

MAY 5, 1990

#102

16 PAGES

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A SHARP MIND  
AND A STRAIGHT KNIFE

...is a sure cure for  
all Diplomatic ills

I have a choice this month . . . either I can make this issue 102 of *A Sharp Mind And A Straight Knife* (from Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA, phone +1(415)461-2692, but only 5 PM-11 PM local time (GMT-7 until October 28) with my usual semi-concentrated effort, or I can concentrate on some big project at work which had better be up and running by WORLD DIP CON time if I expect to be allowed to take leave from work in order to attend. So, if this issue doesn't have much more than the games, you know the inside story.

**MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT** is brought to you by **SUPER SLUGFEST**, now available for your Bart-endo game system (it never admits its mistakes - "I'm innocent, man")

What, you have a problem with *The Simpsons*? I suppose you'll be complaining about *Married . . . with Children* next.

Elmer Hinton's *Kaissa*, which began in 1977, has reached issue 200. The milestone issue includes comments that his next Dip game will be his last, and that Doug Beyerlein was a better BNC than any of his successors - Elmer has "never been appreciably tolerant of other people's inefficiencies". (Whereas *Lords of Valetia* was run quite efficiently?) I'd give you Elmer's address, but it would only encourage him . . .

Enclosed is a ballot for the 1990 HOBBY AWARDS. Your vote does matter - I won't go into details, as the vote totals are secret (I only found out because Larry Peery had them in his box of tournament papers at DIPCON last year) but suffice it to say that at least one of last year's awards was decided by one vote.

Two things stand out in this year's ballot. First, the MELINDA ANN HOLLEY AWARD has changed. Instead of being for "female participation", it is for "quantity participation" in the hobby. I'm all for this change - there aren't enough females to justify a separate award; besides, four of the five nominees are women. Second, "please accompany your vote (with) a dollar donation". I assume that this is a *voluntary* donation - or is it shades of Diptax?

Dear Don...

What's this - a LETTER COLUMN? And here's one from Ron Cameron:

You're damn right, I do make ((the request for a donation on the awards ballot)) sound like a mandatory fee. It's the closest that I could come without stirring up controversy and commotion.

Fred ((Davis)) suggested I put more strong wording on soliciting donations, because the fund is almost broke. We don't want to have to ask the PDO for funds and if it weren't for some of - most of - the kind folks who donated for the Holley Award, we would be broke. You know how tough it is to get donations from this hobby, Don!

Anyhow, it seems to be working - I have got ten votes already and \$14 to show for it. In fact, of all the people who nominated, only \$2 came that way. So unless some strong suggestion was on the ballot, we might not have a Hobby Awards next year. You've seen the plaques - they aren't cheap.

\*\*\*\*\* I know how expensive engraving can be - it cost me \$15 just to add one name to the IDTR Championship Cup. But I do have some bad news...you don't want to ask the PDO for funds? You wrote to the wrong guy - as a member of the PDO Distribution Committee, I'll probably ask for money for the awards.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I hate *DIPLOMACY*"

- Don Greenwood, in *The General*, Vol. 26, No. 1, page 47

# THE TEN-YEAR CONTEST

## QUESTION SET 4 - THE HOBBY

There was a time when "the hobby" dealt with just Diplomacy - but John Boardman is probably the only person that remembers this era. The latest rage, started by David Watts (*Rostherne Games Review*) and Bruce Linsey (*TRAX*), is 'zines dealing with railroad games. Anyway, have a crack at these:

1. In what year was the 100th (and last) issue of *The Voice Of Doom* published?
2. What game was played in the 'zine *Byrne Syndrome*?
3. Who published the American 'zine *Envoy*?
4. ...and the British 'zine *The Acolyte*?
5. Before Gary Coughlan started *Europa Express*, he did a series of "fake" issues that had the same title - what?
6. And speaking of fakes (something John Boardman does NOT want us to do), what 'zine had fake issues subtitled "Mellow Yellow" and "Rinky Pink"?
7. Oh, and speaking of John Boardman, he once entered a PBM Diplomacy game under his own name *and* under another name. What pseudonym did he use?
8. "Byrnecon" was a name used whenever a bunch of hobbyists got together at Kathy and John's (before they got married - now I suppose they're called Carusocons), played a few games, went out to dinner - that sort of thing. Anyway, what special name was given Byrnecons held on New Year's Eve/Day?
9. What's the main difference between the way PBM Diplomacy is played in North American and in Great Britain?
10. When the first "Hobby Census" was taken in the early '80s, what state was determined to have the "North American Hobby Population Center"?

