

Bozo Bus Tribune

Friday April 5

Evening Edition

Welcome to Minicon 31!

Minicon is one of the largest regional science fiction and related interest conventions in America. We, the, committee have been working hard for most of a year (actually for many years, as we are the product of our group memory and efforts) to bring this production off.

We urge you to have fun, make new friends, have fun, learn as much as you can about whatever about all of this interests you, have fun, and please don't wreck the place. (We'd like to use these hotels again next year.)

Oh, and if possible, we would like you to:

Volunteer!

The Minicon 31 Volunteer Department needs help with the following:

Life Guards are needed to help keep the pool open.

Children's Programming needs responsible persons.

Child Care needs 4-5 persons age 16+ to work Saturday Night during the Masquerade.

The **Masquerade** needs volunteers.

Please come to the Volunteer Desk on the 2nd floor and sign up. Minicon depends on its volunteers!

Party Listings:

TOTU (Tales of the Unanticipated)	Fri. 9-2	2206
Antartica in 1999	Fri. 9-?	2219
Magus Party	Fri. No Time Given	408
Minister's Wiccan Church of MN	No Time Given	575
Ice Men & Women	Fri. 10-Mid.	Cannes @ Sofitel
Kronos 2380	Fri. 7:30-?	Cabana 126
North Country Gaylaxians	Fri./Sat. 7:30-	682
Hypnotist Paul Knight	Fri. 9-? (show at 11PM)	209
Conversion (21 and over)	Fri. 9-?	209
USS Pegasus	Fri 8-Mid.	Plaza 558
USS Nokomis	Fri.-Sat.-Sun.	110
Interview w/the Vampire Hater	Fri. 11PM	Vista 2202
Iowa Embassy (Icon XXI)	Fri./Sat. 10-	857
Shabbat, the Kosher Consuite	Fri. 6:30-	213

(continued next page)

Updates:

Fan Faire: Saturday from 11AM to 1PM, come sample all that MN Fandom has to offer, in the Garden Court

The Pavlek Museum of Broadcasting, gracious providers of the Theremin being played in concert in the Grand Ballroom on Sunday at 2 PM, is offering free admission to Minicon 31 members on Saturday from 9 AM to 5 PM. The museum is at 3515 Raleigh Ave. in St. Louis Park. Take Highway 100 north to the 36th St. exit, turn right and follow the signs. Please call 926-8198 for further information.

The Art Auction is at 6:00 PM Saturday in Plaza 2.

Suzette Haden Elgin will not be participating on the panel Religions Old & New, Saturday at 8 PM.

Worldcon Rescheduled: L.A. Con III, listed as the 1997 Worldcon on page 63 of the program book will be held this year (1996) instead. To learn more about L.A. Con III, including where it will be held, come to the L.A. Con III table on the 2nd floor or the the Fanhistoricon Suite, Saturday Night on the 22nd floor.

Super Nova Volunteer of the Year! Let the volunteer effort know how much you appreciate their efforts: vote for your favorite Minicon Volunteer. Stop by the volunteer table and pick up a ballot!

Gaming: There are many excellent gaming activities over in the Sofitel in the Nice, Paris, and Dijon rooms.

Still Smokin' the "snotty elitist music party" will run Saturday from 10:30 PM on in Suite 2014. Party is open to all, but musicians places are by invitation only.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 31 No. 1, Friday, April 5, 1996

Publisher: Jeff Schalles
Staff: Sharon Kahn, Garth Danielson,
Larry Becker, Karen Cooper, Joe Wesson

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Party Listing Continued:

Club Adventure Fri. 9-	204
Trolls Guild Fri. 9-	230
General Technics/PFRC Fri./Sat. 9-	551
Phoenix SF & F Club Fri./Sat. 5:30-8	451
Super Con IV Fri. 7:30-	228
Babylon 5 Fri. 8:00-	203
Con Cussion Fri./Sat. 8:00-	208
Media Live (Dr. Who/SF Con) Fri./Sat. 8-Mid.	205

Minicon Post Office

For the 2nd year in a row Minicon as it's own special Pictorial Postmark, with an illustration by Ed Emshwiller, who's work is feature din a special art exhibit (Plaza 4—North Tower). Illustrated envelopes (cachets) and postcards are available at the Minicon Sales Table for \$1.00 each. Stamped & cancelled postcards are available for \$2.00 each.

