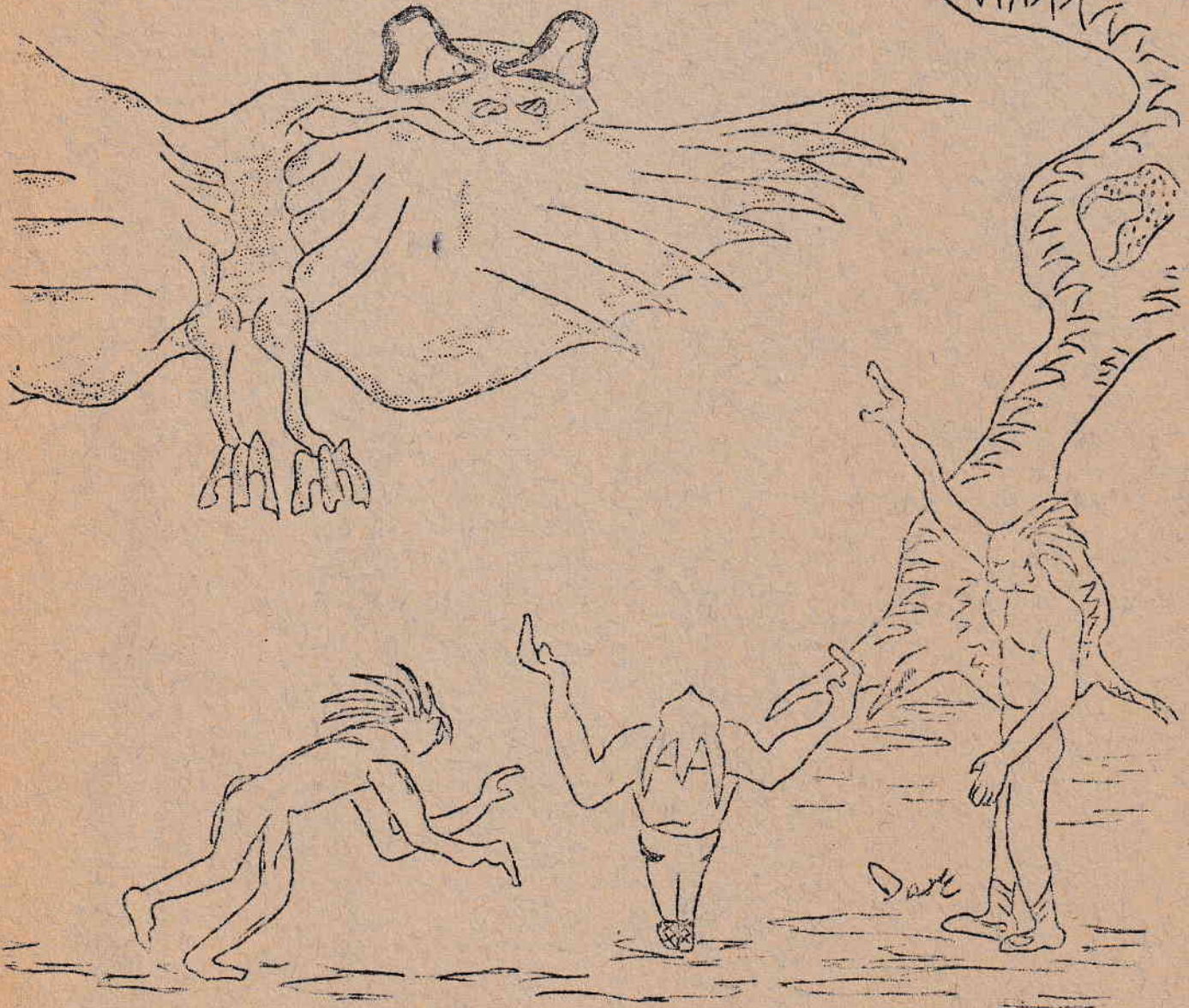


# SPORADIC

NO. 17







S M O K E A N D J A V A

I'm sorry this issue of Spore is so brief, gang, but I just never seemed to get around to sitting down and cutting the stencils until this week...and this happens to be the week we are moving back to Tuscaloosa and the University of Alabama. I don't need to elaborate on what a goshawful mess this aptment is I'm sure with boxes and bags stacked everywhere...

Well, I'm married now, quite happily so, to a girl who has read more s-f than I have this summer...now that's a unique twist, eh wot? Also I've been working for the Ledger and enjoying it muchly. Full details on my job will appear in the December issue along with several other goodies Im working on. Right Now I just want to be sure I get Dave Locke's fine cover and some mailing comments into the September mailing so you'll know I'm not really dead despite what Al Andrewx may say. Also I can't afford to lose my perfect record of never missing a mailing to date. So this is an abbreviated Spore. I feel sure that the December offering will more than make up for this dreary effort.

