


It is foretold...the Seven Modern Horsemen of the Apocalypse will appear in order, signifying the final days...

1.  **Jerry Brown returns as Governor of California**

2.  **The Abyssinian Prince**

3.  **The Leisure Suit**

4.  **Parachute Pants**

5.  **Titanic, Part 2**

6.  **Pauly Shore's Career**

7.  **The Pet Rock**

The Prophecy Has Begun...Prepare Thyself...

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE #325

February 21, 2011

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E-MAIL/WEB ONLY ISSUE! PDF will be available on the website incorporating all subszines.

Web Page Address: <http://www.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/index.html>

I'm clearly working too hard these days to keep this on track, but if John Boardman can restart *Graustark* who am I to wimp out? I really do want to finish these games up here and then decide if I want to continue or not. Doug Kent, the turbophreak that he is, always makes me feel wimpy and inadequate with his productivity. I still think there is a place for the banter and discussion that can happen in a szine, as opposed to pure web gaming, but we are to see, aren't we?

If there is more reading material that you sent me that should have been in here, that was a casualty of the long delay. I was going to give you a few other surprises but when Mike Barno's letter came in and I spent quite a few hours "monkey typing" and listening to things for it, I thought discretion was the better part of valor. If you have something I should print, please remind me.

And I tried to copy Mark Wightman's rules for running 23 Tunes, but the record keeping turned into a real mess. When in doubt, get Dougie to do it, so Doug Kent is running 23 Tunes and I'm playing. Here are the rules for 23 TUNES. You send me three tunes for the first turn, and then two tunes in each of the last ten turns for a total of 23. If you missed the first turn, you can still catch up by sending five tunes next issue, and guess on submitters to this issue of *Eternal Sunshine*. Actually, you can send all 23 tunes at once if you want to, but then you'll need to remember to guess everyone else's each month. Doug also is submitting his own tunes. After we're done, Doug would like to exchange CD's/Tapes for as many of the tunes players as possible, but this is not required. Doug will be sending the winner his 23 Tune list.

The winner is determined by having you guess each issue who submitted what list (Doug lists the submitters for you). For each list you get right, you get a point, you also can win bonus points from Doug for really cool tune selections. That's it, not complicated. I share with Doug the hope that by starting this up, he'll get more to join. So, put simply... you send in the name and artist of songs you really like or have special meaning to you. DON'T SEND THEM TO ME, send them to Doug Kent at dougray30 of yahoo.com.

Doug already has printed 3 of them the first turn, and will print 2 for each turn after that (you can submit that way, or send in all 23 at once, or anything in between). Each issue Doug lists the songs for that turn, without revealing who submitted which song. Doug also prints a list of who submitted songs (again, without telling you which songs they sent in). Your mission is to match the people with the songs. Simple. I would note that he says "list" but there is no easy way to get someone's whole list, even when they have themes (as I do in my list, for example). And Doug will be offering other prizes as well, to be determined later. If you miss a turn, make it up by sending enough songs to catch up with the other players (and the overdue songs will simply be revealed immediately).

Some of you are still not on the E-Mail list for this szine, I keep trying to sign you up, please accept the offer! I am going ahead and finishing all the games here, and then we'll see what happens.

We will theoretically have four subszines going forward, from Dave Partridge, Doug Kent, Andy York, and Peter Sullivan. But Dave Partridge is even farther behind than me on finishing *Tinamou*, Andy York is working on *By the WAY*, but Peter is back active! Doug of course puts us all to shame otherwise. This issue only has an *Octopus' Garden* from Peter with a game start. Dave and Andy are working on getting back in the swing.

For production, in addition to the HTML's of each separate product on the web page, I will also have a PDF that you can print of the entire szine (including my famous handdrawn maps!). You can just print the maps if you like, but remember maps are for pikers anyway, you don't need no steenkin' maps, keep them up in your head where they belong. I don't think there are very many people I owe money, but if you think

I owe you money, just ask and I will pay. ONE GROUP that is definitely owed money is the players with NMR insurance. NMR insurance still continues, I will still call you for it, and when your game ends, I will refund the money.

I have now tried to sign up all the players, some multiple times, but please check. THIS IS A PROBLEM, sign up now if you're playing so you get proper notification!!! General information about the mailing list is at: <http://www.diplom.org/mailman/listinfo/tap>

You can sign up from there, or send E-Mails to: Tap-request of diplom.org; with the word 'help' in the subject or body (don't include the quotes), and you will get back a message with instructions. You must know your password to change your options (including changing the password, itself) or to unsubscribe. Normally, Mailman will remind you of your diplom.org mailing list passwords once every month, although you can disable this if you prefer. This reminder will also include instructions on how to unsubscribe or change your account options. There is also a button on your options page that will email your current password to you.

TEMPLECON 2011 Report (First Round of Four Tournament Nor'Easter)

Let me start with the great successes. Travis Pagliarini played in his first Diplomacy game ever in Round 2, participated in what turned into a solo by the Tournament winner, then came back in his second ever Diplomacy game in Round 4 and battled (and I do mean BATTLED) to a board topping tie with that same Tournament winner as the time draw was called. This was great. Two or three of the other players in the tournament were playing in their first Diplomacy games ever as well. But, as usual, this did not make for bad games, everyone was engaged and the games were all good – even Dirk's solo game that won him the tournament.

Then the disappointment. I had a full board (seven people, including several people with hotel reservations that they had to cancel) cancel out on me within the last week before TempleCon – a number of them on Friday, this was more than the usual "I might come" and then not that you always get. I'll rank on the one where I have the most influence, my brother David really owes me. He called to cancel on me as I was driving with Dirk Knemeyer (who I picked up in Boston) down to TempleCon. It was missing these seven potential players that really was the problem, we had only 15 unique players this year (counting me) as compared to 23 last year. I don't want to whine or complain, these things happen, but it was regrettable for the travelers who did come in from afar for less than they bargained for.

Anyway, I went from thinking I was pretty safe at having two boards in each round where I could do the usual pickups from people hanging around, to really needing to sell the game around the con. I ended up needing to do those pickups to get to five boards total (only Round 2 had two boards). Only Mike Boden of the new Diplomacy players we picked up last year came back and played in a round this year, though they were all around and kept saying they might play, but then the timing kept coming up wrong. If they (five or six of them) had played in a number of rounds we would have been OK as well, but I don't blame them for playing other games. I'm going to get them together with some of these other new players in some games at the Temple store that the TempleCon people run sometime later this year. This will help start promoting Diplomacy for TempleCon 2012.

So, since I originally started the Nor'Easter, I am going to try to claim that we count the TempleCon results for the Nor'Easter anyway, even though we didn't meet Grand Prix six boards in best of three rounds standards. Everyone who came had a great time. The background Steampunk atmosphere made the environment always interesting to look at. And that should count for something... ;-) As I understand the GP rules, this means we can't qualify again next year either, we can just try to get back up over the 6 board standard and then apply for 2013? This seems unduly harsh, but I'll get over it. I do plan to keep doing TempleCon in the future.

Here's the results with the raw totals from the scoring system and the adjustment from the ante system (I know some people don't like the ante system, if that did actually keep anyone away, let me know and I can adjust or delete it, I'm no longer convinced that it matters):

NAME	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	RawTot	Adj.	Final Total
Dirk Knemeyer	34.48	110.00	14.04	23.21	181.73	0	181.73
Roland Cooke	5.17	33.33	19.30	12.50	70.30	0	70.30
Bob Holt	13.79	24.56	26.32		64.67	5	69.67

NAME	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	RawTot	Adj.	Final Total
Jim Burgess (TD)	13.79	15.79		12.50	42.08	5	47.08
Robert Rouse		15.79	14.04		29.83	10	39.83
Chris Morse	22.41				22.41	15	37.41
Travis Pagliarini		0.00		23.21	23.21	10	33.21
Brent Waddington	10.34	0.00	19.30	2.00	31.64	0	31.64
Carl Ellis		5.26	0.50	16.07	21.83	5	26.83
Will Ferioli		0.00		12.50	12.50	10	22.50
John Ruzzo			7.02		7.02	15	22.02
Mike Bodem		5.26			5.26	15	20.26
Dave Cohen	1.75				1.75	15	16.75
Paul Lewis		0.75			0.75	15	15.75
Jim Burgess 2 (TD)		0.00			0.00	15	15.00
Robert Rouse 2		0.00			0.00	15	15.00
Daniel O'Connor		0.00			0.00	15	15.00

Thanks to everyone and to the great TempleCon hosts, I reserved one crash room and that ended up with only two people in it because of the cancellations. I still think having a crash room is a really important part of helping travelers who come from a distance to the con.

Here are the board results (with detour09 basic points in parentheses):

Round 1, Board 1

Austria (Bob Holt):	5 5 4 5 4 4 4 5 (13.79)
England (Dirk Knemeyer):	4 5 6 6 7 7 10 11 (34.48) BEST ENGLAND
France (Chris Morse):	5 5 5 6 6 6 6 8 (22.41)
Germany (Jim Burgess-TD):	5 6 6 6 6 7 7 5 (13.79)
Italy (Dave Cohen):	4 4 4 3 3 2 1 0 (1.75) Carl Ellis 1905 substitute
Russia (Roland Cooke):	5 5 4 1 1 1 1 1 (5.17)
Turkey (Brent Waddington):	4 4 5 7 7 7 5 4 (10.34)

Round 2, Board 1

Austria (Paul Lewis):	4 3 3 0 - - (0.75)
England (Jim Burgess-TD):	4 5 7 7 7 6 (15.79)
France (Bob Holt):	6 6 7 8 8 9 (24.56) BEST FRANCE
Germany (Carl Ellis):	5 4 1 1 1 1 (5.26)
Italy (Robert Rouse):	4 5 4 5 6 6 (15.79) BEST ITALY
Russia (Mike Bodem):	4 5 4 4 3 1 (5.26)
Turkey (Roland Cooke):	5 6 8 9 9 11 (33.33) BEST TURKEY

Round 2, Board 2

Austria (Travis Pagliarini):	5 6 4 5 5 4 3 3 (0.00)
England (Brent Waddington):	5 5 5 5 3 2 1 (0.00)
France (Robert Rouse-2):	4 5 5 5 4 4 3 (0.00)
Germany (Daniel O'Connor):	5 4 4 4 3 2 1 1 (0.00)
Italy (Will Ferioli):	4 4 5 4 4 5 6 7 (0.00)
Russia (Dirk Knemeyer):	6 7 8 8 9 14 17 18 (110.00) BEST RUSSIA
Turkey (Jim Burgess-2-TD):	4 3 3 3 3 2 1 1 (0.00)

Round 3, Board 1

Austria (Dirk Knemeyer):	4 5 6 6 6 5 (14.04) BEST AUSTRIA
England (Carl Ellis):	3 2 0 - - - (0.50)
France (Brent Waddington):	6 6 7 7 7 7 (19.30)
Germany (Roland Cooke):	5 6 7 7 8 7 (19.30) BEST GERMANY
Italy (John Ruzzo):	4 4 4 3 2 2 (7.02)

Russia (Robert Rousse): 6 7 6 5 5 5 (14.04)
 Turkey (Bob Holt): 4 4 4 6 6 8 (26.32)

Round 4, Board 1

Austria (Jim Burgess-TD): 4 4 5 5 6 7 6 6 4 (12.50)
 England (Roland Cooke): 4 5 5 6 6 7 6 6 4 (12.50) Greg Buchanan 1907 substitute
 France (Will Ferioli): 5 4 4 6 6 5 4 4 4 (12.50)
 Germany (Dirk Knemeyer): 4 3 3 3 4 4 6 6 8 (23.21) SECOND BEST GERMANY*
 Italy (Brent Waddington): 5 5 4 4 2 2 2 1 1 (2.00)
 Russia (Carl Ellis): 6 7 8 5 4 3 4 4 5 (16.07)
 Turkey (Travis Pagliarini): 4 5 4 5 6 6 6 7 8 (23.21)

*TD Determined to Award BEST GERMANY to Roland Cooke

This is also the first tournament in the regional sub-Grand Prix tournament that is in its third year that we've dubbed the "Nor'Easter". The next tournament in that group is Boston Massacre in Cambridge in June; HuskyCon in July; and Carnage, November 4-6 in Vermont which also will be North American DipCon. We will again have a First Place Nor'Easter prize to be awarded and with more help from Robert Rousse (Carnage co-organizer) we should have Second and Third Place prizes as well. More on that to come. Most of our TempleCon players were from Boston, so I'm hoping we can get almost all of them to Massacre and build on that tournament again as well with its relatively new Tournament Director, Alex Amann. Come on out and support Alex as originating director Mel Call is now in Melbourne.

Drop Dead Time Deadlines: These worked like a charm again, this is the way to play tournament dip, you're always moving, no waiting around while people write orders. The games really moved along, I again used my loud voice with reminders to people as needed, and people respected other players' space with need for order writing time. And the atmosphere was great. I ended up going again with the 17 minute spring, 15 minute fall continually running clock that Melissa has been using at Boston Massacre for some time. There were NO time draws (though potential for a time draw may have ended a few games), we did have a Saturday night game go until 3AM and still had four rounds in the weekend.

Then some highlights from the social experience. Roland Cooke, Brent Waddington, and Dirk Knemeyer traveled to get here and all three were a little disappointed at the turnout. Yet, all three didn't let it affect their fun on site. A good thing about being in a hotel is having a good bar on site. This was better than previous years since we were much closer to the bar and we even had a window into the restaurant. So lots of good fun and convivial drinking was had by all. I spent a lot of time with Dirk Knemeyer and made a great new friend, so that was a big winner for me. Dirk is relatively new to Diplomacy, so I could take advantage of conveying lots of old hobby lore and experience. Dirk, if he wants to be, is a future big time FTF tournament champion. I hope to see him again at DipCon at Carnage in November.

Lastly, more experience on selling Diplomacy on site: I was still not as successful as I would like to be here. I was very careful to post notes on the game forums on the web site so that people knew we were there. Again, about half a dozen of the players either saw the inviting sounding notes or were grabbed from around. Many of these people were playing in their first ever Diplomacy games. I tried direct E-Mails to Judge players and other players I could identify as being in the area, this again was not successful, but I will keep trying again. The only person I got that way ended up being one of those last week cancellations as the snow earlier in the week convinced his boss to have everyone work on Saturday and Sunday. I didn't try walking around the Con playing Edi Birsan's Teaching Videos from You Tube again like I did last year.... don't believe me, yes, I really, really did this two years ago, but it didn't really gain anything but laughs, so I didn't do that this time around, but I did play it some in our Diplomacy corner.

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE LETTERS SECTION

((I want to go back to encouraging more letters again, right now I'm going to focus on just pumping issues out, but I hope to start writing more again too as the year progresses. Mike Barno is my loyal music correspondent! And next issue we will need our baseball predictions and discussion. Guess who I'm going to pick to win the World Series? I actually have a tough choice between my San Francisco Giants repeating and the Boston Red Sox, which will I choose?? Stay tuned. But first up are some Diplomacy tournament

announcements from Down Under... both face-to-face and E-Mail. As noted, Melissa Call has moved to Melbourne and she is going to energize the DAANZ hobby like she energized us here in New England for the last decade.))

Ronald Mehmet (Sun, Feb 27, 2011 at 3:11 PM)

Re: World Diplomacy Championships, 1-3 October 2011, Sydney, Australia

Hi Jim, Please find some information links below from Australia and New Zealand relating to the World Diplomacy Championships and other tournaments down under. Hope you can let your Dip Zine readership (*The Abyssinian Prince*) know about it. Thanks.

At this stage the best link is the WDC webpage:

<http://www.daanz.org/wdc2011/index.php>

And the flyer is linked at that page:

<http://www.daanz.org/wdc2011/WORLD%20DIPCON%20XXI%20FLYER.pdf>

DAANZ Tournament Calendar 2011

- a. Sat 22 – Sun 23 January 2011: Australian Diplomacy Championships (Sydney, NSW)
- b. Sat 19 – Sun 20 February 2011: New Zealand Diplomacy Championships (Auckland, NZ)
- c. Sat 9 – Sun 10 April 2011: Victorian Diplomacy Championships (Melbourne, VIC)
- d. Fri 23 – Sun 25 September 2011: Auckland Diplomacy Championships (Auckland, NZ)
- e. Sat 1st October – Mon 3rd October 2011: World Diplomacy Championships XXI (Sydney, NSW)
- f. Continuous Email Tournament last game starts end of August 2011: ANZAC Cup 2011 (Online)

Kind Regards, Ron Mehmet, mehmetr of bigpond.com

((Thanks, Ron, more than happy to give you some publicity. Any anyone can join the E-Mail tournaments they're running, which look like lots of fun. I won't make it to Sydney this year, but I'm planning an Australian trip for 2013, so I'm hoping I can meet lots of Dippers while there at that time.))

Mike Barno (Feb 16, 2011)

Dear Jim, This publication has a tradition, ever since the Eighties as mailed photocopies, on the year's best (or worst) music heard by the editor and various lettercolumn writers. This is mine for the 2010 musical year. I had more fun listening to more music than any other year in my life, hands down. Festivals were the big story; over the summer and fall I attended ten multi-band events, including a four-night camp at one of the nation's best bluegrass festivals. Throughout the year I heard most of my favorite 2009 local bands, and added several new bands including two of my very top picks. And there were a few (but not many) locally-produced CDs released by these bands. So I was able to enjoy a lot of music while giving my money to the people who create the music and the people who give them a place to play, rather than big corporations.

*((Thanks, Mike, for doing this. For me, this was a year of mostly older music. I did attend the one Maine festival that I talked about last year that's held near my Maine summer house, and I hope this year you can make it to that (and others who might like to join us). I have so much music, that even delving into music I already have sounds new. Plus, on the more classical choral front, I've been listening to lots of new things that I'm also singing. E.g. Gabriel Fauré wrote a school graduation piece at the age of 19, called the "Cantique de Jean Racine" that is just gorgeous to listen to and really fun to sing, you can hear an amateur recording on Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cantique_de_Jean_Racine though we did it better... ;-) I also have been listening to the two Crooked Still records I picked up last year, **Still Crooked** and **Some Strange Country**. I love those two records and the ethereal singing of Aoife O'Donovan.))*

((Pretty much all of the more rock oriented things I've been hearing lately sound lame and boring when pitched next to pretty much anyone I've ever loved from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, or 90's. Though Taylor Swift is cute and fun to listen to among the current pop stars. I sometimes wonder if I'm getting old, but I read something lately that clicked it for me on how younger people are looking at the newer music they're listening to was someone 40 or so who slipped in a somewhat obscure, but not too obscure, Beatles song into an iPod or whatever mix of recent rock. The woman he gave it to liked the Beatles song the best by far until he told her that it was the Beatles and she went "ugh, something old (meaning prior to 2000)". In the same conversation, she referred to "Manson" meaning Marilyn, and had never heard of Charles. I

do understand the *EXPLOSION* of information and knowledge and the lack of time we all face to dig into anything we might want to dig into. But great rock will only continue to be made if it can be done in the context of a musical language that builds on something from before. We also are about to debut somewhere, somehow, an entirely different type of music. I don't know what it will be, but it will sound brilliant and fresh when it comes out. I only know what I do NOT want it to do. It is possible that all of our greater understanding of brain chemistry will allow us to build a music, that like the jingle/jangle of slot machine sounds digs deep into our addiction centers in the brain and grabs at that (research in general suggests that what we might want to better call music actually inhibits the brain reactions of addiction and lost track of time that casino noise is trying to create). I've heard such music out there (Philip Kent Bimstein, a name that should go down in infamy, has actually written a classical piece called "Casino" that does this, I don't know who does the other things I've heard), so I'm sure others have thought of it. I would hope we would figure out something that would spark the more creative centers of the brain.)

((I bought lots of other older things, mostly in the folk/string genres (where no one, even young people, in those genres can possibly ignore the past) and classical vocals, but only one other new band for me in the last year, and that was **The King is Dead** by the Decemberists. Mike, you would like them if you are not already familiar with them. I'll intersperse some comments on them below as I type to break things up. [aside: Mike also has sent me a CD **Intelligent Design** by Monkees Typing... as I am a Monkey Typing what Mike handwrote, this is of course a brilliant joke - it also allows me to focus on listening to it while I type]))

The biggest change in my music in 2010 compared to the previous year was how much deeper I dove into festival season. Small single-day shows, midsized weekend concerts, and a hundred-hour pickin' party at one of the biggest festivals with some of the top names in bluegrass. Throw in a lot of blues, some rock, and bits of other music, and it added up to more good times than I could imagine. Every single time I attended a multi-band music event, I had enough fun to sustain me through later rough times. When you're middle-aged (I turned 47 at the end of the year), they say you're not going to have much fun. Well, I had more fun at eight festivals and a showcase in twelve weekends from mid-July through early October than I ever had in my entire teens or twenties. Supported old friends, made new friends, saw some legends, got happy feet and danced goofily.

((Yeah, I'm six years older, as you know, and I agree entirely! You're about to talk about bluegrass, I've been listening to a local WRIU bluegrass show every once in a while lately, and there is some *REALLY* inventive stuff going on in that genre at the moment. I'm mostly driving, so I don't know the names of some of the bands I've been really liking that they've been playing. "Freaky World" by Monkees Typing is a very cool jammin' song with an uncredited alto sax in it, and the next song "Chucky" sounds even more freaky - probably referencing the slasher character. Interesting...))

(trumpet and trombone flourish) My favorite event for 2010 music was definitely the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival in mid-July. Holy cow. I've done state fairs, NFL parking lots, NASCAR infields, Dead shows, you name it: *nobody* parties like bluegrass pickers. Thousands of small-time bands, all camped in a huge farm field for four nights and four days, either playing in their site, wandering and maybe sitting in with friends playing elsewhere, or listening to paid bands way up at the west end. A huge main stage with bring-your-own-chair seating for thousands, and a chair-sharing ethos. Six big-tent other stages: the Dance Pavilion with a wooden floor, the Masters Stage hosting workshops with top players, the Grass Roots Learning Sessions tent, the Family Stage, the Slow Jam tent, and the Bluegrass Academy for Kids. For four days, most of the daytime there are two or three well-established or most-promising string bands playing full gigs, a couple of places to learn from the best, and places just to play. No wonder the '09 edition was named Bluegrass Event of the Year. But if you buy a day ticket and just experience the organized parts, you won't see the best of it. All over the lot, little groups of musicians play through the wee hours, not for TV time or money or applause but for the joy of it. Old friends would cross paths, hug, form a circle, and play a Bill Monroe song as if they'd been rehearsing together for weeks. I was lucky: my group of about fifteen people included The String Band, so without leaving my seat and cooler I could often see and hear their usual songs or ones they were learning. Better yet, some fine musicians sat in to jam with them at various times, including Rick Marcera of Stained Glass Window, Dan Hubbard of the Dan Hubbard Band, Susie DiRiancho, Ben Ellsworth-Feher of Dr. E.F. and the Rudimentary of Sound, and more. Other highlights of the campground include the Schooner Bar (they set up a bar) and the Grillbillies (a grill plus a near-permanent pickin' session

with members of ten bands). Truly, you could get your money's worth without ever going to the stages to hear the paid acts. But those were pretty damn fine shows, too.

((I would agree that sitting around in the main venue at these events is precisely the wrong way to experience them, you really want to hunt for intimate experiences of whatever sort. So, the title track "Intelligent Design" is sort of Deady in its perambulations, I can see why Mike likes it. It's good to type to...))

The Del McCoury Band remains awesome, playing old-school material crisply with ease and professionalism. "Del Yeah!" Railroad Earth gave a great show that felt good. David Grisman's Bluegrass Experience (far more traditional than his "dawg music" other band) suffered from technical problems, but not as badly as the Sam Bush Band did on Saturday night. That gig was interrupted by the biggest, brightest lightning storm I've ever seen east of the Rockies. My "Ready for Anything" award goes to Carol Simek (fiddle for The String Band) for saying "Ohmigod, this storm could kill us!" and touching-up her lipstick. The main stage's speaker towers were impossible to power up, so after an hour of the best sky-show ever, Bush and his band gave up and played down at the dance tent instead. Some of my other favorites included veterans Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver (IBMA Vocal Group of the Year for seven straight years) and young groups Crooked Still and Della Mae.

