

Issue #83

Jan. 23, 1984

This is W/KK, the #1 FUNZINE, put out by us, Kathy Byrne and me, John Caruso, 160-02 43Ave Flushing, NY. 11358 212 353 9695.

This has been a very busy 1½ months. What with 2 ByrneCons, the Holidays, and all our other activities. And I am still behind on my activities. But eventually, everything'll fall into place, it always does.

Lets see, whats in this issue- KK, the best part of this zine, JR, Dipdom pages, Barroom Babble, a guest cartoon submitted from a local newspaper, 4 articles from guest writers, a John Michalski centerfold, the games and other assorted material. Looking back at this issue, since this is the last page I'm typing, it looks like another pretty good issue.

Do you have a minute? Fine! A bunch of us were sitting around the kitchen at ByrneCon, and we were discussing how the Chinese have the year of the Horse, the Dragon, etc, so we decided Dipdom should be so designated. Anyway, we all agreed that, in honor of our most prestigious member, this would be the YEAR OF THE WOODPECKER.

The PDO has a 2nd auction flyer in here, as well as a flyer for the NADB, also included. The PAGB is in full operation, despite the NYGB's refusal to recognize it. The NADF has been quite quiet, and appears defunct. The BNC, MNC, Orphans, ZR, Supernova are all in competent hands, the Dipcon committee is tredging along and has preliminary times and dates arranged for this summer. Gee, the state of the hobby sounds pretty good to me. Now if only we could just stop all the needless bickering back and forth and rehashing the old differences in the zines, the ENTIRE HOBBY would be truly a fun place. Wouldn't it be nice if no one gave the feuders a place to conduct their VENDETTA'S?

MARK BERCH DEPT: Snow changing to sun. Rain changing to fog, Mr Berch into a mortal.

This is M-7, put out by me, John Caruso 160-02 43Ave Flushing, NY 11358 212 353 9695, and it contains the W/KK games. There are no game openings at present and no need for standbys. On to the games.

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 1982CZ Winter 1908 Separation requested and granted. All proposals failed with 2 no votes.

Eng NER- GM removes A Ruh, F Bel; Fra remove A Par; Rus ret A Vie-OTB, build A War; Tur build F Sray, F Con, A Ank;

ENGLAND Michalski: Has A Hol, Lon F Nwy, Wal, Eng, Hel, Nwg

FRANCE Larzelere: Has A Mar, Bur, Pie F Naf, Ves, Mid, Bre

RUSSIA Leritte: Has A War, Mos, Ber, Mun, Swe F Edi, Den

TURKEY Swartz: Has A Ank, Sev, Rum, Tyo, Ven, Vie, Bud F Con, Smy, Bla, Adr, Nap, Ion

Due date for Spring 1909 is Feb. 18, 1984 (or 1AB)

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1982IZ Last Game Winter 1905 Separation requested and granted. All draws failed, with at least 1 vote. Sorry I forgot to list them.

AUSTRIA Grabar: removes F Bas; Has F Alb, Aeg A Ser, Cal, Bud

ENGLAND Curming: build A Lon; Has F Hel, Hol, Nwg, Den, Nth A Lon, Kie, Fin

FRANCE Trutt: build F Bre, A Par; Has F Bre, Spa, Tyr, Tun A Bel, Bur, Mar, P

GERMANY Kador: remove A Mun; Has A Ruh (SC)

ITALY Conlon: remove A Tyo; Has F Wes, Tus

RUSSIA Courtemanche: build A Sev, Smy, Stp, Mos, War, Ukr, Bul F Bel A Ber

Note: Rus didn't order F Aeg ret, so it goes OTB, and he plays one short. France had 2 builds not 1 as I last listed.

Cathy Cunning COA: 5027 16th NE Seat, Wa. 98105

PRESS: Cathy-Dad: Draw proposals? Where were they? You don't mean its true- about going blind? ((Who me?))

Rus-GM: Umm ... What are the draw proposals? They are nowhere in sight. ((Can't win em all))

Rus-Aus: Charge? You must have a death wish. ((He wishes you were...))

Mos-Lon: And protecting yourself quite well. I told you that you were putting a support to Norway, why didn't you listen to me? ((Spurky, ain't she?))

Rus-Fra: I think you need a fleet in Brest. Are the shipyards busy? ((Yep))

Rus-Eng: You did most of the badmouthing about John. So, what are you doing now, mending fences?

Mos-Par: Queenie soiled her hands with my blood. Your warning came too late.

Rus-Ita: Brrrr! You are right. Jack Frost wins every time winter comes around.

A SHORT STORY

As I entered the warroom, I could see the agitation of my generals. They obviously did not like my battle strategy but being good soldiers they carried them out. Gregorio wanted more fleets in the north. He thought the English needed to make a landfall soon. Their supplies must be low after their long time at sea. Irosovitch thought it insanity to attack our Austrian ally. After being told of his present fleet positions, I agreed with him. We would just have to wait and see what the English and French would do.

Spring 1906 is due Feb. 18, 1AB

by Edward Wrobel

Many questions have been asked about the origin and nature of the South Coast Clique (SCC) since its emergence as a leader of the national Diplomacy community. The SCC is unique in that it was not formed by a group with common interests and a geographical bond. Rather we are bound together in the search for cacophony and in devotion to the sound of one babe squealing, seeking the Way in mystery, delight and quasi-leagalist ration-alization. Further, the SCC is not recreational, like the East Coast Clique, which takes pleasure in the pursuit of personal vendetta, or the Midwest Mob, which consumes large quantities of alcoholic beverages and boasts about it, or the West Coast Clique, which delights in the confusion of sexual identities and the identification of new and ever-varying partners. The SCC pursues a goal more lofty than play, less mundane than work: we seek nothing less than the enlightenment of all DipDom!

You ask how we might dare aspire to such an accomplishment, as worthy as it might be. Have not others given years to show, the one, true Path, been spurned, and turned their backs on the unruly Dipsters? Yes, it is true, - others have failed before us and yet we strive on, confident of success, for we have taken the leap of faith and basked in the smile of the Supreme One, Bagwan Joshu Doodles Herschel! I, myself, walked barefoot to the southern coast of our Holy River Potomac and was immersed in its algae-choked blessedness as the Bagwan shat upon his First Servant, Berch, and the Peace of Knowledge enveloped me. It is through his First Servant that the Bagwan makes known the Tenets to His Followers.

The Tenets may not be revealed to those who do not believe them. This restriction has tended to limit Enlightenment to those with the greatest need to believe something. And that is why the SCC was formed. It is our method to spread doubt and confusion throughout DipDom and thus increase the overall need of gamesters to believe something, which, we are certain, will be the Bagwan and the blessed south coast of the Holy Potomac.

To this end we have engaged in a number of activities designed to undermine the confidence of individuals in a sense of stable reality. For example, we have altered the spellings of many comon wercds. We have held in national publications that Originator Calhamer said "no" when he said "yes" and added the caveat that we can understand how less attentive ears might have misinterpreted the Originators remarks. We have inundated the reading public with precise analyses of minutiae and proven time and again that our reasoning has more power than simple truth.

We reveal ourselves now, in this manner, because we can no longer be opposed. The will of DipDom has been broken. Soon hordes will be rushing forth to receive the waters of the Potomac and the feces of the Bagwan. Prepare to believe, confused ones!

((Yeah, and I'm Clark Kent. Thanks for the article and 2 free issues for this. I always knew that's what Mr Berch had in mind for all of us Dipdomites. From Doomies to Funnies, MadLeds, to NW Gang, BECC to WCCers, we will all resist the advances of Mr Berch.))

THE ORIGINAL DRAFT OF "LOVE STORY" ... by George Seagull

(not Gregory Russell)

Where do I begin? What can you say about a 22-year-old girl who sprained her ankle and chipped a bone in her foot and so was restricted to crutches for the weekend? Not much. Now, I have been in pain since my own fall 24 years ago. But that's all extraneous. Everyone has problems at one time or another. I just happen to have more than most people.

First, my Shell credit card expired. I stiffed two or three Shell stations before I picked up a bon vivant and world traveller who was hitchhiking to Sacramento. Luckily, he had more money than I and was volunteering to pay parking and toll even before hearing my sad tale. That was the start. Once back in Sacramento, he insisted upon moving in with us.

We had a little extra room at the time since the girls were with my ex and our boys were with Daf's ex. (We bribe the kids into silence with beer so they won't tell about our problems.) So we had a party. I managed to lead several "schmucks" astray before the weekend was over.

We woke up to a house full of sleeping, nude bodies, even the kids. My peter wakes up bright and early and full of good cheer no matter how little sleep he gets. I started trouncing people to bring them awake and around. (Okay, okay, so it wasn't "trouncing" ... this is a family line.) Daf was stuck in a bed or a chair, so she cheered me along.

The volume of the cheering increased as more sleepers woke until only Don W and Megan were asleep. We stepped on Megan to wake her up. A nude game of Twister was organized, and Don allowed himself to be roused for that. The game drew quite a crowd. Don won with a 17-point spread.

Then we played other games, like "Lie, Cheat, and Steal," but by this time I was starting to deplete the LSD supply and losing touch with reality. For a while, I turned the TV set off and watched the blank screen. Then I became obsessed with the idea that "the guys in white coats" were coming to get me. So I put on my white lab coat and mixed up some dip and acid.* I pushed chips and dip on my guests. Someone asked me what was in the dip. "Just some commercially available chemicals for flavoring," I cackled, rubbing my hands with glee. "Ummm! Chemicals!" was the response, and the dip was gone before I made it back out of the room. Of course, I was moving very slow-ly.

Lots of beer to drink. This kept most people going. Evans took Peter G and Don W with him to a nearby pizza place. "He swallowed a whole tab,**" Peter was later heard to comment. I'm sure the fact that the three of them were in Le Ronde together had little to do with Evans' drug use ... although he was doing awfully well in that game.

Then I got on the phone and started calling people to tell them about the bad trip I was having. I thought I was going crazy, so I called the Mad lads and spent a few moments telling them to grab microdots*** and stab and kill. I held the phone in both hands so it wouldn't turn into a snake, but I couldn't remember which end of me was supposed to talk into the phone. After the Mad call, I had a long conversation with Kathy, interspersed with a few lines of coke. I stayed up all night getting depressed about the future of our civilization. Enough political philosophy, back to the party.

Sunday, we had another full house of somnabulant bodies. A tall, dark, punster, whose name escapes me because I too was in a zombie state, arrived. His first word to me was a pun: "Hi." I replied, "Yes, I guess I am." I had a moment's fantasy about tipping him over a board and getting into him. Instead, we sat and talked.

*ISD **LSD ***ISD

Terry T told us a really juicy piece of gossip about an incident that was totally malicious and inexcusable, but I won't bore you with idle gossip. Just because Larry P took Gary C off to a private spot to get to know him better, and just because I found them in a deserted game room deep in a discussion of "it" (Larry wanted Gary to think about "it" and Gary wanted to know what "it" was that he was supposed to think about), that doesn't mean anything at all.

Besides, it was time to take Gary to the airport. I invited Larry to join us, dropped off Gary with an hour to spare, and then Larry and I got to know each other a bit better on the return trip. I like him. I like him a lot. It was worth waiting for.

Back in Sacramento three hours later, I found the remnants of a really great four day party with trash left behind by upwards of forty people. There was still a round of little hash brownies in a plastic bag, three partial bottles of wine, four cans of Ale, one Budweiser, one Anchor Steam beer, a six pack of Henry's Dark, a partial bottle of gin, and some of that chemical dip. I finished it all off, then sat down to answer a letter we had received from Beth, our boys' stepmother. Since she mentioned in her letter, "We read MAGUS," I was sure everyone in Dipdom would be interested in our private lives.

"Thanks for the letter, Beth," I wrote. "Just let me get the boys down with the TV and their nose candy* so that they can abuse their bodies and rip up their clothes, and I'll be right with you. You know, television might not be as damaging as you think. Studies show that if you only throw the set once or twice, the kids will be better adjusted and better informed. The real problem with TV is that the kids may not choose to become literate. Why don't you throw a few books at them like we do?"

"I am happy for you that were well behaved. I wish I could say the same. Christopher has been in a state of total rebellion ever since he came back from the visit. He absolutely refuses to wear the new high heels we got him. Lee-Paul is still a sweetheart, as always, and he looks just darling with his long hair done up in pink ribbons.

"Funny that you should have trouble getting the boys to pick up their toys. Daf has them do it on a regular basis so I can watch them bend over. I'm sorry about the scratch on your couch. We only told them to write on the walls and set fire to the cat.

"School lets out in early to mid-June. I'm sorry but I do not have an exact date for you. It might be late July. Does anybody really know what time it is? Does anybody really care? As to their summer clothes, tell you what, why don't we provide their back-to-school wardrobe. I'll personally see to it that the boys have all the dresses, girl's underwear, and black patent leather Mary Jane shoes they need. You have frequently told us you don't see how we could possibly spend a whole \$400 on the boys in a month. Have you priced an ounce of pot lately?"

"Have fun at Dip Con. Maybe we'll see you there. If so, I do hope you'll bring the boys with you; we would both like to see them. Working out your summer schedule is all part of being a parent. Our schedule is working out fine - we're farming out all the kids to their various stepparents.

"By the way, have I pointed out yet that the boys live with me, not you? Just thought you'd appreciate the reminder.

"One last point. We may spend more time in bed than you and Greg, but that doesn't mean we are sleeping. I believe sex education should start at home, don't you?"

"Besides, I have a bad back that prevents me from sleeping, and Daf has a sprained ankle and a chipped bone in her foot."

Where did I begin?

*cocaine

6
DIPDOM PAGE

LepreCon: March 16-18 at Joan Extrom's (and Ken Corbin's) Rt 1 Box 26W Philomath, Ore. 97370. FTF gaming and fun in the wilderness. Cathy Cunniff and Terry Tallman threaten to be there, as does Dave Grabar. Woody has chickened out, but I'm still going to try to get there, for you west coast people who want to meet me and be in awe! THRILL SEEKERS NEEDED!

MadCon: Memorial Day Weekend in warm(?) Madison Wisc. May Day with the Mad Lads. I'm not too sure who is holding the con, but you should be able to write to Mark Frueh, Dale Bakken, Marc Peters or anyone else from Madison, Tom Hurst included, to get an idea of specifics. If one of them provides me with more info, I will pass it along.

REMINDER: There are 2 insert sheets in this issue. One is the NADB's, and the other is an article sheet from the PDO for another auction. W supports this auction, 100%, in fact, we are the guiding force behind this 2nd one in a year. I discussed it with Mike, and we agreed- 2 this year, and are you ready for this, there will be an annual one from now on. Auction cutoff log date is March 17. Publishers are please asked to reprint the sheet, space provided. The actual auction will take place after the items are logged, much the same as the last one, allowing approx 2 months to place bids. Also, any service which may need money is asked to contact Mike Mills between now and when the auction is complete, to be considered for receiving funding. Only apply if you need money, as needs have to be met 1st.