More Notes:

Minneapolis in '73 Sacrificial Chocolate Animal Drawing Winners: Paula Rice Biever won the beaver, Bob O'Rourke graciously accepted the wood tick, Margo Bratton received the porcupine, and Dave J. Rust won the field mouse.

Tucker Sez: There is no truth to the rumor that the ghost of *Elvis Presley* was seen in the filk room Friday night. The figure was merely a clever plastic disguise (overlooking the fact that Mr. Presely never wore a handlebar mustache.)

1979 was the year that the Bozo Bus Building stopped being the Bus and started being the 'Boz.

Minicon 31 Shuttle Bus Service

Peak Hours:

Fri. 5PM-3AM, Sat. 9AM-1PM/4PM-3AM, Sun. 9AM-PM

Radisson	Sofitel	Holiday Inn
:00	:05	:12
:20	:25	:32
:40	:45	:52

Off Peak:

Fri. Noon-4PM, Sat. 7AM-9AM/1PM-4PM, Sun. 7AM-9AM

:00	:05	:12
:30	:35	:42

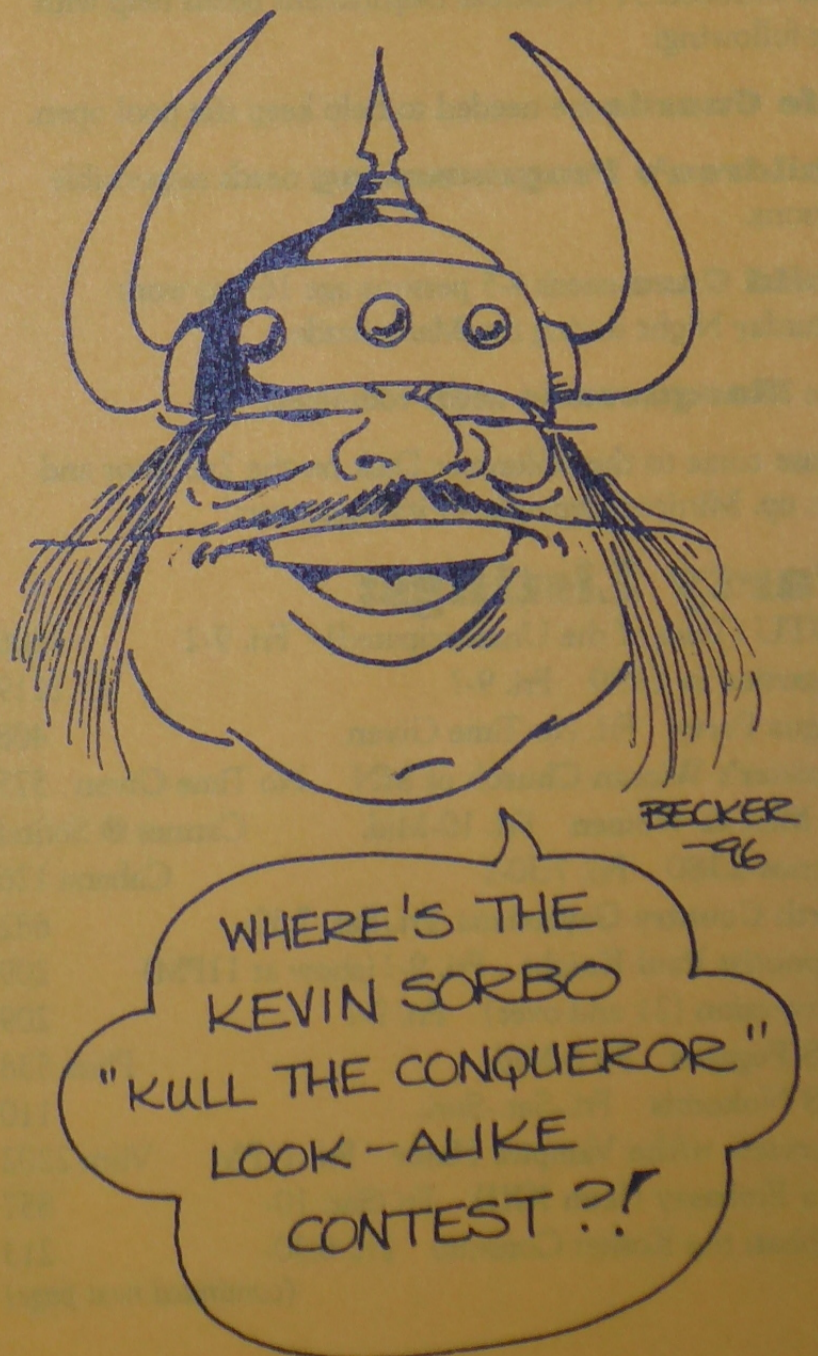
From The Suite Ghods:

Hello there. By this point you are probably wondering where those nifty little reservation forms went that were out on the counter last year. Well, don't worry, they're still around. It's just that last year they served their purpose with an amazing amount of speed. The problem was that it was a little too fast. Within two weeks of the last convention the Radisson was full, and many people didn't get the chance to get one.

So this year we're doing something different. The reservation forms will not be available at the hotels or during the convention. We will be mailing them out to everyone. Who is everyone? All the people that are on the One True Mailing List (about 4000 people). If you are at the convention your name and address are on it. If you are a member of Mnstf, you are on this list.

The forms themselves are not going to be that much different. The same information will be needed. Please fill it out completely, then just mail it back to the convention and we will start arranging everyone. Thanks!

The Suite Ghods: Shannon Leslie, Ishmael Williams



Bozo Bus Tribune

Saturday April 6

Morning Edition

Radisson Hotel Registrations for Minicon 32 are NOT available at the con

Information on rooms will be included in the first Minicon 32 Progress Report. PR1 will be mailed in July, 1996. If you do not receive it by Mid-August please contact us by post or E-Mail.

However, Minicon 32 Pre-Registration IS available

at the information/sales table Saturday from 5-12 Midnight and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 PM.

Warm Body Count:

Friday night estimate from frazzled con com: lots and lots and lots and lots...

Volunteers Always Needed:

Convention Services and Information Desk: WHAM needs you!

Childcare Still Needs 4-5 persons 16+ to help during the Masquerade.

Parties Always Needs Badgers!

Updates:

There have been reported sightings of a **Combat Rescue Team** from the **Martian League of Assassins** in the Cafe Stuga. Rumor has it that they have contracted to prevent an assassination.

Childcare is in 480, 482, 484.

Daylight Savings Time starts tomorrow (Sunday) morning. Time to Spring Forward an hour.

Yes, there were **elevator problems** in the South Tower last night. Please do not overload the poor old things. The car you get stuck in may be your own.

Children's programming item **Go Shock Yourself**, Sunday at 2:00 PM has been cancelled.

Minicon 31 and the Elevators of DOOM!

It was a dark and stormy con. We arrived, checked in, and headed for our room. As we approached the bank of elevators, the doors opened. We gasped at what we saw! The elevator disgorged a large group of fen, but *not* the fen we were expecting. They were fen from last years con!

As they exited, a puzzled look played upon their faces, with exclamations of "what? Uh? What a great masquerade effect!" Obviously, they did not believe it was one whole year later. Two fen behind me began a furious debate if this was typical behavior for elevators, and wandered off to Krushenko's.

Should we enter? Our decision was made for us when someone else behind us shouted "who's holding up the darn elevator!!?" So with trepidation in our hearts, we entered to the fate that awaited us.

The door swooshed shut, and we began our ascent. Sally and Sue, Sam and Sid all began singing "Up, up, & away..." while we exchanged worried glances. We passed the 2nd, 4th, 10th, 12th, 16th, 20th, 22nd, 25th, 32nd, 40th, and 45th floors. 45th floor? Wait a minute! There is no 45th floor!