(("Terrorist" by Monkees Typing has a killer deep beat for slow dancing, but is the sort of song that doesn't do a huge amount for me, though I know Mike likes this sort of thing. I may switch to my Crooked Still in a bit... then "Monkey Mind" kicks in with some minor chords, interesting funky groove, and a killer chorus and grabs my attention back, back to Mike...))

The rest of my festival adventures were smaller and more Binghamton-area in scope, but they were still fine times. After Grey Fox, nearly every weekend for months brought musical kicks bigger and better than routine bar shows. On Rooney Mountain, home to wild RooneyFest bluegrass parties in decades past; Hee Haw Nightmare and Driftwood played for the annual Pig Roast, a tremendous time. I went to Pickin' in the Park, a couple of miles into Pennsylvania, and again camped with The String Band, hearing late-night collaborations. The Chris Thater Memorial, a bicycle race on the national tour, expanded its music festival from one day to two, and the music ranged from steel drums to several of my favorite area bands. West Fest 8, in the lot behind Cyber Café West, had two days of a good mix of rock, jazz, folk, bluegrass, groove, and the uncategorizable. The only indoor show in this list was Harp Attack, a showcase for three kick-ass harmonica bluesmen (Brian Potenziano from Binghamton, Ted Townsley from Syracuse, and Ted Hennessey from Albany) taking turns cutting loose backed by the Parlor Cats. The day after Harp Attack was the sixth annual Zooneyfest, a ten-band fundraiser in memory of my second cousin, Joe Zunic, who died of Lou Gehrig's disease. Binghamton's biggest music festival, Blues on the Bridge, was delayed a week by rain, but wound up being excellent, with 17 bands squeezed into one day thanks to the twin-stage-alternating setup. A church expanded its Oktoberfest to two and a half days under a circus tent; I made it to parts of two days and enjoyed it. I don't know how I did all this in two and a half months without winding up in jail or a mental hospital. Add the one-day, eleven-band "Save the Cyber" event in November, and you can see that's far more than a year's worth of music just from multi-band festivals.

*(("One Half Plus Seven" kicks off with a four minute drum solo that was OK, but didn't do a heck of a lot for me... so I welcomed the old traditional "I Know You Rider" that closes off the **Intelligent Design** Monkees Typing offering. I know I didn't like this as a whole as much as Mike, but THANKS very much for it! The parts I liked, I really liked.))*

All those big events didn't keep me from enjoying a full load of single-band local music. Probably 30-35 bar and restaurant gigs, sometimes two a weekend. Almost all of my favorite local bands from my best-of-2009 article in issue 323 (<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/abyss323.html>) entertained me again in 2010, just not as often as I'd wish to hear each band. Two bands I already loved gave best-ever amounts of fun throughout the year; and I added two more bands with super skills and wonderful songs. I managed to hear a bunch of other bands, old friends and new ones, at least a couple of times counting both full shows and festival short-sets. All this added up to a great year, and here are the highlights. The String Band has been among my very top picks every year they've existed. Most of the members were my favorites before that, in the Morgan String Band, whose second independent CD I reviewed in issue 311 (<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/abyss311.html>). Really skilled bluegrass players who also rework songs from rock'n'roll, blues, or old-time. The collaborations at Grey Fox and Pickin' in

the Park stretched my mind. Unfortunately a conflict left the bassman “retired” late in the year, but his replacement (less than half Mark’s age) is fitting in and the band is developing new songs for 2011 including originals. My other “most fun all through 2010” band is Driftwood, whose debut CD and live shows got my raves last year. They keep writing good new songs (their next album will be out soon) and learning great old ones. Driftwood played for a friend’s birthday party in the loft over another friend’s garage, and it was simply the funnest funnest time. I saw some people dance for the first time in twenty years or more. The after-party lasted past sunrise. Driftwood raised money from fans for the van that took them on their first national tour in the autumn.

((I did indeed switch to Crooked Still, I love the dynamite strings in “Baby, What’s Wrong With You?”, the Mississippi John Hurt song. Aoife’s singing was SO wonderful on this, as compared to that whispery style with just the hint of Bob Dylanish nasalness that Mississippi John Hurt used to sing with that on this song in his original I have.))

There were several new or new-to-me bands who impressed me in 2010 enough to go see again. Two of them have already proven they’re among the best musicians I’ve ever heard. People told me I should hear the Hickory Project at the Beef, a local restaurant, so I made a point to go. I had no idea who they were, but they played so well that I couldn’t believe they weren’t world-famous. I asked Google, and it turns out they’re world-famous after all: They’ve performed on several continents, with a European tour coming up, and Anthony Hannigan was the 1999 National Mandolin Champion. They’re not “one big star and his average sidemen” but five superior string players” fiddle, mandolin, acoustic guitar, banjo, standup bass. Whenever they played a song I recognized as sixty or eighty years old, they gave it new life. When they played originals they were lively as hell, with complex interplay in perfect sync. So I jumped to hear one of Hannigan’s side projects, Garcia Grass, playing happy acoustic versions of Jerry-Ra’s songs from the Grateful Dead, Old and In the Way, and the Jerry Garcia Band. Absolutely loved it.

((I’ll bet you have a likin’ for the Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band too...))

My other favorite new band is the Lutheran Skirts. They’re a side project for a half-dozen people (such as Joe Kollar and Claire Byrne of Driftwood) to play old songs for their own pleasure: blues, bluegrass, old-time, folk-rock, or whatever. Banjo, fiddle, harmonica, electric bass, washboard, and soulful female vocalist make up the typical mix, with occasional resonator guitar, flattop guitar, pennywhistle, kazoo, or stampbox. Sometimes they’ll launch into a song I haven’t heard in decades, and by the end of the first chorus I like their version better than the original.

Plenty of other live musicians helped me have a good time over the course of the year. Strong newcomers included Woodshed Prophets (five songwriters who aren’t limited to any sound or genre) and Dutch Bucket System (bluegrass groove, hard to describe but easy to enjoy). Returning favorites would take too long to describe, so just see last year’s article for the scoop on Dirt Farm, Nate and Kate, Panhandle, GoGone, Chris Merkley, the Terry Walker Project, Badweather Blues (whose CD I reviewed in issue 317 (<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/abyss317.html>), Bohemian Sunrise, Hooch, Hi-Way Fruit Market, the Blue J’s, Half Baked, String of Pearls, and Dr. E.F. and the Rudimentary of Sound. I would have preferred to hear all of them more often, because they lift my spirits.

((You saw my comments on Monkeys Typing up above as I played the disc, now let’s see what Mike has to say about them...))

The 2010 album that really gives the feel of the live music I heard week-to-week, month-to-month, is *Intelligent Design* a CD from Binghamton band Monkeys Typing. Two guitars, electric bass, two drummers. Guitarist Jeff Kahn owns Cyber Cafe West so they’ve played (unrehearsed) almost every week for a decade. A lot of what they play is either Bob Dylan or Grateful Dead material played as if covered by the opposite, so it’s encouraging that they released this CD of all originals (except a very old encore). The disc has five original organized songs, three original one-time jams, and the encore, all taped at live shows. All five real songs are winners, whether I’ve had the Cyber’s double-strength beers and ales or not. The only song with a guest artist is guitarist Steve Strauss’ “Freaky World”, with Robert Weinberger on alto sax. Weinberger has performed masterfully on every instrument and in every genre that I’ve heard him, and I know he excels with instruments and genres I haven’t yet heard. I’m giving this song my Collaboration of the Year award, the second time Bob has been thus honored. (He was one of three local brass players who teamed up with visitors Bohemian Sunrise at West Fest 6, noted in my best-of-2008 article in issue 319 (<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/abyss319.html>).)

((Yeah, I agree, it definitely filled out the sound and was a great collaboration. I didn't see it credited anywhere on the disc, though I might have missed it. Cool.))

Strauss' other song here, "Terrorist", is a reaction to the Dubya administration's practices, but still carries a bite whenever Obama continues a Bush policy that he campaigned against. Great song. The comfiest grove on the album is bassman Chuck Hinton's "Monkey Mind". The encore, "I know you Rider", is from John and Alan Lomax's 1934 songbook of traditionals. Even the cover art is on-theme, with the usual "evolution of man" image reversed to start at left with a man walking straight-backed, descending through Cro-Magnon man and other predecessors to end at right with a monkey dragging its knuckles on the ground. Fun CD.

The most artistic and ambitious album I heard in 2010 is *A Deep Breath* from Randy McStine's new band Lo-Fi Resistance. Randy's earlier CD's were collections of young-guitar-prodigy singles, really ripping stuff but with no cohesion, no theme or story to tie individual songs together. This album does have a unifying vision:

With humanity on the brink of destroying itself (judging by the readied ICBM launcher in the cover-art scene), our protagonist struggles to understand, seeks hope, despairs, rejects religion, bitches about religionists blaming AIDS on "God hates gays", and ends "Wasted". The music (written and mostly performed by McStine) is much less rocking but deeper than any of his older material. Some people will love it, but the vocals seemed far too emo for my tastes, both in lyrical content and in delivery. Still a notable work.

My final album pick is *An Evening with the Parlor Cats*. They've been one of my favorite blues bands for years, my number-one harmonica band, but in late 2009 they were reconstituted. Brian Swan, Jamie Osterhout, and John Brown all left, and for 2011 they're playing something very different, "alternative-grunge-punk-old metal", as Channel Monster. Brian Potenziano, meanwhile, rounded up three blues veterans to back him, and this CD is from one of their early live shows at a good venue, the Hideout near Binghamton. Only three originals out of eleven songs, and two of them are repeats from the old Parlor Cats' *Help Me!* which I reviewed in issue 314 (<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/abyss314.html>). This is good music, but I liked the old album better. That had studio-quality sound reproduction where the bending notes and tonal texture really came through. The new album sounds like you expect a typical bar show's tape to sound, which is what Brian wanted.

So that's my year in music: Most ever, best ever, fully immersed, wouldn't trade it for a million bucks.

Mike, 717 Dawson Hill Road B, Spencer, NY 14883-9793

((Thanks very much, Mike. Great listening to this here and planning some other things to listen to in the future. Next up, one more music letter from Eric Ozog that needs some set up. Eric and his brother Kurt were pointing me and Paul Rauterberg to this commentary on the recent tour by the Church:

<http://blurt-online.com/features/view/816/>.

At first I thought Kurt had written it when quickly skimming, but it IS a GREAT review, please go read it. Unfortunately, if you blinked you missed the US part of this tour by the Church and they are off to Sydney, Australia for the next leg. But listen to some classic music of great power and depth next time you get a chance in the second best reproductive music environment.))

Eric Ozog (Mon, Feb 21, 2011 at 3:04 PM)

Hi Jim – a Seattle fan of The Church and concert reviewer wrote that review, but it's accurate on how awesome their Seattle show was – the best concert I have ever seen – their songs were going through my head a few days later! They played three of their albums back to back and note for note, one was immersed in the music. By the way, Kurt and I were flying down I-5 in my Cougar to the Church show *((I still remember the trip flying down the road to Pudgecon in that car, amazing it is still going!))* and we were playing Mekons, including selections from *Retreat From Memphis: The Flame that Killed John Wayne*. The Chicago Ozog brothers reunited for a rock and roll weekend. I also took Kurt to a Green Pajamas show right after he got off the plane (they happened to be playing that Saturday night) – he was impressed by their live performance.

Best, Eric, elferic of juno.com

*((Thanks, Eric, very cool, I like **Retreat from Memphis** more and more the more I listen to it. I will welcome more letters next time, especially if people sent me letters that I should have published this time. I will come out again in three weeks since I'm waiting myself very expectantly to see how *Secrets* turns out. Is this the penultimate season?))*

Eternal Sunshine #50

March 2011

By Douglas Kent 911 Irene Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149

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Officially Sanctioned By:



Tantum Nostrum Sententia Res

On the web at <http://www.whiningkentpigs.com> – or go directly to the Diplomacy section at <http://www.whiningkentpigs.com/DW/>. Also be sure to visit the official Diplomacy World website which can be found at <http://www.diplomacyworld.net>. Also remember to check out <http://www.helpfulkitty.com> for official Toby the Helpful Kitty news, advice column, blog, and links to all his available merchandise! Links to many of the books and DVDs reviewed can be found by clicking on the Amazon Store button in the main menu of the Whining Kent Pigs website. Or go to <http://www.guysexplained.com> where women can learn all the secrets of how a man's mind works, and why they act the way they do.

All Eternal Sunshine readers are **encouraged** to join the free Eternal Sunshine Yahoo group at http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/eternal_sunshine_diplomacy/ to stay up-to-date on any subzine news or errata. We also have our own Eternal Sunshine Twitter feed at <http://www.twitter.com/EternalSunshDip>, and a Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=112223650909>

Quote Of The Month – “You know that girl we did last week? The one with the potatoes.” (Patrick in “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind”)

Welcome to **Eternal Sunshine**, the only Diplomacy zine in the universe which has the full approval and sanction of the Global Diplomacy Alliance. At least I'm the only zine I know of which has met their qualification standards. Perhaps by now there is more than just this rag, but I haven't seen their logo anywhere else!

So we're back, with the 50th issue. In the old days I might have marked this particular issue with some kind of celebration, but these days the numbers don't seem to mean anything to me (or almost anyone else). It's just the issue between #49 and #51.

Still, there is some occasion for celebration. First of all, would you believe that somewhere in this issue you will find the return of Kevin Tighe's “**Humboldt**”? This is a subzine which hasn't seen the light of day in nearly two decades I believe. Yet Kevin has brought it out of hibernation exclusively for **Eternal Sunshine** readers.

There's also the first turn of 23 Tunes to examine. Don't worry if you missed out on the start; instructions on how to join in now are included with the initial turn. There seemed to be a bit of confusion about the songs and the commentary. You don't HAVE to physically share any music; you just give me the songs and artists. And you can comment on your own songs as well as those listed by others...but the commentary isn't needed until the following turn. For example, comments on this turn's songs will be printed next issue, at the same time I reveal who submitted which song.

One reader suggested I follow this up with 23 Movies. Anybody else want to join in if I run that?

In sports items, you can find both the final results of the ES Football Prediction contest, and the instructions for this year's Baseball Prediction contest. As with 23 Tunes (and all contests in Eternal Sunshine) there are **actual prizes** for winning. In the old days we could get away with offering subscription credits to our zines, but since this thing is free, that doesn't do you much good, does it?

At home, things are busy but fine. Made it through the Texas ice storms, and we're now enjoying the warmer weather (cool one day, warm the next – typical Texas). Heather is volunteering two days a week at the East Lake Pet Orphanage now, helping to get the paperwork and internet presence organized. We've both volunteered there for a while on a “show up when you want” basis, socializing the cats (Heather worked with some dogs too). But this is the first time she's put herself on a fixed schedule. It seems there is a lot of work for her to do before

things are running smoothly again. Next issue I'll give everybody the various web links if you want to follow ELPO's work.

Anyway, there's other stuff in this issue, including subzines from Jack McHugh and Richard Walkerdine (who makes special note of how little response he is getting from you lazy jokers). There's another "You Don't Know Me" interview, letters, movie reviews...the usual crap. Enjoy it, participate, send feedback, and I'll see you next month!

The Month's Playlist: Chopin Complete Piano Music – Idil Beret; Something Like This – Bob Newhart; Greatest Hits – Crosby Stills & Nash; Best of Simon and Garfunkel.

Hypothetical of the Month

Last month, we gave you these two hypotheticals: #1 – *You work for an optical store. Jimmy has broken his glasses and his parents are agonizing over the price of replacements. A competitor is selling identical glasses for half-price. Do you send Jimmy's parents there?* #2 – *As a professor, regulations require you to fail a student guilty of plagiarism. A student admits to buying an essay. Do you flunk him?*

Melinda Holley - #1 - OK, this is a real tough one. I'd listen to the conversation for a clue on how to proceed. If they indicate they're not going to buy the glasses today, then I'd get their contact information and contact them away from work and tell them about the competition. Then I'd meet with the boss to let him know about the competition's pricing and figure out just how much business he's losing by being over-priced. Now, if the people sound like they're going to buy today, I'd try to gauge their 'agony'. Is this 'agony' because they honestly can't afford the glasses or because they just don't want to pay that much money? If it's the former, I'd write down the competition's name on a piece of paper and slip it to them. If it's the latter, then I'd say nothing.

#2 - I'd tell the student that I have no choice but to flunk him. But I'd tell him that in order to mitigate the consequences as far as possibly being expelled, he needs to come clean about who he bought the essay from. A lot would depend on the student's character. Why did he buy the essay? Laziness? Personal issues? Problems with the class material? If this is his first infraction, then expulsion is overkill. Probably even flunking the class is overkill. So I'd work with the student to try and cut a deal for him. If this is a matter of laziness or arrogance, I'd (1) advise him to come clean with the administration and (2) flunk him without another thought.

Eric Brown - #1 - 1) whether or not I referred Jimmy's parents to the cheaper store would depend upon
a) whether it is that they don't wish to spend the cash, or a real hardship is involved (if Mom is gabbing away on the latest iPhone, not so much)
b) my perception as to the consequences for Jimmy, and whether he deserves such consequences
3) the degree to which our store has provided value besides stocking the item (for example, did we identify when others hadn't Jimmy's special optical requirements and solve that problem for them in the past, or did they just walk in the door knowing what they were looking for)

#2 - I would fail the student. A student is paying for the opportunity to earn a credential. I am selling (part of) that credential with my course. I sell a true credential, not an emotional experience (or avoidance of such experience) for the student. Unless the student is a hot chick, of course....

Kidding aside, I would not, however, wish to see the student expelled, nor would I oppose their retaking the class to get the credit the right way.

David McCrumb - #1 - No. It is not my job to make sure my customers get the best price but rather that they get the best deal for what they pay. Number of dollars is not the only factor regarding a deal. If my competitor's price was a short-term sale I would not be concerned. If they were normally 50% of my standard price I would try to find out why. I would then try to develop a process whereby I became more efficient and could offer a lower price or advertise the additional value that comes with my price.

#2 - YES! Of course, since my spouse makes her living by writing the student would be lucky my options were limited to an 'F'.

Chris Babcock - #1 - I've usually had some discretion on prices in sales jobs that I've had. If price is the issue and I have the authority to do that or can get authority to make an offer, I'll do that. Otherwise, I'm capable of sitting in one place with patient and happy silence until the parents make up their minds one way or the other.

#2 – I'm not in the habit of punishing people for being honest. If it was truly an issue of conscience then I'd destroy the first paper and give him a minimal, but not totally unreasonable, amount of time to complete the assignment.

Kevin Tighe - #1 - I'm a fan of "Miracle on 34th Street" so yes, I send them to the less expensive store. I'm sure they'll come back in the future when they are better off. And they'll tell their friends what a great honest guy I am.

#2 - We all know the rules at the beginning of class. He admits his guilt. I flunk him.

Andy York - #1 - Hopefully the store I worked for has a "match a competitor's price" policy and is up front about it. If not, the question comes down to whether I favor a family "agonizing over the cost" over one that accepts the given price; or, regardless of the "agonizing" do I treat everyone the same (either direct them to the competitor or complete the sale). I'd likely, in all cases, indicate that the price is the price "here" and let them make the decision on whether to shop around or accept the price for it at this store.

#2 - I'll pass on this one as I don't think there is enough information to give a reasoned answer. I'd need to know more about the department, the school's culture and the outcome of previous situations. This is too "black and white" as there are always shades of grey in these situations.

Jeremie Lefrancois - #1 - No, probably not

#2 - Complicated. Depends if the student knew beforehand about the regulations. Depends if the student admitted in public. Perhaps the student could get a delay to get his essay a bit more "personal work".

Jack McHugh - #1 - Yes--I'd try and find a way to lower the price, get him a government program to pay for his glasses--assuming I could not, I would send him to the other store.

#2 - Yes--if I could I'd let him make up with a penalty like losing 20% or a couple of letter grades (I don't think he should get a free make up.) However if school's policy did not allow for such flexibility, I'd flunk him in a NY minute. He or she knew and did it anyway, to quote the great philosopher detective--you do the crime, you do the time.

Richard Walkerdine - #1 - No. I'm there to sell glasses for my employer, not for a competitor.

#2 - Yes. I know the rules and he knows the rules. Tough shit.

Rick Desper - #1 - No, I don't send a customer to a competitor unless my own place of business doesn't have the item in question.

#2 - Well, yes, I fail the student. Well, I should amend this answer a bit. When I was a TA at Rutgers, I had occasion to observe students who had copied off each other. I told them I knew they had copied off each other and failed them for that quiz in particular. At the very least, I would fail the student in the hypothetical for the essay. How much further it went would depend on the administration. At Rutgers, it was notoriously difficult to press any kind of plagiarism charges very far. And usually the people who were cheating were already close to failing the course anyway. If I were at a school where the honor code were taken more seriously, then I would do what the honor code required. I have very low tolerance for academic fraud.

Philip Murphy - #1 - No. Caveat emptor clearly applies. If I'm working in a store, I'm paid to sell at the price set by my employers. It's up to the parents, if they're concerned about price, to shop around and get the best value.

#2 - Yes. No hesitation. I'm training as a teacher right now and if one of my students did that they'd be suspended by the school authorities. If a student cheats, he/she has to bear the consequences if caught.

Don Williams - #1 - Yes, I do.

#2 - Yes, I flunk the kid. Not only is he a plagiarist, he's stupid to tell me, as that makes me a co-plagiarist once I become aware of the crime; in effect, he has no ethics or character and he's telling me with this admission that he thinks that I don't either. Wrong on multiple levels.

Heather Taylor - #1 – Yes, I would just say it really quietly. The kid needs his glasses.

#2 – If by flunk you mean give him a zero for that paper, yes I would flunk him. If you mean flunk him for the entire class, no I would not.

For Next Month (For the time being, I am selecting questions from the game "A Question of Scruples" which was published in 1984 by High Games Enterprises. The word Scruples is also being used as a secret this issue). Remember you can make your answers as detailed as you wish.: (This month I made them up myself) #1 – A friend of yours is having financial problems and asks for a small loan, which you can readily afford. But he specifies that you can't tell his wife because he doesn't want her to know how bad things are. What do you do? #2 – You've seen the inside of your neighbor's house; it looks like something from Hoarders on television. But the outside is pristine, and there are no odors or any other problems. This is not a neighbor you've had much interaction with. Do you call anyone or do anything?

The Dining Dead - The Eternal Sunshine Movie Reviews

Barney's Version – Paul Giamatti cannot turn a bad movie into a good one. But he has proven time and time again that he has enough talent to take a decent film and turn it into a terrific one. This isn't simply due to his ability to act. It is also the adhesive chemistry he demonstrates with the cast around him. I'm sure a portion of this is due to excellent casting, but I give most of the credit to Giamatti himself.

Barney's Version is a perfect example of what I mean. It's a film built around Giamatti, with every scene (except one) told from his point of view. As the title says, this is his version...his version of the events of his adult life, the hows and whys behind his business, his three marriages, his relationships, and the murder a detective (Mark Addy) is sure he got away with years ago.

Built mostly in flashback mode, but with the present day story also progressing at the same time, we find a mid-20's Barney Panofsky in Rome, exporting olive oil to Canada and hanging out with his friends Boogie the aspiring writer (Scott Speedman), Cedric (Clé Bennett), and artist Leo (Thomas Trabacchi). Wanting to "do the right thing," the somewhat antisocial Barney marries a pregnant Clara (Rachelle Lefevre). This sets off what is to be the first of his failed marriages. It also builds Barney's dislike for people overall, and through the film his antisocial behavior seems to build as he ages.

