



FILE 770:58 as usual has been edited by Mike Glycer at 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. This zine is primarily available for subscription at 5/\$4.00, mailed first class in North America or printed matter rate overseas. Air printed matter service is available for \$1.00 per issue. (All payments in US funds, thank you.) Issues can also be earned by bending the editor's ear with hot gossip by way of expensive long distance phone calls -- (818) 787-5061. Or utilizing your immense writing skills, you can mail in the hot gossip and earth-shattering news. FILE 770 also trades by arrangement, primarily with clubzines and newzines.

NEBULA AWARD NOMINEES: NOVEL - HELLICONIA WINTER, Brian Aldiss; BLOOD MUSIC, Greg Bear; THE POSTMAN, David Brin; ENDER'S GAME, Orson Scott Card; THE REMAKING OF SIGMUND FREUD, Barry N. Malzberg; DINNER AT DEVIANT'S PALACE, Tim Powers; SCHISMATRIX, Bruce Sterling.

NOVELLA - "Green Mars", Kim Stanley Robinson; "Sailing to Byzantium", Robert Silverberg; "Green Days in Brunei", Bruce Sterling; "The Only Neat Thing To Do", James Tiptree Jr.; "The Gorgon Field", Kate Wilhelm; "24 Views of Mt. Fuji by Hokusai", Roger Zelazny.

NOVELETTE - "A Gift from the Graylanders", Michael Bishop; "The Fringe", Orson Scott Card; "Paladin of the Lost Hour", Harlan Ellison; "Portraits of His Children", George R. R. Martin; "The Jaguar Hunter", Lucius Shepard; "Dogfight", Michael Swanwick and William Gibson; "Rockabye Baby", S.C. Sykes.

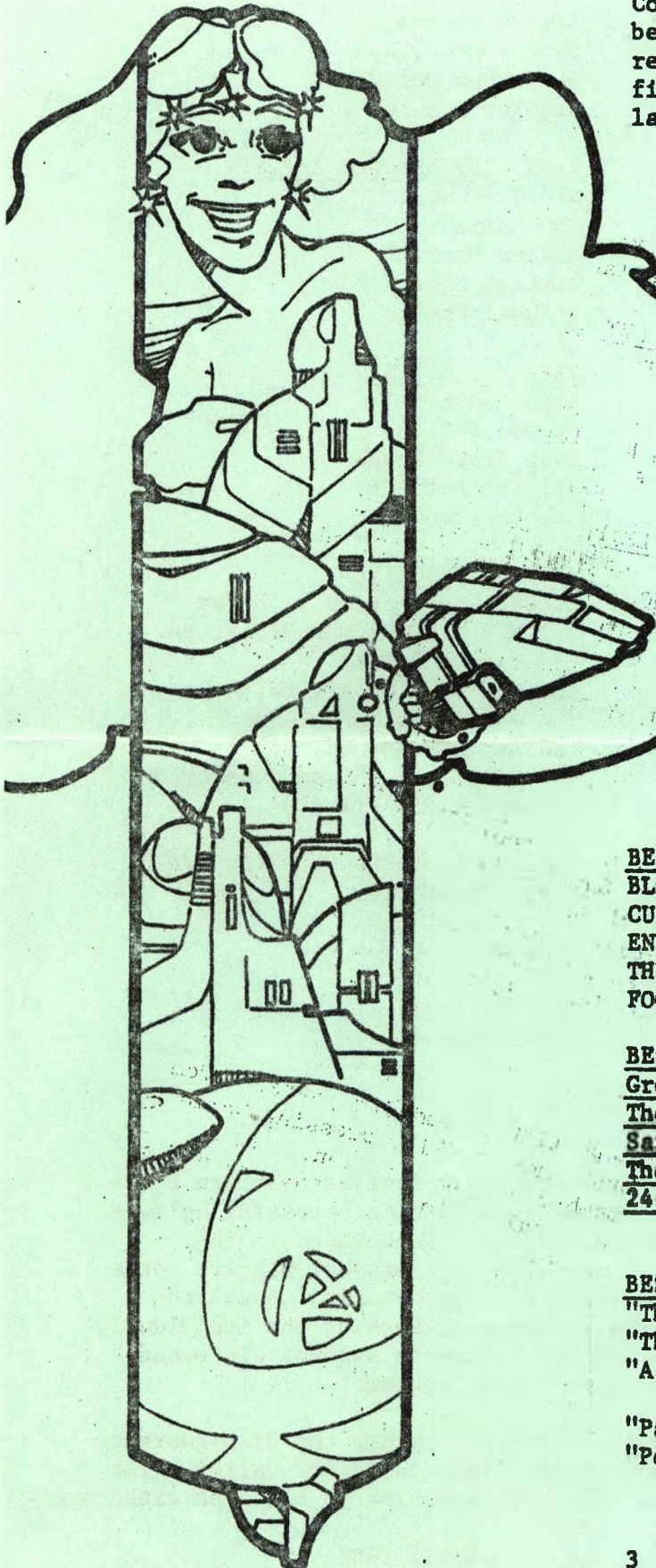
SHORT STORY - "Paper Dragons", James P. Blaylock; "Snow", John Crowley; "The Gods of Mars", Gardner Dozois, Jack Dann and Michael Swanwick; "Out of All Them Bright Stars", Nancy Kress; "More Than The Sum of His Parts", Joe Haldeman; "Flying Saucer Rock and Roll", Howard Waldrop; "Heirs of the Perisphere", Howard Waldrop; "Hong's Bluff", William F. Wu.

STAR WARS FAN CLUB: After years of providing gainful employment to a few lucky LASFSians, the Star Wars/Lucasfilm Fan Club has become a casualty of Lucasfilm Ltd.'s many changes "aimed toward a tighter focus on film production." Director Maureen Garrett issued a farewell letter to the club's membership list, and said she would leave the company effective April 11. Said Maureen on a lighter note, "The highlight of my career with Lucasfilm was having the opportunity to be an extra in HOWARD THE DUCK. I was dressed as a punk, covered with chains, and wearing an upswept hairdo, a costume of my own design. A lot of footage was shot, but you'll probably only see my hand! Look for me in a smoky night club sitting at the front bar during a fightscene."

