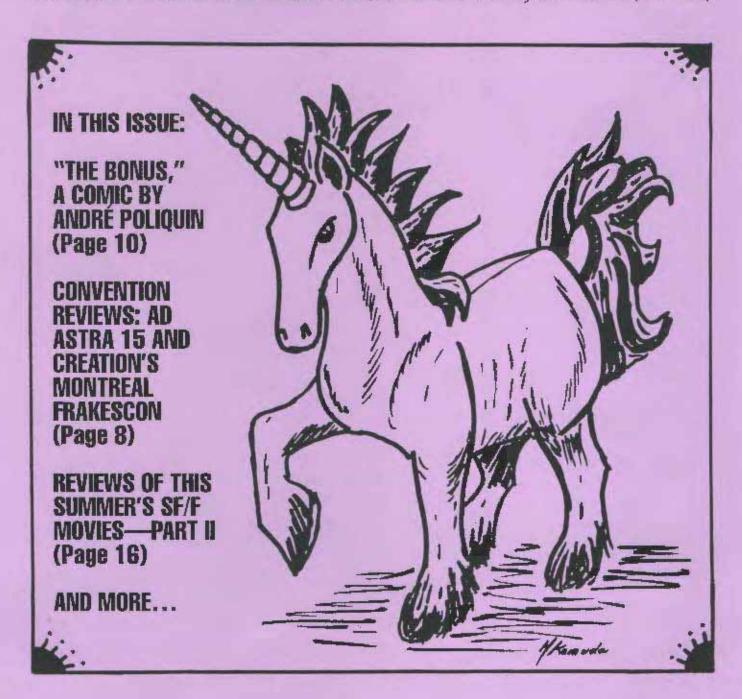
SEPTEMBER 1995, VOLUME 9, NUMBER 4

The Official Newsletter of the Montreal Science Fiction & Fantasy Association (MonSFFA)



Roll Call

MonSFFA's Executive Committee:

Lynda Pelley: President E-mail: *pellyn@odyssee.net*

Cathy Palmer-Lister: Vice-President

Sylvain St-Pierre: Treasurer

MonSFFA's Appointed Officers and Advisors:

Keith Braithwaite (Newsletter, Membership, PR); Sylvain St-Pierre (Membership); Bryan Ekers (Post Office Box); Colleen Magnussen (Mailings); Bill Strople (Snack Table); Michael Masella, Kevin Holden, David Legault, Trudie Mason, Andrew Weitzman, Dominique Durocher, Yolande Rufiange (Advisors)

Newsletter Staff:

Keith Braithwaite: Editing, Layout, Word-Processing

Michael Masella: Laser-Printing, Non-Mac to Mac Computer File Translation, Typesetting, Word-Processing, Photo-Scans.

Lynda Pelley: Word-Processing, Photo-Scans.

Berny Reischl: Non-Mac to Mac Computer File Translation

Murphy: Typos, Misspellings, and Other Errors

COVER UP: MonSFFA member Maria Kamuda says she's always been interested in, particularly, SF/F art, and we are pleased to feature her work on this issue's cover. Maria has sketched us a unicorn, using a ceramic figure of the mythical horse as her model.

1995 Monsffa Meeting Schedule

ALL MEETINGS HELD SUNOAY AFTERNOONS, 1:00PM TO 4:00PM (SOME MEETINGS INCLUDE MORNING ACTIVITIES, WHICH BEGIN AT 11:00AM) IN THE ARTIMON I ROOM OF THE MARITIME HOTEL, 1155 GUY STREET (CORNER RENÉ LÉVESQUE), DOWNTOWN MONTREAL

1995 MEETING PROGRAMMING (SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER)

Programming subject to rescheduling and/or change

<u>SEPTEMBER 10</u>: An exploration of SF/F music, focusing on filking, movie and television-series soundtracks, and sci-fi and fantasy lyrics in rock and roll. Help us compile a top-ten list of SF/F movie/TV themes!

OCTOBER 15: Following on the popularity of last year's meeting on this subject, we revisit the world of SF/F art.

Included will be demos of some of the illustration techniques artists use to create fantastic future worlds, sleek spaceships, exotic aliens, supernatural sorceresses, and brawny barbarians!

NOVEMBER 12: Programming to be announced.

NOTE: The organization of TransWarp '95, which was at first tentatively scheduled for sometime in June, then bumped into August, and later November, has moved forward very little over the summer. The event now appears to be in limbo. Further details as they become available. Also, MonSFFA's annual Christmas party is planned for Saturday evening, December 16; confirmation of this date and further details to follow.

MAY JIINE AUGUST **OCTOBER**

JANIJARY.