Barney eventually returns to Canada and becomes a successful television producer. It is from this location that most of his life takes place, including the alleged murder. Dustin Hoffman does a hilarious but not over-the-top job as Barney's ex-cop father. In some ways it is reminiscent of his spot-on role in Stranger than Fiction: he pulls a ton of laughs without resorting to overacting or slapstick. His Jewish, heavy-drinking but loving father role helps show that the acorn does not fall far from the tree. Both father and son seem to take pleasure in inappropriate conversation (or at times are simply oblivious that what they're saying is inappropriate). Small wonder that Heather so often sees great similarity between myself and the roles Giamatti takes on. Barney Panofsky is no exception.

Without going too far into the plot, Barney looks back at his failed second marriage (wife #2 played by Minnie Driver) and then his third marriage (Rosamund Pike giving a tremendous performance). The tagline of the film is "First he got married. Then he got married again. Then he met the love of his life." You can discern quite a bit from that.

Giamatti won a Golden Globe for his performance, but truly it was Oscar worthy. Do not miss this film. And bring a handkerchief if you get emotional at movies (Heather had mine soaking by the time it was over). I can identify closely with a lot of Barney Panofsky and his life, but even if I couldn't I would have really enjoyed Barney's Version.

Seen on DVD – **Educating Rita (B-**, despite it being dated, and the obvious plotline, it's still a fun movie). **Vampires Suck (C+**, typical parody film, Heather seemed to enjoy it more, as she'd seen the movies it was making fun of). **The Lovely Bones (C+**, almost nothing HAPPENS in this movie). **The Ring (B**, even though

we know everything that is going to happen, it is still a great movie). **And Justice for All** (B-, there are still plenty of great laughs, but the Al Pacino acting job which years ago I thought was powerful now seems terribly overdone). **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** (B, a bit overlong but the European style allows that sort of expansion for whatever reason. Well acted).

You Don't Know Me

The Eternal Sunshine Interview

This month's interview is with someone who I have been fortunate enough to meet personally though my wife Heather: artist Melia Dawn Newman.



What is your name: Melia Dawn Newman

What is your astrological sign: Capricorn

How old are you (exact or approximate): under 40

What is your earliest childhood memory: Sitting in the co-pilot seat of my dad's red airplane.

Describe your immediate family (present day): Married to a great guy named James with 2 kids, Chris and Katie.

What do you do for a living: Make purty pictures

Where were you born: Ft. Worth, TX

What did you want to be when you were growing up: I kept alternating between artist, fashion designer and interior designer. I quickly learned that I really hated to sew and am lousy at organization let alone making a room look nice.

Douglas Kent: *Who would you say have been your biggest artistic influences?*



Melia Newman: Brad Foster, Mucha, Laurel Burch, illuminated manuscripts. And Heather. I probably would never have gotten back into art if I hadn't been so jealous of her taking a drawing class back when we first met.

Douglas Kent: *Have you always had the same style in your work, or has it changed and developed over the years?*

Melia Newman: It has changed a lot over the years. I did cats and fantasy early on, then got interested in illustrating pagan stories in the style of Christian illuminated manuscripts, then took 3 years off of painting

and created small abstract art quilts. Decided I should take up drawing and painting again when I started spending more time

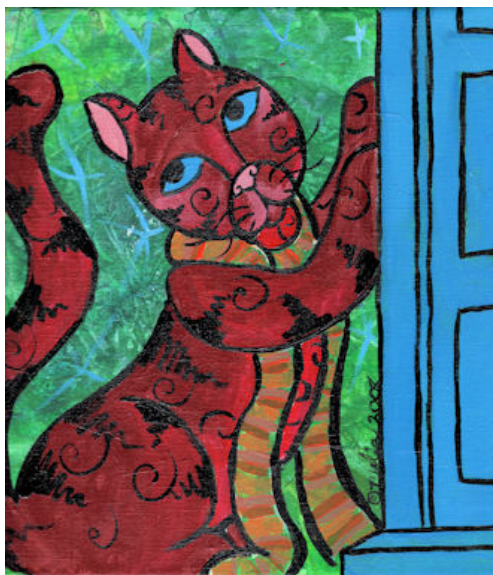
designing embroidery patterns than working on the quilts. That influenced my cubist period, which evolved into me doing more cats that began to look more like a folk art style than cubism. And getting back into cats, I just had to start doing silly things like putting butterfly wings and fish tails on them. That evolved into full blown fantasy illustration.

Douglas Kent: *What is the most difficult thing in getting your work recognized and better known?*

Melia Newman: In all honestly it is me being clueless. I have been lucky enough to land some licensing contracts and people approach me sometimes and tell me how they have seen my work before at different places. But it seems like the successes have been pure accidents and I have no clue how to do it again. So my method has evolved into doing what I love and crossing my fingers. It isn't a wildly successful method, but there seems to be a little bit of progress from year to year. I get downright giddy when my son tells me he saw someone on the train wearing one of my t-shirts.

My daughter is my most successful market technique so far. She wears one of my t-shirts out, and the moment someone tells her how cute it is, she goes into a full marketing spill and then directs them to my website. I never coached her, and I honestly don't know where she gets her people skills.

Douglas Kent: *To someone who has never seen your artwork, how would you describe it?*



Melia Newman: Whimsical, cute fantasy with Art Nouveau influences

Douglas Kent: *What has been the most notable use of your work?*

Melia Newman: I signed a contract for a book cover, but I don't think it is out yet. So far would be the stamps. The company I am contracted with (Queen Kat Designs) has signed some pretty big names and I am tickled to have my work included in their line of stamps

Douglas Kent: *Have you experimented with sculpture or other forms of your art?*

Melia Newman: Yes, and that went badly. I suspect I got my C in 3D course just so my teachers would not have to see me again. I seriously want to try precious metal clay in the future. I think winged kitties in silver would be lots of fun.

believed you could make a living at it?

Douglas Kent: *How far along were you in this career before you*

Melia Newman: Actually I got real lucky and had started putting my work out there back when eBay was still fairly young. Everything had lots of bidders and so sold quickly and for nice prices. Making money so easily the first time I put it out there for the public to see really motivated me to use those profits to buy the tent and walls and go into the real world of art festivals thinking this making a living with art was going to be a breeze. The delusions of the inexperienced lead to all sorts of cliffs to jump off of.



Douglas Kent: *What do you think your biggest strength is as an artist? And your biggest weakness?*

Melia Newman: I think it might be one and the same - I follow my muse where ever it might lead. Sometimes I strike gold. But often it leaves folks unable to pin me down. My husband jokes that my muse is a magpie.

Douglas Kent: *What would be one of your dream accomplishments which has so far gone unfulfilled?*

Melia Newman: I want to illustrate a children's book. I love the variety of colors and styles in children's book illustration. Not one of those look how sweet sort of books I remember from my childhood. But one of those messy noisy books about troublemakers like "No David" or "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus" that had my daughter giggling hysterically and my husband unbending enough to get involved and act crazy along with the book.

Douglas Kent: *Do you stick to one type of painting - oil, acrylic, etc, or do you dabble with multiple?*

Melia Newman: I dabble. Usually I will focus on one medium for several months and then start playing with another. Right now it is watercolors.

Douglas Kent: *If somebody reading this interview wants to get a look at your work, and perhaps buy some, what's the best way to do that?*

Melia Newman: My blog. <http://www.bemusedart.com> There is even a gallery page that shows several of my recent works there.

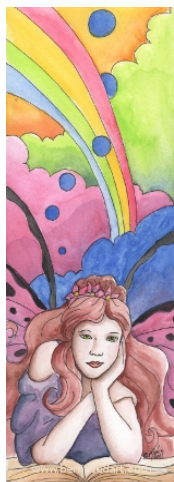
Douglas Kent: *How about five of your favorite books?*

Melia Newman: Only 5? I read a lot. Right now Carriger's steampunk novels, Harry Potter, Pratchett's Going Postal, T. S. Elliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, Girl Genius (does that count as a book? good story anyway)

Douglas Kent: *Five of your favorite movies?*

Melia Newman: Coraline, The Philadelphia Story, Love in the Afternoon, Frida, Satin Rouge

Douglas Kent: *And five CD's (we're all old enough just to call them albums I guess) that seem to be in the top of your play list these days?*



Melia Newman: Cary Cooper's Yellow, Eagle's Hell Freezes Over, The Ultimate Ella Fitzgerald, Puppini Sisters' Betcha Bottom Dollar, Dreamsicles' Love Songs for Grown ups.

Douglas Kent: *Do you think taking art classes is useful for aspiring artists?*

Melia Newman: Depends on the classes. Those that teach you basic techniques, but are otherwise open ended where you can explore your own interests in a particular medium are great. Those that teach you to paint a specific picture or a very specific way just seem way too confining to really have any long term gains from them. Mostly it is just getting your hands dirty and playing with the medium. I really like Dr. Sketchy events for practicing and getting some of the feedback that make classes so helpful.

Douglas Kent: *How much of an artist's success do you think comes from natural talent?*

Melia Newman: I don't really believe in natural talent. Maybe in a few cases. But what looks like talent to most folks has been lots of hard work resulting from a real passion to create. If you love it, you will do it no matter what, and eventually you will get good at.

Douglas Kent: *Any final words?*

Melia Newman: Support the Arts. Especially now when they are in danger of losing their public funding. Besides you might just see a cool play or discover some interesting music in the process.

I think I have the interview for next issue lined up already. We'll see! Thanks, Melia, for taking the time to answer all my boring questions!

23 Tunes!

We're running a "23 tunes" contest here (stolen blatantly from Mark Wightman and the late lamented **The Sprouts of Wrath**. If anyone would like to send me a tape or CD of their 23 (which was the original point) that would be great, but I don't intend to require that. I will be playing in the sense that I'll be putting 23 tunes in, and you have to guess me, but I obviously won't score points (Heather will be following the same rule as well – participating but not playing). Send commentary with your choices (although the commentary for any songs

won't be printed until the following issue, when the matches are revealed), and we'll see if people can guess who you are!!! And already there is a LOT of diversity in defining tunes and styles, so BE CREATIVE!!!

23 Tunes Game

Here are the rules for 23 TUNES. You send me three tunes for the first turn, and then two tunes in each of the last ten turns for a total of 23. If you missed the first turn, you can still catch up by sending five tunes next issue, and guess on submitters to this issue. Actually, you can send all 23 tunes at once if you want to, but then you'll need to remember to guess everyone else's each month. I am also submitting my tunes. After we're done, I'd like to exchange CD's/Tapes for as many of the tunes players as possible, but this is not required. I'll be sending the winner my 23 Tune list. The winner is determined by having you guess each issue who submitted what list (I will tell you who the submitters are). For each list you get right, you get a point, you also can win bonus points from me for really cool tune selections. That's it, not complicated. I hope by starting this up, we'll get more to join.

So, put simply...you send in the name and artist of songs you really like or have special meaning to you. I print 3 of them the first turn, and 2 year turn after that (you can submit that way, or send in all 23 at once, or anything in between). Each issue I list the songs for that turn, without revealing who submitted which song. I also print a list of who submitted songs (again, without telling you which songs they sent in). Your mission is to match the people with the songs. Simple. And I'll offer other prizes as well, to be determined later. If you miss a turn, make it up my sending enough songs to catch up with the other players (and the overdue songs will simply be revealed immediately).

23 Tunes - Round One

Submitting songs this issue are: Andy Lischett, Andy York, Brendan Whyte, Chris Babcock, David McCrumb, Douglas Kent, Geoff Kemp, Hank Alme, Heather Taylor, Jack McHugh, Jim Burgess, Kevin Tighe, Marc Ellinger, Mark Firth, Martin Burgdorf, Melinda Holley, Paraic Reddington, Pat Vogelsang, Richard Walkerdine, and Rick Desper.

1. **Addicted to Love - Robert Palmer**
2. **Astronaut: A Short History of Nearly Nothing - Amanda Palmer**
3. **Baguee - Paris Combo**
4. **Behold - Culture**
5. **Bohemian Rhapsody - Queen**
6. **Breathe - Anna Nalick**
7. **Brown Eyed Girl - Van Morrison**
8. **Can't You Hear Me Knocking - The Rolling Stones**
9. **Cherry, Cherry - Neil Diamond**
10. **Civilized Man - James Marsters**
11. **Downtown - Petula Clark**
12. **Edie (Ciao Baby) - The Cult**
13. **Embrasse-Moi - Lio**
14. **Fantasy - Earth, Wind and Fire**
15. **Fat Bottomed Girls - Queen**
16. **Five Nights of Bleedin - LKJ**
17. **Flagpole Sitta - Harvey Danger**
18. **Friends in Low Places - Garth Brooks**
19. **Go Now - Bessie Banks**
20. **Golden Slumbers - The Beatles**
21. **Good Old Boys Like Me - Don Williams**
22. **Gun Shot a Cry - Eek-A-Mouse**
23. **Hate Me - Blue October**
24. **Heartbreaker - Intergalactic Touring Band**
25. **House of the Rising Sun - The Animals**
26. **I Know What I Like in Your Wardrobe - Genesis**
27. **I Scare Myself - Dan Hicks**
28. **I Want Candy - Bow Wow Wow**
29. **If I Were a Boy - Reba**
30. **Incredible Machine - Sugarland**
31. **It's My Life - Talk Talk**
32. **Life During Wartime - Talking Heads**
33. **London Calling - The Clash**
34. **Long Way Home - Tom Waits**

35. Love Will Tear Us Apart - Joy Division
36. Low Down and Dirty - Crooked Still
37. Mad World - Michael Andrews/Gary Jules
38. Midnight in Montgomery - Alan Jackson
39. Mr. Tambourine Man - Bob Dylan
40. Nite and Day - Tuxedomoon
41. Penny Lane - The Beatles
42. Rambling Rover - Silly Wizard
43. Shake Me Down - Cage the Elephant
44. Silent Night - Traditional
45. Simple Man - Johnny Van Zandt
46. Sweet Dreams Are Made of This - Eurythmics
47. The Only Living Boy in New York - Simon and Garfunkel
48. Theme from Shaft - Issac Hayes
49. This Love - Maroon 5
50. Twelfth of Never - Johnny Mathis
51. Vienna - Billy Joel
52. Voice So Sweet - Sara Rue
53. We Used to Wait - Arcade Fire
54. What Child is This - Jay Pierce
55. When You Say Nothing at All - Alison Krauss
56. Where the Streets Have No Name - U2
57. White Rabbit - Jefferson Airplane
58. Wild Thing - Goodies
59. You Do Something to Me - Bryan Ferry
60. You're Not the Boss of Me - They Might Be Giants

For Round Two: *Send in 2 more songs of your own (5 songs if you missed submitting in Round One). Then try to match each song listed here with the person who submitted it (remember there are 3 songs for each player). You can add commentary on your own songs, or any of the other songs; commentary is encouraged!*

**Deadline for Round Two of 23 Tunes is March 28th at 7pm my time.
That's the day BEFORE the regular zine deadline.**

Meet Me In Montauk

The Eternal Sunshine Letter Column

Howard Bishop: For some reason your emails were getting deleted as Spam, but I've fixed the problem and caught up with ES again. I think I've missed 20 issues or so in the interim.

My own zine The Tangerine Terror staggers on in its slow zombie-like way. Issue #52 out shortly. I must remember to plug Eternal Sunshine in the following issue.

I think Stephen Agar also has scans of many old UK dip zines.

[[Yes, on his UK Zine Archive. He has many more UK zines than I do, and I've concentrated on the North American zines for that reason.]]

Eric Brown: Another thought on your map orientation musings, I'm sure you've noticed that the board (at least the old ones) oriented space type faces in the direction of the closest power's "seat". It might be interesting to accompany EOG reports with a map oriented from that viewpoint in a 'zine. Long time ago I developed mapping software for scientific and military applications that included the ability to reorient projections along any frame of reference (and to re-specify the projection at will). An interesting side topic is that most nations use a specific preferred projection for maps of their country. If you think about it, Chile (long north-and-south) has different distortion/equal-area trade-offs to worry about than does, say Nepal (long east-west). If I recall correctly one interesting example, New Zealand is "best" portayed with a Mercator projection, but one projected along an axis aligned with the "angle" of the country (a little east of north) rather than the common north-south. Italy I believe usually does something similar along a west-of-north axis (north is still "up" on the page, I'm talking about effects on the resultant shape). Mercator projections are excellent for smaller areas because they are "conformal"

i.e. if two points are at an angle of 237 degrees using a protractor on the map, then they are at 237 degrees true azimuth using a gyrocompass. The aforementioned countries would use a different axis for their projections in an effort to minimize area distortions within the land area of their borders, pushing such distortions to the "edge" of the map (i.e. the Adriatic or South Pacific).

I have no such mapping software skills now, however, so can't help with the implementation of my suggestion.

[[Or I could just do hand-drawn ones like I used to, and like Jim Burgess used to before TAP disappeared...]]

Robert Lesco: I would be absolutely delighted to see a Zine Register from you. I encourage you to give it some serious consideration and if I can provide some reviews I will do so.

[[It really shouldn't be THAT big a project, but the question still remains whether more than a handful of people would care in the slightest.]]

Dane Maslen: During the course of about 15 years of running games of By Popular Demand, first in Cut & Thrust and then in Dane's Games, I've had several instances of 'invalid' answers winning. One of my readers coined the term 'By Popular Misconception' for such instances. Off the top of my head I can recall the following examples, but there have certainly been others:

* An insect beginning with 's'. The top answer was 'spider', even though just about everyone who gave that as the answer commented that of course they knew that spiders weren't insects.

* A Russian city beginning with 'k'. The top answer was 'Kiev'. Again several players commented that they knew full well that Kiev is Ukrainian, not Russian.

I occasionally deliberately choose categories that I think will be prone to being won by a misconception answer. It can be quite amusing seeing players struggling with their conscience: should they give an answer they know to be incorrect but which they think will be popular or give a correct answer that they suspect will score badly?

Possibly my favourite example of an incorrect answer winning was when I set the category "A cosmonaut beginning with 'D'". The answer I had in mind was 'Dobrovolski', one of the three cosmonauts who died when their Soyuz depressurised during re-entry after the first mission to the Salyut 1 space station. The most popular answer was in fact 'Gagarin'!

I occasionally set categories of the form 'X (other than Y)', e.g. 'An Italian city (other than Rome)'. I've never yet had the excluded answer win, but if enough players chose to ignore the exclusion, then that would be the result. I merely set the categories. It's for the players to decide what other players will make of them.

From time to time someone suggests a BPD variant in which the aim would be to pick an unpopular answer. The problem with such a variant is that the GM would then have to vet the answers for correctness and that could become contentious.

[[I like the By Almost Popular Demand variant Geoff Kemp is running in his zine, where the idea is to get the second most popular answer. I may run that next, or simultaneously.]]

Andy York: For the Hypotheticals, you lament that folks are "taking the easy way out" by saying they'd never be in that position. However, it is a valid viewpoint. For instance, questions about me having "kids" and what I'd do if they did "X". Well, without parenting experience and the knowledge/perspective that would give a person, any response is just an uninformed guess - not how I'd actually react if it actually happened to me.

[[For those questions, I think that's the idea; make an uninformed guess, based on your personality and how you live your life.]]

More of Dane Maslen: It occurs to me that I was perhaps unduly harsh on oats in my BPD orders. I don't buy milk for my own consumption. For many years I used soya milk instead, but for the last few years I've switched to something called Oatly. As you can probably guess from the name, it's made from oats. Indeed apart from water and a little salt that's all there is in it. I find it preferable to both soya milk and real milk, so obviously I don't really consider all forms of oats to be awful, merely porridge and muesli. This undoubtedly stems from a time when I went on some package camping holidays in Iceland. Breakfast alternated between porridge and muesli. I came to the conclusion that the only good thing I could say about porridge was that it made muesli taste good. And likewise the only good thing I could say about muesli was that it made porridge taste good.

You wondered in the latest issue whether there was a call for the Zine Register. As you know, Dane's Games lists all the electronic zines that I am aware of, but I've no idea whether anyone ever bothers to look at that section or try any of the other zines. I have noticed that these days there seems to be very little tendency for readers of one zine to 'subscribe' to another, something I find rather surprising given that pretty much all the electronic zines are free. In recent years two zines that I subscribed to have folded. Both editors helpfully gave DG a plug in their final issue. This attracted not a single new subscriber. It seems that as with the captains of ships the subscribers chose to go down with their zine.

[[I've noticed this too. Back in "the day" I subscribed or traded for 50 postal zines or more. These days most players seem to stick to one (or maybe two) zines and leave it at that. Sad really, especially since they're all FREE electronically! The few postal zines are a different story, but I get many of those as well: **Graustark**, **Damn the Consequences**, **Cheesecake**, **Northern Flame**, etc.]]

Geoff Kemp: I had a look at the movie lyrics quiz but they all had me stumped, I am not a great movie-goer; it's been some time since I seen a film all the way through. I enjoy films, don't get me wrong, but struggle for time. My kids know what I am like and at last count have about 120 film dvd's that they have got for me, which I haven't got to yet. I just wish I knew where the time went. I think the last film I saw at the cinema was 'Marley and Me' and before that 'The day After Tomorrow'. Still not seen any of the Harry Potter Films yet although I can see me getting the boxed set when they are all out and taking a day out to go through the set!

[[Lately we're being more selective in what we see in the theater. It is simply too expensive and a hassle to go to many, when we can enjoy them as much (or more) at home. Of course, it depends on the film. Horror or certain types of comedy are better experienced in a cinema, I think.]]

Richard Walkerdine: (during an email discussion on the lack of participation) I must say I am well unimpressed with the contributions from your readers (like none at all - do people today not understand the concept of 'having fun'?). It is a shame to see how much the hobby has changed. But I will continue because I have never been someone who gives up. Never, ever, and if people don't like that then (apart from some various swear words) I just use words like pathetic, moronic, and totally without imagination. What a shame. So it goes, the world moves on, and we all lose out.

Actually it's always been a bit rare. I used to get a good response when I did that sort of thing in MAD POLICY but that was probably because many of my readers had become good friends of mine (and yes, that does include Dane). When I used to run the Manorcon convention we would get 200-300 participants (400 when we made it World Dip Con) and maybe 5%-10% would come up to me at the end and say thank you etc. But that was plenty enough to give you sufficient satisfaction to carry on the following year. A zero response however is rather pathetic. But of course it won't stop me - in fact it gives me an opportunity to insult people, which I have always enjoyed!

[[I wish I knew what else to do in order to encourage participation. I offer real prizes. I vary the contests. I try to cast a wide net with the material. But to even get an email with two sentences of comments is rare. Sad...I used to send (and receive) long LOC's in the postal age, but thinking on it now, those were usually from fellow publishers. Not always, but more frequently.]]



The Eternal Sunshine Baseball Prediction Contest



Time once again for the annual Eternal Sunshine Baseball Prediction Contest. The contest is simple: you get one point for each correct division winner, and one point for correctly selecting the wild card teams (one per league). Then you get two points for each team you correctly choose as league champion (meaning they play in the World Series), and three points for correctly picking the World Series winner. We're not picking winners for individual playoff games...just the division winners, wild card teams, and who goes to the World Series. **Any commentary you want to include with your picks is welcome (and encouraged).** And remember, like all Eternal Sunshine contests, there will actually be a REAL PRIZE for the winner! In fact, if we get enough entries, I'll give one to the runner-up too. If you've got any questions, just ask me. So send in an entry and join in the fun! All entries will be published next issue, so get them in by the deadline! In case you need reminding (or if you are not a baseball fan and just want to see if you can guess the winners and embarrass these so-called experts), the teams are as follows:

American League East: New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Tampa Bay Rays, Toronto Blue Jays, Baltimore Orioles.

American League Central: Minnesota Twins, Detroit Tigers, Chicago White Sox, Cleveland Indians, Kansas City Royals.