L. RON HUBBARD DEAD AT 74: L. Ron Hubbard died January 24 of a stroke. John Hertz provides the following commentary, revised from his APA L zine: "L. Ron Hubbard died Friday. I wonder if the science fiction community will ever appraise his contributions. A.J. Budrys said that a couple of years ago, and I'm afraid Hubbard's death won't change it. Hubbard never hesitated to march to a different drummer, or even to be the drummer. His recent sf has been, I fancy deliberately, out of fashion: not that he meant to defy us, but more likely he wrote what he felt like writing, rather than what he might have thought we'd consider a good idea. I've read THE INVADERS PLAN and I think it compares favorably with THE FINAL ENCYCLOPEDIA (Gordon Dickson) which I've just finished. INVADERS is simple, straightforward, and fluent, while FINAL is muddy and talky: Dickson evidently bogged in forcing his philosophy into fiction, a thing Hubbard carefully avoided: yet Sandra Miesel's afterword to FINAL worries me that this is a comparison we'll never make, nor any like it. With all respect, she doesn't even seem to notice the points that are main weaknesses in Dickson's book, which happen to be strengths to Hubbard's. I understand that both BATTLEFIELD EARTH and THE INVADERS PLAN have (please see last page)

1986 HUGO AWARDS NOMINATIONS

ConFederation's Hugo Awards race was begun by the announcement of nominees receiving enough votes to appear on the final ballot. Ballot counters Jeff Copeland and Liz Schwarzin received 568 forms.



BEST NOVEL

BLOOD MUSIC, Greg Bear
CUCKOO'S EGG, C. J. Cherryh
ENDER'S GAME, Orson Scott Card
THE POSTMAN, David Brin
FOOTFALL, Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle

BEST NOVELLA

Green Mars, Kim Stanley Robinson
The Only Neat Thing To Do, James Tiptree Jr.
Sailing to Byzantium, Robert Silverberg
The Scapegoat, C. J. Cherryh
24 Views of Mt. Fuji by Hokusai, Roger Zelazny

BEST NOVELETTE

"The Dogfight", Swanwick & Wm. Gibson
"The Fringe", Orson Scott Card
"A Gift From The Graylanders",
Michael Bishop
"Paladin of the Lost Hour", Harlan Ellison
"Portraits of His Children",
George R. R. Martin



BEST SHORT STORY

"Dinner in Audoghost", Bruce Sterling
 "Fermi and Frost", Frederik Pohl
 "Flying Saucer Rock and Roll", Howard Waldrop
 "Hong's Bluff", William Wu
 "Snow", John Crowley

BEST NONFICTION BOOK

BENCHMARKS: GALAXY BOOKSHELF, A. J. Budrys
 AN EDGE IN MY VOICE, Harlan Ellison
 FACES OF FEAR: ENCOUNTERS WITH THE
 CREATORS OF MODERN HORROR, Douglas
 E. Winter
 THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL LETTERS, VOL. 1,
 ed. by Perry Chapdelaine, et al
 THE PALE SHADOW OF SCIENCE, Brian Aldiss
 SCIENCE MADE STUPID, Tom Weller

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

BACK TO THE FUTURE
 BRAZIL
 COCOON
 ENEMY MINE
 LADYHAWKE

BEST FANZINE

ANVIL, Ed. Charlotte Proctor
 THE GREATER COLUMBIA FANTASY COSTUMERS
 GUILD NEWSLETTER, ed. Bobby Gear
 HOLIER THAN THOU, ed. Marty and
 Robbie Cantor
 LAN'S LANTERN, ed. George Laskowski
 UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR, ed. Susan Bridges

BEST FANWRITER

Don D'Armassa
 Richard E. Geis
 Mike Glyer
 Arthur Hlavaty
 Dave Langford
 Patrick Nielsen-Hayden

BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR

Terry Carr
 Edward Ferman
 Shawna McCarthy
 Judy-Lynn Del Rey
 Stanley Schmidt

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Kelly Freas
 Don Maitz
 Rowena Morrill
 Barclay Shaw
 Michael Whelan

BEST FAN ARTIST

Brad Foster
 Steven Fox
 Joan Hanke-Woods
 William Rotsler
 Stu Shiffman

BEST SEMIPROZINE

LOCUS, ed. Charles N. Brown
 SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE, ed.
 Andrew Porter
 SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW,
 ed. Richard E. Geis
 FANTASY REVIEW, ed. Robert Collins
 INTERZONE, ed. Simon Ounsley,
 and David Pringle

JOHN W. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD

Karen Joy-Fowler
 Guy Gavriel Kay
 Carl Sagan
 Melissa Scott
 Tad Williams
 David Zindell

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AT THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE: Repeating a familiar pattern from 1983, L. Ron Hubbard's more recent novel headlined some deadline-pressing ballots that arrived with the required fee to become a member of the Worldcon. The number was not sufficient to place Hubbard on the final ballot, but pattern votes in two other categories for TO THE STARS staff members may have influenced the outcome. (That's L. RON HUBBARD'S TO THE STARS.) However, both of the individuals are past Hugo winners, and the actual extent of the influence was not discussed by the counters; the quality of the candidates is not a problem.

SMoFs kept the midnight oil burning as they attempted to explain the disappearance of Alexis Gilliland, multiple Fan Artist Hugo winner, from the final ballot. The omission of FILE 770, on the other hand, was simple to explain: it had been withdrawn

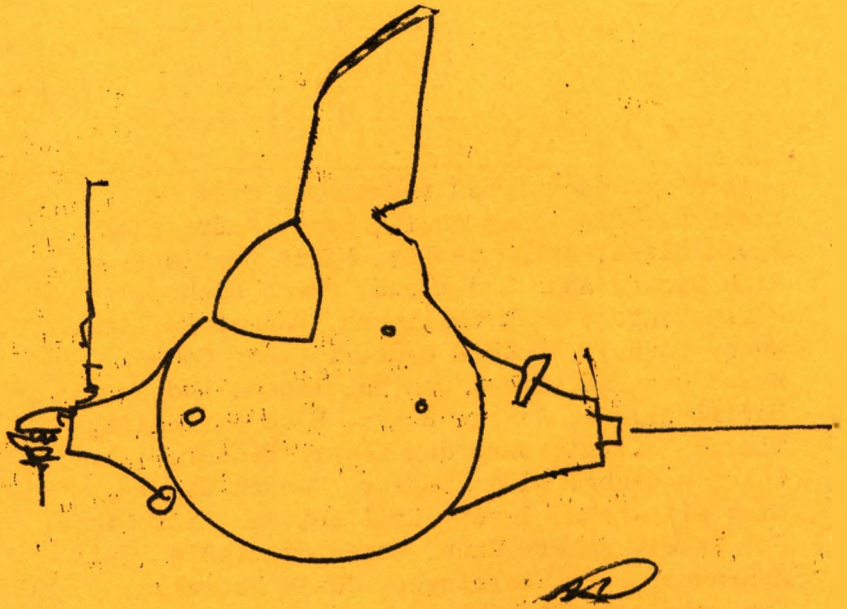
(for 1986 only).

