

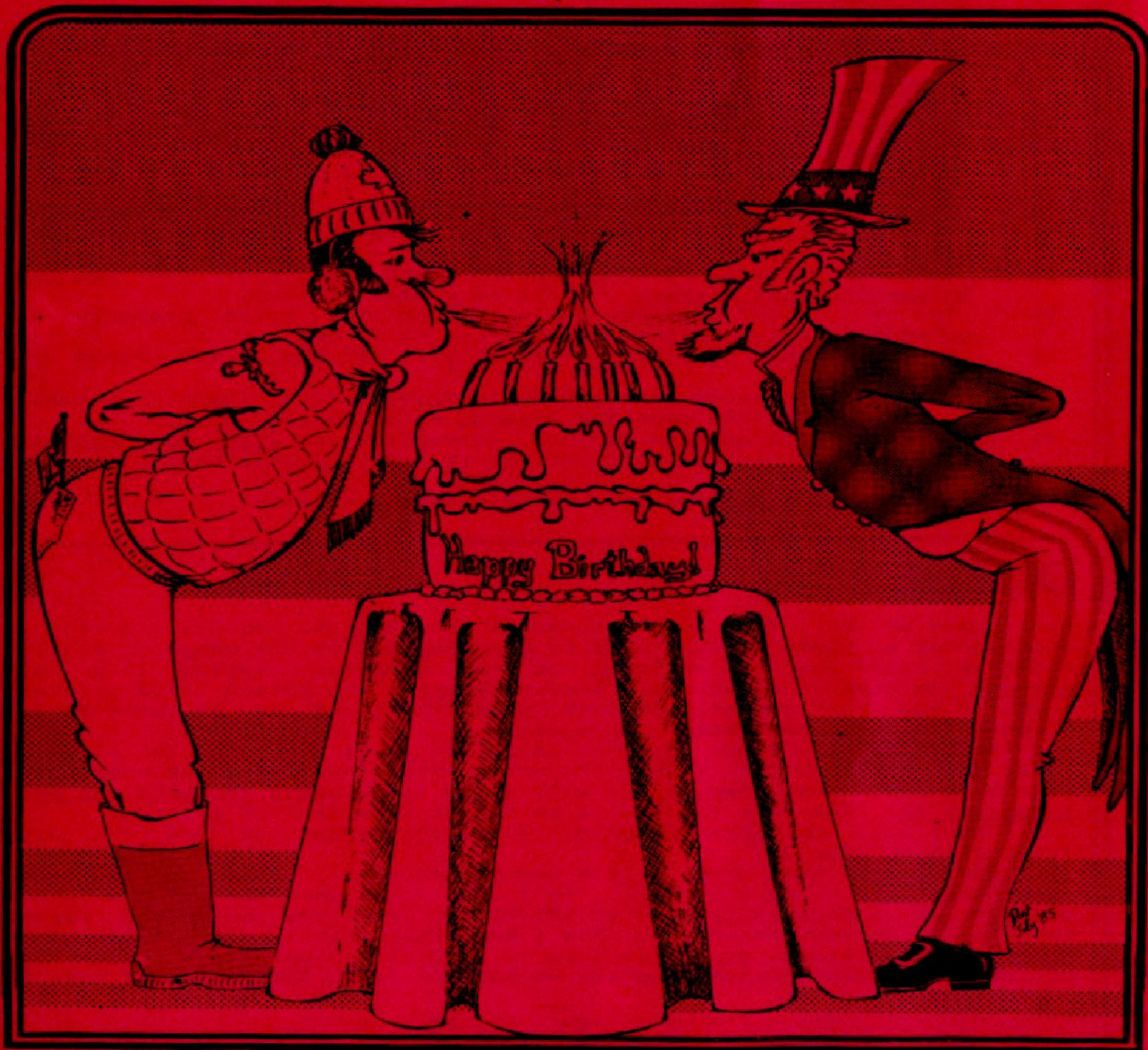
XL SUBBER WINS WIMBLEDON! (PAGE 5)

excelgior

JULY 1985

ISSUE No. 6

by BRUCE MCINTYRE



DIRECTORY

EXCELSIOR #6 by Bruce McIntyre with a whole heaven of a lot of support from Nancy Hurrell, printed July 27, 1985 in Vancouver, BC Canada.

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28	Report on the conclusion (finally!) of the first round of <u>Patterns II</u> .
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31	Omigod! It's another serious editorial in <u>From The Podium</u> . Will I regret it? Will I retract it? Will anyone take it seriously?
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DipGab

Well, here we are. That sounds funny at this moment, because I'm still waiting for my money to be okayed by the bank and by the computer store, and thus, right now, I'm sitting at the computer, typing this in, without the benefit of actually knowing whether the Roland 1111A printer I bought two weeks ago will be here when the last of my post-dated cheques clears in two weeks. It's eerie.

Hopefully this issue won't be late, but if it is, I can already (July 3rd) tell you the reason: I'm not putting this issue out until the printer works. Next time, there will be no issue until it works the way I want it to. But this time we'll be satisfied with just working.

There will be more computer talk for those of you who are interested on page 20.

Ghosh I hate heat waves. It's bad enough that I have a loooooong walk home every night from work. It's even worse when the goddam temperature is 25 degrees Celsius at 12:30AM. (For you un-metric types that is 77 degrees Fahrenheit.) Now I know that that is not hot for many Americans, but first, my job is 4 to 12, and it's eight hours in a HOT office that I can't leave, and all we have is new Coke, and I can't

drink 8 pops in eight hours anyway. The other point before I stop complaining is that here in Vancouver heat is multiplied by humidity to make you STICKY. You think Boris Becker used a lot of shirts at Wimbledon. You should see what we're going through. At least the basement suite here at 6191 Winch is nice and cool. What can I say--I'm a Winter baby....

The Runestone Poll results were relayed to me over the phone a few days ago, at least as much as BRUX could tell me in a few minutes. These were the top ten.

1. *Voice of Doom (BRUX Linsey)
2. No Fixed Address (Steve Hutton)
3. Europa Express (Gary Coughlan)
4. *Snafu! (Ron CANADA Brown)
5. Excelsior (Bruce McIntyre)
6. Sleepless Knights (Dave Carter)
7. Perelandra (Pete Gaughan)
8. Diplomacy Digest (Mark Berch)
9. The Diplomat (Dave Kleiman)
10. Magus (Steve Langley)

(*-folded)

Naturally, I'm very pleased about all this. For those of you who want the complete poll results, send \$1 (\$2 for non-voters) to BRUX Linsey/73 Ashuelot St./ Dalton MA/USA 01226. As one of the top finishers, I've been asked to make some sort of statement, which I shall have to read over the phone to BRUX in a few days. I thought all of you might like to hear this:

I'm greatly honoured at my surprisingly high finish in this year's Runestone. Finishing 5th in the poll was beyond all but four of my wildest dreams.....

Write to BRUX today for the results if you want more. He tells me there's been a new record set for number of voters, which certainly ought to put to rest that crap about how xx% of the hobby is against BRUX. Of course, to use BRUX's words, "the shit is about to hit the fan," and of course the reason is that VoD is number one. I don't want to use this space to editorialize, so if you want my view on this, check out From The Podium.

There's quite a bit to be commented on even in the small portion of the results leaked out above. No less than 4 of the top ten are Canadian zines, the lowest of these being a "lowly" sixth! Next year we're in for more trouble, as I know that The Canadian Diplomat is getting better all the time. Watch out, Yankees: there's only so much room at the top!

There are a total of 71 zines on the list, making the results publication almost a North American Zine Register in itself! Also in the results were the GM poll, in which I somehow got a few votes, even though I've not been GMing for anywhere near long enough to become eligible yet. (About all I've done so far is hold games over, it seems!) For the zine listing, BRUX has done a modified mean (in which 10%--rounded down--of the votes at the top and bottom are discarded, to discourage grudges or favoritism), and a preference matrix, which, with 71 zines, will probably take up quite some room! Apparently, in the preference matrix, XL beat over 90% of the zines that my readers also get.

The other thing I learned on the phone was that no less than 42 of you voted for XL. I can't thank you 42 enough for giving me such a boost. But I'll try, by doing my best to ensure that the zine continues to read, work, and look as best it can.

It's become apparent to me that the zine will take on a new look, quite apart from the printer-style letters, now that I'm off the typewriter. I actually type up the zine little by little in advance--today is July 9th, believe it or not. So if this article begins to resemble an airplane approaching the runway, that's because at this early stage I just don't know what this issue will look like--but read on and we'll both find out more!!

News: DW is out. I've not seen my copy yet, but rumour has it it's a good one. Rod Walker has asked that you renew, or, if you don't currently receive Diplomacy World, consider it. It looks as though the changing publisher problems are over, so DW should be more regular (it's produced 4 times a year) now.

Sad to hear that Jim Bumpas is folding his zine Liberterrean, after over 220 issues. Very sad. I have offered to take the DipJoust, which is 6/7 filled. Any West Coast zine not yet represented can nominate a Champion for the Joust, which will be a regular Diplomacy game on five week deadlines. But I still wish this was unnecessary: ah well; farewell Jim, hope you'll keep in touch with the hobby that appreciated you for so long!

Trouble in River City: Despite the fact that many of you have been proclaiming a 40-page average, what with all the things I'm doing, etc., well, the response rate hasn't been too good to me recently--I'm cancelling a few projects. Thanks to those few who participated in...

The Excelsior Zine Poll Knockout Tournament
 The Canadian Diplomacy Organization Championship.
 The Excelsior United League.

Am I shocked? Am I disheartened? Of course not! But I'll keep trying until I find something we all can play. Superbourse, anyone?

Nancy is quite happy here, as long as I don't get all the mail! Please, think of something to say to her so you can put her name on the envelope too. She'd appreciate it.

If all has gone well, there should be some pictures this time. Hope you like 'em. A little insight on the adverse conditions under which the miracle of XL is produced once every five weeks.

More add-on-at-the-end news: A special DafCon is to be held, according to the information I've obtained from Chris Carrier, on August 10-11. The occasion is a visit by Kathy Byrne and John Caruso. Don't snort: Kathy and John live in New York, and Daf and Steve Langley live in Sacramento. I will try to attend, in order to further prove my theory that despite all the feuding in the hobby, postal barks are worse than face-to-face bites. A prime example so far has been Terry Tallman, who turned out to be a real fun guy despite things you hear about him. And that brings me to another point.

DIPCON '85: Are you going to be there? Have you sent the Dragonflight people your money yet? Of course not. But why not? There must be limited space on the Diplomacy floor of the dorm, and you don't want to wake up with the D&Ders, now, do you?

Does the special DafCon (sudden thought: my Ghod it'll be HOT!!) mean that John and Kathy will be in Seattle? Let's hope so.

I'm this close to making another deal with my former roommate Ron Gordon. The first was simple: my old typewriter for his B/W TV, which I use as a monitor. The deal I hope to make soon is for XL T-shirts. As mentioned a few issues ago, they'd cost about \$5 plus postage, and would probably have the XL logo on the front, with possibly some cover artwork, if Patricia will grant permission. But I need to know that at least 15 or so will be sold, so TELL ME!!

July 21: Well, we're late. A week. Will you take excuses? I have

three:

- 1) **Printer problems:** It took a day to get the printer to print out anything but ASCII codes. (ASCII codes are only good if you're into ciphers, and are even more complicated in that the alphabet has 256 "letters" when you include upper/lower case, punctuation, special symbols, and control codes.) Finally I got it printing, only to discover that PaperClip, my word processor, had apparently forgotten how to right-justify. It took far longer to figure that one out than it should have: the problem was in the printer file for the Roland 1111A printer that I had to create. Anyhow, I hope you'll agree that the wait is well worth it just for the quality of the print, but I've two other reasons.
- 2) **DIPCON '85:** is five weeks from now. You've a choice--this issue late, or the next one late. I can't produce a zine if I'm in Seattle.
- 3) **Bad weekend:** I've just returned from my father's parents 50th wedding anniversary. As I am the oldest of the grandchildren, and the others love to try to whack the hell out of me, it may be a while before I recover. Definitely a highlight of the afternoon was talking to another relative while my nine-year old cousin was trying to jump on my back. Right in the middle of the conversation she succeeded, throwing me off balance, and it was only my superior shape that avoided the untimely demise of one cousin due to the cement-roller effect.

