



Union Street

A joint zine by Jeanne Gomoll & Scott Custis

references to *B-5*, lots and lots of sex, *Star Trek* style close-fit costumes, lots of bad guys "beaming" aboard and subsequent fist fights, etc. I hope it's all baseless rumors or that JS stands firm against such pressures...

I think it might be a good idea to schedule a panel about Mary Russell at which we ask her *not* to attend. I've heard the sentiment you expressed from several people who also felt that having her in the room while her writing was being discussed, ended up preventing critical discussion.

As for Tracy's suggested "Threat or Menace" panels, all that's necessary is for someone to suggest such panels (or any others). All suggested panels get listed in the final program letter, in which we ask for volunteer panelists. Furthermore, if Tracy or someone else wants to make sure the panel is made up of fans (or any other specific make-up), all they have to do is ask to "champion" that particular panel, which means that they get final say on who the panelists are. We forward the names of people who show interest in the panel (e.g., responses from the programming letter), but final decisions about panelists and program book description are left to the champion.

Scott and I *will* be going to Minicon next year, though not particularly to witness the changes of the new regime. We're delighted that the convention is moving downtown; but most of all, we're eager to see next year's Guest of Honor, Octavia Butler.

I decided not to wait to check out Nisus. I got a great deal on MS Word, and am actually very happy with MS Word's newly engineered Mac version.

Ah ... **Tom Campbell!** Yes, I remember Tom quite well. A very nice guy and a pleasant fellow apan. If you see him again, say Hi for me.

I disagree with your argument in your comment to **Vicki Rosenzweig**. When talking about species extinction, most environmentalists are not so much concerned about any one specific species, but about the potential impact upon the environment that might be caused by the loss of individual species. Diversity is

© Comments on No. 146

[JG] I managed to catch up with issue number 146, but I'm still reading #147, the most recent issue. I'll try to have comments for #147 and #148 in the next issue.

© Tracy Benton

[JG] Well, if life stinks, at least it's often funny!

© Julie Zachman

[JG] There were some scary hints in your brief summary of your summer activities about the nine-year-old child who is being emotionally abused. Were you able to do anything? Does the fact that she looks like you remind you of similar events in your own childhood?

© Michael Rawdon

[JG] Scott and I both want to thank you for having loaned us copies of so many episodes of *Babylon 5*. If we had had to rely on the automatic videotaping for which we'd set up our VCR, we'd have missed quite a few episodes. It was really fun seeing them without long season breaks and in correct sequence, and we're now extremely eager to see the final episodes.

I read some nasty rumors on the web that TNT is pushing for some really awful changes in the *B-5* sequel series, *The Crusade*. Something to do with no

essential to any stable ecology, and as we lose one element after another, we are seriously risking the collapse of whole systems.

© **Bill Humphries**

[JG] Scott and I send you our deepest sympathies... Scott went through a similar ordeal 15 years ago when his mother died of cancer. And I recall the painful days around my brother's death. But neither of us had to deal with the estrangement you felt from your family. I'm really sorry you weren't able to rely on your family for emotional support.

I really admire your heartfelt and deeply moving description of your feelings about your mother's death. It feels to me that you were able to say things to us that were not welcomed by your family. I hope you felt some relief in being able to write about your experience, knowing that we here in the apa would accept and sympathize with your point of view. Take care, Bill.

[SC] You have my profound sympathy on the passing of your mother. It is one sad thing I wish we did not have in common. Cancer killed my mother in 1983.

Your description of your experience was very powerful. It brought back a lot of sad memories for me.

© **Vijay Bowen**

[SC] A "vampire daughter"? Could you expand on that a bit for us?

© **Andy Hooper**

[JG] We were so sorry to hear your news about being diabetic. It must have been (and still must be) a very scary prospect, to consider how much you need to change your life in order to survive this assault on your health. Take care.