Yes, the zine did get enough nominations to have made the ballot. But then, so did almost every zine in North America. Two of the five on the final ballot were unknown to me beforehand. A local who got a recent issue of THE GREATER COLUMBIA FANTASY COSTUMERS GUILD NEWSLETTER says that its editorial urged readers to block-vote the zine in Hugo nominations as a method of demonstrating how ~~self~~-important costume fandom is. Everyone

who's heard the suggestion has promptly drawn a parallel between the GUILD NEWSLETTER and PHILK FEE-NOM-EE-NON, a filksingers zine that was promoted onto the 1984 Hugo ballot by block voting. Of course, when you're talking about block voting in the Best Fanzine category, you're not talking about a big block; the whole crowd could fit comfortably in a minibus. The minimum nominations required to make the final ballot in this category in 1984 was 15, and even less in 1985. One outraged fan complained, "First it was the filksingers, and now it's the costumers: the next thing you know, fanzine fans will be trying to take over the category." But I said, "Naw..."

One of the byproducts of the worldcon's evolution into a giant event is that the Masquerade was permitted to become a vast production, participated in by armies of fans, a few of whom spend as much on their costume for this one con as any fanzine does in a year of production. Costumers' numbers, investment of time, and logistical needs at the worldcon spawned a political consciousness in masquerade fandom. In voluminous correspondence (most of which occurred a few years ago and was reported here briefly) participant categories, sophisticated judging rules and complaints against how uninitiated conrunners handled masquerade events were published. This consensus of costume specialists has formed a backdrop for people who are bitterly certain that the worldcon does not pay proper respect to the great importance of the Masquerade. Two cases in point: the Merciers' peculiar logic in attacking the scheduling of the 1986 Worldcon masquerade on Sunday night; and the attitude of the Gears in engineering a fanzine Hugo nomination for their newsletter.

Condign revenge will come their way, of course, for this act of hubris. Right after the Perfect Duplicator Chorale (applications now being accepted from fanzine fans) barges into the worldcon filksing and performs the tune that Poul Anderson and Jerry Pournelle taught us, we'll get into our Princess Leia wigs and white sheets and form a Flying Wedge into the Masquerade. Hey, we don't get all the attention we think we ought to get, either!



1988 FILE 770 POLL

Voters who identified themselves with

their ballots: Dora Auvil, Harry Andruschak, David Bliss, Allan Beatty, Marie Bartlett, Rich Brown, Anne Broomhead, James Bishop, Marty Cantor, Jack Collinson, Robert Collins, Wendy Counsil, Robbie Cantor, Sandy Cohen, Bruce Diamond, Frank Denton, Thomas Endrey, Marjii Ellers, Jessie Eaker, Mike Farinelli, Timothy Fitzgibbons, Jan Howard Finder, Patrick Gibbs, Glenn Glazer, Jeanne Gomoll, Mike Glicksohn, Joseph Grilliot Jr., Kim Gibbs, Gil Gaier, Robert Gann, Carey Handfield, Gail Hanrahan, Lucy Huntzinger, Jamie Hanrahan, Gay Haldeman, Doug Hoylman, Earl Josserand, Ken Josenhans, Jane Jewell, Jerry Kaufman, Paul Korb, Robert Lichtman, Guy Lillian III, Roy Lavender, Harry Leonard, Timothy P. Merri-
gan, Janice Murray, Cynthia & David Manship, Chris Marble, J. R. Madden, Joseph Nicholas, Robert A. Newsom, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Susan Obermeier, Mark Olson, Marc Ortlieb, Elizabeth A. Osborne, Ronnie Pettit, Kennedy Poyer, Andy Porter, Lloyd Penney, Curt Phillips, Peter Roberts, Charlotte Proctor, Carol Resnick, Dave Rike, Robert K. Rose, Mike Resnick, Joe Rico, Neil Rest, Steve Roylance, Joyce Scrivner, Garth Spencer, Laurence C. Smith, D. M. Sherwood, Milt Stevens, Michael Sinclair, Rick Sneary, William Trojan, Amy Thomson, R. Laurraine Tutihasi, Steve K. Tait, Dennis Virzi, W. A. Weller, Brad Westervelt, Roger Weddall, Walter K. Willis, George Wells, Annie H. Winston, Richard P. Webb, Vicky Webb, Martin Wooster, David Welner, James M. Young, Ben Yalow, Alan Ziebarth, Franz Zrillich. Together with six unidentified ballots, that makes a total of 105 participants in this year's Poll.



FAVORITE FANWRITER

#	PTS	NAME
1.	35	Mike Glycer
2.	22	Dave Langford
3.	11	Richard E. Geis
4.	8	Harry Warner Jr.
5.	7	Arthur Hlavaty
6.	6	Teresa Nielsen Hayden
7.	5	Patrick Nielsen Hayden
	5	Ted White
9.	4	Eric Mayer
	4	Avedon Carol
	4	Paul Skelton

Total voters: 80.

Total writers receiving votes: 68.

FAVORITE FANARTIST

#	PTS	NAME
1.	31	Brad Foster
2.	19	Alexis Gilliland
3.	14	Joan Hanke Woods
4.	13	Stu Shiffman
	13	Bill Rotsler
6.	11	ATom
7.	5	Steven Fox
	5	TaraL
9.	4	Anne Layman Chancellor
	4	Steve Stiles

Total voters: 81

Total artists receiving votes: 46

OPINION POLL

The first five poll questions involve specific worldcon bids now in the running. To test the predictive value of the overall preferences, participants were also asked about their eligibility to vote, or their history of voting, in Site Selection races.

1. Are you a member of the 1986 Worldcon (Atlanta)? (Voters = 100)

YES	71
NO	29

2. Rank the following 1988 Worldcon bids in order of preference:

Listed on the left are the four 1988 bidders. A voter could show up to four placements, first through fourth. The table on the left shows the votes of those answering "Yes" to Question #1, and would be eligible to vote in Site Selection. The table on the right includes votes of those who answered "No" to Question #1, or who skipped it answering #2 anyway.

