



THE MIGHTY MAX



U.S.S. Maximillian (NCC-74997)
Science-Fiction Fan Organization

"Reach for the Stars, and Grab the Future" -Christa McAuliffe, 1986

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3

March 2008

Admiralty Board

- Commissioner
ADM Matt Morris
- Inspector General
VADM Greg Dunn
- RADM Elaine Jackson



Which ones won't make it?

Command Staff

- Commanding Officer
CPT CJ Biro
- First Officer
CMDR Lisa Lombardi
- Records Officer
LCDR Babs Magera
- Ship's Purser
CMDR Erica Stanley

Which ones will be resurrected?

Mighty Max Editorial Staff

- Editor-In-Chief
CMDR Susan Moran
- Assistant Editor
CMDR Lisa Lombardi
- Mail Services
CDRE Chris Stephenson

The Mighty Max is the monthly newsletter of the U.S.S. Maximillian (NCC-74997) Sci-Fi Fan Organization. This is only a fan publication, not to infringe on any rights, or licenses.

The Writer's Strike

The strike was the nail in the coffin for some of our favorite shows.



Isa Gunther gives us the scoop on the strike, and what it meant to her



From the Command Chair

*CPT CJ Biro
Commanding Officer*

Settling into a new job can be challenging. Taking on the leadership of a fan club and ship was not something I had expected to be doing again, but duty called, and I answered, willingly. I admit, Following in

the footsteps of Commodore Stephenson is a daunting prospect, but as I look ahead, I find it is a challenge I am looking forward to. We have quite a busy schedule coming up as we enter the busy spring, summer, and convention season. The Maximillian Bowling league is finally getting off the ground, TrekPutt, The Anniversary (Sweet 16!), Marcon, and of course, Maxolympics are all just around the corner. The months ahead are jam packed with opportunities for us all to connect with each other and to continue to strengthen our friendships and camaraderie. We are a ship of many, with widely varying interests and hobbies. Each and every one of us brings something unique to the table, and I would like to make it possible for every member of the crew to shine.

To that end, I am going to be looking for, and counting on our more senior ranking officers to look toward finding ways they can help the ship, big and small. Fund raising, charity work, event planning and support, ideas, suggestions, assistance, and attendance, these are all things that we as crew should strive to perform. The crew of the Max have been there for each other on occasions too numerous to count, and it is with a special sense of pride that I look forward to saying, "We are the USS Maximillian, the best science fiction club in the city, if not the whole state!" to any and all who ask, "What exactly is the USS Maximillian?". I want to convey to each and every one of you that same sense of pride in self and ship. I encourage you all to take a moment to think about what you can do to make the Max a better ship, not only for your own sake, but the sake of your fellow crewmembers.

We are always looking for new ideas, for both events, and ways to do things better than we have in the past. Each and every one of us are representatives to the world about the Max, and we should share our club with friends. New members bring new ideas, and we can share all that we love about science fiction with them, and in turn make both people richer for the experience. Do you have an idea for an event, or a suggestion for the ship? Bring those ideas, and those friends to the meeting. Let's continue to see the Max flourish and thrive. You will get more out of your experience on the Max when you put more into it. The Maximillian is about friendship, service, commitment, and fun. Let's have more of all of that in the years to come.

Captain out.

First Officer Report

*CMDR Lisa Lombardi
First Officer*

Heidy ho there, neighbors. Well, my first month as XO is finished, and I have to say, it's been crazy. Between doing the newsletter (and trying to revamp its look—which I've only barely begun to do so far, but let me know what you think!), putting together a



group to go see Eddie Izzard, trying to get everything for Marcon in order, going through picture archives, and nailing down some financial issues and thinking up fundraising ideas, (on top of my job and everything else) I've barely had time to breathe. Thankfully, I've had Critch to take care of most of TV Night and addressing last month's newsletters, and CJ to contact various and sundry people when I haven't had the opportunity. Next month should slow down a bit but soon Marcon will be upon us, and will make this month look like a walk in the park.

—My work schedule should be changing in a few weeks, which will allow me to attend more events during the week, like the monthly dinners, which I've sorely missed. I feel like we've moved away from the social aspect of the group lately (or maybe it's there, but I can't tell because I'm still at the office) and I'm looking forward to hanging out with people again in a group setting, unrushed!