**DEADLINE: JUNE 8**

## **TALISMAN "INTO THE WOODS", TURN 6 - What maze?**

### **FIRST MOVEMENT**

**CENTAUR (Ch1L)-Ch1R** and attacks the **Zombies** (Centaur gets +2 because of the **Man-At-Arms**; 9-4, 8-7, 6-7) - **CENTAUR LOSES 1 LIFE** (has 2L)

**MONK (Ct1L)-T1L** and finds a bag of gold (has 2G)

**WARRIOR (Ct1R)** prays to idol (rolls 11 and gains a life; has 4L) and then moves to **T1R**, where **RAIDERS** take the **Warrior's Talisman** and **Water Bottle** to the **Oasis**

**WIZARD (Ct1L)-City** and pays 2G to the **Doctor** to regain 2 lives (now has 3L)

### **SECOND MOVEMENT**

**CENTAUR (Ch1R)-Ct2R** and shoots arrow at **Wizard** (4-3) - **WIZARD** loses one life (has 2L)

**MONK (T1L)-T2R** and finds two bags of gold (has 4G)

**WARRIOR (T1R)-T3L**, which is where the maze was (but I forgot to list it last turn), so instead the **Warrior** gets a **Prince Follower** (at the **Castle**, heal two lives for free and/or trade the **Prince** for 3G)

**WIZARD (City)-Ct1R** (lose the **Poltergeist**) and meets a **Griffon (S5)** - **Wizard** uses the **Staff of Mastery** to take the **Griffon** as a follower

**CENTAUR (R Hanson):** 2L, S3, C3, 2G, **Man-At-Arms**

**MONK (D Hanson):** 3L, S2, C2, 4G, **Potion of Strength, Mercenary, Armour, Shield**

**WARRIOR (Pierce):** 4L, S4, C3, 0G, **Pixie, Prince**

**WIZARD (Dorneman):** 2L, S2, C5, 2G, **Spell, Staff of Mastery, Griffon**

**FACE-UP CARDS:** T2L - **Gargoyle (S5), Enchanter**; T3L - **Maze**;

V1R - **Cave**; V2L - **Ghost (C4)**; Ch1R - **Zombies (4xS2)**;

Ch1L - **Shadow (C2)**; loser loses 1C instead of 1L);

Oasis - **Water Bottle, Talisman**

### **DIE ROLLS FOR TURN 6:**

**DEADLINE** for **TURN 6** is **JUNE 1**. Press:

**CENTAUR-WIZARD:** Re the **poltergeist**: he ain't heavy, he's your brother.

**CENTAUR-MONK:** Are you just going to stand there and let the **Wizard** pick your pocket?

**CENTAUR-WARRIOR:** Let's go to the city. I'm guessing we'll find a **Wizard** there.

**CENTAUR-GM:** You were right about the dragon. Sorry 'bout that.

**WARRIOR-CENTAUR AND MONK:** The Wizard's got to be heading to C11R - go get him!

**WARRIOR-CENTAUR:** Sorry. I'm eating my Wheaties as fast as I can.

**WIZARD-FELLOW ADVENTURERS:** Looks like it's off to the graveyard for me, what with two adventurers gunning for me, a poltergeist around my neck, and one life to live. Believe me, it's been fun...I guess. I bet you're next, Warrior - beware of monks and others with equine hindquarters!

**GM-WIZARD:** For someone who's supposed to be headed off to the graveyard, you look in pretty good shape to me.



**KREMLIN "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'". TURN 5A - Two years is enough for Schukrutoff**

**CURE:** Karrienko comes out; Niewitko and Manjak stay in

**AGING:** Schukrutoff ages 3 (90); Shootemdedsky ages 1 (72)

**PURGE:** Karrienko attempts to purge Shootemdedsky (rolls 13 and succeeds) and Patina (rolls 1 and fails). Karrienko ages 4 (67); Shootemdedsky goes to Siberia (remove declared IP and "?").

