

ConNotations

Volume 12, Issue 2
April/May

The Bi-Monthly Science Fiction, Fantasy & Convention Newszine of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society

24 Frames

Movie News & Reviews

By Lee Whiteside

A short preview of *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* will be added to the end of *The Fellowship of the Ring* at the end of March, giving the fans one more excuse to see it on the big screen before it goes away. There will be two DVD releases of the movie, one of the theatrical release of the movie, likely in August and another with lots of extras as well as around 30 extra



Ian McKellen as Gandalf in Peter Jackson's LORD OF THE RINGS © 2001 New Line

minutes of film from the movie. An official announcement from New Line is expected shortly after press time. In box office totals, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* has moved into 7th place in all time box office gross with \$315 million although *Lord of*

(Cont'd on page 9)

SF Tube Talk

TV News & Previews

By Lee Whiteside

X-Files Finale Sees Mulder's Return

Once **Chris Carter** announced that they would definitely end *The X-Files* with this season, rumors sprang up about whether **David Duchovny** would return as Mulder before the end. He definitely will be back, appearing in the series two hour finale, "*The Truth*", airing on May 19th. Before we get to the end, we've got a



Annabeth Gish as Agent Monica Reyes on THE X-FILES. © 2001 Fox

straight run of new episodes from the beginning of April. "*Scary Monsters*" features a little boy with a very vivid imagination that Agent Harrison brings Reyes and Doggett to when things look to be more than normal. "*Improbable*" has **Burt Reynolds** guest starring as "Mr. Burt", a mysterious guy who knows his

(Cont'd on page 10)

ReAnimation

Anime Reviews

By Craig L. Dyer

***** **Sherlock Hound Case File 1**

***** **AH! My Goddess The Movie**

***** **NieA Under 7 Volume 3:**

Sayonara Blues

***** **NieA Under 7 Volume 4:**

Under Seven Blues

** **Amazing Nurse Nanako 2:**

Firecrackers

** **Amazing Nurse Nanako 3:**

The Last Spiral

Craig is taking this issue off so we have a few guest reviewers this time.

Sherlock Hound Case File I

Pioneer, 125 mins,
DVD \$29.98, G

Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki (*Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*), re-populates the world of Sherlock Holmes with anthropomorphic dogs. This is a two sided DVD with the Japanese soundtrack/version on one side and the English soundtrack/version since the English versions have about 1 minute of extra footage in each episode.

The first four episodes of *Sherlock Hound* were originally done in 1981 as a Japanese produced show for Italian TV. It gained new life in 1984 with an additional 20 episodes produced for the TV Asahi network.

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ConNotations
Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society
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For more information on the Glendale group contact Sue Martin at 623-939-7815

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BORDERS OTHER WORLDS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Thursday at Borders, 2402 E Camelback at 6PM

April 18: TBA

May 16: TBA

For more info contact Eric 602-957-6660 or the-rock1@juno.com

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Fourth Wednesday at Borders, 7320 W Bell Rd in Glendale. at 7PM.

This group is on hiatus for November and December and will resume in January.

April 24: Downbelow Station by C.J. Cherryh

May 22: The Mummy by Anne Rice

June 26: On Basilisk Station by David Weber

July 24: Snow Crash by Neal Stephenson

August 28: Toreador by Stewart Wieck (A Vampire the Masquerade Clan Novel)

Sept 25: Canticle For Leibowitz by Walter Miller

October 30: Passage by Connie Willis
For details contact Tanya 623-487-9110

Press Release - New Radio Station

There is a brand new radio station on the internet just about books, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's called Book Crazy Radio Network (BCRN) and has programs about every kind of books, writing, conspiracy theories, Dragons, Fantasy, Science-Fiction, books to movies, etc. Programs schedules are available on the website at www.bookcrazy.net just click "listen live" and you can hear it.

Free Comic Book Day May 4th!

Yes, the comic industry (publishers, distributors and retailers) are holding a Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, May 4th, the day after the new Spiderman movie opens. The four major publishers are each offering up a special comic. Dark Horse will have Star Wars Tales - A Jedi's Weapon, DC will have Justice League Adventures #1, Marvel will have Ultimate Spiderman #1 and Image Comics will have Tomb Raider #1/2. These and other free comics will be available at most comic shops on Saturday May 4th. If you haven't been to a comic shop for a while, this is a good time to do so and if you are a regular comics buyer, bring along a friend or two. For more info and a searchable database of comic stores participating, go to www.freecomicbookday.com!

New Manuscript From Dennis L. McKiernan

Just a note to let you folks at ConNotations know that I just last week finished the manuscript for my mainstream thriller *Lord of the Ravens*. It is not fantasy or science fiction, but a tale (a novel) that has been mentally bugging me since the late 1980s, and I had to get it out of the way so that I could get back to writing my "normal" stuff. Also, recently I turned in the manuscript for a German anthology, whose theme is Dragons. This

CASFS Business Report

Supernal Readers,

CopperCon 21 has proved to be a financial success with \$2561 coming back to CASFS main after pass throughs and close out. Added to the Success of HexaCon this makes the future of CASFS look brighter than it has in years.

\$200 for the purchase of new locks was approved at the February meeting. These will be used for added security at the dealers' room and art show.

\$510 for the purchase of 3000 badge clips and laminates was also approved. The cost per badge (including clip) will be seventeen cents. This is very reasonable.

The sale of laminates and clips at cost to LepreCon and Space Access was also approved. The fact that we supply the other conventions makes possible the mass purchases of materials and thus the low per unit cost for all.

Wally has arranged the loan of computers to HexaCon and CopperCon from The PC Club. This will permit computer Gaming on a much more ambitious scale. Our thanks the two PC Club stores for their help.

Preparations for HexaCon 12 and CopperCon 22 are moving forward. Our CopperCon Guests are Author Guest of Honor, Barbara Hambly; Special Effects Artist Guest of Honor, Mojo and Music Guest of Honor, Jordin Kare.

Until Next Time
The Busy Scribe



© Sherlock

anthology is supposed to contain stories by American, British, and German fantasy authors. I have no idea who the publisher is, nor do I know if it will make it across to this side of the ocean sometime in the future. As well, there is a new Thieves' World collection coming out from TOR sometime in 2003 (I think) and I'll have a story in there, too. That manuscript has already been accepted by the editor, Lynn Abbey. I'm goofing off at the moment, having finished that mainstream thriller, the most researched book I have ever done, and for me, that's saying a lot.

Regards,
Dennis

INFORMATIONLINE: For up to date information on each month's CASFS and fan sponsored sci-fi related events call (602)973-2341 and select option 7 for a pre-recorded message. There is also a weekly email update. If you wish to receive the email update send your email address to Stephanie at leigh@casfs.org

Who's Who This Issue

Managing Editor: Stephanie Bannon

Co-Editor: Sue Martin

Co-Editor: Gary Swaty

Graphics Editor: Craig L. Dyer

Film & Video Reporter: Barry Bard

Staff Writers: Pam Allen, Barry Bard, Catherine Book, Craig L. Dyer, Michael Griffin, Shane Irons, Daryl F. Mallett, Shane Shellenbarger, Tom Tuerff, Lee Whiteside, Randall Whitlock, Mike Willmoth

Layout & Design: Stephanie L. Bannon

Keeper of the Mailing List: Craig L. Dyer and Doug Cosper

Contributors: Shane Irons

Labeling Crew for Volume 12 Issue 1:

Stephanie Bannon, Craig L. Dyer, Ray & Pinkie Gish, Milly McCloskey, Marguerite Murray, April Rice, Gary Swaty, Bill Whitmore

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Submission Info: Writers and artists are encouraged to submit work for publication. While we cannot pay you for your efforts your work will be seen by over 4,000 fans across the Southwest and the country. You will retain the copyright to your work for future publication. To submit your work or for more information please write to: ConNotations; PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or contact us via Email at Editors@casfs.org

Contact Information: ConNotations and its contributors can be contacted by mail at PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or via email at editors@casfs.org

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Gamer's Corner

by Shane Irons

<http://www.justgoplay.com>

Games to Put the "Family" Back Into Family Game Night

A grown up can simply only handle playing Candy Land so many times before they die of boredom. However, finding games that are easy enough for the kids to play, yet still offer just enough strategy to keep mom and dad eager to play is no easy task.

Luckily for us our very own US based Rio Grande Games, has released English versions of three very impressive games offering a decent level of strategy without becoming overly complicated. Each game is declared suitable for ages 10 and up; however, assuming your child doesn't still run the risk of eating small pieces (Or your husbands for that matter) you should, with a little help, be able to play with children as young as 8 or more.

I know what you're thinking, if an eight year old can play it how good can it really be? We for starters let's look at the latest 2001 Spiel Des Jahres winner (that's German for game of the year) **Carcassone** by Klaus-Jürgen Wrede. Note that this was not the children's game of the year, but THE game of the year.

In this tile lying game players are building the French city of Carcassone. Each player begins his/her turn by drawing a random city tile and then adding it to the steadily growing city. They then have the option of placing one of their followers onto that tile in effort to score as many points as possible.

Roads score one point for every tile they pass through; cities score two points per tile they cover (plus other bonuses for shields), cloisters (little church buildings) score one point for every tile that borders immediately around them, and farms score four points for each complete castle they connect to.

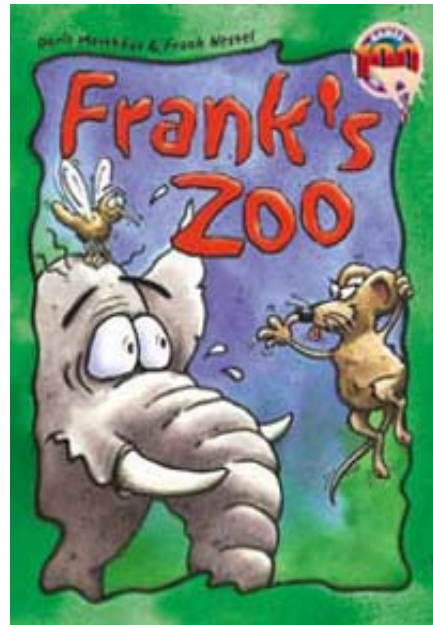
Sound simple? Well, each player only has 8 followers whom they do not get back until their roads, cities, or cloisters, or farms are completed (For farmers which score the most points that is the end of the game). Still Simple? Well points for each item are only scored for the player with the most followers in each city, on each road, or in each farm area. Ok, still simple? You cannot simply place a follower into a city with another player's follower. You must place them in their own individual scoring area and then later play tiles in effort to connect the areas together.

This all amounts to perhaps the most fun, lighter strategy game currently available and all for about \$20.00. All new copies are supposed to come with a free promotional expansion known as "**The River Expansion**" (make sure this has been printed on the front of the game box as

some chain stores are still selling through old warehouse stock). This expansion basically gives you a larger area to build off of at the beginning of the game. Also look for a really neat expansion coming this summer from Rio Grand entitled "**Carcassone Expansion**."

This is different than the River Expansion. It includes pieces for a sixth player, One large follower that scores a time three bonus, Cathedral tiles that double the score of a city (but make a non complete city worthless), and an Inn tile used for adding a bonus to roads. Check out <http://www.riograndegames.com> for more details.

On a lighter note we must bring up one of my personal favorites **Frank's Zoo** from a German couple otherwise known as



Doris and Frank. This is a trick taking card game with both basic and advanced rules. While the advanced rules may be slightly confusing the basic rules are good enough

to make the \$10 cost of the game a great addition to any family game night. This is currently our group's favorite finisher game (the game we play when our brain's are fried from playing too many intense strategy games).

In Frank's zoo players are simply trying to empty their hands of all of their animal cards first. However, animals range

from the all-powerful killer whales to the near worthless mosquitoes. Each animal is clearly pictured thinking about all of the animals it is afraid of (of course the killer whale simply isn't afraid of anything).

The skill of strategy enters play about mid game. There are only five of each creature, most have several weaknesses; however, some have only one. Now remember who has what left and watch out for the chameleon that acts as the wild card and can count as anything as long as he's played in a pair. Oh and remember those mosquitoes? They have a funny little habit of thinking they're elephants just when you least expect it.

It will definitely take a few tries to master the feel of this zoo. Just as a warning you might want to buy at least two copies as over the last few years my copies always manage to leave with our company as they found it just too fun to live without.

Finally we cannot forget **Elfenland** by Alan Moon. Although this game leans more towards the 10+ age range, it simply cannot be overlooked. It was the Spiel Des Jahres winner in 1998 and it is still currently selling strong.

In Elfenland players are trying to visit every city on the board and manage to return to their home city before the end of four turns. Players visit each city by moving their personal large traveling boot marker by playing cards.

At the beginning of each round players look at the eight cards they have been given. They then take turns drawing tokens that hopefully match the cards they have drawn. Afterwards they take turns placing them over various terrain types. For instance large traveling pigs may only be used to travel over plains or through forests. The other players are going to

need to travel across the same areas as you do, so eventually they may play tiles that are less than desirable for you.

Don't worry because you can always caravan to pass through any terrain with a token for the huge cost of only three cards. Of course you can always raft down a river, or use your fallen tree to make travel harder for that opponent. It's really all up to you.

After everyone has moved through their cities and collected their town pieces, all of the tiles are removed, new cards are drawn and the round begins again. Players lose one town piece for every city they are away from their home city, and the player with the most town pieces wins.

There is also an expansion for this game, but it significantly increases the playing time and may be too complicated for younger children. It does, however, add in the magician that let's each player magically teleport to any city on the board – but only once per game.

All of these games and more can be found at your local gaming store and most malls. Rio Grand has a lot of great games to offer and most dealers would be more than happy to run you through a demo. *Next issue we look at Magic Online. I have spent the last month playing the Beta version of this new Wizards of the Coast game online and I will tell you just what to expect. Until then send all comments or questions to shane@justgoplay.com and visit <http://www.justgoplay.com> for detailed reviews and pictures of other great board games.*

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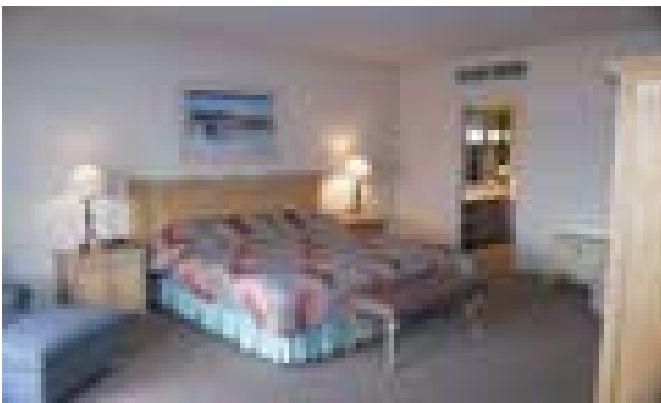
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depending on the level of pre support.

Check our website at www.az-sf.org for more details.

We also are looking for fans and/or professionals interested in supporting the bid
by being an active member of the bid committee.

Please contact us at Arizona in 2004, PO Box 67457, Phoenix AZ 85082, Email: info@az-sf.org
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or

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Musical Notes

by Tom Tuerff

Celia Farran: Fire in the Head (***, self-produced)

Science Fiction fans come in all shapes, sizes and beliefs. And aside from SF, it can be argued that we don't really have all that much in common, except for one other thing: almost all of us like Irish music. The five or six of you who don't can stop reading now.

With that, I present to you **Celia Farran**, a fine singer of Irish descent who hails from that great old Irish town of Milwaukee, WI. (Okay, Big Bend, actually, but close enough.) It's not surprising that a city usually associated with beer has a big Irish population. What's surprising is that I hadn't heard of Farran before.

"*Fire in the Head*" is a combination of traditional and original tunes performed on guitar with occasional other accompaniment. When you perform songs everybody's heard before, it helps to come up with arrangements that make them your own, and Farran succeeds in spades here.

The album kicks off with "*Maggie*," a song I've heard everybody from Irish bands to bluegrass bands to as a slow, mournful tune. Farran plays it up and fast, almost turning it into a different song.

From a filk standpoint, Farran has a great song of her own on here called "Gnomes," about a human who suddenly finds himself turned into a gnome.

Farran has a very nice voice, similar to **Heather Alexander** although not quite so husky, and perfect for the material here.

I got this CD from **Celia Farran** herself, when she stopped by Fiddlers' Dream open stage one Thursday night after playing a gig for one of the local Irish societies. She implied that she will be back sometime, and I suggest you check her out. In the meantime, you can pick up a copy of this CD and her new one, a collection of Irish stories, from her website: www.celiafarran.bizland.com. *Tom Tuerff writes about filk and folk music for ConNotations. If you have a CD or tape you want reviewed, send it to ConNotations or contact Tom directly at ttuerff@aol.com.*



© Sue Dawe

Screening Room

The Time Machine
Dreamworks, 96 min, PG-13

If you are expecting a remake of the 1960 classic with Rod Taylor you won't find it here. What you will find is a love story, an adventure and a tale of hope.

Alexander Hartdegen (Guy Pearce) has a nice home, a job he enjoys and a woman he loves (Sienna Guillory) until tragedy strikes. Determined to change things Alex locks himself away in his laboratory for four years building a time machine. But he finds he cannot change the past and decides to seek his answer in the future, stopping first in 2030 and then the extreme future, 800,000 years into the future. There he is both heartened to find the gentle Eloi and horrified to find that they are hunted by the savage Morlocks.

While there are some elements that seem to be missing (why does the Uber-Morlock decide to let Alex return to the past) some things are better handled than in the earlier film. In particular, Alex's motivation for building the time machine makes much more sense than the simple scientific curiosity of the George Pal film. And the actual time machine is gorgeous, all the whirling gears and lights make it seem plausible. We have the shop window that shows us the passage of the years (a tribute to George Pal's 1960 film) and the added delight of Vox (Orlando Jones), the automated hologram that holds all humanity's knowledge, a dispenses it in a thoroughly supercilious manner. The Eloi village is beautiful to behold, especially the night scenes. The whole film is a visual treat from 1890's New York to the world of the Eloi and even the underground world of the Morlocks.