Everyone began talking at once. "What's happening? Why? I lost my room key! Where's the consuite?"

"Stop!" I exclaimed. "I think I know what has happened. Something's gone *terribly wrong* with Minneapolis in '73! This is a job for...Super SMOF!"

Will our band of intrepid heros be saved? Can Super SMOF find the missing room key? Will this story ever make any sense? Find out in our next episode, at Minicon 32.

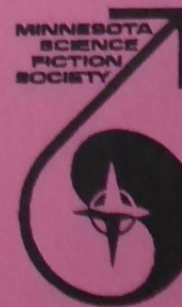
by Todd (Water Rat!) Voros

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 31 No. 2, Saturday, April 6, 1996

Publisher: Jeff Schalles
Staff: Sharon Kahn, Garth Danielson,
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More Updates:

Bring Me The Head of Bill The Pony!

Somewhere in this hotel, the magical head of Bill The Pony is granting wishes. If you find it, make a wish, move it to another *conspicuous* location, and your wish will be granted.

Local News Coverage: Minicon 31 had favorable mentions on both the Minnesota Public Radio station KNOW and in Friday's *Pioneer Press Express* section. In past years news media often misrepresented our gatherings and misspelled our secret code words, treating us like some kind of flying saucer crazies. Now we seem to have gone legit.

Goody goody for our side!

Legion of Super David's: come to Dave Clement's musical performance at 8:00 PM in Plaza 3 and stay around for a special gathering of Guys Named David. Photographs will be taken.

Fan History Corner

Mincon had been built up to me as a really crazy fun con and in many ways it was, but it seemed that many people were aimlessly looking for things to do at night, which I'd never really noticed at other conventions. The hotel was satisfactory with the exception of the lack of ice machines (which was very inconvenient).

Friday night started slowly. I at last ran into Martha Beck and Jackie Franke and we went to hear speeches by Ed Hamilton, Jack Williamson, and Cliff Simak. (For music buffs, there was a kazoo rendition of "Thus Spake Zarathustra" before-hand.) Afterwards, Martha and I went to watch "Beauty and the Beast", leaving when the beast turned into a handsome prince because, in our opinion, he had lost all of his sex appeal. We went in search of a party.

We ended up in Martha's room, accompanied by Jon Stopa, Ben Solon, Cat Ocel, Margie Lessinger and her daughter, sitting on the beds and indulging in general silliness.

Martha fell asleep and I excused myself and went down the hall to my room on the pretense of getting my cancer sticks. Fake fan that I am, I passed out.

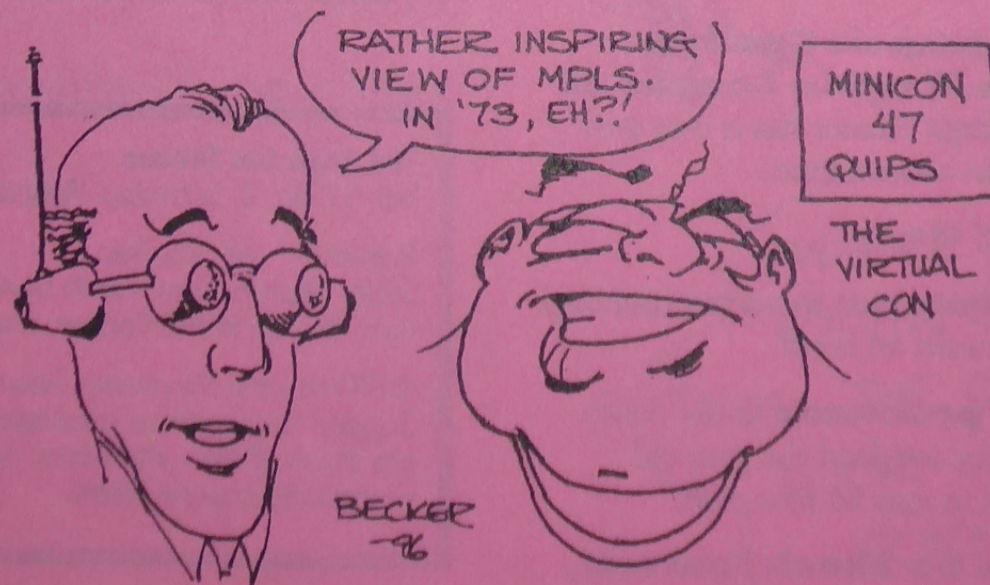
As usual, I attended only the programming that I could relate to; which is why, on Saturday, I found myself listening to a panel entitled "The Effect of Alcohol on Science Fiction." The panel comprised of those who should know.

