

the Spammish Say-Nada.

Bucconeer, the 56th Worldcon. Baltimore, Maryland.

Pirate Issue Sunday Morning, August 9th, 1998.

Sunday Night Party List.

Holiday Inn

Check-Out Desk, 9pm

Concierge's Desk, 9pm

Convention Center

Load In-Out Dock, 3pm

Shadows Kidnap JMS

Mr. Morden, spokesperson for the Shadows, announced that the shadowy group had kidnapped J. Michael Straczynski. "The pneumonia claim is just a ploy by the forces of light to gain time," Morden said. "We have JMS and we're not letting him go."

Asked to verify these claims, Ambassador Kosh said only, "Mankind is a mammal."

Worldcon Is Never To End.

In a surprise move, the chair of BucConeer has canceled the closing ceremonies, clean-up, and move out. "Everyone is having so much fun that I can't bear to end this," said Peggy Rae. "So everyone will just have to stay in Baltimore and continue to party."

It is unclear as to whether this constitutes kidnapping since no one appears to be clamoring to leave. Of course this convention has a reputation for piracy anyway.

Baltimore Housing Bureau to Run U.S. Census

In a surprise move, the Republicans and Democrats have settled their differences over the census by hiring Violent-Helix, a Baltimore organization previously responsible for booking hotel rooms for conventions, to conduct the nation's official count.

"Republicans wanted a smaller population count of the inner cities whose residents vote Democratic," said a census expert. "Democrats, of course wanted a statistical projection that would yield a higher count. Neither would agree on a system that would favor the rival party. But by hiring Violent-Helix, no one knows what number will come up and which party it will benefit."

Objections by statisticians and geographers that this method is guaranteed to produce an incorrect number fell on deaf ears.

Missing Mascots

The debate between Bucky the Crab and his twin brother Yucky has been canceled. Neither has been seen since the crab feast.

Spelling War Erupts.

The long-simmering war between those who spell the convention's name Bucconeer, BucConeer, and BucCONeEr turned into a pitched battle yesterday as advocates of different spellings defaced posters put up by rival groups to "correct" their spelling. The Holiday Inn became a major battleground as adherents of different spellings tried to lure the Inn's signmakers, who had declared their neutrality by welcoming "Buccaneers" to Baltimore, to their side. Violence was averted at the last minute only by agreeing to call the convention Constellation II. However, everyone then began feuding over the correct spelling of the Millenium or Millennium Philcon.

Mind-Body Swap?

Yesterday's Business Meeting of the World Science Fiction Society was temporarily disrupted when the chair of the meeting pulled out a guitar and began singing. Immediately all the other parliamentarians gathered their chairs in a circle and sang along. Simultaneously, in the filker area, the singing was halted for long discussion, following Robert's Rules of Order, as to whether or not traditional medieval ballads qualify as filk appropriate to a science fiction convention and, if so, in what year did popular music suddenly become inappropriate material.

"It was the strangest thing," said a noted filker. "I suddenly had the urge to stop doing what I came to this convention to do in order to make sure proper parliamentary procedure was followed."

"It was awful," confessed a frequent attendee of the business meeting. "I found myself singing all the verses to *Banned from Argo*. Normally, I don't even admit to knowing what the song is about."

Baltimore Hotels Report Room Surplus.

Baltimore hotel rooms throughout the city are empty. Maids are cleaning rooms that were not occupied and concierges have been placed on holiday. In an annual practice known in the hotel trade as "The August Idyl," hotels deliberately leave rooms empty.

"We didn't know anyone wanted the rooms," said hotel manager. "It is our traditional holiday."

In response to request by BucCONeEr, the hotels have promised to release these extra rooms, starting at 10am on Monday.

Officious HOGU Results.

The following are the results of the 1998 HOGU contest. The DeRoach Award for Putridity in Everyday Life was won by Ken Starr. The Aristotle Award for Grand-Master Lifetime Achievement in Putridity was won by Arthur C. Clarke. The Best New Feud was between Monica Lewinski and her dry cleaners. The Best Traumatic Presentation was a double bill: The Big Lewinski and The Devil in Paula Jones. Fandom's Biggest Turkey was Stu Hellinger. The Best Hoax Award was the Razzies. Daddy-O was the best typeface. Baptist Pronouncement on Women was the Best Religious Hoax. The Best Professional Hoax was won by the Church of Diana. The Worst Fanzine Title was Ansible. Best Dead Writer was Robert Jordan. Best Hoax Convention was Disclave. Best Pseudonym went to "Peggy Rae Pavlat". Best Has Been (Deposed Dictator's Award) was Rudy Giuliani. Most Desired Gafiation went to Godzilla. Best New Disease went to Leonardo di Cappuccino. The Banger Award was won by George Turner at AussieCon. The Traffic Jam, Jellies and Preserves Award went to the Stain on Monica's Dress. The Best Alien Music Video was Spice World. Best Mixed Media was Event Horizon. Close Encounter of the Fourth Kind was won by the Oral Orifice. The Cuisinart Award went to Armageddon. Special Grand Bastard Award was given to Robert Sacks. John Glenn was chosen as Space Geek Geezer of the Year. Most Bizarre Hall Costume went to the Pink Flamingo. And the Most Erotic Line from Star Trek was "Engage!"

Editor Fires Jordan (Almonds).

Scott Edelman would like it to be known that even though he was bested by Gardner Dozois for the Best Editor Hugo, he triumphed over the Hugo-winning editor in the "Firing Jordan Almonds Out of the Nose" competition. The contest was witnessed by fellow editor Ellen Datlow in the SFWA Suite late Friday Night. This shows what skill is needed to become a famous science fiction editor.

Correction Box.

The Spammish Say-Nada would like to make the following corrections. Site Selection was incorrect. The real host of Worldcon will be Hoboken, New Jersey. Also, there were a few errors in the Hugos. The true winner for Best Novel was *The Cat in the Hat*. Best Novella was Tina Brown's resignation letter from *The New Yorker*. Best Dramatic Presentation went to the *Babylon 5 Bloopers Reel*.