I recommend this film. I would enjoy seeing it a second time in the theater and will definitely purchase it when it comes out on DVD. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Ice Age
Fox, 81 min, PG

A 20th Century Fox digital animation. Directed by Chris Wedge. Starring voices of Ray Ramano as Manny, John Leguizamo as Sid, and Denis Leary as Diego.

It's good to see Fox getting back into animation features, after they closed their local animation studio it looked like Disney/Pixar would have no competition at all. It's just too bad that their first effort was somewhat lackluster.

The plot centers around an irascible woolly mammoth (with a heart of gold, natch...), a goofy and hapless tree sloth that can't take no for an answer, and a sneaky saber-toothed tiger with a hidden agenda. These three band together to save a human child and to escape a coming ice age that seems to be moving with the speed of a Mack truck. So you take characters from Shrek and a plot device from Monsters Inc., throw in some

ice and put the blender on high. Voila!! Anime slushee! It probably only looks derivative. Nobody would actually just pull components from two highly successful films just to cash in, would they? Nah.

That's just me being irascible but with a heart of gold.



An acorn-crazy pre-historic saber-toothed squirrel known as Scrat reacts to the onslaught of a new ICE AGE © 20th Century Fox

On the plus side; the kids will like it a lot. There are some good bits too. The squirrel with it's acorn is a hoot, reappearing now and then throughout the film. The dodo bird sequence is wonderful. They should have made the movie about dodo birds, 75 minutes of goofy slapstick. "yeah, that's the ticket. - **Scott Muir**

ET: The Extra-Terrestrial -20 anniversary
Universal, 120 min. PG

Having not seen ET in the theater and only parts of it on video this gives me a unique perspective to write from. That said here we go.

Twenty years would usually give a very dated feel to a film. ET holds it's own. You do not seem to be watching an old film, as Star Wars feels. Spielberg manages to keep us in a current time frame just by redoing minor details, not a major overhaul. We now see the law enforcement carrying Walkie Talkies instead of guns. Less traumatic to young viewers? I would have to agree, although it is P.C. We now see the inside of the spaceship, ET in the tub and instead of the terrorist line on Halloween we hear "you're not going to go as a hippy", a good choice due to how people are feeling right now, but also P.C.

Thanks to CGI we now see better facial movement for ET, a more realistic Bike-across-the-moon, and a new set of flying bike scenes with actor look-a-likes instead of puppets. Yes, they did do some re-filming of the bikes with replacement actors. After all have you seen Henry Thomas and Robert McNaughton lately, it would be a real challenge to shrink them in CGI.

As a movie I would say it's an adults as well as a kids film. Many parents will want to see it for themselves, not the kids. It's fun, suspenseful, makes you happy and sad all throughout the film. You get to see more of a kids perspective of the world, something we can all learn from. There is not the constant explosions,

violence and language that has become the hallmark of modern film. Spielberg & Mathison relied on a script that can hold it's own. They do not need to cover up poor writing and big gaps in plot with effects and violence. Also there is only one line that could worry some parents.

Everyone who has never seen this at a theater should, you cannot get the full effect from the TV set. The visual and sound are sharp and effectively cleaned up for our current time frame. The acting is good and consistent and the characters developed well throughout the film. The flow of the film goes smoothly. All in all I had a great experience. - **Richard Bolinski**

The Count Of Monte Cristo
Touchstone, 132 min, PG-13

The Count Of Monte Cristo is the classic Alexandre Dumas story of an innocent man, wrongly imprisoned, and the vengeance he visits on those who betrayed him. Jim Caviezel stars as Edmond Dantes, a sailor who is falsely accused of treason by his best friend Fernand (Guy Pearce) who covets Edmond's fiancée Mercedes (Dagmara Dominczyk). Condemned even though the magistrate knows he is innocent, Edmond finds himself imprisoned in the infamous Chateau D'Ilf. Richard Harris appears as a priest and fellow prisoner who not only gives Edmond hope of escape as they tunnel towards freedom, but also educates Edmond in everything from math and civics to martial arts and table manners.

Escaping after thirteen years of imprisonment, Edmond retrieves the treasure the priest's former employer had hidden on the island of Monte Cristo. Using the treasure he goes to Paris as the wealthy and mysterious Count of Monte Cristo. Introducing himself into the midst of French nobility he thus sets into motion his plans for revenge.

At slightly over 2 hours this film's pace is slow. The scenes in the prison are realistically drab and colorless, though the cells seem incredibly clean and the guards incredibly inattentive. Parts of the film are visually stunning, the barren landscape and high cliffs of the prison island, the deserted villa and it surrounding field, the carnival in Rome, and, the piece de resistance, the Count's introduction to Paris high society which includes fireworks, a hot air balloon, servants in golden turbans and exotic garb for the Count.

This is not an action film, those expecting something along the lines of *The Three Musketeers* will be disappointed. What we have here is a character study as Edmond grows from an innocent and trusting young man into a cynical revenge driven man and finally into a man who recognizes the folly of revenge as it almost costs him all he holds dear. All in all it was an enjoyable evening at the theater and, while I won't go see it again in the theater, I look forward to its release on DVD. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Pro Notes

by Daryl F. Mallet

Hi, folks. It's been a while since this column has appeared, and much has changed in the world since then. I'm happy to say that everyone I know in SF/F/H-ness and the SCA made it through Sept. 11th unscathed...physically, at least.

In other news, I did NOT move to Minneapolis/St. Paul in October, as I was planning. Looong story there...the CliffNotes version is that the reasons for not going are sad, but I've ended up being glad I stayed in Arizona.

Thanks, as always, to everyone who sent me material for this column. Good to hear from you all. If I've missed anyone, please forward my contact info (sfwriter00@aol.com) to them that they might write me also. Ad Astra!

LOCALNEWS

Paul Cook writes that he has received "a grant from the College of Liberal Arts at ASU to design, then ultimately teach, a fully on-line science fiction course. I'm doing my own Web page design, links, etc. I'll be teaching a hybrid of that course this first summer session at ASU."

Former Arizona photojournalist **Kimberli DiMare** returned to Phoenix in March for a photo-tour of the state, working with the Media Relations Manager of the Greater Phoenix Convention & Visitors Bureau. She is working currently with <http://www.videohometours.com>.

Alan Dean Foster writes that he has sold short story "Ali Babette" to DAW for inclusion in the anthology *Fairy Tales*. "Tuvalu, South Pacific," an article on his visit and exploratory diving there last October, is in the current issue of *Undercurrent* magazine. Easton Press, which has previously published *Dirge* and *A Call to Arms*, is next going to do *The Mocking Program*, the upcoming (August 2002) Montezuma Strip novel. "Should be a handsome tome. I have nearly finished the outline to *Star Brake*, the Flinx & Pip novel that follows *Reunion* and precedes *Bloodhype*, and expect to start work on the novel itself before the end of the month [February]. I can tell you that certain characters from previous events in Flinx's life put in appearances; some significantly. So do certain actual astronomical objects. Wildside Press, the good folks who have done new editions of *The Man Who Used the Universe*, *Into the Out Of*, and *To the Vanishing Point*, will be reprinting my large historical novel *Maori*. Wildside Press books are available directly from their own website (see Links) or from Amazon or Barnes & Noble's Websites. My newest collection of short fiction, *Impossible Places*, containing an original Flinx & Pip short story, "Sideshow," will be an August release

from Del Rey. The third and final book of "The Founding of the Commonwealth," *Diuturnity's Dawn*, will be released on the 27th of [February]. The first novel set in the near-future of the Montezuma Strip, *The Mocking Program*, will be a September book from Warner.

Bill Hartmann writes: "I'm currently working on a nonfiction book about Mars from Workman Publishing in NY, and also have a second novel under contract with TOR/Forge Books in NY—a novel about the Southwest that combines a modern story with a parallel story set in the 1500s during Coronado's expedition, the first European look at what is now the southwest United States and northern Mexico."

Katherine Lawrence is pleased to announce that her first hardbound book was released in January 2002. Part of the "Martial Arts Masters" series from Rosen Publishing, it is titled *Jean-Claude van Damme*, and is a YA bio of the actor/martial artist. From dreams to the harshness of reality, the book hides none of the problems that have hit the news, but highlights the man who turned the title of his first feature role into a lifestyle: "No Retreat, No Surrender."

Daryl F. Mallett is finishing up copyediting on *Things in Revolt* by **Lev Lunts**, translated by **Gary Kern** for Xenos Press; copyediting on *Wail!*, by Beat writer **Brio Burgess** for his own Angel Enterprises/Jacob's Ladder Books imprint; and on a classic pulp fiction magazine for **Gary Lovisi** at Gryphon Books. He is also writing a handful of essays for *Vocational Biographies*, *The International Directory of Company Histories*, and The International Research Center. After that, he will finish work on three books: *George Fox: Friend for Christ*, a spec book on the life of the Quaker Church founder; a bibliography of **Robin Hood** and works dealing with the famed outlaw; and on *Like the Awesome Gleam of Crystal*, a derivative work based on the 1954 **E. C. Tubb** SF novel *Alien Life*.

Earl W. Parrish writes: "My short story "Last Chances" was published the first week of Feb. 2002 as part of the *Extremes 4: Darkest Africa* anthology by **Brian Hopkins** from Lone Wolf Publishing (<http://www.lonewolfpubs.com>). This is a signed, limited edition work and the "Extremes" anthology series has been nominated for the Bram Stoker Award of the Horror Writers of America."

Jennifer Roberson writes: "*Sword-Sworn*, the sixth—and final—"Sword-Dancer" novel, debuted in hardcover a month ago, and will be a featured selection in the SFBC. A screenwriter has an option on and is currently shopping the first novel in the series, *Sword-Dancer*, to various studios. I've been busy writing short stories for a whole slew of various fantasy anthologies, including one edited by **Mike Resnick** featuring F/SF stories by women who write as men; for DAW

Books' 30th Anniversary Fantasy Anthology; plus the *Murder and Magic* anthology, one featuring F/SF stories about dogs, and a novella for a romantic F/SF anthology featuring authors from the F/SF and romance genres. I'm also working on the first volume in my new "Karavans" fantasy universe, to be published by DAW. I'm set to be GoH at Roc*Kon in Little Rock, AR; Icon in Iowa, and the Life, The Universe, & Everything Symposium in Salt Lake City next year, and will attend ConJose for Worldcon this year. In dog news, I continue to show and breed Cardigan Welsh Corgis, and the household now numbers 10 dogs and 2 cats. I also returned to my roots by adding a horse to the menagerie, a Lipizzan gelding, and now enjoy rides in the forests surrounding the San Francisco Peaks. I attended my high school's (Central, in Phoenix) 30th reunion in October. I hope to raft the Grand Canyon this summer, and to visit Australia and New Zealand next year."

Ken St. Andre writes: "I have started a special club for *Tunnels & Trolls* fans called "The Trollish Elite." There are unusual benefits for joining. All gory details are online at: <http://www.angelfire.com/az3/trollgod>. Also, I've been published again in *The Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives, Vol. 5: Notable Americans Who Died Between 1997 and 1999*. I have two articles, one on **Jeanne Dixon** and the other on **Carlos Castaneda**. Additionally, I'm on the SFWA Nebula novel jury this year. Authors who hope to end up on the Nebula final ballot for next year should get a copy of their books to me." Ken can be contacted at korak@aztec.asu.edu.

Artist **Annette Sexton-Ruiz** is on "creative hiatus" which "will end soon!"

Janni Lee Simner writes: "I published two short stories in young adult hardcover anthologies this fall: "Water's Edge," in *Half Human* (Scholastic Press; **Bruce Coville**, editor) and "Hanukkah Light" in *Ghosts and Golems* (Jewish Publication Society, **Malka Penn**, editor). I also sold a short story to a can of coffee; "One Wish" appeared on Storyhouse.com's subscription coffee cans in December."

John Vornholt writes: "I've got two books coming out soon: On March 26, my third "Dinotopia" novel, *Dolphin Watch*, which coincides with the ABC mini-series and next season's "Dinotopia" series; it's published by Random House. In August, my fantasy novel for kids, *The Troll King*, comes out from Aladdin Books. I'll be at LepreCon, too."

Catherine Wells writes: "My short story "Bassador" was included in the anthology *Redshift: Extreme Visions of Speculative Fiction* from Penguin-Putnam (2001), edited by Bram Stoker Award winner **Al Sarrantonio**. I've also had a couple of short stories in *Realms of Fantasy* recently, "Artie's Angels" in the December 2001 issue and "The Sea-Maid"

in the February 2002 issue. This summer, I'll be going to the British Isles, where I hope to do a little research for a new novel about that 11th century Viking/Scottish lord, Thorfinn the Great."

OTHERNEWS

Brian W. Aldiss writes: "For me, this is a time of preparation. I have now begun work on three books: A nonfiction book on human consciousness (and therefore on electronic consciousness), a science fiction novel of a society where remedial medicine has taken off, and a contemporary novel of ideas, centering 'round a church where the community—consisting mainly of atheists—celebrate its 1,500 years of existence. Now I can't decide which book to work on. I have painted myself into a corner, or at least a vicious circle, or maybe a vicious corner... In May, my new SF novel, *Super-State*, will be published by Little Brown. But before that I shall be at the [International] Conference for the Fantastic [in the Arts] (ICFA) in Florida."

Mike Ashley writes: "The biography of **Algernon Blackwood** was published in the U.K. in November (as *Starlight Man*) and in the U.S. in January (as *Algernon Blackwood: An Extraordinary Life*). I've recently finished *A Mammoth Encyclopedia of Modern Crime Fiction*—expecting proofs soon, and that's to be published in June. I'm just delivering another historical crime fiction anthology, *The Mammoth Book of Ancient Egyptian Whodunnits*, and about to start on the final volume of my revised "History of the SF Magazine," this one called *Gateways to Forever*. I've also signed two contracts with the British Library, both directly related. One is for a *Guide to the British Popular Fiction Magazines, 1880-1950*, which I shall be writing with **David Pringle**. The other is for a six-volume *Index to the British Popular Fiction Magazines*, which I shall be doing over the next six years with **Bill Contento**. The *Guide* is to be delivered at the end of this year." Ashley was also named the 2002 Pilgrim Award winner, and will be presented with the accolade at the 2002 SFRA Conference, to be held in June in Scotland.

Marleen S. Barr writes: "I married an alien." Although the xenological categorization of her husband may be in doubt, she DID get married recently... She also writes: "As you may know, we [**Carl Freedman** and I] are coordinating a forthcoming issue of *PMLA* devoted to the special topic, "Science Fiction and Literary Studies: The Next Millennium." If you have not yet submitted an article, we hope you will consider doing so. A detailed description of the special topic may be found in any current issue of the journal, but—in brief—articles on any aspect of science fiction, written from any critical viewpoint, are welcome. The issue

(Cont'd on page 7)

ConClusion

Gallifrey One, A Review
by Mike Willmoth

As many readers know, Gallifrey One is the home planet for Dr. Who, that infamous BBC science fiction character that their long-running show is named after. It is also a media convention in the Los Angeles, California, area held every year around Presidents' Day Weekend. Recently, it has been at the Van Nuys airport (Airtel Plaza Hotel). This year was no exception. It ran Friday February 15 through Monday February 18, 2002.

Seeing as how it was their 13th annual convention, the official title was The 13th Floor of Gallifrey One. Chairing the event for the first time was **Diana Dougherty** and Programming was headed by **Shaun Lyon**. Guests-of-Honor were **Frazer Hines** (Jamie McCrimmon, DW companion), **Carole Ann Ford** (Susan Foreman, DW granddaughter) and **Anneke Wills** (DW companion). They also featured **Virginia Hey** (*Farscape* - Zhaan), **Mira Furlan** (*Babylon 5* - DeLenn), **Judson Scott** (*Babylon 5* - Knight One), **Gordon Michael Woolvett** (*Andromeda* - Harper), **Maggie Stables** (Professor Evelyn Smythe, DW audio companion), **Celeste Yarnall** (*Star Trek: The Original Series* Yeoman Martha Landon), **Bob May** (*Lost in Space* - the robot), **Julie Caitlin Brown** (*Babylon 5* - Na'Toth), **Marjorie Monaghan** (*Babylon 5* - Number One Mars Resistance), **Mojo** (past LepreCon GoH and upcoming CopperCon GoH), **Beata Pozniak** (B5 - President Luchenko), **Carrie Dobro** (*Crusade* - Dureena), **Stephen Austin** (B5 - Pak'mara Ambassador), **Ashley Miller** (*Andromeda* writing staff), **Jill Sherwin** (*Andromeda* story writer), and a whole slew of other folks.

Because of our schedule this year we couldn't stay for the whole Monday schedule. So, my family and I drove over from Phoenix in about 6 hours on Thursday afternoon. After checking into the hotel I wandered around to find anyone who might be doing something con-related, but there wasn't much yet. I refreshed myself with the layout of the function space. The hotel has space on the ground floor with most of the rooms in the south section and some in the north. To the south is the large programming room the con called Hellmouth. Next to that was the Art Show in Summers Gallery. Across the hallway were the Video Lounge (the Library), Green Room was, of course, in Lorne Green Room, The Initiative held more programming, Pylea had the con office and the freebie tables along with fan tables out in the open in the Cemetery. Registration was near the hotel's reg desk in Wolfram & Hart, Consuite in Caritas and another Initiative across from Consuite for more programming (which I found later was a typo, but can't remember the darn room

name). Across the courtyard to the north were UC Sunnydale (programming) and The Magic Box for Dealers Room. They also had autographing tables in the foyer outside the latter two.

BBV Presentation #1 started programming along with Episode II: Attack of the Lucasfilm Marketing Machine. Various Doctor Who videos ran all weekend in the Library. GoHs talk came next along with Hogwarts Academy High. **Dan Freedman** talked about BBC Online's new DW internet webcast story and We're Talkin' Time Lords covered how these characters evolved over the years. I especially enjoyed Chronotrip which was a new documentary from director/producer **Jeff Cioletti** and Far Away Discourse Productions exploring science fiction, science and metaphysics of time travel. Cooler Britannia discussed British tv, **Eric Hoffman** presented a GoH Retrospective, Opening Ceremonies gave their new chair a chance to embarrass herself in public big time up on stage, the Ice Cream Social of Doom was cleared out by the time I made it by and the Haunted House Party (complete with maze entrance and screaming demons) was interesting for awhile until the folks I knew had wandered off and there was no one to really chat with.