Warp is published six times a year by the Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (MonSFFA). Address all correspondence to Warp, c/o MonSFFA, P.O. Box 1186, Place du Parc, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2W 2P4. Subscription rate is \$12.00 per year; however, the subscription fee is included in the annual membership to MonSFFA, which is \$20.00 per year. MonSFFA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of science fiction and fantasy in literature, films and television, art, music, costuming, model-making, comics and fanzines, and gaming. The opinions expressed in Warp are solely those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Warp or MonSFFA. The use of copyrighted material in this newsletter is a no-no, but is not intended to infringe on any of the rights of the copyright holders. Come on people, lighten up. This is an amateur publication, intended for enjoyment only. "They are, in my view, absolutely the most pathetic creatures in the world."—Harlan Ellison, speaking, in an interview, of Star Trek fans



FROM THE CENTER SEAT

Greetings MonSFFA members.

Some of you may be surprised to see another issue of *Warp* so soon! Those of you who have been with the club for a few years are used to getting one very large issue mid-to-late August. The traditional mega-issue usually had a colour cover, too.

However, this year we decided to do things a bit differently. We used our budget for the colour cover in the spring. We also decided to do two normal-sized newsletters instead of one, big, double-sized *Warp*. In theory, the two smaller issues would be easier to produce. However, summer being what it is, you're getting two issues of *Warp* sort of together anyways.

For the same reasons that we don't have a July meeting (lots of good out-of-town conventions, social activities, family vacations, frequent trips to the cinema, etc.), we seem to have difficulty getting the summer newsletter out before the end of August. After all, nobody wants to spend their evenings and weekends sitting in front of a computer in the summer.

Actually, I did put in quite a bit of quality time with my Macintosh this summer, but it had more to do with a new modem and subsequent internet account than the club newsletter and desktop publishing.

You can consider MonSFFA online now!

Unfortunately, the club does not have a World Wide Web page yet, and it may be a while before I figure out how to create one. However, if you want to communicate electronically with MonSFFA you can send messages to my E-mail address:

pellyn@odyssee.net

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. I certainly did. Among other things, I attended Toronto Trek and helped beta-test Montreal's just-opened Virtual World. I had a great time. My full reports on these events and others

will appear in the next issue, Warp 36.

Montreal fandom bids farewell to Andrew Gurudata and Kim Nakano, who were married this summer, and who are moving to Toronto this month (Andrew has taken a new job there). Andrew, as most of you know, has presided over Montreal's *Doctor Who* fan club, the High Council of Gallifrey, for a few years, now. Both he and Kim have been active in various ways in Montreal fandom, greatly contributing to one of Canada's most vital fannish communities. I've had the pleasure of working with Andrew and Kim, on the TransWarp minicons, and on the Montreal Science Fiction Festivals, and I will miss them. We all will.

Good luck in Toronto, guys; our best wishes go with you.

Lynh Polley

Lynda Pelley President, MonSFFA

To Andrew and Kim:

Farewell...Good Luck...
We'll Miss You.

On behalf of all of Mon 5774 - Inh

Monsfra Membership Benefits

The Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (MonSFFA) is a Montreal-based non-profit organization dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of all activities which engage and support the interests of science fiction and fantasy fans. The benefits of membership in MonSFFA include:

Membership Card

Your MonSFFA membership card identifies you as a MonSFFA member, allows you free admittance to the club's monthly events and entitles you to certain discounts at SF/F-oriented retailers participating in MonSFFA's discount program!

Monthly Events

Attend MonSFFA's regurlarly scheduled events, held about every month (except during the summer), and meet other SF/F fans! Share interests, exchange ideas, view current and classic SF/F movies and TV shows, enjoy guest speakers and special presentations, participate in workshops and discussion panels, get involved in various club projects, and more!

Discount Program

As a member of MonSFFA, you are in a position to save on your SF/F purchases, and your membership pays for itself within the year! If you buy an average of only \$4.00 worth of SF/F books, comics, collectibles, gaming and hobby items, etc. per week, your yearly MonSFFA membership will pay for itself in discount savings within the year! Full details of the discount program are printed in each issue of MonSFFA's newsletter.

Newsletter

You will receive a <u>one-year subscription</u> (six issues) to MonSFFA's <u>newsletter</u>, Warp! Produced <u>by</u> our

members for our members, Warp keeps you up to date on club activities and brings you general news from around the greater SF/F community! Warp is also a forum for you, the members—we want your book and movie reviews, opinion columns, short fiction and humour, artwork, etc! And, as a MonSFFA member, you are entitled to place (non-commercial) ads in Warp at no charge—sell your old SF book collection, announce that you're looking for gaming partners, or whatever!

As a MonSFFA member, you'll enjoy these benefits and more!

MonSFFA is administered, on behalf of all of its members, by an executive committee, who are empowered to appoint officers and advisors to assist them with the operation of the club. Executive committee members are elected annually by vote of the general membership; any member in good standing may run for office.

The fee for a one-year membership in MonSFFA is currently \$20.00.

Please address all correspondence to: MonSFFA, P.O. Box 1186, Place du Parc, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2W 2P4.

