Stan Johnson): a fin-stp, f stp/sc-bot, a mos-war /dislodged/.
 Turkey (Doug Brown): f eas-ion, f con-aeg, f nap h, a sev-mos (a ukr s), a rum-gal.

Autumn Retreat: Russian a mos.

Deadline for Winter 1903/Spring 1904 is September 25.

Turkey to England: Since we'll be neighbors soon, perhaps you'll write.
 GM to Turkey: Perhaps he knows how unreliable the Archangelsk postal service is.
 Englander to AH: Have to agree with Rome here. It appears you are either giving the game to the Turk or some sort.
 Turkey to Italy: Are you suggesting all those troops of Austria that now reside in Italy are actually throwing the game to me? Yeah, and perhaps they'll use all those builds to make Turkish fleets.
 AH to I: Wow! You actually gave up in Italy. There wasn't anything you could have done but you shocked me nonetheless. Keep the two fleets heading west and I will get you a survival in the game—you may end up in StP but you will survive. That is, if you want to go through the trouble of it.
 Englander to Rome in exile: Can I assume you are still here to help me? I need access into Med ASAP to stop AH/T.
 GM to Italy: Do you feel like state-fair taffy yet?

X-23 after Fall 1903



Turkey to Austria: Don't get carried away with builds. Remember you're throwing this game to Turkey.
 Rome to Berlin: Watch your soft white underbelly. They've already eaten my spine. :-)
 GM to Rome: You'll have to give better direction than that if you want to get eaten properly.
 Turkey to Russia: Actually you do have a couple things I want.
 GM to Turkey: Um, are you sure he still has them? He's up checking his attic and in the meantime somebody's robbing the basement.

X-23 / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1902

Austria	vie	tri	bud	ser	ven	gre	TUN	ROM	.	.	.	.	.	6/8	may build two
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	swe	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5/5	even
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	bel	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6/3	disband two
Germany	mun	kie	ber	den	hol	BEL	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5/6	may build one
Italy	nap	rom	tun	POR	MAR	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/2	disband one
Russia	stp	mos	war	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/2	even or disband one
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	rum	sev	NAP	MOS	.	.	.	.	.	6/8	may build two

OMEGA / 1994D

Autumn Retreats: Austrian f bul/sc-con; Italian a tri retreats to the box.

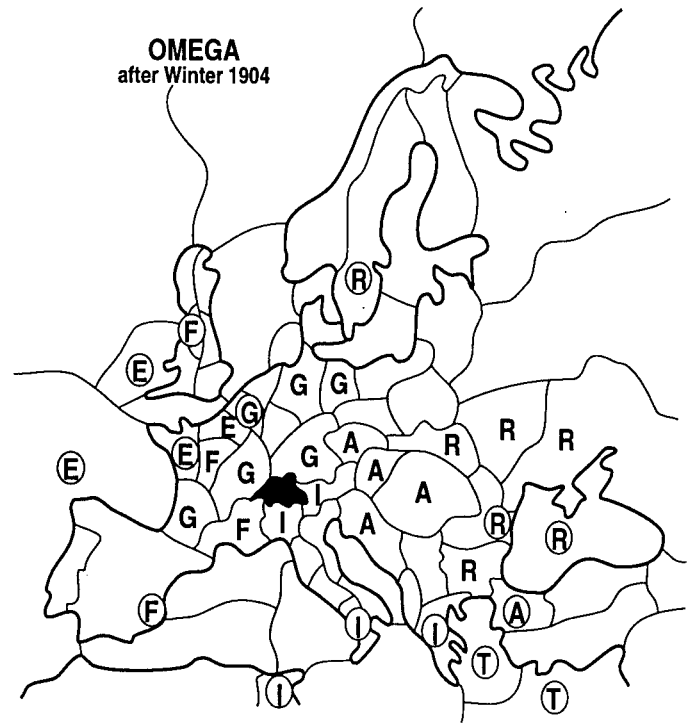
Winter 1904

- Austria (Michael Gonsalves): even, has a tri, a bud, a boh, a vie, f con.
- England (Bob Acheson): even, has a pic, f mid, f bre, f iri.
- France (Jack Garrett): no room for build; has a par, a mar, f lvp, f spa/sc.
- Germany (Andy York): builds a ber; also has a mun, a kie, a gas, a bur, f bel.
- Italy (Stan Johnson): builds f nap; also has a tyo, a pie, f gre, f tun.
- Russia (Doug Kent): builds a sev; also has a ukr, a gal, a bul, f bla, f rum, f swe.
- Turkey (Eben Kurtzman): disbands f ion; still has f eas, f aeg.

