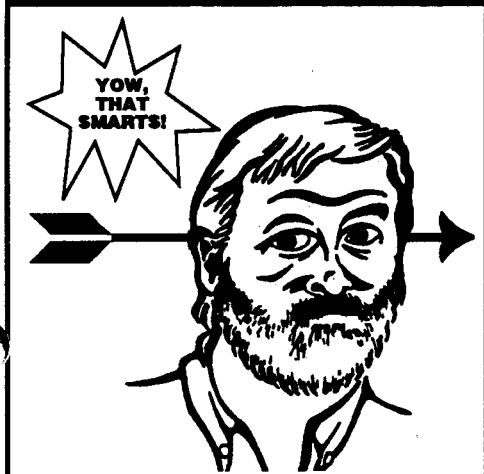
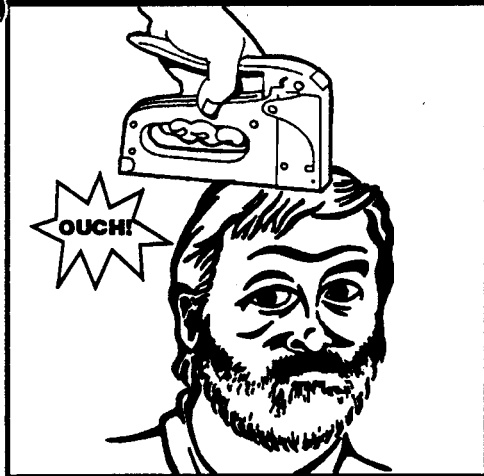
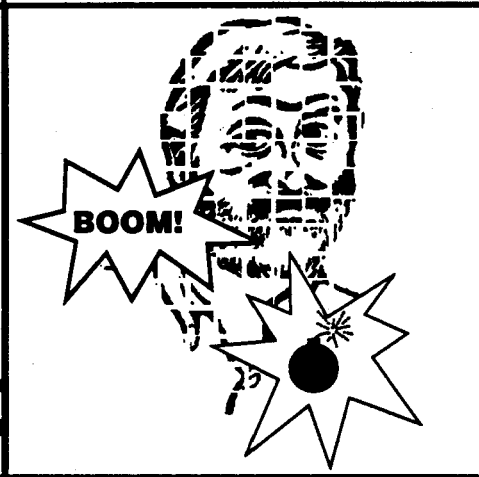
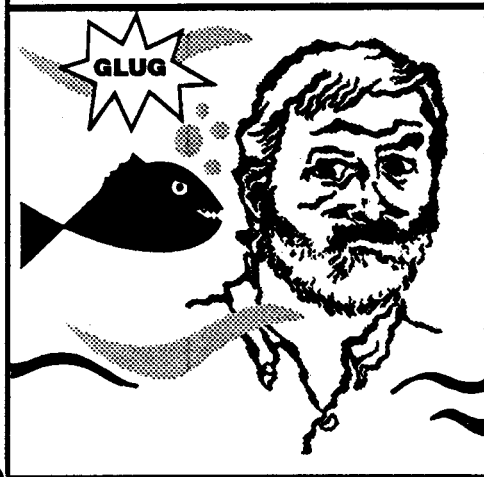
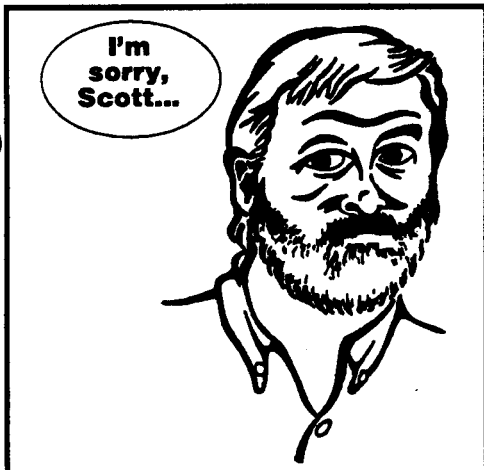