EXCELSIOR Menu

Subscriptions:

3 issues/\$2.00 CDN in Canada
10 issues/\$6.00 US in the USA
10 issues/\$7.00 US in the USA if
you pay me by a check drawn on a US
bank.
\$1 CDN (I will do my best to con-
vert your money) elsewhere.

Gamefees:

\$3.00 CDN in Canada
\$3.00 US in the USA
Waived for overseas players.

Send correspondence to:

Bruce McIntyre/Nancy Hurrell
6191 Winch St.
Burnaby, B.C.
Canada V5B 2L4

BECKER UBER ALLES

Would I kid you? Of course not! The story behind the story at Wimbledon was this: Long-time XL subber Bill Becker had successfully taught his wife how to run his K-Zine United league, so he could go off to Leimen, W.Germany, to meet a German correspondent whom he was trying to beat in order to avoid yet another double relegation in one of the German United leagues. He met the fellow player, and after exchanging pleasantries, they decided upon a game of tennis, which Bill won. Somehow this made him German champion, and the chancellor of Germany asked him to go to represent Germany at Wimbledon. But of course, when the chancellor mispronounced his name 'Boris', our hero couldn't possibly object: Bill didn't sound too German anyhow. Of course, anyone who follows tennis knows the rest of the story, but, having watched the last two matches Bill played, I have to hand it to him. Bill, shouting out "chalk" in a German accent was masterful in the semi-final. And you really conducted yourself well in the post-match interview: you actually sounded German!!!

Then there was this bit in the German press, another quote from Bill, oops, I mean Boris--it was translated from German:
"Diplomacy is copyrighted by Avalon Hill and Waddingtons in Canada, and was invented by Allan Calhamer. But yes, it's only a game."

ALBINONI

GERMANY WANTS REVENGE Turk coming out of kitchen

ALBINONI Dramatis Personae

ALBINONI 1985 AA post Winter 01

GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby B.C., V5B 2L4

ENG: Bill Shirley, 618 Main St., Yarmouth NS, B5A 1J9

GER: Charles Arsenaault, 4490 St. Kevin#7, Montreal PQ, H3Y 1H9

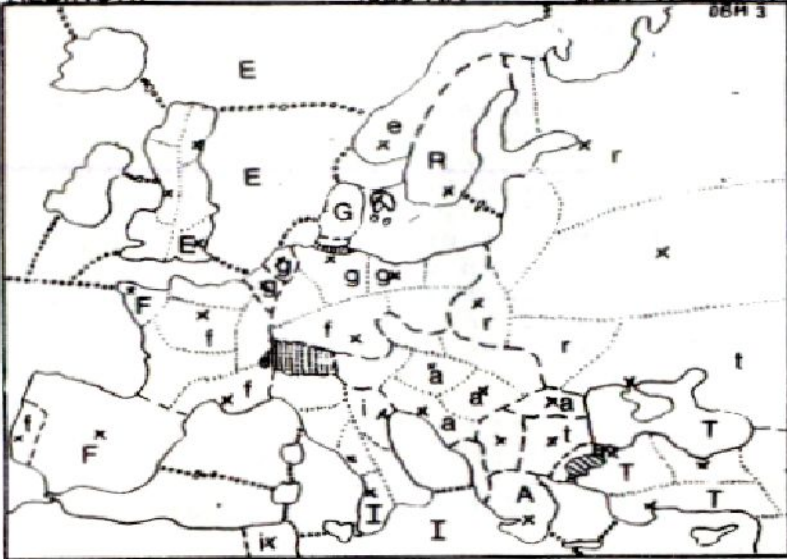
RUS: Kevin Brown, 100 Patton Dr., Warner Robins GA, USA 31093

TUR: Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV, USA 25727

AUS: Michael Ditz, 5785 Danube Way#C, Orlando FL, USA 32807

ITA: Steve Dycus, 3450 Koring Rd., Evansville IN, USA 47712

FRA: Ron Krukowski, 5339 W. Eddy, Chicago IL, USA 60641



NEXT DEADLINE (Spring 1902) is Friday, August 30, 1985--one day earlier if phoned in.

ALBINONI 1985AA Winter 1901 Adjustments

- ENGLAND + F Lon
- GERMANY + A Kle, A Ber
- RUSSIA + A Mos
- TURKEY + F Con, F Smy
- AUSTRIA + A Vie, A Bud
- ITALY + F Nap
- FRANCE + F Bre, A Par, A Mar



PRESS:

GM: Just to clear things up, we are playing standard North American season combination methods: orders and builds conditional upon retreats, with Winter 1901 separate. One more thing: Russia does get a build, as he lost a unit in 1901. Usually I count the units then count the dots, but in 1901 I figured Russia would have four. Dumb.....

Turkey-Board: Sorry I didn't write guys, but mom had minor foot surgery & I got custody of her house work. Reports that the Health Dept. & Fire Dept. threw a party when my mom got back on her feet (literally) is a gross exaggeration.

Berlin-Paris: It's time you tasted another German specialty: French Puree!

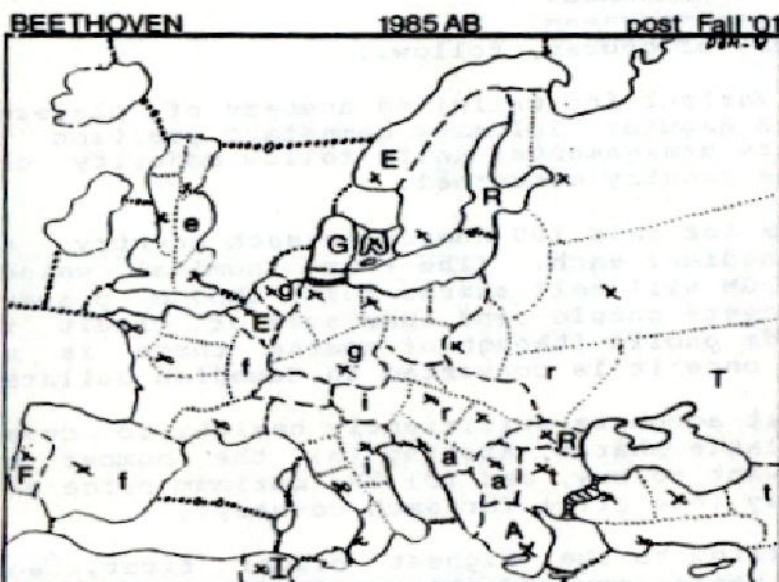


BEETHOVEN

"YOU'RE TOO KIND, PIERRE"

"NO SWEAT, ROBERT. My PLEASURE."

BEETHOVEN Dramatis Personae



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby BC, V5B 2L4

ENG: Mitch Wageler, 665 E29th Ave, Vancouver BC, V5V 2S1

GER: Mike Barno, 2811 Robins St., Endwell NY, USA 13760

RUS: Pierre Touchette, 1 rue Georges, Masson PQ, J0X 2H0

TUR: Alan Stewart, 702-25 St. Mary St., Toronto ON, M4Y 1R2

AUS: Robert Acheson, c/o Echo Bay Mines, Lupin NWT, X0E 1M0

ITA: Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV, USA 25727

FRA: Steve Cooley, 3551 Casamia Ave, Palmsdale CA, USA 93550

NEXT DEADLINE (Winter 1901) is Friday, August 30, 1985--one day earlier if phoned in.

BEETHOVEN 1985AB Fall 1901 Orders

- ENGLAND F Nrg-Nwy, F Nth-Bel, A Yor H
- GERMANY F Den-Swe, A Kie-Hol, A Mun is staunch H
- RUSSIA F GoB-Swe, F Rum S Aus A Ser-Bul (NSO), A Ukr S F Rum, A Gal-Vie
- TURKEY A Bul-Rum, F Bla-Sev, A Arm S F Bla-Sev
- AUSTRIA F Alb-Gre, A Tri-Bud, A Ser-Bud
- ITALY A Rom-Ven, A Ven-Tyr, F Ion-Tun
- FRANCE F MAO-Por, A Mar-Spa, A Bur S Eng F Nth-Bel

PRESS:

GM: Most of those concerned caught the error on the map: Italy moved F Nap-Ion, not F Nap-TyS, which was on the map. Also, I should mention that the North American system of combining orders will be used--this is the one we all know: orders conditional upon previous whatevers.

Budapest-Venice: Melinda dear, you're making me become very paranoid of you.

Budapest-Moscow: You should have written that bounce letter **MUCH** sooner

Lupin-GM: Is that better?

Maestro: You mean me? Better than what?

Lupin-gm: What are houserules?

Maestro: Damned if I know. I haven't looked at mine for months.

DER BUNDESREPUBLIK-Maestro: Can Les Herman be bribed?

Maestro: See page 32.

Con-GM: Why not Brahms?

Maestro: He'll be game number 54. And stop calling me GM. Between you and the Northern Nut, I dunno who I am any more.

Ank-Vie: Be careful. There's more than one grovelling civil servant out there.

GAMESTART EXTRAORDINAIRE

At the request of several of you, I've decided to open a BOURSE. However, since I look upon Bourse games with utter confusion (probably because nobody has explained to me the rules), I've decided to try a Bourse-type game designed by Englishman Richard Sharp. So, it's.....

SUPERBOURSE!

=====

(The rules, of course, follow.)

- 1) Superbourse is a Diplomacy Variant for unlimited numbers of players, designed by Richard Sharp. A Regular Diplomacy gamestart position is used, but there are no country assignments: units follow majority orders from shareholders in the country concerned.
- 2) In Winter 1900 the GM offers for sale 100 shares in each country, at a nominal value of \$0.10 (Canadian) each. (The term "nominal value" means the smallest price the GM will sell shares for: though players may sell them for less.) Players should send lump sums of credit to play with; credit will be made public (though of course there is no obligation to use all of it) once it is converted to Canadian dollars.
- 3) Players, who must have credit accounts sufficiently healthy to cover their bids, bid for the available shares, stating (a) the number of shares in each country they want to buy, and (b) the maximum price per share they are prepared to pay (one price for each country).
- 4) The GM allocates shares, selling to the highest bidder first, and splitting ties on a pro rata basis, any odd share going to the player who requested most (Example: if there are bids for 11 and 8 shares at 12 cents, but only 7 shares available, the split is 4-3 in favour of the high bidder)
- 5) The GM then prints the shareholding in each country, and players submit Spring 1901 orders for countries in which they hold shares. One share entitles a player to write an order for one unit, and they may be split up in any way among the units available. Thus if you have 9 English shares you can order each unit three times, or one unit nine times, etc...
- 6) The GM determines the majority vote for each unit ("The majority" means the votes for the most popular order minus the votes for the second most popular order. "Majority shareholder" means the player who holds the most shares in the particular country.), and prints the adjudication accordingly. If there is no clear majority for a unit, it is doubly ordered, and STANDS.
- 7) A unit's strength in moving is determined by the size of the majority in favour of the move ordered. Thus if there are 11 votes for F Lon-Eng and 6 for F Lon-Nth, the order printed is 5F Lon-Eng. Similarly, a unit supports with the strength of it's majority minus the strength of all units cutting the support. (Example: if there was a majority of 8 in favour of A Ven-Tri by AUSTRIA, and a majority of 4 in favour of supporting it with A Vie, while GERMANY ordered A Tyr-Vie with a majority of 3, the result would be the following:

GERMANY 3A Tyr-Vie

AUSTRIA 4A Vie(-3) S 8A Ven-Tri

The A Ven would have an effective strength of 9.)