MonSFFA Discount Program

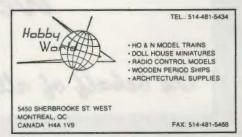
Listed on this and the next page are the SF/F-oriented retailers/dealers participating in the MonSFFA Discount Program. We encourage members to frequent these establishments. A valid MonSFFA membership card must be presented in order to take advantage of the discounts offered under this program. (Note: Certain exceptions with regard to the MonSFFA Discount Program may exist at some of these establishments. Conditions subject to change.)



15% off on SF/F merchandise and on back issues of comics; U.S. cover price on new comic books.



10% off on all orders (include your name, MonSFFA membership number and expiration date when ordering).



10% off (5% if paying by credit card) on models and role-playing games, \$10.00 minimum purchase.



MonSFFA Discount Progra

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COMIX

 NEW AND OLD COMICS · OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

> 3846 Jean Talon E. Montreal, Qc.,H2A 1Y4 (514) 725-1355

20% off on most merchandise.



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Box 17 R.R.2 Dunnville, Ont. N1A 2W2, Canada Tel:416-774-8337

Importers of Fine Sci-fi Model Kits. Toys and Collectibles Fax: 416-774-8495

(514) 385-6714

10% off on most items (include your name, MonSFFA membership number and expiration date when ordering).



Fred Albert

OAS Rocketery Division. Suite 606, 116 Albert Street. Ottawa, Ontario. K1P 5G3 (613) 233-1159 - Jav (613) 830-5811

10% off on all orders (include your name, MonSFFA membership number and expiration date when ordering).

Fairview Shopping Centre 6815 Trans Canada Highway G-19 Pointe Claire, Quebec H9R 5V1 Telephone: (514) 695 3620

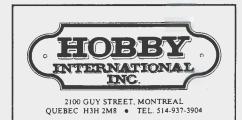
10% off on computer game and video game software not otherwise on special. Fairview store only, see Mike Masella.

EL PASO KOMIX WHERE SPIDEY READS THE STORIES OF HIS FAVORITE SUPER-HEROES

15% off on most merchandise; does not apply to "series discounts" already offered to

2432 Sauvé E., Montreal

customers of this establishment.



10% off (5% if paying by credit card) on most merchandise, \$10.00 minimum purchase.

The New Frontier

Science Fiction & Space Model Kits

Send \$1.00 for our latest catalogue

P.O. Box 26076, 62-64 Robertson Rd., Nepean, Ontario, K2H 9R0

10% off on most items, 15% at cons and shows (include your name, MonSFFA membership number and expiration date when ordering).



10% off (5% if paying by credit card) on models and role playing games, \$10.00 minimum purchase. Applies to all locations.



10% off on new issues, 15% off on back orders.



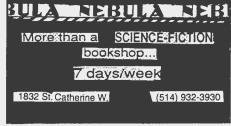
10% off on most merchandise.



merchandise.



Between 10% and 15% off on most



10% off on everything except imports and magazines.

1,000,000 COMIX

1418 Pierce Street Montreal, Quebec, 989-9587

20% off on most merchandise.



10% off on most merchandise. Does not apply to discounts already offered by this establishment.

1,000,000 COMIX

5164 Queen Mary Road Montreal, Quebec

20% off on most merchandise.





MonSFFA and Warp welcome letters of comment and inquiry. Mail letters to: P.O. Box 1186, Place du Parc, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2W 2P4. Unless otherwise instructed, we assume all letters are intended for publication. Published letters become the property of MonSFFA. Warp reserves the right to edit letters where deemed necessary.

Dear MonSFFA,

As a person who has always been interested in art, especially science fiction and fantasy art, I would like to submit my marker portrait of a unicorn, created with my ceramic figurine as the model. I hope you can find room for it in your publication.

I find the issues of *Warp* very enjoyable and informative. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Maria Kamuda LaSalle, Quebec

Thanks for the kind words on Warp, Maria. You'll be interested to know that we'll be covering the topic of SF/F art at the club's October meeting. We hope to see you there. Thanks for the artwork; we've featured your unicorn on our cover this issue.—Ed

Dear MonSFFA,

I'm a big science fiction fan and I would like to know more about your organization. I would like to know what you have to offer a big fan of *Babylon 5, Star Trek* (all four of the series!), *The X-Files*, etc.

Please send me a subscription

form and a list of what you do, exactly. I don't want to subscribe now, I just want some information.

Mr. Randi A. Dertzo Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Quebec

Thanks for showing interest in our club, Randi.

We are a multi-interest science fiction and fantasy fan club. At our monthly meetings, and in this, our newsletter, we explore the many facets of these genres, including that which you appear most interested in, sci-fi TV.

We've sent you the information requested, along with a membership application that you can fill out when you are ready to sign aboard.—Ed

Dear MonSFFA'ers:

I am glad to have joined your club. I have been attending your convention for the last four or five years and have been very impressed by the things I saw and the people I

I would like to put an ad in your newsletter to sell some items at a very cheap price, or maybe exchange some things. Enclosed is a list of what I have to sell.