Turbo-Charged Party Animal Apa #64

The Special Steve Swartz issue





Welcome to *Union Street* (issue #24 and *Obsessive Press* #123), the zine with the transmogrifying masthead (this month thanks to an overabundance of a certain liquid refreshment). It is published by Jeanne Gomoll and Scott Custis, who reside in their home at 2825 Union Street, Madison, WI 53704-5136. Phone 608-246-8857. *Union Street* was created on a Macintosh computer—a IIx or an SE at various points in its lifetime—and hardcopy was printed on a Laserwriter IINTX printer. Text was created with Microsoft Word 4.0 and laid out with Aldus Pagemaker 4.0. The *Union Street* Logo was designed with Adobe Illustrator 3.0 and Adobe Photoshop 2.0. All contents are copyrighted © by Scott Custis and Jeanne Gomoll, 1991. October 1991 for Turbo-Charged Party Animal APA #64. Members FWA.

GO HAWKEYES!!



Iowa City ●

(SC) The University of Iowa Hawkeyes were here last weekend to play to the biggest crowd (over 75,000) Madison's Camp Randall has held in five years. The Hawks, ranked 17th in the nation, faced the UW Badgers who are expected to finish near the bottom of the Big Ten. The Hawks have won eleven the the past twelve meetings with the Badgers. The twelfth game was a tie. The Badgers came in as substantial underdogs. Iowa was expected to blow them out. But the intense rivalry between these two schools' football teams and the recent acquisition by Wisconsin of coach Barry Alvarez fueled excitement. My sister and her husband came up from Iowa for the game and they had an extra ticket. We sat deep in Iowa fan territory at the end zone, only 17 rows up. In the first quarter, a Hawkeye pass was intercepted and run back for a touchdown. The stadium exploded. The Hawks subsequently scored a fieldgoal. With the score at 6 to 3 in favor of the Badgers the next two quarters were an agonizing stale-



Madison ●

mate. The defensive lines on both teams prevented any further action. Gradually the Iowa fans started to realize we were not going to blow them out. Eventually we grasped that we were not going to win comfortably. Finally in the fourth quarter we started pleading for a tying fieldgoal, knowing deepdown that Iowa coach Hayden Fry would not travel all the way to Madison to settle for a tie. The Badger defense was tough as nails. Time went by. Everything we tried failed. In the final minutes of the game, the Hawks came within scoring distance. The clock ticked down. With 44 seconds left in the game the Hawks threw a successful touchdown pass to the corner of the end zone just below where I was standing. 30,000 Iowa fans went bonkers. The little old lady standing next to my sister practically crawled up her arm and danced on her head. It was fantastic. Iowa was overrated, the Badgers were underrated. 75,000 of us learned this together Saturday afternoon.

COMMENTS on #62

STEVE SWARTZ

(SC) I shall attempt an admittedly feeble response to your wonderful zine of Turbo #62. In addition to the comments to us, I was particularly knocked out by your responses to Bill Humphries, Ross Pavlac and Andy Hooper. Great stuff.

I do not think the voucher system is the way to go for education. All that will happen is that the private schools will recruit the best students from the public schools and reject the rest. The public schools will be stuck with worst students and less money to educate them. It will only serve to accentuate the differences, not solve the problem of providing quality education to everyone.

You said that we are all conditioned by socially stable institutions to think in ways that keep them going. I suppose that is true. Most of us come out of the educational system with a degree of faith in our institutions and a lack of interest in tearing them down and starting over. I also agree with your contention

that information provided by the media is suspicious enough that ingesting that alone is not enough to keep one "informed." But if you take that position too far, it becomes pointless to bother to read or listen to anything. One must be discriminating. One must choose sources one trusts. Without some outside input, few of us would be able to make decisions about anything we didn't have first hand knowledge of. When I said that voters needed to "keep up with the news" I didn't necessarily intend them to be limited to Dan Rather and the local newspaper.