Saturday evening we went to the banquet: Martha, Midge Reitan, and I sat near the head table with Jack Williamson, JoAnn Wood, and Yale Edeiken so we could give encouraging looks to Jackie, who was toastmastering along with Rusty Hevelin. Later on we found that our good intentions to keep Jackie from being nervous were all in vain, as she wouldn't even glance at us for fear of breaking up. Sigh...

The last program item that I went to was "Mimeo Man." The highpoint of the musical was when Marion Paroo (Sue Ryan) flubbed her line to A. B. Dick (David Emerson) and it came out as: "Silly fan, they're coming to lynch you."

Off to party again. We started off in Tucker's room; Jackie was netted and dragged off by some aspiring fanzine editors, Martha disappeared, and I was left to my own devices. I ended up in the con-suite where I ran into those n'er-do-wells, Ro Lutz-Nagey and Larry Ward. They initiated me into Big Fandom (what chauvinists!) in a bloody ritual too gruesome to describe here. They also had the nerve to do this in front of a notable fan from Toronto. In order to join Big Fandom, you have to be six feet tall (I was wearing shoes at the time) or weigh two hundred pounds. Fortunately, I don't fit the second category. We were then joined by Lin Lutz-Nagey, and moved into the hallway to sit and wait for something to happen. We were unprepared for the blown up surgical gloves and ray guns that abounded in the area, and went to Ro and Lin's room to party. Eventually, I visited the Couch's suite and alternated between the gathering there and the group in the con suite who were listening to Reed Waller and Fred Haskell folk sing. There didn't seem to be too much more going on, so, exhausted, I turned in around seven. I got up in time to say goodbye to many nice people and visit with some more during a 5-day "vacation" in the Bozo Bus Building. Yep, those Minneapolis fans sure are crazy!

—by Lynn Parks,
from *Dilemma* #12,
a fanzine published
by Jackie Franke in 1976.



Bozo Bus Tribune

Saturday April 6

Evening Edition

Bethke Wins Dick

Bruce Bethke, one of Minnesota's own SF writers, had to skip Minicon this year. He instead went to Norwescon where he received the prestigious Philip K. Dick Award. Congratulations Bruce!

Warm Body Count

At 6:00 p.m., our data entry experts had the answer. "Lots and lots and lots and lots" is now known to equal roughly 3,619 registered, and 3,564 warm bodies. We had 491 at-the-door memberships.

Volunteers Always Needed

2Fer Volunteer Points! Minicon Operations offers double stamps for fen willing to work as Elevator Operators this evening. Do you know where your towel is?

We're also looking for a few lifeguards! We have to provide lifeguards to keep the pool open late. If you can help, please head down to **Life Support** and sign up.

Parties is looking for some consuite room hosts. Tidy up, talk to people, refill the chips. Who knows where it could lead?

Registration needs folks to make sure the stragglers can get their badges from 6-10 tonight.

Childcare still needs 4-5 persons 16+ to help during the Masquerade.

Updates:

Daylight Savings Time starts tonight at 2:00 a.m. (Sunday) morning. Time to Spring Forward, Fall Over.

The Emsch Exhibit

"The most important thing at this Minicon" — *Neil Rest*

"I thought it would be a waste of money and time, but, you know that was pretty damn cool." — *anonymous*

"My father went to high school with Ed Emschwiller. We always referred to him as 'Eddie' when I was growing up. Eddie painted scenes and pictures on the wall in the rec room of my grandparents' house in Silver Spring, MD. I have no idea if they're still there." — *Sharon Kahn*

Drum Jam On the Loose

Due to pre-con complaints about the noise level in the Garden Court, the Drum Jam was scheduled to be moved to the Edina Room on Friday evening at 10:00 p.m. Due to a panel running a few minutes late, the drummers spontaneously recombined at the Garden Court anyway.