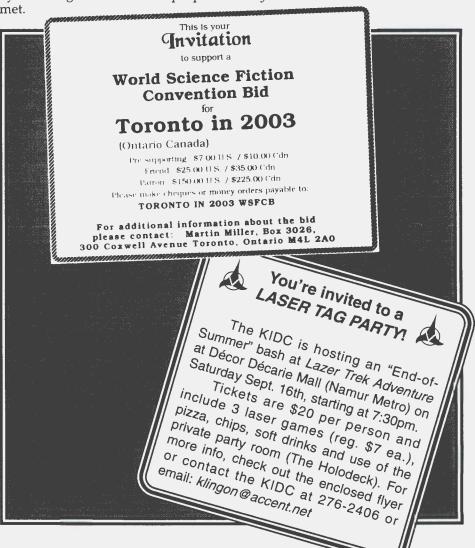
Thank You, MonSFFA, and Live Long and Prosper,

Daniel Girard Montreal, Quebec

Welcome to MonSFFA, Daniel.

We are pleased that you were impressed with our convention, Con•Cept, these past years; we should note for you that following Con•Cept '92, MonSFFA ceased to be involved in organizing the con, which now runs on its own steam.

One of the services that the club offers its members is advertising space in this newsletter to sell old comic books, trade Star Trek cards, seek to buy some rare collectible, etc., or as in your case, sell off a collection of SF models. We've run your ad in this issue.—Ed





MonSFFAndom

"ALL THE CLUB NEWS THAT FITS, WE'LL PRINT!"

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Have you changed residence during the summer? If so, please remember to let us know what your new address is before the post office stops forwarding your mail! If we don't know where you now are, we won't be able to send you your MonSFFA mailings. Let us know, also, of any phone number change.

MonSFFA INVITED TO LAZER TREK ADVENTURE

Members of MonSFFA and other Montreal SF/F clubs are invited to an evening of laser tag gaming being organized by the Klingon Imperial Diplomatic Corps (KIDC). The outing is planned for Saturday evening, September 16; cost per person: \$20. MonSFFen interested in participating can check out the enclosed red flyer or call KIDC, c/o Capucine Plourde, at 276-2406 for more info.

MAY MonSFFA MEETING

Our May meeting took place on Sunday, the 14th, losing three or four members to the CanCon convention running that weekend in Ottawa, and a few more to Mothers Day commitments—attendance stood at about 25.

The meeting's topic: The how-

to's of amateur publishing.

Warp editor Keith Braithwaite was front and center for the first half of the meeting, taking his audience through the production of a typical issue of Warp. He fielded questions on the club's newsletter, took suggestions, and invited members to have a look through MonSFFA's archival copies of all of the 33 issues of Warp published to that date. Also on display were various printing masters, representative of the techniques used over the years to lay Warp out, from the typewritten/cutand-paste method to advanced, desktop-publishing.

Following the mid-afternoon break, André Poliquin was back for

his second presentation in as many meetings. He spoke of his experiences producing his own series of comic books, and had with him a portfolio full of everything from his written story outlines, preliminary character sketches, and layout roughs, to the inked artwork, colour separations, and printing plates. André covered in detail the process of creating a comic book from beginning to end, and discussed, as well, the complexities of marketing, selling, and distributing one's own publication.

Amateur publishing in general was discussed, keying in on how fun and rewarding a venture it can be, and how easy and relatively inexpensive it can be to publish your own fanzine, comic book, or novel.

MonSFFA thanks Keith and André for doing the May meeting.

JUNE MonSFFA MEETING

The club held a fund-raising SF/F books, comics, and collectibles auction at our June meeting, held on the 11th, and the 30 or so MonSFFolk in attendance also welcomed guest speaker Mark Shainblum. Mark is a Montreal-based comics writer whose credits include *Northguard* (cocreated with artist Gabriel Morrissette, another Montrealer) and the comics adaptations of Michael Moorcock's *Corum* stories.

The meeting began at 1:00PM with the auction, all money raised, as usual, directed to the financing of MonSFFA's activities. Mark was introduced following the midmeeting break and was joined at the podium by club members Kevin Holden and John Dupuis for a wideranging discussion on comics.

The comics industry is a daunting field in which to work, these days, according to Mark. Dominated by the big publishers, DC and Marvel, creativity and originality routinely take a back seat to profitability as product is churned out factory-like. The superhero genre has become trope-ridden and stale, and while some of the comics

adaptations of popular movie and television properties do well enough, little else seems able to find an audience. Or perhaps more accurately, little else seems able to find *its way to* an audience. Distribution of comics greatly favours the major publishers, who use their muscle to ensure that this is so. The small independents, who are often producing the best and most interesting stuff, find themselves, effectively, shut out of the market.

Mark further spoke on the particulars of writing comics, and on how the writers work with the artists.

Hollywood's many adaptations of comic books were touched on, and comic book collecting, of course, was addressed, with pretty much everyone agreeing that most of the time, the monetary value placed on a "collectible" comic is entirely artificial. Mark, Kevin, and John, along with audience members, discussed various of their favourite graphic novels (Batman: The Dark Knight Returns, Watchmen, and Marvels among them) and pondered what the future holds for comics.