Maybe a blanket socialist system is a bit extreme. But I think there is considerable middle ground. As I said above, I'm not really interested in trashing our institutions just yet. But I think "nationalizing" some vital industries is perfectly OK. You seem to reject a socialist approach because you don't think we could attract wise regulators. I think I would rather deal with that challenge than the problems we have with, say, the interstate bus system that has been nearly destroyed by the greed and callousness of the owners.



COMMENTS on #63

STEVE JOHNSON

(SC) You mentioned the crop circles in Switzerland that appeared before Chorley and Bower. I thought that Chorley and Bower said at one point that they had been inspired by that hoax to do crop circles of their own, and that they came up with a simpler way to make them. Wasn't that part of the TIME article you cited?

ANDY HOOPER

(SC) Thank you for the very entertaining Work Hell piece. Most of us who dislike our jobs have little interest in writing/talking about them. *Turbo*, however, has inspired a few people to share some great Work Hell articles. Maybe some of the best (yours should be front and center) should be reprinted. We could call it *Turbo Apa Goes to Hell* or something like that.

(JG) Gosh, you make the life of a grease monkey into a rather romantic tale (in a sort of gritty way). The characterization of Taco Bell employees is so dense, this piece has the feel of the beginning of a novel. Wow, I'm impressed.

JULIE SHIVERS

(JG) You disapprove of **Steve**. I disapprove of you for publishing this comment in the apa, much more than I disapprove of underlining and exclamation marks. And since I don't think this conversation belongs in the apa, talk to me in person if you feel like continuing it.

Congratulations on your engagement.

MICHAEL SHANNON

(SC) I don't even remember which fortunes Jeanne and I received. So I have little chance of correctly matching up what everyone really got. However, if you are unsatisfied with the response you get this time, why not ask people to match up the people with the fortunes they *should have* gotten. I have a lot of opinions on that.

(JG) I don't remember which of the fortunes on your list was my fortune either. They were awfully funny at the time, though.

MIKE DUCHARME

(SC) It should go without saying that a trip report on your move is eagerly awaited. I hope your stuff was packed in the truck well enough to survive in good shape. Practiced as Bill Bodden and I (mostly Bill) are getting at packing a truck, it is still a trick best left to professionals. I remember the night we helped you pack; Hooper was saying that you needed to invest in a computer as soon as you could afford it. My feeling is that it will be a while before you will be able to. Moving to Texas will mean some things will take priority. You will need boots, a hat, a new belt with a massive buckle and, as soon as you can, a pickup truck. Preferably one that includes a gun rack in the back window. This is the minimum you'll need to fit in.

(JG) I'm glad that Scott and I got down to Fennimore to see you off. I hear that you were delayed slightly in your departure the next day and that you got injured during the unloading in Galveston. I hope everything turned out all right but more importantly, that you got it all written down for us. I'm looking forward to comparing your story with Hope's.

BILL BODDEN

(SC) RAEBNC—Aw shit, I can't do that. Much as I'd like to imagine your consternation. I'm "at War" with too many people in Turbo right now as it is. Welcome back! I've been looking forward to your return.

Baseball is a welcome subject from my point of view. I know I must seem frustrating to "true" fans of the game like you and Hooper because I take little interest in statistics. I like to watch the game. It is a complex game, full of strategy and suspense. It's civilized and even elegant. It combines the best elements of team and individual sports. It is both physically and intellectually challenging. Basketball and golf usually bore me. Football can be entertaining, but it's also brutal and stupid.

You at 180? Impressive. You are taller than I am, but I am way out of shape and a good ten to twelve pounds over my "fighting" weight of 175. I keep putting off doing anything about it. Maybe soon. How nice it must be to be trying to gain weight. (You'll hear that comment plenty I fear.)

A drivers license is a fine idea, just so long as you don't get carried away and decide to buy a car. It may sound odd coming from me, but my advice is to avoid buying a car unless you have lots of money lying around that you have no other idea how else to get rid of. Also a good way to inject more stress into your life. A car will quickly solve both of those problems.