DIPLOMACY: Dave Grabar 1583 Truman St Chowchilla, Ca. 93610 is running a game of dip, fee is \$5. I'll be in it, so you can get even with me.

WIZARD WARFARE: Also run by Dave Grabar, fee is \$3. Its a game a guy named Dan Sundre (of Lemuria) invented. I will be in this one too.

GrabarCon: Feb 17-20 at Dave Grabar's, address above. Bring your own sleeping bag, and anything else you can carry because as Dave says, he lots of valuables, and if you are going to take his, he wants you to leave something in return. Expect to play Diplomacy, Junta, Nuclear Holocaust, Role Playing (like Larry Peery making like he's a Real Man), Samuri, Kingmaker, Cosmic Encounters, Civilization, Dune, Cards, and Dave, don't be surprized if someone brings Titan. You all will love the game. I do, its a fun game. Hope someone brings it to LepreCon.

FTF Diplomacy: Thats what I call it. He would be a helluva dip player. I'm of course referring to the Rev Jesse Jackson. How he managed to get the flyer released is amazing, and I don't care if you're a Republican Democrat, liberal, conservative, commie or fascist, he did what few other before him have been able to do. Ronnie should take a few tips from him and get down to some serious FTF meetings with the leaders of all the countries we have problems with and the hell with these special envoys. Its just a cushy, high paying, pay back type job anyway. ~~Or maybe he~~ should hire Jackson as his special envoy, and arms negotiator.

RETURN: Guess who is coming back? Nope, not Nixon, but you're close. Gordon Anderson, the guy who Rod Walker claimed absconded with some FTF tournament money, and he proceeded to DRIVE Anderson from Dipdom. At least thats how the story I heard goes. I guess after hearing the whole story Gordy had to offer, Rod reconsidered and is welcoming Gordon back with open arms. Gee Rod, I had the whole story 5 years ago. Alot of you weren't around then, but up until his sudden disappearance, Gordy was a reliable. I agree with Rod, lets give him a chance.

MORE DIPDOM PAGES

7

NYGB: I have finished my investigation into the authenticity of the NYGB and find that, the NYGB is indeed, an authentic entity within itself, it is not diplomacy oriented, nor does it have to be. However, some of its members have been accused of indifference towards the concerns of dipdom, and these accusations are true. There is also the problem of some of the members themselves might either be corrupt, or controlled by other members of the NYGB. Hopefully, the NYGB will straighten out, and clean house and get back on to the right track, one which it was proceeding along, up until 1982 when someone attempted to TORPEDO the NYGB, some of its members and its related projects. Whether there are legitimate gripes of inpropriety or not, noone has the right to TORPEDO anyone's projects, either in the past, in the present or in the future. There are proper channels, and a proper way to do things.

FOOTBALL POOL: Only the LA Raiders are left, vs the Wash Redskins, no one picked the Redskins, can you imagine that? And guess who has the Raiders? Kathy, who else. So if the Raiders win, mail your \$10 to Kathy. Those in the pool are Myself, James Woodson, Brad Wilson and Phyllis.

EREWON: #100 has come out after 7 years, that even beats Roy Henricks late record. ERE is put out by Rod Walker (who also does DW) 1273 Crest Dr Encinitas, Ca. 92024. Sub fees are \$6 for 10 issues, and #100 costs \$2. A lot of the material in ERE is outdated or written by people who have long since left dipdom or their usefulness is dipdom has waned. But in true fashion, this zine is Rod Walker, the real Rod. If you want to find out about the times that Larry Peery calls the "good old days", this zine will give you Rod's side of these times, from a looking back-type perspective, as you'll see the roots to all evils unsoiled.

FOOTBALL: First the good news, (???) the Raiders won. Get those bucks into Kathy Byrne Now. Now, the bad news, its early Monday AM and this thing is going to be a day or 2 late. Not because most of it isn't done. Normally, I'd just knock it out Mon 4AM. But yesterday, I hurt my back playing football, touch variety, and can't sit in one place for prolonged periods. I also can't stand or lie for prolonged periods, so I alternate back and forth. It still remains to be seen how I'm going to work for 10 hours.

I received the newest Canadian joke zine the other day, courtesy of Dave Carter, its called "Jaysline", about the Toronto Blue Jays. It seems they are so hard up for fans, that they send these flyers out to everyone who lives in Toronto. Ask Dave for a sample of Vol 3 No 1 as it has player reviews of all their "big" players, who just happen to include, a Hispanic, a Jew, 2 Blacks and a Gay. They sure covered all their bases.

While I'm in a good mood, I may as well plug a couple of newer, nice zines. First, CATHY'S RAMBLINGS Put out by my daughter, Cathy Cuning, 5027 16th NE Seat, Wa. 98105. The sub fees are, I believe, \$6 for 10 issues for Americans, \$70 for Canadians, and \$700 for Europeans. CR has a European flavor to it, between Cathy's writing, her subbers stuff, and an extraordinary subzine, called Father Knows Less. Send a SASE with 37¢ postage for a sample and say that "Your Dad sent me"

Another zine to mention this month is BERSAGLIERI. Its put out by Tom Mainardi 1403 Lawrence Rd Havertown, Pa. 19083. After almost folding and being 2 months and 85 days late, it finally came back out, and with good material. Tom is witty, and his latest issue is extremely humorous and satirical. Send a SASE and ask for the Bers with the hairy B (see right) on it. → B

I'm-a long time-a wanta goa New York anda visita my honey Kittena Byrne. But always issa problem, that'sa nasty Bambino Caruso my enemy. Kathyaa say he'sa big anna mean, he'sa swore outa a vendetta, gonna throw me inna East River. So I no come. Then Princess says "Please", that'sa enough for me, I goa New York.

I'm a get offa plane, I'm a looka round for my ride. Nobody inna sight. Then I see him, it'sa Boy George, what'sa he doina here? Wheressa Cultura Club? Then Boy George comea up to me, he'sa say "I'ma Caruso." I'm a wonder, how'sa people able to live like that?

Thisa Caruso, he'sa strangea person. He reminda me so much of my boss inna Tucson Arizona (that'sa gooda mob country). He'sa looka like my boss, he'sa sounda like my boss, he'sa like a identicala twin brother a my boss. No wonder I'm a used to hatea my boss! No wonder I'ma no listen to what Caruso say!

We go celebrateda Byrne home, I meet my honey. We tell Caruso go run out anna play inna street. So he go. I get a lotsa surprises. Kathy she tolda me her daughter Phyllis, she'sa grumpy. She'sa not grumpy. Kathy she'sa tell me the cat issa mean. Me anda da cat, we'sa good friend. Kathy she'sa tolda me her twins area wild, they'rea nice. Kathy she'sa tell me I sleep in Phyllis's room, I wake uppa the next morning, I no gotta dis-ease. Then Kathy she tella me Woody issa normal person, I begin to doubt her word.

Nexta day peopla starta trickle in. Some tricklea more thana others. I'm a meeta Gary again, firsta time since the last time. Woody show up, no partysa perfect. We havea good Thanksgiving Dinner. Gary shows us olda Southern custom, you likea da food, pour some hf it on your leg. I no understan, I'ma no want to. Takesa all kinda people, maybe even thata kind.

Nexta day alla other kinda people show op. I meeta Tom Mainardi, he'sa famous Italian. How comma he'sa look Irish? Maybe he'sa spy. Then I meeta Mike Mills, he no look as Irish as Mainardi. I'm a starta think maybe it'sa masquerade. Then I'ma sure it'sa masquerade, Brux show up, he's a disguised as a normal person. I'm a no fooled. There'sa Barno and Swider, meeting them, it'sa most mediocre experience offa my life. Ed Wrobel, he'sa polite, but uncoordinated--I notice, he can'ta holda with wone hand, and support with the other, at the same time. Lousy, he's a quiet anda looks at Woody likea he's affaid, I find out why later on. Robert Sacks show up, now I know I'm in Fun City. Then Capo de Capo show up--Dicka Martin. I'ma ready for this. I'ma prepared for somebody likea Russ Rusnak on uppers. He come in--it'sa more like Eric Ozog inna Flint Hills. What'sa dis? He no fool me. I heara the stories.

So many people there, I getta confused. Mazzer show up, so he can stabba me--I fool him, I ally with Muffin, we crusha him like an insect. He'sa still mad, he call me up later, say "Byrne toady"--I say to himma, tella me something I dono. He'sa tell me he winna da Nixon Award, dat'sa not news either.

I'ma have to laugh, Caruso anna da Easta Coast Clique isa just like I pictare. They plays Family Business game--I looka da cards, alla pictures isa John Caruso. Sometimesa they play Dip too, but gota problem--who'sa gonna GM? They trya Robert Sacks--he cheat. They trya Woody, he'sa take 72 Armenians to GM a game, I no remember why. They try Brux, he spanka bad kids who cannta write orders correct.

I know I forgetta somebody important, but no, I forget Eric Kane instead. That'sa because Eric a stab me inna R-13, I never forget, I getta even. Lotsa othera people there too, but I no know them well enough to insult them.

Byrnecon enda with a gang ona Sunday. Banga come when Robert Sacks and Woody make a rubble inna Kathy's kitchen. It'sa big rumble. Martin the troublemaker he start it, he pretend to have hisa nose inna zine, I'ma not fooled. Everybody say, Sacks hitta Woody--I'ma say, if so then how comma Sacks'a glasses fall onna floor? I'ma say, Woody attacka Sacks. Woody say, waita till Pudgecon, I'm tougha torpedo, I knocka Michalski's glasses offa too. I'ma say, this is a pretty gooda trick, Michalski np wear glasses.

That'sa high point, thena I'ma go home. I'ma thank my graciousa hosts and also Caruso, anda say, you'se all swell, even iffa you talk funny.

"You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villainy"

MES FOR DW SPACE UNDER THE TABLE

MOS EISLEY is a roving subzine of assorted ramblings brought to you by John Michalski, winner but not yet recipient of the first annual Peary Piss Poor Award, residing at Rt 10 Box 526-Q, Moore OK 73165. Your commentaries are welcomed, even if not always agreed with.

HOBBY NEWS Well, there is some, but not a lot of it that I can comment on; some of it is under the table as it were. Wait until spring, you'll perhaps see the FAX results. See if you can tell. My anonymous thanks to those who invited me to partake; I will try to come up with something, though not exactly what you requested.

Ditto too to Rod Walker, who requested both a watered down MES for DW, and perhaps a contribution to his own EREWIKON 100 which has been announced will come out soon, only a decade or so after #99. I am honored at the DW invite, since I hold it in higher place than a lot of the hobby does, but conversely, I am not able to put out a watered down MES: ain't no such animal. I'm afraid this isn't for the purview of the general young teen gaming audience of non-vets unfamiliar with direct comments, honest opinions ("fuck off", etc.), and Fluff Shaffer jokes. (Speaking of which, he called in one last night: "Know what you call elephant tampons? Sheep!") He had another sickie too, but I hope to remember to send it to Dave Carter.

After those thanks, I need too to mention my thanks for those who put MES on top of the Marco Poll (Larzelere, APALLING GREED). While I don't pay as much attention to them as many, I am quite pleased to see supporters voting, and so relatively high. I am often tempted to chuck this project, in view of the difficulty I have in even preparing a master anymore, but things such as that will probably force me to continue even if at a reduced rate next year. Thanks again.

After thanks, I owe the audience an apology of sorts. I'd prepared a fairly big, 5 or 6 page MES for EUROPA EXPRESS, a regular home for these columns, and as you may have noticed now and then, I sometimes include/exclude one thing or another to set a tone or style for a given zine. Thus a letter from Coughlan would go in a MES to RETALIATION, or a letter from Julie would go into a EUROPA EXPRESS MES. However, Gary declined to publish that one because of his objections to an AIDS joke somewhere in it, or, some other comment that was taken to be anti-gay. (I don't recall exactly what item it was, only Gary's genral reason on returning the master). Now, I appreciate Gary not censoring the item itself, which is the appropriate response: no editor has to publish these columns, but no editor should second-guess what I put under my name. However, a lot of that other material was geared to Gary's large European exposure and the like, and I feel I should apologize if you feel slighted when it appears in LIFE OF MONTY or some other zine. I meant for it to be in EE, and some other column in LOM. Not that LOM is any worse, but rather, the "pitch" to the audiences is different. I should apologize to Don Del Grande too for foisting a quick reject on him; I meant to prepare a MES for him, but never had the chance, so when Gary returned the biggie on short notice, I took the liberty of forwarding it to Don right away. Yes, running a roving column is so easy, and so much fun... Anyhow, while I feel an obligation to Gary for other things of late, I hope you'll understand if EE MES's are more often two pages than 6; as in the Walker case above, I respect your views but cannot alter my own presentations to meet the audiences you need to cater yourselves to.

Speaking of offending audiences, did you hear about the Aggie who went to work for the bank? He absconded with their payables. (Woody, call Kathy and ask her to explain that one to you).

Page 1 of KK, the zippy dedicated to abusing everyone & anyone!!!!!!

This month KK is being dedicated to Marcy the cow!!! Yes, that is right I am dedicating KK to a cow!!! But, a very special cow! A cow that can beat Woody at Black Jack! That is right Jim Makuc owns a cow, and over the New Years Eve Byrne Con, we got to play Black Jack with Woody and Julie being the House. Jim and I called on Marcy and her great ESP powers to tell us when to take a hit and when to hold, needless to say, Marcy made us winners, to everyone's amazement. So, Marcy for helping me, this KK is for us, you, me and Jim!!!!

Jim called me up to tell me that: WOODY TRIED TO POISON MARCY!!!!!! Well, I'm very happy to say that Marcy survived, and that Jim and I will be reporting Woody to the ASPCA! Imagine trying to poison a cow just because she can beat him at Black Jack, but I can believe it as this is the same person who tried to strangle his hamster, just because he could get more dates with girls than Woody could!!!

Yes, I get questions, some of them pretty sad, and some of them pretty dumb, but all the same they do get printed, otherwise how would I get to abuse all of you!!!!

