



THE MIGHTY MAX

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S.S. MAXIMILLIAN, A STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION
A COLUMBUS, OH STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 7

July 2000

FREE TO PAID MEMBERS

THE U.S.S. BLACK ELK THE MAXIMILLIAN ROLEPLAYING EXPERIENCE BEGINS

Admiralty Board
Commissioner (COMMAX)
FADM Robert S. Lyon

Deputy Commissioner (DEPCOMMAX)
VADM Matthew M. Morris

Assistant Commissioner of Personnel (ACOMPERSMAX)
Inspector General
VADM Gregory Dunn

Command Staff
COMMANDING OFFICER
CAPT Sidley Howard

FIRST OFFICER
CDR Manny Medina

RECORDS OFFICER
LT Charles Connor

MISSION OPS
LT Chris Stephenson

SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COMMAND
C/SC Ben Ayers

TREASURER
LT Erica Sherman

Editorial Staff
EDITOR
LCDR Chris Stephenson

The Mighty Max is the monthly Newsletter of the U.S.S. Maximillian NCC-74997 Star Trek Fan association. This is only a fan publication, not to infringe on any copyrights.

Submissions to the July 2000 Edition of the Mighty Max are due on or before July 3rd, 2000. Submit articles to: ft99@hotmail.com or
Chris Stephenson
298 Jennie Drive
Gahanna, Ohio, 43230

On Sunday July 18th The U.S.S. Maximillian embarked upon a new chapter in it's history, doing something that had not been done in several years: Start a new Roleplaying campaign.

In the early days of the U.S.S. Maximillian the small group participated in the original Star Trek roleplaying game developed by FASA. As the group moved on to other things, the roleplaying portion of the ship fell by the wayside, the only evidence that those days exist is in the regulations, explaining how 3 points are given for a roleplaying session, something that no-one had taken advantage of in years. That all changed on June 18th, when FADM Robert Lyon, VADM Matt Morris, CMDR Michael Stanley, LCDRs Terry McPherson and Debbie Oulette, LTs Chris Stephenson and Erica Sherman, and PO3 Colin Brunton met at the Casa de Critch (Chris's house for the uninformed) to discuss the new roleplaying game, developed by Last Unicorn Games (LUG) over the past few years. The games are relatively

simple to play, requiring a knowledge of Trek and a good imagination, and it provides us with an excellent chance to play out our personas, or rather, those we create for the game. That and a few 6-sided dice and you're ready to play.

We decided on, first and foremost, that we not be set on the Maximillian at all, due to us not wanting to blow the ship up or ourselves



THE U.S.S. BLACK ELK

with it and be forced to change classes/ships yet again. Instead, our newly created characters were placed aboard the U.S.S. Black Elk, an Akira-class vessel in the 24th Century.

Plans have been made to meet every week at the Casa de Critch, which is rather out of the way but until another possibility presents itself it is all we have. The time is between 6 and 7, and the day is Sunday night.

Also joining us recently was CAPT Sidley Howard. CAPT Howard and CMDR Stanley will take the gamemaster function (i.e. the narrator) when is needed, until more are trained. We have a library of game books available to read through at the games, for study purposes and for the needs of learning the game. At the current state of play, we will be finishing up

characters/learning the simple mechanics of the game system (dubbed the ICON system by LUG) the weekend of July 8th, and on the weekend of the 15th we will have a gaming session at Origins, the Central Ohio Gaming Convention put on every year by Wizards of the Coast, the makers of Dungeons and Dragons and very soon the owners of LUG. Times/Dates of the gaming session/sessions will be

announced shortly. I recommend this game to anyone and everyone that has a love of Trek. The books have been put together with care and are supported by a great staff at LUG. I have spoken personally with at least one of the employees and I know that they have an impressive dedication to fans.

For those that wish to jump in to the games, your local Media Play or Barnes and Noble SHOULD have a copy of the Star Trek: The Next Generation Players Guide. I suggest picking that up to learn the ins and outs of the game, although you will be trained well at our sessions too. An ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure, to put it another way.

Other books in the series include the DS9 Roleplaying game, Vulcan, Romulan, and Andorian collector sets which tell you all you want to know about to know about your favorite race, and even a few mission sets, including Holodeck adventures, and "Through the looking Glass", a mirror universe expansion pack. Live long and Prosper.