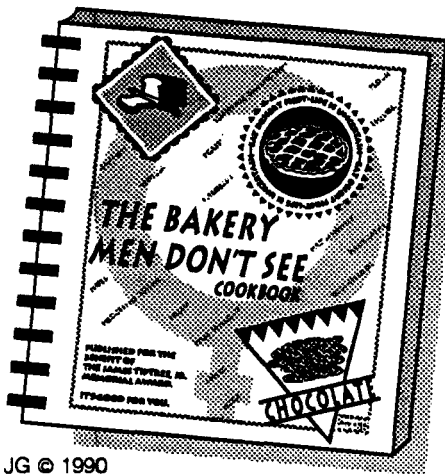
(JG) Before Scott and I purchased our car last year—my first car ever—I managed quite well with a bike, bus pass, and the occasional rented car for out-of-town trips or special projects. I found that it's much cheaper to rent occasionally than to own—in this town anyway. A car becomes a necessity with home ownership, though.

Thanks for writing up your description of Japanese fandom. It's too bad that the language barrier makes traveling to that fannish neighborhood so difficult... It sounds like they're really ripe for a feminist SF revolution in their ranks.

This morning I was watching a news show, and a sports trivia question was asked before a commercial break, and I shamefacedly must admit that I was able to answer it even before the Excedrin commercial began. And the trivia question was about baseball. Sheesh. Well the fact that I knew the answer had more to do with the fact that they were asking about a week I recall very, very clearly for very, very personal reasons. The question was, What Sports Event Was Interrupted by the 1989 Earthquake in California? And the answer just fell off my tongue: that championship thingee between the Oakland and LA baseball teams. Amazing, isn't it? (The personal reason for recalling that time, was that my brother Rick died a couple days after the earthquake, and I was flying back and forth between Madison and San Francisco that week.)

KATHRYN BETH WILLIG

(JG) Our written vocabulary is many times larger than our spoken vocabulary: in fact, you should always be able to find a better word than a smiley-face emoticon. Think about all the movies that get badly translated from novels about which people say, "they missed so much!" because there was an enormous amount of characterization the novel could describe with words that the movie failed to relate with images. Linguist Suzette Haden Elgin says that our face-to-face vocabulary is actually much larger than just the words we have at our command to speak (if one counts body language vocabulary), but she too suggests that the trick in communicating in either format—speaking or writing—is to learn and fully make use of the appropriate vocabulary.



Available from SF for \$10.00 plus postage (\$1 North America; \$2 other)

SF
Box 1624
Madison, WI
53701-1624

JG © 1990

KAREN BABICH

(JG) I received your's and Hope's letter on the bake sale brochure. I've typed it into the computer and, I hope, will lay out a brochure within the week. Thank you so much—both of you—for your time and speed!

And congratulations on a great job at the Chicon Bake Sale...above and beyond the call of duty. What a circus that was! The Tiptree fund is in fine health, by the way, what with the bake sale proceeds, but also because of a couple donations by Ursula K. LeGuin and the Tiptree estate, both of whom donated \$500 each to the Tiptree award. Yow! In any case, we're not pushing the cookbooks into bookstores and paying a huge percentage to the booksellers to sell them. We've got plenty of time to sell them at cons or mail order.

Good luck on the job hunt and/or freelancing.

KIM AND PETE WINZ

(SC) I'm sorry about the loss of your cat. I thought your tribute zine was very well done and clearly heartfelt.

(JG) No jokes. I'm sorry to hear about Biggles. I hope you're both feeling better now. Are you thinking about getting another pet?