- 8) Retreats will come before moves as is usual in North America, and are made only by the majority shareholder(s). NRR or a tied vote in the case of two or more majority shareholders will result in the retreat being made by the GM, who shall use this priority list: supply centres (enemy before neutral before home), home province, foreign province, sea space. If there are two or more retreat spaces with the same priority, the first in alphabetical order will be used.
- 9) Winter adjustments shall be ordered by the majority shareholder(s) in a separate Winter season; if there are two or more majority shareholders, they should agree on what they want as the GM will not resolve double orders (if the vote goes 2-1 or 3-2, majority shall eke out a victory)! If the majority shareholder NMR's, the next largest holder's builds will be accepted (so he should always send them in just in case...).
- 10) A player who NMR's will forfeit one share in every country whose shares he holds; a player who NMR's twice running will forfeit ALL his shares. These shares will be resold by the GM.
- 11) Three times per game year, directly after the Spring and Fall moves (before retreats) and directly after the Winter adjustments (provided there are any), players may bid for shares as in Rule 3 above and/or offer shares for sale. Majority shareholders MUST offer at least one share in the appropriate country, at no more than the market price (the lowest price realized by that country's shares the last time they were traded), if there is are no shares left for the GM to sell in that country. Other offers to sell should stipulate the minimum price the seller will accept. These bids should accompany the orders sent, and may not be made conditional on what happens in the following season. The GM will carry out such deals as are possible, and will himself feature as a seller while he holds any shares, though he may not buy.
A major point to make here is that players will not always have to pay their maximum bid price. The lowest bidder will pay his bid maximum, and all higher bids are scaled down so that they outbid the next lowest by one cent/share. Example: if I get successful bids at 17, 16, 14, 12, and 10, the bidders would pay 14, 13, 12, 11 and 10 respectively. However, as Richard pointed out, "to stop some clever arse bidding \$50", you will always have to pay at least half your bid, so watch out!
- 12) The game continues until a result is achieved: game-end proposals may be submitted at any time, shareholders voting on a one-share-one-vote basis. At the end of the game, 80% of all funds held by the GM that were used in the game to buy shares will be distributed pro rata to shareholders in the winning country or drawing countries. (The remaining 20% represents a game fee.) The winner is the player who has made the biggest profit during the game from all transactions including the final shareout.

((A few things to round this out. First, these rules have been heavily plagiarized from those which appeared in Dolchstoss 83, and thanx to Richard Sharp for the permission which I've not yet obtained. (You'll grant it, won't you, guv?) Secondly, let me try to prevent a problem which occurred when the game was run in Dolchstoss--players forgetting to send money. Yes, in this most capitalistic of all types of games, some twits actually said "count me in" without actually sending any green stuff! (As I recall, I myself was one of these...) Amazing but true...))

Here in XL's version, you have two ways to give yourself credit for

the game if you want in:

1) Send me some green stuff, or a cheque (as usual, cheques drawn on American banks lose \$1 US to the bank, so be aware of that, especially if you're going to send \$2.00 US or some other piddling amount-this is a game for the rich!), money order, or postal money order.

2) Allow me to zap into oblivion part of your subscription credit. There should be no trouble with this, as long as you remember to make sure you actually have the sub credit to begin with.

Finally, the deadline for entry is August 30th. Hopefully we can get the game started in XL#7, with a minimum starting lineup of five, though of course you can enter at any time. Good luck to all participants!))

BEEHOVEN--1985 AB continued

Ank: The Sultan today issued an edict banning all robed mystics from his realm, on penalty of removal of their tongues.

Maestro: Bah! What care I; I've got a printer now. You guys send me long items of press; I just make seven copies of whatever can't fit in the zine, and send 'em out. Be warned!

Con: Three foreign service officers were executed for espionage and treason, the Sultanate announced today. The three, working in the service of English cultural imperialism, reportedly tampered with military orders, inducing Turkish to conduct operations that threatened the Sultan's valued allies.

Dieppe-Koln: Are you Rod Serling's kid?

Dieppe-Maestro: If so, could we change the game name to "Twilight Zone?" If not, create a houserule--please!

Maestro: What are houserules?

Supplies		OWNERSHIP OF CENTRES	
GAME: BEEHOVEN (1975 AB)			
post-FALL 1901			
ENGLAND 5 (81)	TURKEY 5 (81)	NEUTRALS 1	
Edi E	Ank T	Bel ME	QUICKLY CONCEIVED POST 1901 WIN ODDS
Lpl E	Con T	Bul T	
Lon E	Smy T	Den G	
GERMANY 5 (82)	AUSTRIA 4 (81)	Gre G	
Ber G	Bud A	Hol G	
Kie G	Tri A	Nwy G	
Mun G	Vie R	Por T	
RUSSIA 5 (81)	ITALY 4 (81)	Rum F	
Mos R	Nap I	Ser F	
StP R	Rom I	Spa F	
Sev T	Ven I	Swe N	
War R	FRANCE 5 (82)	Tun I	
	Bre F		T: 4-1
	Mar F		RE: 5-1
	Par F		FG: 6-1
			NF: 7-1
			R: 8-1
			I: 9-1
			A: 10-1

The Excelsior Baseball League

A very abbreviated report this month; I hope I don't have to skip to another page two miles away, so here are the standings to July 9 85.

Div. 1	Won	Lost	Pct.	GBL	Owner
XL Gal	33	14	.702	3	---
SWF	68	43	.613	-	Stewart
CJR	76	67	.531	8	Falkiner
JSJ	49	45	.521	10.5	C.Becker
XL Swi	12	16	.429	14.5	---
XL Pie	12	25	.324	19	---

Div. 2	Won	Lost	Pct.	GBL	Owner
MT	54	14	.794	-	Hanson
BW	51	42	.548	15.5	B.Becker
WRW	78	74	.513	18	K.Brown
XL Pic	35	34	.507	19.5	---
EE	77	79	.494	21	Barno
SSR	39	52	.429	26.5	Lorber

Div. 3	Won	Lost	Pct.	GBL
XL Wal	37	17	.685	-
XL Boh	56	41	.577	2.5
XL Lva	52	56	.481	12
XL Arm	25	28	.472	11.5
XL Apu	41	52	.441	15.5
XL Pru	33	46	.418	16.5
XL NAF	9	22	.290	16.5

Div. 4	Won	Lost	Pct.	GBL
XL Tyr	31	25	.554	-
XL Sil	30	26	.536	1
XL Syr	38	38	.500	3
XL Alb	18	20	.474	4
XL Ukr	35	58	.376	14.5
XL Gas	53	108	.329	30.5

(continued on page 30-31)

COPLAND GAMESTART

The fourth XL gamestart gets under way in this issue, with the following players.

Player	Preference	Country	Address
Jeff Albrecht	RIGAEFT	ITALY	P.O. Box 295 Doland SD USA 57346
Charles Arsenault	GEAFIRT	ENGLAND	4490 St-Kevin #7 Montreal PQ H3T 1H9
Melinda Holley	TIFAEGR	AUSTRIA	P.O. Box 2793 Huntington WV USA 25727
Travis Laster	XXXXXXX	TURKEY	125 Garden Court Winchester VA USA 22601
Sean McGonigle	AFRGIET	RUSSIA	44B Kelvin Rd. Papakura NEW ZEALAND
Ben Schilling	FEATIRG	FRANCE	24730 Roosevelt Ct. Apt 315 Farmington Hills MI 48018 USA
Alan Stewart	RTAFGEI	GERMANY	702-25 St Mary St. Toronto ON M4Y 1R2

There are some game notes right away. First off, players should be aware that since we have a player from the other side of the Pacific, this of course means that deadlines for this game may have to be extended. The limit on this will be 7.5 weeks, so that the game would then appear in XL then miss an issue, then the results would be sent separately and the game would appear later, by my possibly innaccurate calculations.

Secondly, many of you may not like your country assignments. Tough. Consider it a new houserule--before you get to play the same country twice in XL, you'll have to have had a gamestart here for every other. Diplomacy is not a one-scenario game. The other criteria I used in deciding the assignments was when your entry got here.

And finally, I wanted to get the game started this issue, and this goes to the printers in five hours, and I couldn't find Travis Laster's preference list, although I distinctly remember receiving one from him. If I'm wrong, Travis, phone me quickly and tell me you want out so I can arrange a quick replacement.

The extremely tentative deadline for Spring 1901 is August 30th, with the strong likelihood that it shall be extended. Until Sean complains, all other deadlines will be five weeks. The North American system of combining seasons will be used: moves conditional on retreats.

Good luck to y'all!

Supplies OWNERSHIP OF CENTRES

GAME: MENSA 17 (NFA) 1983 V
post - FALL 1909

ENGLAND ¹	TURKEY ¹²	NEUTRALS ⁰
Edi (G) G	Ank (T) T	Bel (G) G
Lpl (E) E	Con (T) T	Bul (T) T
Lon (G) G	Smy (T) T	Den (G) G
GERMANY ¹⁵	AUSTRIA ^{OUT}	Gre (T) T
Ber (G) G	Bud (T) T	Hol (G) G
Kie (G) G	Tri (T) T	Nwy (G) G
Mun (G) G	Vie (T) T	Por (F) G
RUSSIA ³	ITALY ^{OUT}	Rum (T) T
Mos (R) R	Nap (F) F	Ser (T) T
StP (R) R	Rom (F) F	Spa (G) G
Sev (T) T	Ven (F) F	Swe (G) G
War (R) R	FRANCE ³	Tun (A) T
	Bre (G) G	
	Mar (G) G	
	Par (G) G	

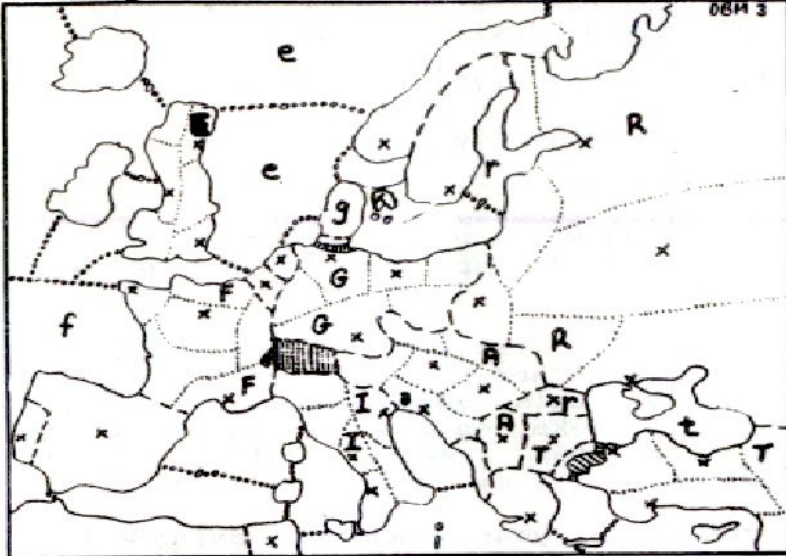
MENSA 17 continued

Germany-France: Tell you what: I'll give you back your home centres when Turkey vacates Austria. Fair enough?

Germany-Austria: Sorry, Drew. I'd have liked to see you survive, but I had to keep fighting this rearguard action against England....He's not as nice as France.

RUSSIA MOVES NORTH So do Turkey and Austria...

DEBUSSY 85?? post Spring '01



DEBUSSY - SPRING 01

GM: Mitchell Wageler 3263 School Ave
Vancouver, B.C.

E: Dennis Quine 55 Rosemoor Drive
Little Rock, ARK, 72209

G: Pierre Touchette 1 Rue Georges
Mason, PQ, J0X 2H0

R: Alan Stewart 702-25 St. Mary St.
Toronto, ONT, M4Y 1R2

T: Ron Krukowski 5339 W Eddy
Chicago, IL 60641

A: Randolph Smyth 212 Aberdeen St SE
Medicine Hat, Alta, T1A 0R1

I: Kevin Brown 100 Patton Dr.
Warner Robbins, GA 31093

F: Bruce Waddell 4247 Winnifred St.
Burnaby BC, V5J 2S5

SPRING 01 ORDERS

ENG - F Edi - Nrg, A Lpl - Edi, F Lon - Nth
GER - A Mun - Bur, A Ber - Kie, F Kie - Den
AUS - F Tri - Ven, A Vie - Gal, A Bud - Ser
FFA - A Mar - Bur, A Par - Pic, F Bre - Mid
ITA - A Ven - Tri, A Rom - Ven, F Nap - Ion
RUS - A Mos - StP, F StP - Bot, A War - Ukr, F Sev - Rum
Tur - A Con - Bul, A Smy - Arm, F Ank - Bla

Press:

GM Board: Please note the change of address.

BERLIN - GM: I think that I have my sister convinced. I will trade her services for a little information. She shouldn't run away this time.

P.S. Please untie her when you're through.

GM: Interesting offer. Anyone care to try and top it?