Laura didn't die because the medical bureaucracy wasn't able to get a new liver to her in time. She never got well enough, in the opinion of her doctors, to be able to survive a transplant operation in the first place. She died of one of many infections that overwhelmed her system weakened by liver failure. In fact, if she *had* beaten back those infections and had gotten strong enough to be able to qualify for a transplant operation, she probably would have had a better chance of getting a liver here in Madison than nearly anywhere else in the country. The high rate of organ donations in the Midwest — usually described in terms of "greater generosity" by the media here — (as opposed to other regions in the U.S.) is one of the reasons the current transplant policy controversy rages.

Right now, a person who needs a liver or heart transplant in the Midwest gets first dibs on an organ donated by a Midwest resident, overriding the claims of a patient in another region in the same or more dire circumstances. And since there are more organs available in the Midwest, patients in need of transplants have a better chance of survival here. Legislators in other regions want the transplant policies changed to ignore regional boundaries. Midwest legislators want other regions to figure out a way to encourage more organ donations in their regions.

Sorry I misunderstood your humorous comment about WisCon, Andy. I thought I had read your comment correctly as a sarcastic dig at what you perceived as WisCon's fallen standards. I don't usually think of you as a particularly ambiguous writer.

[SC] Wow, tough news about your diagnosis. Your article was riveting, but I was glad to reach the end and find out that you were upbeat and preparing to take an aggressive approach to dealing with diabetes.

My father came down with Type 2 adult onset diabetes just a few years ago and, apparently, his father had it as well. Pappy always insists that my grandfather "cured" himself by eating a lot of black walnuts. I think my old man opened a few too many black walnuts with his head. Dad has his share of quirky beliefs, but he has taken his diagnosis seriously and is controlling it through diet (including only a normal intake of black walnuts.) I recount this family history only to explain that I may well be headed for such a diagnosis myself someday.

Take care Andy.

© **Pat Hario**

[JG] We saw Ground Zero coffee shop too when we had dinner at El Dorado Grill a couple months ago. Did you notice the sign in their window, with the graphic of the atomic explosion? I heard someone on the radio the other day say that we're no longer frightened of nuclear annihilation. Have we come so far as to be able to joke about it, and not even with black humor?

Thanks for sharing your thoughts about how the Internet has been changing the trivia games. I hope you don't lose this activity you enjoy so much.

You know, even though I joke about it, I actually am very sympathetic to you regarding your decision not to use the Internet or email outside of work. Maybe that's because I have a similar attitude with regard to cars. (I hate it when people or institutions assume I have access to a car at a moment's notice. I prefer to rely upon my bike and public transportation.) It's your decision whether or not to go on line, and I've been

happy to send you copies of email correspondence that you need to see (like Barb's bulletins about Laura's memorial party, and WisCon minutes, etc.) ... when I remember. I'm actually collecting emails now from folks about the mailing list discussion that started at the last WisCon meeting, which later in the day moved on line. I will send you copies when discussion dies down. At least you'll be able to read what people had to say, although you won't be able to participate as the discussion happens. I worry a little about how you are closing yourself off from a growing form of communication that so many people have come to depend upon so much. Maybe too much, but there it is. Email is getting to be considered such an essential communication tool, that some people are beginning to act as if they don't know any other method of getting certain kinds of information circulated. Barb, for instance, was a little surprised when I volunteered to mail out her Laura Memorial updates to folks in the SF³ Directory who weren't on line. That's all; I'm not going to campaign for you to get on line, but I sometimes miss you in some of the conversations that happen there.

Good comments in response to **Georgie** on prisons. I agree that it is crazy to use so many resources to keep people penned up, rather than spending it on eliminating the causes of criminal behavior. The missing element in that unbalanced equation is revenge. A lot of people care more about revenge than rehabilitation, or even prevention.