**SPY:** As Manjak and Niewitko are inactive, and Karrienko declines the opportunity, nothing happens

#### **HEALTH**

Schukrutoff (90+) rolls 2 and dies instantly

Karrienko (67) rolls 19 (no effect)

Niewitko (75C) rolls 12 (no effect)

Manjak (84++C) rolls 20 and becomes 84+C

Talksalott (70) rolls 3 and becomes 70++

Patina (58) rolls 12 (no effect)

Palavrian (70) rolls 6 and becomes 70++

**TURN 5B ORDERS:** Funeral Commission (vote for / against potential nominees for Party Chief), Replacement, and Rehabilitation orders, plus IP declarations

## **STANDINGS AT END OF TURN 5A**

**PARTY: VACANT**

**KGB: Karrienko (N), 67, CREEP 6, EFC 5**

**FOREIGN: Niewitko (D), 75?C, LNTC 1**

**DEFENSE: Manjak (P), 84+C, CREEP 10, NEP 3**

**IDEOLOGY: Talksalott (J), 70+++, LNTC 6**

**INDUSTRY: Patina (S), 58**

**ECONOMY: Palavrian (G), 70+, OLM 6, CREEP 5, LNTC 4**

**SPORT: VACANT**

**CANDIDATES: Boremtodev (K), 68+++; Doberman (L), 65;**

**Batstumuch (M), 64; Nikotin (R), 59; Strychnin (T), 57**

**SIBERIA: Purgemoff (F), 75; Goferbrok (C), 74;**

**Shootemdedsky (H), 72**

**KREMLIN WALL: Aparatschik (A), Schukrutoff (B),**

**Krakembeds (E), Mischif (I), Satin (O)**

**FACTIONS: CREEP - Anderson; EFC - Weseman; OLM - Pierce;  
NEP - Carrier; RNM - Nash; LNTC - Cameron**

**DEADLINE for TURN 5B is JUNE 2**



# **GAME OPENINGS**

## **AREA-RATED DIPLOMACY -**

With any luck, a seventh player has been found for the current game, but I will open another one if enough interest develops.

**WHAT ELSE . . .** I'm waiting for TAHGC (The Avalon Hill Game Company - for some strange reason, we're not supposed to say "Avalon Hill" (oops)) to release *WRASSLIN*, plus their new *REPUBLICS OF ROME* sounds interesting - actually, I've reached my saturation point of different games that I'm running (and it's showing), so no games of new titles will begin until a current game ends.

If you're looking for "alternative" games, I hear *MIKE'S MAG* is starting up again, and there's always *PROTOZOAN*.

Oh, by the way, somewhere on the back burner is my plan to redesign Dave Grabar's *Nuclear Holocaust: World War III* to (a) get rid of the nuclear element, and (b) to modify air movement rules so that it's not possible to go three times as far over sea as over land.

# AREA-RATED DIPLOMACY

"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA" - GAMESTART

**AUSTRIA:** Steve Hughes (02888-01), 110 Tennyson Road,  
Warwick, RI 02888

**ENGLAND:** Roger Cox (29349-02), 57 Coastline Drive, Inman,  
SC 29349

**FRANCE:** Kevin Kinsel (92692-01), 21561 Oakbrook, Mission  
Viejo, CA 92692

**GERMANY:** Scott Cameron (11801-01), 4 Meadow Lane,  
Hicksville, NY 11801-5304

**ITALY:** Keith Schneider (63090-01), RR 2 Box 337, Washington,  
MO 63090

**RUSSIA:** Dick Martin (20854-01), 17601 Lisa Drive, Rockville,  
MD 20855

**TURKEY:** Greg Ellis (?), 1709 San Antonio, Apt. 211, Austin,  
TX 78701

**HELP!** Will **SOMEBODY** send Greg Ellis one of their blank  
AREA Victory Claim slips? Greg moved and can't find his - and I  
can't find mine, either, or I would send him one.