MonSFFA thanks guest speaker Mark Shainblum, along with our discussion panellists, Kevin Holden and John Dupuis, for an exemplary look at the world of comics. Thanks, as well, to our auctioneer, Keith Braithwaite, and to all those who very generously donated items to our fund-raising auction. Last but not least, we thank all who bid on and bought our auction goodies.

and bought our auction goodies.

MonSFFA's writers' group met
the morning of June's meeting,
wrapping up their most recent
writing project with a critique of the
stories they each had penned for the
assignment.

RENEWALS

As always, your membership renewals are *vitally important* in seeing that this club continues to operate; please be sure to renew *on time*.



CONVENTION REVIEWS

AD ASTRA 15 by Sylvain St-Pierre

Toronto's oldest convention has been losing money these past few years, so it had to happen eventually: a downsizing. It was the only way to survive. And you can hardly blame the organizers for doing it. Only a government can afford to drag a deficit on forever.

Fortunately, Ad Astra's downsizing was not entirely for the worse. Their new hotel, the Holiday Inn Yorkdale, was less expensive and had facilities almost as impressive as those of the con's previous location, the Sheraton Scarborough. Access was certainly easier, both for out-oftowners and locals, with an economical shuttle service to the airport, and a subway station within walking distance. There is a large shopping center on the other side of this Holiday Inn's parking lot, which, even if only during store hours, took care of the lack-ofaffordable-sustenance problem that plagued the Sheraton.

Everybody marvelled at how helpful the hotel staff were. One fan who has to get around in a wheelchair told me of mentioning to the manager that the handicapped rest room door could not be closed with her chair inside. Within half an hour the door had been taken off, the hinges switched around, and the problem corrected! Considering the rude treatment weird people like us fans usually get, this was a nice surprise.

The convention facilities were all on the same level—another improvement over the Sheraton—but somewhat spread out, with a bottleneck formed in the registration lobby. (One day, fans will have to get together and design a con-suitable hotel!) But the only real problem with this layout was the small size of the rooms devoted to the dealers and the artists.

Because of this, both the dealers' room and art show were noticeably shrunken in comparison to previous years. The art show was still interesting because the remaining

artists were mostly the good ones, but the dealers' room was on the dull side. There were a few interesting items, but I ended up buying a lot less stuff than I usually do, and I overheard a couple of the vendors mention that they were not planning to return next year.

Programming was, as is usual for Ad Astra, varied and interesting. The only fault I found with it was perhaps the scheduling, some of my favourite events being slotted late at night—I guess it's my fault for being the kind of person who goes to bed

The anime, or Japanimation, room's organizers had the excellent idea of doing a repeat of the day's screenings at night, so you could catch stuff you had missed earlier. Another feature much appreciated by a few snoring fans was that the room truly ran on a 24-hour basis, like the video room. The latter showed almost exclusively the same kinds of movies that you can get at any corner video store; good movies, to be sure, like Jurassic Park, but hardly anything you haven't already

rented. Doesn't anybody like films like The Seven Faces of Doctor Lao anymore?

The model room was decent, but, being used to Montreal craftsmanship in this domain, I did not stay long. The problem of the perpetually closed model-room door that they had last year appeared to have been solved this year.

The exhibit of wearable art (costumes) had several new entries in it. I find a visit to this room quite enjoyable because it gives you a chance to get close to famous costumes and see how they are actually made. You learn that some of the things that look most impressive to a masquerade audience are often quite ordinary items used in a very unordinary way!

The masquerade itself suffered this year from having a lot of good costumers off to attend the wedding of a fan couple. There was a lot of dancing about on stage, but hardly anything Earth-shattering in either design or presentation, with the exception, I'd have to say, of one of the artisan-level entries. (I hope I'm





Costumers at Ad Astra 15 (photos by Sylvain St-Pierre)



not getting too jaded, here!)

There was a surprisingly high number of parties, most of them good ones from what I could see and hear. Plenty of familiar faces were in the crowd, and it's getting so that people don't not feel that the weekend is complete without Con•Cept's Montreal Smoked Meat Party, which you could find by delicious aroma alone.

The Ad Astra con-suite does remain one of the best spots for socializing this side of Babylon 5, and the Beefcake/Cheesecake Show was again a success. For those of you not familiar with this now traditional event, you pay to have a scantily clad member of the opposite sex feed you a slice of pastry, the proceeds going to charity. The few complaints I heard about the show came from some disappointed females who thought that there should have been more than two half-naked hunks to choose from! There were four girls to service—er, serve—the guys.

So, while this con may not have been the best Ad Astra ever, it was certainly an enjoyable way of spending a weekend and I do not regret having made the trip. And considering that a large number of the con-com were new this year, and that they had more limited means at their disposal than their predecessors, they did a perfectly fine job.