I visited Consuite without much fanfare, so to speak. They had candy corn and other Halloween treats with some chips and dip, cookies, peanut butter for sandwiches, and soft drinks. Occasionally, throughout the con, they had hot food, but I usually missed it being too early to serve or too late to find. For dinner we went offsite to Dr. Hogly Wogly's Tyler Texas Style Barbecue for beef brisket and ribs. I stopped in the Art Show during setup and asked for a bidder number, but they weren't ready to hand them out yet and I never got back. As it turned out my wife did and we came home with numerous pieces of artwork. I found only one party Friday night and it was primarily a Buffy the Vampire Slayer fan group.

Saturday offered more serious program options. David J. Howe presented a look at the new DW novella series. Into the Mines of Moria discussed the Lord of the Rings movie versus the books. Denizens of rec.arts.drwho, Jade Pagoda and the Yahoo groups gathered for a reality mixer. The Ladies of Babylon (**Brown, Monaghan, Dobro** and **Pozniak**) talked about their experiences working in the B5 universe. Reeltime Pictures showed a documentary about last year's Gallifrey con. **Mojo** talked about more amazing special effects as he's now freelancing his work and creating a coffee table book of shots. **Mira Furlan** was supposed to do a Q&A, but had a sick child and only signed autographs. Writing SF for TV had **Marc Scott Zicree** (*Outer Limits*) and his wife **Elaine** (also OL), **Carleton Eastlake** (OL), **Emily Skopov** (*Xena, Andromeda*) and **Jim Swallow** (*ST: Voyager*) chatting about writing for American SF TV. Into the BBC

Archives brought up details about what they have, what's missing, DVDs, etc.

My Babylon Memories had some of the minor actors talk about their B5 experiences. **Paul Cornell** talked about writing in a workshop-type discussion. Several groups showed their fan videos. *Andromeda* tv show had a fan gathering that I missed, but heard good things about afterward. **Virginia Hey** gave a Q&A and was very nice, learning about her makeup problem, etc. Big Finish Productions actors discussed their audio company. Hitchhikers' Guide was shown on DVD. Companions Who Never Were talked about characters who never became companions and were compared to those who were. After Japanese food for dinner (wonderful soy-based soup with pork and vegetables) at Kyushu Ramen I caught most of the Cabaret entertainment, leaving only when the energy seemed to die down. The dance was quite lively and I watched it for some time from the shadows and chatted with others who didn't dance. There must have been 4 dozen folks on the floor, including Phoenix's own Chiglet. And tonight at least there were parties, including ConDor (the following weekend in San Diego) with a Mardi Gras theme complete with beads and Cajun cuisine. The other party next door was watching the Olympics and wasn't very interesting at all, but had good drink. Sunday brought what I thought would be Video Trailers, but turned out to skip that entirely and show some bizarrely boring stuff from BBC previews. I had to leave early since it was driving me nuts! *Farscape*' Across the Universe offered a discussion into this strange, but successful, TV show. **Bob May** talked about his robot experiences on *Lost in Space* and Fan-dromeda talked more about the second season of this sf show. The *Andromeda* Writers Panel was combined with the Woolvett Q&A as they also showed up with **Keith Hamilton Cobb** (Tyr) from the show. The questions were rather thoughtful and covered the changes since former Executive Producer **Robert Hewitt Wolfe** departed, *Trance*'s new color scheme, **Kevin Sorbo**'s input into the writing, and the future of the show in general. All in all I was inspired for its future and found the two actors in person to be very much like that on screen with their unique chemistry. Angel Investigations talked about the Buffy clone show. Hey did another Q&A. A Charity Auction benefitted the American Red Cross.

After dinner for pizza at Ameci's we headed back for the Costume Contest with a few good entries, mostly no big deal. The Weakest Time-Link was a parody on the popular tv show. They had another dance which was not as well attended as Saturday, but still interesting to behold. The funniest thing was when a kid fell to the carpet in the doorway so someone could outline him with masking tape. It seems they had a problem keeping folks from standing near the doorway and

thought this would help rid them of the fire marshal problem. It didn't work well. There wasn't much in the way of parties, but I stumbled across the Slipstream Suite. It was so titled because of the web site www.slipstreambbs.com which discusses the *Andromeda* tv show. I introduced myself and was welcomed in by Lil. She then asked me my impressions of the show, how it was changing, etc. Discussion ensued with several members getting loud and boisterous. In the end the suite was shut down after several arguments. I understand that they moved to a private room afterward, but I wasn't invited to attend so I just left. After visiting the site I've found they've patched things up and gone on with friendly discussions, but it was rather interesting for awhile.

Monday we had to head home, so didn't get to catch much. They held a Cricket Match since it only rained once during the entire con. More GoH Q&As. The Art Show Auction was a success. DW Book Roundup: Fans' Point of View talked about the various BBC novels over the years. An *Enterprise* of Paramount Importance covered the new *Star Trek* show and the Closing Ceremonies wrapped up the con after we left. We arrived home in the mid evening to chores and getting back to normal life once again.

In the Dealers Room they had Alien Entertainment, Ambrosia Comics & Collectibles, Beata Pozniak, Big Finish Productions / Ministry of Sound & Vision, Bob May & Company, BBV Productions / Bill Baggs, Cargo Cult Books, Celestial Pets / Celeste Yarnall, Earthdaughter Arts, Jerry Ohlmeier's Movie Memorabilia, John McElroy Books, Katarra Kreations, Sci-Fi Zone, Therri Moore Designs and A Wrinkle in Time. We bought some books (B5: Technomage trilogy), t-shirts (mostly B5) and some nutrients for our pets from Celeste. We hope to switch our pets off processed foods entirely with any luck. Art Show had **Anneke Wills, Barbara Fister-Lilitz, Susan Gleason, Mary Hanson-Roberts, Sherrie Holbrook, M.J. Jewell, Frank Liltz, Anne Macko, Stanley Morrison, Betsy Mott, Jenny Parks, Nene Thomas, Karen L. Venn, Cathy Wappel** and **James Wappel**. I saw some really neat stuff in there this year, but alas I didn't bid on anything (unlike my wife). Some of the fan videos included *The Hidden Face* from Timebase Productions, *The Masters of Luxor* from TS Entertainment Production, *Deep Undercurrents* from Back To Reality Productions, *Hidden Secrets: The Fine Line Between Good and Evil* from Homegrown Productions, *The Time Lord* from U.N.C.L.E. from the Federation, and *2001: A Space Oddity* from the United Federation of Phoenix!

That's it for another Gallifrey One convention. If you have any questions or comments, or would like more detail than I've offered here, please let me know at mwillmoth@compuserve.com or 480-945-6890.

Videophile

Robinson Crusoe
Buena Vista, 105 mins
VHS \$103.99, DVD \$32.99, PG-13

I'll admit up front that I have no idea if this is a faithful adaptation of the book since I read Robinson Crusoe so many years ago I'd rather not go into it. This film is a 1996 release that I don't remember seeing in the theaters.

We begin the actual story of Robinson Crusoe (Pierce Brosnan) in Scotland where he fights a duel with and kills his best friend over a woman they both love. Fleeing Scotland to avoid the retribution of his friend's family, Robinson sets out to sail around the world on a great adventure. All goes well for the first year but then there is a tropical storm that wrecks the ship and maroons Robinson alone on an island. He scavenges all the necessary items for survival from the shipwreck including the captain's dog and sets about learning how to survive.

After he has been on this island for a year natives show up and he intervenes as they perform human sacrifice to their god. Only one victim escapes and eventually he becomes first Robinson's servant and then his friend, Friday (William Takaku). They learn from each other and eventually each is willing to give his life for the other.

The story is ok but seems to address most issues in a rather superficial manner. For some unexplained reason the natives leave Robinson's island alone for over a year then they tend to drop in with great regularity. The relationship between the two men is probably realistic since Friday is not automatically submissive to Robinson at all times, they have several disagreements, the most divisive is over religion. That Robinson comes to question his Christian faith and accept that there may well be other paths to god, though realistic for his situation, might be offensive to some. All in all I'd give this a B+. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Soul Survivors The Killer Cut
Artisan, 85 min
VHS, \$59.99, DVD \$24.98, R

Freshman Cassie (Melissa Sagemiller), her boyfriend Sean (Casey Affleck), her best friends Annabel (Eliza Dushku - Faith from Buffy the Vampire Slayer) and Matt (Wes Bentley) celebrate the beginning of college. On the way home they are involved in a terrible car accident.

Cassie starts college but she is haunted by visions of the frightening men she saw at the party as well as being in the hospital and undergoing surgery.

Was it really an accident? Who really survived? Is college and illusion? There are strange people in masks following Cassie, we skip back and forth from college to the hospital and we can't be sure what is real and what isn't.

This seems rather typical of the genre, ok for a viewing but probably not a repeat viewing. It is notable for Buffy The Vampire Slayer fans since Eliza Dushku plays the part of Annabel. The cover states that this version is different from the theatrical release but since I didn't see it in the theater I can't say what has been

added. The DVD has a lot of extra features that include deleted scenes, a "Making Of" featurette, the obligatory theatrical trailer and an animated storyboard. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Recess Christmas:
Miracle on Third Street
Disney, 65 mins
VHS \$22.99, DVD \$29.99, NR

Here we have the gang from Recess celebrating Christmas. Principal Prickly's car skids off the snowy road while he is driving Ms Grotke and Ms Minster home from the last day of school before the



Christmas holidays. Principal Prickly and Ms Minster are sure the kids are responsible for the accident and Principal Prickly starts our first "flashback" by telling about the day Detweiler was "Principal for the Day". We also learn about the gang's rivalry with the Ashely's during the annual Thanksgiving canned food drive. Then, while Principal Prickly goes in search of help, Ms Minster shares a story with Ms Grotke about the time Spinelli spent the weekend with her. When Principal Prickly returns having failed to find help Ms Minster defends the kids by reminding the other two about the just completed Christmas show in which the kids all learned about the true spirit of Christmas through Mikey's efforts to prove Santa's existence to his friends.

Robert Goulet provides Mikey's singing voice and other voice talent includes James Earl Jones and Dabney Coleman.

Extras on the DVD are a 3 part "Special Report" in which ? tells us about Mistletoe ,Mikey tells us about Santa and ? tells us about Christmas lights.

Parents who want their kids to keep on believing in Santa may want to avoid this one or at least you may want to monitor the youngest viewers during the final segment since it does give away that there is no real Santa Claus but this should be a favorite for the older kids. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Cinderella II Dreams Come True
Disney Home Video, 73 min
VHS \$26.99, DVD \$29.99 G

This is sort of what happens after the fairy tale ends, (though not quite as interesting as what happens in Sondheims' "Into the Woods"!). This is divided up into three short stories as the mice Jacques, Gus-Gus and Mary decide, with the help of the Fairy Godmother, to make Cinderella a book about some of the things that have happened to all of them

since she moved into the castle.

The first episode is about the day she and the prince get back from their honeymoon. He has to attend to things of state and she has to put on her first royal feast. And of course there is an officious housekeeper named Prudence who tells Cinderella "how things are done" The king likes this, the king likes that. Cinderella has her own ideas of course and instead of the stuffy old boring royal feast, why she brings in some down home country sounding music and the commoners and thank goodness, chocolate pudding instead of stewed prunes for dessert! The ball is a big hit naturally.

The second tale takes place as Cinderella is helping to arrange the annual Spring festival and Jacques the mouse has a bad day trying to help Cinderella and getting stomped on and chased by the palace cat, a large white Persian female cat named Pom Pom, and feeling utterly useless. He makes a wish the Fairy Godmother hears and grants: he gets to be human. This works for awhile until he really needs to save the day and he has to do it as a mouse...discovering needless to say that "It is better to be a mouse than a man!"

The third tale was rather sweet: One of Cinderella's stepsisters, Anastasia, falls in love with a town baker. The stepmother thinks he's beneath them, she must try to snag a count or a duke. Cinderella, who is in town and sees the couple's first meeting, takes Anastasia to the palace and gives her a make over..and Lucifer the cat falls for Pom Pom and the mice give him a make over. And what's that old expression: the path of true love never runs straight??" Anyway..it does end happily at yet another party at the palace. (These are partying royals)

Overall the tales are decent: pluck, following your heart and doing things your way and not letting others tell you what to do. Cinderella however seems to like running around in her blue laundry dress from the first movie..somehow she doesn't want to dress as a princess. Too stuffy I guess. - **Sue Martin**
Jo Martin (age 10) says:

I liked the tape because there were lots of parts that were funny: the king and the pudding and prunes and when Jacques hits his head on the branch of a tree .It was a good movie because Cinderella didn't have to clean any more and she changed some things around the palace.

People would like it because it tells you how to work out things on your own and in your way.

Tremors 3 Back To Perfection
Universal, 104 mins
VHS \$14.98, DVD \$26.98, PG

This time around we are back in Perfection Nevada where it all began. Burt Gummer (Michael Gross) has returned to Perfection after another Grabboid killing trip to find that Jack Sawyer (Shawn Christian) has started "Grabboid Torus" complete with a fake Grabboid attack to thrill the tourists. In true sequel fashion in the midst of one tour we have a real attack - the Grabboids are back!

Burt bands together with Jack, store-owner Jodi Chang (Susan Chuang) who

inherited the store from her uncle who was killed in the first movie, artist Nancy Sterngood (Charlotte Stewart) and a grown up Mindy (Ariana Richards) to save Perfection not only from the Grabboids but from the US government, that has put the Grabboids on the Endangered Species list. Even Melvin Plug (Bobby Jacoby) returns as a land developer.

Tremors is one of my favorite movies and this sequel is just as enjoyable as the original. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Mists Of Avalon
Turner Home Video, 183 mins,
VHS \$14.94 (release 5/7/02), DVD
\$19.98, NR

This version of the Arthur legend is based on Marion Zimmer Bradley's book. I'll admit up front that I have not read the book so I viewed this movie from a totally unbiased point of view.

We have here a retelling of the Arthur legend that focuses on the women in Arthur's life. The main character is Morgaine (Julianna Margulies), half sister of King Arthur. As a child she see her aunt Viviane (Anjelica Huston) scheme to bring Uther Pendragon (Mark Lewis Jones) to the bed of her mother, Ygraine (Caroline Goodall). After the death of Ygraine's husband she marries Uther and soon thereafter Arthur is born. Morgaine is a devoted older sister to her beloved brother but they are separated when Arthur is quite young - he goes off to live with Merlin (Michael Byrne) while Morgaine goes to Avalon to learn the ancient ways from her aunt Viviane, the Lady of the Lake. Viviane is trying to ensure the survival of the old religion even as Christianity spreads into the land.

During a pagan ritual Morgaine is impregnated by Arthur, though at the time each is unaware of the identity of the other. Morgaine's other aunt, Morgause (Joan Allen) takes in the pregnant Morgaine and then suggests that she raise the child. Morgause curses Gwenwyfar so that she will never bear children while she plots to use Modred (Hans Matheson), Arthur and Morgaine's son, to achieve power for herself. When Morgaine returns to the court of her brother, King Arthur, and his Queen Gwenwyfar (Samantha Mathis).she finds Gwenwyfar in despair because she is unable to give Arthur an heir. Jealous of Arthurs's affection for his sister, Gwenwyfar schemes to force Morgaine to leave court by arranging a marriage for her.

We have all the plot twists of a sprawling family soap opera; love, betrayal, sex, politics, and sibling rivalry along with magic and mysticism. The film held my interest and I will most likely watch it again. It reflects a more positive portrayal of pagan religions than one usually sees though, of course, it wasn't overly accurate. The costumes were gorgeous but not particularly accurate for the time period being covered and the male characters could have been better developed.

The DVD contains extras such as Additional Scenes, a Gallery of Photos, Storyboards and Costume/ Production Designs, and a Camelot Characters Family Tree. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

24 Frames (cont'd from page 1)

the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring is still taking in \$2 to \$3 million a week and is just under \$300 million and will likely get a boost with the addition of the *Two Towers* preview and Oscar publicity.

Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed on to produce and star in a remake of the 1973 movie *Westworld*. He will take on the role of the robotic killer cowboy played by **Yul Bryner** in the original movie. Arnold is also going to reprise his role of Conan in a new *Conan The Barbarian* film in which he will be paired with a younger swordsman. Also on Arnold's plate is *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines* where he will be joined by **Shane West** (*Dracula 2000*) as a grown up John Connor.

Following the recent run on television, MGM will now be producing a feature *Outer Limits* movie. Writer **Gerald DiPego** and his sons **Justin** and **Zachary** have signed a deal with MGM to write a film based on the series. They are hoping it might turn into a film franchise. **Mark Victor** and **Michael Grais** of Victor/Grais and **Pen Densham**, **Guy McElwaine** and **John Watson** of Trilogy Entertainment Group will be producing.

In a recent interview, **Will Smith** said that the upcoming *Men in Black II* will have even more humor in it than the original. Part of that is that his and **Tommy Lee Jones**'s character already know each other as this movie starts and they hit the ground running comedically. "With this film, we found really interesting, warm and funny comedic moments more quickly than we were able to do in the first film," Smith said.

After along development process, it appears that a film adaptation of **Arthur C.**

Clarke's Rendezvous with Rama starring **Morgan Freeman** will start filming later this year for a release sometime in 2003. It will be directed by **David Fincher** and has conceptual art done by Moebius.