**SPRING 1901 DEADLINE is JUNE 6**

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**1830 "STARLIGHT EXPRESS", TURN 8A**

**CORRECTIONS:** Dick Martin made \$9 (not \$6) in the second  
NYC run last turn, and begins this turn with \$256. Also, the  
corporation listings has two mistakes: RH (not RP) has 20% CP  
and RP (not DM) has 10% C&O.

**ANOTHER QUESTION:** Rule 18.2 makes it sound as if green  
tiles must be played over yellow tiles (as opposed to "empty" hexes  
on the map). Is this correct? If it is, does this mean brown tiles  
must be played over green (or green and yellow) tiles?

## **STOCK ROUND**

Jim Goode passes (297)

Rich Hanson buys 10% CP for \$82 (32)

Vince Pratt sells 20% PRR for \$180 [stock now at D76] and buys  
10% C&O from pool for \$80 (239)

Rick Pierce sells 10% NYC for \$69 [stock now at H68] and buys  
10% C&O from pool for \$80 (181)  
Dick Martin buys 10% CP for \$82 (174)  
JG (197) and RH (32) pass  
VP buys 10% NYC from pool for \$68 (171)  
RP buys 10% C&O from pool for \$80 (101)  
DM buys 10% CP for \$82 (92)  
JG (197) and RH (32) pass  
VP buys 10% C&O from pool for \$80 (91)  
RP buys 10% C&O from pool for \$80 (21)  
DM buys 10% CP for \$82 and sells 10% NYC for \$68 (78)  
CP has now floated  
JG (197) and RH (32) pass  
VP buys 10% NYC from pool for \$68 (23)  
RP sells 30% C&O for \$240 and buys 10% PRR for \$90 (171)  
DM sells 10% B&M for \$100 [stock is now at B90] and buys 10%  
CP for \$82 (60)  
DM takes over presidency of CP  
All pass - JG has priority deal for turn 8

### **OPERATING ROUND 1**

Note that all private company transactions are void once the  
private companies are closed

**B&O lays tile 67 in H18(W) (there's no green tile there)**

Run "3" train I15-I17-I19-H18(s) for \$110

Run "3" train H16-I15-J14 for \$100

Pay dividends (JG \$105, DM \$21, treasury \$21)

B&O stock rises to C100

**B&M lays tile 62 in G19(SE)**

Put token in G19(N) (cost \$40)

Run "4" train G19(N)-F20-E21-E23-F24 for \$150

Run "5" train G19(N)-F18-E19 for \$100

Pay dividends (DM \$125, treasury \$25)

B&M stock rises to B100

**CP lays tile 58 in B20(NW); put (free) token in A19**

Purchase "5" train for \$450 (one "5" remaining)

CP stock drops to C76

**C&O lays tile 63 in H16(E)**

Run "3" train F2-G3-G5-G6-G7 for \$110

Run "3" train G7-H8-H10-(H12)-H14-H16 for \$80

Put money in treasury

C&O stock drops to F75



**PRR does not lay a tile**

Run "4" train H18-H16-H14-H12-H10 for \$130

Pay dividends (VP \$52, RP \$13, treasury \$26)

Purchase "5" train for \$450 (last "5" train)

PRR stock rises to D82

**NYC lays tile 42 in F18(NE)**

Run "4" train E19-F18-G17-H16-H18 for \$120

Pay dividends (RP \$60, VP \$24, treasury \$36)

Buy "3" train for \$180

NYC stock rises to G69

**NYNH does not lay a tile (can't put #59 on F22)**

Run "4" train E23-E21-F20-G19(N)-F18-E19 for \$160

Pay dividends (RH \$80, treasury \$80)

NYNH stock rises to H67

**MAP: A19 - CP; B20 - 58(NW); E19 - 57(SW), NYC;  
E21 - 28(E); E23 - 53(W), B&M; F6 - C&O; F18 - 42(NE);  
F20 - 55(E); G3 - 8(NW); G5 - 25(W); G7 - 2(SE); G17 - 69(NE);  
G19 - 62(SE), NYNH(N), B&M(N); H8 - 23(W);  
H10 - 15(W), C&O, PRR; H12 - PRR; H14 - 9(W);  
H16 - 63(E), NYC, PRR; H18 - 67(W); I15 - 53(E), B&O;  
I17 - 9(E); J14 - 57(SW)**