KK: Mark Berch asked me what an intelligent guy like me is doing wasting my time in Kathy's Korner. What should I say? Woody Dear Woody: You? Intelligent? Thanks again for proving that Mark Berch does have a sense of humor in spite of himself!....me

Dear KK: John's turning down dates for me and you're lining them up for me! Can't you 2 get your signals straight? And why Hurst? Do I look that desperate?.....Dixie Belle
Dear Cutie, John can't get anything straight, as evidenced by his collating job last month. I was only trying to be helpful, and Tom looked like the best of the bunch! Would you rather I had fixed you up with Bruce "Let's discuss Houserules all night" Linsey, or Woody "Take a Hamster to bed", or Don "I wish I had a brain" Del Dumb, or Robert "Hit 'em with a beer can" Sacks? As you can see I was giving you the best of the litter! It could have been much worse! But since you aren't too thrilled with Hurst, I'll see what I can do about getting you a date with a real Southerner.....Steve "the biggest Sap of all" Knight!!!!@xxx (the x's are a mistake, not Kisses) KK

Dear KK: What do you think of sick people who call you at 6:00 am on Jan. 1st? (I don't want to mention any names, but her initials are KK).....Dave Grabar

Dear Dumbo: Can't be any sicker than the idiot, who answers the phone every year at 6:00 am. After three years, you should have realized by now, that you should take the phone off the hook!!!! But, Brains never was your forte! Come to think of it - Brains was never even a part of your vocabulary!!!!....XXXXX & OOOO me

Dearest KK: I'm very confused. What is Mr. Sacks' first name anyway? Larry or Rod? And what is his relationship with Steve Arnawodian? signed.....Bewildered in Great Neck

Dear Priority Customer: Nope, not even you can confuse me. I know Mr. Sacks' first name - it's N.Y.G.B.! As for his relationship with Woody, they are both advocates of violence in Diplomacy, even if it means putting on a fist fight in my kitchen to see just who is the biggest bully!.....me

Quote of the month: "I don't live on a farm, but I can have a barn in my backyard - can't I?".....Jim Makuc

Page 2, Caruso, that's 2 it follows one, pay attention 1,2....1,2!!!!

Dear KK: My girl friend is a cow (please don't go for the cheap laughs) and I'm worried. ((KK: I admire you very much, it isn't many men who would admit their girl friend is a cow! Does she buy her dresses from Omar the Tentmaker!!!)) Recently I went to DafCon and she gave me a ceramic duck to give to someone named Socrates. Nobody there was named Socrates but Don Williams said he knew him and would give it to him so Don took the duck. My question is should I be worried and about what?.....Signed: Elsie's Lover

Dear "Forch Trainer", it is just a little hard to type while I am laughing, but I really can't imagine any zine worrying about cows so much - God we are sick!!!! And to think people actually pay for this stuff, nothing like the Love Life of a cow to keep the intelligent KK readers entertained!!! Seriously, you have a real problem, Elsie sending presents to other men!! If I was you, I sure would be worried! If she decides to run away with this duck, you wouldn't get anymore free milk and you'd have to deliver your mail on foot - no more free cow back rides or trips to ma Kettles". Hire a F.I. immediately, if you catch Elsie with Socrates, you can claim all the milk and if you catch her with Don Williams' you can have her declared legally insane, and still keep the milk!XXXXXX

Dear KK: I have recently become the owner of Judy Winsome's pigtail and Francine Byrne's lock of hair in the PDO auction. My question is what should I do with them? I've been thinking of knitting them together into a stylish wig for Mark Berch. Do you think he'd like this or would he think it would make him a "laughing stock"? P.S. I don't know how to knit; do you know Rosy Grier?....Wigs to Go
Dear Mr. Rug Maker, We're really in trouble - not only don't I know Rosey - I don't even know Tulip, worse yet I don't even know how to knit!!!!!! But, I can help you Ken Peel, 8708 1st Ave., #T-1, Silver Spring, MD 20910 is willing to teach you how to knit, it seems he has the county title for "Mr. Knit & Furl", so you should write him. As for Mark, a laughing stock, never happen. Believe me when I tell you, nothing could make him any funnier than he is right now! Go ahead - give him a wig he needs it! As a matter of fact, he needs all the help he can get!!!!.....Kathy

Dear KK: How about "Calamity" Joan and "Deadwood" Ken, fastest guns this side of Philomath!.....Gary Coughlan

Dear Gary: Now all they need is Woody and then they could be the three stooges!!!!!!.....No, I didn't say that.....me

KK: Is it true that 75% of the airports on the east coast are installing improved security systems in order to stop the expected crowds of people rushing out to greet - er, get me when I arrive for MaryCon? signed... I Gave My Brain to Grabar because He needs it more than I do

Dear Del Monte: Close, but no cigar! The extra security is to join in for your going home party! Never say us, East Coasters don't like to party!!!!!!

Dear KK: Four at once? I'll bet you were tired but happy the next morning.....North of the Canadian Border

Dear Lover, Nah, those four were boy scouts compared to you!!!! Now, you would've made me tired!!!!!!.....kisseey, kisseey

Dear KK: Why did Bobby Sacks leave before Woody got to Stab Con? I mean you went to all the expense of getting a bell, a bowtie and even building a ring in the living room. Howie Cosell was so pissed off when he got here. ...Border Rat Again

Dear Ben (Get it - Ben the Rat, yeah, I know you guys are into cows!), Some people are just chickens! And after I spent \$5 to buy Derwood's bow tie.....your lover

Page 4, now all together for Caruso.....1,2,3,4!!!! 1,2,3,4!!!!

Dear KK: Sorry about missing the Byrne Con bash. Were there any food fights this time around? Who did you beat up this time on the Dip board? Did anyone come close to finishing a game of Titan?.... signed....Lonely in Mass.

Dear Forgotten: You mean you weren't at Byrne Con! Only food fight this time was between Linsey and Spooky (you know the big black cat), Spooky doesn't like anyone messing around with her Furina!!!! As for Titan is that some form of stripper or is that Woody's hamster? me

Dear KK: If Gary hates Grant for burning up the South, why doesn't he hate Lincoln? As Commander-in-Chief of the Union forces, he put Grant where the general could do the most damage. OK Gary, send me those \$5's and \$50's.....Cochise

Dear Cochise: Ooooooh, you want to steal Gary's money, well he doesn't care - just don't touch his moonshine and his girl friend the COW!!!!!!.....me

Now for some real bright (?) questions - well actually, not everyone understands how KK works as evidenced by the following:
First up, is a guy, I think, for his information - all the writing on the outside of your W/KK is being done by me!!!! Caruso can't write!

Dear Dynamic Duo: Re: Your question whether I can write or whether I am totally worthless.

Request for further Clarification:

Are there any other options?.....Ken Peel

Dear Wrobel Twin: I ask the questions around here! You either choose A or B, if you elect to respond with other - you elect to get yourself in a heap of trouble! Can you write or are you a bambino?

Are you worthless or are you worth something, anything? In my opinion, if you could not answer an easy question like this - you are about as worthless as Phyllis. Snap to it pal....Kissey kissey, KK

KK: Why does Huey Lewis Look like Dave Ditter? MFFV @ 3:30

Dear Freon: Because he's really Donald Ducks nephew! And all those quacks look a like!!!!.....me

Dear KK: Is it better to chase after a dream or pursue a realistic goal?.....Future Uncertain

Dear Fantasy Island: In your case, I'd run for the hills, as a lynch mob is certain to be right on your heels! Anyone one sticks up for Booper deserves exactly what he gets!!!!.....me

KK: Is what John said in the postcard true - is W/KK folding? What's the story?.....Love Steve

Dear Sap: Anyone who bids on a sub to W/KK has got to be a moron to begin with! Why anyone would want to read about cows is beyond me! But, then of all our confederate subbers, you definitely have to be one of the dumbest! Of course, we are folding - we don't give free issues to anyone!!!!.....me

KK: I recently bought myself a lovely 15-inch gold bead necklace.

What sort of neckline should I look for to show it off?...Mr. Wrobel

Dear Edward: It won't matter what neckline you choose - it is guaranteed to get a lot of attention! May I suggest you get one of your ears pierced, than you can put a gold stud in it & you'll look like a true fairy!.....KK

KK: We have these big Byrne Cons during vacation. I have to stay home and be nice to all my parents' friends and relatives, and pass stuff. I hate it. Everyone drinks too much and says the same dumb things

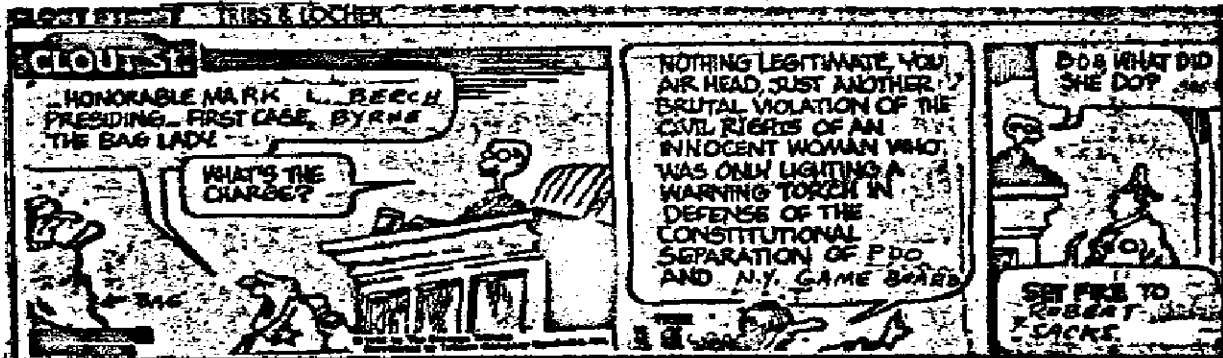
Page 5 of KK, the zippy that dares to let Woody and Phyllis in!!!

"My aren't we getting to be the young lady? How do you like school? Do you have a boyfriend?" Wanna Play family business, little girl?" Now that I'm 12, don't I have a right to go out with my own friends?

.....Francine

Dear Little Girl, You have no rights - and all your friends remind me of a Mr. Wrobel! You stay home and play with Uncle Woody and like it! Otherwise I'll have Phyllis take care of you! I'm the boss aro und here and don't you forget it or you will have to read Linsey's houserules to Mr. Wrobel till he gets them right!!!! So behave or else, as you see I believe in bribery!!!!.....your loving Mom

End of questions and maybe if I bury this cartoon here a certain person will not see it!!!!!!



Yes, I do get letters and now and then I understand them - but this is only very rarely, so let's go see what we have this month! Probably the same trash as last month - but that's Okay - it's either get printed here or be rejected by Dip Digest!!!!

First up, the hobby joke, er I mean my old buddy - Dave Grabar!!!

KK: For once you put KK in order. Page 5 came 1st followed by 6,14,4,1, 2,7,8,9,10,15,16,13,3,11,12. I read it in that order, and this is the 1st time I ever really understood what you were trying to say.

Keep up the good work. I'm glad you finally wised up and joined my side. Welcome Aboard.

((KK: I didn't join your side, I just let the Bambino try and put KK together. What a mistake that was!))

If I had 2 cows in my backyard, I would be elated. If I named them Max and Mindy((KK: HUM, HUH!!!)), I would be deflated. Anyone who would do such a thing should be cremated.

((KK: I could understand you being elated if you had two cows in your backyard - I mean with the girls you date anything would look good!

Even Woody! Mindy, is my friend Marcy - Max is your twin!))

Kathy, I've thought about Joan's nickname for awhile. With a name like Extrom, who needs a nickname?

((KK: Boy, you really do look for trouble!!!))

Ding Dong Bell

Kitty's in the well.

Who threw her in?

Little Tammy Lynn.

I thought I'd end this letter with a little poetry.....Dave

((KK: You could've spared us! Really, it was not necessary, to make a fool of yourself once again))

Next up Mark Freuh:

To go into the lengthy details of "Why Tom Swider is so dumb?" would be too laborours. ((KK: Especially since that question was asked two or three months ago!))

But here is a true story: Upon buying a "Barbie Doll", Swider was

Page 6 of KK, and something for everything, er anybody, er 1,2,3,4,5,6!!

saddened to learn that his doll couldn't slice up the Christmas Turkey. Poor Tom thought he bought the "Butcher of Lyon".
((KK: I warned you guys, a lot of this doesn't make sense - even to me))
I thought your reaction to Derwood Bowen was a little strong. Perhaps he hit a nerve in his analysis to get such a loud response. Derwood is the type of guy who is hard not to like. Give him a chance.
((KK: Yeah, Mr. Booper, normal all around Mr. Nice Guy.....
boy, are you confused.....see next letter, take it away Mr. Nice...))

Dear Kathy: I decided to be real cheap and use this same piece of paper. How awfully decent of you to mention me in KK. I must point out to you that you are totally erroneous in picturing me to your reading public as a hick. I ain't no gawddamn cuntry boah. An don yahil evah fohget hit.

((KK: My apologies, I can see you are very educated!!!!))
Since it seems that one is expected to ask questions of Mistress KK, the bag lady (Is it true you became a bag lady when your first lover refused to have sex with you unless you wore a bag? Over your body?
((KK: Yes, Derwood you certainly are Mr. Nice Guy - I think Mark Frueh has a few screws loose!!!))

I thought I would comply with that. Are you into leather, spiked heels, garter belts and riding corps? If so, I have the neatest outfit to show you. We could get a suite next to Woody's, with a peephole. I am currently trying to convince the Sleaze to raise dyke hamsters to really mess up Woody. Won't it be fun to Watch Woody get it up the ass with a hamster dildo? KK headline: MILITANT DYKE HAMSTER MOLESTS WOODY!!!! Then, we could show Woody some real perversion. Sex between a man and a woman.

((KK: I don't think that Woody is ready for this yet!!!!))
By the way, I promise not to abuse you in Nov. Since that is a long way off, I can always say I forgot. Thirty five, eh. You are older than I (34 in April).((KK: If you live that long!!)) Don't worry about your good looks deteriorating with age. You can hardly lose what you don't have.

((KK: I think the Mid West Mob, should seriously consider putting Mark Frueh in a mental institution for saying Mr. Bowen was nice!))
By the way, how does one join the ECC? And what benefits accrue to one who would do so? After all the above, would you believe I truly regret not being able to be there for New Years? I will try and be by for a future Fljushing event. Happy holiday. And, whatever else it may be, Derwood is not DEADWOOD!!!

((KK: Thank ~~God~~ Berch for that - yes, I will admit one thing you really belong in Flushing - unlike Mark, you caught on to KK immediately! You are more than welcome to join the ECC - we accept all sicko's - even friends of Uncle Dan's. As for benefits - we offer a real hot time when you join the ECC - a night in the closet with Robert Sacks!!!))

Next up my good friend, Marc Peters:

Dear Kathy,
First, if I can't have you to knock up, I don't want anybody. Some Christmas present -- You dump me! I'll only be molified if you can come up with a knockout body to replace yours --say Lynda Carter or Loni Anderson?!? Yah, I know - fat chance. Well, maybe it's for the best - after these last triplets, how much more can one person handle?
((KK: Yes, we always did have a great time in the sack. But, I had no idea you had triplets! And here I thought that the twins would be our triumph. As for a body to replace mine - well, how about Derwood Booper!))