Moscow: Melvin J. Wimpel (?GM), Chief Diplomatic Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Second Vice-Assistant Secretariat, paused placing his pen to his pen to his tongue in that familiar manner that evoked fear in the breast of many a young foreign officer, and that had caused his lips to appear inkstained so many times in the past.

"We must mobilize," he thought. The Austrians promised to be friendly to all, but did that include Serbia, an innocent neutral? Or did their promise conceal black-hearted intent against the Serbs, the empires most loyal vassals and Europe's most tiresome nuisances.

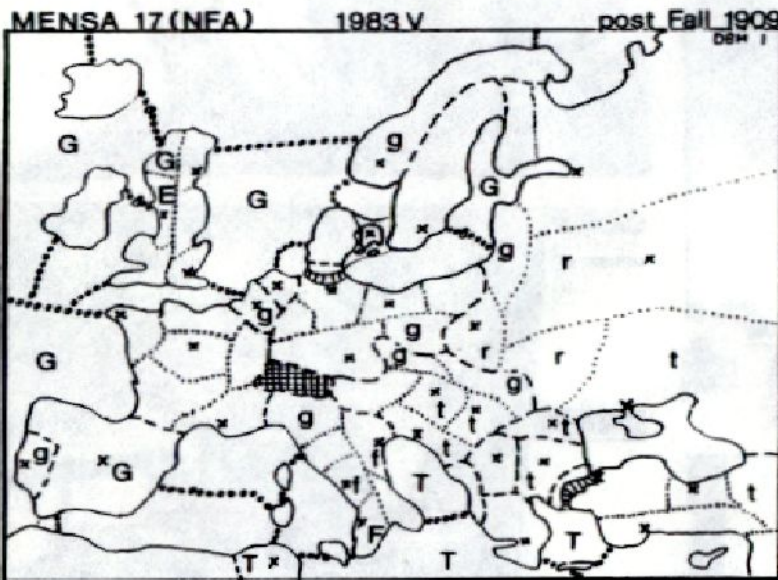
"We must mobilize", he thought again. "Yes, we'd better mobilize."

"Ivan!", he shouted. "Send that car out to the service station. We're half-way through winter and it hasn't been Mobilized yet. And you'd better start thinking about war soon, too."

GM: Wimpel, eh? T'aint no wimps in my neighbourhood; not live ones anyways.

MENSA 17

WHERE'D EVERYBODY GO? And how'd I GET INTO THIS?



Oops! Somebody changed the Turkish army in Sevastopol to a fleet. Luckily, Sultan Milewski was inspecting the Turkish camp there at the time, and was heard to exclaim "Where'd we get all these boats? And why won't the men stay off the shoreline?" A quick note to the GM got everything straightened out, though....

Summer 1909 Retreats:

ENGLAND: F Cly r Lpl

AUSTRIA: F Tun r OTB(NRR)

Winter 1909 and Spring 1910 are due August 29, 1985; one day earlier if phoned in.

MENSA 17 (NFA) (1983 V) Fall 1909 Orders

ENGLAND (Kevin Brown) F Lpl H

GERMANY (Ron Brown) F Nth C A Bel-Nwy, A Bel-Nwy, F Cly-Lpl, F Nrg-NAO, F MAO S F Nrg-NAO, F Spa S F MAO, A Por H, A Bur-Bel, F BaS-GoB, A Pru-Lva, A Sil S A Boh-Gal, A Boh-Gal, A Tyr-Vie, A Pie-Ven

RUSSIA (Dave Lincoln) NMR! A War S, A Ukr S, A Mos S

TURKEY (Paul Milewski) A Bud S A Vie, A Ser-Tri, A Vie S A Ser-Tri, F Tri-Adr, F Con-Aeg, A Rum H, A Bul S A Rum, A Sev H, A Arm S A Sev, F Tun S F Ion, F Ion H

FRANCE (John Ellis) NMR! A Ven S, A Rom S, F Nap S

PRESS:

GM: Because of my rather unintelligent goof in forgetting to mail the orders to the three players until a week had passed, I decided to make up for it by mailing them Special Delivery. Thus, I don't think I can be blamed for their NMR's, especially as, Special Delivery and all, I added an extra week to the deadline when it became apparent that **XL** was going to be late.

I had a bit of a problem when it came time to adjudicate this time. I discovered that I had no idea who held what centres last time! Checking **NEA** didn't help until I recalled that there had been an issue in between the two massive ones (how soon they forget), and of course that was where the SC chart was.

My SC charts are simple to read. The letter in brackets is the country that held that centre last time, making all changes quite obvious.

Finally, my apologies for the rushed nature of the last report. This one was just as rushed, but the computer, luckily, takes care of the mess!

Sorry, I've gone a bit long. Rest is on page 11

EMBARRASSING PICTURES



Here are the pictures as promised. The other picture, on page 21, shows my reaction to suddenly having my picture taken. The photos on this page are as follows:

Upper Left: Nan and her "best" bear (she has about eight of them here, and more in Montreal), Hello.

Upper Right: A real snapshot here, folks! What can I say--she never leaves me alone.

Middle Right: My computer system, in its former position. It is now in my old room--we decided that one bedroom was enough...

Lower Left: I never leave her alone either. We feel it's our duty to keep the developers excitement up.

Lower Right: Here I am sweating over the baseball scores. Note the Tang in the nearby glass. No more Pepsi for me, says Nan. So I drink new Coke at work.

Vancouver's finest PhoneZine

conference call

Issue no. 15 by Bruce McIntyre

The Printer WORKS!!!!

CORDLESS

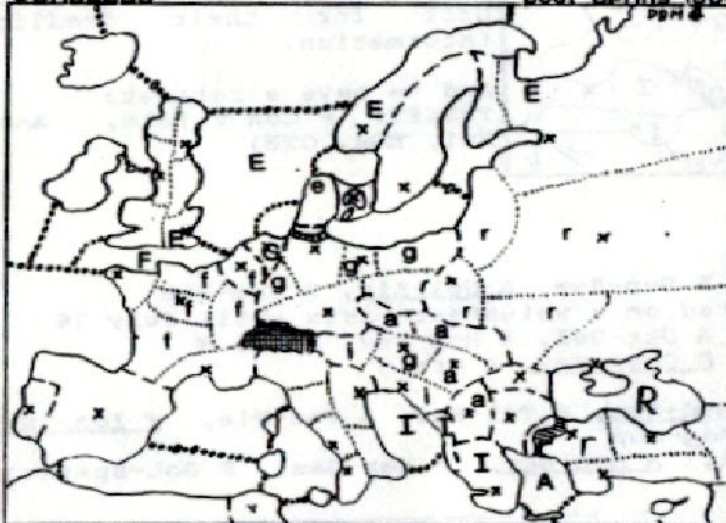
Russia gets back Warsaw

But Englishmen land in StP.....

CORDLESS crazies

CORDLESS

post Spring 1905 GM : Bruce McIntyre 299-2382
253-6388



ENG: Bryn Dymant 921-8107
GER: Tor Abrahamsen 872-3777
RUS: Simon Matthews 929-3708
AUS: Mitch Wageler 874-3605
ITA: Don Clancy 876-6200
FRA: Charles Becker 684-0534

Autumn 1904 Retreats:

GERMANY: F Bel r Hol
RUSSIA: A War r Ukr
TURKEY: A Sev was actually a
fleet--oops, sorry! (Boomed,
of course.)
AUSTRIA: A Alb r Ser

Winter 1904 Adjustments:

TURKEY :OUT
AUSTRIA: + A Vie, A Bud
FRANCE :+ A Bre

CORDLESS Spring 1905 Orders:

ENGLAND A Lon-Den, F Nth C A Lon-Den, F Wal-Lon, F Nwy S F Fin-StP,
F Fin-StP
GERMANY F Hol H, A Ruh-Bel, A Mun-Ber, A Pru S A War, A War* S A Pru,
A Gal-Vie
RUSSIA A Mos S A Lva-War, A Ank-Con, A StP-Lva, F Sev-Bla, A Lva-War,
A Ukr S A Lva-War
AUSTRIA A Rum-Gal, A Ser-Gre, A Boh S A Rum-Gal, A Bud S A Vie,
A Vie S A Rum-Gal(BOOM!), F Smy-Aeg
ITALY A Tyr S G A Gal-Vie, A Tri S G A Gal-Vie, F Alb S F Ion-Gre,
F Adr S A Tri, F Ion-Gre
FRANCE A Gas-Par, A Spa-Gas, A Bur-Ruh, F Eng C A Pic-Hol, A Pic-Hol,
A Bel S A Pic-Hol

PRESS:

GM: Retreat: GERMANY: A War r (Sil, OTB)

In case you hadn't noticed, I now have an Italics mode, which I shall use in the orders to indicate multinational units. That all assumes that I've got this printer working by the time you guys start screaming for the zine.

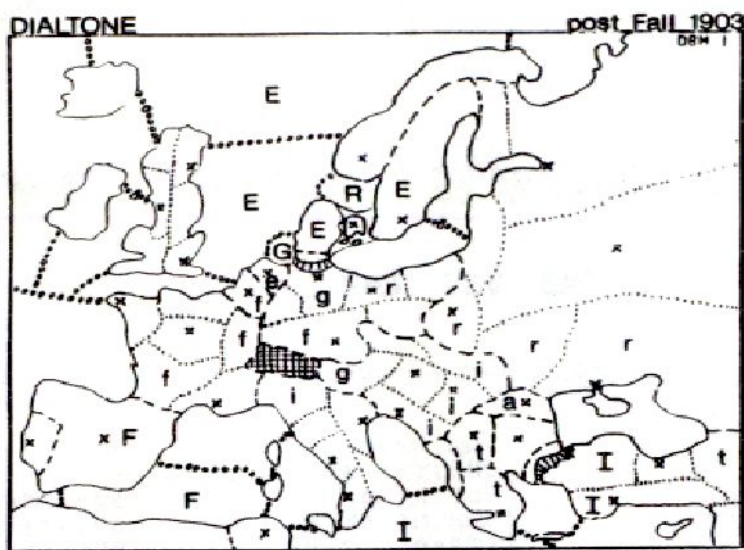
News From the Grecian Peoples Army: The emancipation of all Austrian controlled states has now begun. The Greek people are rising with their Italian and German brothers to smite the Austrian swine.

DIALTONE

England gets Sweden

Italian/French war looming

DIALTONE Dramatis Personae



- GM :Bruce McIntyre 299-2382
253-6388
- ENG:Klaig Morton 524-3368
- GER: Mischa Sandberg 298-6710
- RUS:Laurie McIlvena 522-9132
- TUR:Greg Jansen 594-9126
- AUS:Randy Davis 581-6964
- ITA:Bruce Waddell 434-6523
- FRA:John Cooper 876-8396

Deadlines for this game (see below) are the same for all of my games, so cordless people shall have to look here for their deadline information.

And we have a retreat:
TURKEY: F Con x (Bla, Ank, Bul, ~~Wag~~, OTB)

DIALTONE Fall 1903 Orders:

- ENGLAND F NAO-Nrg, F Nth-Den, F Den-Swe, A Hol-Kie, F Eng-Nth
- GERMANY NMR. Stand-bys accepted on a volunteer basis until July 26
- RUSSIA F Swe-Ska, A Lva-War, A Ukr-Gal, A Mos-Sev, A Ber H
- TURKEY A Ser-Tri, A Sev-Arm, F Con²-Smy, A Gre H
- AUSTRIA A Rum-Bud
- ITALY A Gal S A Bud-Rum, A Bud-Rum, A Tri-Ser, A Ven-Pie, F Ion-Tun,
F Aeg-Con, F Smy S F Aeg-Con
- FRANCE A Bel H, A Bur S A Bel, A Mun-Ber, A Mar-Gas, F GoL-Spa(sc),
F WMe-Tun

PRESS:
GM:Deadlines are July 23, July 26, and August 8 for retreats, builds, and moves respectively.
Austria: Does the Troll have laryngitis?
Operator: Did I spell that right?
Randy-Everybody: Does this Mussolini take pep pills or something?