American League West: Los Angeles Angels, Texas Rangers, Seattle Mariners, Oakland Athletics.

National League East: Philadelphia Phillies, Florida Marlins, Atlanta Braves, New York Mets, Washington Nationals.

National League Central: St. Louis Cardinals, Chicago Cubs, Milwaukee Brewers, Cincinnati Reds, Houston Astros, Pittsburgh Pirates.

National League West: Los Angeles Dodgers, Colorado Rockies, San Francisco Giants, Dan Diego Padres, Arizona Diamondbacks.

Deadline for Picks: March 28th 2011 at 7pm my time



The Eternal Sunshine Football Prediction Contest



A quick reminder of the rules, before I reveal the results. The contest was simple: you got one point for each correct division winner, and one point for correctly selecting the wild card teams (two per conference). Then you got two points for each team you correctly choose as conference championship (meaning they play in the Super Bowl), and three points for correctly picking the Super Bowl winner. Like all Eternal Sunshine contests, there is actually be a REAL PRIZE for the winner! I had hoped to get a larger response – as always – but this is about on par with last year.

Name	NFC East	NFC North	NFC South	NFC West	AFC East	AFC North	AFC South	AFC West	NFC Wild Cards	AFC Wild Cards	NFC	AFC	Super Bowl	Score		
Melinda Holley	Eagles	Bears	Panthers	Seahawks	Patriots	Steelers	Titans	Broncos	Packers	Saints	Bills	Dolphins	Eagles	Steelers	Steelers	9
Rick Desper	Cowboys	Packers	Saints	49ers	Patriots	Ravens	Colts	Chargers	Vikings	Eagles	Broncos	Titans	Packers	Ravens	Packers	7
Michael Moulton	Giants	Vikings	Saints	Seahawks	Dolphins	Steelers	Colts	Broncos	Packers	Cowboys	Jaguars	Jets	Saints	Colts	Saints	5
Paraic Reddington	Cowboys	Vikings	Saints	49ers	Patriots	Bengals	Texans	Chargers	Packers	Giants	Colts	Jets	Vikings	Colts	Vikings	4
Kevin Wilson	Giants	Vikings	Saints	Cardinals	Patriots	Ravens	Colts	Broncos	Cowboys	Eagles	Chargers	Jets	Saints	Colts	Colts	3
Marc Ellinger	Redskins	Vikings	Saints	Seahawks	Jets	Bengals	Colts	Chargers	Packers	Eagles	Steelers	Patriots	Saints	Bengals	Saints	3
Martin Burgdorf	Cowboys	Packers	Saints	49ers	Patriots	Ravens	Colts	Chargers	Vikings	Eagles	Steelers	Jets	Saints	Colts	Colts	3
Brad Wilson	Cowboys	Packers	Saints	Cardinals	Patriots	Ravens	Colts	Chargers	Vikings	Giants	Broncos	Dolphins	Cowboys	Colts	Cowboys	2
Douglas Kent	Giants	Vikings	Saints	49ers	Jets	Ravens	Texans	Chargers	Packers	Redskins	Bengals	Colts	Vikings	Jets	Vikings	1
Jack McHugh	Cowboys	Packers	Saints	49ers	Jets	Bengals	Colts	Chargers	Panthers	Giants	Dolphins	Texans	Saints	Chargers	Chargers	1
Heather Taylor	Giants	Lions	Panthers	Rams	Dolphins	Ravens	Jaguars	Raiders	Vikings	Bears	Steelers	Bengals	Panthers	Ravens	Panthers	0

Melinda Holley is out winner, predicting 5 out of 8 Division winners, 2 out of 4 Wild Cards, and 1 out of two Conference winners! She chose a DVD of "A Few Good Men" as her prize. Honorable mention goes to second place finisher Rick Desper for being the only person to pick the Packers to win the Super Bowl...or to even put them *IN* the Super Bowl (just as Melinda was the only person to put the Steelers in the Super Bowl). Rick came this -> <- close to winning two years in a row!

You're not going to believe this . . .

HUMBOLDT

#42

This is a subzine put out by Kevin Tighe (sounds like Thai) residing in Big Lake, Minnesota. I'm also at tigheman@yahoo.com, but you'll never have to send me anything. Last issue appeared in the late '80's in The Prince. I quit because I fell in love, but I'm feeling much better now. I am not on the facebook, or the twitter. Got the cell phone only 2 years ago.

THISISALINESEPARATORBECAUSEINTHEOLDDAYSWHITESPACEWASBADANDCOSTLY

The subzine is named after Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), a German scientist, explorer, writer and all around great guy. American geographers, explorers, and map makers idolized him so much that they named countless parts of this country after him. Other sites will have more info on him. I won't send you there you have to do your own leg work. I attended Humboldt St. University in Humboldt County, CA. I rowed on Humboldt Bay. In the summer, I worked at Nevada's Humboldt National Forest near the Humboldt River. So when naming a subzine I decided to go with my strengths. After moving to Big Lake, I discovered that when the town first incorporated it was called Humboldt. Weird.

HUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUMBOLDTHUM

Well, It Took Long Enough!

Go to any game store and you will see the merging of names: "Beatles Monopoly", "Simpson's Clue", "Lord of the Rings Risk." I thought it couldn't get any crazier, but last week when I visited Barnes & Noble there were these new games. Below is a selection of the games being sold with some highlighted rules.

"Diplomacy Monopoly"

Rule 1: There are no dice.

Rule 2: All markers start on a corner piece. Everyone moves at the same time. You can only move one space at a time.

Rule 15: When a "bump" occurs the property remains empty, but all buildings are destroyed.

Rule 21: Taking "Free Parking" will get a player all the money in the kitty.

"Diplomacy Risk"

Rule 1: There are no dice.

Rule 2: Everyone moves at once, much like a World Diplomacy variant.

Rule 5: Risk cards are still in use, allowing for a mass infusion of armies whenever a player gets 3 of a kind or a small straight.

"Diplomacy Trouble"

Rule 1: There is no die.

Rule 2: For movement players secretly write down a number, then show their numbers. Only players with matching numbers move. If there are no matching numbers no one moves.

Game time: 10 minutes to 8 hours.

“Diplomacy Yahtzee”

Rule 1: There are no dice.

Rule 2: Everyone sits around a table and talks for an hour.

Now I’ve been out of the hobby for 20 years, so if someone else has already done this bit I apologize. But if no one has made this joke then what the hell have you all been doing for the last 20 years?!

IVEJUSTSEENAFACEICANTFORGETTHETIMEORPLACEWHEREWEJUSTMETSHEJUSTTHE

I Know A Place

I have a few videos for you to search out on u-toob or the cloud or ipad land, where ever one looks for fun video stuff. This is risky stuff for me because 5 minute videos are considered “Way old” if they’ve been out for over a week. Okay, here goes:

“Geek and Gamer Girls” by Team Unicorn with Seth Green. A nice parody of Katy Perry’s “California Girls”, but without her atonal yelps (Thank God!). There’s not much eye-candy for female viewers unless you find Seth Green adorable and really, who doesn’t? (Put your hand down McHugh, we know you like him.)

“Game On” by Felicia Day and the Guild players. This song should be played before every convention.

“Hitler and CW schedule change.” It’s a subtitled Hitler movie clip dealing with CW delaying the new “Supernatural” show to the following week. It’ll make sense even if you don’t follow “Supernatural”.

GIRLFORMEANDIWANTALLTHEWORLDTOSEEWEMETHADITBEENANOTHERDAYIMIGHT

I was trying to keep this to a one pager, but it’s been awhile, folks. Later, Kevin



Space filler NOT by Kevin....

If you haven’t tried to watch an episode of An Idiot Abroad, the latest example of the genius of Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant (the masterminds behind The Office...and yes folks, the UK version is 10,000 times better than the watered-down US version, so get over it), I urge you to do so.

In the US you can find it on the Science Channel, Saturday nights. Ricky and Stephen send their “real life Homer Simpson” pal Karl Pilkington around the world to visit the wonders of the world. Of course, they aren’t just looking for Karl’s unique outlook on the world, but also the fun of making him miserable. As Gervais says “There is nothing funnier than Karl in a corner, being poked by a stick. *I* am that stick.”



Brain Farts: The Only Subsubzine With It's Own Fragrance
By Jack "Flapjack" McHugh - jack@diplomacyworld.net
(or just email Doug and he'll send it to me)
Issue #28

I am still working, and actually enjoying the job. And the paycheck even if I wish it was bigger. If this keeps up I might even open a game in this subzine again. Until then what you see is what you get. And if you don't like it, don't read it ya creeps.

How does this guy wipe himself? Not easily if he's left-handed. And playing the piano is out.



A Lesson in Cajun Economics

It's a slow day in Mamou, Louisiana .. The sun is beating down, and the streets are deserted. Times are tough, everybody is in debt, and everybody lives on credit.

On this particular day a traveling Shreveport salesman is driving through town. He stops at the Hotel Cazan and lays a \$100 bill on the desk saying he wants to inspect the rooms upstairs in order to pick one in which to spend the night.

As soon as the man walks upstairs, Bosco, the owner, grabs the bill and runs next door to pay his debt to Boudreaux the butcher.

Boudreaux takes the \$100 and runs down the street to retire his debt to Trosclair the pig farmer.

Trosclair takes the \$100 and heads off to pay his bill at T-Boy's Farmers Co-op, the local supplier of feed and fuel.

T-Boy at the Farmer's Co-op takes the \$100 and runs to pay his debt to the local prostitute, Clarise, who has also been facing hard times and has had to offer her "services" on credit.

Clarise rushes to the hotel and pays off her room bill with Bosco, the hotel owner.

Bosco then places the \$100 back on the counter so the traveling salesman will not suspect anything.

At that moment the salesman comes down the stairs, picks up the \$100 bill, states that the rooms are not satisfactory, pockets the money, and leaves town.

No one produced anything.

No one earned anything.

However, the whole town is now out of debt and now looks to the future with a lot more optimism.

And that, my friend, is how the United States Government is conducting business today!!!!

The Theory of Intelligence

I don't think I've ever heard the concept explained any better than this .



'Well you see, Norm, it's like this . . . A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Now, as we know, excessive intake of alcohol kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. And that, Norm, is why you always feel smarter after a few beers.'

THE TOURIST AND THE FISHERMEN

by Richard Walkerdine

A tourist ship arrived at a small fishing village. One of the tourists looked at some of the fish being brought ashore and complimented the fishermen on the quality of the catch. "How long does it take to catch them?" he asked.

"Oh, not very long," replied one of the fishermen.

"Why didn't you stay out longer and catch more?" asked the tourist.

The fishermen explained that their small catches were sufficient for their needs and those of their families.

"But what do you do with the rest of your time?" asked the tourist.

"We sleep late, do a little fishing, play with our children and take a siesta with our wives. In the evenings we go into the village to see our friends, have a few drinks, play the guitar and sing a few songs. We have a full life."

The tourist smiled. "Look, I have an MBA from Harvard and I can help you! You should start by fishing longer each day. You could then sell the extra fish and, with the revenue, buy a bigger boat."

"And after that?" asked the fishermen.

"Well, with the extra money the bigger boat will generate you could buy a second one, a third one and so on until you have an entire fleet. Then instead of selling your fish to a middle man you could negotiate directly with the processing plant and maybe even open your own plant. Then you could leave this little village and move to the big city, from where you could direct your huge new enterprise."

"How long would all that take?" asked the fishermen.

"Oh, maybe twenty or twenty five years," replied the tourist.

"And after that?"

"Afterwards?" replied the tourist, laughing. "Well my friend that's where it gets really interesting. When your business gets really big you can start buying and selling stock and make millions!"

"Millions? Really? And after that?" asked the fishermen.

"After that you will be rich enough to retire," replied the tourist with a smile. "You could move to a little village on the coast where you could sleep late, play with your children, do a little fishing, take a siesta with your wife and spend your evenings drinking and singing with your friends."

"With all due respect sir," replied the fishermen, "that's exactly what we do now. So what's the point in wasting twenty five years?"

And the moral of the story is:

Know where you want to go in life....you might be there already!

LATE ARRIVALS AT THE ASTRONOMERS BALL

by Richard Walkerdine

The guests seem to be arriving a bit slowly – I wonder if there have been traffic problems? These events are usually so popular. Oh no, wait, I see a bus pulling into the parking area. Yes, here they come. Mr and Mrs ROIDBELT and their daughter ASTER, Mr and Mrs GALAXYFARFARAWAY and their daughter INA, Mr and Mrs Une and their rather useless son Brian (he is the INEPT UNE), Mr and Mrs MOS and their daughter DEE, Mr and Mrs OPIA and their daughter CASSI and Mr and Mrs ITARIUS and their incredibly wise son Keith (most people call him a SAGE). And they are followed by the Phillips family, including their daughter Ann in a really figure-hugging dress (isn't that a bit TIGHT ANN?) and Mr and Mrs NARECLIPSE and their daughter LOU.



And now another bus is pulling in – that's more like it. I can see Mr and Mrs DROMEDAGALAXY and their daughter ANN, Mr and Mrs KEYWAY and their son Milford (though his friends just call him MIL), Mr and Mrs ARECLIPSE and their son SOL, Mr and Mrs US and their son PERCY and just behind them are Mr and Mrs ELGEUSE and their daughter Betty (usually just know as BET). The hall is filling up quite quickly now. In fact I need to get a glass of wine (and maybe some of those really nice looking little nibbles – the sausage rolls look tempting) while there is still some available.

Ah, that's better, I was feeling quite parched (and a bit hungry). But now the guests seem to be flooding in. I can see the CURY twins with their old MA, Mr and Mrs NUS and their daughter Vivienne (usually known as VEE), the Jones and Simmons kids, both with their old MA'S, Mr and Mrs PITER and their son John (who I believe has recently become a JEW), the rather overweight Sally Middleton (sorry Sally but I really don't like the look of YOUR ANUS) and, bringing up the rear (sorry again Sally), Mr and Mrs FACENTAURI and their son AL.

And a few more guests are still arriving. I can see Mr and Mrs ASUS and their daughter Peggy (usually just know as PEG), Mr and Mrs MINOR with the twins URSA and LEO, Mr and Mrs MAJOR with their daughter who is also called URSA (now girls, no fighting over names) and finally Mr and Mrs BOREALIS and their beautiful daughter AURORA.

I think all the guests have now arrived although it's not such a high turnout this month. Yes, the doors are being closed.

(Author's note. A really pathetic response from you lot this time – that is, nothing at all! I guess the idea of 'making a contribution' is no longer understood? I will continue but I think I now prefer to do it on my own for my own personal enjoyment. You lot are simply not worth the bother. (Doug: I am now beginning to understand what a struggle it is these days to get any sort of contribution. You have my sympathy.))

Game Openings

Diplomacy (Black Press – Permanent Opening in ES): Signed up: Don Williams, needs six more to fill. Sign up now!

Gunboat Diplomacy (Black Press): Signed up: Five, need two more to fill. Sign up now!

Cline 9-Man Diplomacy V (Black Press): The most popular of the Cline 9-Man version. Rules and map in ES #47. Signed Up: Graham Wilson, Brad Wilson, Phil Murphy, Jack McHugh, needs five more. Let's fill this, people! I want at least two more players by next issue!

Everybody Plays Diplomacy (Black Press): An ongoing everyone-plays variant. Rules are in ES #47. Join in at any time!

By Popular Demand: Game currently underway, join any time.

23 Tunes: Game currently underway, join any time.

Eternal Sunshine Movie Quote Quiz: 10 rounds, join any time. You can find it at the end of the zine.

Standby List: HELP! I need standby players! – Current standby list: Graham Wilson, Jim Burgess (Dip only), Lance Anderson (Dip only), Martin Burgdorf, Paul Milewski (Dip only), Brad Wilson, Kevin Tighe (Dip only), Chris Babcock, Don Williams, and whoever I beg into it in an emergency.

I'm going to continue to go through my files and seeing what other variants I can offer, until I find one that gets enough interest to fill. When I offer a variant I'll give it an issue or two, but if nobody signs up I'll drop the opening and replace it. If somebody wants to guest-GM a game of anything, just get in touch. If you have specific game requests please let me know.

Eternal Sunshine Game Section

Diplomacy "Wouldn't It Be Nice?" 2008A, End Game A/E/I/T Draw in Winter 1914

Endgame Comments From Austria – Kevin Wilson

Congratulations to Jeremie for the almost win and to Don for 1) being a loyal, game-long ally; 2) for pointing out the error in my ways and 3) organizing and leading the stop-England alliance. I feel I almost gave this one to Jeremie. When my initial ally, Russia, turned on me (nice work there Brad) I turned to Jeremie for help against her. Jeremie was making sufficient progress that my help probably didn't truly make a lot of difference for him but it might have helped it go faster. I tried, hard, to swing Melinda back to my side but I guess Brad was more convincing. Anyway, Russia finally fell and it appeared England was off to 18 for the win until Don came along and got Brad and me to actually talk, which we hadn't done that much in the game to that point, and we were

able keep Jeremie from getting to 18. There was a chance he might get there despite what we could do but we were able to get units in place, set up the stalemate and convince Jeremie we wouldn't let him through.

This was one of the longest games I've played in for a while. During the game I experienced a hurricane, Hurricane Gustav, which knocked out power at our house for 9 days. I took a new job, did several months of commuting and moved my family 1,000 miles north to Chicago. And now, just as we wrap it up, I've experienced my first true blizzard. Over night we had 20 inches of snow, 75+ mph winds and white-out conditions. We have drifts behind the house to 5 or 6 feet and piles around the drive now up to 7 feet.

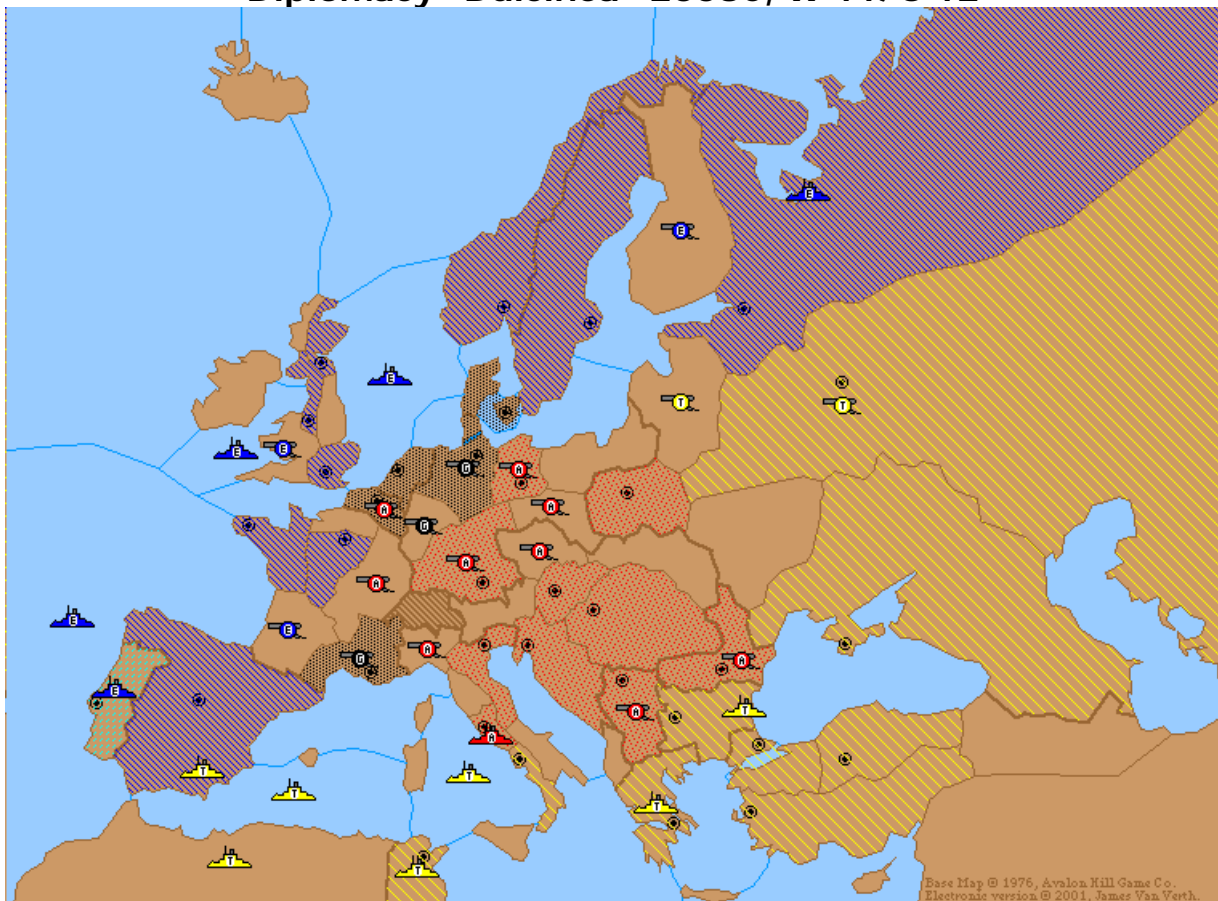
And, finally, thanks to Doug for being one of the few remaining folks running a zine and GMing games. They are truly few and somewhat far between today.

"Wouldn't It Be Nice" 2008A - Eternal Sunshine - GM: Douglas Kent

A/E/I/T Draw in Winter 1914

		01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14
Austria	Kevin Wilson (DRAW W14)	5	6	6	5	7	7	8	7	7	6	6	5	5	5
England	Jeremie Lefrancois (DRAW W14)	4	5	6	7	8	10	10	13	13	15	15	16	17	17
France	Alexander Levinson (DROP F05)	5	6	5	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			
	William Wood (OUT F12)														
Germany	Graham Wilson (OUT F10)	4	2	2	2	2	4	4	1	1					
Italy	Don Williams (DRAW W14)	5	5	6	6	8	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6
Russia	Melinda Holley (OUT F07)	5	7	6	5	4	1								
Turkey	Brad Wilson (DRAW W14)	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	6	6

Diplomacy "Dulcinea" 2008C, W 11/S 12



Austria (Lance Anderson – lance_anderson "of" hotmail.com): A Berlin Supports A Tyrolia – Munich,

A Bohemia Supports A Tyrolia – Munich, A Burgundy – Belgium, A Munich – Burgundy,
A Piedmont - Marseilles (*Fails*), F Rome Supports F Tyrrhenian Sea (*Ordered to Move*),
 A Rumania Supports A Serbia, A Serbia Supports A Rumania, A Silesia Supports A Berlin, A Tyrolia - Munich.
England (Philip Murphy trekkypj "of" gmail.com): Build F Liverpool..
 A Finland Supports F St Petersburg(nc), A Gascony Supports A Marseilles, F Liverpool - Irish Sea,
 A London – Wales, F Mid-Atlantic Ocean Supports F Spain(sc) – Portugal,
~~F North Africa Supports F Mid-Atlantic Ocean~~ (*Disbanded*), F Skagerrak - North Sea, F Spain(sc) – Portugal,
F St Petersburg(nc) Supports A Finland (*Fails*).

France (Brad Wilson – bwdolphin146 "of" yahoo.com): ~~F Portugal Supports F Gulf of Lyon – Spain(sc)~~
 (*Disbanded*).

Germany (William Wood – wxmanwill "of" hotmail.com): A Kiel Supports A Ruhr, A Marseilles Hold,
 A Ruhr Supports A Kiel.

Turkey (Jim Burgess – jfburgess "of" gmail.com): F Bulgaria(ec) Supports A Rumania,
 F Greece Supports F Bulgaria(ec), F Gulf of Lyon - Spain(sc), F Ionian Sea - Tyrrhenian Sea,
 A Livonia Supports A Moscow - St Petersburg, A Moscow - St Petersburg (*Fails*),
 F Tunis Supports F Western Mediterranean - North Africa, F Tyrrhenian Sea - Western Mediterranean,
 F Western Mediterranean - North Africa.

Concession to France Fails
Fall 1912 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

PRESS

LISBON: Somebody slipped up.