	<u>YES</u> (voters = 67)				<u>NO</u> (voters = 30)			
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
BERMUDA TRIANGLE	15	9	5	31	8	6	4	10
CINCINNATI	10	13	19	16	7	3	7	10
NEW ORLEANS	35	21	6	4	11	8	9	1
ST. LOUIS	7	19	27	6	4	11	6	5

Since the winner, and balance of voting, is similar or the same regardless of the voter's eligibility, these results are easy to interpret. Remember that this is not a runoff, but a first count of all positions on the ballot: that means (on the YES table) 23 different people voted Cincinnati first or second, 24 the Bermuda Triangle, 26 St. Louis, and 56 New Orleans. That about sums it up. Mood of the voters? Surly. One New Orleans voter marked her ballot, "Chosen while holding my nose." Another said, "I am not enthusiastic about any of these choices." A St. Louis voter cursed, "All incompetent -- let business meeting decide."

3. Did you vote in Site Selection in 1985 (when Britain was selected?) (Voters = 14)

YES	55
NO	59

4. Rank the following 1990 bids in order of preference: (Voters = 98)

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
HOLLAND	22	21	43
LOS ANGELES	22	33	55

What does this tell us? That 1990 is a long way off. Shake the crystal ball and try again next year.

5. Rank the following 1989 bids in order of preference -- This was only a joke, because Boston is running in a one-horse race for 1989. If I'd remembered "Myles Bos' House in '89" and included that as a choice, things might have been closer. But not much.

6. A large menu of suggested changes to the Site Selection rotation is being considered by a Worldcon-appointed committee. The following list does not fully overlap what they're looking at -- but just between us, expres your feelings about each of the ones shown. 5 = Strongly favor. 4 = Favor. 3 = Acceptable. 2 = Oppose. 1 = Fanatically oppose.

- (a) Status quo: 3 North American zones, others can bid any time
- (b) Reduce North American zones to West and East. Outside N. Am. bid any time.
- (c) Split the world into two zones that alternate bidding years.
- (d) Eliminate zones; merely restrict how soon a metropolitan area can host the worldcon again.

	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	(voters = 103)
(a)	27	31	33	8	2	
(b)	5	17	28	30	22	
(c)	7	2	21	42	31	
(d)	12	15	31	30	15	

As usual, fandom turns out an impressive display of support for the status quo. All of the other alternatives aroused substantial opposition without eliciting more than a token number of enthusiastic supporters. Of the alternatives, the restricted metropolitan repeater rule got more positive response and slightly less negative response than the other two proposals.

7. Who would you like to see as future Worldcon guests of honor? You have 10 points to distribute in each category. You may give all 10 points to one person, or weight them among a maximum of three names.

PRO

FAN

<u>rank</u>	<u>pts</u>	<u>name</u>	<u>rank</u>	<u>pts</u>	<u>name</u>
1	99	Don Wollheim	1	115	Mike Glyer
2	74	Larry Niven	2	64	Walt Willis
3	51	C. J. Cherryh	3	32	Bjo Trimble
4	50	Hal Clement	4	27	Richard E. Geis
5	40	Andre Norton	5	23	Harry Warner Jr.
6	31	Robert A. Heinlein		23	Howard DeVore
7	28	Alice Sheldon (James Tiptree)	7	22	Art Widner
	28	Samuel Delany		22	Forrest J. Ackerman
9	23	Anne McCaffrey	9	21	Charles N. Brown
10	20	Arthur C. Clarke	10	20	Bob Shaw
11	19	Joe Haldeman		20	Dave Langford
12	17	Isaac Asimov		20	Arthur Thomson (ATom)
	17	Ursula K. LeGuin	13	18	John Bangsund
14	16	Joanna Russ	14	13	Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden
	16	George R.R. Martin		13	Don & Jill Eastlake III
16	15	John Varley	16	12	Terry Jeeves
	15	David Brin		12	Alexis Gilliland
	15	James White	18	11	Bob Tucker
	15	Frank Herbert (dec.)		11	Charles Burbee

<u>PRO</u>			<u>FAN</u>		
<u>rank</u>	<u>pts</u>	<u>name</u>	<u>rank</u>	<u>pts</u>	<u>name</u>
20	13	J. G. Ballard	20	10	D. Potter
21	12	Robert Silverberg		10	Don C. Thompson
	12	Ian & Betty Ballantine		10	C. L. Barrett
	12	Stephen Donaldson		10	Lon Atkins

OTHERS RECEIVING MORE THAN 5 POINTS:

Joan Vinge, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, Algis Budrys, Robert Sheckley, Michael Bishop, Diane Wynne Jones, Daniel Pinkwater, Jack Chalker, Poul Anderson, Ed Ferman, Carl Sagan, Jack Vance, Harlan Ellison, Thomas Disch, Fred Pohl, M. Z. Bradley, Greg Bear, Terry Carr, Alan Dean Foster, Somtow Sucharitkul, Norman Spinrad, Piers Anthony, R.A. Lafferty, Michael Moorcock, Jerry Pournelle.

OTHERS RECEIVING MORE THAN 5 POINTS:

Ken Moore, Frank Denton, Walter Breen, Bob Vardeman, Ed Wood, Ross Pavlac, Robert Hansen, Julius Schwartz, Lynn Hickman, Bob Passovoy, Andrew Porter, Sam Moskowitz.

8. *Did you vote in the last TAFF race (Nielsen Haydens won, over Martha Beck write-ins?)* (voters = 102)

YES = 46
NO = 56

9. *Did you vote in the next previous TAFF race (Hansen/D. West etc.)?* (voters = 101)

YES = 33
NO = 68

10. *When fans run in tandem (such as a married couple) as fan fund candidates, do you feel that they should:*
(a) *Spend only as much on their trip as a single winner would;*
(b) *Spend enough to prudently finance boths fans' trip?* (voters = 95)

Besides measuring the overall sentiment on this issue, let's break down the votes of those who identify themselves as TAFF voters, and those who don't. "Yes/Yes" indicates voters in 2 recent TAFF races. "Yes/No" indicates those who voted in the massive Beck-write-in race but not the previous UK-to-US leg of TAFF. "No/No" are voters who didn't vote in either race. "Other" are confused people who didn't answer all three questions.

	<u>YES/YES</u>	<u>YES/NO</u>	<u>NO/NO</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
(A)	14	4	20	1	39
(B)	13	7	34	2	56

The most enthusiasm for spreading around TAFF money comes from those who don't even vote in TAFF. Among those who do vote, sentiment appears almost evenly divided for and against a liberal policy towards tandem candidates. I had predicted a heavy vote in favor of "B", if only because fan fund voters persist in voting for multiple candidates. Perhaps the presence of six past and present fan fund administrators among the voters tipped the scale.



REPORT BY TOM GALLOWAY

Norwescon 9, March 20-23, 1986, Seattle, WA

The key word for Norwescon, like its equivalent in the Northeast sector, Boskone, was BIG. While Norwescon 8 drew around 2,000, this year's edition drew 3,000 to the same hotel.