Supplies OWNERSHIP OF CENTRES

GAME: DIALTONE

post-FALL 1903

ENGLAND 7 (82)	TURKEY 4 (81)	NEUTRALS 0
Edi (E) E	Ank (T) T	Bel (F) F
Lpl (E) E	Con (T) I	Bul (T) T
Lon (E) E	Smy (T) I	Den (G) G
GERMANY 1 (82)	AUSTRIA 1	Gre (T) T
Ber (R) R	Bud (I) I	Hol (E) E
Kie (G) G	Tri (I) I	Nwy (E) E
Mun (G) F	Vie (I) I	Por (F) F
RUSSIA 5	ITALY 9 (82)	Rum (A) A
Mos (R) R	Nap (I) I	Ser (T) T
StP (R) R	Rom (I) I	Spa (F) F
Sev (T) R	Ven (I) I	Swe (R) E
War (R) R	FRANCE 67 (81)	Tun (I) I
	Bre (F) F	
	Mar (F) F	
	Par (F) F	

GM will remove FHel, and ATyr if G. NBR's.

Earpiece

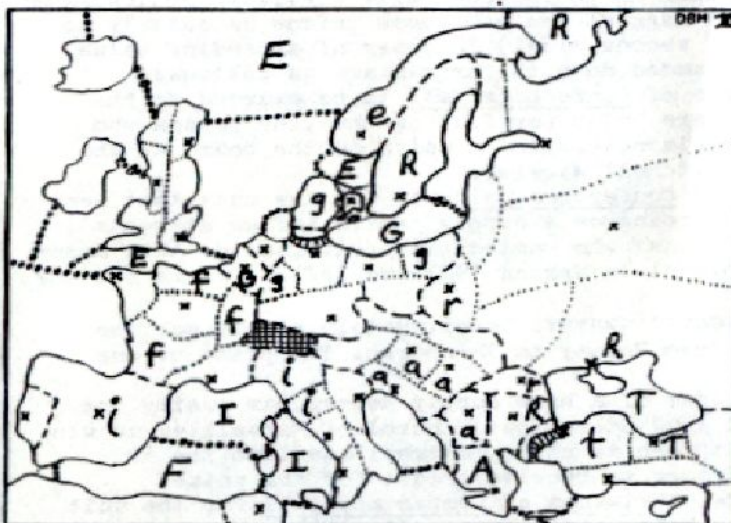
Turkey Loses Bulgaria

ITALY Continues To Advance

Earpiece

Fall 02

The Players



Game Master	
Bruce Waddell	434-6523
A-H	
Charles Becker	684-0534
England	
Nancy Hurrell	299-2382
France	
Randy Davis	581-6964
Germany	
Mitch Wageler	874-3605
Italy	
Laurie McIlvena	522-9132
Russia	
Don Clancy	876-6200
Turkey	
John Cooper	876-8396

The Fall 02 Moves:

A-H: A Ser sup Rus F Rum - Bul, F Gre sup Rus F Rum - Bul
 A Bud sup Rus A Ukr - Rum, A Vie H, A Tri H,
 ENG: F E.C. - Bel, F Nth - ska, F Norw Sea Sup A nor, A nor Sup F Swe
 FRA: F Spa - WMO, A Gas - Spa, A Bur - Mar, Apic Sup Eng F EC - Bel
 Ger: A Sil - Pru, A Den - Swe (F Bal Sup), A Rhu sup F Bel
 ITA: A Mar - Spa, A Pie - Mar, A Tun - Tus (F Tyr Convoy)
 F GoL sup A Mar - Spa
 RUS: F Sev - Bla, F Rum - Bul, A Ukr - Rum, A mos - War,
 F St.P - Bar S., F Swe sup Eng A nor
 Tur: A Bul - Rum, A con - Bul, F ank sup F Bla, F Bla sup ABul-Rum

Adjustments:

A-H: Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Gre, Even
 ENG: Lon, Liv, Edi, Nor, Even
 Fra: Por, Par, Bre, (lost Spa) Remove 1
 GER: Ber, Mun, Kie, Den, Hol, Bel Build 1
 ITA: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Mar, Spa, Build 1
 RUS: Mos, War, Sev, StP, Swe, Rum, Bul, Build 1
 Tur: Ank, Con, Smy, (lost Bul), Even (A Bul had to retreat off board)

Press:

???-??? Would the bear please Hurry up.
 Rus-Prussian Bully: Your aggressive Manner affends me as wellas
 Other people, it is to late to desist your
 attacks, now feel the consequences.

Moves are due on Wed July the 31, builds removes are due on
 Fri July the 26, both are due before 10:30.

BOOTH: The Nightmare Ends!

That about sums it up. It scares me so much, I don't even want to know what the NMR rate was. Thanks to this high rate, though, (100% in 2 of the last 3 seasons) we bid a fond adieu to BOOTH. The official result of this game is a six way draw. Unofficially, it was a total loss. Even so, there is an awards ceremony to take place at this time. For those who have forgotten, I am referring to the hidden prizes mentioned at the start of the game. These prizes are for issues of Conference Call and free entry to games in Conference Call. (Yes, I've noticed the zine doesn't really exist anymore. I suggest you use these prizes as quickly as you can, before the disease strikes a second zine.) In order of ascending value, before the budget of issue #13 was handed down, the prizes are as follows:

The first prize was for 5 issues of Conference Call to be awarded to the supply center where the most units were built (or failing that, the person who actually built those units). Not surprisingly, with 12 units on the board at the end of the game, this prize goes to Mitchell Wageler.

The second prize, for 8 issues of Conference Call, was for the unit that went the most consecutive seasons without being on a supply center (after retreats). Obviously, there is a psychic in our midst who wanted this prize, as Tor Abrahamsen moved his fleet into the English Channel in Spring 1901 and left it there for the whole game.

The third prize was for the longest convoy. Unfortunately, nobody got too creative so the longest convoy was from Norway to Edinburgh. The prize of one game goes to Bruce McIntyre.

The fourth prize, for quickest loss of a home supply center, was easily the first prize won. Or was it? In Fall 1901 Steve lost control of Marseilles, to win the 12 issues of Conference Call, but then moved to Montreal and lost the 12 issues when John Cooper took over France to receive credit for the prize.

The fifth prize was my favorite. 15 issues of Conference Call for the unit which made the most retreats without being annihilated. Strangely, though, any unit forced to retreat seemed to prefer death. This prize is therefore conceded to the GM who will hold it until he runs another game in Conference Call. (See below under Lucifer's Favorite Ski Resorts)

The sixth prize was for 2 games in Conference Call, as compensation for being the last unit annihilated before peace was declared. This honor was bestowed on Italy when the unit in Spain was forcibly removed during the Winter 1904 adjustments. At the time Denis was in charge of Italy but relinquished his role to Laurie McIlvena who now claims the prize.

Winners of issues of Conference Call have had their sub automatically extended in terms of money and Bruce will figure out the Conference Call - Excelsior conversion. Winners of games will of course receive their prize(s) when they enter another game. Any game in Conference Call is acceptable for these prizes. The game doesn't have to be GM'ed by me, which brings us to our next topic. I am always willing to offer my services as GM should people wish, however, I have my principles and therefore am unable to extend this service to a zine not worthy of publication.

Hey! It's just occurred to me. This is going to be in Excelsior, where Blubber McIntyre made a request for some jokes of a highly selective nature. Before I start in on Bruce, I guess I should point out though that he did really run that mile in 7:05.53 so he isn't in as bad condition as we pretend. The truly amazing thing, though, was that his stomach came in under 7:00.

Actually Ron and I figure Bruce ran so well because he does a lot of weight training. Every day when he gets up he turns his entire body a full 90 degrees and moves it into the kitchen where he does arm curls (from plate to mouth) for an hour.

Bruce's additional training by playing Jump 21 had to be abandoned, however, because of it's effect on Earth's gravitational field.

Occasionally people remind me that it's impolite to tell these jokes about someone with a weight problem, but the truth is Bruce doesn't have a weight problem. Actually, he has more weight than anybody I know.

It doesn't bother Nancy either. Until May this year, they had only met briefly several years ago. Unable to take their separation any longer, she moved to Vancouver so she could see more of him. She was not displeased. There's more of him to see than she ever dreamed of.

THAT ONE, TOO!**by NANCY HURRELL**

Hi! I'm Nancy, Bruce's new roommate. I think that this Zine should have an article that is real fun. This article will be sent to USA, CANADA, and abroad. I am going to reach the most people that is humanly possible, this way the article will be more entertaining.

The title, "That One, Too!", is to explain that there is more than one way to vocabulate a word especially when you are from another background. Bruce always tells me that I am saying it wrong, but where I lived (in Quebec) the words were always pronounced that way so I tell him: "That one, too". I am eager to find out how other people say words or noises, too.

The first edition of this new article will present you with different ways that people can pronounce and spell a word that you think is totally different. Sometimes the article will contain noises and other times it will be filled with just ordinary words. And what fun this will be!!!

Here are the first 5 things that I need you to answer and here is the question. What does a ??? say and how is it spelled? In languages other than English!

- 1) cow
- 2) dog
- 3) rooster
- 4) horse
- 5) giraffe

I will give you the most original ones in the next issue.

THE ROAD TO MEXICO

A few issues ago I mentioned the CONCACAF playdowns for the World Cup. First, let me explain what that is. The sport is soccer, CONCACAF is the zone comprising North and Central America, and the issue is who goes to Mexico next year for the World Cup finals, a 24 team tournament that may make me forget all about postal Dip (and everthing else) for a while. Only one team from CONCACAF goes to Mexico; usually there are two, but one spot is automatically taken up by the host country itself, so we only have one this time.

Two issues ago I reported that Canada had won their second-round qualification series, over Guatemala and Haiti. The American team surprisingly lost to Costa Rica in a clutch game in St. Louis twomonths ago, so the final round includes Canada, Costa Rica, and Honduras.

The funny part is this. Tony Waiters, Canadian national team head coach, travelled to Central America to decide upon a schedule. The rules are that any team can schedule their home games on grass for anytime, anyplace. But the period in which the games have to be played must be agreed-upon by all three teams. Canada and Costa Rica wanted to play the games in late-September early-October, as they had many players on European teams that would not be eligible for summer play. Honduras, on the other hand has a Marxist government which supports the national soccer team. Realizing a good thing, they forced a compromise so that the games would be played before Sept 14. They then scheduled Canada's game in Honduras for August 25th.

Waiters thanked Costa Rica for their support, and set a date of August 17 in Toronto for the CRA at CAN game. Then he turned to the Honduran delegation and calmly told them that their match in Canada would be played September 14, in St. John's, Newfoundland!! This of course, make the dastardly Hondurans travel as far as possible, and wait as long as possible. Sounds like a good one. I can hardly wait!

COMPUTING A ZINE

Let me start my discussion of my new computer system by listing exactly what I now own. Or, at least, what I shall own by the time this makes print.

I own the following:

1. Commodore 64 computer
2. Commodore 1541 disk drive
3. Roland 1111 printer
4. Some (not much) software, including:
 - a) Summer Games (Epyx)
 - b) Star League Baseball (Gamestar)
 - c) PaperClip (Batteries Included)
 - d) Assorted Programs (courtesy of Dave Carter)

Basically, I am not your typical Commodore user. The major reason is that I do not steal software, though I don't imply any high moral standing on my part with that statement. It just seems to me that programmers deserve my money for their programs, if I decide they are worth it. But what I mostly want to talk about is how I go about the business of producing this thing now that I have Marvin doing most of the work.

If you have a Commodore, I can't recommend PC highly enough. No, not IBM's PC, I mean PaperClip, the word processor. It's so nice to be able to see your mistakes without having to look down the barrel of a loaded typewriter, not to mention using the cursor keys to mop up messes.

For Diplomacy games, all you have to do is enter in the addresses and paging format once, save it and add on the orders and press each season. Then when it's time to adjudicate, you insert underlining where necessary, add some press of your own, and print it all up.

There are a few other things I use with respect to PaperClip and Diplomacy reports. These have to do with the problem of computer sabotage of orders. You know what I mean. Player orders A StP S A Lva-Mos, and the computer breaks it up to read A StP S, and, on the next line, A Lva-Mos. So when I type in orders, I use what they call hard spaces, which is what PC sees if you hold down the shift key with the space. The result is that PC refuses to break up the line there, and looks for another place to do so. The problem here is that sometimes you get the orders spaced out across the page. Solution: change the sequence of the given orders. This trouble comes into play with regular text as well, how do you tell the computer to break up a word with a hyphen, if and only if it comes at the end of a line? The answer: use what is called a conditional hyphen. The wrong thing to do is to put a conditional hyphen in everywhere it could possibly be used. Much better is to view the text as it will appear, and put it in where needed--after all the typing is done.