The Mighty Max

GREETINGS EARTHLINGS

CAPT SIDLEY HOWARD, COMMANDING OFFICER

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

CMDR MANNY MEDINA, XO

I'll make this short and sweet.

The sept. meeting will be held at the southeast branch library (where we had our ann. dinner), Manny and myself will not be there.

We made \$62 at the fuddruckers event, (we would have made a lot more if people showed up, this was FREE money folks)

Hopefully we will have things set up again for a drive for the X-men movie this friday.

Thanx to erica's dad for taking us out on his boat on Wed. it was a lot of fun.(ooh ouch)

There is a convention in Fort Wayne, IN in late august if you would like to go I'll find more info about it.

see you at the meeting, same trek time, same trek channel

Capt Squid

Sorry for not having a report the last few issues but I was in the Hospital for a week, and home for three weeks I'm back to work now, my foot hurts but it's getting better there's still a big hole there, but it's starting to fill in.

I was sorry to miss marcon it's always been one of my favorite conventions. I received reports from captain Sidley Howard, on how well the ship did at Marcon, I hope to attend Origins this month, see you at the meeting.

CDR Manny Medina

Manny Medina

Executive Officer

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2000

7-9—Shore Leave Con Featuring Denise Crosby In Baltimore

8—Monthly Meeting

13-16—Origins at Columbus Convention Center Featuring James Marsters

22-23 Klingon Year Games/Campout

Every Sunday at Casa De Critch—Roleplaying Sessions at 6

August 2000

10-13—Gencon in Milluakee featuring J. Michael Strazynski

12—Monthly Meeting

September 2000

7-9—Slanted Fedora Con in Raliagh

9—Max Meeting at the Southeast branch of the Library followed by Crew game.

16—JTFA Meeting

30-1—Slanted Fedora Con in Charleston, WVA

A MATTER OF ANTIMATTER

BY LT ERICA SHERMAN

It's been another quiet month.

On Wednesday, July 5, Rob, Sidley, Chris, little Charles, and I went boating and swimming at Alum Creek State Park. The day started out with cloudy, overcast skies but cleared up within a few hours. Everyone had a won-

derful time.

Proposed dates for a Maximillian outing are August 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, and 17.

Any one of these dates or a combination of the will be chosen. Notification and reminders will be made by e-mail or telephone.

That's all the month.

DOLLARS AND CENTS

BY LT ERICA SHERMAN.

As Monday, June 19, we have \$448.56.

Deposits came from membership dues (\$20.00), ribbon donations(\$5.00), and the raffle (\$72.00).

Withdrawal was for a printer cartridge (\$16.00).

That's all the activity for this month. Sherman out.

Due to lots of pain from sunburn making it hard to concentrate, this issue will be a little shorter than usual. I'll make it up next month.

COMING IN AUGUST

CHAPTER 2 OF STAR TREK: ARMADA

CHAPTER 6 OF BEYOND THE FINAL FRONTIER

and...

THE BEGINNING OF THE BLACK ELK SAGA!

The Mighty Max

OF TRIBBLES, HORTAS, AND SOMETHING ELSE I CANT REMEMBER LT CHARLES CONNOR

Well I have moved! I relocated into a new apartment in the Reynoldsburg area. It has been pretty hectic but I'm starting to settle in, I hope my phone will be hooked up by our next meeting..

I hope the recruiting drive at the Lennox and Easton went well. I wish I could have participated but I spent that weekend moving.

I finally saw Titan AE. I enjoyed the film and highly recommend it. I am currently working on a story for the MAX and hope to get it into the next newsletter.

Well that's all for now. LT Connor out.

BERMAN SPEAKS! TREK X, NEW SERIES, ETC. ETC...

Star Trek Update with Rick Berman

By Dan Madsen (www.trekweb.com)

2001 - the year of Star Trek!

Rick, what is the progress of the new series?

Brannon Braga and I are right now actively working on the story for the pilot episode which we hope to be writing soon. We'll be discussing the pilot episode story with the studio shortly and we hope to be starting on the screenplay within the next four to six weeks. We are extremely excited about the story idea - this is really a unique and fresh approach to Star Trek.

Does this series, conceptually, take the best of DS9 and Voyager and combine them into one show?