Movie Previews for April and May
Clockstoppers - A scientist invents a mechanism that speeds up any target that it hits to 25 times their normal speed, effectively making it seem to that person like time is standing still. The race is on to find a way to reverse the effects when his son is zapped Stars **Jesse Bradford**, **Paula Garcés**, **Garikayi Mutambirwa**, **Robin Thomas**, **French Stewart** and it is directed by **Jonathan Frakes**

The Scorpion King - This prequel to **The Mummy** is set 5,000 years ago in the



The Rock stars as the lead character in THE SCORPION KING © Universal

notorious city of Gomorrah, where an evil ruler is determined to lay waste to all the nomadic peoples of the desert. The few remaining tribes, never natural allies, have to unite or perish. Knowing their enemy relies on the visions of a sorcerer, they hire a skilled assassin, Mathayus (**The Rock**), to eliminate the visionary. After infiltrating the enemy camp, Mathayus discovers that

the sorcerer is in fact a beautiful woman (**Kelly Hu**). Rather than eliminate her, he takes her deep into the desert badlands, knowing that the ruler's henchmen will stop at nothing to rescue her and bring her back. Seriously wounded in the ensuing battle, Mathayus must find the strength to lead his scrappy band of allies back to Gomorrah for a final confrontation.
Jason X - The terror of Crystal Lake is back! This time he's not just slaughtering nubile campers in compromising positions. It is the year 2455, a professor takes his students on a field trip to the planet Earth, where they discover a cryogenically frozen Jason and transport him back to their spaceship. Jason Voorhees, the silent goalie-masked killer, has been on ice for a few hundred years, but through a catastrophic accident, the he is awakened and more than willing to pick up where he left off - finding new and interesting ways to murder people.

Spiderman - Based on the legendary flagship character of Marvel comics, this is the story of Peter Parker, a high school student living with his Aunt May and Uncle Ben after the death of his parents when he was just a baby. He's an avid student with a much-less-than-stellar social life and a knack for bad luck. While attending a scientific demonstration, a freak accident bombards a stray spider with radiation, and that same spider finds its way onto the unsuspecting Peter's body and bites him, miraculously granting him incredible spider-like abilities; in effect, making him into the amazing Spider-Man. Peter will find that there's a thin line between an ordinary man and an extraordinary hero; and he'll have to be the one to cross it.

Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones - Ten years after the events of **The Phantom Menace**, not only has the galaxy

undergone significant change, but so have our familiar heroes Obi-Wan Kenobi (**Ewan McGregor**), Padmé Amidala (**Natalie Portman**) and Anakin Skywalker (**Hayden Christensen**) as they are thrown together again for the first time since the Trade Federation invasion of

Naboo. Anakin has grown into the accomplished Jedi apprentice of Obi-Wan, who himself has transitioned from student to teacher. The two Jedi are assigned to protect Padmé whose life is threatened by



Hayden Christensen is Anakin Skywalker in STAR WARS: EPISODE II ATTACK OF THE CLONES © 2001 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM

a faction of political separatists. As relationships form and powerful forces collide, these heroes face choices that will impact not only their own fates, but the destiny of the Republic.

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron - The animated adventure of a wild and rambunctious mustang stallion journeying through the untamed American frontier. Encountering man for the first time, Spirit defies being broken, even as he develops a remarkable friendship with a young Lakota brave. The courageous young stallion also finds love with a beautiful paint mare named Rain on his way to becoming one of the greatest unsung heroes of the Old West.

Upcoming Movie Release Dates

Mar 29 - Clockstoppers

Apr 19 - The Scorpion King

Apr 26 - Jason X

May 3 - Spiderman

May 16 - Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones


May 24 - Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron

June 7 - The Tuxedo

Summer movie release dates include: **Scooby Doo** (June 14), **Lilo & Stitch** (June 21), **Minority Report** (June 21), **Men in Black 2** (July 3), **Reign of Fire** (July 12), **Stuart Little 2** (July 19), **Austin Powers in Goldmember** (July 26), **Spy Kids 2** (Aug 7), **Pluto Nash** (Aug 16), **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (Nov 15), **James Bond 20: Die Another Day** (Nov 22), **Star Trek: Nemesis** (Dec 20), **Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers** (Dec 25)




DreamWorks presents the animated feature SPIRIT: STALLION OF THE CINARRON © DreamWorks



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SF Tube Talk (Cont'd from page 1)

way around a card deck and keeps popping up in the agents' investigation." Also appearing are **John Kapelos** (*Forever Knight*) and **Ray McKinnon** as "Mad Wayne" in a case involving the "Triple Zero Killer."

The remaining episodes start to tie up some loose ends and focus on the ongoing storylines. First of these is "Jump the Shark", featuring The Lone Gunmen in a follow up to their spinoff series.

Appearing will be **Michael McKean** as Morris Fletcher, **Stephen Snedden** as Jimmy Bond and **Zuleikha Robinson** as Yves Harlow. The episode deals with an investigation into an attack on an immunologist researching a cure for cancer using shark cartilage. Yes, "Jump the Shark" is the term used to indicate that a TV series has gone too far, as when Fonzie jumped a shark on water skies on *Happy Days*. In "William", Scully must make a decision about the future of her son, William. When a disfigured, monster-like man called The Breather injects something into William's brain, they must find out what he did and what relation he has to Mulder. This episode is co-written and directed by **David Duchovny**. Next is "Release", which deals with the death of

Doggett's son, Luke when a Quantico cadet investigating a recent string of murders comes across information that may lead Doggett to his son's killer. As for the two hour finale, "The Truth", Mulder will be re-united with Scully and there will be some resolution to end the TV series. It will obviously leave things open for follow-on theatrical movies. As of press time, there has been ZERO information leaked so far about the finale, so tune in and watch to see what happens.

Enterprise Warps On

UPN's *Enterprise* will have 26 episodes this season, so there's still plenty left to air. First up in April is "Oasis", which has the Enterprise crew helping the survivors of an alien shipwreck, including an attractive female named Liana, who develops feelings for Trip. **Rene Auberjonois** (Odo) and **Tom Bergeron** (*Hollywood Squares*) guest star. "Detained" will guest star **Dean Stockwell**, **Scott Bakula's** co-star on *Quantum Leap*. Archer and Mayweather are trapped in a detention center where members of the Siluban race are being detained. While there, Archer learns that only a small number of Silubans are part of the genetically engineered group known as The Cabal. **Stockwell** plays General Grat, who is in charge of the detention center. In "Vox Solis", an alien life form

nest in one of the Enterprise's cargo bays and begins to capture crew members, ensnaring them in its gushy web. "Fallen Hero" has the Enterprise dispatched to pick up a Vulcan ambassador to the planet Mazar that has been expelled for misconduct. Not much is yet known about "Desert Crossings" other than that three "Sailors of the Year" from the U.S.S. Enterprise aircraft carrier will be making appearances in the episode. In the next to last episode of the season, "Two Days and Two Nights", some of the Enterprise crew take shore leave on the pleasure planet Risa with varying results. As for the season finale, it hasn't started filming as of press time and no information has leaked about it yet. It is expected to deal with the Siluban and the temporal cold war and could end with a cliff-hanger. Or it may not. Only time will tell.

Over in the Buffyverse (is it really all in Buffy's Imagination?), things start picking up fast as the events of the season so far start to build on each other. Anya wants to wreak vengeance on Xander but can't bring herself to do it and enlists the help of someone else. The Scoobies realize that the Trio (Warren, Jonathan and Andrew) have set up cameras to monitor them all around Sunnydale including Buffy's

house and The Magic Box. When they track down the source of the cameras and they view some of what has been recorded by them, the results are devastating. In the next episode, when Andrew and Jonathan are arrested, Warren goes it alone and does something really bad at the end of the episode. That action leads to Willow going back to magic in a very Dark way. Spike has also gone to Africa hoping to get the inhibitor chip removed from his brain. The last two episodes look to deal with the ramifications of Willow's change and the possible freeing of Spike from his leash.

Angel has been put on hiatus while The WB runs off the remaining episode of *Glory Days*. When it returns in mid-April, there should be a straight run of the last six episodes of the season. Needless to say, Angel will be looking for some way to get his son back from Holtz, both of whom are now in a different dimension. Wes does survive but gaining forgiveness from the Angel Investigations crew is not easy. Cordelia is especially upset with Wes and gives him the extreme cold shoulder. Angel does realize that he needs Wes to help figure out a way to get his son back. This leads to a confrontation with Justine, now in charge of Holtz's gang, and the

(cont'd on page 11)

SF Tube Talk (Cont'd from page 10)

possibility of Justine being able to provide info that will help them to follow Holtz. Expect the last several episodes of the season to take place in that dimension, but it will be a much darker trip than the one they took to Pylea last season.

Also in hiatus-land is *Roswell* on UPN, although the replacement sitcoms have tanked so bad that I'd not be surprised to see *Buffy* repeats show up in that time slot during April. Once *Roswell* returns in late April, it will likely be for the running of the final episodes of the series. UPN has cut the season order down to 18 episodes. In the final episodes, they will be dealing with the recent events including Jesse learning the truth about them and Liz and Maria returning to Roswell. In the next to last episode, "Four Aliens and a Baby", Tess will return with her and Max's baby and in the final episode, "Graduation", they will have to avoid being captured by the FBI at their graduation ceremony before they can go their separate ways.

In *Smallville*, our other alien teenager is finding there's more to life than just Kryptonite mutants of the week, although the green rocks still have a major influence on things. In "Stray", a runaway kid is taken in by the Kents. It turns out he has the ability to read minds and his guardians are wanting him to use that ability to obtain LutherCorp access codes. When he reads Martha Kent's mind, he learns the truth about Clark. In "Reaper", we finally meet Whitney's ailing father and also deal with the giving and taking of life. Meanwhile, Lionel Luthor's lackey, Dominic, comes to Smallville to check up on Lex and The Kents. In "Drone", Clark is running for a class officer position and this week's mutant has the ability to control bees. In all of these episodes, expect ongoing secondary plots with Lana and her venture with Luthor. Also, expect some sort of major event in Lex's life that starts to turn him towards the dark side.

Back over on FOX, *Futurama* will have a very fannish episode as its season finale the first weekend in May. Titled



FUTURAMA © 2001 Fox

"Where No Fan Has Gone Before", it features the voices of most of the original Star Trek crew and deals with Fry learning that all Star Trek episodes have been banned because the fans become so powerful they threatened world governments. Fry sets out to recover the

lost episodes from a forbidden planet. FOX has not ordered additional episodes of the series, but has not officially canceled it. With the rate they have been airing new episodes the last couple of years, FOX actually has enough of a backlog of *Futurama* episodes that they can make it through next season without ordering any new ones.

To finish up the season on *Dark Angel*, series co-creator **James Cameron** has come on board to direct the season finale. After finding himself between projects, **Cameron** decided to direct the episode. Of course he will have to force himself to work with only a \$3 million budget and an eight day shooting schedule. Will this make him "King of the TV World" and save the show from cancellation? Leading up to the finale we will see Joshua befriend a blind girl and but when he protects her from some baddies and takes her into the sewers he is accused of kidnapping her and must evade the police. Joshua also provides the blood for a transfusion that Logan needs. In "She Ain't Heavy" we will meet Sam, a clone of Max, who has been living a normal, domestic life. That gets interrupted when White confronts Sam about her past and Sam then goes off in search of Max. In the two-part season (series?) finale, Max learns that there are runes imbedded in the transgenics that supposedly convey a message from "father". Throughout the final episodes, the rest of the world will learn about the existence of the mutants and their future existence is seriously threatened.

Over on ABC, the fantastic elements in *Alias* are slowly surfacing as we learn more about Rambaldi's prophecies and their relation to Sidney. After learning that her mother may still be alive, Sydney asks Sloane for help in finding her while the CIA has Jack see a psychiatrist to help him deal with the news. Meanwhile, Will and Francie become suspicious of Sydney's activities when they find one of her airline ticket stubs. Expect something big in the season finale and most likely a cliffhanger since the series has been picked up for a second season on ABC already.

Also on ABC in May will be the six-hour *Dinotopia* miniseries, based on the **James Gurney** books. ABC supposedly has liked what they've seen so far and have committed to a weekly *Dinotopia* series next fall.

The story of the miniseries deals with two 18 year-old spoiled brats, Karl (**Tyron Leitso**) and David (**Wentworth Miller**) end up in the strange land of Dinotopia when their father's plane crashes there. They meet up with the rogue Cyrus Cabb (**David Thewliss**), Marion (**Katie Carr**), the daughter of Mayor Waldo (**Jim Carter**) of Waterfall City and Rosemary (**Alice Krieg**), the mayor's estranged wife who is revered as a matriarch in Dinotopia. Karl and David learn that Dinotopia is powered by an incredibly bright Prime Sunstone.

When that life-sustaining object begins losing its luster, it appears that the end is near - unless Karl and David can enter and survive the suicidally dangerous World Beneath. The first part of the miniseries will air on Sunday, May 12 at 7 pm ET/PT, 6 pm CT/MT.

Debuting on Wednesday night in late March on FOX was *Greg the Bunny*. A somewhat surreal show with a blend of live action and puppetry where the puppets are as real as the humans. It stars bunny puppet Greg as a wide-eyed innocent who falls into the world of the children's show "Sweetnuckle Junction" - populated by neurotic puppets and the humans who both love and abuse them. Humans starring are **Seth Green** (*Buffy's* Oz and *Austin Power's* Scott Evil) as Greg's roommate Jimmy and **Eugene Levy** as the show's producer Gil Bender. It looks to be offbeat and likely won't go over well with the general viewing audience, so catch it while you can.

In the cable realm, after a long break we finally have new *Stargate SG-1* episodes on Showtime and new *Farscape* on SciFi along with the debut of **J. Michael Straczynski's** *Jeremiah*. First up is *Farscape*, which SciFi will be running the final four episodes of season three beginning April 5th. In "I - Yensch, You - Yensch", Dargo and Rygel meet with Scorpius to arrange a truce so that Crichton can help Scorpius perfect the wormhole technology. Things go awry when they are attacked by thugs looking to burn down the restaurant they are meeting at. Meanwhile, Talyn is getting more erratic and destroys a hospital ship, which forces Craise and Aeryn to shut down Talyn. In the two-part "Into the Lion's Den", the *Farscape* crew arrives on Scorpius' flagship with the appearance of helping Scorpius but with the actual intention of sabotaging the wormhole research. As can be expected, lots of things get blown up by the end of the two-parter. To say much of anything about the season finale, "Dog With Two Bones", would give away some of the events in the previous episodes. There is a burial in space and a surprising revelation about John and Aeryn. Of course it ends with a cliffhanger, with John Crichton rightly exclaiming "You have got to be kidding me!"

Over on Showtime, new episodes of *Stargate SG-1* have resumed and we'll get new episodes pretty much every week until the end of the season in late May. In "The Warrior" A charismatic Jaffa leader tries to rally his people against the Goa'uld, and seeks to forge an alliance with Earth. "Menace" sees SG-1 discover a world controlled by Replicators, and a young girl who may hold the secret to the salvation of the Asgard. In "The Sentinel", SG-1 must turn to a pair of convicted criminals to save a world from annihilation by the Goa'uld. "Meridian" sees Daniel seriously injured as an alien

civilization is threatened with extinction when they attempt to build a weapon of mass destruction. The season finale, "Revelations" will feature the return of Thor and the Asgard and a confrontation between Osiris and Carter. New cast member, **Corin Nemec** (Jonas Quinn), will appear in the final two episodes and will continue on in the new season as a regular, replacing the departing **Michael Shanks**. The first weekend of June on SciFi will see the debut of *Stargate SG-1's* sixth season (moving from Showtime) and the fourth season of *Farscape*.

Jeremiah debuted on Showtime with lots of publicity and reportedly good ratings. As **Straczynski** had mentioned, he does make more use of adult language and situations with the freedom that Showtime offers, although this may make it more difficult for the series to find other outlets for airing after its Showtime run. Episodes coming up in April include "The Bag", guest starring **Jake Busey**, where the son of a medical doctor has set up what may turn out to be a dubious medical practice of his own, traveling with his brother from town to town and exploiting people...and finds that his past catches up with him; "City of Roses" where Jeremiah and Kurdy travel in search of more information on the Big Death and Valhalla Sector, and along the way discover some potentially dark secrets about the fate of Kurdy's parents in the last days of the Big D; and "Firewall" as Jeremiah and Kurdy learn something of vital importance about Valhalla Sector, and Markus has to make a decision that could lead to any number of deaths. As the series was about to debut on Showtime, executive producer **J. Michael Straczynski** had this to say about the show: "The show is often a bit of a romance, there's lots of humor, lots of action, there's an overarching mystery and an arc to it...it is, at times, oddly a show about small victories and gemstones found amid gravel. I can't think of any other series quite like it in tone and attitude and look and design. It's allowed me to do some things, and write some stories, I could never get on broadcast TV in a million years, particularly "And the Ground, Sown with Salt." I'm quite proud and pleased with it, and I think it's worth checking out."

Back on SciFi, we've got the final episodes of *Lexx* airing in April. Expect the final episodes to be as offbeat and whacked out as the rest of the season has been. In "Viva Lexx Vegas", the Lexx crew visits the King Tut hotel and Xev adopts the wrestling personality of Cleopatra while Stan deals with an ancient Mummy and a mobster clan. "The Trip" sees Xev and Stan eat mind-altering berries taking them on a wild ride through The Lexx. A gigantic Lyekka returns in "Lyekka vs. Japan" and does battle with Kai while Stan attempts to destroy the approaching alien mothership and save Earth. The

(cont'd on page 14)

SF Tube Talk (cont'd from page 11)

series finale "Yo Way Yo" has Prince visit the Lexx warning of "Earth's date with destiny" and emotions abound as Kai begins to feel again and the Lexx's health is ailing once more. There have been some mentions of a possible spinoff series of **Lexx**, but nothing has been announced as far as I've been able to determine.

Launching on cable in June will be two new series. Showtime will debut **Odyssey V** in June as a replacement for **Stargate SG-1**. It stars **Peter Weller (Robocop, Buckaroo Banzai)** as the leader of a team of astronauts who after discovering the Earth destroyed by some sort of catastrophe, use alien technology to travel back in time five years in the hopes of prevent Earth from being destroyed. The USA Network will debut **The Dead Zone** in June on Sunday nights. Based on the **Stephen King** novel, it stars **Anthony Michael Hall** as Johnny Smith and **Nicole deBoer** as Sara and is produced by former Trek producer **Michael Piller**.