I expect to be back in Toronto for number 16 next year.

CREATION'S MONTREAL FRAKESCON

by Keith Braithwaite

After experiencing a few of Creation Entertainment's shows, you realize that they are all pretty much the same. I could quite literally pull an old review of one of these things from *Warp*'s files, change the dates and guest's name, and have myself a review of this most recent Creation convention.

Jonathan Frakes rolled through town this summer with Creation's caravan. Fans dutifully gathered to sit through more lame video salutes to Geordi, or Kira, or the Klingons, and of course, Riker. Dealers, meanwhile, hawked much the same old stuff in one of the two rooms dedicated to the con. About the only programming item that sometimes proves to be interesting at one of these events is the screening of previews of upcoming sci-fi movies. Most of the time, though, these clips are simply videotaped right off of *Entertainment Tonight* or some such show. Fans are paying to see what they can see for free on TV!

Frakes did Montreal just a couple of years ago, and figuring that he likely didn't have anything terribly new to say, I decided not to stick around. After all, it was a beautiful, summer day, and I, frankly, had better ways to spend my afternoon.

Perhaps other fans had better things to do as well; attendance was rather thin in comparison to Creation's usual numbers. Or maybe people just didn't know about the con, as advertising was almost nonexistent.

Creation, apparently, are halving their visits to Montreal, at least for the next few years.





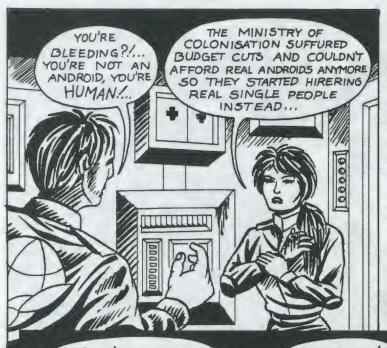














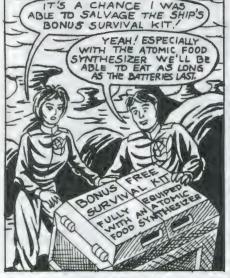
























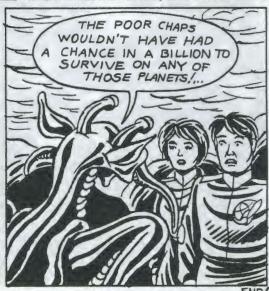












MOVIE REVIEWS, PART II

The summer's hit SF/F movies await you at your local theatre, while many of the also-rans have already been yanked from screens. But you'll be able to catch 'em on video soon enough. Warp's reviewers continue their look at Hollywood's Summer '95 offerings (part one of this feature ran in Warp 34):

SPECIES

I wasn't expecting this movie to be as entertaining as it was. The plot is full of holes, and the special government team assembled to track down an escaped human/alien hybrid are a lot more inept at the job than we're supposed to believe.

But the actors try to rise above

the film's poor script, and succeed to some degree. Canadian model-turned-actress Natasha Henstridge does a pretty good job in her very first film role as the single-minded and deadly, yet gorgeous, hybrid, out to find a suitable mate and do the nasty, come hell or high water. Her co-stars manage to breathe some quirky life into their characters (they are the special government team) and include a nice bit of action-movie romance, as well.

The alien-monster effects are quite good; I had feared that designer H.R. Giger would fashion a creature too reminiscent of the acid-blooded bio-mechanoids he created for *Alien* and *Aliens*. There are certain similarities, but the *Species* creature is a sufficiently unique one.

This one is worth a look on a half-price night, or, eventually, on video.—reviewed by Carl Phillips

JUDGE DREDD

Sylvester Stallone plays Judge Dredd, a cop, judge, and executioner all rolled into one, who looks like Michael Jackson on steroids in that costume! I have to give him points, mind you, for playing the character with a bit more of the appropriate comic-bookish dimension than I expected of him. Rob Schneider (Saturday Night Live) does well providing the required comic relief, while Armand Assante passes muster as the lead villain. Requisite babes Diane Lane and Joan Chen are most memorable in their climactic catfight.

But this movie is worth seeing not for the cast's performances or for its story, but for its magnificently crafted visuals. Absolutely stunning are the towering buildings of the future's supercity; the sleek, flying vehicles; a killer robot, and the wonderfully grotesque make-up jobs on the denizens of an uninviting wasteland.

The set designers, modelmakers, special effects crew, and make-up people are the real stars, here, despite top billing going to those in front of the camera. —reviewed by Keith Braithwaite

WATERWORLD

The thing about Waterworld isn't whether it's worth \$200 million (the estimated budget of this, the most expensive film ever made), but whether it's worth your eight dollars. And yes, it is.

The effects are spectacular: sweeping panoramas of attacking navies; giant, mutant whales; jet-ski fighters doing sensational stunts; and Kevin Costner's fantastic catamaran, equipped with more neat gadgets than James Bond's car. Don't wait to see this movie on video because on the small screen you'll never be able to appreciate the film's



Judge Dredd: Magnificently crafted visuals

staggering scale, the *size* of the sets, and the attention to detail.