TRACY SHANNON

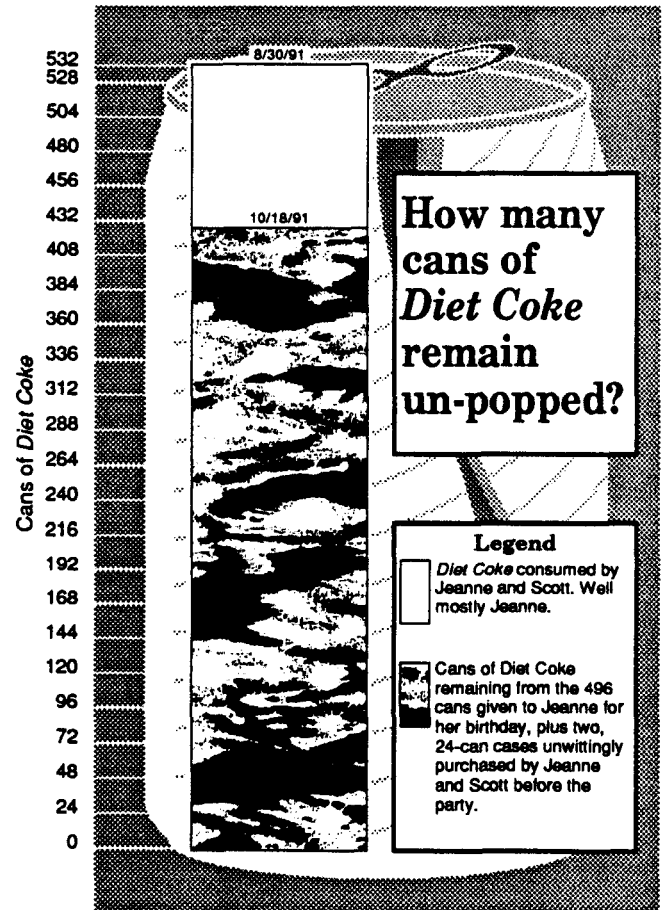
(SC) I can't remember if I'm supposed to be at war with you too. But I can say that if you keep including puns of the awful quality of the ones at the end of your zine this month, I will surely lob a cruise missile your way.

On the other hand, if I have thus far failed to say anything publicly yet, let me say thanks again to you and Michael for helping us buy supplies for the the WisCon party at worldcon. Being turned loose in Woodmans with \$150 to blow was fun.

(JG) I really enjoyed *I, Claudius*, too. Even though I was sympathetic towards his character, it didn't lead me to the conclusion that the best course in cases of confrontation was to bend with the wind. It seems to me that the lesson of *I, Claudius* is that if you're going to stand up to a powerful person or institution, you had better be sure you can convince a lot of friends to stand up with you.

It was indeed a good party. Thank you again for all the help you and Michael lent us.

You know, we've already done several panels on parthenogenesis at WisCon—a couple panels and at least two articles in *Janus*. The discussion came up a lot right after Suzy McKee Charnas' book, *Motherlines* was published. Women separatists in that post-holocaust world perfected the technique in order to survive in the wilderness apart from the urban, male-dominated enclaves. Weirdly, I don't remember those panels as being particularly radical (at least in comparison with the other panels





we were doing at the time). While serious, radical panels have certainly been traditional in WisCon programming, so has silliness. There was the year we had the "Madison Parade of Cats," which was followed in the very next year by "The Dead Cat Through History" slide show. And, of course, nearly every opening ceremony of every WisCon that ever was, has thumbed its nose at anything vaguely resembling seriousness or constructiveness. It's not like WisCon has ever needed to be rescued from serconicity. But it has always been a welcome gathering place for fans who get tired of cons which entirely abandon it.

I loved your revisit to an old issue of the *Turboapa*. I think you should make this a regular column in your zine. Amazing stuff about former apa rules, hmmm?

Obviously, I have failed to properly advertise myself as a godlike Big Name Fan if you think of me as a mere "nice person." Perhaps you should address me as Ms. Gomoll from now on, and genuflect before speaking to me.

BILL DYER

(SC) Very nice sailing "trip report." You related such an inviting version of the experience that my first inclination is to run down and sign up for a lesson with the charming Barb Gilligan myself. However, I think I should learn to swim first.