My address list is much better handled now as well. PC can sort my address list on any of the eleven "fields" (first name, last name, street, city, province/state, country, postal/zip code, last issue in subscription, standby, publication if any, and phone number), breaking ties by checking other fields if necessary. For example, I usually tell it to sort on field 2 (Last names), breaking ties with field 1 (First names). But I could just as easily sort on field 9 to see my standby list, or field 10 to see who publishes, or field 6 to separate the countries....

The phone number file is rather empty, though, so I'd appreciate it if you'd send your number next time, with areacode, so I don't have to search for it in my 60-pound box of Dip stuff.

Next big project: getting the printer to print out BRUX with a reversed R!

No! NOT ANOTHER SONG!!

I'm afraid so.....

I'M A PUBLISHER!

to the tune of Python's "Lumberjack Song"

Handwritten musical notation on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. There are two first endings (marked '1.') and one second ending (marked '2.'). The lyrics are written below the notes.

Solo: I'm a publisher and I'm O.K. I sleep all night and I work all day
Chorus: He's a publisher and he's O.K. He sleeps all night and he works all day

1. lick my stamps, I read my mail, the mail is so damn slow. I've col-lat-ed more pag-es than an-y-one I
 2. lick his stamps, he reads his mail, his mail is so damn slow. He's col-lat-ed more pag-es than an-y-one he
 know
Chorus: He knows
 and back to the start

These are the full lyrics, although you can figure out what the chorus has to sing on the repeats:

I'm a publisher and I'm O.K.
I sleep all night and I work all day

I lick my stamps, I read my mail
The mail is so damn slow
I've collated more pages
than anyone I know

I'm a publisher--it's deadline week
I'm up all night and I'm losing sleep

I drink my rum, I type my zine
I save it on a disk
I've so much faith in Marvin,
I'm taking quite a risk

I'm a publisher and I'm O.K.
I type all night and I work all day

I load my text, I edit same
I pour another drink
I haven't slept for something
Like thirty hours I think

I was lucky--got the day off work
Now at last I can do some work

I'm out of rum!! I buy some more
I try to get things done
Bacardi does affect me
I see two when there's one

I'm a shubliper and I'm quite
pissed
"We're late!" shout I, "so slap mah
wrist."

The weekend comes, the printer
waits,
The zine's not ready yet
And I've now just discovered
My XL disk is wet

I'm a publisher and I'm O.K.
I sleep all night...[Grand
Pause]...and I sleep all day.



Most of the Post

[The following is paraphrased from the never-changing opening of Hotline, which is the right-wing-oriented radio talk show you'll hear in the background if you phone me between 7 and 11 at work. The moderator is Pat Burns, who they say is the father of the open-line radio talk show, and as they say, there's only one Pat Burns. I realize this has little to do with Diplomacy, but I thought it'd be a nice lead in to our letter column.]

Hello out there all you XL readers, and welcome to another four pages of talk, discussion and debate, on any and every topic under the sun. This is the show that asks you to think, dares you to think, wants you to think, and, having thought, speak out. But please: think first, then speak. So many people speak without thinking....

When I say any and every topic, I mean precisely that; I don't care whether your topic is purely local in nature, regional, provincial, national, international, outer space, philosophic, or sports....

[McBruce here. You have to hear him to believe him, but he's said the very same thing for the past 20 years or so, five nights a week, to open his show. And now it's time to go with our first call, er, oops, I mean letter...]

STEVE LANGLEY: What colour are you that you struck terror into children in Minneapolis? I can't imagine a Canadian named McIntyre being anything other than plaid, but that doesn't sound terribly fearsome. Will I get a chance to meet you at DipCon and find out?

BM: Of course; perhaps sooner if I find enough money to get to DafCon. You'll find that I am only slightly darker than this page (and I don't mean the ink). Around this time of year, that gets pretty embarrassing, but I have never tanned without burning profusely first, and I do not enjoy pain.

BOB ACHESON: Interested in drafting a hockey team for the 85-86 season (goals and assists being equal)? I'm always interested in making money off people who enjoy a gentlemans wager. Do you follow football? If so, care to put a few (or more) dollars on those perennial chokers, the Lions?

BM: For those of you who think you are football fans and can't figure that sentence out, Bob's talking real football, the CFL, where we only need three downs to gain ten yards. Certainly, Bob: how about this--I'll take the B.C. Lions and the Montreal Concordes, and you can have the other seven teams in the league. Whoever has the Grey Cup winner gets \$10 from the loser, and whoever has the other finalist gets \$5 from the loser. Fair?

As for your hockey proposal, sure I'd like to be in a hockey pool, but if it's for the whole season, I think trading should be allowed. Otherwise you just draft and wait six months--boring. I would think a hockey pool with that type of interaction would be quite interesting--it certainly worked for Conference Call, why don't you run one in your zine next season?

RON KRUKOWSKI: Hobbytalk was interesting as well as enlightening. I have to agree that Turkey is the strongest defensive power in the game, although I think France is the strongest offensive power....My wife is always lamenting that she's a "Diplomacy widow." Watch out, Nancy.

BM: Ron, in view of what you've been up to in ALBINONI, I would say our

next letter writer would agree with your views on offensive powers....

CHARLES ARSENAULT: How do you do your printing at XL? Do you do it yourself or give it to a printing house?

BM: As you no doubt have guessed, I have mass quantities of XL cover blanks and XL inside blanks, which have the borders and mastheads printed on them. When I run out I might think about fixing them up a bit for the second run, but that's still a ways off yet. Then I get up early Saturday morning and ride across town to Kinko's Copies, making certain I am the first one there at 9AM. The pages are reduced to 80% of size individually (the original size is 8" by 12" or so), then I figure out which two pages will occupy the same side (this high-level calculus is always extremely difficult in the morning, but at least I've not yet put out an issue in which the pages were out of order--#3 was as I wanted, and for that one I had to think it all out the night before and write it all down so I wouldn't forget), scotch-tape them together and then it's back to Les Hermans reducer, where they get squished to 80% of size, making a total reduction of 64% of original size. (CC is 60%, as the first reduction is 75%.) So I don't actually give it to a printing house, rather, Les and I work together every fifth Saturday morning. The entire process takes about 2-3 hours, depending on how busy Kinko's is with other customers.

ALAN STEWART: As requested, I am submitting my criticisms of Excelsior. Well, I don't really have any. Your appearance is excellent, I like the typewriter, and it's a waste of time trying to improve the appearance further. Besides, the most important appearance-related goal is consistency. Consistency of format contributes much toward creating a zines image.

RT [He means Rather Tall, his own nickname for XL.] is very well-written. The "upbeat tone" is nice but I don't mind a dark streak in a zine's tone now and then either. You have really taken the snippet theory of letter-column-composition to an absurd extreme. What does it matter whether people write for-print letters or not when all that appears is seven or eight words snatched off the middle of page four? I would expect this letter to appear in RT as:

ALAN STEWART: Consistency of format contributes much...

BM: But it didn't help your face.

ALAN STEWART: I don't mind a dark streak...

BM: OK, I put one down your copy with a magic marker. Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!

As you may gather, sometimes I don't particularly like the editors comments either!

BM: I think you're exaggerating a bit there, but I suppose I do cut up a bit much. The reason is that four pages of letters is about all I can reasonably handle. This is no NEA or VoD, you know. The absolute limit on XL is 32 pages. If I printed everything I got, the entire letter column would be that long, at least.

I have some very dim views of letters marked "not for print" or "off the record." For one thing, what record? "NFP" seems to me to say "since you're too stupid to realize that this is confidential, I thought I should spell it out for you. And what exactly does "off the record" mean. Can I print it? Should I even read it? If somebody questions me about the letter, should I deny it's existence? The more I think about it, the more I wonder how much of this feuding would be taking place if

MOST OF THE POST continued

people had the courage to stop hiding behind those two labels. The typewriter is gone. For good. What do you think now?

SCOTT HANSON: Dear Bruce and Nancy:

That's assuming the two of you are still together--after the rocky start you had at MinnCon, I'm not too sure.

BM: So that was why the floor there was so hard. Rocky indeed...

SCOTT HANSON (Cont.): Of course Marc (Peters) knows the Brewers & I know the Twins like the backs of our hands. We have a case of beer riding on who comes out the better. That sort of fandom doesn't exist in Vancouver because baseball isn't in Vancouver (yet).

BM: I could easily be a Brewers fan, as the Vancouver Canadians are their Triple-A affiliate, but the Brewers don't seem to care about us too much. Bamberger was asked by The Sporting News who he feels could be stepping into the Milwaukee lineup next year. He named one Vancouver player, and three players from El Paso, their Double-A affiliate. Why are these players in Double-A? Why don't we have them here? Ghod knows we need them--we lost the first half pennant by one game when our pitching staff was depleted by the Brewers themselves, whom I suppose were trying to avoid last place at the time. Did we get any players from El Paso? Of course not! Grrrrrrr...

[I opened this next envelope under the watchful eye of Nan. At least this one wasn't in a pink envelope, but Nan doesn't forget very easily. The last one had been in a pink envelope, and I got some assorted bruises as I tried to explain myself.]

MELINDA HOLLEY: Actually, between you and me, I hate pink! I always use the pink stuff first in order to get rid of them.

Nancy--good for you. Train Bruce early in how to act.

Bruce--you love it when Nancy goes for you (chuckle).

BM: No comment.....

ROSIE ROBERTS: XL seems to be getting better (that's not intended to be damning with faint praise) but your musical quotes get my goat. I hunted everywhere for the LVB one--played almost every record of Beethoven that we know. I only didn't play the ninth--I knew it so well I was sure it couldn't be there! The same is true of the latest batch. That first one has to be P.I.T., but I can't locate the bugger. At this rate I shall have to start paying for the zine. I'm not sure just how to send you money. If I send you one of my cheques it won't be cleared for a couple of months--at least the ones I send to England never are. Can you change foreign banknotes? Should I buy dollars here? Please advise.

BM: If you can buy dollars there, whether Canadian or American, that might be best. Any type of cheque is likely to take years to clear, with a hefty service charge. Or you might be able to arrange something with Richard Sharp vis a vis your Jotto winnings. If I found out that my Dolchstoss sub had been extended by an XL subber, I'd ceratinly return the favour.

ROSIE ROBERTS (Cont.): Can I please use (misuse) your zine for a private advertisement?

I will pay any reasonable amount for a copy (or a "copy") of the Tom Lehrer record That Was The Year That Was (US:Reprise RS-6179 or UK:Pye R-6179 both in 1965).

BM: There you are, best of luck....

ALAN STEWART again: I sympathise with Steve Langley when it comes to musical appreciation, but I look at it from a different perspective. Are not all of the noises created here on God's good earth music? And who are we to pick and choose among them? Are not the banging, clattering, hammering, and smashing noises created by the construction crew that wakes me up at 7:00 AM as much "music" as the classical tapes played by my roommate at 40 decibels that keep me awake at midnight? Same effect. Yes, they are.

BM: No, they're not. Who are we to pick and choose among them: only intelligent, civilized, and cultured. Far more people would pay for a recording of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker then would fork out money for Construction Workers Greatest Hits. The problem is that even more will gladly pay for an AC/DC 45 that will be retired to the bottom of sixty lbs. of vinyl in three weeks.

STEVE KNIGHT: I must confess that at first I felt a bit cheated when I read that you decided to name your games after composers; I had been planning on doing that myself, but that's what I get for delaying so long in publishing!

BM: Another thing you get is an air of having thoroughly thought out that decision--It's a Trap has a real air of consistency about it, even after only two issues. It's hard to believe that people tell me that about XL, but then I have the vantage point of actually seeing it put together every fifth Friday night in a blind rush. I suppose it would be just as hard to believe that you're going through that too, as IT looks very carefully planned out and scheduled.