Yeah, it's a bit slow in parts, but so what?

Sure, had he waited a couple of years, Costner could have made the thing for one-tenth the cost with digital effects, but this is probably the last, great Hollywood epic not produced inside a computer.

And it's fun!—reviewed by Kevin Holden



Waterworld: worth your eight dollars

WHAT THE CRITICS ARE SAYING ABOUT... (Compiled by Reed King)

MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS: THE MOVIE

Certainly slicker than the TV show, but still strictly for kids.

THE INDIAN IN THE CUPBOARD

Thoughtful and well-crafted, this is the children's movie that kids *should* see this summer. Quite an engaging little piece of cinema.

VIRTUOSITY

A fair sci-fi action picture, but this VR-characters-comingto-life-in-the-real-world which is at the center of many cyberflicks is rapidly becoming a cliché.

Bulletin Board

FOR SALE (VERY CHEAP!), OR EXCHANGE:

MODEL KITS (BUILT)

Drop Ship, from Aliens; 12" long U.S.S Sulaco, from Aliens; 12" long Diorama, Alien and Hulk; alien, with egg, and Hulk figure, killed by alien (!), on base, 9" high Shado Mobile, from UFO TV series; 5.5" long, includes box Thunderbird 2; 24" long, handmade from cardboard and plaster Batmobile (new version); 8" long Ziggurat Tank (with missile and jet on top); Japanese, 8" long

Thunderbird's John
Tracy, with Thunderbird 5; 3" high,
includes box
Runabout, from Deep
Space Nine; 12" long
Battlestar: Galactica,
fighter, 10" long
Battlestar: Galactica;
Cylon ship, 8" long

CARDS

Terminator 2; complete set of 140 cards, mint condition Superman; hologram card, 1992, series 1, DCH8

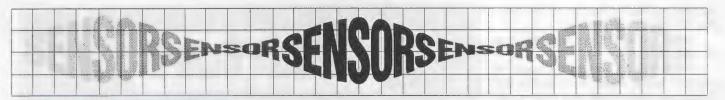
Return of Superman; special card, SP-1 Spiderman II, 30th anniversary hologram card, P-7 Spiderman II, 30th anniversary hologram card, P-12 X-Men; "all new, all different X-Men," 1 promotional card Gambit, X-Men; XH-3 Predator Vs. Magnus, Robot Fighter; 2 promotional cards Lobo; promotional card, 1992, series 1, #120 The Monkees (pop group); old cards, 1967, 5-B, 30-B

MISC.

Toy Tribble, from the original Star Trek; 7" dia., with sound Poster, Doctor Who; 25th anniversary, signed by Jon Pertwee, Sylvester McCoy, John Levene Battlestar: Galactica, Ovian guard; puzzle mounted on white board, 18"X14" Star Trek: The Next Generation towels

INFO: DANIEL, at (514) 336-9105 between 8:00PM and 11:00PM





FACT, RUMOUR AND SPECULATION FROM AROUND SF/F-DOM

CANCER CLAIMS ZELAZNY; REEVES PARALYSED

SF/F writer Roger Zelazny, best known for his Amber series, died on June 14, at the age of 58, of kidney failure brought on by cancer. He had been scheduled to guest this year at Ad Astra, but cancelled a few weeks before the con. Montreal fans had opportunity to meet Mr. Zelazny in 1992, when he was Guest of Honour at Con•Cept.

Christopher "Superman" Reeves suffered severe injury to his spine after being thrown from his horse in an accident which has left him paralysed from the neck down. He has made something of a recovery in the weeks following the accident, but while family, friends, and fans hold out hope, his chances of making a full recovery and ever walking again appear rather slim.

MIGHTY MORGAN (AND WONG) POWER RANGERS

Space: Above and Beyond started out as sort of a Top Gun in space, but was remodelled into more of a World War II movie in space by Glen Morgan and James Wong, the creative pair who are producing the new sci-fi TV series for the Fox network. Morgan and Wong formerly wrote and co-executive-produced for The X-Files.

As reported in this column last issue, Space follows the adventures of a group of military cadets who find themselves called up to front-line duty in an intergalactic war after Earth's best fighter squadrons are destroyed. The action takes place in the year 2104. Earth expeditions are out in space colonizing worlds when an attack by an alien race proves incorrect the belief that mankind is alone in the universe.

The series will "show the terror of warfare," says Morgan. "Our people are like Marines, it's dirty

and there's real grunt work involved." The clichés of space opera will be avoided and the show will be able to have the same kinds of open-ended episodes as *The X-Files*.

"With the kind of stories we want to tell, we're working very hard on the characters," continues Morgan. The main character, Nathan (played by Morgan Weisser), leads a group which includes people known as Tanks, who are born in vitro, and who are part of Nathan's crew as a

result of an affirmative action program.