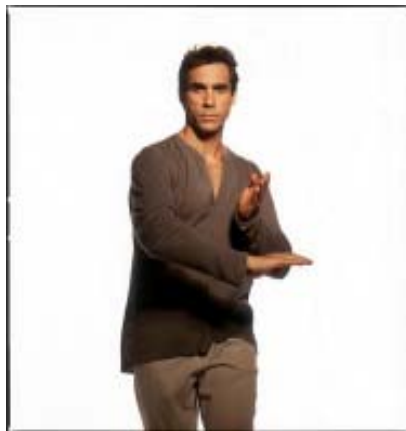
On the syndicated front, we've got the last batch of new episodes for the season for most of the syndicated series, many of which will be heading out to pasture this year. **Andromeda** will wrap up it's second season with episodes wrapping up some of the ongoing storylines to enable the series to take on it's more standalone role next season under new executive producer **Robert Engels**. "The Fair Unknown" is expected to have the reappearance of The Vedrans, the Centaur like race that founded the Commonwealth. In "The Knight, Death, and The Devil" the Andromeda discovers a prisoner of war camp full of High Guard starships. **Christopher Judge (Stargate SG-1's Teal'c)** and **Michel Hurst (Hercules' Ioalus)** will make guest appearances as ship avatars. In "Belly of the Beast", the Andromeda is swallowed by a space monster. "Immaculate Perception" returns to things Nietzschean when Try discovers he may be a father. "The Things We Cannot Change" is the first Andromeda clip show where Dylan is sucked out into space in an EVA suit and Dylan dreams about a future with a wife and kid as well as likely flashes back to events we've seen in the series. In the season finale, "The Tunnel at the End of the Light", they meet up with a totally unknown alien race from another universe. This episode reportedly ties up the re-founding of the Commonwealth arc.

Fighting it out with **Andromeda** and **Mutant X** for the top spot in syndication action hours has been the syndicated run of **Stargate SG-1**, nearing the end of season four. The remaining season four episodes include "Prodigy", where Samantha Carter deals with a promising Air Force Cadet who is getting bored by her studies and O'Niell and Teal'c deal with a dangerous life form discovered at a research site. "Entity" sees an alien

computer life force take over the base's computer system and Carter. "Double Jeopardy" sees the SG-1 team reunited with their robot doubles in a fight with the system Lord Cronus. In the season ending cliffhanger "Exodus", the SG-1 team helps to evacuate the Tok'ra to a new base -- but matters are complicated when a spy reveals their location to Apophis. The team then attempts a daring plan to take out the Goa'uld's powerful fleet..

Earth: Final Conflict is ending it's fifth and final season, leading up to the final "Final Conflict". Rene and Captain Michaels' attempt to destroy the weapons system on the mothership in "Honor and Duty". Rene is put on trial by a vigilante group for opening the original Atavus stasis chamber in "Subversion". Rene must race to get an antidote for Street, who is turning into an Atavus hybrid in "Street Wise". Rene and Captain Michaels run into trouble at a hybrid vaccine facility in "The Journey" and Rene gets a blast from the past while engaged in the "Final Conflict" with the Atavus. Also ending will be **Beastmaster**, and Dar will be doing battle with Balcifer through the final episodes, attempting to complete his quest so that he can save the world from Balcifer's eternal darkness and free his family from the Crystal Ark. **Sheena** has already ended its season, which consisted of only 13 episodes, and **Relic Hunter** is slated to end this season as well.

Both **Mutant X** (second) and **The Lost World** (fourth) will continue on to next season. There's not much info on the remaining episodes of this season for either series, however. It is unknown if **Adrian Paul's Tracker** will continue, but there's still nine episodes left to air this



Adrian Paul plays an alien bounty hunter in TRACKER © 2001 Chum Television

season and the show's ratings have been steadily increasing as the season has progressed.

In the Works

In Mid-May, the networks will announce their fall schedules and what new shows they have picked up and which ones they have renewed. Here's some of the shows you may be seeing this fall. Pilot commitments include **Paranormal Girl** (ABC) about a 15 year old girl with psychic abilities who is recruited by the FBI to solve crimes.

Miracles is about a paranormal investigator for the Vatican who after spending years debunking supposed miracles begins to lose his faith.

The Time Tunnel (ABC & FOX) - in development both at ABC and FOX, the former based on the original book by **William Fitzgerald Jenkins (aka Murray Leinster)**, the latter based on the 1960's **Irwin Allen** TV series. FOX is definitely doing a pilot, ABC may not.

Eastwick (FOX) - Based on the **John Updike** novel and the "Witches of Eastwick" movie. It focuses on the three witches and their teenage sons.

Arthur (NBC) A look at a teenaged Arthur and Lancelot before Arthur became king of England.

Carrie (NBC) A pilot movie based on the 1976 movie of the same name.

Future Tense (NBC) A drama that explores the legal and moral issues caused by technology.

Lost in Space (NBC) A pilot movie based on the 1960's TV series.

Birds of Prey (The WB) Based on the DC comic book that features Barbara Gordon aka Oracle aka Batgirl (**Dina Meyer**), The Huntress (**Ashley Scott**) and a teenaged Black Canary (**Rachel Skarsten**). This looks to be a good bet to make the fall schedule to be paired up with **Smallville**.

The Lone Ranger (The WB) A modern update of the classic series.

Lost in OZ (The WB) **Melissa George** as Tina Vittori, a 22 year old Kansas college student who is carried away to OZ by a tornado where she leads a revolt against the Emerald City powers that be.

Beauty and the Beast (UPN) A remake of the 1987 CBS TV series.

Black Star (UPN) Described as **Top Gun** in Space.

The Twilight Zone (UPN) A new take on the classic series from **Pen Densham**, who also updated **The Outer Limits** in the 90's. Shows with commitments beyond a pilot include:

The Kingdom (ABC) a two hour movie plus 13 episodes produced by **Stephen King** based on a 1994 Danish miniseries about a haunted hospital built on an ancient graveyard. There hasn't been much news about it lately, so it may have been delayed.

Firefly (FOX) is from **Buffy** and **Angel** creator **Joss Whedon** and is set aboard the spaceship **Serenity**, a firefly class ship. It has a thirteen hour commitment from FOX and stars **Nathan Fillion** as Captain Reynolds, **Alan Tudyk** as Wash, the ship's pilot, **Adam Baldwin** as Jayne, a mercenary, **Jewel Staite** as Kaylee, the ship's mechanic, **Summer Glau** as River, a super-genius, **Gina Torres** as Zoe, a mercenary and **Ron Glass** as Book, a priest. It's a good chance FOX may put the series into **The X-Files** former Sunday night time slot.

For more schedule information, news and links, visit the **Magrathea/SFTV** Pages at www.sftv.org

Mixed Media: Translation from the printed page to the silver screen

By Shane Shellenbarger

Recently, I was discussing the film adaptations of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" and "Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring" with some friends and I complained about not being "grabbed" by either film and being unable to put my finger on why that was. One friend opined that after I'd read the books I'd already played the film in my head and that no film production could live up to my imagination. Maybe that is a partial answer, but I've come to the conclusion that it's mostly due to a lack of character development in the films.

Every character has a history, a backstory with which the audience can identify either because something similar happened to them or because they're glad it hasn't happened to them. What child hasn't feared that they would lose their parents or wished that they would gain magical powers or objects? In her books, Joanne Rowling gives flesh to Harry's fears, doubts, and inner dialogues. Rowling makes the reader feel the loss of Harry's parents, the depression of living with the Dorsey's, the claustrophobia of being crammed in a closet under the stairs, and who among us hasn't had to deal with a bully like Dudley? On the screen, Harry comes off as rather bland and less sympathetic, while his friends, Hermione and Ron, are much more interesting. The film is all about appearance and very little about substance. Harry's life in the books is much rougher than in the movie. I'll grant you that films are not books and books are not films. It's a bit like comparing apples to oranges when you compare a 153 minute "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" film to a book that took Vocal Artist Jim Dale 8 hours to read. "Fellowship of the Ring" is 178 minutes in the theatre and the audio book narrated by Rob Inglis is 20 hours and 30 minutes in length. The film Bilbo Baggins shares much of the same problems with the celluloid Harry Potter. Without the background of "The Hobbit", "Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring" is a skeleton of a film, pretty pictures lacking the heart of the book.

J.R.R. Tolkien's creation of Middle-earth first sprang forth when he wrote "The Hobbit" in 1937 followed nearly two decades later with the trilogy series, "The Lord of the Rings" 1954-1955. Previous film adaptations include the Rankin/Bass animated version of "The Hobbit" in 1978, Ralph Bakshi's 1978 rotoscoped animated feature, "The Lord of the Rings" which included elements from the first two books of the series ("Fellowship of the Ring" and "The Two Towers"), and the 1980 made-

(Cont'd on page 15)

Mixed Media (cont'd from page 14)

for-tv animated movie, "Return of the King", again by Rankin/Bass. All three are currently available for purchase as a set, but I would strongly advise you to rent these versions before you buy them as I consider them all flawed and inferior to the 2001 Peter Jackson live-action computer animated film. Another item of interest is National Geographic Beyond the Movie: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, a behind-the-scenes look at the Jackson film.

While both "Harry Potter and the Sorcerers Stone" and "The Fellowship of the Ring" are still in the theatres at this writing, May 28th, 2002 is the release date for "Harry Potter and the Sorcerers Stone" on video in both VHS and DVD. Certainly, I'll continue to watch both series, I'm even looking forward to them in the hope that they will become more than echoes of the rich characters I've come to love from the books.

<http://harrypotter.warnerbros.com/>

<http://www.jkrowling.com/>

<http://www.nationalpost.com/artslife/story.html?f=/news/updates/stories/20020308/entertainment-686029.html>

<http://www.scholastic.com/harrypotter/home.asp>

<http://www.kidsreads.com/harrypotter/jkrowling.html>

<http://www.harrypotterfans.net/>

<http://www.tolkienociety.org/>

<http://www.lordoftherings.net/>

<http://www.lotr.com/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngbeyond/>

<http://www.tolkienonline.com/>

<http://www.newlinecinema.com/>

<http://www.cucare.com/mckellen/index.html>

<http://us.imdb.com/Title?0120737>

<http://us.imdb.com/Bio?Tolkien,+J.R.R.>

<http://www.theonering.net/index.shtml>

<http://www.thelordoftherings.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/lordoftherings/>

<http://www.glyphweb.com/arda/>

<http://www.glyphweb.com/arda/>



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ReAmination (cont'd from page 1)

Case File I presents the first five episodes: The Four Signatures (He's The Famous Detective), The Crown Of Mazalin (The Evil Genius, Professor Moriarity), A Small Client" (Little Martha's Big Mystery), Mrs. Hudson is Taken Hostage and The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle" (Blue Ruby).

In The Four Signatures Sherlock Hound meets Dr. Watson for the first time as the ferry they are both passengers on is attacked by a band of Barbary pirates.

Episode 2 is The Crown of Mazalin which introduces Professor Moriarty as Sherlock Hound investigates the theft of the Crown of Mazalin.

The third episode is A Small Client in which Sherlock Hound and Lestrade search for a child's missing father.

In episode four, Mrs. Hudson is Taken Hostage, Moriarity plots to kidnap the beautiful Mrs Hudson and use her to force Sherlock Hound to steal a work of art so Moriarity can have Sherlock locked away as a criminal.

The final episode on this DVD is The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle in which Moriarty steals a priceless gem only to lose it to a young pickpocket named Polly.

These are delightful! Both kids and adults will enjoy them. The stories are well told and the characters have some depth. Professor Moriarity's various gadgets are wonderful. The seasoned Sherlock Holmes fan should enjoy these and they would serve as a good introduction to Sherlock Holmes for young children. I can't wait to get Case File 2 - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Ah! My Goddess: The Movie

Pioneer, 115 min

VHS \$24.98, DVD \$29.98, 13+

Oh My Goddess! was a popular five-part series in 1993-94 that told the story of how Keiichi Morisato acquired the goddess Belldandy as a girlfriend. Now, three years later we find Belldandy and Keiichi live together at Tariki-honganji temple with Belldandy's older sister Urd (goddess 2nd class) and younger sister, Skuld (goddess 2nd class). Keiichi is a student at the Nekomi Institute of Technology and a member of the Motor club where he and Belldandy race on motorcycles together.

Belldandy's former mentor disappeared long ago when he attempted to overthrow the goddesses system. He has been imprisoned every since though Belldandy was unaware of his activities or why he disappeared. Then, one evening, Celestin briefly reappears and, with a kiss, he places a spell on Belldandy which results in virus being spread through the Goddess System's network as well as making Belldandy lose all memory of Keiichi. As the goddesses work to save the Goddess System, Urd, Skuld, and Keiichi work try to

help Belldandy regain her memory. The new member of the motor club, Morgan Le Fay, a fairy princess in disguise, pretends to be a student at Nekomi Tech but even as she tries to get closer to Keiichi and Belldandy we see she has ulterior motives.

Will the Goddess System survive? Will Belldandy's memory be recovered? Will the lovers be reunited?

I haven't seen the series that preceded this movie but it really doesn't hinder the viewing of this film. I found the animation beautiful and the story was interesting, it held my interest through to the end. The 13+ rating seems to stem from a certain amount of nudity. There is, of course, the typical Anime violence. I heartily recommend this movie and will look for the series that preceded it. - **Stephanie L. Bannon**

NieA Under 7 Volume 3: Sayonara Blues Pioneer, 75 mins, \$29.98. 13+

NieA Under 7 Volume 4: Under Seven Blues

Pioneer, 75 mins, \$29.98. 13+

If you have watched the first two disks in this series I'm sure you are as hooked as I've become. I enjoyed them the first time around but they were even more enjoyable on second and third viewing. This is a wonderfully funny series with a few serious undertones thrown in for good measure

Volume 3 contains episodes:

8. Melancholy and Cast Off Summer Bath, 9. Close Encounter and After the Rain Bath, 10. Glow of the Firefly and Nocturne Bath. Mayuko has become very frustrated



with her busy life (work and school) and vents her frustrations on her non-working roommate NieA. The cycle continues since NieA is oblivious to Mayuko's frustration and abuse thus making Mayuko angry all over again until Genzo reminds Mayuko of childhood times when she was told stories and was happy.

Meanwhile, NieA still has problems with her fellow aliens, and attempts at reconciliation with Mayuko keep meeting with disaster. And NieA is still hearing strange voices apparently from the Mother ship.....then one night as Mayuko works late, NieA disappears.

Volume 4 concludes the 13 episode series with episodes 11 NieA Under Seven Bath (Former part), 12 NieA Under Seven Bath (Later Part) and 13 Time Flows By Enahana Bath. Mayuko worries about NieA who still hasn't come home even as she begins to question whether she is happy with her present life as a cram student. Kotomi tries to decide if she must sell the bathhouse which depresses everyone. Then when Mayuko tries to report NieA missing she is told that Under 7 aliens don't exist.

When Mayuko's mother sends her a packet of photos she realizes that she lived in the bathhouse as a child. As she goes to bathe NieA reappears with no explanation, a typhoon strikes and the Mother Ship disappears as if it had never been there.

There are still the strange interludes with the Indian guy in the turban between the episodes which don't appear to have anything to do with the actual story. Those of us watching were split over their value with slightly over half of us preferring to fast forward past them. While the earlier episodes were close to slapstick the later episodes are more serious in nature with the characters dealing with real problems in a realistic way. Over all this is a series I will watch again with pleasure. -

Stephanie L. Bannon

Amazing Nurse Nanako2: Firecrackers

Pioneer, 60 min, \$29.98, 16+

Amazing Nurse Nanako3: The Last Spiral

Pioneer Entertainment, 60 min, \$29.98, 16+

These two DVDs are genre and animation. Now I've said the best things I can about them. Nanako's appearance is that of a typical 14 year old boy's dream girl, her voice that of his whiny 7 year old sister. The stories are so simplistic that they could have been written by that same 14 year old. Basically Nanako is a clone. Throughout the videos you see more of who she was through the eyes of her creator, who remembers her from when he was 14 (hmmm). There is also a subplot of alien tissue being found and the doctor being asked to clone an alien from the samples. Both the government and the "Church" want control of the results. The amount of backstabbing seen in the videos can only be equaled by watching 14 year olds at a dance forcing one another to do things in front of girls. Speaking of the fairer sex, the representation of women in these is appalling. Women are either old crumpled hags, or sexpots waiting to bust out of their clothes. There are few redeeming points in these and I'll let the viewer identify their own as my tastes may be forever be ruined by the videos I've seen. These DVDs have a 16+ viewing label and are not recommended for people under that age. - **Bob LaPierre**

**BIGGER
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Contact Info

HexaCon 12
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Email: Hex12chair@casfs.org
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Location Info

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2577 W. Greenway Rd;
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Standard: \$74 S/D
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Executive Suite \$94 S/D/T/Q
Rooms **INCLUDE** a full breakfast
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PRIZE DRAWING

Those pre-register with the convention and reserve a hotel room by **July 1, 2002** will be eligible for a drawing for the following prizes:
1 free room night
2 memberships to HexaCon 13
\$40 in coupons for the HexaCon 12 Dealer's Room

Sanctioned Magic &
CCG Tournaments
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White Wolf
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Now you can try your LUCK at Vegas Fun Chess at Hexacon XII. Luck at chess??? Yes, Luck!! Vegas Fun Chess adds the element of luck through the use of dice to determine the pieces that can be moved on your turn. Of course, traditional chess and many other variations of chess will also be available at the Chess Club at Hexacon XII. For more information contact Myron or Rachel Lieberman at azchess@aol.com

Battletech At HexaCon

Tucson's 13th Heavy Metal Legion Battletech Mechwarrior group makes its first appearance at Hexacon with a series of three Classic Battletech games, on 3D Battlescape Geo-Hex with Z-scale buildings, trees, and other terrain features.