Part of this growth was due to the "McCaffrey Effect"; i.e. have Anne McCaffrey as your GoH and plan for 700 extra people. The remaining 300 extras were probably natural growth.

Of course the somewhat unexpected turnout caused some problems. Both the huckster's room and the art show were usually crowded. Also, huckster tables were set out in the lobby and hallway areas, causing crowded areas to become more so. And all McCaffrey autograph sessions and panels were mobbed.

On the other hand, much of the con seemed designed for the larger turnout. In addition to Artist GoH Kelly Freas, Science GoH James Oberg, Fan GoH Greg Bennett, and Toastmaster Spider Robinson, Norwescon attracted a large number of pros (around 125 listed in the gorgeous program book alone), including major names like Silverberg, Williamson, Pohl, Budrys, Niven, Gibson, Spinrad, and Wolfe. Many, although not all, of these were there for the two award series presented at the con; the L. Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future Awards for new writers, and the Phillip K. Dick award for best original paperback (won for the second time by Tim Powers for *Dinner at Deviant's Palace*).

In addition, Norwescon featured a huge amount of programming. At times on Friday and Saturday afternoons, there were 10 tracks of programming going on. This had both advantages and disadvantages; some items were poorly attended, and some pros, particularly the big names, appeared on numerous items. On the other hand, many newer writers (particularly Clarion West graduates) were able to appear on a panel or two.

While the Red Lion Inn sprawls over 3 city blocks, changes in the use of function space allowed for all official con activities to be within a reasonable distance of each other.

The art show contained many interesting items, with a large number of Northwest artist collectives displaying their work. Unfortunately, it opened several hours late, and was split between two non-adjoining rooms. One particularly interesting item was put up by Artist GoH Kelly Freas; the winning bidder would receive a portrait of him/her done on Sunday evening.

While Norwescon had a rather limited film program, it had a very extensive video program with three channels of major films running 24 hours a day. In addition to being piped through the hotel, each channel had a room devoted to it available to those not staying at the hotel.

One programming item which Norwescon is known for is its dances. The opening dance on Thursday evening featured a live band which was not well received. However, the Stardance on Saturday evening featured an opening number charming, spectacular, and impressive in scope, lasers, balloons, and an excellent DJ.

Saturday evening's main event was the Masquerade, with about 45 entries. It was nicely run, with a both a runway and a secondary stage in the back for those in the cheap seats to be able to see the costumes better. As far as costume quality, few really struck me as being truly different or original. What was

different from East Coast Masquerades was the emphasis on presentation; many entries used extensive music and lighting effects and essentially gave a performance. This was helped by either an extended or total lack of time limitations on presentations, but the show still ran at a reasonable pace.

But, of course, what you folks are interested in is what the major parties were and what happened at them. Well, opening night was highlighted by the Clarion West party which featured humorous buttons with a Clarion theme. The favorite slogan was "A Thicken In Every Plot".

Otherwise, the social scene was dominated by the Writers of the Future people. They had a constantly open suite on one of the top floors with both a balcony with an excellent view of the Western Airlines terminal at Sea-Tac and good munchies.

In addition, Friday night they hosted the Writers of the Future Awards ceremony which was a programming event open to all. This event was notable for three reasons. First, the sight of more pros in suit and tie or formal dresses that one ever expected to see at a con at one time. Second, the marked similarities of the speeches and setup to that of the then soon to be held Oscar ceremony. Finally, and most important, the presence of a no-host, constantly replenished, *dessert bar!!*. This did sometimes cause the difficulty of determining whether one's incipient diabetes was being brought on by O'Ding on the strawberry mousse or by the speeches, but most people persevered.

□ Saturday night, the WotF party competed with the Berkeley/Ace/Hartwell party down the hall for attention. In addition to numerous copies of the new edition of *Neuromancer* and the traditional *Teen Angel* sing, the main highlight was the "dry jacuzzi" miniparty in a bathroom bigger than some dorm rooms I've lived in.

Another open party was the Norwescon autograph party, which featured all attending pros seated at tables in groups of 6-8. While some folk such as McCaffrey and Robinson faced hundreds in a line which wound in and out among other tables, other, less well known pros, took advantage of the time to socialize.

The Sunday banquet was sold out. As it turned out, having a banquet ticket was the only way to hear the GoH speeches since the back of the room was not opened up for them. Hopefully this will be corrected next year, as non-attendees missed out on several interesting speeches. These included McCaffrey ("The lady with the lava lamp eyes" according to Robinson) giving a talk on tolerance, Freas ("The Iceman") on how to get rid of a moon rock on a Sunday evening in Norfolk, VA, and Robinson both shaving off his beard on stage (Jeanne claimed that it scratched) and giving a Lord Buckley style jive eulogy of Theodore Sturgeon.

Afterwards, the Philip K. Dick Award was won for the second time by Tim Powers, this time for *Dinner at Deviant's Palace*.

Egomania compels me to mention the performance of the Sigma Phi Nothing trivia bowl team which consisted only of yours truly. SPN singlehandedly made it to the finals, losing by the last two questions to a five person team.

All in all, despite the crowding, Norwescon was a fun con with something always going on.



HEXACON 8 (January 10-12) Report by Martin Morse Wooster

Held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, this amiable relaxacon continued its winning ways, with a round-the-clock con suite, a fine selection of videos, and, of course, the traditional dusk to dawn skinny-dipping. The 175 people in attendance came from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Jersey, and those factions of Washington fandom not controlled by Alexis Gilliland. The highlight was a Halley's Comet expedition at the farm of Scratch Bacharach; the comet was first found by ace astronomer Hal Clement. GoH Karl Edward Wagner proved an affable choice, a more than welcome substitute for featured guest Ben Bova, who cancelled out at the last minute without explanation or apology. The con committee decided not to hold an official Saturday night pig-out for the first time, but nearly 75 fen chose Miller's Smorgasbord, which will become the official choice next year. Hexacon founder Neil Belsky did not attend, for reasons unknown.