Deadline for Spring 1905 is September 25.

GM to World: Well, apparently Bob wasn't responding because he's in Thailand. And although he finally got orders in, it's apparent he couldn't read the bastard-child maps I printed last month (sorry!). We'll wait one more month for Spring—and I'll send this to both of Bob's addresses. My apologies again for the slow restart. The units above *are* accurate so far as I know.

OMEGA / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1905							
Austria	vic	tri	bud	ser	con	.	5
England	lon	edi	nwy	bre	.	.	4
France	par	mar	por	spa	lvp	.	5
Germany	ber	mun	kie	hol	den	bel	6
Italy	nap	ven	rom	tun	gre	.	5
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	rum	swe	7
Turkey	ank	smy	.	.	.	.	2



(This was Cathy's 'open letter' to her chorus, and accompanies the lyrics below...)

TO MY DEAR FRIENDS

I want to thank all of you for your kindness and words of encouragement throughout my pregnancy. You have all been so wonderful. I really appreci-

ated the surprise shower. We are still working on finishing up all those wonderful meals that were fixed for us. The diaper service was just a Godsend. It has been so helpful.

I really wasn't sure how much my life was going to change after I had my baby. But I'm so glad all of you have been so supportive of Pete and me after Sally Ann arrived. Julie Starr let us disrupt a couple of rehearsals just to show her off. My first rehearsal with her was a coaching session, too.

It also was so special to have my quartet sing a lullaby to Sally Ann written and arranged by Julie Starr. We really don't have adequate words to express our deep and sincere appreciation. I did however think the rest of the chorus would like to read the words of the lullaby.

Again, thanks to everyone for making Wednesday Nights so wonderful!!

Love,
Cathy Gaughan

A Barbershop Lullaby

by Julie Starr

Mother sing your baby to sleep with a barbershop lullaby.

A barbershop baby is born with a song, a one of a kind melody.
That clear baby's cry as she first meets your eye
is the start of a new harmony.

A barbershop baby will know she is loved, for music is love you can hear.
Before she was born, and thru every morn,
she has mother's sweet voice in her ear.

Sleep, barbershop baby, dream of rainbow colors, of peaches and cream
while your mother sings soft and low a tender ballad from long ago.

A barbershop baby brings hope to the world and joy to her own family.
The song mother sings and the chord that it rings
will live thru the years as they fly, a barbershop lullaby.

CALLBOARD

Game Openings

TRONDHEIM & HELICONIA / Snowball Fighting (no gamefee): Andruschak (Haggis Hound), August, Brown, Galt, Hurst (Huge Richard), Irving (Dr. Clayton Forrester), Kohman (Silver Toadie), DLangley (Capt. Dafway), McCrumb (Winter Warrlock), McKee (Sgt. Preston of the Yukon), McKinnon (Duckman), Narhi, Schultz, Wang, Weseman (Frozen Chosin) signed up; normally that would be more than a full table but see below. This game will be played to 20 VP.

I now have plenty of players but first want to ask a question: does everyone want to start right away (in two games), or do you want to wait a month or two until I get a new map and new set of rules ready? I'm thinking of devising a map that would accommodate fifteen players (maybe on three teams?) with new obstacles. Will everyone please give their preference, and in the meantime I'm still taking signups—we'll find room for you someplace!

Silver Toadie sez to Milady: "Yes, mum; I understand... you will lead the attack while I defend our collective rear. Yes, mum; slushballs to the flanks as necessary... got it. But 'scuse me, mum; how can I stand night watch and still comply with your bondage ritual?"