February Meeting Minutes

*LCDR Babs Magera
Records Officer*



Okay, so we come to the USS Maximillian February meeting. We have a new look, a new crew, and we begin by swearing in the aforementioned newbies!

After introductions are done, the former captain gives his final update. The website now dates back to a 2001 design which is surprisingly more simple! The newsletters are also out on time, and this is a good thing! So that said, over to ADMIRAL MATT ZOMG YAY-YYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY!!!! With that, the 4-eyed pirates are unleashed! CJ and Lisa, decked in full pirate gear are sworn in, and recite The Oath...without any mental reservation..*snrk*

(Continued on page 5)

The WGA Strike of 2007; or, what was that all about?

Lt. Isa Gunther
Chief of Diplomatic Core

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to rerun season. Wait, I hear you say. Isn't rerun season not until Summer? Well, yes. It normally is, but this is not a normal television season. This season, the Hollywood scribes did something they had not done in twenty years—they went On Strike.

Public opinion about the strikers seemed to fall into one of three general categories: 1) "Give them what they want, they deserve it," 2) "Writers are a bunch of lazy, greedy hacks who can't write their way out of a paper bag," and 3) "stop whining, get back to work, and give me my shows back." Fortunately for the scribes, most of the general public fell under category number one.

The strike shut down Hollywood for a hundred days, forced a premature end to this season, and caused most of the major networks to resort to filling time slots with either reruns, reality shows, or game shows. Goodbye *Heroes*, hello *Deal or No Deal*. But what was it about, really? And did it really have any impact, or are things business as usual in showbusiness? Let's take a closer look.

The writers were striking for three main areas of improvement in their lives. They were asking that reality and animation writers be allowed to join their union, asking for double the residuals they were making on DVD sales, and asking to receive some fair form of compensation when the shows they wrote were rebroadcast on the internet. Ultimately, the AMPTP (Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers) refused to even consider letting reality writers join the writer's union, claiming that reality shows were "unscripted." Animation writers also suffered the same fate, and the Writer's Guild dropped that demand as a prerequisite for even getting the AMPTP to take their other demands seriously, or, indeed, to even return to the bargaining table. Doubling the residuals from DVD sales may sound like a lot, but if that had passed, the writers would have been making exactly eight cents for every DVD sold. And even that fell by the wayside. The one area where the writers can claim to have had some success is in the internet rebroadcasts. It is, as yet, too early to tell whether that was a major gain or not, but I can promise that we are going to be going through this again in three years.

But all is not lost. This strike led to an unprecedented show of solidarity among Hollywood workers. Not just writers—actors, some of them famous, showed up and brought food to their writers, or even walked the picket line with them. And, this strike also saw the involvement of people who have never before been seen to get involved with strikes or the goings-on in Hollywood. I'm talking, of course, about the fans, who sent letters of support, and even money to help the below the line

workers affected by the strike. Some lucky fans even got the chance to walk the picket line with the writers and the stars. Even Patric Verrone, President of the WGA-West stated in a speech at the conclusion of the strike that fans played an important role in the strike itself. While the writers may not have gotten everything they asked for, Hollywood itself got more than it bargained for. So yes, from someone who watched the proceedings with a critical and involved eye, it was worth it.

"This strike also saw the involvement of people who have never before been seen to get involved with strikes or the goings-on in Hollywood."



GETTY IMAGES/FILE

It's Large Numbers! Part 3

Lt. Todd McDaniel
Communications

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324	septencentillion
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342	tredecicentillion
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348	quinqadecicentillion
351	sedecicentillion
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357	octodecicentillion
360	novendecicentillion
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366	unviginticentillion
369	duoviginticentillion
372	tresviginticentillion
375	quattuorviginticentillion

378	quinqaviginticentillion
381	seviginticentillion
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396	untrigintacentillion
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414	septentrigintacentillion
417	octotrigintacentillion
420	noventrigintacentillion
423	quadragintacentillion
426	unquadragintacentillion
429	duoquadragintacentillion
432	tresquadragintacentillion
435	quattuorquadragintacentillion
438	quinqaquadragintacentillion
441	sesquadragintacentillion
444	septenquadragintacentillion
447	octoquadragintacentillion
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462	tresquinqagintacentillion
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468	quinqaquinquagintacentillion
471	sesquinqagintacentillion
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SCIENCE FICTION