BOSKONE XXIII (February 14-17) Report by Staff* (*that means it came from a phone call by Greg Thokar and was otherwise cribbed from INSTANT MESSAGE. Tom Galloway promises a real conreport for next issue.) Boskone, possibly becoming the Winter Olympics of its field (if the worldcon is the Summer Olympics), assembled 3800 fans in Boston on President's Day Weekend. Proximate to the shuttle Challenger diaster, Boskone's panel "Where Do We Go From Here?" drew 1800 to hear the future of space exploration discussed by Ben Bova, Joe Haldeman, C.J. Cherryh and Joel Rosenberg. Later in the weekend, Bob Eggleston's painting "Challenger Forever" attracted the top auction bid of \$1100. Reportedly the money was going to be donated to a fund for the astronaut's children. Overall the Art Show generated \$44,000 in sales (of which \$24,000 was paid by charge card). Barclay Shaw may have sold the most, for he had placed quite a bit of work in the show in an effort to finance a new house and his wife's enrollment in graduate school.

Boxboro Fandom threw its traditionally epic party. "Secrets of the Lost Temple of Boxboro" carried out a theme using gold foil wrapping, a full altar, and a piece of Kama Sutra type art. Partiers were invited to join in praying to the great ghod Olympia, represented by a can of beer. Party hosts auctioned embroidered dragon t-shirts.

The annual Skylark Award was made to Wilson Tucker. GoH Bob Bloch accepted, saying, "What a beautiful award -- now, can anyone direct me to the nearest pawnshop?" The inaugural Jack Gaughan Memorial Award was presented to Steve Hickman, a good, newer artist.

C. J. Cherryh was announced as next year's Boskone GoH. The con's 1987 chairman, Chip Hitchcock, declared, "We could easily hold another 500 people."

CORFLU 3 (February 14-17) Report by Martin Morse Wooster

Corflu 3 was a nice little convention. While not the dose of ultra-concentrated ultra-faanishness I had expected, Corflu's organizers (rich brown, Ted White, Dan and Lynn Steffan) produced a mellow relaxacon.

Held in the Best Western Westpark Motel in McLean, VA, Corflu will probably be the only Washington-area convention to have more attendees from New York than from Washington itself. The 90 members represented most active fannish centers, with five fen from California (including Pascal Thomas), four or five from

Canada, four or five from Seattle, seven or eight from New York, three from Boston, and the remainder from everywhere, including English representatives Avedon Carol and Rob Hansen. Neil Rest and Lise Eisenberg were the only fen to attend both Boskone and Corflu.

Programming was quite light. Saturday featured a "living fanzine", which began with GoH Teresa Neilsen Hayden getting pied and ended in a discussion of Eric Mayer's "Cafe Society" article from HOLIER THAN THOU and methods of attracting new fen to fanzine fandom. Sunday featured an excellent buffet followed by an afternoon of speeches. Toastmaster Terry Carr proposed the "Clarion Fanwriter's Workshop", featuring Brian Earl Brown on the method of typo production. GoH T. Nielsen Hayden, after being prompted by Ted White to "kick ass and name names", delivered a blistering speech blasting everyone she could think of, including Marty Cantor, fen who write long articles on why their cat is cuter than anyone else's, and fen who don't consider themselves part of an elite. "If we're not an elite," she said, "what business do you have of joining fandom? Why don't you join the local bowling league."

Dan Steffan then presented the first annual Holly Hobby awards for excellence in fannish activities. Winners were: INVISIBLE FAN: Gary Hubbard; BEST TOASTMASTER: Terry Carr; BEST TOASTMISTRESS: Suzle Tompkins; NANCY AWARD: Teresa Nielsen Hayden; MISSED BOSKONE TO BE HERE: Moshe Feder; CAME SO FAR FOR SO LITTLE AWARD: Avedon Carol/Rob Hansen; FUNNIEST FAN IN RHODE ISLAND: Steve Stiles.

Lucy Huntzinger was named Past President of the Fan Writers of America for 1984, and Gary Farber received the fwa past president award for 1981. Next year's Corflu will be held in Cincinnati; bidders for 1988 include Dallas and Seattle.

LUNACON 1986 (March 7-9) Reported by Darrell Schweitzer

"Ph, look, Essie -- a con report about US!" Lunacon 1986 veered wildly between upper-upper crust respectability and appalling sleaze, between the initiation of the Cyberprep movement and the Dead Gerbil Mythos. All of which requires considerable explaining.

Cyberprep is the opposite of cyberpunk. It is a movement for the nice, clean-cut Ivy League science fiction and is the brainchild of Esther Friesner, Susan Schwartz, Shariann Lewitt and perhaps a couple of others whose names have faded from my not-quite-first-rate memory. Throughout the first half of the con invitations were handed out to Select folks, many of whom also got little green and pink ribbons ("They go so well together.") The lucky ones, and a few others who happened to be In The Know attended the first official Cyberprep Sherry/Cocktail Hour, at which the Cyberprep manifesto was proclaimed. All this to rid the galaxy of (ugh!) "new money".

Now, what about those dead gerbils. People were asking all weekend, "what is this about dead gerbils?" When told, the usual response was "Nah, I don't believe it," or "I heard that story ___ years ago." But the inside story is that a rumor started in Philadelphia that a certain local TV anchorman was admitted to the hospital emergency room with (those with delicate sensibilities should turn the page) a dead gerbil in his colon. It got there in the course of a notably depraved practice which involves a shaven, detoothed, declawed gerbil high on cocaine, a cardboard tube, a match, and a piece of string. The string broke. (One very prominent Philadelphia fan, whose mother is a nurse, reports that her mother talked to someone who was on the scene.)

Anyway, this is the newest sick joke in Philadelphia. (The radio DJ dedicated

something called "Muskrat Love" to "that great pet lover _____."), our previous sick joke, Mayor Goode, having lost a lot of momentum.

The gerbil mythos swept the con. The most public manifestation involved most of the pros, led by Gardner Dozois and Susan Casper, singing gerbil songs for three hours in an 8th floor lounge. This after security had closed down David Hartwell's party, probably for the same offense. As is becoming well-known, tennage death songs (notably "Teen Angel", which is ritually sung at every con at 3 AM) are quite the rage among East Coast fans and pros. You may have seen the recent LOCUS photo of Hartwell leading the sing-along. Well, that is what they were singing.

Otherwise, the convention was pleasant and well-run. The hotel staff were cooperative, and even came equipped with "Welcome Lunacon" buttons. They were not always rewarded for their cooperation, since there was reportedly some vandalism on the part of the "drebs": "dreb" from drab/dreg, a handy term coming into use out here -- it means costumed strangers we ignore at cons, not costume fandom, or even various media trekkies, but a sub-sub-sub-stratum of (mostly) teenagers who come to cons to party and dress weird. They cause trouble for the same reason there is trouble at rock concerts. Fortunately, the location of the con (20 miles from Manhattan, in Tarrytown NJ), cut down on the dreb population considerably. On the negative side, the location was very hard to reach without a car, and since most New Yorkers don't have cars, there were less hardcore fans and pros (particularly publishing people) than usual. However, attendance was 1200 and I am told the con made a profit.