E to F: Prepare to meet thy doom! Portugal will be mine!

Prime Minister to Kaiser: Is your telegraph out of order again? *sigh* Those damn hyperisolationist revolutionaries!

PM to All: This is what I get for sucking my thumb. Should have sent the Army to Wales - now the fleet is in the wrong place! Phooooey!

"Dulcinea" Diplomacy Bourse

	<u>Austrian</u> <u>Crowns</u>	<u>English</u> <u>Pounds</u>	<u>French</u> <u>Francs</u>	<u>German</u> <u>Marks</u>	<u>Italian</u> <u>Lire</u>	<u>Russian</u> <u>Rubles</u>	<u>Turkish</u> <u>Piastres</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Total Value</u>
Opening Value	\$1.6314	\$1.4668	\$1.1260	\$1.1717	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$1.5667		
Closing Value	\$1.6103	\$1.7639	\$1.0560	\$0.9717	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$1.5335		
Player Holdings									
Billy Ray Valentine	500	1677	700	1000	700	700	1500	\$ 0.59	\$7,774.95
Duke of York	3860	0	0	0	0	0	2965	\$ 1.06	\$10,763.65
Smaug the Dragon	0	1210	0	2871	0	4750	1303	\$ 39.47	\$6,961.69
Rothschild	0	4196	8860	2650	0	0	2142	\$ 0.68	\$22,617.93
Baron Wuffet	986	3367	0	822	400	300	622	\$ 0.29	\$9,279.67
Wooden Nickel Enterprises	2339	2915	0	1374	0	642	183	\$ 0.87	\$10,524.88
VAIONT Enterprises	4943	1917	0	0	0	0	0	\$ 0.36	\$11,341.47
Insider Trading LLC	2475	1232	0	0	0	0	1866	\$ 730.81	\$9,750.94
Bourse Master	0	125	0	0	0	1000	3754	\$ 2.32	\$5,979.57
<u>Any New Players</u>	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	\$ -	\$6,935.40

Billy Ray Valentine: Having a Jacuzzi.

Duke of York: No moves.

Smaug the Dragon: Sells 500 Marks. Buys 602 Piastres.

Rothschild: Sells 456 Crowns, 500 Francs, 500 Marks, and 500 Piastres. Buys 1826 Pounds.

Baron Wuffet: Sells 500 Crowns, 200 Francs, 500 Marks, and 500 Piastres. Buys 1645 Pounds.

Wooden Nickel Enterprises: Sells 500 Marks. Buys 183 Crowns, 183 Piastres.

VAIONT Enterprises: Sells 117 Piastres and 500 Pounds. Buys 562 Crowns

Insider Trading LLC: Protests against market manipulation.

Bourse Master: Stands pat.

Next Bourse Deadline is March 28th at 7:00pm my time

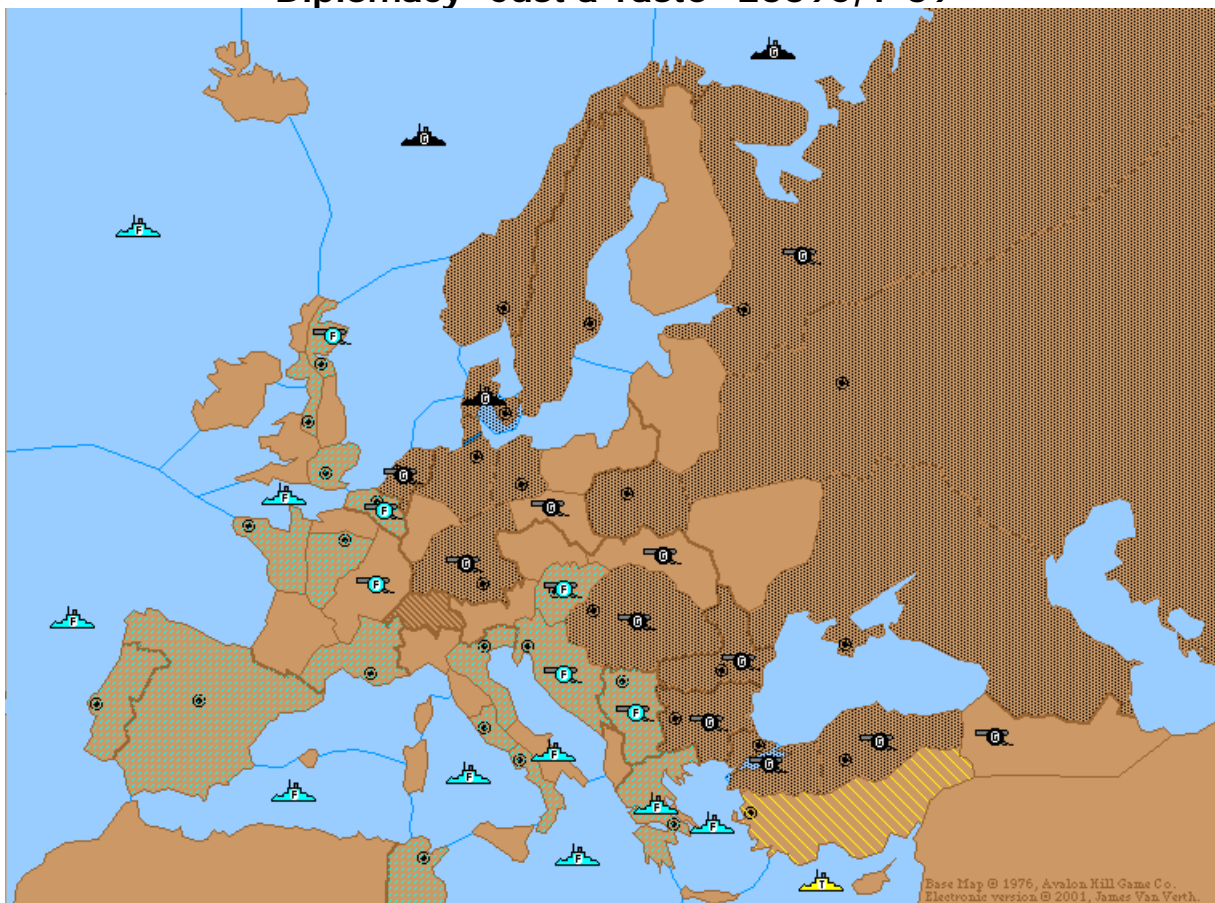
PRESS

Baron Wuffet: Let's see if I finally figured this game out.

Duke of York Awaits Meeting Wallis Simpson: Has anyone figured out WHICH Duke of York I am.... ignore the year.

SMAUG to ALL: Greed is good. Unless you're Rothschild, in which case, BURNED! *snorts flames*

Diplomacy "Just a Taste" 2009C, F 09



Austria (William Wood – wxmanwill "of" hotmail.com): No units.

France (Paraic Reddington - Paraic.Reddington "of" vix-erg.com): F Apulia Supports F Tunis - Ionian Sea, F Brest - English Channel, A Burgundy Hold, A Edinburgh Hold, F Greece Supports F Ionian Sea - Aegean Sea, F Gulf of Lyon - Western Mediterranean, F Ionian Sea - Aegean Sea, F Mid-Atlantic Ocean Hold, F North Atlantic Ocean Hold, A Picardy – Belgium, A Serbia Supports F Greece, A Trieste – Vienna, F Tunis - Ionian Sea, F Tyrrhenian Sea Supports F Tunis - Ionian Sea, A Venice - Trieste.

Germany (Philip Murphy trekkypj "of" gmail.com): A Armenia – Ankara, F Baltic Sea – Denmark, F Barents Sea Supports F Norwegian Sea, A Bohemia – Silesia, A Budapest Supports A Rumania, A Bulgaria Supports A Constantinople, A Constantinople Supports A Armenia – Ankara, A Galicia Supports A Budapest, A Kiel – Holland, A Munich Hold, F Norwegian Sea Supports F Barents Sea,

A Rumania Supports A Bulgaria, A Sevastopol – Armenia, A St Petersburg Hold.

Turkey (Graham Wilson – grahamaw "of" rogers.com): F Aegean Sea Unordered (*Dislodged*, can retreat to Smyrna or OTB), A Ankara Unordered (*Dislodged*, can retreat to Smyrna or OTB), F Eastern Mediterranean Unordered.

A/W 09 and S 10 deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

Supply Center Chart

Austria: None=0, OUT!!
France: Belgium, Brest, Edinburgh, Greece, Liverpool, London, Marseilles, Naples, Paris, Portugal, Rome, Serbia, Spain, Trieste, Tunis, Venice, Vienna=17, Build 2
Germany: Ankara, Berlin, Budapest, Bulgaria, Constantinople, Denmark, Holland, Kiel, Moscow, Munich, Norway, Rumania, Sevastopol, St Petersburg, Sweden, Warsaw=16, Build 2
Turkey: Smyrna=1, Remove 1 or Even

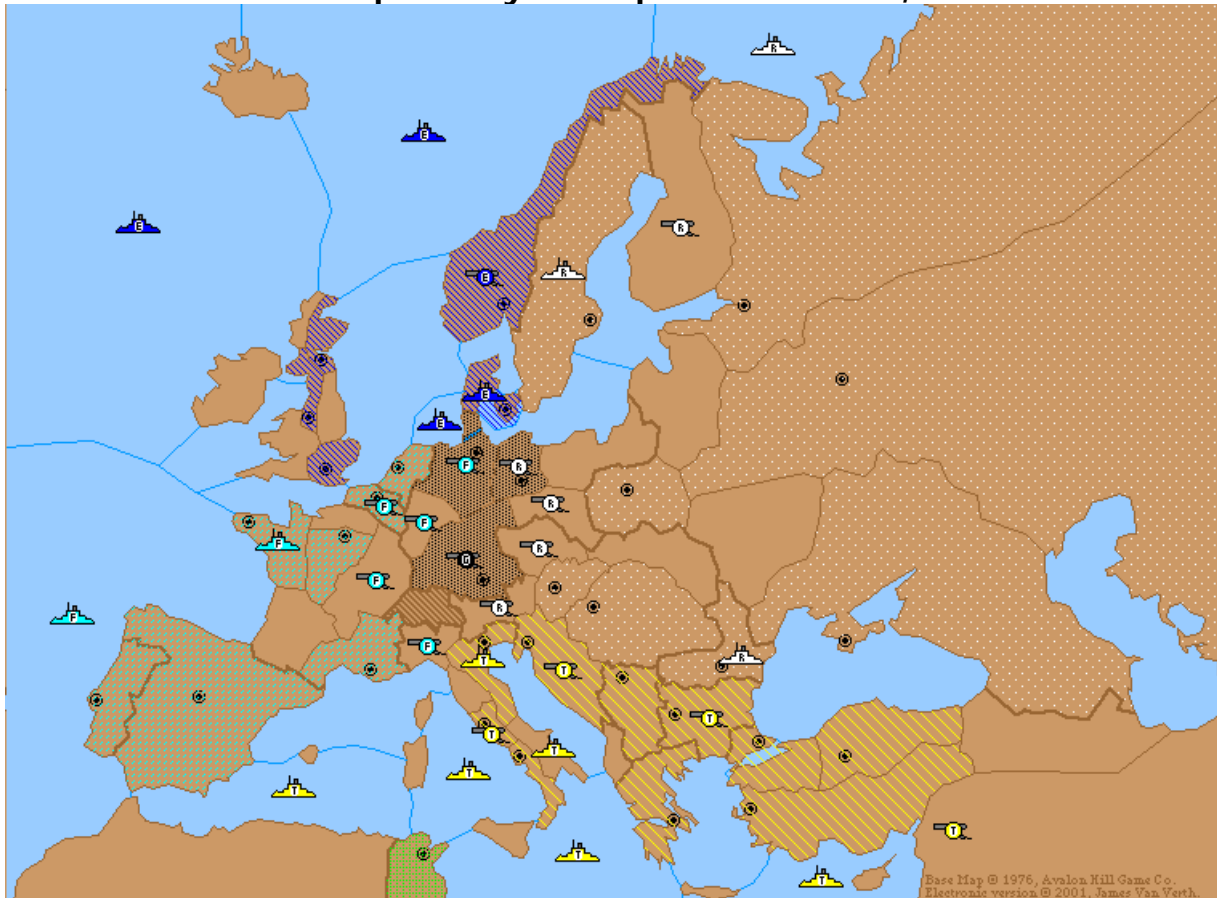
PRESS

Kaiser to All: And there arose a new world power - and it was called the European Union. Under Franco-German leadership, we shall restore peace and stability to Europe, isn't that right, Monsieur le President?

Paris – he jerked open the drawer and nervously fumbled inside for the small plastic jar. As he popped the cap off he almost spilled the contents on the floor as his hands were shaking so badly. He slammed back 2 pills and dry swallowed. Damn this war can take its toll on the nerves sometimes. Let me see that map again....

G to F - How many ships can the French sink now;
Before the Turks admit defeat?
The answer my friend, is blowing in the wind;
The answer is found within our win.

White Press Diplomacy "Creepshow" 2009D, W 07/S 08



England (Chuy Cronin – chuykdc_92 "of" hotmail.com): F Denmark Supports A Holland – Kiel,

F Helgoland Bight Supports A Holland – Kiel, F North Atlantic Ocean Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg, A Norway Hold, F Norwegian Sea Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg.

France (Michael Cronin – mfmcronin “of” q.com): Build F Brest. A Paris – Belgium (No Such Unit), A Belgium - Ruhr (*Fails*), F Brest Unordered, A Burgundy Supports A Ruhr – Munich, A Holland – Kiel, F Mid-Atlantic Ocean Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg, A Piedmont Hold, A Ruhr - Munich (*Bounce*).

Germany (Pat Vogelsang – godawgsgo33 “of” yahoo.com): A Berlin Supports A Kiel (*Disbanded*), A Kiel Supports A Munich (*Disbanded*), A Munich Supports A Kiel (*Cut*).

Italy (Graham Wilson – grahamaw “of” rogers.com): No units.

Russia (Kevin Wilson - ckevinw “of” comcast.net): F Barents Sea - Norway (*Fails*),

A Bohemia Supports A Tyrolia – Munich, A Prussia – Berlin, F Rumania Hold,

A Silesia Supports A Prussia – Berlin, A St Petersburg – Finland, F Sweden Hold, A Tyrolia - Munich (*Bounce*).

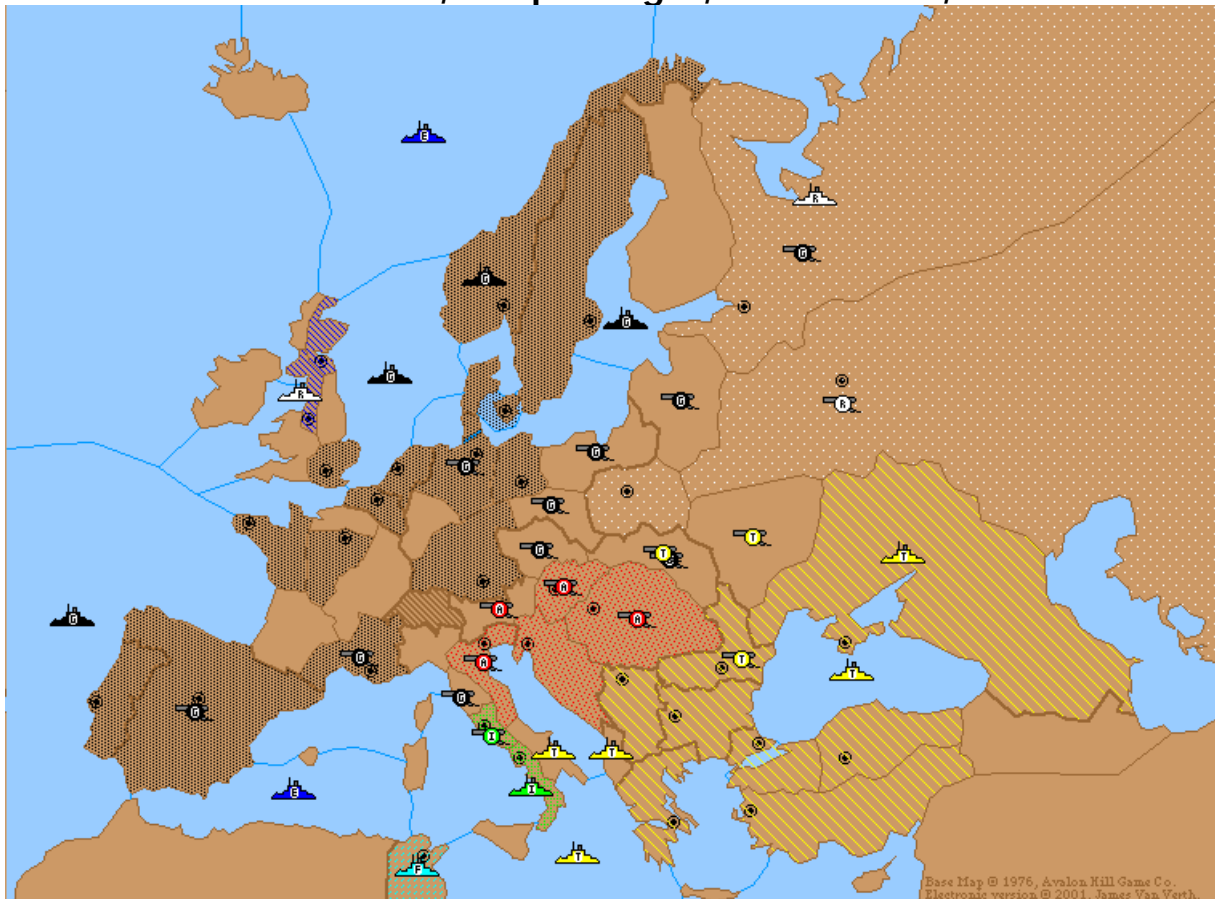
Turkey (Larry Cronin – lcroninmd “of” msn.com): A Bulgaria watches in wonder as the longest ever convoy is attempted (Holds), F Venice watches in wonder as the longest ever convoy is attempted (Holds), A Rome watches in wonder as the longest ever convoy is attempted (Holds), F Apulia watches in wonder as the longest ever convoy is attempted (Holds), F Eastern Mediterranean Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg, F Ionian Sea Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg, A Syria - St Petersburg (*Fails*), A Trieste Supports F Venice, F Tyrrhenian Sea Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg, F Western Mediterranean Convoys A Syria - St Petersburg.

Fall 1908 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

PRESS

Germany: the kaiser awakens from his hibernation to find that his naval forces in holland have disappeared into the coffee shops. The Kaiser looks to join them shortly.

Black Press Gunboat, “Maple Sugar,” 2009Crb32, W 09/S 10



Austria: A Trieste – Budapest, A Tyrolia - Munich (*Bounce*), A Venice - Piedmont (*Bounce*), A Vienna Supports A Rumania - Galicia.

England: F Norwegian Sea Hold, F Western Mediterranean Hold.

France: F Tunis Supports F Ionian Sea.

Germany: Build A Berlin, A Kiel.. A Berlin – Prussia, A Galicia Hold (*Dislodged*, retreat to Warsaw or OTB),

F Gulf of Bothnia Supports A Livonia - St Petersburg, A Kiel - Munich (*Bounce*), A Livonia - St Petersburg, A Marseilles - Piedmont (*Bounce*), A Munich – Bohemia, F North Africa - Mid-Atlantic Ocean, F North Sea Hold, F Norway Supports A Livonia - St Petersburg, A Piedmont – Tuscany, A Prussia – Livonia, A Silesia Supports A Galicia, A Spain - North Africa (*Fails*).

Italy: F Naples Supports A Rome, A Rome Supports F Naples.

Russia: Remove A Warsaw.. A Moscow Supports F St Petersburg(nc), F North Atlantic Ocean – Liverpool, ~~F St Petersburg(nc) Supports A Moscow~~ (*Dislodged*, retreat to Barents Sea or OTB).

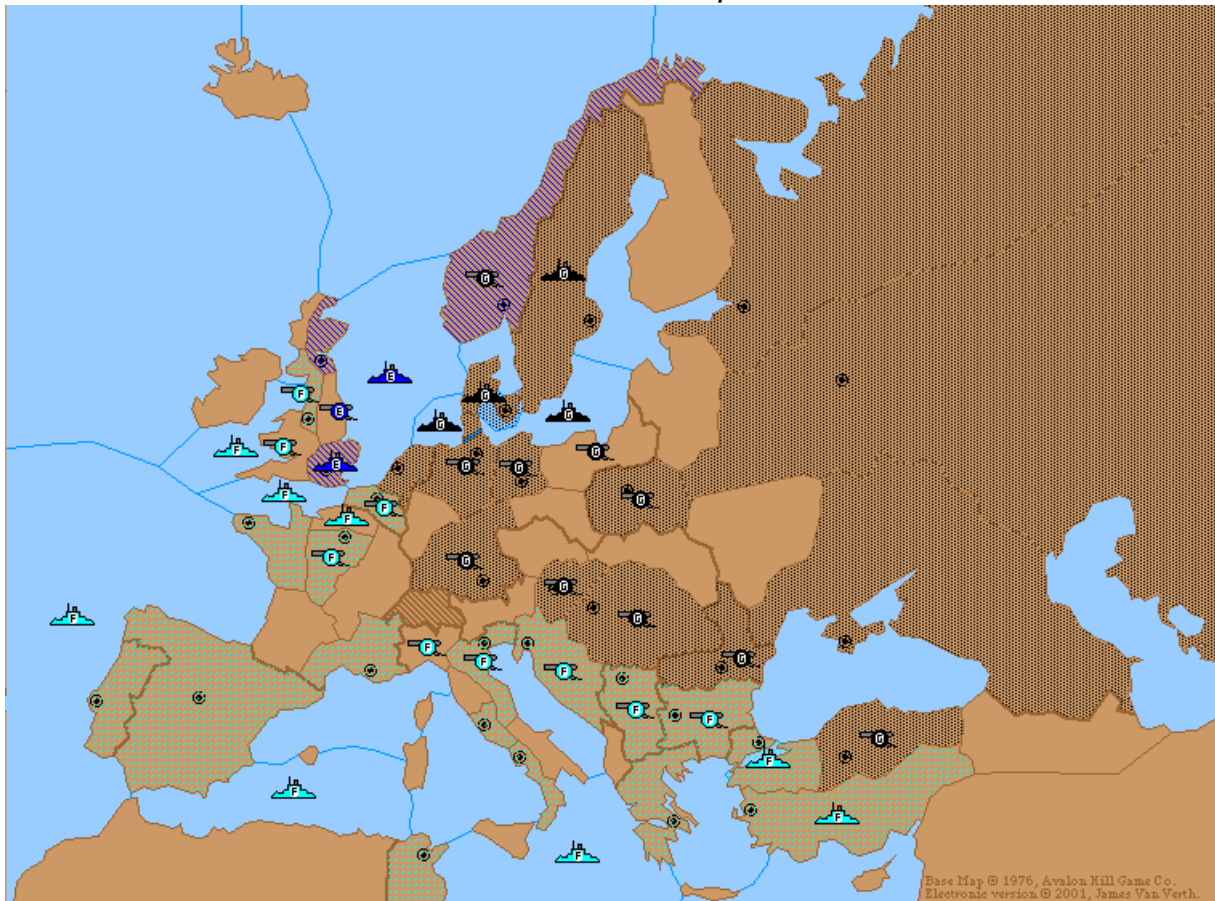
Turkey: Build A Constantinople.. F Apulia Supports A Venice (*Ordered to Move*), F Black Sea Convoys A Constantinople – Rumania, A Constantinople – Rumania, F Greece – Albania, F Ionian Sea Supports F Tunis, A Rumania – Galicia, F Sevastopol Hold, A Ukraine Supports A Rumania - Galicia.

Fall1910 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

PRESS:

A-T: Bet you wish Ser was still my SC that extra Army would be handy about now! In fall I will either cut Rome or look for support into same! I will attempt entry into Boh if safe to do so! Hope you attacked Gal from Rum!