Well, that's not really accurate. It is much more than that. The concept for this new

(Continued on page 5)

Maximillian.org refit 50% complete

This month the webmasters of the official Maximillian website, www.maximillian.org, have been designing and putting into play an entirely new design scheme. Whereas the old design was rather clunky and hard to get on slower computers, (Except for VADM Morris, who's computer defies the laws of physics) The new design is simply done, with a small menu on the right side and the content in the middle. The only stumbling block is that it will take a small amount of time, because there are quite a few errors that have to be fixed when transferring the old site to the new site. In addition, there will be new content added soon, including a roleplaying session and more fun stuff. So keep tuning in, we'll get it together eventually.

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
PROJECT CYBERMAX WEBSITE STAFF
LT Chris Stephenson, Head Webmaster
PO3 Colin Brunton, Asst. Webmaster

TREK X GIVEN NEW WRITER

(FROM IGN.COM) Prepare for transport, trekkies. *Star Trek X* has just beamed up its new screenwriter. You ain't gonna believe this one.

Yes, Coming Attractions has learned that the man responsible for re-writing *Gladiator* (as well as writing *Bats*) is penning *Star Trek X*. Hopefully for John's sake, everyone will have forgotten about his involvement in *Bats* by the time *Star Trek* comes out. Apparently J.G. Hertzler (General Martok on *DS9*) learned of Logan's involvement from Marina Sirtis (*The Next Generation's* Counselor Troi). Looks like the good counselor hasn't been minding her doctor-patient confidentiality agreements! Fortunately for trekkies, Logan is said to be "a lifelong *Star Trek* fan and jumped at the chance to pen the tenth movie script."

Hertzler also confirmed that all of the *Next Generation* cast would return for another voyage. Maybe now they can afford to get together and buy Geordi a pair of those cool Cyclops Oakleys

Website
Update
As of
7/8/2000
We have
4485
hits

The Mighty Max

AT THE MOVIES WITH SHAYLEN

THIS MONTH: GLADIATOR

The movie "Gladiator" was one of the best this viewer has seen in some time. Much thought went into the costumes to make it feel like a period piece of early/ancient Rome (however you want to use the word). The fight scenes had me on the edge of my seat (I must have been a gladiator in a past life). There are a lot of gore and battle skirmishes to make the modern tactician feel right at home in observing this movie.

The story of a great general who is the favorite of the emperor, is condemned to death by the son who kills his ruler father, escapes to return home to find his wife and son burned and crucified, is picked up by a slave caravan, sold to a master and trained as a gladiator, and fights the mad emperor to the death in the arena, touched me deeply. A few tears appeared in this critic's eyes when Maximus found his murdered wife and son and his heroic death at the end. Therefore, Shaylen gives this movie a hundred, gazillion daggers up.

X-MEN OPENS FRIDAY JULY 14!!!

An early review that may contain some spoilers



From Coming Attractaions (www.corona.bc.ca)

"Ya know ever since Wizard magazine #7 came out and they published the very idea of there being an X-Men movie I salivated at the thought.

"Then I stumbled onto this site, about a year ago, to see the very first promo art for the movie with Wolverine's claws in an X. Ever since then I have been checkin' in every day to see the latest info on my Mutants. But as of yesterday the wait was over.

"Last night I saw the X-Men movie....twice. That's right twice. And just to let you know, this is one of the BEST movies I have seen in a LONG time. This summer will be ruled by X-Men. Even if they hadn't promoted it, I think that word of mouth would have made it a big.

"I'm a huge fan of comics and I went in praying to God that this wouldn't turn into another Batman and Robin. But it didn't disappoint. If anyone working on the movie reads this, You did an excellent job and you don't have to be afraid of backlash cuz this movie is damn near flawless.

"The movie had tons of extra stuff. And rather than goin into the whole story, which people pretty much know by now. I'm gonna give you a taste of whats in it but they might be considered spoilers.

"I) Watch for Kitty Pryde, Jubilee, Colosuss (although he is only shown really fast), Iceman, and even someone from the Fantastic Four (I'll leave that one a surprise).