The programming was better than at many recent cons. Isaac Asimov gave one of his patented-brand talks. Marta Randall's GoH speech, which may not have offended as many people as she had hoped, was nevertheless an incisive analysis of the evils of tunnel-vision and the corporate mentality in science fiction. She made good use of the Michael Bishop piece in the SFWA FORUM (Go look it up).

BALTICON 20 (March 28-30) Report by Martin Morse Wooster

Balticon returned once again to the Hyatt Regency, home of ConStellation. This was a mistake. The hotel's policy of charging massive corkage fees (\$11.50 to "transport" a fifth of whiskey) meant that Balticon is probably the only major convention on the East Coast not to have a convention suite. This caused serious damage to the con's morale Friday night, but on Saturday night the hotel relented and allowed open parties, provided (a) they weren't 'open', and (b) they weren't described as 'parties'. Thus the Worldcon bidders frantically turned their suites into "educational exhibits," education flowing best at, of all places, the Cincinnati in '88 bid. Other high points of the convention included two late-night panels featuring Gardner Dozois and his crew of jokesters (Tess Kissinger, Greg Frost, Ray Ridenour, Tim Sullivan and the fan with the most disgusting jokes, Mark Van Name), the eccentric film program by Mark Owings, and the strong science program. GoH Nancy Springer was practically invisible. The dealer's room only had 3 out of 20 dealers selling books. Attendance was 2100.

Boskone Chair on TV, Denies Religion Plans

Chip Hitchcock, Chair of the 1987 Boskone, make a cameo appearance on the March 25th episode of Spenser: For Hire. He appeared as a member of the choir backing up John Davidson, who played an evangelist. Fittingly enough, the music was the straight version of "Give Me That Old Time Religion". Even though he wore a button with the names of several pagan goddesses circling the saying "Give Me That REAL Old Time Religion" at a rehearsal, no one noticed it.

When asked if the episode would be showing up on next year's Boskone video program, Chip replied, "Not if I can help it..."

AUSSIECON OPENING

Race Mathews, Minister for the Arts of the State of Victoria Legislature, began Aussiecon Two with a thematic speech. Said Mathews, "...On the occasion of Melbourne playing host for the second time to a world science fiction convention...we should recall how science fiction lovers in this city first came to organize themselves in the postwar period." This is the conclusion of Mathews' autobiographical address.



FANS (continued):

The sheer frustration of dealing with fellow fans sometimes drove to distraction those who were at heart serious-minded organizers. In December 1951, Graham Stone poured out his feelings in a letter to me which read in part: *There can be no doubt that many readers of science fiction are inadequate individuals -- what used to be called "escapists", though the term is unsatisfactory. They make up for their defects in ordinary life by building themselves up in their own estimation. And you can't think of yourself as supermen very effectively if you admit others as your equals.*

Graham continued: *Many fans, while living more or less well-adjusted lives and not tending to paranoid superiority, are extreme intellectual snobs; ever critical of others, finding faults which might well be overlooked and so on.... such fans, which will be reinforced by inspection of escapists, who are usually, painfully obvious second-raters. It may well be that these attitudes explain why the affairs of Sydney fans were conducted frequently in an atmosphere reminiscent of the Wars of the Roses.*

Melbourne tackled matters in a different spirit. The five of us -- Bob McCubbin, Mervyn Binns, Dick Jenssen, Lee Harding and myself -- made up the nucleus of the Melbourne Science Fiction Group. The Group met for the first time in 1952. I had just turned 17. Along with a further newcomer -- Ian Crozier -- we established a publishing firm of our own under the name Amateur Fantasy Publications of Australia. A.F.P.A. was located in the garage of Mervyn's home. The assets consisted of a secondhand Roneo 500 duplicator, together with our stocks of stencils, paper and ink. The publications were Lee Harding's PERHAPS, Ian Crozier's QUESTION MARK, my own BACCHANALIA, and the newzine ETHERLINE. ETHERLINE established what may well be an all-time record by appearing at fortnightly intervals for 100 issues, between 1953 and 1958. In time, the Melbourne Science Fiction Group felt sufficiently assertive to take over from Sydney the role of organizing most of Australia's science fiction conventions.

Melbourne's first national science fiction convention -- the Olympicon -- was held in 1956 to coincide with the Melbourne Olympic games. Australia's first world

science fiction convention -- Aussiecon One -- followed nineteen years later, in 1975.

QUIRKS

The Melbourne Science Fiction Group and Amateur Fantasy Publications of Australia exemplified the unfractious face of Australian fandom. Meetings revolved around talk, letters, publishing, bartering and chess. Puritanism, too, was pervasive. At an early date, our proceedings were removed from the living room at my home, in favor of a Swanston Street cafe called Val's. Shock and horror prevailed when Val's turned out also to be a meeting place for some of the courageous Lesbians whose coming-out from the closet was just getting underway. Bob McCubbin wrote boldly in ETHERLINE that "Extroverts and introverts we may be, but perverts never." Given that our membership at that stage was exclusively male, such risks as Val's clientele may have presented were remote. Had an invitation been issued, it probably would not have been understood. Nevertheless, future meetings were held in the austere asexual surroundings of the Latrobe Street Manchester United Oddfellows Hall, in comforting proximity to the Russell Street Police headquarters.

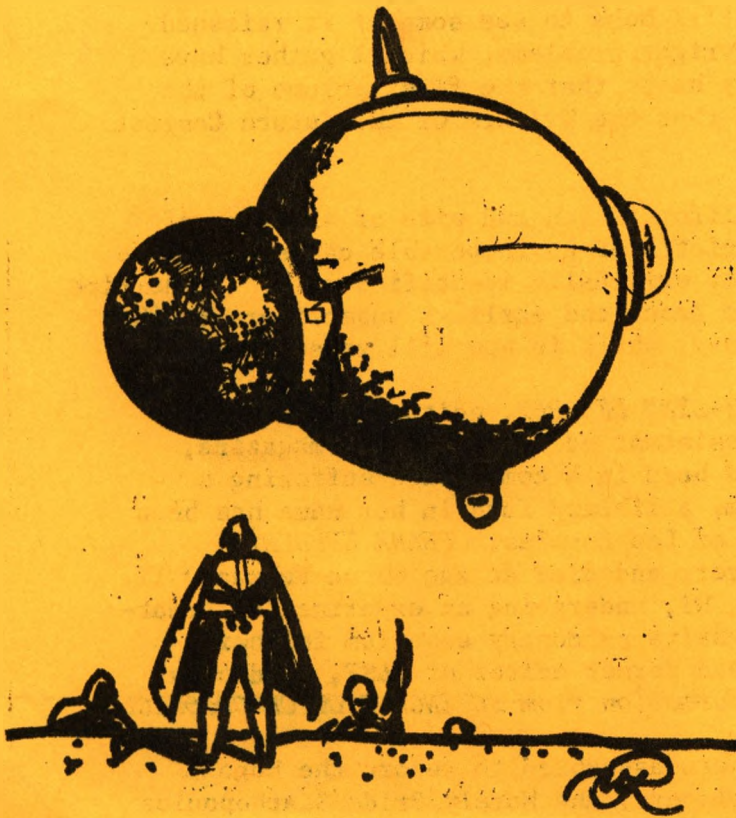
The episode illustrated a further quirk of fandom. Women were not only mostly absent but mostly unsought.