I liked the Barrymore/Houston retelling of Cinderella too. I was especially impressed by Angelica Houston's subtle portrayal of the Evil Stepmother. She was still Evil, but we got some hints about why she'd gotten so warped. That moment when Cinderella asked her whether or not she loved her father, and Houston looked off into the distance and said, "I hardly knew him," floored me. Especially when I recalled the scene of the father/husband's death, and how frantic both child and stepmother/wife were, and how jealous — even in that moment — Houston's character was. I'm really glad I saw it. (Amusing how fashionable Leonardo Da Vinci has been in recent movies and television, isn't it?)

I disagree with you about *Babylon 5's* Delenn. She may think she's always right on some issues, but so too does Sheridan. They both have egos the size of a planets, and that's why they're good with one another. If either one of them tended to compromise about really important issues, the other would walk all over them, and we'd all hate it. This is not a relationship in which the important issues are who does the house-keeping and which spouse's home planet gets called home, though those very issues have obviously gotten

resolved with neat, quiet compromises. (They take turns living in each others' apartments and will also take turns living on each others' home planets or space stations). The big important issues have to do with life and death issues, i.e., what they are both willing to lay their lives down for. And they sometimes disagree on this level and are unwilling to compromise. That's life. We have to live up to our own consciences first. Sheridan made some choices — like going to Za'hadum — from which Delenn would have tried to dissuade him, and Delenn has made some choices of conscience that Sheridan has opposed. I like the fact that they deeply respect one another often *because* of those hard choices.

© **Mike Peterson**

[JG] There was a fairy tale feeling to your story of the fence, and it was fun reading it. But I hope that by now you've got things resolved with the Fence Guy and the Fence Guy's company to your satisfaction. You should not have had to deal with such a frustrating situation.

[SC] I hope you don't mind that you will now be quietly asked by every other Madison area homeowner in *Turbo* who your fence contractor was. I can understand your not wanting to pub the specifics in your zine, but let's face it, most of us who think about building a new fence from time to time want to be sure to stay the hell away from your Fence Guy.

By the way, I have wondered all along whether your passionate letter to the Fence Guy included the cute cartoon at the bottom of the page.

© **Georgie Schnobrich**

[JG] Great comments about panel participation by writers *and* readers. I too like to attend (and plan) panel discussions in which the ideas are primary, not primarily a chance for the authors to publicize their latest work. You suggested that maybe fans might be intimidated by the more formal-sounding programming letters sent out in the last few years. That might be something to think about if we were not still getting lots of responses from non-writers and non-editors who want to be on panels. Maybe they wouldn't call themselves fans, but lets not get into definitions of what a fan is. The thing I meant to say here is that my puzzlement about fans not participating in WisCon programming isn't a general puzzlement. It's a specific, local puzzlement. The fans who seem to be turning away from participation in WisCon programming are *Madison* fans.

Oh, I don't think it was surprising that Pat Murphy fell in love with a cop so much as she considered getting married at all....

[SC] Congratulations on gracing *Turbo* with yet another beautiful cover.

No, we didn't know we were being photographed (at the Concerts on the Square) or that we'd end up being published in such a picture. I am just glad that I wasn't doing something embarrassing when they took the shot.

Regarding your comment to **Jae** on your apa problem, I am optimistic that Jae will make changes. Everyone likes a "soft and chewy" apa deadline, but allowing the deadline to be delayed leads to later and later mailings of the finished apa until the out-of-town folks are left with very little time to read and respond. I think it should be assumed that every apa member wants to contribute monthly, and that the apa needs to be mailed out as soon as possible. That is why I enforced a strict deadline, and why I think we should go back to that. We don't want to lose you Georgie, you are one of our best contributors.