Graustark Game 2002D, W 19/S 20



England (Fred Wiedemeyer – wiedzem “of” planet.eon.net): Remove F Clyde, F North Atlantic Ocean..

F London - Wales (*Fails*), F North Sea - English Channel (*Bounce*), A Yorkshire Supports F London - Wales.

France (Andy Lischett – andy “of” lischett.com): Build A Paris.. A Belgium Hold, A Bulgaria Supports A Serbia, F Constantinople Hold, F English Channel – London (*Fails*), F Ionian Sea Hold, F Irish Sea Supports A Wales, A Liverpool Hold, F Mid-Atlantic Ocean - English Channel (*Bounce*), A Paris Hold, F Picardy Supports F Mid-Atlantic Ocean - English Channel (*Fails*), A Piedmont Hold, A Serbia Supports A Bulgaria, F Smyrna Hold, A Trieste Supports A Serbia, A Venice Supports A Trieste, A Wales Supports A Liverpool (*Cut*), F Western Mediterranean Hold.

Germany (Michael Quirk – michaelquirk “of” cs.com): Build A Berlin, F Kiel.. A Ankara Hold, A Berlin – Kiel, A Budapest Supports A Rumania, F Denmark Supports F Kiel - Helgoland Bight, F Gulf of Bothnia - Baltic Sea, F Kiel - Helgoland Bight, A Livonia – Prussia, A Moscow – Warsaw, A Munich Supports A Berlin – Kiel, A Prussia – Berlin, A Rumania Supports A Budapest,

A St Petersburg – Norway, F Sweden Supports A St Petersburg – Norway, A Vienna Supports A Budapest.

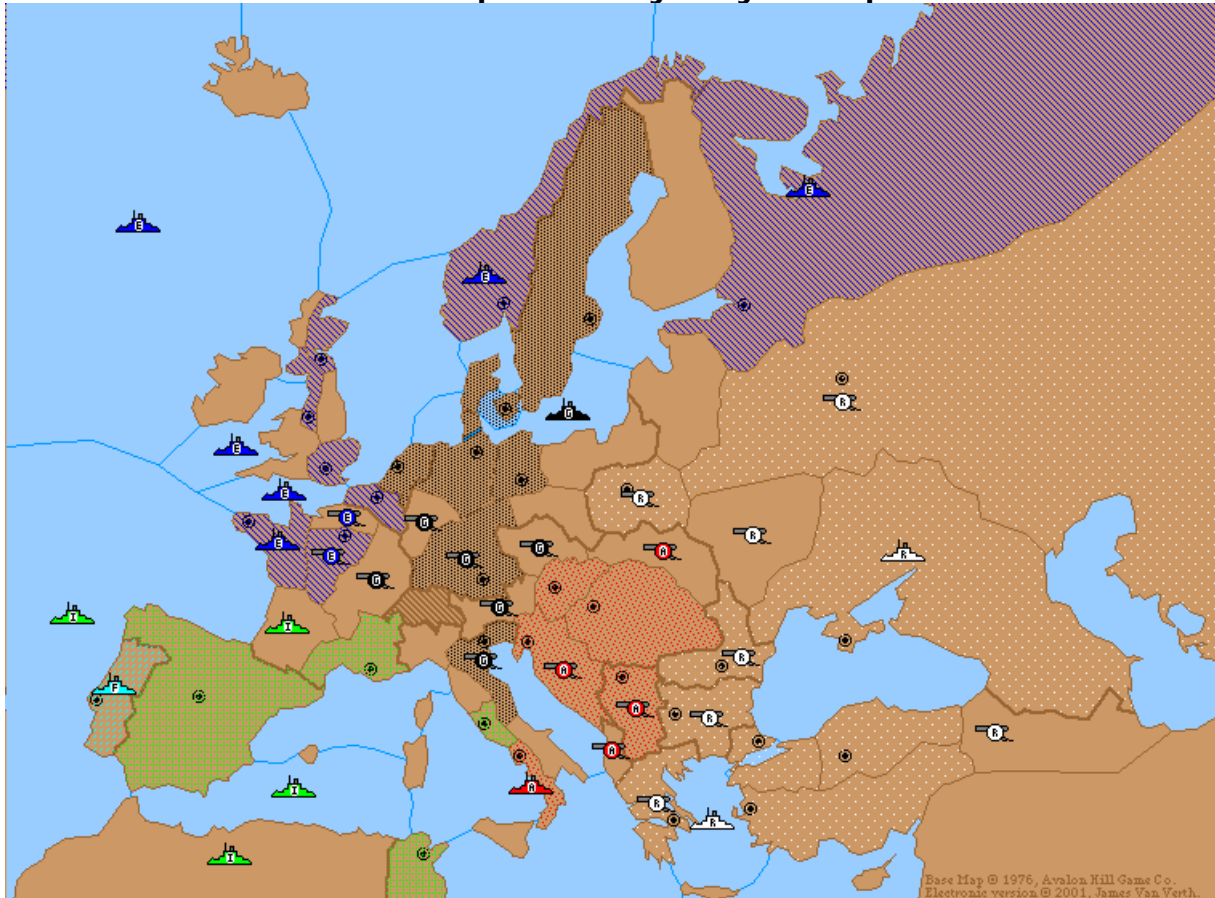
***Now Proposed – F/G Draw. Please Vote!!
Fall 1920 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time***

PRESS:

None...you guys suck.

Graustark Diplomacy Game 2006A, Winter 09

Seasons Separated by Player Request



Austria (Don Williams – dwilliams "of" fontana.org): Has A Albania, A Galicia, F Naples, A Serbia, A Trieste.

England (Fred Wiedemeyer – wiedem "of" planet.eon.net): Has F Brest, F English Channel, F Irish Sea, F North Atlantic Ocean, F Norway, A Paris, A Picardy, F St Petersburg(nc).

France (Hank Alme – almejh "of" alumni.rice.edu): Has F Portugal.

Germany (Harley Jordan – harleyj "of" alum.mit.edu): Build A Munich..Has F Baltic Sea, A Bohemia, A Burgundy, A Munich, A Ruhr, A Tyrolia, A Venice.

Italy (Jim Burgess – jfburgess "of" gmail.com): Remove A Spain, A Marseilles..Has F Gascony, F Mid-Atlantic Ocean, F North Africa, F Western Mediterranean.

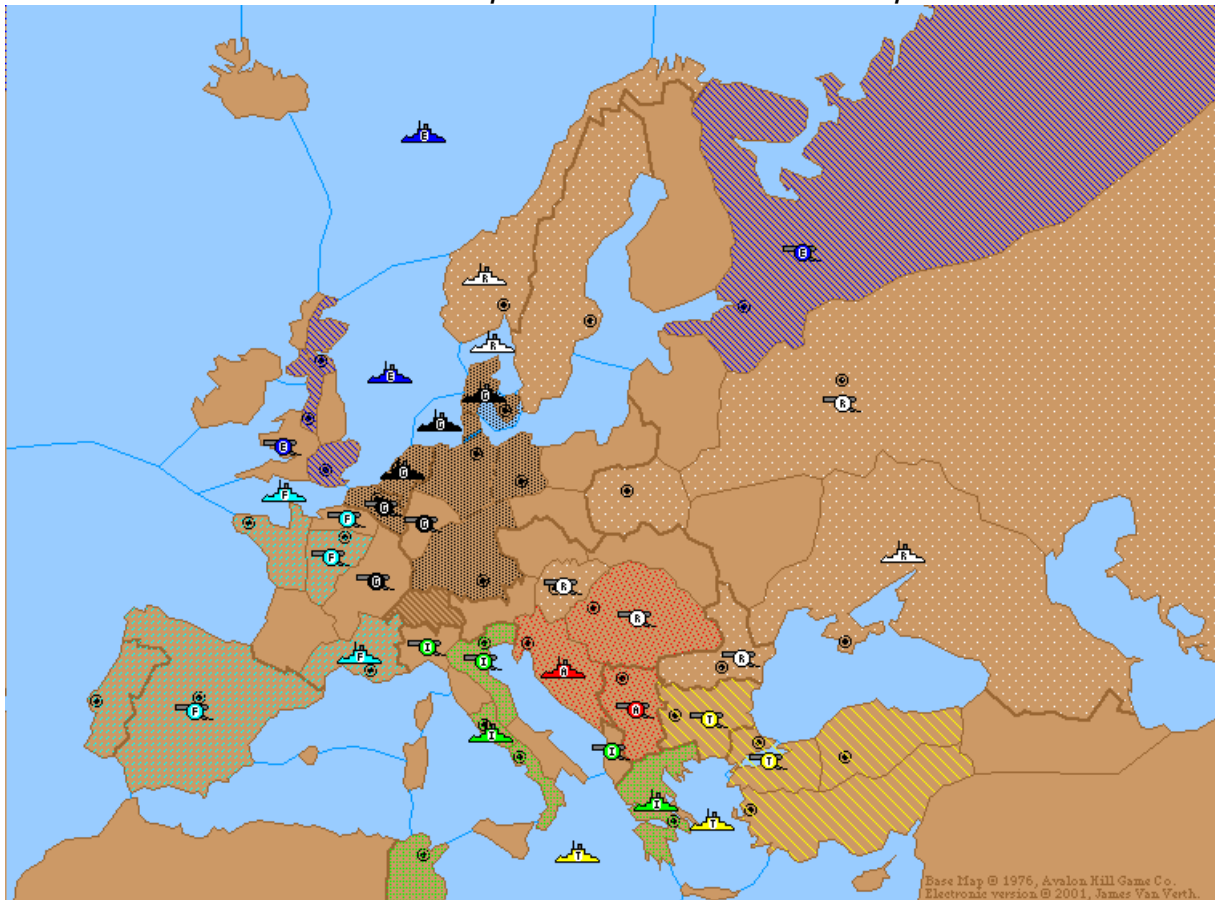
Russia (John Biehl – jerbil "of" shaw.ca): Build F Sevastopol..Has F Aegean Sea, A Armenia, A Bulgaria, A Greece, A Moscow, A Rumania, F Sevastopol, A Ukraine, A Warsaw.

Spring 1910 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

PRESS:

(ROME to AUSTRIA): I'm sure I'm going to bed, but I think I'm going to bed without my supper.....

Black Press Gunboat, "Scream" 2010Brb32, W 02/S 03



Austria: Disband A Vienna.. ~~A Budapest~~ - Rumania (*Disbanded*), A Serbia Supports A Budapest - Rumania, F Trieste - Venice (*Fails*).

England: F North Sea Supports F Norwegian Sea - Norway (*Cut*), F Norwegian Sea - Norway (*Fails*), A St Petersburg Supports F Norwegian Sea - Norway (*Cut*), A Wales Hold.

France: Build A Brest.. A Brest - Picardy, F English Channel Supports F North Sea, F Marseilles wants love and peace with Italy (Holds), A Paris Supports A Brest - Picardy, A Portugal - Spain.

Germany: Build F Kiel.. A Belgium Hold, A Burgundy Hold, F Denmark Supports F Holland - North Sea, F Holland - North Sea (*Fails*), F Kiel - Helgoland Bight, A Ruhr Supports A Belgium.

Italy: Build F Rome.. A Albania Supports F Greece, F Greece Supports A Albania, A Piedmont - Marseilles (*Fails*), F Rome Unordered, A Venice - Trieste (*Fails*).

Russia: Build A Moscow.. A Galicia - Budapest, A Moscow - St Petersburg (*Fails*), F Norway Supports A Moscow - St Petersburg (*Cut*), A Rumania Supports A Galicia - Budapest, F Sevastopol Supports A Rumania, F Sweden - Skagerrak, A Vienna Supports A Galicia - Budapest.

Turkey: F Aegean Sea - Ionian Sea, A Bulgaria Supports A Serbia - Rumania (*Void*), F Constantinople - Aegean Sea, A Smyrna - Constantinople.

Fall 1903 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

PRESS:

Paris-London: We better be buds. Any chance that A Wal could come to France on my fleet next time?

Star Trek Press;captains log unknown.

we finally got some good news to report.

captain sulu survived the destruction of the exelsor and we now have a shot at building another one.

the romulans did not attack like i thought they would and they even answered my request for peace between us with a peace offering of their own.

on top of that the troop transport fdr got behind gorn lines and took one of their 4 home worlds.

we cant hold it but it does have dylithium crystals that we can use for the moment.

our war with the gorn can best be described as a quagmyer.

the question now is what will the klingons do now that they have taken a number of m-class planets themselves.

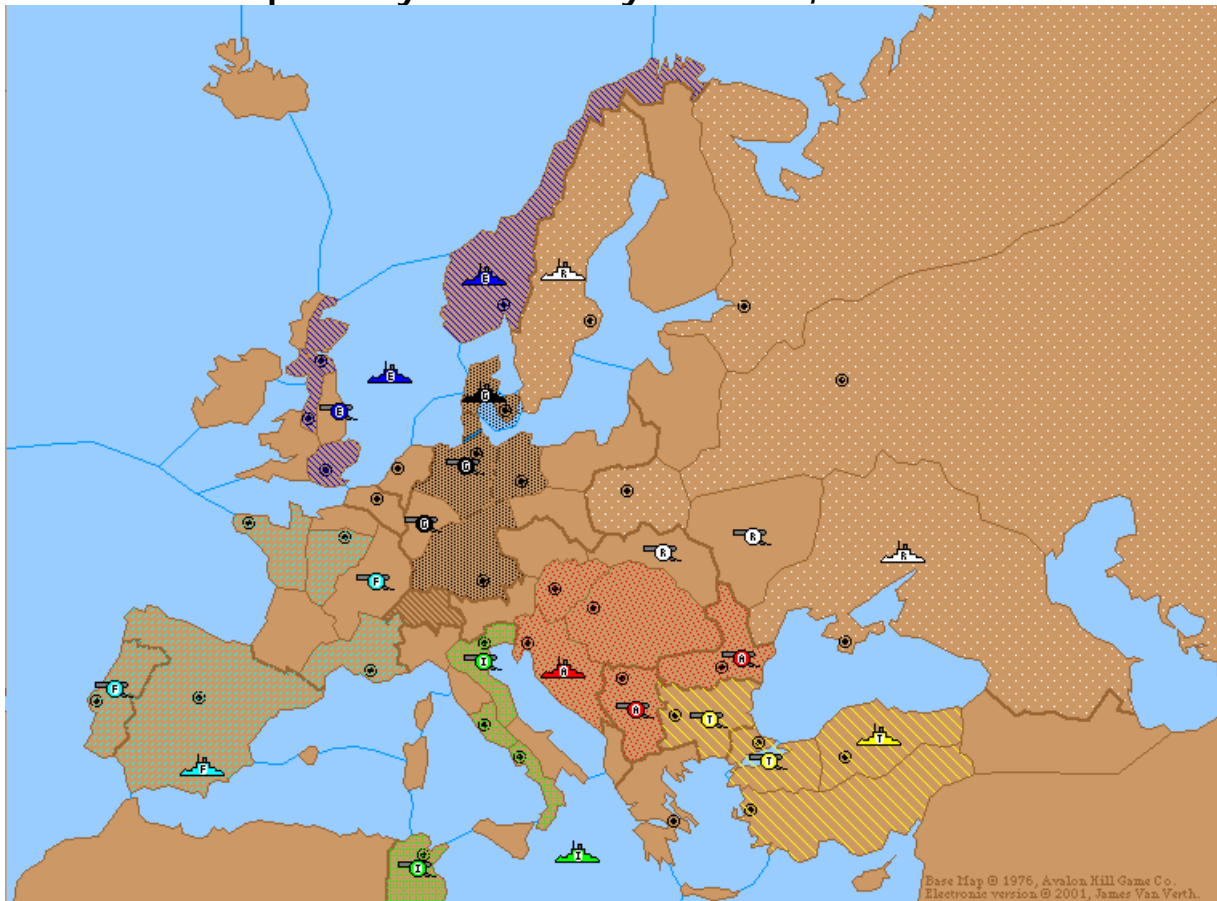
all we can do is fight to survive as long as possible

England to Germany: i am behind russia lines. if you attack russia he will fall quickly.

France-Russia: because of you, that's why.

Rus - Eng: Let's see. I build 1 and you stay even. I think I can stand the laughter.

Diplomacy "Dublin Boys" 2010D, Fall 1901



Austria (Paul Milewski – paul.milewski "of" hotmail.com): F Albania – Trieste, A Budapest – Rumania, A Trieste - Serbia.

England (Kevin Tighe – tigheman "of" yahoo.com): F North Sea - Holland (*Bounce*), F Norwegian Sea – Norway, A Yorkshire Hold.

France (Jeff O'Donnell – unclestaush "of" yahoo.com): A Burgundy - Belgium (*Bounce*), F Mid-Atlantic Ocean - Spain(sc), A Spain - Portugal.

Germany (Melinda Holley – genea5613 "of" aol.com): F Denmark Hold, A Kiel - Holland (*Bounce*), A Ruhr - Belgium (*Bounce*).

Italy (Hank Alme – almejh "of" alumni.rice.edu): A Apulia – Tunis, F Ionian Sea Convoys A Apulia – Tunis, A Venice Hold.

Russia (Jack McHugh – jwmchughjr "of" gmail.com): F Gulf of Bothnia – Sweden, F Sevastopol - Black Sea (*Bounce*), A Ukraine - Rumania (*Fails*), A Warsaw - Galicia.

Turkey (Brad Wilson - bwdolphin146 "of" yahoo.com): F Ankara - Black Sea (*Bounce*), A Bulgaria Supports A Budapest – Rumania, A Constantinople Supports A Bulgaria.

Winter 01/Spring 02 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

Supply Center Chart

Austria: Budapest, Rumania, Serbia, Trieste, Vienna=5, Build 2
England: Edinburgh, Liverpool, London, Norway=4, Build 1
France: Brest, Marseilles, Paris, Portugal, Spain=5, Build 2
Germany: Berlin, Denmark, Kiel, Munich=4, Build 1

Italy: Naples, Rome, Tunis, Venice=4, Build 1
 Russia: Moscow, Sevastopol, St Petersburg, Sweden, Warsaw=5, Build 1
 Turkey: Ankara, Bulgaria, Constantinople, Smyrna=4, Build 1
 Unowned: Belgium, Greece, Holland.

PRESS

Eng - Ger: You picked a great time to move to New England. At least now you can say, "This isn't bad, I was here for the the '10 winter snows."

Ger - Rus: U of D! U of D! By the way, how did the Eagles do in the playoffs *evil cackle*. Oh wait! They're out & the Steelers are going to the SuperBow!

England to Germany: Last man to Belgium is a rotten egg.

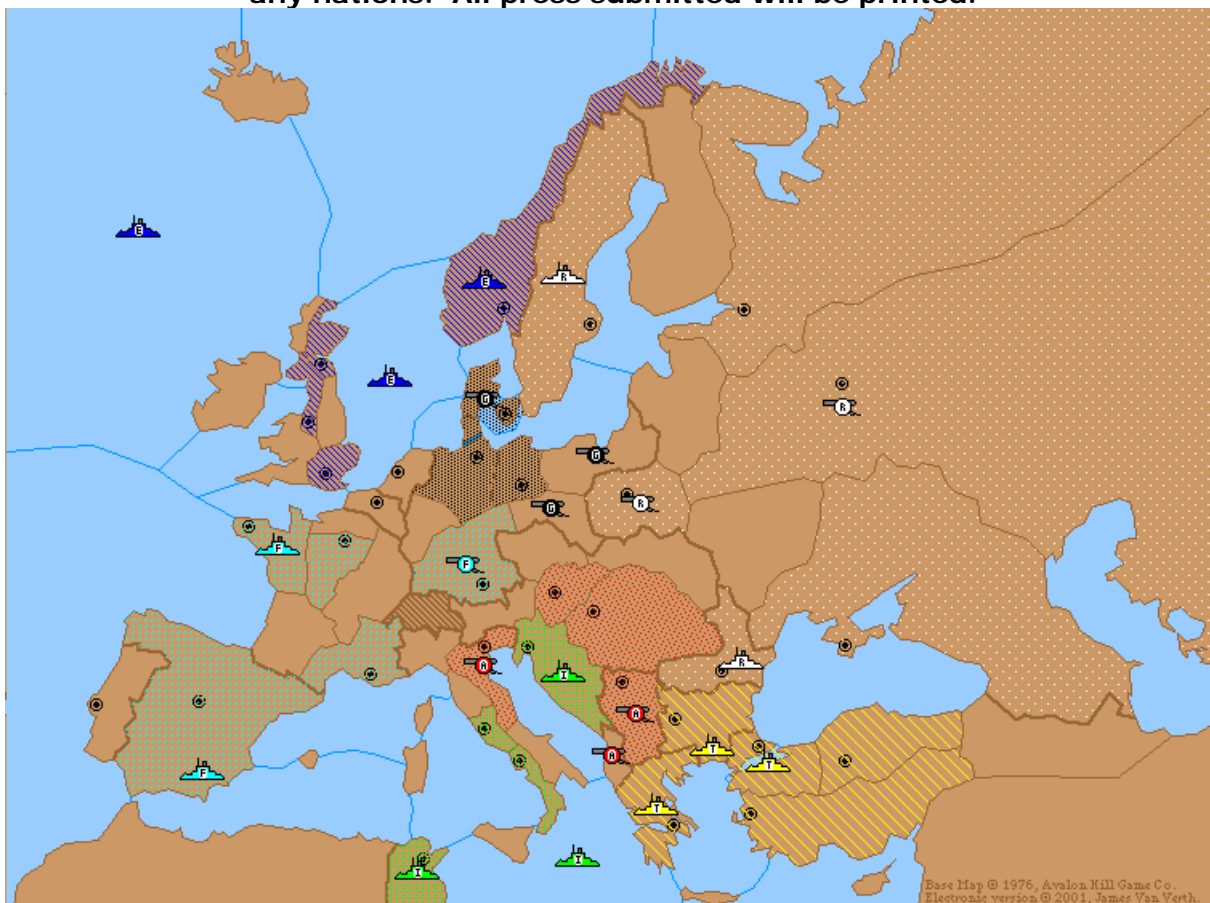
Con to Italy: Keep that fleet going west.

Eng - GM: I thought computer Dip meant I'd be getting 2-3 emails a day from the players. This is just like postal Dip only I'm not watching for the mailman.

GM – Eng: If you're getting emails at all, you're doing better than I do!

Everybody Plays Diplomacy "Dandelion" 2010Cvj08, Fall 1901

Player Names or Handles will be shown for any power they commanded each season.
 Remember, in some seasons if we get enough players you may not wind up commanding any nations. All press submitted will be printed.



Austria (Jack McHugh): A Albania - Greece (*Bounce*), A Budapest – Serbia, A Trieste - Venice.
England (David McCrumb): F London - North Sea, F North Atlantic Ocean - Mid-Atlantic Ocean (*Bounce*),
 F North Sea - Norway.
France (Paraic Reddington): F Brest - Mid-Atlantic Ocean (*Bounce*), A Burgundy – Munich,
 F Gulf of Lyon - Spain(sc).
Germany (Italy Must Win): A Kiel – Denmark, A Prussia Supports A Silesia – Warsaw,

A Silesia - Warsaw (*Fails*).

Italy (Phil Murphy): F Adriatic Sea – Trieste, F Ionian Sea - Greece (*Bounce*), F Tyrrhenian Sea - Tunis.

Russia (Rick Desper): F Gulf of Bothnia – Sweden, A Moscow Supports A Warsaw, F Sevastopol – Rumania, A Warsaw Hold.

Turkey (Brad Wilson): F Aegean Sea – Greece, F Ankara – Constantinople, F Bulgaria(sc) Supports F Aegean Sea - Greece.