U.S.S. MAXIMILLIAN

FAN ORGANIZATION

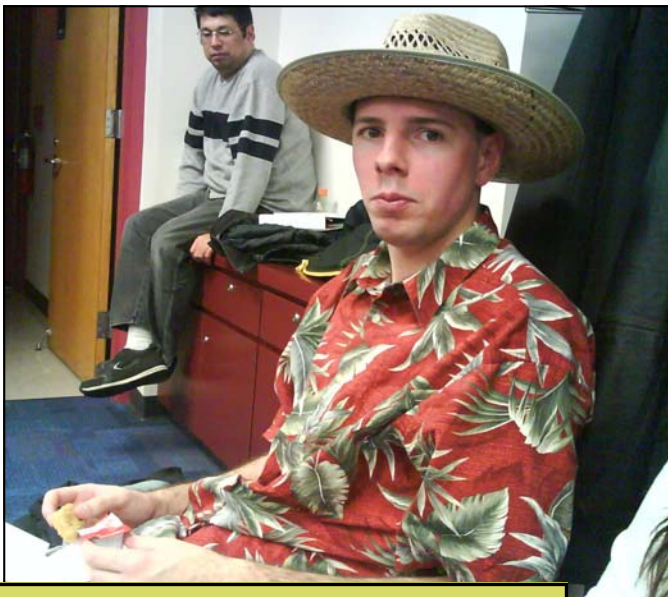
February Meeting Minutes Continued

Afterwards, Chris is awarded a Commodore pin from Matt, and a commemorative mug from Marcus...and then the swearing in begins. Once the new crew is sworn in, Chris gives his final speech....and then he "sang" a song and disappeared. o.@ (Course then he came back in bad tourist garb, but I digress...)

And then...onward to the meeting!!
First off, our new Captain gives a heads up and gives a welcoming speech, and then introduced the new command staff.
Moving on, the upcoming months are going to have major events attached to them.

Which brings us to First Officer Lisa's report! Departmental positions are changing. As such, Counselour is open, as is Yeoman and charity events coordinator. Strategic ops is also open, so if someone wants to help organize RPGs, now's your chance to do so. So go ahead and fill out an application and become a department head today!
Awards are then given to Susan and Chris for successfully completing their terms.

Then...ANDROIDS HAPPENED! One and a half, to be precise, right 'Bit? *pets*
Anyway, FC was a blast, made a lot of money, hung out with my buds, one of whom is a Data cosplayer!
And speaking of cons, there's two coming up that are of note: Vulkan takes place May 2-4, while Motorcity ComicCon occurs 16 - 18. Starbase is still helping pro-



Commodore Critch takes a well-deserved vacation

From the Office of the Tribune

*CPT Charles Connor
Tribune, etc.*

Greetings: well we are of on a new year with a new command staff at the helm. I am really looking forward to see what events and activities we'll be doing for the upcoming year.

The new Star Trek film seems to be promising but we'll have to wait and see.

I would like to take a moment to remind the crew if you have any questions, concerns or need a lil advice and encouragement. My door is open

Capt. Charles Connor: Tribune of the Maximillian

February Meeting Minutes

*LCDR Babs Magera
Records Officer*

mote the former, so pick up a flyer here at the meeting, or amble on over to Starbase to get more information!

So, the only android on the ship then relinquishes the spotlight and gives it to Erica, the new Treasurer. We have a lot of renewed memberships, and there are a bunch of folks within the next three months who need to re-up. Possibilities were tossed about with the return Max snacks, which brought forth \$104 worth of revenue. Should someone like to take it up from Susan, please talk to the Captain. The start of Operation Feed goes from march 23 to June, and last month we started the new official charity which is the Red Cross.

Department heads:

*Kelvok the Tribune kitty speaks up, reiterating his role on the ship and encouraging folks to come to him if you have any questions.

*Mike is still healing, and plays a lot of World of Warcraft. He may need to undergo more surgery, but hopefully things will heal well.

*John has continuing car and financial woes, but hopefully will be coming out of it before too long.

*Will's Bargain Basement offers fantastic items, in the form of various books (mainly historical novels) and scifi videos. A few bizarre calculations later....we move onto the Admiralty...*headdesk*

Admiralty:

*Elaine has been having troubles since Decem-

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NASA Launching Beatles Tune Into Space

CMDR Susan Moran
Chief of Science

Associated Press
Feb 1, 11:07 AM EST

NASA Launching Beatles Tune Into Space

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Beatles are about to become radio stars in a whole new way. NASA on Monday will broadcast the Beatles' song "Across the Universe" across the galaxy to Polaris, the North Star.