© **Jae Adams**

[JG] You wrote: "...I might define that distance as most usually filled by delusion. But then there's often quite a distance between you & I, it seems." I'd agree with that—especially when we're talking face-to-face. We've got very different aesthetics, I think. I appreciate and enjoy your writing and art quite a lot, but it is hardly ever the kind of thing that I can imagine myself doing easily. Like stopping and looking ... after touching pen nib to paper and admiring the unexpected beauty of how the ink flowed into the fibers of rice paper: the appreciation of the moment. You do this literally in your calligraphy and layouts, and metaphorically in your writing. You set images in front of us, either with ink or word and encourage our eyes and sensibilities to admire the contrast or beauty or ambiguity of the part-crafted, part-found art. It's an amazing talent you have and I am grateful to be able to see and read your work here in the apa.

I tend to focus on getting down on paper the thing I see or hear in my head. I probably miss many moments of found beauty because I am so focused on what I want the piece to look like or sound like. I rework a line or design or a layout or a sentence until I think it expresses my idea as clearly as I can make it. If I think I might have left a loophole of ambiguity (and if I'm not purposely trying to avoid hurting someone's feelings), I will tend to replace words or rework the arrangement or refine the line until I've made myself as clear as I can. This is a good thing, maybe, when talking with someone that you want to understand. Where do you

stand on this issue? Do you like this book? Do you approve of this action or this person? It might not be a good thing if I were to try to write fiction. Ironically, the kind of fiction I love most is the kind of writing which has several layers of meaning, symbolism and theme.

I don't think either (or any particular) aesthetic is better than another, but distances seem to increase between people when their aesthetics differ. Your exercise a few months ago, in which you wrote at least a page entirely in touch mode, fascinated me, and made me wonder if you and I, besides having different aesthetics, are affected in our interaction, by the communication modes that Suzette Haden Elgin describes in her writing. Because I do often think I am missing your point, or perhaps am too focussed on finding one.

On the subject that started off this discussion to begin with ... "Trust" still seems to be the right word to me for the spaces between myself and the people I care about. To me, the alternative is paranoia.

Good comments to **Michael Rawdon** on the duties of a teacher in literature classes and the responsibilities of students. Having enjoyed most of my experiences as a college student, especially my time in lit classes, I share your feeling that the student has to bring something to the experience.

© **Jim Nichols**

[JG] I hope you're continuing to feel better about your interaction with friends and life in general and are continuing your work on improving your health.

[SC] I enjoyed your article about your reunion trip back home. It was an insightful and personal piece of writing that went in a direction I wasn't expecting, but ultimately ended on a positive note. I am glad that you are working your way back to being a more active person. It has been good seeing you around a bit more lately, and I hope that trend continues.

© **Clay Colwell**

[JG] Gosh, Clay, **Andy's** comments about what makes a good TAFF candidate are hardly standards that you should feel you need to hold yourself up to, simply in terms of your fannish involvement. You're not planning to run for TAFF are you? I think one of the best things about fandom is that there are no bottom line expectations of productivity or level of involvement. Do what you want and enjoy fandom, but please don't feel *guilty!*

I'm sorry to hear about the problems you and Sean have been having. Some of the stuff you de-

scribe reminds me of the old neatness issue that most people who live with other people eventually have to deal with. (I've experienced the situation from both sides.) One person is inevitably neater than the other, which means they have a lower threshold for dirt or mess (two different issues) than the other person has, and so they end up doing more cleaning because they get irritated by the dirt or the messiness first. As long as the neater person feels compelled to clean when they meet their dirt/mess threshold, the less-neat person might *never* notice the place getting dirty or messy. And the neat person will steadily build up a lot of anger over the fact that they do all the cleaning. These people may have agreed at the beginning to share cleaning chores, but as long as the place never seems dirty or messy to the one with the higher dirt/mess, conflict is inevitable..

It sounds to me as if you and Sean have made a different sort of agreement — i.e., to be significant parts of one another's life, but that both of you have slightly different definitions of what that means. Sean assumes that since the house renovation is a positive thing for both of you, that you should be involved. (The neat person has a hard time accepting that someone else has a different set of priorities, especially when the benefits of a neat home seem obviously to benefit both people.) Maybe you haven't discussed the fact that the renovation work is a good thing in and of itself for Sean, no matter what its eventual benefits to both of you. It's something he really likes doing, right?