W 01/S02 Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

Supply Center Chart

Austria: Budapest, Serbia, Venice, Vienna=4, Build 1
England: Edinburgh, Liverpool, London, Norway=4, Build 1
France: Brest, Marseilles, Munich, Paris, Spain=5, Build 2
Germany: Berlin, Denmark, Kiel=3, Even
Italy: Naples, Rome, Trieste, Tunis=4, Build 1
Russia: Moscow, Rumania, Sevastopol, St Petersburg, Sweden, Warsaw=6, Build 2
Turkey: Ankara, Bulgaria, Constantinople, Greece, Smyrna=5, Build 2
Unowned: Belgium, Holland, Portugal=3

PRESS

Turkey -> Russia: I'm just going to build a ton of fleets and try to invade Italy. Don't mind me.

Anon: There's really no purpose in planning, is there?

Turkey -> Italy: Don't mind these fleets here. They're not going to try to invade. That would be impossible!

paris: time for lunch, not war.

Germany -> Italy: Thanks for crippling me.

Italy Must Win to Italy Must Win: Am I "Italy Must Win"? Must Italy Win? I'm so confused....

France -> board: let's all try to beat up Italy.

By Popular Demand

Credit goes to Ryk Downes, I believe, for inventing this. The goal is to pick something that fits the category and will be the "most popular" answer. You score points based on the number of entries that match yours. For example, if the category is "Cats" and the responses were 7 for Persian, 3 for Calico and 1 for Siamese, everyone who said Persian would get 7 points, Calico 3 and the lone Siamese would score 1 point. The cumulative total over 10 rounds will determine the overall winner. Anyone may enter at any point, starting with an equivalent point total of the lowest cumulative score from the previous round. If a person misses a round, they'll receive the minimum score from the round added to their cumulative total. ***In each round you may specify one of your answers as your Joker answer. Your*** score for this answer will be doubled. In other words, if you apply your Joker to category 3 on a given turn, and 4 other people give the same answer as you, you get 10 points instead of 5. Players who fail to submit a Joker for any specific turn will have their Joker automatically applied to the first category. And, if you want to submit some commentary with your answers, feel free to. The game will consist of 10 rounds. A prize will be awarded to the winner. ***Research is permitted!***

Round 7 Categories

1. A despot.
2. Something which frequently stains carpets.
3. Something you add to plain oatmeal.
4. A Coen Brothers film.
5. Something obsolete.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Despot</u>	<u>Stains</u>	<u>Oatmeal</u>	<u>Coen Bros.</u>	<u>Obsolete</u>	<u>Turn</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hank Alme	Mubarak	Juice	Brown Sugar	Fargo	VHS Tape	34	430
Rick Desper	Mubarak	Dog Urine	Brown Sugar	True Grit	VHS Tape	34	398
Don Williams	Khadafi	Dog Urine	Cinnamon	Fargo	Typewriter	29	395
Jim Burgess	Hitler	Cat Urine	Brown Sugar	Fargo	Rotary Phones	31	366
Brad Wilson	Stalin	Red Wine	Sugar	Blood Simple	Rotary Phones	28	360
Heather Taylor	Hitler	Juice	Brown Sugar	Fargo	8 Track Tapes	39	359
Kevin Wilson	Hitler	Red Wine	Milk	O Brother, Where Art Thou?	VHS Tape	30	354
Michael Moulton	Fidel Castro	Coffee	Fruit	The Big Lebowski	Typewriter	12	351
Dane Maslen	Stalin	Coffee	Fruit	No Country For Old Men	Typewriter	17	348
Marc Ellinger	Hitler	Red Wine	Brown Sugar	Fargo	Buggy Whip	41	346
Allison Kent	Noriega	Red Wine	Maple Syrup	Fargo	8 Track Tapes	37	327
David Latimer	Kim Jong Il	Red Wine	Sugar	True Grit	Floppy Disks	37	324
W. Andrew York	Hussein	Red Wine	Brown Sugar	True Grit	Buggy Whip	44	319
Paraic Reddington	Robert Mugabe	Food	Milk	True Grit	Betamax	23	313
Andy Lischett	Pol Pot	Red Wine	Sugar	True Grit	Buggy Whip	40	301
Philip Murphy	Khadafi	Red Wine	Sugar	True Grit	Betamax	36	298
Robin ap Cynan	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	12	281
Brendan Whyte	Pol Pot	Red Wine	Milk	Fargo	Phonograph Records	42	281
Martin Burgdorf	Khadafi	Blood	Cinnamon	True Grit	Books	20	275
Dave McCrumb	Hussein	Red Wine	Brown Sugar	O Brother, Where Art Thou?	Typewriter	31	272
Carol Kay	Khadafi	Red Wine	Brown Sugar	No Country For Old Men	8 Track Tapes	32	259
Jack McHugh	Mubarak	Dog Urine	Sugar	The Matrix	Phonograph Records	23	257
Kevin Tighe	Noriega	Juice	Brown Sugar	Fargo	8 Track Tapes	37	254
Per Westling	Mubarak	Oil	Milk	Fargo	Phonograph Records	27	242
Melinda Holley	Pol Pot	Dog Urine	Maple Syrup	No Country For Old Men	Rotary Phones	18	237
Pat Vogelsang	Kim Jong Il	Dog Urine	Brown Sugar	The Big Lebowski	VHS Tape	25	231
Jeremie Lefrancois	Stalin	Blood	Milk	Intolerable Cruelty	Snail Mail Diplomacy	15	218
MOST POPULAR	Mu/Hi/Kh	Red Wine	Brown Sugar	Fargo	8T/Type/VHS		

Congrats to Andy York for getting the high score of 44. The highest possible score was 49.

Selected Comments By Category:

Despot – Brendan Whyte “Home Despot... oh you Americans don't pronounce the s do you?” Kevin Wilson “I guess if I were a tea partier, I'd say President Obama but I'm not so I won't.” Dane Maslen “Number 1 presents a common problem for many categories: will people go for a current example or a famous former example? I've gambled on the latter.”

Carpet Stains – Kevin Wilson “Cat puke. We have one that seems to never be able to throw up on a wood or tile floor, but must find carpet.” Dane Maslen “I was going to go for 'red wine' for 2, but then decided that people probably spill coffee more frequently than red wine.” Marc Ellinger “So many options...if anyone has a puppy then could be a worse answer.” Pat Vogelsang “It's mostly beer in my apartment, but I don't think that's what everyone else is thinkin here.”

Oatmeal – Dane Maslen “For number 3, just about anything to make it taste better. Shit would probably do. It surely couldn't be any worse than adding milk to turn oatmeal into porridge or fruit and nuts to turn it into muesli.”

Coen Brothers – Kevin Tighe “I was standing in a long bank line listening to a couple talk about Fargo and one asked, “And who has a wood chipper in their backyard?” Three people in line raised their hands. I so enjoy Minnesota!” Marc Ellinger “True Grit is perhaps too recent?” Rick Desper “Damn, there are too many. I'll go with True Grit since it's out right now.” Pat Vogelsang “The Big Lebowski is my favorite film of all time. Hope people are thinkin along the same lines.”

Obsolete – Brendan Whyte “E-zines? American hegemony? the thing that sliced bread replaced?” Kevin Wilson “My computer. I really need to upgrade.” Dane Maslen “Of the various things that have become obsolete in my

lifetime, I think typewriters must be the most commonplace. Or have I overlooked something even more obvious?" Kevin Tighe "It's between an 8-track and high button shoes." Andy York "Doug Kent?"

Round 8 Categories – Deadline is March 29th at 7:00am my time

1. A type of wine other than Merlot.
 2. A nation where Spanish is the primary language.
 3. A human organ.
 4. Something people collect.
 5. Any cable television network.
-

Eternal Sunshine Movie Quote Contest

There are ten rounds of movie quotes, and each round consists of ten quotes. Anyone may enter at any point. If you want to submit some commentary with your answers, feel free to. The game will consist of 10 rounds. A prize will be awarded to the winner – **and it might be a very good prize! Research is not permitted! That means NO RESEARCH OF ANY KIND, not just no searches for the quotes themselves. The only legal "research" is watching movies to try and locate quotes.** Try to avoid the temptation to Google the quotes. I'm doing many of the quotes from memory anyway, so you won't necessarily be able to find them by direct search...**so don't try!** Each round will also contain one bonus question, asking what the ten movies being quoted have in common. **The player with the most correct answers each round gets 3 points, 2nd place gets 2 points, and 3rd place gets 1 point. In the event of ties, multiple players get the points (if three players tie for first, they EACH get 3 points). High score at the end of ten rounds wins the game, and a prize (unless you cheated). If there's enough participation I may give a prize for 2nd and maybe even 3rd place overall too. Quotes may contain more than one person speaking (in other words, part of a scene with more than one character talking). In those instances, quotes will separate the characters speaking. I also plan on making the 10th round worth double points.**

Round Five

- #1.** If you're a prince, there's hope for every ape in Africa. **The Lion in Winter, Correct - JB.** The Lion King – PR. Coming to America – JM, KT. Laurence of Arabia – RD.
- #2.** Bank robbing is a federal offense. You got me on kidnapping, armed robbery. **Dog Day Afternoon, Correct – PR, JB.** 48 Hours – JM. True Grit – RD.
- #3.** Remember, men: there is nothing wrong with surrendering to overwhelming powers, as long as it is done in a military manner. **The Mouse That Roared, Correct – JM, JB.** Saving Private Ryan – PR. Bridge on the River Kwai – RD, KT.
- #4.** Is he always this funny, or only on days when he's wanted for murder? **Who Framed Roger Rabbit?, Correct - JB.** Goodfellas – RD.
- #5.** You burp and guys think it's adorable. You puke and they line up to hold your hair back. **The Truth About Cats and Dogs, Correct – JM, HT.** The Breakfast Club – RD. When Harry Met Sally – KT.
- #6.** The time has come for someone to put his foot down. And that foot is me. **Animal House, Correct – JM, RD, JB**
- #7.** I've known sheep that could outwit you. **A Fish Called Wanda, Correct – DM, PR, RD, JB.**
- #8.** Oh, he's an imbecile, probably from birth. Man's a complete idiot. Pray to God he's an idiot. **The Elephant Man, Correct – JM, JB.** Being There – RD, KT.

#9. I'm ashamed, Big Daddy. That's why I'm a drunk. When I'm drunk, I can stand myself. **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Correct – DM, PR, JM, JB, KT.** Rebel Without a Cause – RD.

#10. All combat takes place at night, in the rain, and at the junction of four map segments. **Wag the Dog.** A Bridge Too Far – RD. Stripes – KT.

Bonus: *What do all these films have in common?* **The titles all contain "Animal" or an animal, Correct - JB.** You've used all these films before – PR. All Best Picture nominee – JM. MGM Films – RD. All were nominated for Best Actor – KT.

Points This Round – Jim Burgess [JB] – 9; Jack McHugh [JM] – 6; Paraic Reddington [PR] – 3; Rick Desper [RD] – 2; David McCrumb [DM] – 2; Heather Taylor [HT] – 1; Kevin Tighe [KT] - 1.

Total Game Points: Jim Burgess – 13; Kevin Tighe – 6; Paraic Reddington – 5; Jack McHugh – 5 Rick Desper – 4.

Round Six

#1. My father used to say there are four things that tell the world who a man is: his house, his car, his wife and his shoes.

#2. Do you have any control over how creepy you allow yourself to get?

#3. Three dimes, a hundred dollar bill and eighty-seven ones.

#4. I don't want to sell anything bought or processed, or buy anything sold or processed, or process anything sold, bought, or processed, or repair anything sold, bought, or processed.

#5. I want us to get married. I want us to have children together. I want us to put our teeth in the same cup.

#6. I've had three lovers in the past four years, and they all ran a distant second to a good book and a warm bath.

#7. I think we have the kind of friendship where if I were the devil, you'd be the only one I would tell.

#8. You don't give a 500 dollar tip to the housekeeper! That's inappropriate! That's inexcusable!

#9. Let me quote myself. One day can change your life. One day can ruin your life. All life is is three or four big days that change everything.

#10. I'm thinking about my identity, and not having one anymore. I mean, who am I, if I'm not the man who's failing Emma?

Bonus: *What do all these films have in common?*

Deadline for your answers to Round 6: March 29th 7:00am my time

**General Deadline for the Next Issue of Eternal
Sunshine:
March 29th, 2011 at 7:00am my time.
See You Then!**

Octopus's Garden

Issue Seventy

20th February 2011



Sub-editorial

HELLO, good evening and welcome to Octopus's Garden, the subzeen with its very own Railway Rivals game. It's a subzeen to Jim Burgess' [The Abyssinian Prince](#). Produced by Peter Sullivan, peter@burdonvale.co.uk. It's also available on the web at <http://www.burdonvale.co.uk/octopus/>.

More Convention News

In an exciting development, I've decided this time to talk about a convention *before* it actually happens. I know, radical, huh?

This year is the 29th Manorcon, at the University of Leicester venue where they resettled a few years back after leaving long-time venue the University of Birmingham. Dates are 15th to 18th July 2011, and the event will feature all the usual tournaments (Diplomacy, 18XX, Dominion, Puerto Rico, St Petersburg, Acquire, Race for the Galaxy and Midnight Party, as well as the Croquet tournament). Further details are available on the website at <http://www.diplom.org/manorcon/>.

I note that the bar is hoping to have real glass glasses this year; apparently, last year's plastic glasses were a condition imposed by the licensing magistrates, "in case the gamers got too rowdy." Of course, I've learned to take stories about the Manorcon bar with a pinch of salt. When I was on t'committee, there was the year that we were denied the traditional bar extension to midnight. The story going around was that it had been denied because we were sharing the venue with a netball convention, and that the prim and proper young ladies had to be protected from hordes of ravening drunk gamers. The reality was actually much more prosaic.

Apparently, we had for years been granted the bar extension on the basis that the University were providing us with a "conference dinner." This was technically true - in that the cafeteria was open for food from 5 until 6 (although most attendees on a Saturday night preferred Imrans). But it wasn't really a "conference dinner" in the sense that the licensing magistrates had understood it. That is, as you would have at an academic conference. Once they cottoned on, no more bar extension.

Of course, having applied for and been refused an extension, we were then subject to a police inspection, just to make sure that the University wasn't going to just ignore the refusal, and go on serving anyway. (The reality is there was no way either we or they were going to risk their license.) This turned completely surreal when a local gamer, who was a policeman in real life, turned up in uniform to do the inspection, having just been at the convention that afternoon. He manfully resisted the temptation to join in a quick session of whatever the cult game was that year, explaining "I'm on duty."

Round 2 — "Hannibal Hamlin"

Railway Rivals Map FR

SOUTHERN RESORTS NO LONGER SO UNIVERSALLY POPULAR — Northern and Western Railroads Bloom

NERTZ (William Whyte, USA.) [purple]

2a) S25-R25 ;

2b) (R25) - Lyon [+6] - P26 - O26 - N26 - M26 ;

2c) (M26) - L26 - K26 - I27 - G26.

=20+6+5[R]=31

LOSER (Geoff Challenger, UK.) [blue]

2a) (Paris) - G58 - G57 ;

2b) (G57) - Rouen [+6] - H55 - LeHavre [+6] ; G58 - H58 ;

2c) (H58) - I59 - Amiens - M60 - Lille [-9 Fw].

=23+12+8[R]+4[Fw]-9[Fw]=38

FRAKIT (W. Andrew York, USA.) [black]

2a) (Z19) - Orleans [+6] - Z16 ;

2b) (Z16) - Z11

2c) (Z11) - Z9 - Rennes [+6] ; (Z9) - Nantes [+6].

=23+18=41

FWOGGIE (Brendan Whyte, Aus.) [red, becoming green]

2a) (Paris) - H57 ;

2b) (H57) - Amiens [+6] - M60 ;

2c) (M60) - Dunkerque [+6] & buys ferry [-6] ; (M60) - Lille [+6] ; (H57) - H54 [-4 L].

=23+18-6[ferry]+5[R]-4[L]+9[L]=45

RENAISSANCE (Robin ap Cynan, UK.) [yellow]

2a) (W26) - U27 - T26 ;

2b) (T26) - S27 - Lyon - P26 - O26 [-5 N] ;

2c) (Paris) - G58 [-5 Fw] - G57 [-8 L] - Dieppe & buys ferry [-6].

=23-5[N]-5[Fw]-8[L]-6[Ferry]=-1

GENEVA:

Lots of juicy cross-payments there; let me know if you think I've got anything wrong. In particular, note that FWOGGIE and RENAISSANCE cross over at H58 simultaneously, so neither pays the other. Remember that parallels built in the *same* round are only 1 point per half hex, plus one for the junction as usual. Also, neither of these apply inside a city hex. Which I believe David Watts has always acknowledged isn't necessarily logical, but which encourages people to (realistically) connect at cities, rather than generate "Bristol Parkway"s all over the map.

With Brad no longer with us, Brendan asks "Please change someone to green!", volunteering "(me if necessary)". With electronic maps rather than paper, this is fairly easy to do, so see above.

Rolls for Round Three: 4 - 4 - 5.

The deadline for Round Three orders is SATURDAY, 12th MARCH, 2011 to Peter Sullivan, peter@burdonvale.co.uk

No **PRESS**

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE GAMES SECTION

I am continuing to note cut or failed support orders with a small “s” instead of a capital “S”. This will make it easier on the E-Mailed version of the szine to see what happened, since the italics don’t show there. The italics DO show on the web page just fine.

Standby lists:

Mike Barno, Dick Martin, Brad Wilson, Jack McHugh, Glenn Petroski, Steve Emmert, Mark Kinney, Vince Lutterbie, Eric Brosius, Paul Rauterberg, Bob Osuch, Doug Kent, Sean O’Donnell, Jeff O’Donnell, Heath Gardner, Paul Kenny, and Jeff O’Donnell stand by for regular Diplomacy. Let me know if you want on or off these lists, especially OFF given the new policies.

GAME OPENING INFORMATION

I’m going to start the game opening list over. Under the new regime, who wants to play? First off, another regular Diplomacy game is open. Doug Kent, Fred Wiedemeyer, Brad Wilson, and Shaun Thompson were interested, but they have to let me know they’re still interested (with reserved slots if they do).

THE PHIL REYNOLDS MEMORIAL: 2006B, Regular Diplomacy

THE DUE DATE FOR SUMMER 1905 IS MARCH 19TH, 2011

THE DUE DATE FOR FALL 1905 IS APRIL 9TH, 2011

Spring 1905

AUSTRIA (Burgess): f tri-ADR, a *BUD-vie*, a tyo-PIE, a *VIE-tyo*, a rom-TUS,
f nap-TYH, a smy-CON, a alb-TRI, f ION s f nap-tyh.

ENGLAND (James): f ENG S f iri-mid, f NAO S f iri-mid, a BEL h,
f iri-MID, f NWY S GERMAN a fin-stp.

FRANCE (Williams): f mid-NAF, a bre-GAS, f spa(nc)-POR, a pic-BUR,
a *mun-tyo* (d r:boh,otb).

GERMANY (Ellinger): a kie-MUN, a RUH S a kie-mun, a BER S a kie-mun,
f hol-HEL, a *FIN-stp*.

ITALY (Crow): f wes-TUN, a sil-GAL, a bur-MAR.

RUSSIA (Barno): a war-SIL, a *MOS-stp*, f ANK h, a LVN S a mos-stp,
f con-AEG, a arm-SEV, f stp(sc)-GOB.

Addresses of the Participants

AUSTRIA: David Burgess, 101 Laurel Lane, Queensbury, NY 12804

(518) 761-6687, burgesscd of roadrunner.com or dburgess of glensfallshosp.org

ENGLAND: Drew James, 3644 Whispering Woods Terrace, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

(315) 652-1956, kjames01 of twcnny.rr.com

FRANCE: Don Williams, 27505 Artine Drive, Saugus, CA 91350, (661) 297-3947,

wllmsfmly of earthlink.net or dwilliams of fontana.org (\$5)

GERMANY: Marc Ellinger, 751 Turnberry Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109

mellinger of blitzbardgett.com

ITALY: John Crow, 946 S. Medalist Circle Plano, TX 75023-2851,

(214) 532-1418, johnny.crow of hotmail.com

RUSSIA: Mike Barno, 717 Dawson Hill Road B, Spencer, NY 14883, (607) 481-4526

mpbarno of gmail.com

TURKEY: Fred Wiedemeyer, Box 92010-Meadowbrook RPO, Edmonton, ALBERTA

CANADA T6T 1N1, (780) 465-6432, wiedem of telus.net or wiedem of shaw.ca

Game Notes:

1) We have lots of press, keep it up! I have Red Kings 12 in hand as well, which I will print with the one summer retreat next issue. Get writing, Johnny for Lucky 13 and beyond!!

Press:

(FRANCE to AUSTRIA): Were coming to get you, Day-vid ... I see you counting to Ten Little Indians, but then I see you counting back down ... ten little nine little eight little Indians, seven little six little five ...

(ENGLAND to ITALY) – Told you so (X5)...

(FRANCE to ITALY): It was good while it lasted, my friend, but the Austrian treachery has undone your integrity and defenses, and threatens to hinder mine.

(FRANCE to RUSSIA): You may want to reconsider your friends ... you probably don't want to be on the wrong side of this decision.

(BOOB to BIG EAST FANS): I know this is my game with a fair bit of Big East basketball fans. Anyone notice the 52 points from Providence's Marshon Brooks against Notre Dame last week? I thought not, Providence has SUCH a bad team it is a real shame that Marshon couldn't lead a decent team into the postseason. This 52 point outburst came one point short of actually upsetting Notre Dame, with Brooks' shot at the buzzer falling short. At least you guys rooting for Syracuse are watching a team that has hopes.

(FRANCE to FRANCE): I expected better of you. I'm very disappointed in your play.

(ENGLAND to FRANCE/GERMANY/ITALY) – Is that a steamroller I hear off in the east?

(FRANCE to FRANCE): Come on, give me a break. Who do you think I am, Fassio? Cooley? As has been pointed out elsewhere, I can't even see a solo win when it's handed to me.

(RED KINGS 11 (Dark Press - not for attribution) a chinaman's chance is bad odds):

The diner was one of those old train cars that had been set up on the side of the street, its shiny silver sides reflecting the bright Hobby sunshine of a new day. Like every new day it was starting with promise, but in the Hobby promises aren't always kept. The diner boasted a bottomless cup of joe for a nickel on a sign next to the door; over the door was the moniker *The Diplomatic Paunch*.

Inside Glenn Miller was on the jukebox and Louie and Hewey were on stools at the counter. They had steaming cups of the famous joe in front of them, and Hewey was weighing into a thick stack of flapjacks. Louie was waxing eloquent.

"Nah, dey put peener' butter in his mouth, Hewey," said Louie, motioning with his fork for emphasis, "dat horse don' really talk."

Hewey stared big eyed in disbelief, and maybe a little disappointment. He put his head down and went back to eating his breakfast, but was now troubled and had difficulty spearing his sausage on his fork. He tried again, but it rolled in the syrup and the tines didn't go in.

"Heres, lemme helps you out." Louie reached over, "youse gotta sneak up on it like. Uses yer fork like a kind word to hold it there." He placed the tines gently on the sausage. "Den ya stabs it with the knife when it's not lookin'. Like in da game." He cut the sausage cleanly in two for Hewey, "eats up, da ink is drying, and we ain't found dat gumshoe yet."

They had been pounding the pages since Chapter 9, seen the sun go down as they haunted the dimly lit streets of the Hobby and lurked in the alleys between szines. They were on the waterfront when the sun rose over the Sea of Press, with its rays blinding off the white of the page, and so had taken a break at the Paunch. All the while Louie had had the uncomfortable feeling that they weren't alone, but he couldn't peg why. And they still hadn't turned up the detective or the blonde or the elephant.

Down the counter a duck was sitting next to a Dormouse, he leaned over and said sotto voce to the mouse; "yeah, every yokel knows that animals don't talk."

"Ain't dat da truth, Soc," answered the Dormouse. He chuckled and when he did the ring of keys on his belt jangled.