Sopwith (free): Would anyone be interested in playing a Snowball-Fighting-style game where you fly a WWI biplane and shoot down other players?

MAJIPOOR / Railway Rivals (\$3 gamefee): Brosius, Brown, Galt, Stimmel, Weiss and Wordelmann signed up and paid—this game is full. I need game fee from John and subscription from Bill—then I need railroad name, color, and start-town preference from everybody.

SOLARIS / Regular Diplomacy: Cancelled. Greg Ellis and Jeff August, I'm sorry—I just decided I need to limit myself for a while, and this game lost out to Eagleson because I've got more players waiting there.

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.

circulation of this issue: 104

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 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: Rich Shipley for Barsoom.



Calendar

Yeah, these are birthdays unless otherwise noted!

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, 15 Rich Irving, 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

July: 24 Tom Johnston



Picks and Pans

My error: Mark Weseman's *The Noble House* didn't fold, it merely ran way back to a flyer until Mark got resettled in the U.S. He has issue #8 out, with three games running and openings in 5 more (Dip, Gunboat, Maharaja, Golden Strider, and Sopwith)—(hmm, I've been thinking about running Sopwith myself...). You can get it from him for 75¢/issue at 13109 Emiline Street, Omaha NE 68138.

International Dip Stuff

Larry Peery is 'hosting' email round-table meetings to discuss World DipCon and a potential World Diplomacy Organization. The next meeting will be held from Saturday 0800 (San Diego, Calif., time), 28 October to Sunday 2000, 5 November. If you're interested in participating live, let Larry know *before* the event. If you'd like to submit a written message to be distributed to all the participants, mail it to LP at 6103 Malcolm Dr., San Diego, CA 92115, USA before 28 October.

The British zine-review zine, *Mission from God*, is out again, this time from Kim Head (23 Higher Efford Road, Efford, Plymouth, Devon PL3 6LB, U.K.). Costs £1 plus postage (send money via Jim Burgess' ISE), and reviews dozens of British zines. This issue typically only has one or two reviews per zine. I expect that will go up now that Kim has settled in as editor and with the next deadline being quick (early October!) so as to keep people's attention on *MfG*.

David Oya's *Where is my mind?* has the best letter column in Britain, and this issue also has the best cover anywhere in quite a while (not counting my own last month, of course). Pages and pages of fox hunting, NIMBYism, jazz fans (not!) and 'deformation of character'—great reading. Oya, 24 Kingsway, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9NY, England.

New Belgian zine: Marc Leotard says, "Our project consists in a zine devoted exclusively to gunboat-anonymous games. The aim is both to quicken the turnaround (Belgian and French zines usually take eight weeks to come out) and allow players to cloak behind pseudonyms." Get a copy or make suggestions for how it should be run by email <leotard@fusl.ac.be> or write to:

Marc Leotard
Rue de Savoie 87
B-1060 Brussels
BELGIUM

Zine Scene

Diplomacy World #75 was published and surpassed even #74 in both look and content. It's still very text-heavy, but you won't mind because it's all worth reading. Piles of articles, from nitty-gritty writeups of how to design variants and when to use the unwanted support, to philosophical musings on war and diplomacy. I think Doug's making a mistake running a demo game of *Railway Rivals* in *DW*, but everything else he's doing is right on. Get a copy from Doug (address in Cast List), presumably for \$2.50 (subscriptions \$10 for four issues).

Richard Weiss' *Zero Sum* brings the news that Richard is reevaluating his editorship. No new game-starts, cutting many trades, burned out playing Dip (but thish includes a free copy of the 'Guam' RR map!). [Just oticed that Quark wants to hyphenate it 'games-tarts' which could revive Richard's interest but wasn't what I meant...] We all wish him well and say 'hurry back to our paradise.'