Friday Night, the elite Knights of BlackRook Company will take on all challengers with a Level 3 Mixed Clan and Inner Sphere tech free for all. Custom mech designs in Heavy Metal Pro format will be accepted. Hand made custom designs must be input and verified onsite, so check in early for "King of the WaterHole".

Saturday Evening, the Clan Nova Cat and the Wolf's Dragoons will duke it out. Equal pre-generated Level 2 forces, matched by BV, will contest possession of a manufacturing district in "Cats and Dogs, 3060".

Sunday Afternoon, the 13th Heavy Metal Legion will battle Team Banzai for possession of a lost Star League Era Naval base on an airless moon orbiting a gas giant. Equal pre-generated Level 3 forces, matched by BV, will fight it out in low gravity with vacuum rules for fabulous Lostech in "Merc Wars, 3065".

In addition, there will be Mech Scale Union and Leopard Class Dropships, hordes of carefully painted battletech miniatures, and a complete Battletech scale city on display. We have contacted WizKids and hope to be able to demo the new Mage Knight Battletech: Dark Ages game.

See the Hexacon 12 website for game schedules, or contact buckwally@earthlink.net for more details as they develop.

LARPS (tentative schedule)

Fading Suns Friday night, **Seventh Sea** Saturday afternoon, a **Vampire** LARP, **Sci-Fi Dollick** LARP Sunday morning and, of course, an Ongoing **Pokemon** Larp. If you wish to schedule a LARP please contact Lori at LARP@casfs.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

There will be special Thursday, July 25, events and prizes available only to those who pre-register. Gaming starts at 10:00 AM on Friday, July 26 and runs **NON-STOP** until Sunday, July 28 at 3PM

Dealer's Room

For information about reserving a table in the dealer's room please contact Michael Bauerlein <mesaman22@aol.com>

represents an unusual opportunity for those of us who study science fiction, and will—we hope and expect—amount to a landmark in the history of science-fiction criticism. Please do bear in mind that editorial procedures for this issue are the same as for *PMLA* normally. Authors should send their submissions to the Managing Editor of the journal, who will then send them (in the normal anonymous fashion) to outside readers; if the judgment of the readers is favorable, then the (still blind) submissions go to the Editorial Board of *PMLA* for a final decision. If, as we hope, you do decide to submit an article, it should be addressed to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*; Modern Language Association; 26 Broadway, 3rd Floor; New York, NY 10004-1789; USA. The deadline is May 31st, 2002.”

David Brin writes: “The title of my new novel—the most original thing I’ve done in years—is *Kiln People*. Take the notion of golems—temporary clay people (not clones). Using a “home copier,” you ditto your memories and a genuine imprint of your soul, then at day’s end you download the golem’s memories. As a citizen of this future, you’ve done this a zillion times and take it for granted. You live your life in parallel, sending expensive “study golems” to the library while cheap models clean the house and your real body works out at the gym. Two-thirds of the population is clay, has no rights, and doesn’t think it’s unfair. Huge fun. Bad puns like “psycho-ceramics.” Golem blanks come in ceram-wrap. Get it? ;-) *Forgiveness* is a 90-page hardcover graphic novel (or in French, as “Band Dessinee”...a posh word for a high-class comic!) that is set in the *Star Trek* universe, based on a story I first envisioned in the 1960s! This is my first graphic novel, collaborating with the famed artist **Scott Hampton**. Another graphic novel will appear in mid-2002, much darker and foreboding. In fact, it is the darkest thing I have ever written, based on a novella of mine that came in second for a Hugo Award, about a parallel world in which the Nazis win World War II. It is called *The Life Eaters*. Also on the horizon for summer 2002: *Contacting Aliens: The Illustrated Guide to David Brin’s Uplift Universe*. This will be a wonderfully fun tour of the many alien races that people have enjoyed in books like *Startide Rising* and *The Uplift War*. Those seeking more can download an uplift story from <http://www.davidbrin.com/>. I’m currently working on my first “Heinleinian Juvenile” novel...this one about some rather unpleasant aliens who decide that, because humanity did them a favor, they owe us a gift. The gift they choose is a colony on another world. But for colonists, they zap up 3,000 kids from a

Californian high school...”

Barrie Lynn Bryant writes: “**A. B. Word** has recently had five books published with her artwork on covers; all were published by Dark Regions Press. Books by **Mary Soon Lee**, **Brian A. Hopkins**, **James Dorr**, and two by **Ken Wisman**. Now, Dark Regions is publishing two others featuring Word’s art on the covers that are due out by summer. They are authored by **Sarah Hoyt** (who also recently published with Ace books) and again Mary Soon Lee. Word will be attending and exhibiting at The World Horror Convention (Chicago); Comic-Con (San Diego), WorldCon (San Jose), MileHiCon (Denver) and, possibly, World Fantasy Con (Minneapolis). She may send some work to other cons, including LepreCon. Check out the recent feature published in *Billings Gazette* (<http://www.billingsgazette.com/archive.php?section=life&display=rednews/2002/01/19/build/life/00-fantasy.inc>). The painting that comes up on that page won the Best of Show at LepreCon and it states that on the caption.

M. Christian writes: “Busy on this end...in a word: ‘whew!’ *Dirty Words*, my first collection, just got nominated for a Lambda Literary Award; *Speaking Parts* (the lesbian anthology) will be out in July; I just signed for a third anthology, *Bodywork*, which will be out this time next year; coming out in the next few months are a couple of anthologies—*Villains and Vixens* (with **Jamie Joy Gatto**), and *Best S/M Erotica* (both from Black Books). Also, *Rough Stuff 2* will also be out in the summer from Alyson Books (that I edited with **Simon Sheppard**). Aside, there’s a bunch of stories coming out all over the place...”

John Clute writes: “My SF novel, *Appleseed*, appeared in the States from Tor (January 2002). Did an introduction to **David Lindsay’s** *A Voyage to Arcturus* for the University of Nebraska Bison Books series. Production values on this reprint of Lindsay’s great novel are extremely high.

Alyx Dellamonica writes: “My new story, “Three Times over the Falls,” is up on SCIFI.COM, and can be found at: http://www.scifi.com/scifiction/originals/originals_archive/dellamonica2/.”

Robert L. Forward is working full-time now on his space tethers company (<http://www.tethers.com>). He is planning an autobiography and, perhaps, one more SF novel before calling it quits on the SF scene.

With his nomination as Best Artist **Frank Kelly Freas**—who will celebrate his 80th birthday this year, on August 27th (Happy Impending Birthday, my friend!!!!!!)—has a chance to win his 12th (dozenth?) Hugo Award.

James E. Gunn writes: “Scarecrow Press is reprinting the updated *The Road to Science Fiction #3: From Heinlein to Here* (still available now). Volume #1 will be out in September, Volume #2, in

October or November. I’ve just turned in the manuscript for a collection of short stories titled *Human Voices*, to be published later this year by Thorndike, and I’ve just finished an autobiographical update for *Contemporary Authors*.”

I am sad to report that writer **Jack C. Haldeman II** died on 1 January 2002. For more information on this wonderful man and writer, please see his Website at <http://www.sff.net/people/jack.haldeman>.

The Texas A&M University Libraries have named **Hal W. Hall** as the Irene B. Hoadley/Friends of the Sterling C. Evans Library Professor. Hall is the Curator of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Research Collection at the Cushing Memorial Library and Archives. Named for **Irene B. Hoadley**, former director of the Sterling C. Evans Library, the Hoadley/Friends Professorship is awarded to a librarian scholar for an outstanding research project. Hall’s project, “Marketing a Research Collection: Developing Scholarly Tools as a Method of Marketing Library Research Collections,” will develop three important research tools. Hall will create the first Web-based register of library collections of science fiction and fantasy. He will also develop a register of individual author collections in libraries and of book manuscripts. He will continue work on the Science Fiction and Fantasy Research Database through 2003. “The Cushing Library’s science fiction and fantasy collection is already widely recognized and heavily used. These new tools developed by Hal Hall will facilitate access to and use of the collection for researchers around the world,” explained University Libraries Dean **Fred M. Heath** in making the award. Congratulations, **Hal Philip Kaveny** has “signed a contract to review books for *The New York Review of Science Fiction*. I have reviews coming out in *The Journal of Utopian Studies*, and will be doing a Review Interview feature for **Lyda Morehouse’s** novel *Fallen Host* for *The SFRA Review*. I also was promoted to Literary Editor of *The Midwest Book Review* (<http://www.midwestbookreview.com>), and I have been inspired by one of my fans to continue work on my fantasy/romance, *The Saga of Igor* (<http://nakedprogrammer.com/PhilK/SagaOfIgor.htm>).” **David Langford** writes: “Forthcoming stuff includes the second “Discworld” quizbook, *The Wyrdest Link*, due from Gollancz (London) in April, and the fat critical collection, *Up Through an Empty House of Stars: Reviews and Essays 1980-2001*, containing 95 of my pieces on SF and to be scheduled, er, real soon now...” **Gary Lovisi** at **Gryphon Books** has released *Barsoom: Edgar Rice Burroughs & The Martian Vision* by **Richard Lupoff**, with a great new **George Barr** cover and illustrations; *Sherlock Holmes & the Terror Out of Time* by **Ralph Vaughan**, in which Holmes and Professor Challenger fight minions of

Cthulhu in London; *Hardboiled* #27/28, a 200+pp trade paperback with a color cover, 33 original hardboiled crime stories by the likes of **Andrew Vachss**, **Stephen Solomita**, **Joe Hensley** and others. Also just out is *Paperback Parade* #57, featuring interviews with **Bruce Cassiday** (aka **Carson Bingham**) and Beat poet **Charles Plymell**. There will be a new catalog coming out next month. Lovisi’s 14th Annual NY Collectable PB & Pulp Fiction Expo will be held Sunday, September 22, 2002 in NYC, with 20 guests, including **Barry N. Malzberg**, **F. Paul Wilson**, **Ed Hoch**, **Ron Goulart**, **Henry Slesar**, **John Norman**, and many others!”

John R. Mason writes: “With my father’s help, I am in the process of publishing/republishing his (**Douglas R. Mason**, a.k.a. **John Rankine**) back catalogue of novels in MS Reader e-book format. This consists of about 42 SF works from the 1960s and ‘70s (the “Golden Age” of British SF). Sixteen of these are already published and available from many online e-book stores. For more info on this see (<http://www.goldenapple.u-net.com>). The Website has an MP3 interview with my father, photos and lists/previews of all the recent publications. The latest, and most exciting development is the publication for the first time of *Forgotten Rocket* (15 Feb 2002). This was never originally published—being used instead for the *Space 1999* original novel *Phoenix of Megaron* (John Rankine). While the plot line is basically the same (without the 1999 characters) it was mostly rewritten when changed to *Phoenix*. It makes for a fascinating comparison. For more information on this, see the Website (as above) and click the “More Info” link on the *Forgotten Rocket* description page. Hopefully, this will bring some classic British SF to a new generation of readers in a real SF format. The main feature of these e-books is that they are fully searchable and can be annotated.” **Marty and Alice Massoglia** of **Massoglia Books** came through Phoenix and Tucson on a book buying trip in March. They will be at LepreCon, Westercon, and possibly WorldCon. Their bookstore Website can be found at <http://home.pacbell.net/ambooks>. **Susan R. Matthews** writes: “I’ve just turned in the fourth “Koscuisko” novel, *The Devil and Deep Space*, to my wonderful editor at Roc for publication in October of 2002. This was the second on a two-book contract, so we’ll see what happens next. *Angel of Destruction*, my October 2001 book, seems to be doing pretty well, which pleases me because I really liked the book. I’ll be at Norwescon at the end of March and am considering attending Readercon in July, as well as planning on going to WorldCon in San Jose. My real news, though, is that I’ve been asked to [be] GoH at Orycon 24 in November! I couldn’t be more pleased. This is a really nice convention and I’ve

(Cont’d on back cover)

In Our Book

Where Late The Sweet Birds Sang
By Kate Wilhelm
Tom Doherty, trade pb, \$13.95

This review may be wasted on many of you who are completely familiar with Kate Wilhelm's many stories; but, if I can tempt a youngster into trying her stuff then my time is worth it. Ms Wilhelm has been writing at a steady pace since at least the 1950's, both mysteries and SF, is married to Damon Knight and helped start the Clarion workshops. Her work has been a challenge to both publishers and booksellers who try to pigeonhole her. This particular book is my personal favorite and is a timely subject.

Where Late... is a story set near the end of the 20th century when it becomes evident to everyone that pollution levels have reached an irreversible point; plants and animals are dying and world-wide panic sets in. One far-sighted family with great resources decides to do what they can to preserve their own family in a remote valley (somewhere near Virginia, I think). David, a young geneticist, comes home to the family farm to find his elders deep into clone research in an attempt to renew the dwindling animal population. Many species had become sterile. While the outside world crumbles around them

with food riots, invasions and finally nuclear weapons, they discover what the governments are hiding: humans are also becoming sterile. David's uncles decide they must take the next step and try to clone humans, too. The plan is to produce sufficient generations of clones to bypass whatever is causing the sterility and then be able to reproduce normally.

The clones discover what multiple-birth children have always known: a strong empathic, almost telepathic link to their sisters and brothers. The "elders" are dwindling and the younger, stronger clones are now managing the cloning processes when David begins to suspect their research is moving in a different direction. When he discovers their true plan, he is horrified and tries to destroy the laboratory. He is exiled from the colony. The clones have decided they are the next evolutionary step and do not wish to return to the "human" condition. They plan to maintain the entire population by cloning only. As the generations progress, a completely different society emerges, isolated in their valley.

The conflict in the story comes when the new Elders realize their supplies have reached a critically low level and they must explore the cities and try to find replacements; most critical are certain supplies necessary to maintain the cloning processes. They send out a team to Washington, D.C. The five men and one woman come from separate clone groups

and are away from their brothers and sisters for the first time in their lives. The separation is agony for them, they nearly die before they can return. And each of them is permanently scarred from the experience of being an individual for the first time. Molly finds she cannot go back to her previous existence, she actually wants to be alone some of the time and discovers her link to her sisters is weakening. Ben also discovers his connection to his brothers isn't as strong and when Molly is exiled, he finds he'd rather spend time with her alone than with his brothers. When Molly discovers she's pregnant, she hides from the colony; but when the baby is five, they are discovered. Since fertile females are still rare and necessary to the breeding program, she is drugged and conditioned and placed with other breeders. Mark, her son, is raised in the colony. Mark is a single individual in a colony of clones; an alien to them. However, as the repercussions of that first survey team continue to baffle the scientists; they begin to consider how Mark's uniqueness may help them overcome their problems. Mark's uniqueness, his individuality, may give them answers they don't anticipate.

Ms. Wilhelm's writing is clear, concise and evocative. I have seldom read stories that ring so clear in my head. - **Catherine Book**

The Fiery Cross
by Diana Gabaldon
Delecorte Press, 979 pages, \$27.99

The Fiery Cross is the fifth volume [not counting the Outlandish Companion] of the Outlander series of time-travel historical novels.

Jamie Fraser, and his wife, Claire formerly of the 20th century, have settled in the Carolinas on a land grant from the British Governor. Hence, they owe him duty, when the militia is called up to suppress the Regulators rebellion. They have been joined by Jamie and Claire's daughter, Brianna and her husband Roger McKenzie. Roger is hanged as a regulator after being framed by the jealous husband of a woman he saved in a previous volume {no good deed goes unpunished}. Roger's nemesis is the son of Jamie's nemesis from the first volume. Roger is saved by a bad knot, and Claire's surgery

As The book progresses toward the American Revolution, Stephen Bonnet, the Irish Pirate who raped Brianna in the previous volume and left her with a child, returns and attempts to kidnap Brianna and her child. He wants to force her great aunt Jocasta to give him hidden Jacobite gold. No reader has ever accused Ms. Gabaldon of having only one simple plot line. Jamie and Claire, Brianna and Roger must all juggle beliefs, loyalties, and some

(Cont'd on page 18)

In Our Book (cont'd from page 16)

knowledge of history that hasn't happened, as the years just before the revolution pass.

The first quarter of the book contains enough exposition to slow it down but does not lose the readers interest. It sets up the roller coaster ride that the rest of the book travels at pace. You'll want every detail. This reviewer feels that The Fiery Cross is the best since the first volume, and would call it a must for Gabaldon fans. Even if it is your first Gabaldon adventure, it will send you back for the rest. At a recent book signing, the author stated there are two more to go. I'm looking forward to them. - **Pam Allan**

The Skies Of Pern
by Anne McCaffrey
Ballantine, 384 pages, \$25.00

The Skies Of Pern is the 13th book of Ms. McCaffrey's Pern series.

Technology has begun a return to Pern. Aivas, the computer brought by Pern's colonists [Prior to meeting threadfall] has been rediscovered. The dragons and their riders have blown the errant spore carrier out of orbit. This will be the last threadfall. New medical care and tools are making their way into society. A group of Pern residents, called Abominators, want everything back the way it was, and all traces of Aivas'

knowledge destroyed. They are attacking anyplace the knowledge is used. The Dragon riders will be looking for work after this threadfall. Pern is changing.

The remaining satellite, the remains of the Yokohama, tracks an incoming comet that impacts Pern, and the dragon riders evacuate the holds, saving the residents. Can they save Pern, themselves and cope with both the changes, attacks, and everything else coming at them at once?. Will the dragons themselves hold the Key?