The duck shook his head and went back to his breakfast ignoring the two hoodlums.

Me and the dame were still at the Mojo Dojo, or whatever the chicken scratch above the door named this place. I still was questioning the whole massive conspiracies competing for the end of the world deal, but I didn't figure they had anymore of those little strips of paper with all the answers on 'em. So it was time to move on. The monks had shown more hospitality in supplying some clothing for the blonde. That plussed out for me in that I could get my trench coat back. It felt more natural to be back in my complete togs; felt more... in character. I tapped out a Red King and put it unlit into the corner of my mouth, yeah, felt much better.

"Here, you will also need this," said the monk handing the blonde another piece of fabric.

"What's dat?"

“You will not understand the Chinese, but it translates to “The Cloistered Hand that Lifts the Breathing Rock,” answered the old monk. Them squints, they got a sentence for every word. She held it up to look at it and I busted out laughing.

“That translates to an over the shoulder boulder holder where I come from,” I said to the blonde. She blushed and took the clothes hurriedly to the back room to change. When she came out, it was like the air in the room took a holiday. No one was breathing. They didn’t have normal type women’s clothing, they had given the bombshell a shimmery silk red thing called a slow song, for some reason. After she put it on I could see why. It was skin tight and reflected light like it was the fireworks on the fourth of July, and a stray spark had caught the grass on fire, and they’d had to roust out the volunteer fire department to pump a few thousand gallons of water to quench the heat, and the steam billowed into the sky like... well, you get the idea. That kind of light... damn, I needed a cold beer. The previous tenant of the dress didn’t have as much in the balcony area, if you catch my drift, and the buttons were doing yeomen duty to fight together in a losing battle; it looked like they were taking casualties and losing ground... I could wait. A slow song it was indeed.

“We should blow,” I mouthed to the dame.

“Virgule here will accompany you, as a guide,” said the Sensai in his reed thin voice, he swept his hand to indicate the young monk who had initially approached us and brought us here.

I didn’t know if I was too happy with that, I was already towing the blonde and figured the chink would be so much more baggage... and if things were gonna’ be so hot where we were going that we needed Virgil as a guide, he might be dead weight at that.

Master Stylus nodded sagely at me; “Deep and convoluted construction, that is. Mixed metaphors, and it is Virgil with a different spelling, so not so much an allusion to a journey through hell as you might think. Overall impressive; you have the Way in you.”

I started, surprised, and looked at the old monk. “Hey, there were no quotations marks on that. I didn’t say it out loud.”

I know... and there were no quotation marks on that either. Spooky shit. We had to blow, next he’d be giving me points for lines, items per page and an average for Press of the Month. It brought back bad memories.

“Do youse really tink we have any possibility of findin’ da Maltese Dipcon before anyone else?” asked the blonde.

The old Monk nodded slowly, “I believe there is a chance to do so.”

Great, a Chinamans chance... not the odds I wanted to hear.

Louie patted his mouth with his napkin and tossed it on the counter, he picked up his fedora and put it on his head, “cmon, let’s hit da’ bricks. Well go down dat dere Real Politik and snoop about.” Hewey picked up his ill-fitting porkpie hat, sat it on his head and followed Louie out the door.

You could hear Louie once again waxing eloquent and fulfilling his self-appointed task of educating Hewey as they left, the beginning fragment of their conversation could just be heard before the door to the Paunch swung shut; “Y’know dat dere Real Politik is named after a Spinach Road, means da’ Kings Highway, or some such, in spinach.” And they were off.

Inside the diner, the Dormouse shook his head, “what a couple of maroons,” he muttered. The duck nodded agreement.

SPIRALS OF PARANOIA: 2005A, Regular Diplomacy

THE NEW DUE DATE FOR WINTER 1908 IS MARCH 19TH, 2011

THE NEW DUE DATE FOR SPRING 1909 IS APRIL 9TH, 2011

Fall 1908

AUSTRIA (Rauterberg): *a nap h (d ann), f WES-tyh.*

ENGLAND (Wiedemeyer): *f por h (d ann).*

FRANCE (Tretick): *a bre-POR, f SPA(SC) S a bre-por, a GAS S a spa, f GOL S a mar, f MID C a bre-por, a MAR h, f IRI S f mid.*

GERMANY (Ozog for Tallman): *a MUN h, a PIE h, a BUD h, a VIE S a bud,*

a TYO h, a rom-NAP, f SKA h, a tus-ROM, a BEL h, f NAO S FRENCH f mid.

ITALY (Kent): *a APU S GERMAN a rom-nap, a SER S a gre, a GRE S a ser.*

RUSSIA (Sundstrom): f RUM-sev, a UKR-sev, a bul-CON, a SYR S a sev-arm, a sev-ARM.
TURKEY (Biehl): a ANK h, f SMY h, f BLA h, f TYH h.

Supply Center Chart

AUSTRIA (Rauterberg):	none	(out)
ENGLAND (Wiedemeyer):	none	(out)
FRANCE (Tretick):	PAR,BRE,MAR,spa,lvp,edi,lon, por	(has 7. bld 1)
GERMANY (Ozog/Tallman):	KIE,BER,MUN,hol,den,bel,swe, nwy,vie,rom,bud,nap	(has 10, bld 2)
ITALY (Kent):	VEN,tri,ser,gre	(has 3, bld 1)
RUSSIA (Sundstrom):	WAR,STP,SEV,MOS,rum,bul,con	(has 5, bld 2)
TURKEY (Biehl):	ANK,SMY,tun	(has 4, rem 1)
Neutral:	none	(Total=34)

Addresses of the Participants

AUSTRIA: Paul Rauterberg, 3116 W. American Dr., Greenfield, WI 53221,
(414) 281-2339 (E-Mail) paul.rauterberg of att.net
ENGLAND: Fred Wiedemeyer, Box 92010-Meadowbrook RPO, Edmonton, ALBERTA CANADA T6T 1N1,
(780) 465-6432, wiedz of telus.net or wiedz of shaw.ca
FRANCE: Buddy Tretick, 5023 Sewell's Pointe Way, Fredericksburg, VA 22407,
cell (540) 226-5571 (E-Mail) berniebuddy33 of aol.com
GERMANY: Terry Tallman, PO Box 782, Clinton, WA 98236, (360) 331-5698 (\$2)
terryt of whidbey.net
GERMANY: Temporary Standby is Eric Ozog, PO Box 1138, Granite Falls, WA 98252-1138,
(360) 691-4264, ElfEric of Juno.com
ITALY: Doug Kent, 911 Irene Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149
dougray30 of yahoo.com
RUSSIA: Matt Sundstrom, 1760 Robincrest Lane South, Glenview, IL 60025, (847) 729-1882,
Matt.Sundstrom of bbdoch.com or mattandzoe of earthlink.net
TURKEY: John Biehl, #8 - 11530 84th Avenue, Delta, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V4C 2M1 CANADA,
(604) 816-0460 (cell) (\$7); jrb of dccnet.com

Game Notes:

1) The FGR draw proposal is rejected. Since, as you all know, failure to submit a vote leads to rejecting any draw vote and now two more players are out of the game, I'm going to automatically repropose the FGR draw. Please vote with your winter orders, for it to pass I need assents from the five continuing players.

2) Hi all, as most of you know, Buddy's been having a tough time medically, but he really wants to stay in the game, so I'd like to try to help him. If you need to call Buddy about the game, mid-afternoon seems to be the best time. Buddy and I talked and I did get these orders from him, but haven't talked to him recently.

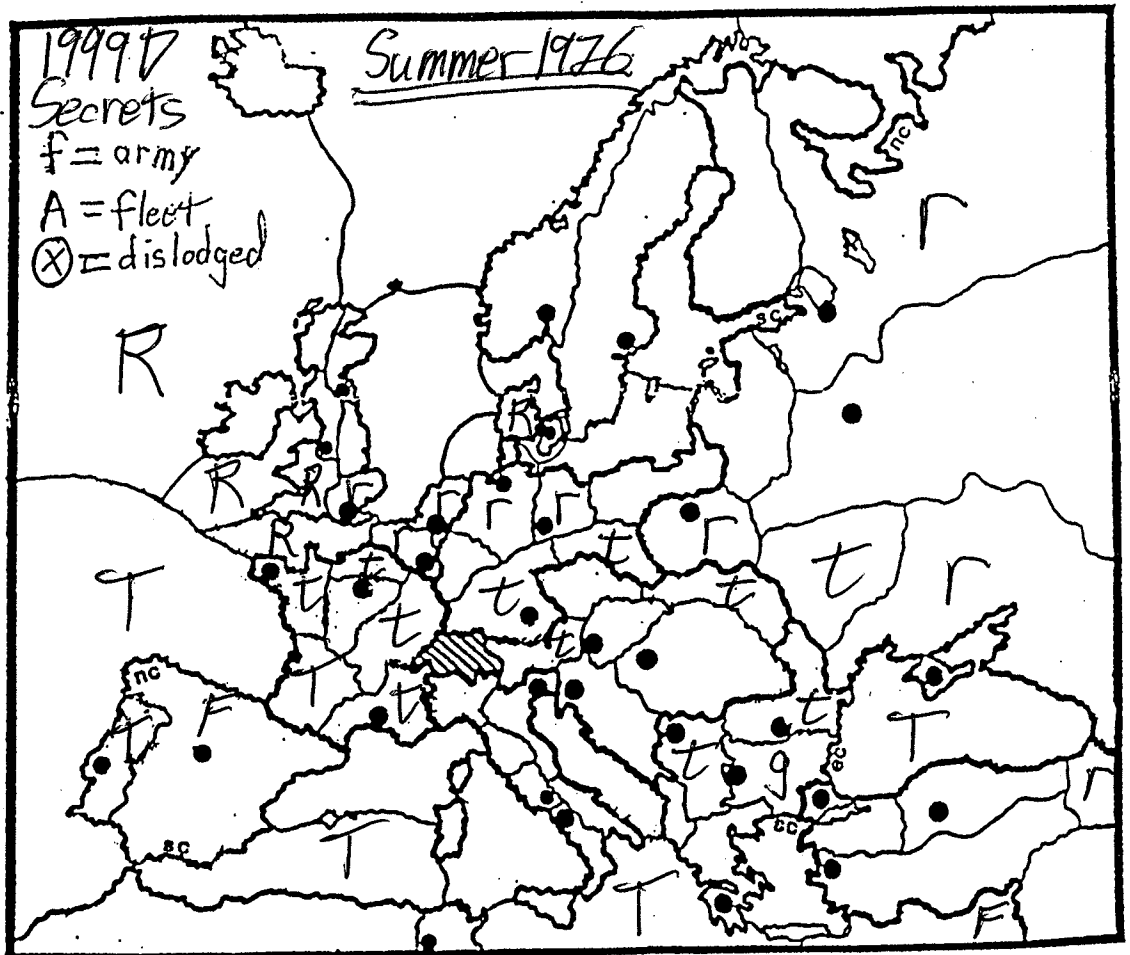
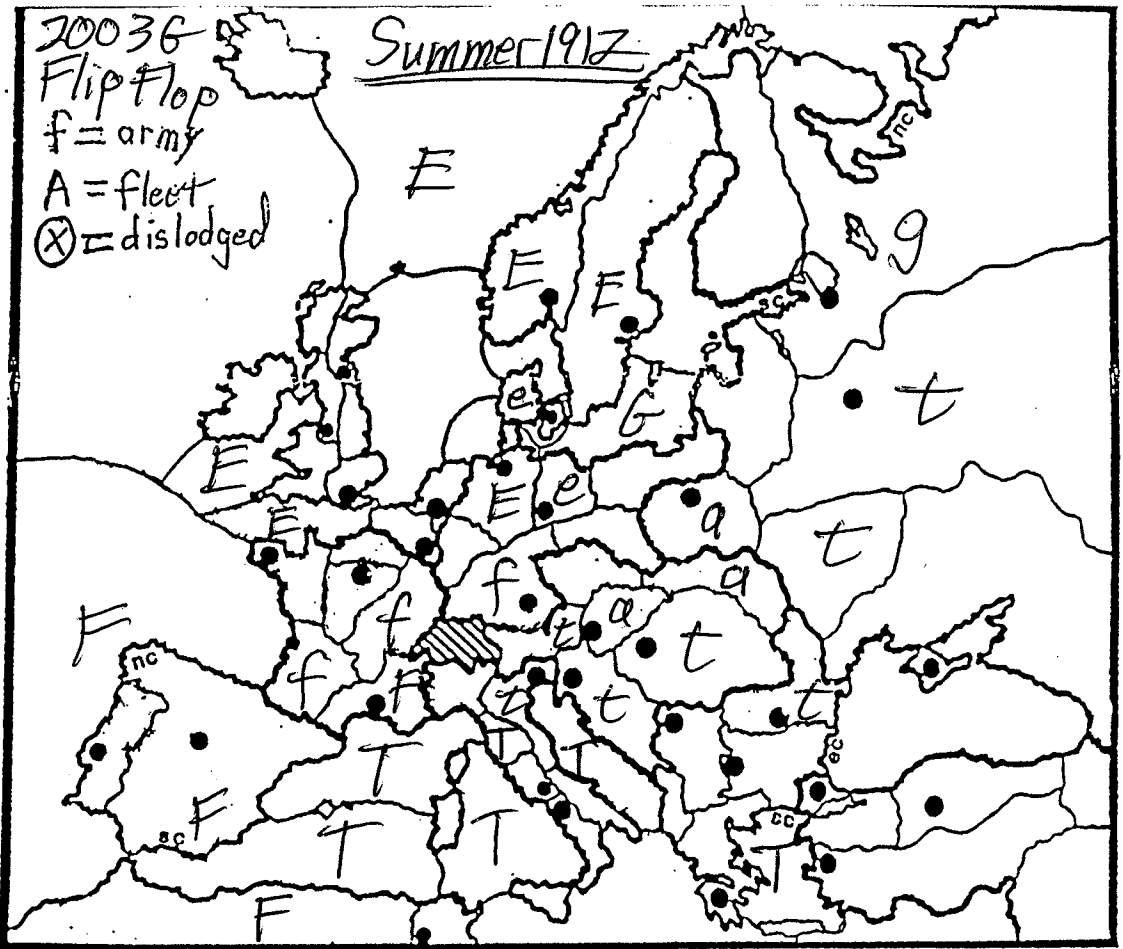
Press:

FLIP FLOP: 2003G, Regular Diplomacy

THE DUE DATE FOR FALL 1912 IS MARCH 19, 2011

Summer 1912

AUSTRIA (Wilson): R A mos-WAR; has a GAL, a WAR, a VIE.
ENGLAND (Kent): has f NWG, f IRI, f Nwy, a DEN, a BER, f ENG, f SWE, f KIE.
FRANCE (McHugh): has f MID, f NAF, f MAR, a MUN, a BUR, f SPA(SC), a GAS.
GERMANY (Sundstrom): has f BAL, a STP.
TURKEY (Levinson): has f AEG, a MOS, a VEN, f TYH, a UKR, f WES, a TYO, f ADR, f GOL,
a TRI, f TUS, a RUM, a BUD.



Addresses of the Participants

AUSTRIA: Brad Wilson, 713 Tasker St. #1, Philadelphia, PA 19148-1237
bwdolphin146 of yahoo.com

ENGLAND: Doug Kent, 911 Irene Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149
dougray30 of yahoo.com

FRANCE: Jack McHugh, 810 School Lane, Folcroft, PA 19032, (856) 456-5984,
jwmchughjr of gmail.com

GERMANY: Matt Sundstrom, 1760 Robincrest Lane South, Glenview, IL 60025, (847) 729-1882,
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ITALY: Don Williams, 27505 Artine Drive, Saugus, CA 91350, (661) 297-3947,
wllmsfmly of earthlink.net or dwilliams of fontana.org

RUSSIA: Sean O'Donnell, 1044 Wellfleet Drive, Grafton, OH 44044, (440) 926-0230,
sean_o_donnell of hotmail.com

TURKEY: Alexandre Levinson, Beeklaan 504, 2562BP Den Haag THE NETHERLANDS, don't need phone,
al of tolkin.nl (\$5)

Game Notes:

1) The Bobo FET draw (that really is just France, England, and Turkey) is rejected.

SECRETS: 1999D, Regular Diplomacy

THE DUE DATE FOR FALL 1926 IS MARCH 19TH, 2011

Summer 1926

FRANCE (Sasseville): has f SPA(NC), f EAS.

GERMANY (Barno): has a BUL.

RUSSIA (Osuch): has a SEV, a STP, f DEN, a WAR, f NAO, a LON, f WAL, f IRI, a ARM,
a KIE, a BEL, f ENG, a HOL, a BER.

TURKEY (Linsey): has a RUM, f BLA, a UKR, a GAL, f ION, a SER, a BUR, a SIL, f MID,
a MUN, f WES, a BRE, a TYO, f GAS, a MAR, f POR, a PIC.

Addresses of the Participants

ENGLAND: Doug Kent, 911 Irene Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149
dougray30 of yahoo.com

FRANCE: Roland Sasseville, Jr., 38 Bucklin Street, Pawtucket, RI 02861, (401) 481-4280 (\$0)
rolands6 of verizon.net

GERMANY: Mike Barno, 717 Dawson Hill Road, Spencer, NY 14883-9712, (607) 481-4526
mpbarno of gmail.com

RUSSIA: Bob Osuch, 19137 Midland Avenue, Mokena, IL 60448, (708) 478-3885
ROsuch4082 of aol.com

TURKEY: Bruce Linsey, PO Box 234, Kinderhook, NY 12106
GonzoHQ of aol.com

Game Notes:

1) There currently are no game ending proposals. Fall orders please for what might be... well, who knows? I really want to get to the end of this game and I'm sure you do as well. Get those orders in.

CAST NO SHADOWS: Breaking Away, Designer's Rules

Rules at: <http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/Tinamou/rules/BreakingAway.htm>

DUE DATE FOR TURN 14 IS MARCH 19TH, 2011

Turn 13

92 (replenish with a 2)

Travis (Breaking Away! – Not really... much)

91 (no replenishment)

Empty

90 (replenish with a 3)

Wally, Bowie, Bonham

89 (replenish with a 6)	Rincewind
88 (replenish with a 7)	Kyoto, Xavier, Zorro
87 (replenish with a 10)	Drugs (1 point), Crockett
86 (replenish with a 12)	Water (3 points), Carrot
85 (replenish with a 14)	Mideast, Agnus (2 points), Gloria, Kyrie, Granny
84 (no replenishment)	Empty
83 (no replenishment)	Empty
82 (replenish with a 3)	Sanctus
81 (no replenishment)	Empty
S-P-R-I-N-T-F-I-N-I-S-H-L-I-N-E	
80 (no replenishment)	Empty
79 (no replenishment)	Empty
78 (replenish with a 3)	Vidic
77 (replenish with a 4)	Krstajic, Dragutinovic
76 (no replenishment)	Empty
75 (no replenishment)	Empty
74 (no replenishment)	Empty
73 (no replenishment)	Empty
72 (replenish with a 3)	Gavrancic
71 (no replenishment)	Empty
70 (no replenishment)	Empty
69 (no replenishment)	Empty
68 (no replenishment)	Empty
67 (replenish with a 3)	Yorick, Death

Addresses of the Participants – Their Team and Their Cards

TEAM 1 (Rick Desper): rick_desper of yahoo.com (15 points)

Team Name: The Turtle Moves; Captained by Cut-My-Own-Throat Dibbler

A: Rincewind the Wizzard	8 8 9 6 (3)
B: Granny Weatherwax	11 15 14 (10)
C: Captain Carrot	9 21 12 (15)
D: Death	3 3 3 (3)

(Rincewind with the Luggage, Granny on Her Broom, Carrot of the City Watch, and Death is just DEATH!)

Total Replenishments: $12 + 58 + 18 + 15 + 33 + 33 + 18 + 28 + 19 + 31 + 16 + 42 + 35 = 358$

TEAM 2 (Tom Howell): off-the-shelf of olympus.net (13 points)

Team Name: Never Ending Worry Source; Manager: Rumour; Team Captain: Ye Olde Manager

A: Water	15 4 5 12 (6)
B: Kyoto	3 3 7 (10)
C: Mideast	6 10 14 (3)
D: Drugs	13 4 10 (8)

Total Replenishments: $12 + 35 + 37 + 44 + 30 + 22 + 16 + 30 + 24 + 23 + 18 + 27 + 43 = 361$

TEAM 3 ((David Partridge): rebhuhn of rocketmail.com (0 points)

Team Name: Famous Four

A: Krstajic	16 8 17 4 (3)
B: Vidic	6 19 3 (5)
C: Gavrancic	3 3 3 (3)
D: Dragutinovic	7 17 4 (3)

Total Replenishments: $12 + 35 + 40 + 28 + 13 + 18 + 16 + 28 + 20 + 29 + 14 + 56 + 14 = 323$

TEAM 4 (Brendan Whyte): obiwonfive of hotmail.com (9 points)

Team Name: The Reverse Alphabeticists

A: Zorro	4 3 3 7 (4)
B: Yorick	3 3 3 (3)
C: Xavier	5 3 7 (10)

D: Wally 3 3 3 (15)
Total Replenishments: $12 + 26 + 24 + 28 + 28 + 38 + 17 + 18 + 16 + 19 + 15 + 31 + 20 = 292$

TEAM 5 (Alexander Woo): aswoo of yahoo.com (24 points)

Team Name: Just Ordinary; Manager: Credo

A: Agnus 7 6 6 14 (5)

B: Sanctus 4 10 3 (4)

C: Kyrie 14 5 14 (4)

D: Gloria 5 3 14 (3)

Total Replenishments: $12 + 44 + 22 + 17 + 22 + 42 + 28 + 25 + 27 + 26 + 17 + 24 + 45 = 351$

TEAM 6 (Andy York): wandrew88 of gmail.com (17 points)

Team Name: Alamo

A: Crockett 4 5 3 10 (8)

B: Travis 4 4 2 (20)

C: Bowie 3 5 3 (14)

D: Bonham 3 5 3 (13)

Total Replenishments: $12 + 12 + 12 + 60 + 20 + 22 + 21 + 19 + 16 + 38 + 17 + 55 + 18 = 322$

Game Notes:

1) The rules are on the *TAP* website in the *Tinamou* section. Ask if you have any questions. Up above in parentheses is the card you played to get to where you are in the field. The replenishment card is the last card in your list. Be careful to note that the card you played (the one in parentheses) is not available for you, for next turn. Just for fun, I'm going to keep track of total replenishment, by turn, which is a rough measure of how the teams are doing. Of course, it is lining up to get across the sprint and final lines in the right places that really counts. We can calculate an "efficiency score" later, which will be the ratio of scoring points per replenishment. If I'm predicting how the future of this will come out, a 10% score will be really tremendous for this measure.

Press:

LAST WORD: Well, now it remains to be seen if I can "stay back". I think I can. I really want to get the next issue out, partly because it will be the baseball preview, and partly because it will be the end (most likely) for *Secrets*, which already is the longest game ever here in *TAP*. In the longer term, Dougie is putting me to shame for actually producing a real dipszine, but maybe the inspiration will come back. Let's see if I can go a few months keeping closer to schedule and then try to start some new games and things. If John Boardman can keep going, so can I. And in that sense, if I can get through this next decade of way too much work (I recently was promoted to Professor at Boston University, so it feels like something got rewarded) then I know I want to do a whole lot of Diplomacy in retirement. I still have an intense interest in Diplomacy as it fits into the search for Artificial Intelligence technology. Making a computer that can play Jeopardy is trivial. Making one that can play Diplomacy and be indistinguishable from a human player would be a real accomplishment. It may not even be possible. Right now, I'm pondering game theory on how to conceptualize things like accountable care organizations in health care, but modeling Diplomacy will be more fun. I have lots of other projects in mind as well, so if I keep this thing going, maybe I'll someday catch Boardman. He's only at #789 and I can publish even more frequent issues then.