**PLAYER STANDINGS (Underline indicates president)**

JG: \$302, 50% B&O, 20% C&O

RH: \$112, 50% NYNH, 30% CP

VP: \$99, 40% PRR, 40% C&O, 20% NYC

RP: \$244, 50% NYC, 10% C&O, 10% PRR

DM: \$206, 50% B&M, 40% CP, 10% B&O

Pool: 30% NYC, 10% B&M, 10% B&O, 20% PRR, 30% C&O,  
50% NYNH

**CORPORATION STANDINGS**

**B&O (70% sold): Par \$100, Stock C100, Token in I15**

\$520, 2 "3" trains

JG 50%, DM 10%, pool 10%

**B&M (60%): Par \$100, Stock B100, Tokens in E23 and G19(N)**

\$55, "5" and "4" trains

DM 50%, pool 10%

**CP (70%): Par \$82, Stock C76, Token in A19**

\$370, "5" train

DM 40%, RH 30%

**C&O (100%):** Stock F75, Tokens in F6 and H10  
 \$487, 2 "3" trains  
 VP 40%, JG 20%, RP 10%, pool 30%

**PRR (70%):** Par \$100, Stock D82, Tokens in H10, H12, and H15  
 \$101, "5" and "4" trains  
 VP 40%, RP 10%, pool 10%

**NYC (100%):** Stock G69, Tokens in E19 and H16  
 \$143, "4" and "3" train  
 RP 50%, VP 20%, pool 30%

**NYNH (100%):** Stock H67, Token in G19(N)  
 \$360, "4" train  
 RH 50%, pool 50%

**The next mailing (Turn 2B) will be for TWO OPERATING ROUNDS - DEADLINE is JUNE 5**



**RAILWAY RIVALS "SOUTH PACIFIC", ROUND 2 - Track goes everywhere, but BRCO goes nowhere**

**S&CE (Mercer):** (K50)-L50-Westwood, (M47)-N46;  
 (K53)-J53-Reno; (Reno)-Carson City-H56-I57

**VIC (Cain):** (Stockton)-Y11; (Y11)-Merced, (W8)-R10;  
 (R10)-Q11, (Santa Rosa)-E45

**BRCO (Goode) NMRed - no builds**

**CHIVES (Cameron):** (H19)-E21; (E21)-San Diego-A23,  
 (O20)-O21-P21; (P21)-Tona, (Barstow)-M25, (P21)-Q21

**PIERCE (Pierce):** (O16)-Bakersfield, (H21)-San Bernadino,  
 (J18)-J17; (J17)-J16-K16-Santa Barbara-K12;  
 (K12)-L11-M12-O11

**Underlined cities indicate the 6 bonus for building there first**

**STANDINGS**

**S&CE:** 24 + 18 = 42  
**VIC:** 56 + 6 = 62  
**BRCO:** 40  
**CHIVES:** 26 + 12 = 38  
**PIERCE:** 26 + 18 = 44

**ROUND 3 BUILDS:  
 6 - 5 - 4**

**DEADLINE for ROUND 3 is JUNE 2**

**KINGMAKER "ME AND MY GAL". TURN 9 - And you thought only Diplomacy had flying dutchmen**

**CORRECTION:** Le SWAN (which belongs to the King's Court) moved (Chichester)-s18-s19-s20-s21-Rochester last turn

**PRE-MOVE:** Herbert receives Saxons; Percy receives Burgundian Crossbowmen; Plantagenet York becomes Marshal of England; Clifford goes to Rochester; Le Michael is free as an ally owns Caernarvon (Clifford, Chancellor of England)