This first-ever beaming of a radio song by the space agency directly into deep space is nostalgia-driven. It celebrates the 40th anniversary of the song, the 45th anniversary of NASA's Deep Space Network, which communicates with its distant probes, and the 50th anniversary of NASA.

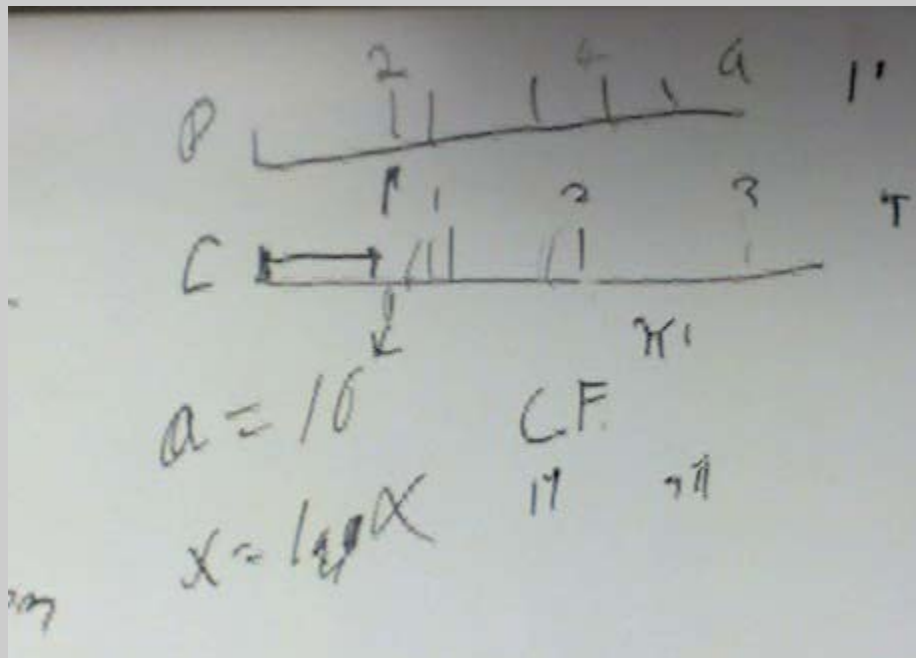
"Send my love to the aliens," Paul McCartney told NASA through a Beatles historian. "All the best, Paul."

The song, written by McCartney and John Lennon, may have a ticket to ride and will be flying at the speed of light. But it will take 431 years along a long and winding road to reach its final destination. That's because Polaris is 2.5 quadrillion miles away.

NASA loaded an MP3 of the song, just under four minutes in its original version, and will transmit it digitally at 7 p.m. EST Monday from its giant antenna in Madrid, Spain. But if you wanted to hear it on Polaris, you would need an antenna and a receiver to convert it back to music, the same way people receive satellite television.

The idea came from Martin Lewis, a Los Angeles-based Beatles historian, who then got permission from McCartney, Yoko Ono and the two companies that own the rights to Beatles' music. One of those companies, Apple, was happy to approve the idea because it is "always looking for new markets," Lewis said.

Perhaps coincidentally, the song's launching comes a day before the release of the DVD of the Julie Taymor movie named after the Beatles hit.



What, don't you get it?

Showdown 2009: Star Trek vs. Wolverine...Who Will Win?

Written by Silas Lesnick

ISB.net



With *Star Trek's* sudden shift to a summer of 2009 release, the crew of the Enterprise is going head to head with everybody's favorite mutant. So who's making the mistake? The IESB investigates.

Back in the day, *Star Trek* and *X-Men* were the best of friends. Paramount even had an imprint with Marvel Comics in the late 90's that published Trek comics and there was, as silly as it sounds, a surprisingly good *Star Trek/X-Men* crossover (followed immediately by a less good *Next Generation/X-Men* crossover).

Bryan Singer, the man who brought *X-Men* to the screen, is a self-professed *Star Trek* fan, even going so far as to cameo in *Star Trek: Nemesis*. He describes his maybe-one-day *Superman* sequel as equivalent to *The Wrath of Khan* and, of course, pulled in Jean-Luc Picard for the role of Xavier. Check out the closing monologues of *Khan* and *X-Men 2* and see if you can spot the serious homaging going on.