(JG) The sailing sounds like it was fantastic, and a lovely, tactile description, as always.

JAMES BRON

(SC) Great Traveling Hell story. Do you always have this much fun when you travel? Traveling by bus has a bad reputation in this country as well. I think that you can usually count on a higher personal comfort level, but the quality of fellow passengers you are likely to encounter is similarly worrisome. Even traveling around Madison by bus can be an adventure. I had very little experience with city busses before moving here. I remember the first several times Jeanne and I took the bus together after I moved here, we were always confronted by some loud nut or drunken oaf. Each time, Jeanne would patiently tell me that this rarely happens. And the very next trip, it would happen again. I've grown used to them over the years, but I still try to be ready for anything when I step aboard.

ALISON DAWSON

(SC) Congratulations on the purchase of a house. You and Pat Hario are instant soulmates it sounds like. Anyway I think you deserve a sincere verbal pat on the back for taking the plunge. It's scary, but I'm sure you will be glad you did it. Is there any way you can run a picture of it? If not, send us a photo and we'll try to do it for you.

Just think, we can swap house horror stories and laugh. Me first...

In the next few years, we will need to shingle our roof. It already has three layers of shingles on it so it will have to be torn down to the bare wood this time. I was calmly talking about this project with my sister's husband who is a carpenter and contractor. He started musing out loud about the cost of tearing it down and disposing of the garbage, the cost of plywood, felt, shingles, flashing, the fact it is almost three stories high, etc. He couldn't give me an estimate at the time, but it will clearly run in the

thousands of dollars. I can't wait to start. As soon as I find a nice plump bank to stick-up... Your turn.

BILL HUMPHRIES

(JG) That's an interesting definition of Civil Disobedience, i.e., that the action must specifically relate to the law being protested. Much as I would like to agree with you completely, and to be able to feel morally outraged at the anti-abortion fascists for one more thing, I can't really agree with you on this one. I'm thinking of the demonstrations in the '60s organized against companies like DOW, in which students blocked hallways and entrances to prevent the companies from recruiting. They were arrested just like anti-abortionists are arrested at clinics; in fact, many of them have admitted that they learned techniques from anti-war and civil rights protests of the '60s. The main difference to me, is that a student walking into the Commerce Building in 1969 to interview with a corporate representative, wasn't traumatized by the experience of discovering the doors blocked by folk-singing hippies. The business major didn't risk a major health crisis by avoiding the scene.

Congratulations on your engagement, Bill.

MARK WILLIAM RICHARDS

(JG) Yeah, we've got the Statue of Liberty Syndrome here in Madison, too, although here it's better known as the State Capitol Building Syndrome. Not as euphonious, but the same thing. I never got around to seeing our really impressive Capitol until 1985, when I accompanied then-visiting Scott, about 14 years after I originally moved into town... Amazing.

ROSS PAVLAC

(SC) I was getting set to respond to some of your remarks on the Clarence Thomas nomination, but events have rendered that unnecessary. The Anita Hill disclosures have revealed Thomas to be an almost unspeakable scumbag who has no business sitting on *any* court much less the Supreme Court.

I see little point in trying to respond to your abortion comments. They were mostly quotes from an opinion piece that could hardly be expected to provide objective information for its claims. Brief example; at one point, you said that a first time abortion protester in Fargo was sentenced to 21 months in prison. That implies he was sent to prison for being a protester. It does not, in fact, state what he really earned 21 months in the slammer for doing. Assault would be my guess. This was typical. What I really wanted to get across to you at this time was that you seem to want to persist in engaging this topic in the apa. That is fine with me, but you need to know that we will continue to respond to you. I think your object is to continue to argue until everyone simply gives up. That won't work. As long as we are here and you persist in slinging this shit, we will take a stand against you.