When Bob McCubbin's wife was asked how she felt about science fiction, she replied quite seriously that it kept Bob away from chasing other women. If Bob harbored any such inclination it was a well-kept secret. When Rosemary Simmons applied for membership of the Futurian Society of Sydney in 1952, her application was rejected on the grounds that, in Vol Molesworth's words, "the admission of women had caused trouble in the pre-war days of the club." The poet Lex Banning intervened with the query, "Are we Futurians or are we Victorians?", but the Society's all-male membership went ahead to vote down Ms. Simmons by a two-thirds majority. My own practice of bringing my fiancée with me to meetings of the Melbourne Science Fiction Group was sufficiently unusual for her appearances to be reported regularly in the secretary's notes which appeared regularly in ETHERLINE.

The unreported fact was my courtship was being funded largely by selling off my science fiction collection, meeting by meeting over the best part of two years. The school library and parliamentary society had already fanned my long-standing interest in politics, and the lectures at Toorak Teachers' College were further developing my liking for music and theater. My marriage in early 1955 marked the point where I had moved on irrevocably from the world of science fiction to the preoccupations which subsequently have shaped my life. The ties which held together our little circle of friends were likewise loosening. Bob McCubbin died before his time, while Dick Jenssen had his time taken up increasingly by work in the Science Faculty at Melbourne University. It remained for Lee Harding to become the author of a series of outstanding science fiction novels which includes DISPLACED PERSON and FUTURE SANCTUARY, and for Mervyn Binns to establish Melbourne's Space Age Bookshop. Along with millions like us, virtually in every country on earth, we are all indebted deeply to science fiction for the new pleasures to which it introduced us, the new friendships it has enabled us to establish and the additional edge which it has imparted to our curiosity, imagination and hunger for ideas.

REVOLUTIONS

Today, science fiction finds itself in the grip simultaneously of two revolutions.



Intellectually, the Campbell Revolution of the 40s instated serious speculation in the "hard sciences" -- engineering, physics and chemistry -- at the heart of science fiction. Currently, science fiction is become *in addition* a vehicle for the serious examination of anthropological, sociological and overtly political ideas. To an immense extent, the change has been brought about by the work and influence of women science fiction writers and -- increasingly -- women critics. Feminism and the women's movement, as ideas whose time has come, are reshaping the whole way in which humanity sees itself, and, in the process, science fiction, too, has changed. It is not only that women increasingly are setting major science fiction agendas through the incisive analysis of issues of special relevance to themselves. The best of them have introduced new benchmarks for insight, sensitivity and good writing which apply now equally to male writers and the traditional preoccupations of mainstream science fiction.

There is a further area of change. Today, scarcity of science fiction has given way to abundance, and solitude to gatherings such as this great world science fiction convention audience. No reader, however zealous or long-lived, can hope ever to cope with the deluge of science fiction which retailers and librarians now make available to him. The televised science fiction mini-series has established itself in the select ranks of successful prime time claimants. The science fiction movie -- although not necessarily the *quality* science fiction movie -- has become commonplace. Role gamers exist in a state of constant new product overload. Trekkies enjoy a level of access to the log of the Starship Enterprise undreamed of by earlier generations with an enthusiasm for comparable steam radio programs. Video discs, video cassettes, home computers and new printing technologies have become key tools in a broadening and deepening of the creative possibilities for science fiction, which previously in the most literal sense were unimaginable. Additional doors are opening up constantly to new future, where even greater numbers of people will be able to avail themselves of all that science fiction has to offer. I look forward to enjoying science fiction in the future as I have done in the past, if more sparingly.

I declare the Aussiecon Two 43rd World Science Fiction Convention open.

(JOHN HERTZ on L. RON HUBBARD, continued from p.2): been selling much better outside fandom than in it. That doesn't surprise me. They're both accessible books -- a virtue we don't care much about. I happen to think that some of Hubbard's earlier fiction is better writing, and I still hope to see some of it reissued. Maybe his death will help sort out the copyright problems, which I gather have been the stumbling block. I'm particularly happy that the first volume of the John W. Campbell letters has appeared, and that the Writers of the Future Contest got well under way, before he died."

FANNISH LOSS: Deedee Lavender, Southern California fan and wife of 43 years of Roy Lavender, passed away month ago, the victim of an inoperable cancer. Deedee was a member of Petards, a local fan society originally identified with one-time Outlanders and their friends. She was also among the earliest subscribers to this zine. She often had encouraging things to say, which is how I'll remember her.

LEADING PROS DIE AFTER LONG ILLNESSES: JUDY-LYNN DEL REY, editor-in-chief and publisher of Del Rey Books, and one-time assistant editor at GALAXY magazine, died February 20. She was 43. Del Rey had been in a coma since suffering a brain hemorrhage last October. In memoriam, a library fund in her name has been established at the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Los Angeles. FRANK HERBERT lost a year-long fight with pancreatic cancer, and died at age 65 on February 11. He was hospitalized at the time in Madison, WI, undergoing an experimental treatment. The immediate cause of death was a massive pulmonary embolism following surgery. ROBERT P. MILLS, literary agent and former editor of F&SF, died of a heart attack on February 7. ((Preceding information from SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE))

BUMP AND GRIND SCHEDULING: This issue has been assembled to report the Hugo nominees. But let us not forget the DUFF winners, the Morely/Pride/Stathopoulos tandem. A table of voting figures will run next time though voters will already have received the DUFF zine circulated by the Cantors. Next issue of F770 will also include a humor piece by Milt Stevens, the last burst of Aussiecon 2 coverage, a summary of fan reaction to the Challenger disaster, and Steve Francis' reply to an article of lastish.

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