STEVE KNIGHT (Cont.): Let's see, what else... Oh yeah, (blush), the ISE. Thanks for your extraordinarily kind words about it. I'm gratified, and flattered, that you think that highly of it. I can not, however, lay claim for the original concept. The ISE was originally founded back in the 1970's by Edl Birsan; thus, if anyone has done anything that deserves a Miller Award nomination, it's Birsan. Your description of how the Exchange works is accurate, with the small exception that the conversion from one form of currency to another takes place at the receiving end (i.e., I send Doug word that I received your \$20, and he converts it sterling based on the exchange rate when he receives my letter).

BM: Thanks for correcting my error. My nomination was not as much for conceiving the ISE as it was for taking the time to run it, especially as both you and Doug are now running your own zines as well! And completely free too (not the zines, readers, the service!)

That about concludes this edition of Most of The Post. The Do You Agree With Alan Stewart contest has been held over until next time. Here are the questions again. Which does Alan prefer among these?

- 6) "California Girls"-old or new rendition?
- 7) George Will or William F. Buckley?
- 8) Mary Lou Findlay or Barbara Frum?
- 9) 50 or Blue?
- 10) Judaism: Orthodox or Reform?

It doesn't matter if you don't know what the hell we're talking about--most Americans, I suspect, would be baffled by #8, or #9 perhaps. There are 15 more after this, the subber who guesses for the best percentage (minimum 15 guesses) will win five free XL's, and this prize will be doubled if there are more than ten in the running at the end.

CENSUS THE SECOND

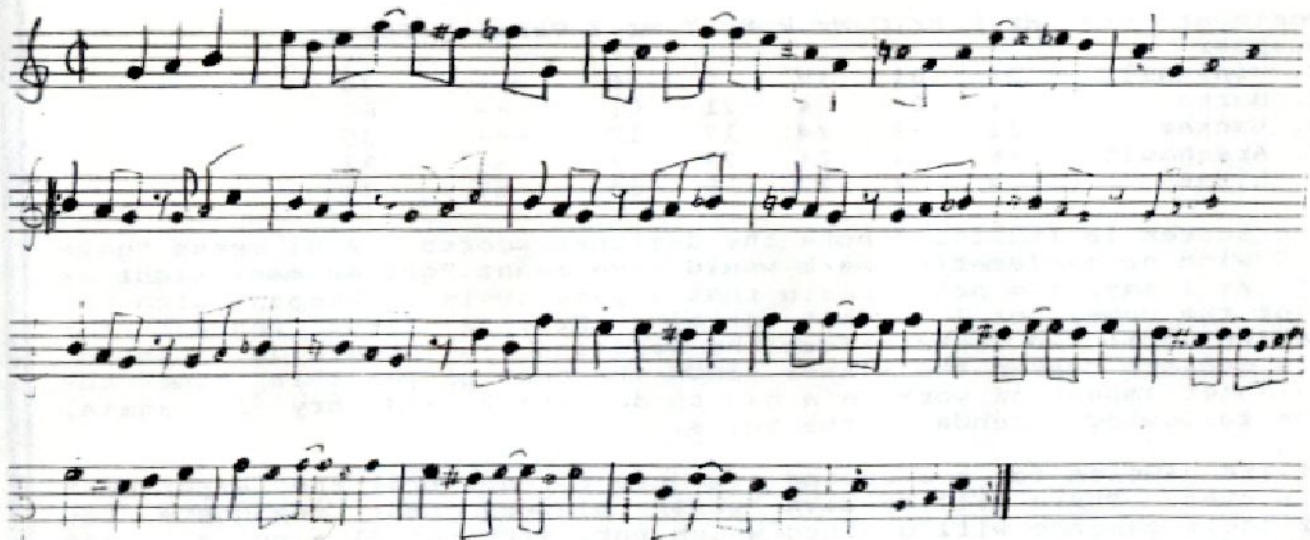
Excelsior Address List as of July 23 1985

This is the latest XL address list, but since I'm forced to print this in condensed print, I realize the chances of it's being legible (at 26.56 characters per inch) are somewhat remote. Oh well, best of luck anyhow!

Tor Abrahamsen ??? Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-872-3777
 Charles Becker ??? Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-684-0534
 Don Clancy ??? Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-876-6200
 John Cooper ??? Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-876-8396
 Randy Davis ??? Surrey? BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-581-6964
 Bryn Dymant 6442 Imperial Ave. West Vancouver BC Canada V7W 2J6 (C) Z -- 604-921-8107
 Greg Jansen ??? Surrey? BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-594-9126
 Simon Matthews ??? North Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-929-3708
 Laurie McIlvina ??? New Westminster BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-522-9132
 Bruce McIntyre & Nancy Hurrell 6191 Winch St. Burnaby BC Canada V5B 2L4 (X) Z IL, CC 604-299-2382
 Klaig Morton ??? New Westminster BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-524-3368
 Mischa Sandberg ??? Burnaby BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-298-6710
 Bruce Maddell ??? Burnaby BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-434-6523
 Mitchell Mageler 665 E 29th Ave. Vancouver BC Canada ??? (C) Z -- 604-874-3605

Bob Acheson c/o Echo Bay Mines Lupin NWT Canada X0E 1M0 (T) S The Canadian Diplomat ???
 Jeff Albrecht PO Box 295 Doland SD USA 57436-0295 (17) Z -- ???
 Charles Arsenault 4490 St-Kevin#7 Montreal PQ Canada H3T 1H9 (9) S -?- ???
 Mike Barno 2811 Robins St. Endwell NY USA 13760 (11) Z -- ???
 Bill Becker 810 Turvill Kalamazoo MI USA 49007 (11) Z The K-Zine From K-Zoo ???
 Mark Berch 492 Naylor Pl. Alexandria VA USA 22304 (10) Z Diplomacy Digest ???
 Kevin Brown 100 Patton Dr. Warner Robins GA USA 31093 (11) S -- ???
 Ron Brown 70F Chesterton Dr. Nepean ON Canada K2E 5S9 (10) Z D-Day, No Fixed Publisher ???
 Jim Bupas 4495 Dillard Rd Eugene OR USA 97405 (T) Z Liberteerren ???
 Chris Carrier 1215 P St.12 Sacramento CA USA 95814 (12) Z -- ???
 Linda Carson & Jim Gardner Apt 1, 10 Young St. E Waterloo ON Canada N2J 2L2 (7) Z -- ???
 Dave Carter 118 Horsham Ave. Willowdale ON Canada M2N 1Z9 (T) Z Sleepless Knights 416-221-8066
 Derek R. Caws 17 Malta Road Buckland Portsmouth UK PO2 7PZ (T) Z War and Peace ???
 Steve Cooley 3551 Casamia Ave. Palming CA USA 93550 (11) Z -- ???
 Gary Coughlan 4614 Martha Cole Lane Memphis TN USA 38118 (11) Z Europa Express ???
 Derek Daniels 440 Fairview Ave. Crown Point IN USA 46307 (12) Z -- ???
 John Davies PO Box 968 Pt.Hardy BC Canada V0N 2P0 (13) Z -- ???
 Fred C. Davis 1427 Clairidge Rd. Baltimore MD USA 21207 (T) Z Bushvacker ???
 Michael J. Ditz 5785 Danube Way, Apt.C Orlando FL USA 32807 (11) Z -- ???
 Steve Dycus 3450 Koring Rd. Evansville IN USA 47712 (11) Z -- ???
 Greg Ellis 700 Rio Grande Austin TX USA 78701 (T) Z Feuilletonist's Forum ???
 Joan Extrom & Ken Corbin 35096 Kings Valley Hwy. Philomath OR USA 97370 (20) Z -- ???
 Jerry Falkiner 10 Spiers Cr. Cambridge ON Canada N1R 1B2 (13) Z -- ???
 Jan Feringa Radijkstraat 11B 9741BJ Groningen THE NETHERLANDS (T) Z Brutus ???
 Pete Gaughan 3121 E.Park Row #171A Arlington TX USA 76010 (13) Z Perelandra ???
 Claude Gautron 150 rue Masson Winnipeg MB Canada R2H 0H2 (10) S Duinipique ???
 Scott Hanson & Frauke Petersen 2626 Stevens Ave.S Mnpls MN USA 55408 (T) Z Ponaes Mit Mayo ???
 W. Elmer Hinton Jr. c/o PO Box Letter S Nashua NH USA 03061 (T) Z Kaissa ???
 Frank Hoekstra Molenpad 3 Niehove ### THE NETHERLANDS (T) Z N.T.S. ???
 Melinda Holley PO Box 2793 Huntington WV USA 25727 (T) Z Rebel ???
 Steve Hutton 704 Brant St. London ON Canada N5Y 3M1 (10) Z No Fixed Address ???
 Jaap Jacobs Kaiserstraat 10-B 2311GR Leiden THE NETHERLANDS (T) Z Oxyoron ???
 Steve Knight 11905 Winterthur Ln.#103 Reston VA USA 22901 (11) Z It's a Trap! ???
 Ron Krukowski 5339 W.Eddy Chicago IL USA 60641 (21) S -- ???
 Steve & Daf Langley 2296 Eden Roc Lane #1 Sacramento CA USA 95825 (T) Z Magus ???
 Travis Laster 125 Garden Court Winchester VA USA 22601 (11) Z -- ???

Michael Lee 3480 Danna Court Eugene OR USA 97405 (T) Z The Concert Of Europe ???
 BRUX Linsey 73 Ashuelot St. Apt.3 Dalton MA USA 01226 (14) Z The Runestone Poil ???
 Brian Lorber 1927 Orzington Ave. Evanston IL USA 60201 (11) Z -- ???
 Rob Lowes RR#9 Peterborough ON Canada K9J 5X1 (10) Z -- ???
 Scott Marley 515 Madison Ave. New York NY USA 10022 (14) Z -- ???
 Alain Martine 47 Chartres Dollard-des-Ormeaux PQ Canada H9A 1J6 (7) Z -- ???
 Sean McGonigle 448 Kelvin Rd. Papakura NEW ZEALAND # (8) Z -- ???
 Paul Milewski PO Box 256 Batavia OH USA 45103 (11) Z -- ???
 Conrad Minshall 3702 Tarragona Lane Austin TX USA 78727 (14) Z (Butter Battles) ???
 Ralph Morton RR#2 Greely ON Canada K0A 1Z0 (10) Z -- ???
 Wallace Nicoll & Doug Rowling 228 Kinnell Ave Cardonald Glasgow, SCOTLAND UK 652 3RU (T) Z POW ???
 D.S. Palter 999 Central Ave #300 Woodaere NY USA 11598 (12) Z -- ???
 Alan Parr 6 Longfield Gardens Tring Herts UK HP23 4DN (T) Z Hopscotch ???
 Larry Peery Box 8416 San Diego CA USA 92102 (T) S Xenogogic ???
 Marc & Debi Peters 1814 Cameron Dr. #3 Madison WI USA 53711 (T) Z So I Lied ???
 Dennis Quine 55 Rosemoor Rd. Little Rock AR USA 72209 (10.5) Z -- ???
 Bill Quinn 301 Conroe Dr. Conroe TX USA 77301 (T) Z Everything (BNC) ???
 Craig Reges 164751 White Plains Rd. Bensenville IL USA 60106 (11) S -- ???
 Jeff Richmond 3133 Platt Rd. Ann Arbor MI USA 48104 (T) Z Frobozz ???
 Rosie Roberts Ziegeleivog 4 2126 Adendorf WEST GERMANY # (6) Z -- ???
 Glover Rogerson The Basement, 11 Buckingham Place Clifton Bristol UK BSB 1LJ (T) Z Denver Glont ??
 Ben Schilling 24730 Roosevelt Ct. Apt.315 Farmington Hills MI USA 48018 (13) Z -- ???
 Johannes Schwagerleit Am Kaiferneim 10 4030 Ratingen 5 WEST GERMANY # (T) Z Spielwiese ???
 Ted Shannon 1262 Daniel Dr. Bathurst NB Canada E2A 3Y3 (10) Z -- ???
 Richard Sharp 27 Elm Close Amersham Bucks UK HP6 5DD (Comp.) Z Dolchstoss ???
 Keith Sherwood 8866 Cliffridge La Jolla CA USA 92037 (T) Z The Inner Light ???
 Bill Shirley 618 Main St. Yarmouth NS Canada B5A 1J9 (7) S -- ???
 Randolph Smyth 212 Aberdeen St. SE Medicine Hat AB Canada T1A 0R1 (12.5) Z Fol Si Fie ???
 Alan Stewart 702-25 St Mary St. Toronto ON Canada M4Y 1R2 (13) S -- ???
 Stephen Svigger 35 Sharrowbay Ct. Scarborough ON Canada M1W 3T1 (14.5) Z -- ???
 Terry Tallaan 7239 Sand Point Way NE #308 Seattle WA USA 98115 (T) Z NSMG ???
 Lynn Torkelson 992 Rosedale Rd NE Atlanta GA USA 30306 (11) S -- ???
 Pierre Touchette 1 rue Georges Masson PQ Canada J0X 2H0 (7) S -- ???
 Rod Walker 1273 Crest Dr. Encinitas CA USA 92024 (T) Z Erevhon? Diplomacy World? ???
 Earl E. Whiskeyman Jr. 27 Mark St. Milford CT USA 06460 (T) Z The CT Gamers Zine ???