Also, there was a contest or something about nicknaming Steve Knight. I'm sorry I missed the announcement, because you could have been saved a lot of time. You see, Steve already has a nickname, and there will be no changing that moniker. Steve himself dreamed it up. Cupcake!

Page 7 of the zippy that is written by a ghost! Read on!!!

Cupcake it is, and Cupcake it shall stay. In case you're interested in the history of this nickname (and even if you're not) it came about on the way to Detroit for DipCon. We of the Midwest Mob, or at least some of us, had rented a RV for the weekend and we were on our merry way to Detroit for DipCon, all stocked up with brew naturally. There was a hot game of Foker going on in back of the RV, with some poor sucker stuck up front driving. Money was changing hands in huge quantities (some pots were over two or three bucks!!!) and the beer was making everybody happy. Then came a crucial hand for Steve, and he had to make a decision: stay and risk a bundle, or get out and keep his losses to a minimum. Naturally he chose wrong. Throwing his hand down in disgust, he muttered "Knight, what a cupcake!" With unpleasant smiles spreading slowly across our faces, all of us at the table snickered "Cupcake, Cupcake!?" We burst into spontaneous laughter, and Steve had his nickname. Now y'all may call him anything you like, but Cupcake is his true nickname, and as a member of the MW Mob, he has already been christened by his peers. So this Sap business will just have to go, because Steve already has been tattooed with his true nickname. (It's on his back where he can't see it, so please don't tell him. We did it while he was plastered here 1st summer at Mad Con.) ((KK: So, he wimps out in a game of poker - that figures! How about next Con, you guys let me in on the poker game! I'll even let you in on our Black Jack game, and just cause you're so nice, I'll see if I can get Marcy to help you too!!!))

You know Kathy, despite what Russ may say, we'd all love to have you in the Midwest Mob. But Russ was correct about one thing -- you will have to earn your way in! Bakko says he has already written to you about this. This I gotta see! A mere Eastern woman going up against a red-blooded Mad City Mad Man, beer for beer. If you two ever get together you'd best bring a gun - you'll want to put yourself out of your wretched misery the next morning. This hobby looks like a pretty pathetic bunch of beer drinkers. And you can print that, too! "Dippers are a big bunch of beer babies!!!!" There are exceptions of course. I've seen Gary put away one or two (six packs). Should you ever get up enough guts to come out here on our home turf and take us on, you should jbe sure and bring Gary. Gary would also be a welcome addition to the MW Mob -- anybody with partying potential qualifies. Add Barno to that list. Definitely a partyer. Swider has limited potential. That is somebody who has the will to party but just can't keep up the pace. You know, lots of people are not used to fast paced partying; they start dragging after awhile, and before even ten hours they adre ready to pass out. Oh yeah, Ludes has it! I found this out last weekend over New Years. We made a wapitali (or however its spelled) which is a concoction of various kinds of booze, various kinds of mixers, and some fruit. The wap got to Mark, whowas forced to voluntarily resign from the Dip game he was in due to incompetency. He was too snookered to know what was going on! But don't be too hard on the boy - he's a real good son. After resigning the game, he stayed up as late as anybody, and started drinking beer with us the next day.

((KK: You can be sure that if I have to match Bakko beer for beer, that I am bringing a second, and my one and only choice would be Gary!!! Remember, I've been out with Bakko....as for my son, I never had any doubts but I must ask, why did he resign due to incompetency - that is the same way that he plays when he is cold sober!!!))

Now don't get the idea that we're all a bunch of drunks around here. Just some of us. Like the sign in a bar I saw: "We don't have a town drunk -- we all take turns!"

((KK: I think that sentence says it all - so on that note we leave the Midwest Mob, and move right along to the South Coast Cliques word man, and his latest complaint. You can tell he's from the S.C. - he loves to complain, just like Berch.

3932 North Forestdale Avenue
Dale City, VA 22193
December 27, 1983

Ms. Kathy Byrne
Editor, Kathy's Korner
160-02 43rd Avenue
Flushing, NY 11358

Dear Ms. Byrne:

I object most strenuously to your attempts to incite my daughter to leave home. You are well aware that she is a minor and that such inducements, forwarded through the post office, and crossing state lines, constitute mail fraud and conspiracy. I have forwarded copies of the last issue of your publication to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to my attorney and associate, Mr. Mark L. Berch, for appropriate action.

Beyond the legal ramifications, there are moral issues involved here, which I would have expected you, as a parent, to recall. Little Edwina Hortense is a very confused young lady. Advice to leave her comfortable, if somewhat bland and oppressive, suburban surroundings for the streets of New York City will not aid her in "getting her head together" (or whatever abominable slang you people employ nowadays). I doubt that you are willing to assume responsibility for Edwina's considerable living expenses, and thus, would probably refer her to your friends and business associates to be exploited, as you have your very own flesh and blood.

As for the disciplinary methods of my household, they are not public business to be discussed in a Diplomacy periodical, especially a mere subzine which offers no games other than sophomoric name-calling and silly gossip. The sexual overtones of Edwina's charges are nothing more than the imaginary fancies of adolescent longing and rebellion. It so happens that I enjoy parenting immensely and imposing rigorous discipline is one aspect of the parental role. Edwina, in her post-pubescent fantasy world, has attributed sexual motivation where the real mover is a sense of duty, something which she, and you, do not yet understand.

You will be hearing from my attorney.

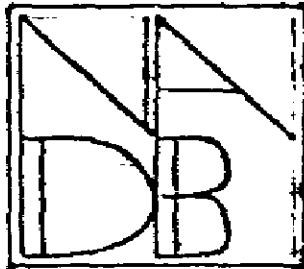
Yours,

In levity,

Edward J. Wrobel, Jr.

Edward J. Wrobel, Jr.

cc: Mark L. Berch, Esq.
Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.



NORTH AMERICAN
DIPLOMACY BOARD
HOBBY QUALIFYING
EXAMINATION 1983-84

INSTRUCTIONS: The NAHB Examination tests your ability to - well, it doesn't show how well you play DIPLOMACY, or how well you know the hobby, or how much trivia you know - what it DOES test are your patience, your sense of humor, and your ability to get through one of these things. (Please note that the NAHB is not related to the NADW, the PDD, the DCC, the In-6, or any other Diplomacy organization, no matter how insane it is.)

Anyway, the NAHB is in four parts: multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and, of course, the **ESSAY QUESTIONS**. (Short essays are preferred - one or two sentences at most, if that's possible.) Take out a separate sheet of paper, write your name (or equivalent), and put down as many answers as you want to - or can. (Nobody said this was going to be easy.) Keep in mind that, except for the essay questions, you get +4 for a correct answer and -1 for an incorrect one. (If you give more than one answer, it's wrong unless all of the answers you give for that question are correct.) Not answering a question gives you zero points. Essay questions are scored on a 0-10 scale based on the arbitrariness of the guy doing the scoring. The raw scores are converted into 200-800 scores based on some mystery system.

DEADLINE FOR ANSWERS IS MARCH 1, 1984. Send those answers to:

Don Dal Grande
142 Eliseo Drive
Greenbrae, CA 94904

(You LOM readers already know this....this is in case other publishers decide to run this thing)

BEGIN-HERE-BEGIN-NOW-TAKE-YOUR-TIME-SUZZY-UP-DO-IT-SLOWLY-DO-IT-QUICKLY-DO-IT-

OK, here goes with the **MULTIPLE CHOICES**

- How many roots are there to the equation $x^2 - 1$ if you include complex numbers?
A) None B) Two C) Four D) Eight E) An infinite number
- WHEN'S game NO TELETYPE, NO BRIDGE deals with what war?
A) World War I B) World War II C) Korea D) Vietnam E) World War III
- What dimensions are the Avalon Hill DIPLOMACY mapboard?
A) 22 x 24 B) 24 x 24 C) 24 x 28 D) 22 x 32 E) 22 x 22
- Who - or what - was on the cover of issue 100 of THE ARCTUS BULLETIN?
A) The cover of a 1040 form B) One of his sublines
C) Prince Charles & Lady Diana D) The title in hieroglyphics
E) A blank side of paper
- Well, we couldn't make it to Moscow for the 1980 Olympics, probably because we had reservations on Trans-Afghan Airlines. Anyway, for the second time since its introduction, the Americans did not win the gold medal in basketball. Which country did?
A) The Soviet Union B) East Germany C) West Germany
D) Yugoslavia E) Italy
- In order for an army to go from one supply center to another after passing through the other 32, what is the minimum number of land provinces it must move through which are not supply centers?
A) None B) One C) Two D) Three E) More than three
- Fifteen full turns have been played in a game of DUNE. How many players are still capable of winning, assuming no one has control of three strongholds (and no alliance does, either)?
A) None B) One C) Two D) Five E) All six players can still win
- How much would it cost to purchase all three of Avalon Hill's most expensive games, not including microcomputer games, games on the discontinued parts list, and non-AH games?
A) \$55 B) \$109 C) \$117 D) \$120 E) \$142
- The phrase "Richard of York gave battle in vain" is best applied in which of these fields?
A) Chemistry B) Physics C) Computer science D) Biology
E) English
- How much postage was on GRANTSTACK #17?
A) None B) 4¢ C) 6¢ D) 8¢ E) 20¢
- Who - or what - is "Leroy Johnson"?
A) A character on "Fame" B) "The Greatest Diplomacy Player In The World" (according to a Jack Masters story)
C) The first subscriber to LIFE OF MONTY
D) The pseudonym of a publisher E) One of Alex Lord's aliases

12. COMPUTER DIPLOMACY is available for two computers - which two?
 - A) Apple and Atari
 - B) VIC-20 and Commodore 64
 - C) IBM PC and TOS-80
 - D) Torch and BBC
 - E) TI and HP
13. Which of these numbers is closest to the total number of 8 1/2" sheets of paper used in one copy each of the first 25 issues of EUROPA EXPRESS?
 - A) 200
 - B) 250
 - C) 300
 - D) 325
 - E) 347
14. When WAR AT SEA was first played as a tournament in an ORIGINAL, the ratio of Allied to Axis wins was:
 - A) 2:1
 - B) 3:2
 - C) 1:1
 - D) 2:3
 - E) 1:2
15. How many places (sea areas and land areas) can a fleet be placed in DIPLOMACY such that (a) the fleet is not in an area where fleets aren't normally allowed (e.g. Munich) and (b) it is not possible to reach every other sea area using any number of legal moves?
 - A) None
 - B) One
 - C) Two
 - D) Three
 - E) More than three
16. Which of these is closest to the number of different combinations (legal, that is) of fleet/army/empty space combinations of the land areas in Russia?
 - A) Zero
 - B) 250
 - C) 500
 - D) 750
 - E) 1000
17. THE VOICE OF DOOM recently celebrated its fourth anniversary with a massive issue. How many pages were in the second anniversary issue of THE VOICE OF DOOM?
 - A) There was no second anniversary issue
 - B) 12
 - C) 24
 - D) 36
 - E) 48
18. Everybody knows that UCLA is a basketball school, while California (Berkeley, that is) is more of - well, not really a - well, we did win a national basketball championship before UCLA ever did. But in the last 20 years, how many times has California beaten UCLA in basketball?
 - A) None
 - B) 2
 - C) 3
 - D) 10
 - E) 20
19. Name the last of these countries to declare war against Germany in World War II (after the Poland invasion):
 - A) Australia
 - B) Canada
 - C) Great Britain
 - D) New Zealand
 - E) South Africa
20. What company originally made FORTRESS EUROPA before selling it to Avalon Hill?
 - A) Phildor
 - B) Jedke
 - C) Battelina
 - D) GDS
 - E) CSG

OK, enough of the multiple choice....now for some SHORT ANSWER questions.

21. You're in a game of KINGMAKER. One of your titled nobles (either titled directly on the card or an untitled noble with a title card) has an office and one bishopric/archbishopric card. What combination of noble/title (if necessary)/office/(arch)bishopric makes this noble eligible to be called on the greatest number of Raid and Revolt cards?
 - A) Duke/Bishopric
 - B) Duke/Archbishopric
 - C) Duke/Bishopric/Office
 - D) Duke/Archbishopric/Office
 - E) Duke/Bishopric/Office/Archbishopric
22. Name the last undisputed heavyweight boxing champion of the world. (What, ANOTHER sports question?....)
 - A) Mike Tyson
 - B) Muhammad Ali
 - C) George Foreman
 - D) Evander Holyfield
 - E) Lennox Lewis
23. Here's a question I blew on last year's WAGE...there are FOUR double-coasted land areas on the 1958 DIPLOMACY board. Name the one not on the current board.
 - A) Munich
 - B) Berlin
 - C) Moscow
 - D) London
 - E) Paris
24. Suppose you have a crossbow with a maximum range of 100 meters. (I haven't the slightest idea how good - or bad - this number is. Just use 100 meters for this question, OK?) What is the distance the crossbow bolt will go if it's launched at a 60° angle to the ground? (Assume for this question that the only thing that affects the distance is the original angle, and that, for at least one angle, the distance is 100 meters, but no angle will achieve a farther distance.)
 - A) 100 meters
 - B) 150 meters
 - C) 200 meters
 - D) 250 meters
 - E) 300 meters
25. Say, did you know that they play DIPLOMACY in Great Britain? If you did, let's see how much you know about it....what is Pete Tamlyn's wife's first name?
 - A) Mary
 - B) Jane
 - C) Susan
 - D) Elizabeth
 - E) Patricia
26. If you mix blue and yellow paint, you get green. What do you get when you mix blue and yellow light?
 - A) Cyan
 - B) Green
 - C) Yellow
 - D) White
 - E) Purple
27. What was the number of the last issue of RETALIATION which had, as the title, the word "RETALIATION"?
 - A) 1
 - B) 2
 - C) 3
 - D) 4
 - E) 5
28. Name the only game in the EUROPA series that can't be played as a game itself, but only as part of EUROPA.
 - A) Diplomacy
 - B) Kingmaker
 - C) War at Sea
 - D) Fortress Europa
 - E) The Voice of Doom
29. Remember the VOICE OF DOOM question? That fourth anniversary issue was big, wasn't it? Said issue was part of one of the most irregular publishing schedules I can think of. Not that issues don't come out on a semi-regular basis; it's just that Bruce likes mid-monthlies every now and then. How many issues of THE VOICE OF DOOM had cover dates with the year 1983?
 - A) 0
 - B) 1
 - C) 2
 - D) 3
 - E) 4