**WHITE DUCHESS II (Ozog)**

**HERBERT** (Salisbury)-Southampton(g)\*

**CLIFFORD** (Rochester)-Blackheath-h40-Farnham-h44-Chichester

**KNIGHTS OF THE HIGH SIERRA (Wescman)**

**CROMWELL** (Lincoln(g))-Grantham-Leicester-h6-Kenilworth-h22

**STANLEY** and **BERKELEY** (Salisbury)-h43-h51-Weymouth

Le **MICHAEL** (Caernarvon)-s5-s7-s9-Milford Haven

Le **GEORGE** and Le **TRINITY** (Chichester)-s18-s17-Weymouth

**KING'S COURT (Anderson)**

**ROOS, BEAUFORT, BOURCHIER, and PLANTAGENET LANCASTER** remain in Windsor

Le **SWAN** remains in Rochester

**INDIGNANT ORDER OF THE CLOISTERED QUEENS (Mercer)**

**PERCY** and **HASTINGS** (h44)-Southampton(g)

**PLANTAGENET YORK** (Salisbury)-Southampton(g)

Le **ROSE** remains in Chichester (can't enter neutral Southampton)

**COMBAT:** Percy, Hastings, and Plantagenet York battle Herbert at Southampton Green (370-120), but the battle is indecisive (FRENCH RAID 4-1).

**TURN 9 CROWN CARD:**

**TURN 10 EVENTS:** holding card to Ozog; **PIRACY** (Beaufort to Corfe); **FRENCH RAID** (Berkeley and 2 ships to Rye); **MUTINY**-Le Nicholas (no effect)

**DEADLINE** for **TURN 10** is **JUNE 7**. There's one item of press from the **WHITE DUCHESS II**, which is on the next page...

As heard in the Plains of Salisbury:

"Hail to York"

"Hail to you, young masters - have you decided to aid your Father against the Lancasters?"

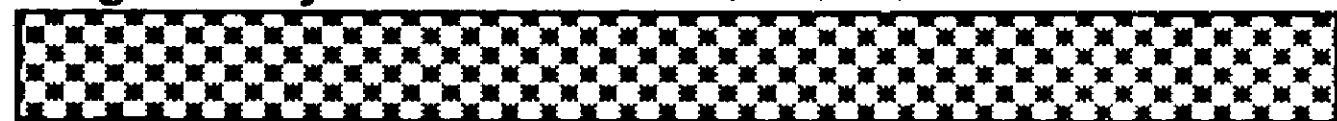
"We do not need Dad; he's a foolish old man, and you are foolish as well! We will fight!"

The sound of swords and thunderclouds. "Hey George - where did he go I can't see anything in this damn English weather."

"He ran away, of course. Come on, Ned - let's get in out of the rain and do some serious drinking."

"Later - first we must get Edmund on our side. Richard the young one is dead."

"Oh good - they have excellent ale in Ireland."



## DIPLOMACY "LES MISERABLES", SPRING 1905

**AUSTRIA (Holley):** F ALB-Gre, A VIE-Gal, A Ser-Rum (d-ret ti Tri, OTB), A BUD S A Ser-Rum

**ENGLAND (Hughes):** A Wal-YOR, F Nat-MID

**FRANCE (Goode?):** NMR - has F BREm A PAR, A BUR, A PIE, F TUS, F TUN, and F TYH

**GERMANY (Allen??):** NMR - has A BEL, F HOL, A KIE, F NTH, A BOH, and M Mun

**ITALY (Anderson):** A TYO-Mun, A Ven-ROM

**RUSSIA (Slaughter):** F STP(nc)-BAR, A Mos-STP, A UKR-Gal, F Nwg-CLY, A GAL-Bud, F Lon-ENG, F BLA S A Rum, A RUM S TURKISH A Gre-Ser

**TURKEY (Domeman):** F CON-Aeg, F Ion-ADR, A Gre-SER, F AEG-Gre, A BUL S A Gre-Ser

**STANDBYS:** Will CHARLES MERCER, Box 305, Forestville, CA 95436, submit standby orders for Germany, and KEVIN KINSEL, 21561 Oakbrook, Mission Viejo, CA 92692, submit standby orders for France?

**DRAW PROPOSAL:** An A/E/I/R/T draw has been proposed. Vote with your Fall orders. No vote means NO as not all survivors are included.