PATTERNS II

The first round of Patterns II has finally been concluded, and the winner was--well, what do you think?
 These were the patterns used:

Mr. L	Mr. O	Mr. R	Mr. T	Mr. Y
O % O O % O	X X X O X #	X # # # # %	O X # % X O	X X X X % %
% O % % O %	% X O % % #	O X # # % O	X O X # % X	O O # # # #
O O O O O O	X % % O % #	O O X % O O	% X O X # %	% % % % X X
O O X # O O	% % X % % #	O O % X O O	# % X O X #	# # O O O O
# O O O O X	O % % % % #	O % # # X O	O # % X O X	X X X X % %
# # # X X X	% % % X % O	% # # # # X	X O # % X O	O O # # # #
Conrad	Mike	Bill	Charles	BRUX
Minshall	Barno	Becker	Arsenault	Linsey

A quick recap of the rules, then. The object was to guess the other players patterns by getting info on any of the 36 cells from me. You were allowed to get info as many times as you wanted, but the only way to get a high score would be to make a lot of good guesses, instead of getting info on 35 cells and guessing the 36th, which would at most give you +1. For the final guesses, wrongs were subtracted from rights, with the additional option of "giving up," which was a viable alternative for two players. Giving up got the guesser a score of zero, but penalized the designer whose pattern was given up on.

"But McBruce," you say, "what prevented the designers from submitting a very complicated pattern?" In Barno's case, nothing. But seriously, there was no obligation on any designer to create anything patterned; it was the scoring system that urged him to do so. Designers received twice the difference between the highest and lowest guesser scores on their designs. But if one player gave up, 5 points were deducted. If more than one player gave up, 5 for the first, and ten for each of the rest would have been deducted. The other scoring problem was a proposed penalty of five points for missing the deadline. This created some problems, as you will see...

PATTERNS II-ROUND ONE FINAL SCORE

Designer---->	Mr.L	Mr.O	Mr.R	Mr.T	Mr.Y	Penalty	Total
Guesser							
C. Minshall	34	0!	19	9	16	---	78
M. Barno	1	21	24	21	0!	---	67
B. Becker	11	-9	14	12	17	---	35
C. Arsenault	-6	-6	24	24	-4	---	32
B. Linsey	4	4	17	19	35	-57	74

The scores in italics denote the designer scores. A 0! means "gave up;" a 0 with no exclamation mark would have meant "got as many right as wrong." As I say, I'm not certain that a penalty is in keeping with the spirit of the game, but I didn't receive Bruce's first request for information until two weeks before the deadline, so I could do nothing. So let's declare Conrad the winner, BRUX the best player this time but for the sheer amount of work he's had to do lately, and try it again, with the following addenda to the rules:

1) The gamefee for the second round is \$2, now that the experiment phase is over. There will be five "pots": players must designate how much of their gamefee will go into which pot, with pot #1 > pot #2 > pot #3, etc. The pots are (1) High score, (2) Second place, (3) Best Designer, (4) Best Guesser, (5) Best Single-Pattern Guess. In this

Musically Speaking

The quiz this month is worth five free issues to the winner, plus a bonus of two if you beat the score of Ron Krukowski. This month's quiz has no questions pertaining to music that was popular before 1960. Yes, that said 1960--and I meant A.D. Good luck.

The scoring system is as usual, but there are a few bonus points you might pick up here and there. Otherwise the correct answer is, as usual, worth the same number of points as the number of the question.

- 1) What American city is referred to as 'the land of milk and honey', in Steely Dan's Do It Again?
- 2) Name the Supertramp album which opens with traffic noises and a solitary whistler.
- 3) This Chuck Mangione tune, perhaps the most successful Mangione tune in which his famed flugelhorn does not appear, lost the 'Best Instrumental' Grammy to The Hustle. Name it.
- 4) In the Steely Dan song My Old School, what is the name of the school? (Five BONUS POINTS for being exact.)
- 5) According to my collection (mostly cassette tape), which of the following Billy Joel tunes appeared on the second side of their respective albums? (You get the five points for naming every correct one and no incorrect ones, but you also get one BONUS POINT for each correct one you name.)
 The Longest Time, Just The Way You Are, The Ballad Of Billy The Kid, The Stranger, Piano Man, Easy Money, You're My Home, Movin' Out (Anthony's Song), An Innocent Man, Tell Her About It.
- 6) Identify the following lyrics. You don't get the repeated part that has the title in it, but you get everything else. Remember though, you are relying on my ear for lyrics, which is much worse than my ear for chords, notes, tone colours, and such stuff. So put up with the inaccuracies--this is how I hear it...

Godz and Clean Willie were in love, they said
 So in love the preacher's face turned red
 Soon everybody knew the thing was dead,
 He shouts, she bites: they wrangle through the night, yeah
 She go crazy: got to make a getaway; Papa say

[Chorus that you don't get goes here]

She takes the taxi to the good hotel
 Bon marche, as far as she can tell
 She drink de zombie from de cocoa shell
 She feels alright: she get it all tonight, yeah
 Mister Driver: Take me where de music play; Papa say

[Same chorus as before, but stay tuned, it gets better...]

At the Grotto, in de greasy chair
 Sit de Charlie wit da lotion and de kinky hair,
 When she smiled, she said it all
 The band was hot, so, they danced de famous Murango,
 Now he draws her back--now we fade to black.....

[Now there's a very cute little musical interlude designed, of course, to give one the picture of, well, um...Oh, they're about to start the clincher.]

Tearful reunion in the U.S.A.
 Day by day, those memories fade away.
 Son baby's growin' a peculiar way:
 It changed, it grew, and everybody knew, yeah.
 Semi-Mojo? Who's this kinky so-and-so; Papa go:

[And you put a final cute little chorus in here, and except for a brief relapse to the cute little interlude above, that's all you get. Good Luck!]

Musical excerpts from last issue were:

- 1) p.13--From the Adagio by Tomaso Albinoni. Also apparently known as the theme from the movie Gallipoli, which unfortunately I saw before I listened to the Albinoni piece for the first time, so I didn't recognize it. Patricia Post wins herself seven free issues as soon as she decides to stop earning her complimentary issues by doing that excellent artwork for the covers of XL.
- 2) p.22--From Also Sprach Zarathustra, by Richard Strauss. Surprised nobody got it with all the comment on Das Singspiel Alfabeten that I did here a while back.
- 3) p.26--Doin' Everything With You, by Chuck Mangione, from his album Main Squeeze.
- 4) p.30--The final bars of Magnetic Rag, by Scott Joplin. It may be in the wrong key, but by the time I get around to filling up the zine with these excerpts (usually about 5 in the morning on printing day), C-Major is good enough (not to mention complicated enough) for anyone.
- 5) p.31--The opening bars of Le Tombeau De Couperin, by Maurice Ravel. I know this one's in the right key, so no excuses. Believe it or not that is all an oboe solo, which I would suppose all the world's oboists loathe, except for the fact that it is in the context of such a lovely piece of music. Ask your friendly neighbourhood oboist to play it at about 100 beats per minute, and you just might watch his fingers age more slowly than the rest of him because of Einstein's relativity theory.

For this issue's excerpts, I shall pay five free issues each. Don't worry if you don't know the composer, all this really is is a glorified version of Name That Tune. And if you can't read music, send a tape or phone me up, and I'll vocalize them for you. (Did I really say that?)

The catch this time is that these tunes are all an intregal part of my frequent visits to the videogame arcades. All I need from you is the game they come from, or a description of the game if you don't know the title. Good luck!

GROUPS OWNED

	1-5	6	7	8	9+
AL NL	AL NL	AL NL	AL NL	AL NL	AL NL
ab	CJRMT	SilBoh	SSR	SSRPru	PruWRW
cd	WRWBoh	PicEE	SSR	SSRPru	PruArmArm
ef	MT Boh	ApuApu	JSJNA	FNAF	WalWalCJR
ghi	CJRWRWBW	ApuJSJNA	FNAF	WalBW	Arm
jkl	LvaLva	BW Apu	EE	WalSyr	SyrTyrTyr
mn	LvaLva	SWFWRW	JSJBW	SyrSyr	SWFTyr
opq	GasGas	MT Boh	SWFAlb	AlbAlb	SilSil
rs	TyrGas	GasGal	JSJSW	FAlbEE	MT Sil
tuv	UkrUkr	UkrGal	PiePie	PicPic	SwiSwi
wxyz	UkrGal	EE Gal	PiePie	CJRPic	SwiSwi

Baseball cont. from p. 10

Trades:

Warner Robins Wrens trade ghi9n to XL Armenians for ab9a

Endwell Eurypterids trade rs6n to XL Galicians for wxyz6a

from the podium

"The shit is going to hit the fan." These were the words of BRUX Linsey as he told me that Voice of Doom, the zine which Linsey published for five years ending last September, had won the Runestone poll.

I don't know at this point whether it has or not, especially as I don't receive many of the zines in which it probably will. But it all seems terribly stupid to me. Why should there be a foul claim lodged by the very people who refused to support the poll in the first place? Let me try to defend the validity and reputation of the poll, for whatever it's worth, with a few carefully chosen words aimed at the, as usual, hysterical outcry that is quite likely about to appear.

My first point is this: if you publicly state that you believe the poll results to be doctored, you are, in effect, calling Bruce Linsey and Pat Conlon liars. I was always taught to be absolutely sure of myself before doing something like that. Are you? Read on.

Isn't it possible that VoD could have won the poll on its own merits? The Voice of Doom had a flawless record in gamesmastering, efficiency, and a completely smooth fold, something not often seen in the hobby--though perhaps more often now that the definitive example has been set. I myself received a copy of the final issue as a sample, which probably goes to show about as much as can be shown about what sort of person BRUX is. My 'sample' was a 270-page zine full of letters, games, articles, and humour. How anybody can complain that a zine like that is not worthy of a high ranking in the Runestone is quite beyond me.

Furthermore, with so few of the anti-Linsey faction voting in the poll, wouldn't this take away many lower votes for VoD which might have resulted in a lower score? The American (and Canadian) way is that he who decides not to participate has no moral right to complain about the results.

The high turnout for the poll suggests that there are fewer Linsey enemies than we've been led to believe. And the appearance of many of the anti-Linsey zines on the Runestone list suggests that the anti-Linsey editors are not yet preaching to their converted. Worth thinking about, isn't it?

PATTERNS II continued

game, these pots would go to Mr.L, Mr.Y, Mr.Y, a tie between Mr.L & Mr.Y, and a tie between Mr.T & Mr.O.

2) Players will get a bonus of two points for every set of final guesses that come in after theirs, provided theirs come in before the deadline. In addition, a penalty of one point per day for any player whose orders come in after the deadline. The playing period will be ten weeks, allowing lots of time for collecting information.

3) The players names will not be kept secret this time, but I would not advise trading for info: you may give the other guy more than you get, and you may even receive false information!

Direct any questions to me. Every pattern and gamefee I receive before 30 August will be in the game! Play it again, Sam!

Baseball cont. from p. 30

If you can read that, I'm impressed! Despite appearances, there was really not much happening. Of course all hell will break loose once teams start playing their 162nd games and passing all their players to the team lucky (or unlucky) enough to have the most games left to play. So, stay tuned: it could be an interesting finish. And then again, there may be a strike. Any suggestions on what to do then?

excelsior

No. 6

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