(Continued on page 5)

NEWS-REVIEWS-PREVIEWS-GAMES-MOVIES-MORE

WWW.MAXIMILLIAN.ORG

BERMAN CONTINUES

(Continued from page 3)

show is a somewhat dramatic departure from previous Star Trek series but it is a show that will be both fresh and unique while at the same time being Star Trek to the core. It is a show that takes place on a Starfleet vessel but, at the same time, a rather dramatic departure from the previous three Star Trek shows. I believe it will be more Star Trek than anything since The Next Generation and, perhaps, anything since the original series in terms of its principles and its tone and style.

What is now the time frame for the series to launch?

Nothing has been locked down yet but it looks like fall of 2001, but that's not for certain.

What, for you, is turning out to be the greatest challenge on developing this new series?

From the very beginning, my mandate to both Brannon, and myself was that we felt it was imperative that we not give the fans just another variation on the last three shows. We just didn't want to slap another crew on another starship and give it another name and send it on its way. I think that after 500 episodes, and a year from now it will be 526 episodes, that it is time for something that is a dramatic departure both for the fans and also for the people involved in creating these shows on a week-to-week basis. So we put a very big task in front of ourselves and, for the last six months, Brannon and I have been working daily on this and we are anxious to tell you and the fans and the public what it is all about but the studio wants to wait until the proper time.

Do you have a working title for the show?

Yes, we certainly do. But, unfortunately, I can't say what it is yet.

Does the current structure of the new series have the same size cast as the last few Star Trek series?

It will probably be a slight bit smaller but, right now, our focus is on seven major characters.

What is currently happening on the new motion picture?

X-MEN REVIEW

(Continued from page 4)

"2) This movie takes a very cool route with Wolverine. The old canuck even says a naughty word.

"3) When Toad battles Storm, after Toad seems to win you'll notice a very familiar move. Darth Maul anyone?

"4) Stan Lee is in here. You have to watch when Senator Kelly is at the beach. He's at the hot dog stand.

"5) Wolverine is funny as hell, but not in a campy ass way, he is hard through and through. He even takes a shot at what Xavier's codename should be.

"6) The flashes of the Weapon X project are very creepy. It sent chills down my spine and really kinda scared me a bit.

"7) Halle's Storm was REALLY hot. And the effects were hella sweet, bringing to life everything I could have imagined it to look like.

"8) Wolverine is a noisy ass sleeper.

"9) I'm not telling you anymore the rest you'll have to see yourself.

"Like I said this was absolutely the best damn movie in awhile. The only problem I had was the Wolverine/Sabertooth fight still didn't work well and Magneto's damn helmet. He shouldn't wear the helmet if it's gonna be squished to his head like that. It looks really lame. Other than that I can't try to complain. Get out your wallets people cause you'll be spending some time at the movies."

(Continued on page 6)

The Mighty Max

EVEN MORE BERMAN!!

(Continued from page 5)

We have now completed our story for the film, we have submitted it to the studio and we are waiting for a "go ahead" to go to script. The storyline revolves around The Next Generation crew.

Would you describe the next film as more epic in scale than prior films?

Well, we've never done a film that I wouldn't say to you at this stage "this is going to be the biggest and the best." And there is no difference with this one. We have a writer who has never done Star Trek before and has an extremely fresh approach to this. We are dealing with a story that is extremely poignant in ways that I wish I could tell you. It is a story that will focus around a remarkable villain and is a very action-oriented space film. A lot higher percentage of this film will take place in outer space than in our previous films. It is tentatively scheduled for Thanksgiving of 2001.

So next year is going to be a busy year for Star Trek?

The fall of 2001 could very well see a new series with new characters and a Next Generation movie literally coming out within a few months of each other.

Have you finalized how you will end Voyager now?

Well, as Brannon has gotten more involved in the development of the new series, Ken Biller has more and more had to fill the "show-running shoes" for Voyager and he and his staff are doing quite an impressive job. Brannon and Joe Menosky are in the process of writing the premiere episode for next season, which is the second part of the cliffhanger, and we have numerous scripts in the works including one that tentatively will be a special two-hour movie that will appear in November. As far as how the series will end and how it will all be resolved, we have discussed it and continue to but nothing has been decided upon just yet.

This must be an exciting time with all of these new projects in the works.

I am at a stage now where I am chomping at the bit to come into work because of the fun I am having, both with the development of the story on the movie and the new series and I cannot wave Ken Biller's flag enough on the job he is doing with Voyager. It's really the powers-that-be in the motion picture division at Paramount and the television division that really will decide when the concepts and release dates and "green lights" will really be announced to the world. There is nothing that would excite me more than to be able to tell you in rambling length about both of these new projects - they are very exciting. But I will have to hold my tongue until they say it is time.