Poolside room-holders had mixed reactions. Jane Yolen, telling bedtime stories in the Bloomington room (next to the Edina Room), was reported to be a bit relieved.

Several indignant complaints were made on the Bridge, wherein said complainers were observed to be at least as vigorously interested in telling the Exec about their displeasure as they were in getting the matter resolved. It appears that they were unable to hear their Babylon 5 and Star Trek videos. The drummers were encouraged to pick up their toys and move, not to the then-locked Edina Room, but to the first floor of the Plaza Tower.

After another round of complaints, the Exec asked the drummers to move again. For reasons not clear to your reporter, they reassembled in the Grand Ballroom Foyer, and not in the still-available (but presumably still-locked) Edina Room.

There is no word on where the Drum Jam might generate itself tonight. It is not on the schedule. Programming has no idea where they might be able to go, although they did suggest they might have an idea just after press time. We suggest moving into the Edina Room at midnight and attempting to cancel out the noise of the rave, right next door.

Letters of Comment on this subject will be considered for publication in the next issue. Leave 'em in our box at the Info Desk.

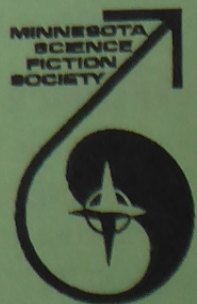
The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 31 No. 3, Saturday, April 6, 1996

Publisher: Jeff Schalles

Staff: Sharon Kahn, Garth Danielson,
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Saturday Night's Parties

North Tower

2214	LACon III Worldcon Party	after Masquerade
2206	Diversicon/Arcana Party	9:00 pm
2014	Smoking Elitist Music Party	10:30 pm
2003	Toast Party	9:00 pm
1716	Duckon/First Contact Party	10:00 pm
506	Jason Tucker's Birthday Special	9:00 pm

Plaza Tower

451	Phoenix Party	5:30 - 8:00 pm
551	GT/PFRC Party	9:00 pm
857	Iowa Embassy Party	10:00 pm

Poolside

Every room around the pool is a party! You're on your own.

Around the Con

Your roving zagat looked it over and noticed that the Kosher consuite is open with "a promising array" of munchies for our "observant" friends. Leave the leaven out of there. The main consuite has an "impressive layout of good grub," "awesome consuite food," with "bagels that lasted until 7 pm" and "chocolate milk." The poolside location is called "wonderful" with "good views of thong and dance." Minneapolis in '73 offered Realtor Bob's caterer's finest and "cognac with hot and sour soup." This morning's "Smooth breakfast" served 500 cakes to "happy people," with "weak organic milk" and "juice and coffee." Tucker was verified as "King of Smooth" and wore his crown made from "aluminum roasting pans" with pride. Next year, expect "long lines."

It has also been remarked that when M&M/Mars held the vote to add a new colour (pink, purple or blue) M&Ms to the mix, they didn't tell us they were taking away the tan ones. Your editor expresses her disapproval, and calls for the reformation of the Society for the Preservation of the Red M&M to take up this new colour challenge.

Legion of Super Davids

Davids and their friends are reminded that this year's Kodak Moment will be at Dark Star immediately after David Clement's concert, which runs until 10:00 p.m. All Davids and photographers are encouraged to attend and make history with our GoH David, David Ossman.

Editors' Choice Awards

Once again, we will be handing out BBT Editors' Awards for guerrilla signage, poolside parties and any other categories that strike our editorial whimsy. Nominations and suggestions for categories are welcome. Contact Sharon Kahn or leave your suggestions in the BBT box at the info table.

Life Support Reports

We unofficially heard: "Life Support news shouldn't be in the paper." This was then amended more officially to: "There have been no crises, and all of them were handled with consummate professionalism." The actual official word from Life Support: "Various cases of low blood sugar have taken various people out of the game. People, don't forget to eat real food."