Have you made a list of renovations that you both believe are critical (to BOTH of you)? Maybe there are things that Sean wants to do but are not critically important to you. Perhaps you could discuss those projects in context of what things are needed and what things Sean would *like* to do. And since you both benefit from the renovations, perhaps you could arrange some sort of trade—that you would be willing to hire someone to do some of your work, or do other kinds of work instead of the renovation work.

It seems to me that your shared goal of spending time together and doing things that you both like to do together should not prevent either of you from doing projects that are important to either of you personally. You both need to continue doing what you love, AND you need to find time to do things together. I can see how you could both end up feeling injured if the other suggested that you needed to choose between your relationship and your personal interests.

Regarding your comments about Delenn's fashion change when she metamorphosed, I would guess that this transformation was a pale shadow of the original plan for Delenn's metamorphosis. Since she

was originally supposed to be androgynous, neither male nor female, her transformation was originally planned to be from ambiguous Minbari to Human female. I am sorry that they weren't able to carry off the original plan and wonder what it might have been like to watch Delenn's and Sheridan's romance in a context in which gender was a factor.

[SC] Regarding your "Flipping the 6th Bit" piece, I hope that today, from the perspective of a couple months, things look somewhat less grim to you. I was relieved that you ended your piece on a more upbeat note. I hope you have since found a start out of your "rut" wherever that start takes you.

I agree that a friendship carried on solely through the apa leaves something to be desired. I'd like to see you more often. Why don't you come to WisCon again? The convention is somewhat less frantic after our giant effort at WisCon 20. There is more space and time to relax and hang out. There's a *Turbo* party, too.

It has been too long since Jeanne and I were last in Texas. We will travel down that way again sometime. I like Austin.

We don't want to lose touch with you either, Clay. So hang in there.

© Tom Havighurst

[JG] I'm glad you decided to stay with the apa Tom. Where did you go in Door County? Scott and I have spent quite a lot of time up there.

[SC] Glad you're back. I hope you decide to stay with us longer than six months.

"If my writing flags, or if I get unsatisfied with what I write, than I am out of here." Geez, don't be so tough on yourself. How about trusting us to let you know when you should leave. We'll just tell you, "Tom, you're turning into a boring shit, take a hike." Personally, I'm not too worried that you are going to merit such a suggestion.

Good party at the Angelic. Next time we will have to look for a space with a bit more room around the table. We had a larger turnout than I expected. Must be due in part to your reputation as a Party Animal.

Comments on issue No. 147

© Angie Moore

[SC] The design you came up with for the *Turbo* cover was odd, but very cool. Perfect for this apa. Thanks.

 © Kim and Kathi Nash

[SC] Thanks to you both for running *Turbo* apa the last two years.

 © Jae Adams

[SC] Hail the Pirate Queen! One of the most useful and effective tools of a Pirate Queen OE is keelhauling a deserving contributor. As just a plain old OE, I didn't have access to such a severe and terrifying tool during my reign, but there were a few times when I wished I did. AAR!

"Grace will be extended to anyone with the same name as a major hurricane." **Andy Hooper** and **Georgie Schnobrich** will be pleased to read that.

Nice pictures from your excellent cookout. I had a very fine time as I recall. Thanks for printing them.

 © Michael Shannon

[SC] You wrote: "*Just goes to show, though; most conventions, you have to supply your own fun.*" Your piece on Armadillocon hardly mentioned the guests, the program or special events. I'd say it was written in the tradition of a true SF fan. Good job.