Despite some past camaraderie, though, *Trek's* new release date of 5/8/09 has it hitting exactly one week after *X-Men's Wolverine* spinoff and as cool as it may seem to have such a jam-packed summer, this is bad news for genre fans.

When I was a boy, *Trek* movies came out just before Christmas. Seven of the

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February Meeting Minutes Continued

(Continued from page 5)

ber with her car and personal events.

*And.....TUROCK'S BACK! EVERYONE PARTY! Of course, with no van and no computer, makes for a sad thingie. But this little android lady still loves him, so that, if anything, should make for HAPPY thingie! :D

Guests:

*Marcus from the Columbus is now doing newsletter help over there. The next Columbus meeting is next weekend at the Northern Lights Library.

*Melinda from Starbase has the new rewards program cards printed, as this program is underway! If you get the card all filled, you get a \$20 gift certificate! Starbase has new Mego figures, and Janeway's bust! (Eat your hearts out, fellas.) There are also Renaissance outfits for sale as well!

*Ralph and Cathy are acting command staff on the Asgard, with Cathy playing Treasurer. The next meeting is on Feb. 16 at the Lancaster Public Library.

Old business:

*MARCON: Skits are still needed, and need to be submitted by the March meeting. Memberships are still at a reduced rate and group rates are available for 10-people bunches! The table has yet to be secured, but is being worked on. Volunteers are needed to help man the table, and so far Lee and Melody have volunteered.

*TV night schedule is at Lisa and Chris', at 8:30 pm on Mondays. Torchwood is the main attraction, as is the Sarah Connor Chronicles. Other shows are also being added, such as BBC's Jekyll.

*Dragoncon: There is going to be a group set up for all con attendees, so if you want to share a room or travel arrangements or whatnot, just post there. Also, membership rates are \$90 at the door and advanced memberships are going up, so keep an eye on your prices.

*Quidditch starts in April, and are aiming for the 4th Saturday of the month for practices.

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February Meeting Minutes *Continued*

(Continued from page 7)

New business:

*Monthly dinner for February is the last Wednesday of the month (Feb. 27!) at Hometown Buffet in Easton. Meet up at 7:30!

*Summer events include Trekputt, Trekbowl, and the Maxolympics. Trekbowl will be most likely held at Mo-mo2. Maxolympics will have the return of Bounty ball and will be in the Park of Roses. If there is interest in Trekputt 8, it will be at the Magic Mountain.

*Movie Marathon will be held once again in the late Spring, but will have more information forthcoming. The theme is amusing scifi flicks.

*The Max is still interested in a Bowling League. More information will be forthcoming of course, but so far we're aiming for Sundays.

*Splatter Park offers group packages for people who wish to partake in Paintball. Come along and shoot your friends. Wear heavy clothing as the paintball thingies hurt kinda. x.x But they'll provide all the equipment.

*If there are any other ideas or notions folks may have for events, post them to the Max list.

And that's it! See ya next month, 'cos I. AM. OUTTAHERE!

jets

The Bathtub Test—Submitted by Susan Moran

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director how do you determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

'Well,' said the Director, 'we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub.'

'Oh, I understand,' said the visitor. 'A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup.'

'No,' said the Director, 'A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?'



Context 21 is September 26 - 18, 2008, at the new Ramada Plaza on Sinclair Rd. The Ramada is the same hotel as last year, just under new management and renovated. The web-site for Context is www.contextsf.org and is updated often. The Author Guest of Honor is **Tanya Huff**, the creator of "Blood Ties", the hit series on Lifetime about a vampire, the undead illegitimate son of Henry the Eighth, who helps a private detective solve supernatural mysteries. She also has many other books in print on a variety of topics including the Keeper's Chronicles. The Horror Guest of Honor is **Brian Keene**, a very popular horror writer with books like Ghoul, The Rising and Dark Hollow. The Science Guest of Honor is **Jeannine Davis-Kimball**, the anthropologist / archeologist who discovered the real life Amazons. She had a special on PBS about her discoveries. Our Editor Guest of Honor is **Paula Guran** of Juno Press, the editor of several of the program participants. Context has many, many program participants and dealers and authors and publishers for this year. We are expecting an even bigger crowd this year as interest in Context just keeps growing. We are always looking for people to help run Context, both at Con and on the committee. If you are interested please contact me.