Violence Predicted

A summit meeting was conducted in the bar last night between Minn-StF's current and future presidents, our Executive VP, and representatives from the Martian League of Assassins. Complex interplanetary negotiations were conducted concerning the tradition of assassinating our sitting president, the Martian Government-In-Exile, and the citizen status of our president. All parties left the bargaining table without a binding agreement, but with assurances on all sides that civilian casualties will be kept to a minimum. Keep your powder dry. And don't miss Closing Ceremonies.

Personals

Thanks to Lois and Clark for the milk and cookies for the story-telling. Love, *Auntie Jane*.

They chased us like rustlers, like outlaws, like thieves. Six hundred yards to the Bloomington border.... —*Woody*.

Where is the Dollar Ditto now? If you know, contact the Bozo Bus Tribune.



Bozo Bus Tribune

Sunday April 7

Morning Edition

Masquerade Results

Workmanship (Excellence in...)

Young Fan	#8	Violet & Dagger's Froggy Day
Novice	#29	A Sample from Silvan Dior's Spring Collection
Journeyman	#5	Witchie-Poo for Mayor
Master	#33	Magic Flute

Excellence in Re-Creation

Novice	#23	Lady Death
Journeyman	#13	Ab-Solutely Regal

Excellence in Technique

#28 Sloan & Dagnel

Judge's Awards

Originality	#15	Short Division
Special Construction	#1	Intergalactic Dating Service
Handwork	#21	Another Betazoid Hand Dance
Best Workmanship (Master)	#24	Samurai from Mars

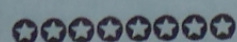
Public Service Announcement

If you've lost it, please check with the Lost and Found on the Bridge. If you find it, please turn it in, same place.

Lost - One green glass fish earring (yes, Frank, the same one you returned to me once already).

Lost - one hour some time last night.

Found - Eyewear in green case



Attention!

It may be an hour later than you think it is! You have been warned!

Performance Awards: Excellence in...

Originality & stage presence	#10	Vicious radish with a ray gun
Concept & application	#21	Another Betazoid Hand Dance
Re-creation	#33	Magic Flute
Presentation concept	#28	Dracula
Elegant die-chotomy	#20	Dead Queen of the May
Choreography	#34	Bartertown Ballet

Best in Category

Young Fan	#4	Sorcerer's Apprentice
Novice	#29	A sample from Silvan Dior's Spring Collection
Journeyman	#5	Witchie-Poo for Mayor
Master	#24	Samurai from Mars
Most Humorous	#13	Ab-solutely Regal
Director's Choice	#17	The X-Files
Judges Choice	#14	Psycho Killers
Best in Show	#26	Dragon

Schedule Update

Five short films featuring Emsh's work was such a hit that a repeat showing has been scheduled:

Sunday 1:00 p.m. Atrium 5

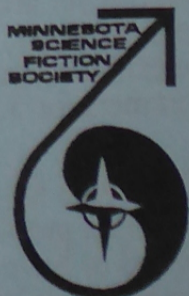
The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 31 No. 4, Sunday, April 7, 1996

Publisher: Jeff Schalles

Guest Editor: Sharon Kahn

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Editor's Choice Awards

Poolside Parties

Best Alien Bistro	Qvarks
Most Like a Frat Party	Bride of Bad Film Festival
Best Munchies	Transgalactic InterDimensional Gourmand Society
Most Obliging Guest	No Pants Party
Most Unusual Theme	Toast Party
Best Advertising	Toast Party

Signage

Best Logo	Mental Viruses Inc.
Special Heartsaver Award*	The Operation

* awarded for providing something different to read on each landing of the interminable stairway to the 22nd floor.

Bright Idea

The whiteboards at the Info Desk and Volunteer Desk

Drum Jam Update

The drummers and dancers began to resurface in the Garden Court area about 10:45 p.m. At first there were just a few, but as usual, they multiplied quickly and a crowd gathered on the balcony above. After an hour or so, the revelers were rounded up and relocated to Atrium IV. All indications are that they went peacefully.

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We received several comments on the drums, which are included below. The longer responses are excerpted due to space.