I understand you just reached a milestone with the episode of Voyager that just aired?

Yes, the episode that just aired was our 500th episode. It's pretty amazing that we've done 500 of these shows.

What's as amazing as reaching that 500th episode is that you are able to keep coming up with fresh, new material to keep going.

Well, as soon as we feel that we can't do fresh, new work we will give it to somebody else to do.

Rick, thanks for your time.

The Mighty Max

Maximillian loses close Critcholympics

Critch Starblade found on two ships, everyone runs screaming.

On June 10th the U.S.S. Maximillian and the S.S.D. Palpatine met in the second annual Critcholympics, held in the Whetstone park. The storyline told of the two ships being drawn together in a series of battles to prove which universe would survive and which one would be destroyed. The games started out as Sidley was able to 'toss the tribble' with the most accuracy, and the Maximillian was winning. The following race was won by VADM Greg Dunn, who was running for the Palpatine. Several events followed, including a 'hit the Critch' contest, which

ended up with a tie between the ships, a tribbleball game, and the main event, the foam lightsaber duel. Played in a playoff format, the final battle had VADM Dunn of the Palpatine facing off with CAPT Howard of the Maximillian. Two commanding officers dueling for the future of each of their universe...with big foam things...unfortunately the videotape of this battle was destroyed in the resulting firefight, which had the burning down, rebuilding, burning down and then rebuilding again of the greater Columbus area. In the end, though, VADM Dunn was tri-

umphant, and he took the points and the win, leaving the Maximillian powerless to stop the total destruction of everything they knew...

In an act of preservation, VADM Dunn managed to convince the powers holding this contest that the Trek universe should continue to be, if only for another year, when they meet again... And they will meet again, and although the time and place of battle will be different, one thing will remain the same...in June of 2001, the 3rd Annual Critcholympics will take place...and when universes collide....The games will begin...

THE Max Files For June 2000

On June 10th the U.S.S. Maximillian participated in the CRITCHOLYMPICS, put on by the S.S.D. Palpatine and Maximillian Member Chris Stephenson. Unfortunately, the Palpatine won the day thanks to VADM Dunn's stunning victory over CAPT Howard. Afterward we had our meeting.

A few days later, on the 15th, CAPT Howard, LCDR Kulas, CMDR Medina and CAPT Howard all worked at the FUDDRUCKERS charity drive, where we raised a tidy sum. Stephenson ate a big thing of ice cream.

On the weekend of the 17th, The Maximillian was at the Easton AMC Theatre for the premiere of TITAN AE. The movie was excellent, and though we didn't sign up anyone for the ship (Save ENS Ray Stephenson, under LT Stephenson's family membership) we still had a great time and our raffle went doubly so.

That Sunday (The 17th) The first weekly roleplay session at LT Stephenson's house took place, in attendance were FADM Lyon, VADM Morris, CMDR Stanley, LCDR Oulette, LCDR McPherson, LT Stephenson, LT Sherman, and

PO3 Brunton.

The Sunday of the 24th the Second roleplay session took place, in attendance were FADM Lyon, LCDR Oulette, LT Stephenson, and LT Sherman.

In July, the Max met again in a roleplaying session, CAPT Howard joined us for this one.

A few days later on the 5th, LT Sherman treated us to a day at Alum Creek. Yay. and Ow. I am now sunburned BAD.

June was a very busy month, as you can see here. :-)

**ONE ADMIRAL. ONE CAPTAIN. ONE ANDROID, AND ONE SHIP
ARE ALL THAT STAND BETWEEN US AND OBLIVION.
BEYOND THE FINAL FRONTIER. NEXT MONTH HERE.**



THE MIGHTY MAX

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE USS MAXIMILLIAN, A COLUMBUS, OH
STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Mighty Max

298 JENNIE DRIVE
GAHANNA, OH 43230



RUSH: DATED MATERIAL

IN THIS ISSUE...

Roleplaying started! Gladiator Reviewed, Critcholympics fought...and lost, Star Trek X
Writer revealed, and Rick Berman speaks! Run! Runnnnnnn!