 © Bill Humphries

[SC] We saw a "60 Minutes" piece on the Berkeley student who stood by while his friend raped and murdered a little girl. I don't swallow "60 Minutes" stories without a healthy dose of skepticism these days, but in this case the student spent a lot of time on camera and it was pretty clear that he was in serious denial about any moral responsibility he might have had to try to help. He is a jerk and a creep. Should his behavior be illegal? I don't know. I don't think efforts to legislate morality have ever been very successful. There are a lot of assholes out there of which this kid is hardly the worst example, and we can't fix them all with legislation.

I can't bring myself to blame the mother for going after this kid. She was the victim of an awful crime. Who can blame her for seeking revenge? In theory, our system of justice should provide a buffer of reason between the white-hot fury of the victims and the long-term interests of society. Unfortunately politicians aren't often up to the challenge of seeing reason these days.

 © Vijay Bowen

[SC] Congratulations on your performance. It all sounds real exciting.

 © Diane Martin

[SC] I thought the Memorial for Laura turned out very well. We ate, we drank, we told stories (and laughed a lot), a few tears were shed too. Many of Laura's books were claimed by her friends. I think it worked out just as Laura would have wanted (judging from her zine, we stuck to her plan almost to the letter).

Well, maybe she would have liked more music, but we were having such a good time talking, we ran out of time. I know it was an enormous amount of work for you and Barb and I just wanted to congratulate you on doing a great job.

 © Ruth Merrill

[SC] I have not yet been to a Willy Street Fair. It sounded like great fun. I hope the "*possibility of a new man in my life*" works out.

 © Julie Zachman

[SC] As your career moves into the fast lane with this new company, I hope you will continue to find time to stay with us in *Turbo*.

 © Cathy Gilligan

[SC] I smiled a little as I read about your disturbing experience on the bus. I didn't think your reactions were funny, I just thought you were describing a nearly perfect example of what violence on the street is like in real-life. It often happens when and where you least expect it. It happens fast with little warning and often it is hard to recognize and react to. Don't be too hard on yourself.

In a comment to **Pat** you wrote, "*I never understood the appeal of coffee shops, with or without the puns.*" In her attack on coffee shops in Madison last month, Pat strategically left out the detail that she doesn't drink coffee. Do you?

Personally I have never understood the appeal of Karaoke bars. Using puns in their names could not possibly improve or damage their appeal to me because I think they are a blight on the face of the planet. However, it's a free country. I say live and let live.

 © Lisa Freitag

[SC] Your device of interspersing your comments literally between the lines of your resignation letter was very effective. It was fascinating. I hope you are looking forward to finding work that is more gratifying for you. You should settle for nothing less.

 © Vicki Rosenzweig

[SC] Thanks for running *Quipu* 9. Nice tattoo.

Quite a harrowing account of the fire in your building. How old is your building? Ever find out what caused the fire?

In your comment to me on goals for writing in *Turbo*, Tom seemed to indicate that he had ambitions for his writing in the apa beyond just keeping in touch with friends (which is a perfectly reasonable goal in my mind.) I wanted him to give us a little clearer idea what he was hoping to do. Personally I'd like to do more essay writing in the apa, but I haven't mastered the calendar in such a way that I leave myself enough time to do an essay after I have done comments (which are my first priority, because I see this apa functioning most successfully as a "conversation.")

 © Heatherayne Brooks

[SC] Congratulations on the new job. Jeanne and I were out to the Crown Plaza for dinner one night a month or so ago and we were pleasantly surprised by the meal. It's a nice hotel.

A joint membership is a good idea in your situation. It used to be the procedure that a joint member had to be nominated and seconded just like a normal member, only they didn't have to wait for a slot to open once they were seconded twice. I don't know if Jae will elect to follow that routine or not, but I see no reason not to give A.J. a shot.

 © Georgie Schnobrich

[SC] Jae pointed out in her zine that "*You are so quotable!*" I agree. I'd like to lift your whole paragraph about Road Rage and keep it handy with me at work. Road Rage comes up at work in various official communications from time to time (it is the DOT after all) and I would like to look for an opportunity to insert your amusing remarks into the electronic bloodstream and see if folks would lighten up a bit.