This is the best Pern novel in years and will be on the must get list of all McCaffrey fans. Good plot and subplots, characters, and fast movement in the Pernian Ambiance. A winner. - **Pam Allan**

Exploring Meditation
by Dr. Susan G. Shumsky
New Page Books, 231 pages [with additional notes and bibliography], \$14.99

Exploring meditation is a step by step manual to develop yoga style meditation, sharpen intuition, and find a spiritual path for "everybody". It includes exercises [physical and spiritual] Diet and dollops of Eastern Wisdom. A former disciple of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, Dr. Shumsky has written a helpful book for those embarking on a spiritual Path - **Pam Allan**

Divine Revelation
by Dr. Susan G. Shumsky
Simon and Schuster, 245 pages [with additional glossary, notes and bibliography] \$11.00

Divine Revelation explains Dr. Shumsky's techniques to opening yourself to the powers within, to hear the "still small voice" within and use it to augment our decision making capabilities. Ms. Shumsky uses a yoga based series of practices to open up path to spiritual enlightenment. A useful book for those looking for a spiritual path - **Pam Allan**

Black Wolf
by Dave Gross
Wizards of The Coast, 312 pp, \$6.99

Black Wolf is part of a Forgotten Realms series but are not in numbered volumes or by the same author. It does stand alone with the exposition in the first few chapters.

Talbot Uskevren is the younger son of a leading merchant family. He spends his days practicing swordsmanship and working with a theater group to the disgust of his family. However he has been bitten by a werewolf from a family in blood feud with his own. The clerics of both Malar, the cruel god of the Brotherhood of the Black Blood and the

more compassionate Selune, the moon goddess say that he must find a way to control the wolf within and also learn to unchain the wolf to protect his family and his city.

There are also questions about his best friend, and a relationship growing with the Selune cleric who is helping him control the wolf. It doesn't help that his family relationships are in disarray. Meanwhile, the Malveen family of were creatures and vampires are out to get them all.

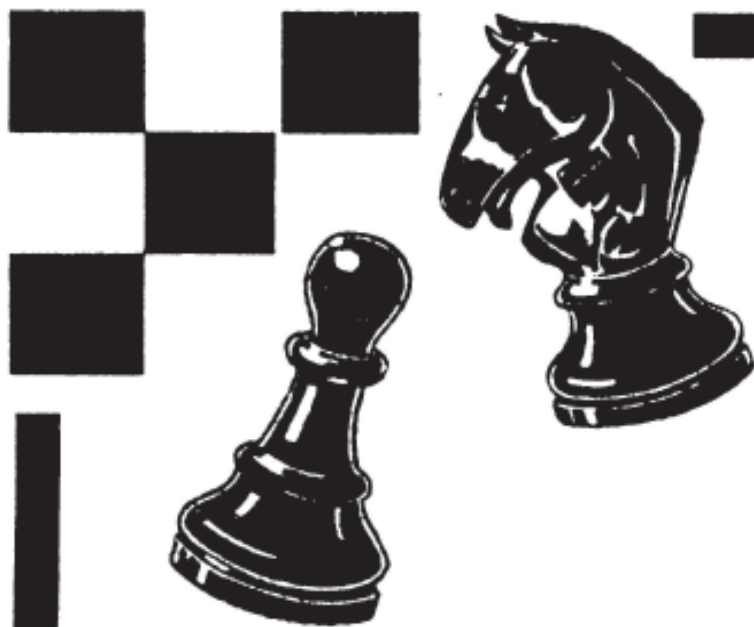
Lots of action, good and bad guys, and in general a very pleasant piece of escape reading for a lazy afternoon. - **Pam Allan**

Keep On The Borderlands
by Ru Emerson
Wizards Of The Coast, 310 pages, \$6.99

Keep On The Borderlands is a part of the Greyhawk series from Wizards of the Coast. I have not read any of the series other than this but note that it is not designated by book or volume number. This one does stand alone but does appear to leave itself open for sequel.

Female mercenary Eddis and her band have gotten their caravan through ambush to the Keep, as has the mercenary band of Jerdren. They collect their wages, and prepare to travel when invited to feast with

(cont'd on page 21)



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In Our Book (cont'd from page 16)

the Castellan.

A new job is proposed, sufficiently lucrative to gain their agreement. Take some soldiers from the keep, and wipe out the bandits in their lair. They accept.

They complete this task. The next offer is to clean out the Caves Of Chaos which they accept eagerly knowing the Orcs will have lots of treasure. Of course there is a minor problem of Ogres, Bugbears, and Hobgoblins to fill out the ranks of Kobalds and other assorted nasties. Why are all these bad guys, who normally can't stand each other, working together? Did we forget to mention the evil priest/mages of Chaos.

They do make life interesting, and don't forget the undead. Why waste a soldier just because he's dead. Thankfully, the good guys have a priest mage, elf warrior mages, a dwarf, and, Oh yes, a light-fingered lock picker and a 10 year old orphan taken from the original set of bandits.

The Story line is predictable, but the characters better drawn than usual. Some of the detail is quite engaging. It makes a very pleasant read. - Pam Allan

Chosen of the Gods Kingpriest Trilogy, Volume One by Chris Pierson Wizards of the Coast, 344 pages, \$6.99

Once again the forces of darkness are on the rise. Using lies and deception They seek to corrupt the ruler of mighty Istar. But Istar's ruler is the Kingpriest, chosen of the gods. Can he be corrupted? and if he can what hope is there for lesser men?

Set in the fantasy world of Krynn this is a tale of intrigue, suspense and war. With the old Kingpriest dying and the border lands wracked by plague and revolt, many act to seek justice but a few act to gain power. How far are those few willing to go? And how many of them follow the dark path? But all is not lost for a prophetic dream has lead the high priestess of Paladine to the Lightbringer, the true chosen of the gods.

Chris Pierson is a talented writer who has written a very good story. Chosen of the Gods quickly grabbed my attention and held it for the whole book. For people looking for a well paced action/suspense novel this is a very good choice. - William B. Whitmore

The Lion Clan War Seventh Scroll by Stephen D. Sullivan Wizards of the Coast, 282 pages., \$6.99

Can the clans of Rokugan put aside their blood feuds and political intrigue long enough to defeat the demon Fu Leng? Mr. Sullivan's talent is obvious. From the detailed mythology to the intense interpersonal relationships between the characters this author shows great talent. He has written a good sword and sorcery hack and slash with believable battle scenes. His story is fast paced and tightly knit and shows great skill as a writer.

Unfortunately This is the seventh and final novel in a series and it is definitely not a stand alone. Because I have not read the other novels in the series I frequently found myself lost. His detailed mythology assumes that you know what happened in prior books to explain why demons are loose in the world. The intricate web of lies, deceit, and blood feud between the characters is complex and obviously built with great care but without having read the prior books I was unable to figure out why the conflict existed.

While I am sure that people who have read the series will eagerly buy this concluding story I would strongly recommend that anyone thinking of buying this novel first read the others in the series. - William B. Whitmore

Archangel Protocol By Lyda Morehouse ROC, 342 pages, \$6.99

Shades of Nehemiah Scudder! We have a new and truly original American Theocratic Republic where an extremely evil politician, Etienne Letourneau, is trying to carry things one intolerable step further. As disaster approaches our heroine, Deidre McManus, is dragged into the coming events by none other than Michael the Archangel.

Letourneau is implicitly claiming to be the Christ of the Second Coming. His claims appear to be validated by the Link Angel manifestations seen by millions via the Net Links worn by nearly everyone. Michael and his fellow Archangels know them to be false, but need help dealing with them. Deidre and the Malchim, an underground organization of religious nonconformists provide aid. Mornigstar/Satan seems to be on the side of Good and Right providing aid and support to the other Archangels. Mouse of Mouse.net appears supportive, but is he?

The novel combines several sub-genres of Science Fiction very successfully. C.S. Lewis, Melissa Scott and Robert Heinlein would love this one. -Gary Swaty

Club Listings

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Please check your club listing for errors. Please send corrections and updates to the editor in writing or via email)

ADRIAN EMPIRE A medieval and renaissance recreationist club. Sword-fighting, arts, banquets, masquerades, dances. meets every Wednesday night from 7-10pm at Encanto Park. All are welcome. Free. For details, call (602)582-6990.

ARIZONA LANBASHERS LEAGUE A collaboration of computer gaming enthusiasts, the Arizona LANbashers League throws quarterly LANparty events. Between parties, support is given to local groups who wish to advertise their own gatherings. We have no set genre of games and play anything from strategy games to first-person shooters to driving/flying simulations. No annual membership is required and admission to an event ranges from \$5-\$15. See our webpage for current events. Email: azlanbashers@earthling.net Web: <http://www.lanparty.com/all/> VoiceMail: 602-306-9339

THE AWAY TEAM: The Away Team, is a general sci-fi appreciation group that meets once a month for discussion of various sci-fi news regarding several mediums to include: television, movies, video, books, comics, magazines, collecting, and so forth. The meetings are comprised of news, review and comment, BBS/computer news and help, meeting new members, video presentations, games, and socializing fun! Food and drinks are provided, via a \$3 munchie fee (per meeting) to compensate the host. (No other fees are involved.) The electronic home of the Away Team, is the Lightspeed Space Station BBS at (520) 325-6674.... Member ages for the group range from 13-40-something with both male and female members. Other activities include null-modem link gamefests, group theater movie viewings, convention trips and more. Have sci-fi fun in a relaxed, low-structure environment. NO RUBBER EARS ALLOWED!! For questions, you can call the BBS, or write to: LSS c/o R. Martin; 2522 N. Sparkman Blvd.; Tucson, AZ 85716

BASFA Baja Arizona Science Fiction Association, a non-profit organization. Puts on TusCon Convention annually. Webpage: <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa> Email: basfa@earthlink.net

CENTRAL ARIZONA SPECULATIVE FICTION SOCIETY, INC. (CASFS) The non-profit corporation that puts on CopperCon conventions, SmurfCons, HexaCons, occasional regional cons, and publishes Con-Notations. Best described as SF/F generalists with a strong bent towards literary SF/F. Guests welcome - meets at 8pm on the last Friday of each month in January thru September and the second Friday in October, November and December at JB's Restaurant, 2560 W. Indian School in Phoenix, AZ. Write PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or call Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 for information. Web www.casfs.org



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Club Listings (Cont'd from page 21)

C.R.O.F.T. Celtic Reenactment of Fellowship and Trades is Phoenix based Reenactment group specializing in the western European renaissance. As an organization, it is our goal to promote fellowship while researching lifestyles and trades concurrent with the Celtic Peoples from 400 BC until 1746 AD. Although most members claim Scots, Irish or Welsh ancestry and do Celtic re-enactment, it is our intent to open participation to anyone with an interest in period crafting and entertainment, no matter what his/her ethnicity. The sense of being a real village surrounding Croft is vital to promote a feeling of family and fellowship which was a reality in earlier times. Croft is a family-oriented and kid-friendly organization. C.R.O.F.T. members can be found demonstrating in events such as the Highland Games, Scarborough Fair, and the Arizona Renaissance Festival. Web page <http://www.crofters.org>

THE DARK ONES (Dark-wunz) n. 1) An organization formed for the expression and exploration of various cultural themes including, but not limited to, the Dark Ages and the Renaissance through forms of art including, but not limited to, painting, drawing, writing, photography, spoken word, and acts of characterization. 2) a member of this organization. 3) Information available at www.darkones.org

DAYSTAR HOLT Arizona's first and longest-running Elfquest fan club. Daystar meets to talk about EQ and related stuff, develop characters, publish stories in our 'zine *Playelf* and create an annual calendar. Other common interests include music, belly dance, camping and of course, SF. Membership is free (18 or over) and is attained by group vote after you attend two meetings or holt-related get-togethers. Meetings are usually the first Saturday of each month; for more info, call Tom or Janice at (602) 581-2258. They have a website up at <http://members.home.net/jeanderson/daystarholt.html>

THE EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL, INC. The Empire of Chivalry and Steel specializes in the general recreation of the culture of the Middle Ages including all of the Art Forms, Events (Feasts, Tournaments, Ceremonies and Wars) and Combat Arts covering the years of 800AD up to 1650AD and any location within Europe or its explored territories. For more information contact Bart Smith (Phoenix) (602)937-6995 or Leonard Bird (Tucson) (520)742-2432

THE JEDIKNIGHTS Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month. For more information call Carol Alves, Publicity, (760)244-9593 or write Jedi Knights, c/o Jim Lowerre, 12291 Meade Street, Garden Grove, CA 92841-3629

LEPRECON, INC. One of the two Phoenix area corporations that put on yearly conventions. Best described as SF/F generalists with a main thrust into SF/F art. Guests are welcome. The meetings are quarterly on the second Saturday of February, May, August & November unless otherwise notified. August is the annual meeting where board positions are determined. For more information, write PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 ; call Mike Willmoth at (480) 945-6890 or Email: mwillmoth@comupserve.com

MIB The Men in Black is the official organization of field operatives for Steve Jackson Games. They attend local conventions to demonstrate and promote products of Steve Jackson Games. The also schedule demos in local gaming stores. If you have a gaming store or convention that you would like to have official Steve Jackson Games representation at, please contact the MIB Arizona Cell Leader at justjessie@mindspring.com.

PAREX is a non-profit, just for fun organization dedicated to the proliferation of robotics as a hobby. Monthly meetings will be held and will be announced under the Meeting Information page, <http://www.parex.org/meetinfo.htm>. All interested persons are invited to participate. We are currently in the process of getting organized and becoming an official organization with tax status. Web page: <http://www.parex.org/> E-mail Contact: John Kittelsrud, johnkit@teamdroid.com

THE PHOENIX FANTASY FILM SOCIETY A Phoenix based club interested in the entire realm of SF, Fantasy and Horror film. PFFS has been in existence for 25 years, meeting every 6 weeks in member's homes. Dues are \$10 per year. Membership includes newsletters, an annual film awards and various outings. For information, contact PFFS, P.O. Box 34023, Phoenix, AZ 85067 or call David Storck at (602) 274_7404, e_mail: Menzeez@aol.com.

PHOENIX JAPANIMATION SOCIETY Local chapter of Japanimation/general animation oriented fans - meets monthly. Membership is free, though optional monthly newsletter is \$5/year or \$.50 per month. Call Tom Perry at (602) 996-2196 or write 3241 E. Altadena, Phoenix, AZ 85028.

RAGE ACROSS THE SOUTHWEST A Live Action Theatre Troupe based out of the ASU campus in Tempe, AZ. It is dedicated to the game Werewolf: The Apocalypse by White Wolf publishing. Contact Mike McLaughlin at (602)461-5842 or write 1730 W Emelita Place #2025, Mesa AZ85202-3144 or email to warlok@aztec.asu.edu

RAW GAMES (Role-players & Wargamers, Inc.) Role-players & Wargamers, Inc. is the Valley's oldest role-playing and wargaming club. Currently meeting at 8159 W. Weldon in Phoenix every Sunday from 3pm-9pm (except during conventions and other special events). Open to new members - call (602) 849-9515. WWW.rawgames.org

SCIENCE FICTION CONTINUUM The Science Fiction Continuum: An Independent Star Trek and Sci-Fi club in Phoenix, AZ. The SFCOM is an active club that participates in Local Phoenix, and Southwestern Star Trek and Sci-Fi conventions and movies. The SFCOM has three different divisions. The SFCOM itself, a free group where fun is the name of the game. The Deep Space SolarFlare (DSSF) an active member club in the International Federation of Treker's (IFT). This group is based on DS9 (a space station). And the IKV Sto-Vo-Kor (Independent Klingon Vessel). A Klingon Bird of Prey, roaming the desert looking for battle. Are the Fed's too soft, looking for combat, feel the call to glory. This is the ship for you. Membership in the SFCOM

is free! To join DSSF or the Sto-Vo-Kor a nominal fee for the national clubs involved and uniforms. For further information contact President John Nelson at (602) 409-7169 or on the internet at; BNelson502@aol.com or check out our web site. <http://www.thesfcom.com>

SFACE (Speculative Fiction And Computer Enthusiasts) Phoenix College's one and only connection to the worlds of speculative fiction, including science fiction, fantasy, and horror as well as table top, live action and internet gaming, SFACE also serves as a guide through the Internet - both teaching basic use and utilizing as a source of speculative fiction. For more info contact Dr Ray Bromley at bromley.ray@al.pc.maricopa.edu. The SFACE Web site is found at <http://www.pc.maricopa.edu/departments/studentact/organizations/sface/>

SHADOWKEEP BBS Intelligent conversation, awesome graphics, stupendous door games, unworldly filebank, RPG forums, QWK message system and online RPG BBS-moderated games! Our BBS is mainly RPG oriented and we offer many services to GMs and players. No fees necessary for users who post intelligent messages! \$5 in credits to new users. Over 20 conferences and 10 doors to choose from! Shadowkeep BBS - PCBoard 15.2/M - US Robotics 28.8 Modem. Phoenix, AZ (602)245-0919; Connect at 2400-28800

THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM The kingdom of Atenveldt doth lie in the state of Arizona. Within the fair kingdom can be found six Baronies: Atenveldt, Mons Tonitrus, Twin Moons, SunDragon, Tir Ysgithr and Ered Sul. For more information on any of these or for general information on thy past tomorrows thou mayest contact Mistress Myrddina o Dolwyddelan (Terry Schwartz) PO Box 584, Sonoita AZ 85637 (520)455-5835 Email: myrddina1@aol.com www.atenveldt.org

THE SOUTHWEST COSTUMER'S GUILD The Southwest Costumers Guild is a loose organization of persons interested in all facets of historical, cultural, science fiction, fantasy, and humor costume. Members are often seen on stage and behind the scenes at local and regional Science Fiction Convention masquerades. They meet on the last Sunday of each month at various members' homes in the greater Phoenix area. For details. Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix, AZ 85609 or call Randall Whitlock at (602)995-7514, email: costumers@casfs.org or Website: www.southwestcostumersguild.org

SPACE ACCESS SOCIETY Space Access Society's sole purpose is to promote radically cheaper access to space, ASAP. We think it's possible within ten years, with a little luck and a lot of hard work. Join us and help us make it happen! SAS membership is \$30 for one year, which gets you emailed Space Access Updates the instant they pass final edit, plus discounts on our annual conference on the technology, politics, and business of radically cheaper space transportation, featuring leading players in the field. Email us at: Space.Access@Space-Access.org Web page: www.space-access.org/

STARBASE TUCSON Tucson Arizona based Star Trek club. For info call Geof Wood at (520) 746-1822 or write Starbase Tucson ; 3314 E. Benson Hwy ; Tucson AZ 85706. Email: pegasis409@aol.com

TARDIS TARDIS is a Phoenix-based General SF/Fantasy Fan Club, specializing in International media SF/Fantasy since 1983. TARDIS meets every two weeks at different locations around the valley. Activities include watching videos, discussions, parties, fund-raisers, auctions, games, camping trips and outings. We also maintain an active presence at local conventions. TARDIS publishes a monthly informative newsletter, *The Index File*, with a national circulation which is included with membership. Annual membership is just \$12.50. You can contact us at P.O. Box 63191, Phoenix, AZ 85082-3191, Voice Mail at (602) 864-0901, E-mail TARDIS-Info@primenet.com or visit <http://www.primenet.com/~jgeorge/tardis.html>

TEKWAR FAN CLUB Sanctioned by the series' production companies and the USA Network! It is THE information conduit between the fans and the series! Fan club membership will bring you the following 1) subscription to the info filled Tek Informer newsletter; 2) official TekWar Fan Club membership card and kit. Membership is by regular mail only and the newsletter and materials will not be reproduced electronically. To join the action and initiate your annual membership, make check or money order out for \$12.50 to: Official TekWar Fan Club (Membership section), 2522 N Sparkman Blvd., Tucson AZ 85716-2417

T.H.E.M. T.H.E.M. is ASU's science fiction and fantasy club. Weekly meetings are held on the Arizona State University campus, with dates and places to be announced after the semester starts. For more information, contact Erik Wennstrom, email: ew@asu.edu Phone: 480-968-5257. To subscribe to our listserve, send a message to them-request@asu.edu.