"Suzette Haden Elgin enjoyed the drum jam on Friday night. She reported that the quality of the beat was good, and the overall effect was unusually melodic and soothing."

"Hello, I really like the Drum Jam. I've been going to Cons for 13 years now; I've had a really great time...I think the drum jam is healing, fun, community building...I know that the poolside is the cool place." - *Tod O'Donoghue*

"Apparently your anonymous staff writer did not feel that the presence of drummers in the grand court was all that big a deal, and that those who complained about it were whiners and trekkies. This elitist attitude towards attendees, combined with scheduling the drummers next to Jane Yolen, is yet another indication that Minicon 31 is one of the most poorly organized in years...I suggest that next year the exec and your reporter be chained 20 feet from the drummers for 5 hours..." - *Ross Pavlac*

"Thank you for moving the drummers from the main pool area. The problem with the durmmers (who should be allowed to have their fun) is that once they start they never stop all night long....the drummers should have their own room/area but not in the pool/foyer area. Thank you!!"

Personals

The Legal Department of Amalgamated Spleen has obtained special dispensation to allow Hannibal Lector to preside over this evening's liver tasting. BYOL.

I would like to thank, and give recognition and egoboo to the Concom and its staff for their helpfulness, politeness and professionalism in all their interactions with me. This goes from the top to the badgers, with special thanks to Kate Carey. — *Rick Gellman (#2567)*

Did Dee Willis ever find Marshall Willis? — *Curious*

Fan on the Street Interviews

How's your con going?

"Somehow, against all odds, contrary to all expectation, I'm having a pretty good con." — *Beth F.*

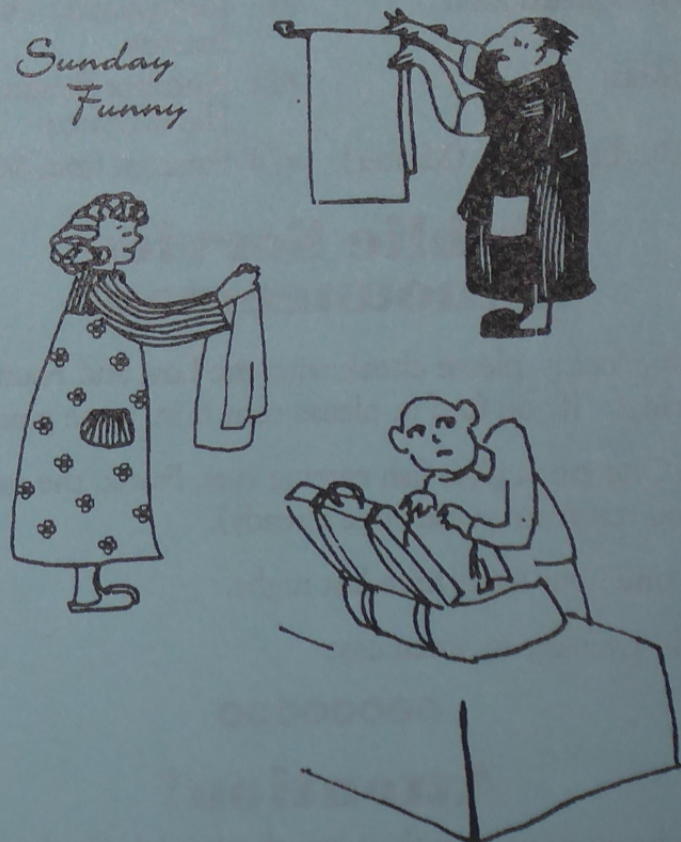
"I'm having a minimalist con so far - got drunk, got laid, had breakfast with the GOH." — *anonymous*

What's been a real highlight of the con for you?

"FanHistoricon's 'atomic' jello - my fave was Green Daiquiri - over 21 only, please!" — *Kay D.*

"The Sneaking Suspicion concert was great. They had tons of new material, and the way the sound was set up you could hear every word."

*Sunday
Funny*



A towel on the rack means "I'll use it several times."

A towel on the floor means "please exchange."

A towel in the suitcase means "please prosecute."

— by Martin and Nancy