**DEADLINE for SUMMER/FALL 1905 is JUNE 8.** Press is on the next page.

**ENGLAND-WORLD:** The empire still lives! We shall fight...we shall never surrender!

**CANADA (ENGLAND)-FRANCE:** What gives?

**MOSCOW-LONDON, er ah, LIVERPOOL:** I do not mind taking my knocks in the press for being evil when I deserve it, but how can you say I was in any way treacherous? I made no promises; I told no lies. I open the route to St. Petersburg and left it undefended. You withdrew in what was your first move in the game. No wonder nobody wants you for a lackey...one's lackey is supposed to attack, be in the front!

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I knew there was something missing last time . . .

## TOP KNIFE #34

This is *Top Knife*, the IDTR subzine to ASM&ASK, this week featuring the second tournament of 1990:

### 1990 VICTORIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIPS

were held April 13-15 as part of the CONQUEST gaming convention in Melbourne. John Cain and Robert Wessels presided over the 52-player event, but 17 did not play enough rounds to be eligible for the win, so IDTR points are awarded based on a 35-person turnout. As usual, the STAB rating system was used, with a separate vote of the players for the "best player of the tournament" award.

1. Jim Venn (100)
2. Harry Kolotas (71)
3. Adrian Fegan (42)
4. Clive Lane (14)
5. Gregory Calder
6. Anthony Douglas
7. Shane Beck
8. Luke Hoban
9. Ken Sproat
10. John Tong

IDTR points scored for this tournament are in parentheses.

After two events, the top five are:

ADRIAN FEGAN, 142  
HARRY KOLOTAS, 107  
JIM VENN, 100  
LUKE CLUTTERBUCK, 84  
MARION ASHWORTH, 68

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIP**, Sydney, June 9-11

**WORLD DIP CON II**, Chapel Hill, July 22-24

**ORIGINS**, Atlanta, June 28-July 1

**MANORCON**, Birmingham, England, July 20-23

FOOT IN MOUTH

Vol.III Issue #10

April 21,1990

This is FIM, the #1 roving subzine in the world and the one that says, "If it ain't broke, lets break it!"

This issue will be appearing in Don Del Grande's new zine called A DULL KNIFE AND A WARPED MIND. I don't understand why Don insists upon changing the name of his zine every other month. I guess he wants to confuse the simple minded folks out there. People like Flap Jack, Woody, Fast Fingers, and the rest of the PA connection. About the only thing these guys can connect with is a telephone operator.

I missed issue #100 of Don's zine. Not that it was anything special. It wasn't. But I always like to try to get my foot in the door whenever possible. Looking back over LIFE OF MONTY'S first 100 issues (sorry Don- it'll always be LOM to me) things haven't changed much. One can still find the satirical DIP WARZ, the large print for those of us with failing eyesight, the occasional larger print size, and the almost always miscolated pages.

I hear Don is planning on attending Dipcon in NC this year. I was asked to go and to be on a 7 man team, but I doubt that I can get off from work. I'd have to take off Thur, Fri and Mon, and I'm too irreplaceable at work to be allowed to take off for 3 days. At least thats the impression I get. What would you think if after 15 months on the job you asked your boss about a vacation and he told you he'd see if he can give you a weeks time. Meanwhile, he takes an average of 2 days a month. Life is a bitch, ain't it? Yeah, and then you marry one!

The other day, Flap Jack McHugh and I went to an ice cream parlor. I decided to order a shake. Jack asked me what kind of shake I was going to order- chocolate, vanilla or San Francisco? I told him that his humor wasn't very funny. He said he wasn't trying to be funny. I told him many people died during the last earth-shake, and he told me that they were the lucky ones.

The baseball season is finally under way. The hockey season is at the mid-way point and the basketball season is about to begin. Of course, regarding hockey and basketball they are entering the playoffs. Why they play the regular season is beyond me. When more than 60% of the teams make the playoffs, there is little point to the regular season than to make money. At least in baseball and in football they use the regular season to narrow down the field to a mere handful.

While I'm on sports- did anyone see the Tyson-Douglas fight? The change in Tyson's trainer was evident in the way he handled himself in the fight. No movement. He was a target, that hit back once in a while. Douglas executed what Michael Spinks tried to do over a year ago- hit and move or hit and tie up Tyson. The only way to beat Tyson was to take it to him, and thats what Douglas did. Douglas' next opponent will either be Evander Holyfield, or Robin Givens.