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\* MAILING COMMENTS \*  
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The Invader 3 (Joe Staton) Franklin B. Raines's story "Rocks" was a very good piece of writing -- until the end. He built everything up superbly to the climactic conclusion, then resorted to the tired old gimmick of putting his protagonist in a booby hatch. That's a shame. It was well done piece of fanfiction until he did that. Stan Woolston's movie article was fairly interesting, but nothin particularly comment provoking at the moment. The same with x goes for "The Southern Image" by Blaine Bennett. It was a pretty good picture of the way Hollywood distorts the South; thought his line re Faulkner's writing was very good. (I. e., "And don't blame the movie's shortcomings on Faulkner; you can write dialect caricature, but how do you write the nasal tweanngg?) Your poem was the best non-editorial material in this issue. I thought the poem was an excellent bit of free verse As for Godfrey Gopher...Ecchh! Now, re your mailing comments on Spore. I didn't publish Jeff's poem because I'm a pacifist or because he's a pacifist -- he may be a Whig or a Tory for all I know. I published it because I thought it was a pretty good piece of free verse. That doesn't mean I necessarily agree with it...I don't altogether, but I also dislike glorious rationalizing about our use of the bomb. Let us face facts. We can talk about German and Japanese atrocities all day and half the night, but the threat of nuclear warfare is the worst attrocitty to come out of World War II, and We are responsible for it. We did not have to drop the bomb; we could have acheived the same goal in another way. In fact, Albert Einstein agreed to work on the Manhattan Porject under one condition: representatives of the Axis governments would be given a demonstration of the bomb, and then requested to surrender. The United States never did that. The only real defense I can think of for our using the bomb is that someone else would have gotten it first if we had not gone ahead with our experiments. Unfortunately it looms moreas a meance than as a deterrent to war today.///Your repro was very good and the artwork was good, particularly well stenciled. All in all a very good issue of The Invader, Josephy. You improved a great deal with every issue so far.



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 Write when you can find time...after you've finished that article for  
 me. --D. Locke  
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Zaje Zazulo 2 (Len Bailes) Well, I also hope somebody contributes some artwork to you, Len baby...I dunno if I can take another cover like this one...Of course, you know by now that Dick Ambrose and Larry Montgomery made arrangements for a second regional con to be held in Anniston. At this typing (early August) Anne and I will not be able to attend, but perhaps some of you other people will be able to go. We had a nice little gathering at the Mulans' pad in Huntsville last year so maybe this one will be a success for those of ye who make it.///Your comments re Norm Master's article in Spore #10 were interesting, but I must remind you that when I was letterhacking for the Ziff-Davis mags I was a teenager, an adolescent if you will. Today I am an offishul adult; I am 21 years old... Also, from what older fans have told me, Harlan Ellison was one of the most obnoxious and goshwow young fans the microcosm has ever seen when he was hyperactive back in the early 1950s. So adolescents do make up a sizeable portion of fandom although perhaps not quite as great a figure as Norm seemed to indicate. If you want to see my views on fandom, find a copy of Larry Williams' zine Cinder (#13, I think) in which I wrote a pretty comprehensive article on my reaction to fandom once the goshwow-ism had worn off.  
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Bill Plott is a hoax perpetrated by Chuck White! -- Al Andrews  
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Warlock 4 (Larry Montgomery) Your comments re Al Andrews and a visit to his Fanden are hereby vouched for. Al's a great guy and his prices are quite reasonable: parking space, \$2.50; glass of water, 75¢ (without glass); chair, \$4.50...///O.K., go ahead and play soldier with the Advanced ROT-C boys, see if I care. I'm just glad I'm a career civilian.///Al's fan fiction was fair, but nearly as good as the title indicated. The ending was clever, but the editorial-type comments were a little bit irritating at times. "Who Killed Cook Robin" is just a rewrite of almost every vampire story I've ever read, however Schlatter does write a little better than some of the hacks whose work I've read. "The Victors" by Joe Putnam was a pretty good piece of verse.///Yeah, you ought to come on up to the University this year. I tried to enlist John Hall as a staff member of the Crimson-White, but he decided that he wasn't interested in journalistic endeavors despite his home background. I look forward to having Ambrose and Terry Ange here this fall. We may even sponsor some kind of mid-winter convention if we can get Wally Weber, Rick Norwood, Bill Gibson, et al to journey over.///Your tirade against Arnie Katz was well-taken but a little too fanatical at times...don't feel bad about it, though, from the looks of the mc's this last mailing, we all feel the same about Mr. Katz and his views on the SFPA.  
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How come you type on scrap newsprint? -- Joe Staton  
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Wormfarm 3 (Bill Gibson) Enjoyed Wormfarm muchly as usually. Your cartoons are excellent and you have a fine sense of humor that blends well with your obvious intelligence. I am rather distressed though, Bill, to hear that you are dropping out of school. I know from my association with you that you are an intelligent individual. I can easily understand why you might want to drop out of school if it was not presenting the challenge your mind needs, but I sincerely hope you do find some way of continuing your education because it is pretty obvious that diplomas mean a helluva lot in our society today. We have reached the point where a graduate really doesn't have to know a great deal just as long as he has the sheepskin to wave a potential employer.///I dunno why you omitted Spore from your mailing comments in #3...hope it was just an oversight. Enjoyed the fan fiction. You put out what I consider an excellent semi-serious apazine.///Also enjoyed the rider, Smith #1.