30. (What, MORE sports? No, I don't own the sports version of TRIVIAL PURSUIT - I don't have \$70 to throw away like that.) Here's the situation: team A has the ball, fourth down and goal to go on Team B's 10-yard line. (This is an American football question, if you haven't guessed.) The quarterback takes the snap, fades back to Team B's 20, and throws a pass to another one of Team A's backs on Team B's 15. This back then spots another one of Team A's eligible receivers in the end zone (the one where Team A can score a touchdown) and throws a forward pass from the 15 into the end zone, where the receiver makes the catch inbounds. According to the 1983 National Federation of State High School Associations Football Rules, what's the result of the play?
31. One day, KATHY'S KORNOR grew to the point where it was printed on different-color paper than WHITESTONIA. Which issue number(s) of WHITESTONIA had the first of these two-tone issues?
32. You've heard of Murphy's law - what is Cole's law?
33. In which country did the following appear on a movie marquee: "FILMEN SOM AR SA MOLLIG ATT DEN TOTALFOSKURIB I NORGE"?
34. What is the maximum number of units that can be dislodged in any Spring or Fall turn?
35. The hobby was rocked by the news that Joyce Singer won DIPLOM 83. It probably wouldn't have been as big of a deal had it been a male FIFER or a female PEMBER (after all, Kathy Byrne has had a third and a sixth in the past four years), but Joyce is a female FIFER. This is a far cry from DIPLOM 82's winner, a male PEMBER by the name of . (Fill in the blank.)
36. How many supply centers which start the game neutral are within reach of more than one country by Fall 1901? (An SC is within reach of a country if one of the country's units can occupy it (legally) at the end of the Fall 1901 move, using the standard setup. For example, Greece is within reach of Italy, Austria, and Turkey.)
37. Which king led the English forces at the battle of Agincourt in 1415?
38. Before SPI went under, the CENTRAL FRONT series had three volumes (games, that is). What were the titles? (Hint: they weren't "Volume I, II, III" or anything like that.)
39. FINCHLEY CENTRAL seems to be sweeping across Great Britain and is crossing the Atlantic. What British Underground Line(s) stop at Finchley Central?
40. The "100 Guinea Cup" is better known by what name?
41. Operations Overlord, Roundup, and Sledgehammer were invasion plans for the Allied invasion of Continental Europe in WWII. Which one was scheduled with the earliest invasion date?
42. In which issue of (you guessed it) THE VOICE OF DOOM did the subline ALEX'S COLUMN first appear?
43. What is the maximum number of seasons it can take to move an army from a province touching the eastern board edge to Portugal given that the army moves in every Spring and Fall turn, each move is legal and successful, it doesn't enter the same land area more than once, and it isn't conveyed?
44. SPI's game NAPOLEON'S ART OF WAR featured two battles - which battles?
45. You're running a test to determine play balance in DIPLOMACY. You have 7 players, and these players will play enough games of DIPLOMACY so that every combination of the 7 countries among the 7 players has been played once. Assuming 2 games are played per day, and the first (and second) games were on January 1, 1984, on what date will the final game be played?

Now for a breather with the TRUE/FALSE questions.

46. When Sandy Duncan received a Tony nomination for her performance in "The Boy Friend" in the early 1970s, it was for the same part that Julie Andrews had in the same show in 1955 (before she left to be in "My Fair Lady").
47. Cedric Belfrage is a regular writer for the British 'zine GREATEST HITS.
48. It's possible for a yellow light source moving toward the observer to appear as if it has turned green.
49. The two movies in which Henry Fonda portrayed the President of the U.S. involved the detonation of nuclear weapons in some way.
50. You want to buy DIPLOMACY directly from Avalon Hill? (i.e. you want to buy a single game - one box, one keyboard, one set of plastic pieces, etc.) It will cost you more than TUBBANK - a change from 1977, when DIPLOMACY went for \$11 and TUBBANK for \$12.
51. Glenn Overby announced the fold of JIHAD in its last issue.
52. DIPLOMACY is the only game in Avalon Hill's latest Strategy/Wargames listing that does not use dice.
53. You can't play Flying Buffalo's NUCLEAR ESCALATION unless you already have their NUCLEAR WAR.
54. Al Pearson's JUST ALONG FRIENDS never made it to issue #28 - but Al had enough trouble keeping Nancy from self-destructing....

55. Remember ROCKY II's famous 15th round knockout? Had Rocky not gotten up before the 10 count, he wouldn't have won the title.
56. The new AIR FORCE rules say that a plane ending its move in a bank suffers an immediate altitude drop, which realistically makes no sense whatsoever, since a plane in a bank for most of its turn which straightens (levels) at the end doesn't drop.
57. Florida is the state with the greatest percentage of its border as a coastline.
58. Gary Coughlan once said in EUROPA EXPRESS, "Fake a GRAUSTAEK".
59. (For those of you who didn't realize that chess is a wargame of sorts, like TACTICS, and - yes, even DIPLOMACY) Every person who took the World Chess Championship from the holding champion - with the exceptions of Bobby Fischer and Anatoly Karpov - had to defeat the same person in another match one year later.
60. There were no female rulers (i.e. Queens Regent - or is that Regnet?) of England until after the Wars of the Roses.
61. The national high school record for the longest field goal is actually farther than Tom Dempsey's NFL record.
62. Although winning gold medals at Olympics is second nature for the United States, Canada has not won a Summer Olympics gold since Mexico City.
63. A long time ago, there was a TV series which included something called the "World's Toughest Bouncer" competition, in which "bouncers" left over bars, around tables, and threw buss (well, stunkens) out of bars through doors, in which the winner was the one and only Mr. T.
64. The reason that six of the episodes of MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS are titled just "Monty Python" is because the BBC didn't want to have the same title for the shows without John Cleese as for the 39 episodes with him.
65. And speaking of TV, during Lucille Ball's pregnancy on "I Love Lucy", Lucy is never referred to as "pregnant".
66. If you want to settle a wager, you can't use THE WORLD ALMANAC.
67. Ruth Glaspey is the only person to claim to be both in the Diplomacy hobby and a winner of one of the contests in THE GENERAL.
68. There is more land than water on the four edges of a complete DIPLOMACY map (AN edition).
69. Avalon Hill is STILL trying to work on THE RISING SUN, their answer to the late WAR IN THE PACIFIC.
70. The first title for CRESCENDO OF DOOM was A RISING CRESCENDO.

And now for everyone's favorite - the ESSAY QUESTIONS

71. Describe the effects on your life, wargaming, and things in general, of West Germany's stand that Victory Games' NATO is not a nice game because it depicts WWII and possible nuclear war on the tactical (and possibly strategic) level in Europe, right through that country.
72. (The traditional question, used as a year-by-year comparison base.) Align yourself against a wall such that your left arm and leg are touching the wall and you are standing such that the wall is on your left. Lift your right leg and describe what happens.
73. After Dallas, ORIGINS is scheduled for Baltimore - but it will be the West's turn for DIPLOM. Where do you think DIPLOM should be held in 1985, and why do you feel that this is the best choice?
74. What single issue of a 'zine which came out in 1983 do you feel would deserve a BEST ISSUE OF THE YEAR award, even though I shouldn't be giving Larry Ptery any ideas? (The issue must be of a 'zine which appeared at least 6 times in 1983 - EW doesn't hack it - and fakes don't count, either.)
75. Your house/apartment/mobile home is burning! It's a choice between your DIPLOMACY set and your collection of 'zines. Make the choice!
76. The flames are coming higher! One of the 'zines ends up in torch city! Assuming that your improper storage of issues of LIFE OF MONTY probably caused the fire (and so shouldn't be your answer), which 'zine would you miss the least if it was in the flames?
77. Name five methods of pain-inflicting you wish to give to the author of this exam for questions like #76.
78. If you could exchange two subzines, which ones and why?
79. Project the effects of a CIVILIZATION hobby on DIPLOMACY.
80. I have here THE LAST question - for the records, give the month, date, and year of your birth. (No cheating!)

Now go back and look over the questions you skipped - then panic because you're running out of time.

Page 9 and a response for Mr. Wrobel, now John 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9!!!!

((KK: I have not heard from your lawyer, Mr. Berch. However, I want you to know that I am just shaking in my boots!!!! Really, now, poor Edwina, not bad enough she has you for a father, now she has Berch for a lawyer, boy, you really don't believe in giving this kid a fighting chance do you!!

Not only are you a child molester, you are some form of weirdo!!!! I mean "what kind of neckline should I wear with my new gold necklace?" The faster that kid gets away from you the better! And the dip underground is already planning her secret escape. We are prepared to go so far as make Don Del, buy a ladder and elope with her if need be to get her out of your clutches!!!!

As for the sophomoric name-calling and silly gossip - well, it is much better than, houserules discussions, strategy articles and playing dip. As for your comment that our zine carries no games, may I point out that your zine isn't exactly overwhelmed with them, and your lawyer uses his zine as a vehicle to mislead people. As proof of this I submit the following: In his last DD, he states that he is honored to be the only person to make the top 5 on each list (Player and Writer Foll), may I ask what the hell I am? I suppose I'm a ghost! Well, Mr. Berch can choose to ignore my existence all he wants - that does not mean that I will disappear. I'd suggest that you find yourself a lawyer with half a brain - you might fare better!))

Next up Joan Extrom:

Dear Kathy, What happened to Fhyllis' Fyramid? I'm dying to know why Boy George wears a hat!

((KK: You may never know, as Fhyllis only comes out once a year, and that is only on a good year. Personally, I'd like to know, why he exists!!!!))

I have a complaint to register about the last KK. Whoever collated it had the pages completely mixed up. Unfortunately, I had to read through 4 pages before I realized they were out of order.

((KK: You are definitely one of our more astute readers, most of them didn't even notice! Need you ask who collated it - your bambino))

Is this a continuation of the East Coast plot against me. Eric Kane sent Anduin with a page missing, and it just happened to be the page that contained my letter to him. I told Brux about it and he read me the missing material. Then the next VD arrived minus a vital page of press. Tallman & Cunning wouldn't think of pulling such a stunt on a fellow West Coast hobby member.

((KK: If you were really lucky, all the pages from KK, Anduin & VD would've been missing, then you wouldn't have to read all this trash!))

I can hardly wait for my new nickname. Please choose a good one, preferably not one relating to pigs. My New Year's Resolution (other than to write More letters, which is an annual resolution) is to give up my pig fetish. Gasp! Yes, it won't be easy, but there comes a time when one has to put away childish thing. I am now a new woman. I hope my new nickname suitably reflects that aspect of my life.

((KK: Give up your pig fetish! I wish John would give up his ladybug fetish, he even has these boxer shorts with ladybugs on them...I really shouldn't complain, it does give us something to laugh at!!!!))

Out of room. Enclosed is something that might come in handy in your dealings with hobby members.

((KK: Thank you for my official License to Bitch!!!! I will sure to keep this card handy at all times.))

Page 10 and the end of our letter column, and guess what Deadwood no show

Next up Steve Knight:

Daar Kathy, A new body? I'm crushed - I figured after my legs appeared in CR, I'd have every female in the hobby after me! Williams' legs must have stolen the spotlight from me....Thanks for the thought, though.

((KK: You may find this very hard to believe, but I really can't imagine any woman chasing you! Perhaps Woody, but I don't even think that he is that desperate!))

And now my friend Ben Schilling:

I managed to find my way home without any major difficulty, arriving about 10:30 last night.

((KK: After 4 days of Byrne Con, this poor soul had to drive 14 hours back to Michigan, not an easy task on the little amount of sleep we had all weekend.))

Thank you for putting me up (and putting up with me), the whole long weekend. I had probably the best New Years I've had in several years. I'll be back if at all possible by the end of next (this one) year if I can't make it there any sooner.

((KK: You are welcome here anytime. Also I want to thank you for protecting me, when Robert Sacks attacked me with his finger!!!!))

I was going to write up an entry for the "Why is Sacks a bully" contest, but I can only come up with a discription of his bullious actions, which doesn't answer the question, so I won't.

((KK: That's okay, others took care of it for you! At least you got to see this man in action! Many have missed that.))

8*****g*****

In honor of James Woodson, I would like to announce the Woody/Byrney Bambino -- movie quiz! Believe me when I tell you that this is much easier than James' movie quiz!!! We would like you and James to name the movie each quote is taken from:

- 1) I love Nipples (1 Ft.)
- 2) Here's looking at you kid! (2 pts.)
- 3) Use your tongue (1 pt)
- 4) You hate us, we hate you (1 pt.)
- 5) Brush your hair up, it makes it full and bushy (4 pts.)
- 6) A cookie for some nookie (2 pts.)
- 7) Bonus - if you can name the director of the film which contained the quote from #6, you will receive 6 pts.

Now don't forget to send in those answers.....winner will receive a real KK prize!!!!

8*****

IMPORTANT HOBBY ANNOUNCEMENT: I wish to publicly thank everyone who contributed to the PDO auction. Because of everyone's generosity Mike Mills and the PDO have provided the hobby custodians with much needed funds!

The BNC received \$128.67

The MNC received 96.21

Orphans 48.10

Fontevredria 48.10

So as you can see the PDO is not a farce, as some have claimed, it is an organization which generates income for the services. I want to ask everyone to join in and support the new auction, your generosity is appreciated, and you might be able to buy something useful or just auction off some of your old junk!!!! Besides it is fun!!!!

Also a special thanks to Woody and his Pa. Game Board who in the course of just three weeks raised \$30.16 for the MNC & BNC!
That's the way to go guys!!!!

Page 11, and a new look at Woody, a different look at Woody - Weird!!

What is this Hobby coming To?
by Eric Kane

I am writing this for you Kathy, as a vital hobby service. As I look around me, as I read the various zines, I see a terrible problem developing. Woody is not being abused enough! Something must be done soon to prevent certain disaster.

I saw hints of this problem developing at the Thanksgiving Byrne Con and I immediately took action by severely abusing him while he was attempting to GM our gunboat game. You can't say he didn't deserve to be abused either. My God, he's almost as bad as Sacks! I mean, he was removing my units ILLEGALLY with no explanation given!! Then he had the nerve to ask me to push the units around for him. I suppose that's understandable though, as Woody was having a hard enough time reading the orders as it is. Surely we can't expect him to be able to handle more than one project at a time.

Something must be done Kathy, to preserve this vital hobby tradition! Tell your readers to take pen in hand and start abusing Woody. There are certainly enough topics to choose from. You could write about what a simple-minded antelope Woody is, or how his brain is made of Italian Food. You know ravioli and lasagne. Or you might want to talk about one of Woody's dumb or perverse hobbies like ~~Diplomacy~~, pet hamsters and tropical Fish and a personal favorite of mine, travelling to Europe with Southerners.