In *Maniac's Paradise* this month, Mara Kent launches a new subzine, "Oasis". Nice odds and ends, but most of the first column is spent blowing off steam on hobby members (David Wang is pathetically nice, Doug is a loser with a short fuse). Notable: Jack McHugh is, she says, a fair-weather friend who used Doug. That was my impression also, and I'm glad to finally have confirmation from someone who's actually met Jack. Just another wimpy, no-guts issue of *MP*.

Color! The hobby's got color again (and with less of the horn-tooting we got when Garret did it). Chris Hassler has the masthead and maps in *S.O.B.* in living DeskJet color; Machiavelli maps leap off the page, and my Merchant of Venus map looks a lot more authentic with real color dots instead of RBYBR... (Chris H., 631 Candia Circle, La Habra CA 90631, zine costs \$1/issue.)

New zine! Mark Kinney picks up where the fold of *Swiss Observer* leaves off, introducing *League of Nations*. Standard Dip, Global Dip and a soon-to-be-offered Nuclear variant are on tap, and Mark stands out from the crowd of GMs in using predictive retreats (including an algorithm for unordered retreats!). \$5 gamefee unless you play Italy, in which case it's free—no sub fee for the time being. Get one from Mark, 3613 Coronado Drive, Louisville KY 40241.

white space

Well, here we are again. Once again my apologies are extended for the delay. Tralfamadore was just getting up a head of steam—I hope those players continue to work as hard as they have at negotiations! Omega may finally get up off the deck, and Kaider III's long-delayed gamestart is finally behind them.

Me? I'm trying to be sure I keep *enjoying* my daughter—it's easy to get caught up in feeding—changing—getting her to sleep, and never just sit and wave toys, make faces, or talk nonsense to her. The copier is running, this is the last page, maybe now...

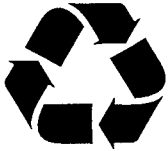
Tonight's Cast

Bold indicates a new address. T = Trade; 'reports' indicates a players not subbing to the whole zine.

PLAYER / ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	Sub Ends
Robert Acheson, 15715—92 Avenue, Edmonton Alberta T5R 5C5, CANADA.....			reports
Harry Andruschak, P.O. Box 5309, Torrence CA 90510-5309, USA.....		harry.andruschak@greatesc.com	134
Jeff August, 5057 South 12th Street, Arlington VA 22204, USA.....	(703) 820-7987		138
James Bailey, 8337 La Riviera Drive, Sacramento CA 95826-1654, USA.....		JamesAB5@aol.com	151
J.R. Baker, 2709 Colonial Drive, Dickinson TX 77539, USA			132.75
Eric Brosius, 41 Hayward Street, Milford MA 01757-3554, USA.....			T
Doug Brown, 2517 Indian Wells Road, Placerville CA 95667, USA	(916) 644-4781		132
Les Casey, 10 Wrenwood Court, Nepean Ontario K2G 5V3, CANADA.....		c234@arch.synapse.net	reports
Greg Ellis, 2005 Dublin Drive, League City TX 77573, USA	(713) 332-8160	GregE625@aol.com.....	C
Paul Gardner, 5 Timber Lane, Brattleboro VT 05301-2616, USA			138
Jack Garrett, 481 West Lincoln Drive, Greenville OH 45331, USA.....			139.50
Charles Goetz, c/o S. Kartofels, 625 W. Madison; Tower 4, Apt. 402, Chicago IL 60661, USA		cgoetz@kentlaw.edu	138
Mike Gonsalves, 530 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801-9011, USA		Mikegon59@aol.com.....	reports
Tim Goodwin, 49 Williams Street #2, Portland ME 04103, USA.....		TimG@aol.com.....	149
Robert Greene, 2473 Mosswood Way, Santa Clara CA 95051, USA.....			135
Jim Grose, 3-1313 Wellington Street, Ottawa Ontario K1Y 3B1, CANADA.....	(613) 728-8493.....		134
Randy Havens, 2626 West Olive Avenue, Fullerton CA 92633, USA			131
Nelson Heintzman, P. O. Box 603, East Amherst NY 14051, USA.....			139
Matt Heppe, 26 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont PA 18914, USA.....		mheppe@mciunix.mci.k12.pa.us....	134
Karl Hoffman, 395 Imperial Way, Daly City CA 94015, USA.....		KarlHoffmn@aol.com	140
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Stan Johnson, 1254 East Broadway Road #56, Mesa AZ 85204, USA.....			139.50
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Eben Kurtzman, 1099 Indian Summer Court, San Jose CA 95122, USA.....	(408) 288-6956.....		150
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Daf Langley, 14609 203rd Avenue SE, Renton WA 98059, USA.....			C
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Rich Shipley, 1001 Mariner Court, Joppatowne MD 21085, USA.....			138
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Vincent Springer, Shiprock Res. BIA Dorm, Box 1180, Shiprock NM 87420, USA		springev@sage.cc.purdue.edu.....	138
Tim Stabosz, 1307 Monroe Street, La Porte IN 46350, USA			131
Robert Stimmel, 2500 "Q" Street #10, Sacramento CA 95816-6828,			143
Nathan Trent, 10234-P Manassas Mill Road, Manassas VA 22111, USA.....		DQWE24E@prodigy.com	135
David Wang, P.O. Box 1564, Piscataway NJ 08854, USA			142
Dan Wartko, 1325 18th St, NW #311, Washington DC 20036-6505, USA		Daniel_J_Wartko@csgi.com.....	138
Richard Weiss, M.D., M.P.H., 241 Condo Lane #523, Tamuning 96911, GUAM			T
Mark Weseman, 13109 Emiline Street, Omaha NE 68110, USA.....			133
Brendan Whyte, somewhere in Los Angeles!			T
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Kevin Wilson, 373 Gateford Drive, Ballwin MO 63021, USA		kevin_wilson.mmi@notes.worldcom.com	140
Bill Wordelmann, 541 Canyon Trail, Carol Stream IL 60188-1364, USA		bill.wordelmann@subsoft.com.....	138
Andrew York, Box 2307, Universal City TX 78148-1307, USA.....		WAndrew@aol.com.....	T