Iscariot 12 (Al Andrews & Dick Ambrose) As usual, you guys have the best zine in the mailing. That's not just my opinion, it seems to be the consensus of the membership from the results of the Egoboo Poll. I like the new IT policy very much. I think it gives the SFFA a definite sercon touch in almost every mailing. As I mentioned above, Gibson provides us with the ingroup flavor, and now you two gives us something a little more meatier. I think this is indicative of the progress that the SFFA has made in three years. Ghod knows we've had our ups and a lot of downs, but we have reached a state of stability that reassures me that we are not going to fold anytime in the near future.///Looks like you lose out again, Al baby, because I don't have time for the witty comments this go round, but perhaps the sprinkling of interlinos will be some consolation to you.///Nothing much else to comment on at the moment; enjoyed Ambrose column and the letters. IT was by far the best issue in the mailing.

dol-drum 3 (Dave Locke) Sorry you had to suffer through my repro again, Dave. Maybe Staton can give you some good results and offset my injustices to your fine zine. Who's Bill Scott? I liked the cover. Your blast against Katz was by the best-written and least impassioned in the mailing. For that reason your remarks hit home much better than anyone elses"s. It was an excellent defense of the SFFA and a fine dissertation on the merits of apazine publishing. As I recall I concur with you in almost every point.///Glad you enjoyed my review of TOPS. I kind of enjoying doing it, but like somebody (Rick Norwood, I think) pointed out, thepresentation was rather dull. Maybe I can improve that in the one I'm working on of VORTEX SF.Well, I got an 8-hour a day job, but it didn't really give me more time for Spore, because you see I got married and we spent the summer going to ball games , drinking beer, going to movies, drinking beer, watching teevee, drinking beer. Then it was time to move back to school and I hadn't cut the stencils for Spore... I think I can honor your request and give you a pseudo-trip report in the December issue on my adventures in Columbus this summer.

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This is to inform you of the death of Bill Plott...THIS IS NOT A OAX."

---Al Andrews



And If I Am Elected (Joe Staton) You were. Congratulations. Let me know if I can help you and rectify some of the shortcomings I committed during my tenure as OE.

The Huckleberry Finnzine 1 (Lynn Hickman) Damnation I was all set to urge you to tell about Hannibal and your house and all of the interesting old things there, then you up and moved again. Nevertheless, welcome to the SFPA as an official contributor, your three offerings were excellent. I rated Iscariot above JD-A as the best zine strictly because IT was originally slated for the mailing and JD-A wasn't. Nevertheless I am delighted that you enclosed it for us to read and enjoy.///Lynn, your description of your house (former house) in Hannibal was fascinating. Anne and I are both admirers of fine old houses and yours sounds like a dream with all of the space and the site overlooking the Mississippi.///There are a lot of old houses here in Columbus too. In fact one of them, just two blocks from us, is the oldest in town and the sixth generation of that family is now living there. Columbus has a wide variety of architectural designs including Greek revival, ante bellum, etc. Also there is a touch of old New Orleans or Mobile in one of the downtown hotels which is quite interesting in itself.///There are an unbelievable number of strange houses in Columbus. Near us in octagonal-shaped house and a couple of blocks away is (or rather was until two weeks ago) an old house that looked like a riverboat in design. But they tore it down within the past few weeks.///The Muscogee County Court House is typical of the spacious, rambling Southern court houses of yours, complete with a huge dome topped by a statue of Justice. A winding staircase of two flights is located in the center of the main lobby, bounded on either end by the Superior and City Courts.

The Huckleberry Finnzine #24 (Lynn again) Nothing much to say here as there was some duplication of content since you circulated it in both mailings.

JD-Argassy 60 (Still Lynn) I'm glad you decided to circulate JD-A in the June mailing. It was an excellent contribution of well written articles, superb artwork and interesting editorial remarks. I like the idea of a zine of this type and appreciate Eric Bentcliffe's fond remembrances of STARTLING STORIES. I have a few issues from that era so perhaps I'll look up some of the stories and read them later -- I still have a lot of my sense of wonder. I look forward to the article on The Shadow very much. He was also my favorite here...the artwork in the portfolio was unsurpassed.

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One of the weird things about working the Saturday night (4 p.m. to 1 a.m.) shift was the odd phone calls people in a newspaper office get. One such night a slightly enebriated citizen called up and informed that his wife was going to pay him \$25 to sign the divorce papers. He thought we might want to print that since most people had to do it for free, and he was getting paid for it...He was really quite an interesting person.