Remember, Woody is not only a bad GM but also a horrible player. Let his game record speak for itself though. Woody deserves to be abused because he always picks on the weak and defenseless in the hobby. Look how he treated poor Bruce Linsey when he was playing under him! And I can't believe he assaulted ~~Robert, Robbie, Bob~~, Bobby Sacks in your kitchen!!! This man must be stopped.

((KK: Thank you Eric for making my readers aware of the Woody epidemic! But, aren't you afraid that he will beat you up for this, or worse yet use him cross gaming techniques on you - you certainly are a brave soul taking on Woody.))

HOBBY PLUG TIME:

WOODY CON! THAT'S RIGHT - WOODY CON! To be held the weekend of Feb. 10, 11, and 12!!!! Everyone will have to write Woody for directions 602 Hemlock Cr., Lansdale, Pa. 19446. This will be held at Woody's sisters' house - you don't think he would let anyone mess up his house do you. So, I don't know how to get there yet as I've never been to her house! But it looks to be a good time, and I believe that Eric Kane will be riding up with me just to aggravate Woody!!!!

WANT TO KNOW WHO RATES AROUND HERE!!!! Dick Martin is here all the time. I believe he has been home 2 days out of the last 30, so yesterday Julie called here, and right on cue Dick shows up. Julie decides to ride up after she goes to a basketball game! This means her ETA will be about 4:00am. She wants to know if this is Okay with us and will someone be up to let her in. (Dick is now back upstate at work.) Well, John and I both volunteer to get up, however not one to fight for this privilege, I let John set the alarm and meet Julie at 5 to 4. But, if it was anyone else, I wouldn't exactly expect this kind of treatment - only certain people rate - with John. And if I was Woody I wouldn't even consider trying to get away with this!

Page 12, and some more of my sarcastic comments!!!!!!!

And now TRUE CONFESSIONS!!!!!!!!!! That's right just like the magazine!
Take it away Honey Olsen:

"Now, honey you know that we are always completely honest with each other so I have something to tell you. No, I'm not eloping with Woody --this is something much more important. You see I could never keep a secret from you, and if I don't confess to this now, I won't get credit for it -- everybody will forget what it is I'm confessing to! Anyway I'm surprised that nobody figured out...you see, I did the Ya'All #5 fake! Ha, ha,ha! Such dunderheads to blame it all on Mazzer -- and Everybody thought Mazzer did it! Even Gary though I deliberately included some hints for him -- for example that stuff about continuing his education at the U. of Louisville after going as far as he could at Memphis State--Gary told me once how all Memphis people thought Louisville people were dreadful snobs so I knew this would get his goat! Actually I was all set to confess when it came out but then you said on the phone it had to be Mazzer because it was so snide --I thought maybe it went too far so I bravely decided to let Mazzer take the credit/blame for it. Pretty manly you must admit. But if Gary was not offended, I guess I can take credit for it. How come nobody figured it out? It sounds just like the stuff I write to Murderin Ministers...."

Personally, by the way this is KK, I loved the fake. I figured however, that only Mike would try to get away with some of the stuff printed there. I figure the reason that no one pointed a finger at you is because you are just too nice!!! It's a tough being under rated. However I loved your fake, and I know that Gary did too! Congrats on putting over a good one!

Next True Confession, comes from the N.Y. Met Management:

"We are a bunch of stupid, bumbling idiots! We chose to protect the likes of Dave Kingman and George Foster! Now we are in a real fix - we lost the only starting pitcher we had with any semblance of competency - we lost Tom Seaver to Chicago!!!! But, we figured they didn't need a pitcher - they tricked us! Now we are looking for any bozo to try out as starting pitcher, all you have to do is be able to reach the plate from the pitchers mound!!!!"

KK: I can't believe this - Seaver, the only pitcher we had worth anything - I'm surprised they didn't leave Orosco unprotected! The Mets management can only be compared to a herd of simple minded antelopes!!!!!!

Now a serious Hobby announcement - a charge has been filed against me as the BNC - it seems one Dan Palter claims that I am not doing my job. His charge is way out of line, but Robert Sacks will be investigating it. And you wonder, why I sometimes find it hard to take some of the people in this hobby serious. I don't have enough to do without answering assinine charges!!!!

Also a note to people who have decided it is okay to attach my name to things in their zines. I will remind everyone that my level of hobby participation is high, but I only write and play, where I want too. I'd appreciate it if you would not attach my name to something and then say the BNC said. I can speak for myself, and I don't need anyone writing for me. I might be the BNC, but I'm the same bitch I always was! Unless it is an obvious fake, I'd rather you leave me out of it. As to the pubber who has decided to misrepresent my views to his readership by quoting one line sentences out of context from KK - just remember pal, the same can be done to you!!!! Then he offers me a right of reply which he will definitely chop to bits. As you can tell, I'm fed up with these sleazy tactics!

Lucky 13, but with Caruso collating this could be 1,4, or 6!!!!

Now for the Why is Robert Sacks' such a bully contest!!!!

First up, one of the losers, but he couldn't even win the fist fight in my kitchen, so what did you expect! Take it away Woody: Robert Sacks wasn't always a bully. In fact at one time he was most hospitable. In fact back in '63 he was Mr. Congeniality for N.Y.C.! He changed in 1969 thanks to the North Koreans. It was when they took the USS Fueblo and took Mr. Sacks prisoner. They immediately began an intense program of Torture on Mr. Sacks so he would render all his useless secrets.

Robert was taken to a kitchen where the Koreans began pouring beer over him and then smashed the cans on his head. Robrt being a tough N.Y.er held his ground and didn't break until the 3rd beer can! And to this day Robert remembers this torture and uses it to bully anyone and everyone!

Thank you Woody and now our next contestant - Don Del Dumb Robert Sacks is such abully because...when Lee Kendter Sr. refused to sign (trumpets inserted here) THE COVENANT upon being named the new MNC, Robert decided to get together with his equally almighty cohort John Boardman (who probably doesn't care who the MNC is) and, with some stuff out of back issues of ALARUMS& EXCURSIONS, cast a severe winter upon the land (have a look outside of the window lately? it's even cold in California - no 40 below, to be sure, but 48 above is bad enough for a low, much less the high for the day out here) until the Diplomatic masses bowed down and pledged allegiance to Booby -er, Bobby Sacks. You certainly don't think that it's cold around the nation by some accident, do you? (It nearly snowed in San Francisco - something that hasn't happened in over 15 years!)

Well, thank you Don, and now for the runner up, no wonder he wins the writing poll!!!! Take it away Honey

Robert Sacks is such a bully because -- he habitually picks on poor, helpless, dunderheaded, simple-minded hamster molesters. Sacks doesn't have the guts to pick on people like Muffin Byrne with her crusty exterior (just like a piece of toast) -- instead he is forced to pick on people with a soft and mushy exterior (people who also have a soft and mushy interior I might add - though we weren't talking about the contents of Woody's head now were we?) who can't fight back except by blubbering and snivelling in their zims. What a coward this Sacks is! Let's see this big bully go up against somebody who can give him a real fight! Somebody who's not afraid of him and his entire committee and the N.Y. Gaming Board in its entirety. Next Byrnecon I challenge Sacks to put the gloves on and take a REAL pounding from the toughest, crustiest person in the ECC -- I refer to Phyllis, of course!! Hey Sacks - let's you and her fight it out!!!!!!

KK: Poor Sacks, that is definitely cruel and unusual punishment even for him - however, honey, you pick up another free issue!!!!

But the winner, is the guy who enters the contests and never wants the free issues if he wins - he just likes to have fun! Well, I guess I'll force the 2 freebies on him for this masterpiece!!! Take it away Cochise! Robert Sacks is really an unbelievable bully. He may physically assault Woody but that doesn't make him a bully. Woody can defend himself. The man assaulted our battered, defenseless ears for hours on a topic of no importance. For some reason he thought it was of quintessential import but all he succeeded in doing was driving people into another room. Those that remained quickly turned into zombies except John. How he could stand it is beyond me!!!!

And don't ever say I don't believe in equal time - next issue two free issues to the person who best finishes the phrase.....

Page 14 of KK - now, we know Caruso will blubber trying to count to 14!!!

Why is Rod Walker such a fossil? That's right, we don't play favorites around here - everyone gets the heat!!!!!! So let's give it to Walker next!!!!!!

Now the name Joan Extrom contest!!!! And first up a loser:
Bob Olsen.....

This is a hard one, after all I don't know her. But this is the year of Orwell....he wrote Animal Farm...there were pigs in thatone of the pigs was exiled just as Joan and Deadwood are exiled from the ECC...so how about that pig's name which was Snowball? Too bad I don't know any other good names for pigs.

KK: No good, Joan's dog is named Snowball! Deadwood would get all confused if he had two Snowball's in the house - he might even take the dog to bed and put Joan in the doghouse!!!!

Next up the winner of the last contest - Cochise!

Joan Extrom's Nickname (I think she deserves a nice one)
Lovable, Care Bear, or Care Bare. They all seem to fit her personality and fit in with John's "My Little Figgy".

Now Joan herself:

I wouldn't dream of being so tacky (like Steve Knight) as to enter my own nickname contest, but how about the name JANOS? (always spelled in Capital letters, of course).

Sorry, Joan, but I think that Steve Knight, has hit on a good nick name for you.....so take it away old Sappy Cupcake!!!

Steve Knight: Please, Kathy, you gotta let Joan's nickname be "Mr. Daly, Sir." It's such a perfect nickname for anyone except Ding Dong! (Then again, what the hell do I know - I'm only a Sap!)

Okay, Sap you win two free issues....and Joan Extrom is now to be called "Mr. Daly, Sir!" Well, Joan I'm really sorry about this, but I never thought anyone should ask to get a nickname here!!!

But, Honey Olsen, says that we have to give Mr. Wrobel a nickname - so, I guess this is your life Mr. Wrobel is in order! Now remember, this is the same guy, who has taken me to his lawyer - so please give him hell - and please Mr. Daly, Sir - enter this, I mean after all - you deserve to get someone back after that nickname!!!!

Alnd now for the final portion of the mister music quiz!!!!!!

First an update - Joan Extrom gets 5 pts. for her last entry, as he though she didn't make the deadline - the answers arrived before I mailed out the results! Also James Woodson, picks up 5 pts. for his answers to the 2nd part - he was in transit, and I know he couldn't cheat, besides he isn't bright enough to cheat.

So before this sectinn results - here is the point score---

Williams 21, Mazzer 18, Daly 17, Wrobel 16, Wimp and Honey 12, Bozo 11, Tighe 9, Julie 7, forgot Joan 10, Dave 6 and Pat Conlon 5 and James Woodson 5! So lets get to the last part! On my typewriter - unlike Dickie Poo is sitting on the other side of the table typing at the rate of one word per minute on John Caruso's deluxe portable "give me a push" typer! Dick asked where the automatic return was, and Bambino said push the arm on the left and pray that he returns the carriage to the right. Dick is so depressed, his fingers hurt from puttering away (not to mention pounding), he is now tapping his fingers in anticipation of the four hour journey to the bottom of the page!
Now for our quiz:

Page 15 of the zine that wants to know if Gary knits Berch a wig does that make him a Knitwit!!!!!!!!

First off Dave Grabar has been thrown out of this contest! He submitted two sets of answers and neither of them was dated or signed! But, don't feel sorry for him - he didn't have any right on either set!!!

Question 24: What was the 1st song on which Stevie Nicks sang the lead vocal for Fleetwood Mac, Pushing it into the top 10?

Kevin: After two guesses he was still wrong with "Will you ever win" Everyone said Stairway to Heaven for no points, and the two right answers were submitted by Julie and Wimp with "Whole Lotta Love"

25. What was Led Zeppelins' only Top 10 hit? Ans. Rhiannon
Wrong ans. Wrobel with Monday, Morning..Mazzer & Joan with -Don't Stop Ding Dong with " Let's Sell Flushing to the Russians"
Correct ans. Honey, James Woodson, and Julie

26. What was Steve Wonders first hit? ans. Fingertips
A lot of blanks, Superstition and You are the sunshine of my life.
Pts. only to Olsen and Mazzer!

27. What was Aretha Franklins' 1st #1 hit? Ans. Respect
Only right ans. belong to Ding Dong, Joan, Wimp and Mazzer!!!

28. Linda Ronstadts' first gold single was an old Ray Orbison song that she released in Eng. & Span. What was the song?...And. Blue Bayou
And only Mazzer gets a point!!!

29. Original version of Linda Ronstadts hit "When will I be loved?" by whom.....The Everly Brothers (B)
Everyone but John & Julie get a point

30. Eagles collaborated with Bob Seger and J.D. Souther on?
Ans. "Heartache Tonight"
Only James Woodson gets it right!

31. What was the name of Rod Stewarts first Top 10 hit?
Ans. Maggie May
One pt. to Joan, Honey, Mazzer, John, Ding Dong, and James!

32. Paul Anka's return to the top 10 in 1974. Ans. Having my baby!
Everyone gets a point!!!!

33. What was the Kinks 1st smash hit? Ans. You really got me
Pts. to honey, Mazzer and Julie!!!

Julie says #24 & 25 are backwards, but the right points were credited.

And the big winner of the James Woodson name plate is Mike Mazzer!!!
Mike scored 25 pts., Williams, Ding Dong tied for 2nd with 21.
And 18 pts. for Mr. Wrobel & Honey. Followed by 16 for the Wimp, 14 for Mr. Daly, Sir, and Julie, Bozo, & Kevin with 11, followed closely by James Woodson - with the two big losers being Dave Grabar & Fat Conlon with a small 6!!!!

Congrats to Mike, on his victory! And your badge (actually Jim's badge) will be mailed to you shortly).

And now for the brilliance of the N.Y. announcers - we have been getting a lot of snow! So, the other day, after another 8 inches, we woke up to hear - use public transportation, don't move your cars - roads are too slick. Ten minutes later they announced - leave your cars home, but please get them off the street so that the snow plows can clear the roads! Now where do they expect us to put them - in our pockets?

Page 16 of KK, and it is time for the Superbowl, so why am I doing this?

I guess I'll fill this page with some observations about Byrne Con, the one which was held over New Years! Aside from the usual attendees we had a Canuckie - Steve Hutton (In case you don't know which one he was, he was the one in the corner, one who kept clicking his heels together saying - I wish I was an American****). Ben Schilling also made the trek from Michigan - he said, I guess I'd rather be here than spend New Years with my mother! Such excitement! John Boardman, the bag man also showed up. Dick and I picked him up at the subway station, only to find out that he also spends a lot of time in Flushing, as he comes to Shea Stadium - he is also a Met's fan.