(JG) I found the Thomas hearings very upsetting. First of all, I do not think Thomas is at all qualified to be a Supreme Court Judge. And for a whole lot of other reasons, I thought he should not be seated. I think he was lying about never, ever having discussed Roe v. Wade. Since Bush chose to nominate a candidate based on that

litmus test, I believe that Congress had a right to base their own decision partly on that issue. I was also shocked by Thomas' callous statements about his own sister, using her as an example of welfare cheaters, saying that she got angry when her welfare check was late. As it turned out, the true picture of his sister's situation was entirely different than the one Thomas painted. She apparently was on welfare for only a brief period of time as a result of several unavoidable personal calamities, and she very quickly got back on her feet again and became self-supporting. I was just stunned and really angry that he would lie in such a self-supporting, slanderous manner about his own sister. All that made me even more angry—and suspicious—when the second part of the hearings got under way. I believed Anita Hill. I did not believe Thomas. The committee's questions made it clear that a woman still puts herself on trial in this country whenever she accuses a more powerful man of any sexual crime. I can hardly stand to think about it these days.

ARBOTHNOT & WHEATLY

(JG) Congratulations on your wedding!

KATHI NASH & DIANE MARTIN

(JG) I'm sorry about the apa cover mix-up. I don't remember reading your request for the cover of *Turbo Apa* #64 in your zine—whenever it was that you requested it. Scott and I were relying on a list of "available" covers that the OE published two issues ago. I think he listed all future issues as being available. That should have made me suspicious, but it didn't occur to me then that of course, other people had been talking about doing covers and that maybe Kim N. had just not gotten around to listing them. *sigh*

KATHI NASH

(SC) I think RAEBNC is rude, but I wanted to be sure you knew that I enjoyed your zine this month even though I don't have much to comment on. I have long suspected that Kelly was a demon. I don't know where he gets that from, but I wonder if it was only coincidence that your piece on him directly followed a piece on the latest antics of his father.

KIM NASH

(SC) I think I'll wait until next month to discuss at length the change in OE issue. Right now I wish to congratulate you on the terrific job you've done as OE. I'm sorry you've decided to pass it on. I also want to say that Jeanne and I are not interested in being elected OE.

Let me know the next time you are planning a TGIF beer at Essen House. I rarely can get Fridays off, but I'll sincerely try to make it next time anyway.

STEVE SWARTZ

(SC) Alright, dude, the shooting starts this issue as you have probably already noticed. I understand you will be in our "neck of the woods" here soon. Great. You can personally explain to the local Turbo hackers how you slandered my good name last month by associating me with that damn porno-

graphic cover. No you won't, you say? Well maybe I'll just take a little trip down to Iowa to visit my brother. Who owns a gun supply shop (few guns, mostly supplies-but oh what supplies!) Knives, pepper mace, thumb cuffs, riot batons...you get the idea. Welcome to Wisconsin.

(JG) Hope you like the cover, Steve. If you want a copy of the drawing of you (perhaps for an apazine logo or a fanzine editorial), just say the word and it's your's. I'm curious about Elspeth's reaction to the cover.



Andy Hooper came through with a really nice photograph of you, which unfortunately didn't allow itself to be scanned directly. It was a color photo, and there was a lot of red in your face for some reason, so I had to do a drawing based on the photo, and I scanned that as a TIFF file for manipulation in Adobe Photoshop in which I added ripples, made a mosaic of, squashed, pinched, and other-

wise fooled around with your face. Then I traced the scan in Adobe Streamline, and added various other scanned and drawn elements of intimidation to different versions of your face and combined them all in a veritable gallery of threats. Scott seemed very pleased. Most of the specific acts of terrorism were his ideas, though I must admit that I enjoyed the exercise. A day after Thomas was confirmed, I seem to have had a great deal of steam to let off... Many hoots, chortles, giggles and outright belly laughs echoed in the empty halls of the DNR the Wednesday evening Scott and I sat at my Mac terminal to do this job. Several times we said "Boy, it sure is a good thing that Steve has such a good sense of humor!" Scott seems pretty confident that he's "settled" the matter.

Bye.

Jeanne & Scott