I guess thats about it for this issue of FIM. I hope you all enjoyed it. if you didn't, oh well. Complain to Don.

Take care and have fun.....

## 1990 AWARDS BALLOT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOBBY ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTIONS: Vote for one choice only in each category. The above ID portion MUST be completed. Receipt deadline is JUNE 11, 1990 !

### 1990 DON MILLER AWARD

For service to the hobby;

- \_\_\_\_ FRED DAVIS: For 18 years of BUSHWACKER & work with Mensa Sig & Variant Bank  
\_\_\_\_ STEVE HEINOWSKI: For work with the Boardman Number Service  
\_\_\_\_ MELINDA ANN HOLLEY: Gming numerous games in the hobby, her 'Zine REBEL and work with EVERYTHING  
\_\_\_\_ TOM NASH: Publishing ZINE REGISTER and BEEN THERE, DONE THAT  
\_\_\_\_ LARRY PEERY: DIPCON '89, 'Zine DIPLOMACY WORLD and hobby census work

### 1990 JOHN KONING AWARD

For outstanding play of Diplomacy;

- \_\_\_\_ EDI BIRSAN: '89 DIPCON Championship  
\_\_\_\_ GARY BEHNEN: Play by Mail play in 1989  
\_\_\_\_ HOHN CHO: '89 DIPCON Championship  
\_\_\_\_ STEVE COOLEY: Numerous FTF Championships, excellent play in DIPLOMACY WORLD Demo game  
\_\_\_\_ FRED HYATT: Winner CANCON '89

### 1990 MELINDA ANN HOLLEY AWARD

For quantity participation in the hobby;

- \_\_\_\_ KATHY CARUSO: 'Zine KATHY'S KORNER, Orphan Service help  
\_\_\_\_ LINDA COURTEMANCHE: Subzine HIGH INERTIA  
\_\_\_\_ JIM DIEHL: Multitude of games; no one's ever met him in person  
\_\_\_\_ MELINDA HOLLEY: 'Zine REBEL and multitude of games played and GM'd  
\_\_\_\_ CATHY OZOG: Overseas participation and 'Zine CATHY'S RAMBLINGS

### 1990 ROD WALKER AWARD

For literary excellence;

- \_\_\_\_ LARRY BOTIMER: Article UNABASHED BOTIMER, 'PLAYING ITALY' in 'Zine KATHY'S KORNER # 155  
\_\_\_\_ FRANCOIS CUERRIER: Article 'LOWBALLING' in PASSCHENDAELE #97  
\_\_\_\_ JACK GARRETT: Article 'NEW GAME START' in DARK MIRROR #6  
\_\_\_\_ GREG MAYNARD: Article 'OR: WHY MY NAME IS NOW MUD' in THE LAST RESORT  
\_\_\_\_ GREG & LINDA MAYNARD: Article SURVIVAL AS A DIPLOMAT'S WIFE in PENQUIN DIP #30

Please vote early. Deadline of June 11th will come early. Publishers are encouraged (begged) to reprint this ballot in their very next issues. Should anyone wish to receive a copy of the articles nominated for the Walker Award, send postage and your request to RON CAMERON, 7821 Bouma, LaPalma, CA 90623 OR FRED DAVIS 3210-K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043. Winners will receive perpetual plaques, nicely engraved. This COSTS MONEY so please accompany your vote with a dollar donation.

The committee this year was to be indeed complimented. It was no easy task to pick a final ballot as the MILLER AWARD category alone had, counting multiple nominations, 20 nominees. 2 Canadians were asked to serve on the committee and 2 women, all for various reasons, mostly workload or personal problems, declined. However, the 1990 committee needs no introduction as their feats and contributions in and to the hobby are too well known. A good mix of pubbers and excellent players. Heartfelt thanks to each: GARY BEHNEN, MARK BERCH, FRED DAVIS, DAVID McCRUMB, TIM MOORE, MARK PETERS. It will be fun to see which of the finest are awarded their due at DIPCON. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!  
RON CAMERON, HOBBY AWARDS COORDINATOR

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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**