The highlight of the weekend had to be the Black Jack game! Julie and Woody decided to be the house, and they even had Mr. Priority Customers, in plain English, any fool who didn't know what the hell he was doing was considered a valuable customer - Eric Kane & Carl Russell were two of their best customers. Needless to say with the help of Marcy, Jim Makuc and I weren't exactly offered an invitation back!

But, the best part of the weekend was reading through the old Dip Con Committee letters, these have to be worth their weight in gold. The Martins', Caruso and myself are heavily mentioned in the letters of the Dip Con 81 and 82 letters! And I must say in the letter which we were referred to as the ignorant masses, that was a compliment compared to the rest of the statements about us. I mean at one point the Dip Con Committee went so far as to say that the Orphan Service, of which I was involved in the time, was dishonest! These letters proved to be our entertainment Monday after the rest of the ECC had left....boy, what they missed!!

Dick Martin said the high point for the weekend for him was Woody finally paying up the \$10 on the base ball pool, and his killing poor John Boardman in a game of Titan.

Dick, Ben and I tried our luck at the lottery - we didn't do so well, but then our system left a lot to be desired! We tried to draw pictures, sad faces, happy faces, diagonal lines - you name it we tried it. Needless to say we are all still paupers!!! Oh, well, half the fun of being nuts is to be penniless!!

I also remember one gunboat game, the one in which as usual, Lousey went for the win (he was allied with Caruso)...however he made his move too soon, and the other alliance (Me (Eng & tons of fleets) and Dick/Julie Martin(tons of armies - Ger) stuck together with Eric Kane (Fra & a good puppet - helping us!) We got the two way draw and all of Lousey's efforts went down the drain.

Another good point of the weekend was that Pat Pakel didn't show up! Thank God for small miracles!!!!

And Robert Sacks was the first to praise Steve Hutton on his great rewrite of the CDO Constitution! Hm, I better go back and read it - if Sacks' likes it, there must be something wrong with it!!!!

Like most Byrne Con's we really don't keep track of the games - the B.S. and fooling around is much more important. Somehow, I still find myself stuck with Phyllis - I don't think that I'll ever marry her off!

Well, that is it for this issue! Take Care and don't let the bed bugs bite or the hobby old timers scare ya - cause they sure as hell don't scare me!!!!!!

me

POLITICS and such:

I'd like to head this as the Bill Highfield Dept or some such, but then no one would read it....

Anyhow, I see my own choice for Pres this time, Jesse Jackson, is drawing a lot of ridicule for his boast about having more jail time served than any of the other Demo candidates. It's easy to ridicule, but hell, we've tried every other sort: peanut farmers, Texas wheeler dealers, Boston playboys, Michigan no accounts--what's wrong with jailbirds? Can they goose us in the ass any worse than these others? Reagan has more time on horseback, and Carter shucked more goobers than their opponents: did that hurt them? Hell no. Only us, when they became president. We've tried everything else except balancing the budget, which will never happen under this form of government, so why not try a good black wild card candidate? I'm ready to give him a shot. He can't do worse than these others have.

The MARK BERCH Dept.

Ah, Indian summer on the eastern front was always like this, wasn't it? Daytime highs of, uh, 8 degrees... Hmm, and I live in the Sunbelt now. (Marginal desert to me, but "Sunbelt" sounds so much nicer I guess). I think we should all complain to Berch. Let HIM tell you its all because I let my DD sub lapse.

(I think it lapsed anyway. That, or I still have credit. Mark is just getting ready another 3-in-one issue on one stamp...)

Personally, I think it is Larry Peery's fault.

The bitter cold has some odd effects. My car's auto transmission won't leave first until it churns a while--like 20 full minutes. Why's that? Do you need antifreeze in your tranny? The dealership just shrugged their shoulders. You'd think they didn't care about the fate of a 77 Thunderbird in its prime of life, 17,000 miles and still going strong (in other respects). I am becoming a mechanic of sorts though: I replaced the window crank in the driver's door which had broken off after only 7 years of use. All by myself. Usually I leave that sort of thing to Claudine.

I could use my comp time to stay home during weather like this (due to stay all week), but hell, this is the time to be at WORK. I'll stay home when it's NICE. Between the holidays I hope to get in a solid week of wargaming, mostly THIRD REICH. Fluff has given up on it because the rules are too frustrating to his exotic tastes. I find it frustrating too--kind of like going to a convention when Kathy's there but so's Caruso--but that is one of the things that makes it realistic: you are not dealing with X number of exact 3/1 attacks, but rather, you have to try and make a go of it with whatever you have on hand at the time. And instead of shuffling every regiment and battallion wherever you need that 4 or 5, you have here to prepare a season or more ahead, even before the effects of enemy action impact on you. It's kind of like playing dip in VOICE OF DOOM instead of a more easy going zine.

Did you hear the bad news? When Gary brought Woody back from their week in Europe together, Customs really did let Arnawoodian pass. Have we no shame anymore?

I would normally put letters here, but the main letter I find available has a specific request for another zine, so, I'll pass on that feature for now. Instead, let me comment on something that appeared in the latest EVERYTHING, the dip stats zine. The pubber of the xerox internet dip group wrote and asked who complains about their TV dipgames getting Boardman Numbers. Let me answer: I for one. I think it is ridiculous to give postal dip numbers to nonpostal dipgames. Simple as that. What has this personal wire system to do with the postal dip hobby? Nothing. Why should computer dipgames be given Boardman Numbers? They shouldn't. Same reason we don't assign Miller Numbers to games of Frogger. Why mess up the postal dip records with the histories of 23 year long, 5 month electronic "Dip" games? They have no place there.

Your views?

Dear JR: I recently attended a ByrneCon and while at a nearby restaurant and saw you in the presence of an old snarled, wrinkled old, old woman who looked at you like you had committed the most revolting crime against her in the world. My question to you is: What did you do to the old lady? And... Why did James Woodson ask if the old lady was Joan Extrom?
Signed, President of Geek Caruso's Fan Club, Memphis Branch
Dear Elsie's other half: James Woodson was asking for trouble, and the Bible says--"Those who ask, shall receive!"

Dear JR: Recently, Kathy said that Bob Olsen was "too old" and "can't stay up all night". I'll bet you're not worried now eh?

Signed, "Hot Peas in Your Lap will make you hot"

Dear Pee Wee: I was never in fear of Pudge. He's been too far gone for years. Its amazing he stays "up" long enough to enjoy Roberts ruckus.

Dear JR: No date with still single? Sob! Are you saving me from a fate worse than death?

signed, Cutie
Dear Young Love, I am saving you all for myself. You see, I'm greedy, and I like my young maidens, well, maidens, pure and clean. I can't let the hand of Woody touch thee. Nor the foot of Gnome.

Dear JR: What would you say to a sicko that called you at 6:00AM the night after New Years Eve? (Of course you know I'm referring to that crazy guy called John Caruso.

Gruesome
Dear Garbage Man: I'd ally with him in every game I'm in with him. He is the type of guy that would let no expense stand in his way to communicate with you, at normal hours.

Dear JR: Would you attack someone ina game because he did stupid things to you in real life? I have that problem and think it is a perfect way to get revenge.

Evon's Lover at 6AM
Dear Dopey: Hell no! This guy is a dedicated ally. Besides, its not fair to cross game into real life. The best way to get revenge is to leave your phone off the hook from 5:45AM- 10:00AM after New Years Eve. But don't be surprized if he knows your tricks and calls you at 5:00AM.

Dear JR: Have you ever considered charging admission to the Sunday Morning Fights in your kitchen? Amawoodian vs Sacks, was that the lightweight championship of the world or what (if you get my drift)?

signed Phew-gilist
Dear Phewy: That was the open division championship. How much do you think I could charge for admission? Should I consult with Larry "if it ain't about money I don't want to discuss it" Peery?

Dear JR: Where do the good questions go--JR or FKL? And if either of these is the correct answer then I'd like to know why they never make it in. Personally I think the most intelligent questions go to KK and I also think you are in deep, deep trouble. signed Wichita Wonder
Dear Linear seperator Submitter This Month: That'll teach you. There are no good questions in either JR, FKL or KK. This is the kind of nonsense we have to put up from you people.

Dear JR: Whats the going rate these days for Woody dumping peas on Gary?
signed-- \$1 to spare

Dear PeerITax Cheapo: It all depends on some variables, like the amount and temperature of the peas, the condition of the pot, whether Gary is smiling, seated, standing or sleeping, whether they are green peas, and besides, how much does it take to make a Woody do something like that?

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: (Heard at ByrneCon): "If Carter had invaded Grenada we would have lost."

MORE JR

13

Dear JR: What's an appropriate gift for Berchmas? I was thinking of buying my friends each a stalemate line. signed Seasons Greetings
Dear Better Late than With Woody or Sacks: You must be on your way to visit Larry "if it ain't an expensive gift, I don't want it" Peery. It doesn't matter what you buy him, he won't accept it as its not his idea.

Dear JR: OK, if I can't be the "bad apple" then can I be the "good orange"? Can't be the lemon, that's you. signed Bob Olsen

Dear Roundsides: You sure know how to push your luck and wear out your hospitality. Is your life and health insurance paid up? Cause Ima gonna squeeze you lika da orange!

Dear JR,

In self-defense, my turn in Titan lasted only two hours. Fifteen minutes were spent moving and recruiting for seven legions. The eighth was involved in combat with one of Tom Swider's legions. That particular combat took six turns to resolve and Tom used an hour and twenty minutes figuring out where each of his creatures were going to go and which ones of mine they were going to attack. This felt like forever to me so I can imagine what it felt like to the other players.

Eric (Luedicon) was probably able to get Serpents into his game of Titan because it quickly dissolved into a three player game. If you don't have aggressive people like yourself, that leaves plenty of room for recruiting things.

I was not even a teenager when Joan posed for Playboy so it is no wonder that I missed it. My tom-toms were enough to keep me happy then.

You might have it but I don't want it. I prefer Joan.

Cochise

Dear Cochise: We played a game at New Years Con, when you weren't here and all the players were into Serpents, Rangers, Archangels and the like. That should tell you something. Your turns, not your combats, took 2 hours. Look at it this way, Rome was built in a day.

JIMBOOBBRESSLINEARSEPERATOR

Turnout was light this month, despite the extra week to get in those submissions. Like Joen said- "I'll submit to anything with you". Don't forget to check out the Dipdom pages for all the upcoming PTF cons and the PDORA. Room for another quote or so.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Bob Howerton: "James Woodson joined the Navy just so he could get military "hops" to all the "cons" held about the country"

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Francine-"Robert Sacks left because he's chicken of Woody."

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Bruce Linsey-"What is it about me that attracts Sacks."

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Ben Schilling-"I don't know, but keep it to yourself."

THE RETURN OF THE PETS OF THE STARS

I was chatting with John Caruso the other day and he mentioned that he thought I should write my memoirs. I pondered long and hard: are the ignorant masses of Dipdom ready for them? Can so much truth be digested by your average simpleminded antelope? Five seconds later, my decision was made -- who cares? When my reputation and greater glory is at stake, nothing else matters.

You may recognize me. Yes, Amos Alonzo Berch is the name, and flying around Dipdom in search of small prey is my game. Yes, that is me on the back of the United States quarter (it took quite a bit of string pulling to swing that -- fortunately, I am quite good at that sort of thing). Yes, you can read all about this in the next quintuple issue of my flunky's szyme, DIPLOMACY DIGRESS. What, you thought you'd get to read it here for free? No wonder I view the common dipper as such a fool!

See you in court!

With a typewriter like this, it is amazing that John can finish a single issue of WHITESTONIA. I have a lot more respect for him after the ordeal of typing this myself!

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TO ERR IS HUMAN, NOT BERCHIAN

Below is a little something taken out of DD, in its entirety. Note how Mr Berch brags that he is the only one to make the top 5 in both lists in the DPP. As you can see, this is a LIE, as he himself, only 1 line prior to the claim, completed the listing of the top 10 in both the player and writer categories. With reporting like that, one has to start wondering how many other "unsubstanciated allegations", which in this case are quite substanciated, and easily prove him to be a LIAR.

THE ZEPHUS COLUMN #70

John Caruso's 4th Annual Player/writer poll garnered a very impressive 65 vote. The top 10 players, in descending order, were Kathy Byrne, Dan Stafford, Eric Ozog, Mark Berch, Randolph Smyth, Paul Rauterberg, Blair Cusack, Mike Razzor, Jim Keinel and Lee Kendler, Sr. [this was remarkably similar to a similar Poll run in D6, which gave a top 10 of Berch/Byrne (tie), Kendler, Ditter, Smyth, Cusack, Birsan, Stafford, Marneister and Beyerlein --- 7 names in common to both lists.] John also gave the top 10 writers as Bob Olsen, Gary Coughlan, Rod Walker, Kathy Byrne, Mark Berch, John Michal ski, Dick Martin, Scott Hanson, Ron Brown (Canada), and Terry Tallman. I was rather pleased to be the only one to make the top 5 of both lists. In fact, you have to go down to #14 to find another person on both lists (Dick Martin). The lack of overlap says something about the hobby, but what? (oops, Tallman should be tied also with Ed Whobel for 10th there).

12345678987654321JOHNCARUSOLINEARSEPERATORS12345678998765432111111111

MARK BERCH DEPT: "I'd much rather be a laughingstock than a purveyor of misinformation or exaggeration." ((Or maybe "unsubstanciated allegations" or untruths, as well?))

BARROOM BABLE the letter column that appeals to both the John Michalski and the Mark Berch crowd.

Dear John, ((from Steve Courtemanche))

No, I've never been to Woody's house. I've never seen a hamster before either. It must be my deprived upbringing.

Have you seen how well the dollar has been doing lately? I hope that it doesn't wreck the European money market.

((Why? What have the Europeans ever given us besides wars, colization, inflation, communism, fascism, Frauke, and beer?))

John, ((from Jim Makuc))

Was Luedi at your place? TMOBR was mailed from Flusjing. Did he get to ByrneCon about 2 weeks late. (hahaha)

What does LAB mean after the deadline date?

((No, Luedi mailed all his zines here for us to mail out for him. Don't ask, but I think he owns stock in the USPS. LAB is the first year of the Berch baby, in honor of God's son, Joshua Hershel.))

Dear former DtT subber, ((from Gregg Fritz))

I am writing this letter in hopes of tying off the loose ends which remain from the folding of DtT last spring. I realize that it has been awhile, but I feel that I must make one more attempt to get the situation squared away.

I still owe some people money. After folding, I sent out a letter to each and every subber asking them to let me know how much I owe them so I could pay them off (As you remember, all my records were lost). I heard from a few, but the majority did not bother to get in touch with me. Well, this is my final attempt to clear the books and my conscience. Please write so I can take care of this once and for all.