The two hour pilot, budgeted at some \$7 million and helmed by X-Files director David Nutter, was shot in Australia for a September premiere.

TOHO RETIRES GODZILLA

After 21 films, Toho Studios have decided to retire their most famous property, Godzilla. Producer Shogo Tomiyama explained that the makers





of the big guy's movies have simply run out of ideas and "wanted to finish with Godzilla while he is still a star."

Godzilla's first movie was released in 1954; his last, Godzilla vs. Destroyer, is set for a December premiere this year. In it, he'll stomp all over not Tokyo, but Hong Kong.

BIG BUGS BACK, HOLLYWOOD HOPES FOR BIG BUCKS!

Universal made gazillions when Steven Spielberg resuscitated the dinosaur movie genre with Jurassic Park. Now, other studios are hoping to bring back the giant-monsterinsect film craze of the 1950s, epitomized by such movies as Them! and The Deadly Mantis. TriStar Pictures and Disney are, reportedly,

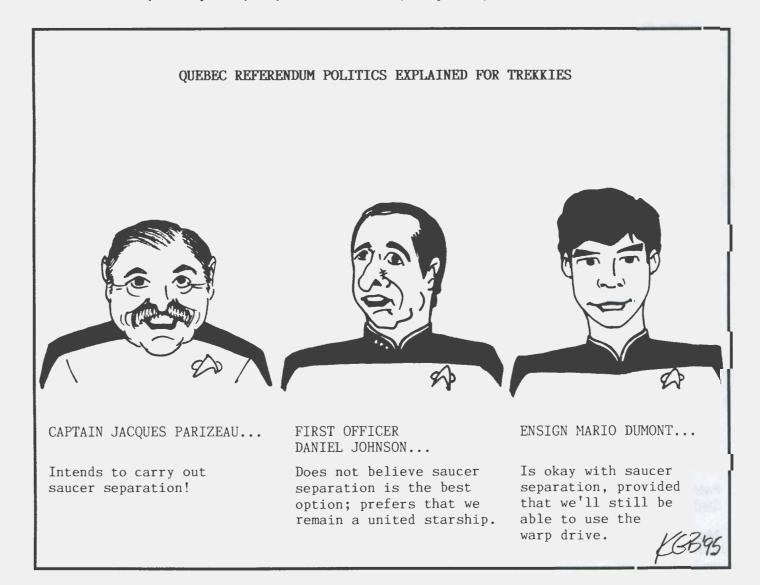
teaming up to make Starship Troopers (based on the Robert Heinlein novel), in which soldiers travel to the home planet of a race of giant bugs that are invading Earth. Invasion Earth, meanwhile, is the story of a government experiment with insects that goes wrong, resulting in a rampage of supersized bugs.

"MARS ATTACKS": FROM CARDS TO CINEMA

Director Tim Burton plans to bring the classic 1962 Topps Trading Cards series "Mars Attacks", about a martian invasion of Earth, to the silver screen. Parents considered the card series excessively violent and gory when it came out in 1962, but a recent re-release hasn't raised any eyebrows. Kids today are probably too busy ducking bullets in innercity drive-by shootings to worry much about Martians attacking the neighbourhood. Burton is said to also be looking at doing an adaptation of Topps' "Dinosaur Attacks" card series.

UPN NOT BULLYING BABYLON 5

Reports that the United Paramount Network has been bullying TV stations carrying Babylon 5 into dropping the show if they wanted to air Star Trek: Voyager appear unfounded, at least in the case of Boston superstation WSBK (available in Montreal through CF Cable). WSBK was bought by Paramount and is now a UPN station, yet features both Voyager and B-5 on its schedule.







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Ed Sahely

"Lippencott", RoboCop Rick Green (Invited) The Red Green Show Andy Pandoff TC 2000

Artists/Inkers Gabriel Morrissette

Spiderman 2099 Martin Proctor

Ray Bradbury Theatre
Leonard Kirk
Star Trek: DS9
Terry Pallot (Invited)
Star Trek: Voyager

Stunt Persons
Rob Wilson, TekWar
Rob Moses, Kung Fu
Brian Frank, Medievel Times
Dinner and Tournament
Jacqui Pilon

Horror Authors David Shtogryn

"Tamar's Leather Pouch"

Northern Frights 3

Nancy Kilpatrick

"Near Death"

Other Guests Kevin Davies/David Brown

Publishers: Peregrine/Murphy's World, Co-creators "Murphy's World" (the game)

Don Hutchinson Editor, Northern Frights

Peter Bloch-Hansen Starlog Correspondent

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If you would like to join, please fill in the membership application and mail it to **MonSFFA**, along with a cheque or money order made out to **MonSFFA** for the amount of \$20.00. Feel free to write us for more information.

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INFORMATION:

Communications Warp 9
Chris Chartier
P.O. Box 311, Station B,
Montréal, Québec
Canada H3B 317
(514) 324-1815 9 am to 10 pm.
Fax: (514) 324-1815
eMail: bsgo@ musicb.mcgili.ca