TUCSON FAN ALLIANCE E-Mail Address is Bkoehler@Juno.com or DMitchell1@Juno.com.

USS STORMBRINGER The Stormbringer is a correspondence Star Trek fan club chapter of Starfleet, Intl. based out of Tucson AZ. The chapter was commissioned as the USS Stormbringer NCC-74213, attached to Division 31, Starfleet Covert Operations, on 10/31/98. As of 11/29/98 there were 32 members. There are no dues other than the \$15 for joining Starfleet Intl.. Members are scattered world wide but the primary clusters are in Tucson, AZ and Plano, TX. They don't meet on a regular basis since they are a correspondence chapter. Their web site is: <http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Vault/9505/> and their contact/CO is Capt. Dave Pitts, thepitts52@hotmail.com.

Z-PHILES are the ariZona x-PHILES. We maintain a mailing list for news and get-togethers of fans of the X-Files living in Arizona. We get together in both the Phoenix and Tucson areas. To subscribe, send an empty message to z-philes-subscribe@egroups.com

UNITED FEDERATION OF PHOENIX A Phoenix area Star Trek and general SciFi fan club. We are a social club that

(cont'd on page 23)

Club Listings (Cont'd from page 22)

meets every two weeks at various locations around the Phoenix area. The UFP has been meeting for over 25 years of continuous activity. Dues are \$15/per year prorated when you join; no restrictions. Membership includes membership roster and monthly newsletter. Come to any two meetings at no obligation. For information, write the UFP at PO Box 37224, Phoenix, AZ 85069, or call Jim Strait at (602) 242-9203. Web page: <http://www.U-F-P.org> or Email to Info@U-F-P.org

UNITED WHOVIANS OF TUCSON

A well-informed and very active Dr. Who club. \$15 yearly membership includes four issues of their fanzine - TARDIS Time Lore - written by semi-pros and other dedicated fans. For more information, contact The United Whovians of Tucson at P. O. Box 13541, Tucson, AZ 85732-3541. Also, you can contact the president at kfbuwot@aol.com or the UWOT webmaster at unitedwhovians@aol.com Web page at: <http://www.azstarnet.com/~hgadlng/uwotclub.htm>

Western Science Fiction Association

(WesternSFA) A non-profit corporation that sponsors the ConRunners seminars and is sponsoring a bid for the 2004 Westercon. Dedicated primarily to educational activities relating to literature, music, and visual and performing arts, especially in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, costuming, gaming and science. Applicants for membership in WesternSFA must be sponsored by a current active WesternSFA member. Dues are \$10 yearly plus a \$5 non-refundable application fee. General Meetings are held on the first Friday of February, May, August and November, usually at the home of a member. Guests are welcome. For more info contact Craig Dyer at WesternSFA, PO Box 87457, Phoenix AZ 85082, (602) 973-2341, Email: craig@dovertkeep.com. Webpage: www.westernsfa.org



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Convention Listings

Space Access '02, (Phoenix, AZ) **April 25-27, 2002** at the Quality Inn South Mountain. Space Access So-ciety's ninth annual conference on the technology, politics, and business of radically cheaper space transportation. Check www.space-access.org for details; inquire at sas@nlzero.com about our "local fan" discount.

ConFurence (Burbank CA) **April 26-28, 2002** Hilton Burbank Airport & Convention Center. Guests: Eric Garcia, Roz Gibson, Ed Luena. Memberships \$35 thru March 15, \$45 at the door. Info: The ConFurence Group, PO Box 84721, San Diego, CA 92138-4721, Phone 619-303-9380 Email info@confurence.net Web: confurence.net

GilaCon (Mesa, AZ) **Saturday April 27, 2002**, 7 am to 11 pm Mesa Rendevous Center 263 N. Center St., Mesa AZ Membership \$10 advance, \$15 at the door Gamers Coalition of Arizona, 1750 W. Boston St. #1090, Chandler, AZ 85224 www.gilacon.com

LepreCon 28, (Phoenix, AZ), **May 17-19, 2002**, Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Artist Guest: Monte Moore, Author GoH: Peter David, Music Guests: Jeff & Maya Kaatherine Bohnhoff, Memberships: \$25 until 8/31/01, \$30 until 1/31/02, \$35 until 5/05/02, \$40 at the door. Kids 9-12 1/2 price (kids 6 & under free with adult admission) Hotel: Embassy Suites Phoenix North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd. (602) 375-1777 or 800-527-7715, Rates: \$79 S/D, \$89 T, \$99 Q Info: LepreCon 28, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Phone: (480) 945-6890; Email: lep28@leprecon.org Web: www.leprecon.org/lep28

WesterCon 55: Conagerie (Los Angeles, CA) **July 4-7, 2002** Los Angeles Airport Radisson Hotel, Los Angeles, CA Author Goh: Harry Turtledove, Editor: Beth Meachem, Fan: Robert Lichtman, Artist: Ross Chamberlain Memb: \$60 through Feb 28, 2002 Info: WesterCon 55, c/o SCIFI, Inc., PO Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409 Web: www.westercon.org/55

HexaCon 12 (Phoenix, AZ) **July 26-28, 2002** Embassy Suites North Phoenix. Arizona's Largest Annual Gaming Convention Memberships: \$15 July 30 - Dec 31, 2001; \$20 Jan 1 - June 30, 2002; \$25 at the door. Special Thursday night events for pre-registered members only. Location Info: Embassy Suites North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd; 602-375-1777 or 800-527-7715 Rates: Standard: \$74 S/D; Boardroom Suite \$74 S/D/T/Q; Executive Suite \$94 S/D/T/Q Rooms INCLUDE a full breakfast and Happy Hour. Info: Hexacon 12, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082 Phone: (602) 973-2341; Email: dyer@casfs.org

San Diego ComicCon International (San Diego, CA.) **Aug 1-4, 2002** San Diego

Convention Center, San Diego, CA. Guests: Lots & Lots including Craig McCracken (Powerpuff Girls), Peter David, Bob Oskener, Jaime and Gilbert Hernandez (Love & Rockets) Info: Comic_Con, PO Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112_8458. Phone: (619) 491_2475, Email: cciweb@aol.com

ConJose (World Science Fiction Convention) San Jose, CA **August 29-Sept 2, 2002** McEnery Convention Center, San Jose CA. Guests: Vernor Vinge, David Cherry, Bjo & John Trimble, Ferdinand Feghoot. Attending \$160, Supporting \$35. Info: Conjosse, PO Box 61363, Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363 Web: www.conjose.org Email: info@conjose.org

CopperCon 22, (Phoenix, AZ) **Sept 6-8, 2002** Author GoH: Barbara Hambly; Media GoH: Mojo; Location: Embassy Suites North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd; Phoenix AZ; 602-375-1777 or 800-527-7715 Info: CopperCon 22, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082, info@casfs.org or www.casfs.org

ConTours 2002 (Burbank, CA) **Sept 20-22, 2002** Hilton Burbank Airporrt & Convention. Guests Mark Sheperd, Nene Thomas, Heather Alexander. Memberships begin at \$25 Info: Web contours.roleplayingguild.com

Conjecture (San Diego, CA) **Oct 18-20, 2002** DoubleTree Mission Valley Hotel, San Diego, CA. GoH: Steven Brust. Memb: \$30.00 to 6/1/02 (checks to Conjecture). Info: ConJecture, PO Box 927388, San Diego CA 92192; email: info@conjecture.org; website: www.conjecture.org

TusCon 29 (Tucson, AZ) **November 8-10, 2002** at the really spiffy InnSuites. GoH: TBA; AGoH: TBA. Events include: Meet the Authors and Artists, Panels, Readings, Video Room, Dealers Room, Art Show, Game Room, LAN Computer Gaming, Masquerade, Adult Masquerade, and ConSuite. Memb: \$30 for now, \$45 at the door. kids 6-12 half price. InnSuites, 475 N Granada Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701 (near I-10 and St Mary's Road) (520) 622-3000. Room rates include a real breakfast! Info: TusCon 29 PO Box 27307, Tucson AZ 85726-7307 Webpage: <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa> Email: basfa@earthlink.net

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LosCon 29 (Burbank CA) **November 29-Dec 1, 2002** Burbank Airport Hilton, Burbank, CA Guests: Author Goh: David Weber. Memb * \$30 December 1 until February 28, \$35 until July 1, 40 until October 31 : \$45 at the door. Hotel Room Rates: \$94 Single-Quad * \$114 Executive Sxuites Info: LosCon c/o LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd, North Hollywood, CA 91609 Email: loscon29.info@lasfs.org Web: www.loscon.org/loscon/29

Generic Convention Registration Form

Name: _____

Badge Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ memberships for
_____ convention.

(See calendar for mailing address)

More info on ___ Masquerade ___ Art Show ___ Volunteer ___ Other

Pro Notes (cont'd from page 17)

had a lot of fun the past two years I've gone, so I hope everybody who can will come to Portland in November to share the fun. Here is a link: <http://www.orycon.org/orycon24/index.html>." **Terry McGarry** writes: "My first novel, *Illumination*, was published in hardcover by Tor last August and is due out in paperback in June. I've just delivered a sequel, *The Binder's Road*, which should be out later this year. *Illumination* was listed as one of the five SF/F works chosen as the "Best of 2001" by *Library Journal*, and made the *Locus* 2001 Recommended Reading List for first novel. It was also on the ballot for Barnes & Noble's Maiden Voyage Award. I'm working on the third contracted book now, called *Triad*, the completion of the three-book story arc." **Lyda Morehouse** signed a three-book contract with **Laura Anne Gilman** at Roc. Lyda will write two more books in the "Archangel Protocol" universe, *Messiah Node* and *Apocalypse Array*, as well as a third, unrelated book, as yet unnamed, which could be described as a gay urban fantasy about gangster area St. Paul (Minnesota). Lyda's newest book, *Fallen Host*, will hit the stores on May 7, 2002. She will be signing *Archangel Protocol* from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2002 at the Sheraton Hotel (Cedar Rapids, IA) as part of the Basically Books Booklover's Luncheon. She will also be appearing at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2002, at Uncle Hugos (2864 Chicago Ave. S.; Minneapolis, MN; (612) 824-6347) with **Lois McMaster Bujold**. Lyda will be discussing her novel *Fallen Host* at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2002 at the Har Mar Barnes & Noble (Roseville Mall, 2100 N. Snelling Ave.; Roseville, MN; 651/639-9256) as part of the Barnes & Noble book club "Blue Event Horizon"; and signing from 2-3 p.m. on Sunday, May 19th, 2002 at the Northtown Barnes & Noble (710 County Hwy. 10 NE; Blaine, MN; 763/786-0989).

Artist **Michaela Nastasia** writes: "Donald M. Grant Publisher Inc. (<http://www.grantbooks.com>) released an art book entitled *Goad: The Many Moods of Phil Hale* recently. They will also release an illustrated limited hardcover edition of *Black House* by **Stephen King** and **Peter Straub** in May/June 2002, with illustrations and design by **Rick Berry**; oh, and I'm getting married to **Robert K. Wiener** President of Donald M. Grant Publisher, Inc. on July 6, 2002."

Yvonne Navarro's *Buffy, the Vampire Slayer: Tempted Champions* has just been released (3/1/02), and *Buffy: The Willow Files, Vol. 2* is on the Bram Stoker Preliminary Ballot. She's finally finished horror novel *Mirror Me* and turned it over to her agent. There are excerpts from all three books, including a 60-page pdf file from *Mirror Me*, available on her site at <http://www.yvonnenavarro.com>. In the meantime, she's running her online bookstore (<http://www.dustystacks.com>) and making plans to FINALLY move to

Arizona..."

Vera Nazarian writes: "My debut mythic fantasy novel, *Dreams of the Compass Rose* received a wonderful review from **Charles de Lint** in his regular review column "Books to Look For" in *F&SF*, February 2002 issue (<http://www.sfsite.com/fsf/depts/cdl0202.htm>), and "An Interview with Vera Nazarian" just appeared on March 1 at *Vision Online* (<http://lazette.net/vision/Issue8/Interview.htm>). I am now working part time for Wildside Press, doing publicity, PR and Web development."

Slovakian artist **Martina Pilcerova** will be at WorldCon in San Jose. She will also be having meetings with some film folk in Los Angeles following. Her Website can be viewed at <http://www.martina.sk>.

Charles Platt reports that he is no longer involved in science fiction.

Brian Stableford writes: "Recent projects completed include *The Vampire of Paris*, a translation of **Paul Feval's** *La Vampire* (1856), which is under consideration at Sarob Press; a new "scholarly" edition of **S. Fowler Wright's** *Deluge* (for which I did the intro and annotations), delivered to Wesleyan University Press; and a novel called *Kiss the Goat* (a contemporary ghost story set in Reading), which Prime will publish in the spring of 2003. I've just turned in a third batch of articles for the Salem Press *Cyclopedia of Literary Places* bringing the total to 42 (my mind is still boggling at the awesome extent of water symbolism in 19th century French literature) and I'm hard at work on a number of articles for the new edition of Scribner's *Supernatural Fiction Writers*. *Dark Ararat*—the fifth in my future history series—is just out from Tor, who are now hoping to get the sixth, *The Omega Expedition*, out in November/December. Also just out is the new (i.e., third) Games Workshop edition of *Zaragoz* (with the remainder of the trilogy, *Plague Daemon* and *Storm Warriors*, to follow in July and October). A Wesleyan UP edition of **Camille Flammarion's** *Lumen* (introduced, translated and annotated by me) should be out within weeks, as should the Tartarus Press edition of *Nightmares of an Ether-Drinker* by **Jean Lorrain** (ditto). The Big Engine omnibus of the "Hooded Swan" series, *Swan Songs*, should also be out real soon now, as should the Cosmos edition of *Salome and Other Decadent Fantasies*.

Bud Webster writes: "I have little to report for myself other than the long-promised publication of *41 Above the Rest: An Index to the Anthologies of Groff Conklin*, which will be out later this year through my own Aniara Press. Also, I've had two well-received articles in the most recent two issues of *The New York Review of Science Fiction*. More important than that, though, is the publication last month of the first new **Nelson Bond** collection in almost 40 years, *The Far Side of Nowhere*, published by Arkham House. There was also an almost simultaneous publication of

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Nelson's novel, *That Worlds May Live*, by Wildside Press. This novel has never been published in book form before, and hasn't seen print at all since it was originally run in *Amazing Stories* in 1943. Nelson's very pleased with both books, and rightfully so."

The indefatigable **Jack Williamson** reports that "*Spider Island*, volume 4 of my collected stories, is due from Haffner Press in April. The annual Williamson Lectureship is happening here at Eastern New Mexico University this week, with **George R. R. Martin** and **Michael Swanwick** as official guests."

Janine Ellen Young reports that she's going to be at Norwescon in March.

EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing Inc. has hired **Cheyenne Grewe** as Editorial Manager. She replaces **Jackie Arnold**, who has been promoted from that position to Senior Editor. And **Amanda Miazga** has been named the Most Valuable Evaluator. Australian **K. A. Bedford** has signed a contract for his first novel *Orbital Burn*, and Kiwi writer **Till Noever** writes: "Right now I'm in the final editing cycle with *Keaen*, more info on which has appeared at <http://www.edgewebsite.com/future.html>. The publications date (Autumn 2002) appears achievable." **J. A. Callum** will sign novel *Lyskarion: The Song of the Wind* at WorldCon in San Jose. **Marie Jakober's** novel *The Black Chalice* will be released

in paperback in 2002. **Lynda Williams** and **Alison Sinclair**, authors of the forthcoming *Throne Price* (May 2002) will appear at "Just West of Unruly," the University of Northern British Columbia festival for readers and writers in Prince George, BC, and at Norwescon in March; and ConVersion (Calgary, AB) in August.

What is CASFS?

What is really behind putting on a convention? What the funds raised by a convention used for? Why not attend a meeting and find out? We're the sponsor of ConNotations, CopperCons, HexaCons, SmerfCons and other conventions. We are a charitable, non-profit organization that exists to further science fiction, fantasy and science fields in Arizona. CASFS currently meets at the JB's Restaurant at 2560 W Indian School Rd in Phoenix (NW corner of I-17 and Indian School). The meetings begin at 8PM and are held on the last Friday of the month Jan. Through Sept. And on the second Friday of the month Oct through Dec. Everyone is invited to attend two meetings as a guest (non-member). Membership rates are \$12/year plus an initial \$3 application fee and rates are pro-rated for the amount of the year remaining. For more info Call: Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 Webpage: www.casfs.org email: casfs@casfs.org