Some of you who did write, I still haven't sent a check to yet. I'm very sorry for not doing it. There is no excuse, but I will promise that a check will be in your mailbox by the end of January. The amount indicated at the bottom of this letter is the amount I owe you. Feel free to negotiate if the amount is not correct.

I hope this letter will do some good. If I do not hear from you by the end of January, then I will close the books and that will be it.

((Gregg's address for those who need it is
2920 Briarwood Rd #C-1
Bonita, Cal. 92002))

Sincerely,

Dear John, ((from Joan Extrom))

Remember me? Your one and only true love? (other than Kathy) Sorry for not writing for so long. I'm still recovering from the Christmas Blans. ((Poor Little Piggy, I'll make you better!))

OOOOHHH!!!! I'm so excited that you'll be here for LepreCon, even if Woody is coming along. Daf and Steve are still considering. It should be quite a weekend. My devious little mind is already plotting entertainment for you. I might get a hamster, then that would keep Woody busy and leave you all for me!

Speaking of you all, Gary loves his new nickname "Hot Pants" (in reference to the peas Woody dumped in his lap at Thanksgiving ByrneCon), so lets spread the word. I will be notifying Woody of his official new nickname, "loverboy". ((Gag me with a shovel, Loverboy? Why, because he rapes hamsters? "Hot Pants"? Sounds catchy- OK, you got it, from now on its Cary "Hot Pants" Coughlan.))

((Joan Continues))

What are the dates for Origins? I promise Ken and I won't be in Flushing then. How long do you want us to stay, and would it be OK if we come during the week or would you and Kathy have to work? We'll also be spending a weekend with Brux. I'm going to a travel agent tomorrow to get the bad news on how much the trip will cost.

Thanks for all the ThanksgivingCon pictures. I love the ones of Gary waving the Confederate flag and the one of Pudge choking Gary. I also wrote to Pudge and he sent me a copy of the picture he took of Dick Martin and Gary in the same room. Gotta go.

Love, your little piggy who will soon have a new nickname.

((I didn't get a chance to read KK yet so I don't know what happened to you yet. Joan, please, read my lips- I may come to LepreCon. It depends on the air fare. I may have to fly in and out of Sunny Seattle and stay a week. Would that be any trouble for you all? Cathy? Can you and Terry take me to Joans with you after picking me up? Woody is definitely not going, so if I go west, I go alone. I'm wondering how many "Thrill Seeking" westerners will pop up. Can you imagine if Peery shows up. He'd have to be nice to me for a change. About your trip here- you can come anytime as I'll scrub the Origins trip- for you, I'd drop any and everything else. You asked if we could run a ByrneCon in yours and the Deadwoods honor. Sure, but you have to be here and it has to be a weekend. How long can you stay? Ken as long as Kathy says, you can stay with me for ever! Seriously tho, (I am serious), if I know ahead of time, I may be able to swing a few days off, but I'd need about a month notice. June-July are busy months, and it ain't easy getting someone to fill in for me. Glad you liked the pictures, you'll get a chance to take your own when you are here. Here that thrill seekers.....))

John: ((from Don Del Grande))

Having trouble with MDG over DipCon money? May I suggest that you first make sure that they didn't send it to AH, insofar as that's who makes the game nowadays? I'll also suggest that you hurry with this thing - who knows what's going to happen if DipCon 85 goes out west while ORIGINS heads to Baltimore? (Don't expect the ORIGINS committees to even remember what DipCon is if that happens.) Of course, in your list of magazines, you meant to include FIRE & MOVEMENT, which is more of a hobby-wide magazine than THE GENERAL is. And I'm sure that TSR would love to hear about how a GAMA convention screwed a smaller organization out of its money (if that's what has happened).

The next LQM may be a few days late - when I set the schedule for January 3, I forgot that I wouldn't be back in Berkeley until January 17 or so. I might have enough time to have it xeroxed on my way to DafCon, although it is up to 20 pages this month (gee, only 28 more and I'll match W/KK!) and I have to make reductions, paste up the issues, and have them xeroxed in about 2 hours of time. And be sure to save 6 pages in the next W for the NADB. Well, you don't HAVE to, of course. And, naturally, you won't fall for question 72 - like you did in 1981. (Maybe "fall" is a poor choice of word....)

It seems as if Kathy and I teamed up for 15 points in the Best GM balloting of the Marco Poll. Nothing better than a 100% accurate poll.

How did Reagan get back on the Man Of The Year cover? He's already been that once. This time, it's with Andropov - he's Invisible Man Of The Year, if anything. (Quote of the month?)

One final thing....you said that "it's not the same ByrneCon when Grabar and I) don't call and make fools of themselves". I've never called a ByrneCon - for that matter, a ByrneCon has never called me (unless you count Early In The Morning Return From Europe-Con with Gary's call). Of course, if you called DafCon on 12/30, you may have gotten to me.

I'll end with another of my great predictions....DIPCON 85 will be bid for by Larry Peery, and when the con ends up going to Jim Bumpas Larry will run a "Where do you want DipCon" poll in which nobody will say San Diego..... ((answer on next page))

Look out behind your

BARROOM BABEL 3

((Answer to DDC- Still haven't rec'd the money from MDC. If you have the name of someone at FIRE AND MOVEMENT and an address, I will include them on my list, but to be fair to MDC, I'll wait a little bit longer. I don't believe its fair putting the blame for this on GAMMA. All they did was choose the site and hosts. They can't possibly know a host is going to keep money and defraud people. Your NADB is in here, and I found a way to keep it to 4 pages, 2sides, 1 sheet. Take care))

Dear John, ((from Derwood Bowen))

yes, I must admit you were right. I was only slightly abused in KK. I am none the worse for the experience, fortunately. I am not clamoring for more, though. I shall attempt from time to time to add my two cents worth to the W-KK legacy, and this appears to be a good ting. The radidio just said we are going for a record low of -15. I am sitting in my favorite chair with a blanket, lap cat (of North West Slug cover fame), and some Scotch (neat, of course) to keep warm. After all the con reviews, I am really psyched up to head for one. But, unlike most people, I work weekends. My pizza shop's two busiest nights are Friday and Saturday, so I don't get those days off. I am going to try for some cons next year, with one in Flushing being a priority. It seems that you people have fun, and that seems to be the best reason for these things. I can't make the New Year one, unfortunately. I expect to be putting the wraps on my fourth record sales week then. I will call for sure.

Happy holidays. Yours truly,

((So you weren't abused enough in KK eh? Hear that Kathy? You should run a nickname contest for 'Old' Deadbeat here. Sure we have fun at our cons, and you may not have to sit through a review of this one, New Years Con, unless Kathy writes one. We hate to put you to sleep. Was your Pizza shop busy? Why can't you come? Just take an order out to deliver. You have some good points to you tho- you own a chair, let cats sit on your lap and drink scotch. From one scotch drinker to another- SALUTE! I have a solution to your Con prob lem, and our food problem, why don't you run a con in your shop. We can set up all the tables and have a big con, you'd have business there, plus we get food you get to meet everyone and earn money at the same time. For your walk in customers, you could set aside a counter for them to pick up their food and pay, and rope off the table area for just us. Well?))

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Thats it for the letter column this month.

I shouldn't complain tho, I'm in discomfort. Lets see, I have something else to fill this page with. On the left is a picture submitted by one of you all FUNNIES. How true it is. We're rid of Watt, when are we going to be rid of the rest of the jerks Reagan has decided to surround himself with? I'm beginning to think that all of Reagans cabinet and advisors lack common sense. And now the President himself stating that our relations with Moscow have never been better? But what do I know? I'm only one of the "Ignorant Masses", right Mark Berch?



1982 The Oregon Journal

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN DIPDOM 1983

I was trying to think of some things that were highlights of 1983 and came up with this brainstorm. They are pretty much in chronological order, with the first few being those that encompassed the whole year. Enjoy.

25th Anniversary of the Creation of the game of Diplomacy by Allan Calhamer.
 20th Anniversary of the PBM Dip hobby. John Boardman honored with a certificate in June.
 Larry Peery launches more balloons than are released at a New Years Steve and Daf Langley hold their first DafCon.
 Kathy Byrne undergoes the 1st of 2 operations. The 2nd is in April. She pulls thru both at 100% to stab another 100 victims.
 Larry Peery and Mike Maston come out of the closet.
 John Caruso starts up the Ombudsman Service System.
 Mike Mills forms the People Diplomacy Organization.
 Mike Mazzer wins the Nixon Award.
 Eric Kane closes up shop for 3 months to study and take the SAT's.
 Kathy Byrne becomes the ENC.
 The Don Miller Memorial Award is founded and setup by Fred Davis and Larry Peery. Rod Walker wins the 1st DEMA.
 MaryCon I is held.
 Eric Ozog meets Cathy Cuning.
 Tom Mainardi drops the "Hairy B" from the cover of Bersaglieri.
 Mark Luedi screams out "Woody, you scumbag".
 Joyce Singer wins the Dipcon tournament. 1st player of the fairer sex to ever win a major convention.
 Kathy Byrne and Dick Martin win windfall profits from bets on the NY Islanders and Balt Orioles, respectively.
 The birth of Joshua Hershel Berch, dipdom will never be the same.
 Waterpistol fight at the Pudge Pen.
 Dick Martin starts up a new GM/Publisher discussion zine called House Of Lords.
 Madison Lads organize, a disorganization.
 Scott Hanson and Frauke Petersen wed and change their names to hermits.
 Francois Guerrier returns.
 Steve Hutton takes over the reins of the Canadian Diplomacy Organization.
 Terry Tallman starts up the NW Mob, an organization of conglomerates to oppose organizations. The Anti-Organization, Organization.
 Toad-Toady Poll fraud exposed.
 Gary Coughlan and Steve Arnawoodian invade Europe.
 Bob Olsen leaves peaceful Wichita for his 1st visit to another FTF Con and promptly goes into the closet with Robert Sacks.
 Steve and Daf Langley tie the knot.
 Robert Sacks and Woody in a major fist fight at TurkeyCon.
 Gordon Anderson returns.
 Steve Arnawoodian and Tom Mainardi setup the PACB. Promptly, numerous VIP's join and the PACB raises \$60.32 and donates it to the hobby services of the ENC and ENC, evenly.
 The PDO Relief Auction is a success and raises \$340 which is donated to the ENC, ENC, Orphans and Pont game openings project.
 Rod Walker restarts and publishes Erewhon #100 after 7 years.
 The Covenant officially dies as only a handful of people recognize it. AMN declares a Dipdom holiday.

I'm sure I missed quite a few other memorable moments. I'm sorry if I did or if I offended anyone with an omission, or inclusion on this list. This list is only meant in a humorous way to show just a tip of the iceberg, of all the things that happened. A chronological calendar is hard to accurately compile without the use of a complete diary.

1983IG The Ultimate Game Spring 1901

AUSTRIA Hurst: F Tri-Alb; A Bud-Ser; A Vie-Gal;
 ENGLAND Cunning: F Edi-Nwg; F Lon-Nth; A Lvp-Yor;
 FRANCE Makuc: A Par-Bur; A Mar-Spa; F Bre-Mid;
 GERMANY Frueh: A Mun-Ruh; A Ber-Kie; F Kie-Den;
 ITALY Extrom: A Ven-Tyo; A Rom-Ven; F Nap-Ion;
 RUSSIA Holley: A Mos-Stp; A War-Gal; F Stp(SC)-Bot; F Sev-Rum;
 TURKEY Martin: F Ank-Con; A Con-Bul; A Smy-unordered;

PRESS: Eng-GM: How did Woody talk me into this? Just wait till I get my hands on him! Wait, maybe I shouldn't say that. ((Darn tooting))
 Eng-World: Sorry I've been a lazy writer. I'll get better I promise. And if I don't I'll be dead anyways. ((So right my dear daughter))
 Ger-World: Please excuse my lack of writing due to a mild bout with diplomacy burnout- all better now tho. So stand back I'm reaching for my "good" pen. ((Watch out people))
 Italy-Bloodsucker: How am I doing so far? ((Looking good!))
 Italy-GM: My gondola awaits your arrival for our cruise into Never Never land. ((Just me and you, forever, and ever in Never Never))
 Julie-Kathy: You should see the way these people write. If we had only had some of these in Agrew...((Whats agrew?))
 Julie-John: Well, so far I've played under Konrad, Mark and now you. Do you see a patern. ((Yeah, you've tried the rest, now you've come to the best))
 Julie-Board: Look here, we've got a Queen, a Czarina, a Sultanness and a Popette(?), versus a King, a Kaiser and a Gnome (maybe an Arch-Gnome). We've got them outranked by far, so we automatically get a 4 way draw. Thanks for a great game girls. ((A Popeye, vs woodylovers? And you think its going to be a win? Show em guys.))
 BNC-GM: Your new game is 1983IG! For Italian Goose!
 GM-BNC: I'll give you the old Italian Goose!

Due date for Fall 1901 is Feb.18,1AB

##((KATHY TO GIRLS * GO TEAM!!!))

#####

This about wraps up another issue of America's #1 FUNZINE. Hope you all enjoyed it. I'm sure we stepped on a few toes, rubbed a few bald heads the wrong way, and exposed some of those bald heads. Such is life, especially in Dipdom.

On a closing note, I have nothing else to say. Oh yes I do- don't forget to participate in the 2nd PDO Auction, flyer enclosed and the NADB also enclosed if you choose to participate.

Take care and have a Happy St Valentines Day. And maybe I'll see you at WoodyCon.

SUB FEE 37 for 10 issues
 NO GAME OPENINGS
 FREE ISSUES FOR SUBMITTING
 MARK BERCH NEED NOT APPLY

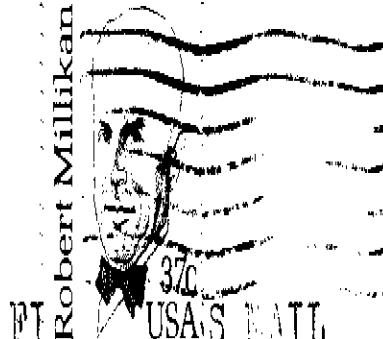


QUOTE OF THE MONTH: John-
 "Why can't all Whitestonias
 be this much fun to put together?"

JOHN MICHALSKI DEPT: Poor John is unemployed again. But look at the bright side, according to Reagan, unemployment is down, inflation is down, interest rates are down, hell, supply side economics works if you have a job and money.

John Caruso
160-02 43Ave
Flushing, NY. 11358

FIRST CLASS MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL



USA'S MAIL
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

cc & info enclosed.

607 729 2830

I can't write for
DW anymore unless
I'm sure my name
will be put on
my stuff.

Rod Walker 85
1273 Crest Dr
Encinitas, Cal 92024

Oh- and where's
my \$2' check like
everyone else gets?