Jeanne designed the memorial for Laura on the back cover of issue #146.

We didn't go on our big road trip around Lake Superior that we planned this year. Jeanne was suffering some nagging physical discomforts that would have made sleeping on the ground in a tent rather difficult. We opted instead for a short trip up to Door County for a few days and stayed in motels. We spent the rest of the week tackling some overdue projects at home.

We did a fairly large amount of traveling this year in general and another long trip would have been finan-

cially painful. We went to Potlatch in Oakland in January, Minicon in Minneapolis in the Spring, Readercon in Boston in July, back to Minneapolis for Diversicon also in July and then to take off for Canada in early September seemed a tall order. Maybe next year it will seem more reasonable.

 © Jim Frenkel

[SC] I laughed when I first glanced at your zine. The idea of a hand-scribbled zine from a publishing professional just seemed too funny to be true. But now I applaud you. After having a couple brief shots at apa membership, you came back into *Turbo* this last time determined to stay in and, by golly, you really are determined. Not many of us would stoop to scrawling out a handwritten zine to keep our membership. I appreciate your obvious desire to stay. I wish your production values were a wee bit higher, but I was able to make out everything you wrote reasonably easily (possibly because my handwriting is even worse than yours.)

Congratulations to Josh and his parents on the Bar Mitzvah.

 © Jim Brooks

[SC] You wrote, "*Scott, someday you and I will be the only two Turbanas never to have stood for TAFF.*" That may well be true, but I have to confess that I have been on a TAFF trip, even though I wasn't the candidate. I went with Jeanne on her TAFF trip in 1987. I like to say that I acted as her bodyguard and official beer taster.

Delightful truck fire stories! I wondered who the Anamosa Policeman might have been. I was not surprised by his panicky reaction to your brake fire. I probably know him. Anamosa is my hometown. Have you met Darlene Coltrane at our New Years Party? She lives just up the road (Hwy 151) in Monticello.

 © Jim Nichols

[SC] In response to your comment to Jim Frenkel about SF being more entertainment for you now than it is a passion, I have never been much interested in SF as a predictor of how we will live in the future. To use an extreme example, it doesn't disappoint me that we haven't ended up living like *The Jetsons*. It is cool when an SF writer is able to predict some new development that actually appears in real life. But for me SF is most powerful when it talks about the present world in the context of the future, or when really radical ideas are explored to see what they might mean in a *version* of the future. I am less interested in "hard" scientific ideas than

I am in so called "soft" sciences. I like SF to remember the political, psychological, sociological and economic ramifications of scientific advancements and the future. That is what I admire so much in Stan Robinson's *Mars* series. He doesn't simply tell a story about populating Mars with the newest known technology, he provides a complete picture of a Martian world including the very realistic political and economic sides. But the best part is that we can see so much about our present world and how it works in his Mars of the future.

© Hope and Karl

[SC] I guess I don't care about Bill Clinton. He isn't Richard Nixon, so I have no special passion to see him impeached, but the thought of seeing him impeached doesn't exactly keep me up at night with worry either. As

President he hasn't done much of anything positive, and neither has Congress, so I don't see what difference it makes if they waste more time with this impeachment process. I am somewhat curious to see how it all affects the Republicans. My feeling is that they made a strategic mistake by rushing into an impeachment trial too quickly before securing broad public support first. We'll see.

Hope, thank you for the fascinating update on Forrest. I am not sure what ADHD stands for, Attention Deficit Disorder or something similar? Please continue to keep us posted.

Karl, I can't support a pun for your coffeeshop's name (even just to annoy **Pat**) but your motto sounds great.

—Jeanne & Scott
20 October 1998

IN MEMORY OF

Laura M. Spiess

OCTOBER 20, 1955

to

AUGUST 1, 1998



*Milwaukee/Madison fan
former TURBO member
and our friend*



WisCon 9, 1985