Where It's At

page	feature
1	REYNOLDZKAY / Railway Rivals pre-start
2	The Interim #9 / Bruce McIntyre tells an Olympic fable
3	Special Notes for all players!
4	It's Me Again / Cathy's column
5	Roar of the Greasepaint / letters
9	LAMETH / 1992AJ Diplomacy
9	BELT 17 / 1993F Diplomacy
10	SILVERRUN / ASF31 Snowball Fighting
11	TRALFAMADORE / 1994Xxm22 Youngstown XV Dip
12	Railway Rivals house rules
13	VEXVELT / 1992R Diplomacy
13	PLATEAU / 1994HJ Diplomacy
14	DURLA / 1994Wrb32 Gunboat Diplomacy
14	KAIDER III / 1995HF Diplomacy
15	Literary Quiz / open to all readers
16	BARSOOM / 1993HI Diplomacy
16	X-23 / 1994IC Diplomacy
17	OMEGA / 1994D Diplomacy
17	A Barbershop Lullaby
18	Callboard / game openings and hobby news
19	Cast List / player & reader roster for this issue



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Help the Hoosier Archives!

Walt Buchanan's Hoosier Archives are the hobby's most complete and oldest historical trove. Walt's collection contains nearly every zine published in the 1960s and early 1970s... and now it has to move, so Walt can sell his house in Indiana.

Several hobby members have been working on a solution: Pete Gaughan, Fred C. Davis Jr., Conrad von Metzke, Buz Eddy and several others. We'd like to move the whole collection—file cabinets and all—to California. Pete has volunteered to take over care of the zines, and make them available for use.

But this will take money! We need a base of at least \$1000 to transport the Archives. To help save the hobby's historical inheritance, send your check to Pete. **ALL FUNDS WILL BE HELD IN ESCROW**—if the move doesn't happen, you'll get your money back, guaranteed. Send your contribution to: Pete Gaughan, 1236 Detroit Avenue #7, Concord Calif. 94520-3651

PERELANDRA

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