Dan Young, Lt. J.G. Context 21 vice-chair and programming chair wolf110355@aol.com

Incident at Exeter

Submitted by Lt. Todd McDaniel
Communications

The Portsmouth Herald (Portsmouth, NH), Sept. 2, 2005

"UFO Sighting Terrified Locals 40 Years Ago"

**September 3, 1965:
3 a.m. Exeter Police
Department reports
unidentified flying
object in [the] area."**

By Bonnie Meroth
The Portsmouth Herald

EXETER - Engulfed in the blackness of a late summer night, a teenage Navy recruit walked down the quiet country highway. Suddenly, a huge object loomed above him.

Throwing himself to the

ground to avoid being hit, he huddled against a stone wall. The blood drained from his face.

The time was around 2 a.m.. The date was Sept. 3, 1965.

Thus began the "Incident at Exeter," a series of sightings officially qualified as a legitimate visit from an unidentified flying object.

In September and October 1965, several sightings in New Hampshire were carefully investigated and documented by local and federal offices.

The encounters that night took special precedence over the other UFO sightings because of the credibility of Exeter police officers Eugene Bertrand and David Hunt, as well as Reginald "Scratch" Toland, who was the dispatcher and supervising officer when the shaken teenager, Norman Muscarello, came to the police station claiming he had encountered a UFO.

A similar report substantiated his story. Earlier, Bertrand had come upon a lone woman parked on the side of Route 101 near an overpass two miles outside of Exeter.

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Showdown 2009: Star Trek vs. Wolverine...Who Will Win?

Written by Silas Lesnick
ISB.net

(Continued from page 7)

previous ten films hit in either November or December. While I can't suggest that Abrams' *Trek* reconsider for the sake of my personal nostalgia, I do think there's some evidence that a May release is a bad move.

Let's look at the numbers:

The very first *Star Trek* film opened in December of 1979 to the domestic tune of \$82.2 million and \$56.8 in foreign markets (\$139 million total worldwide). That, by today's standards, rounds out to a truly strong showing of \$223.5 million domestic (about \$375 million worldwide). A franchise is born.

From there, *Trek* moves to the summer where, three years later, *The Wrath of Khan* is released in June. It hits \$78.9 million domestic, \$17.9 foreign for \$96.8 total worldwide (\$183.1 million, adjusted domestic, \$224.6 worldwide total). That's followed by *The Search for Spock* two years later with \$76.5 million domestic, \$10.5 million foreign for \$87 million worldwide (\$155.2 million / \$175.7 adjusted). Both are successful but *Trek's* feeling the diminishing returns with each film.

The Voyage Home hits another two years later but the switch is made back to the end of the year. The result? \$109.7 million domestic, \$23.3 million foreign for \$133 million worldwide (\$196.9 / \$238.1 adjusted). The point being that a November opening resulted in a bigger box office...and that people really like whales.

But Paramount didn't learn its lesson and bumped *Trek* back to summertime for the awful Shatner-directed *The Final Frontier*. That film made only \$52.2 million domestic, \$17.3 million foreign for \$70 million worldwide (\$89.7 / \$119 adjusted), less than half that of the previous outing.

So the lesson was learned; *Star Trek* movies open better at the end of the year. The next five films all opened in November or December and, with the exception of the even-worse-than-*Star-Trek-5* tenth film, each was a bona fide box office success.

Despite the fact that *Star Trek: Nemesis* opened in December of 2002, its take of only \$43.4 million domestic and \$23.6 million foreign for \$67 million worldwide proves another sad truth; People aren't going to pay to see a *Star*

(Continued on page 15)

MIGHTY MAX Adventures

by **Skrit**

THIS MONTH:

The HMS Mighty Max

Captain, it would appear that the Daleks have finally been removed from the ship thanks to the Doctor.



Well that is a good thing, I was getting tired of listening to the darn things singing music over and over. it was getting annoying.



And who would have thought that it would only take a virus uploaded into a musical number to pull it off?



Well there was the one time that there was a similar situation. Babs, do you know Gilbert & Suliban?



It was Gilbert & SULLIVAN! For crying out loud!



Oh yes, I love this sing-a-long. I have the lyrics right here!

His bosom should heave and his heart should glow, And his fist be ever ready for a knock-down blow

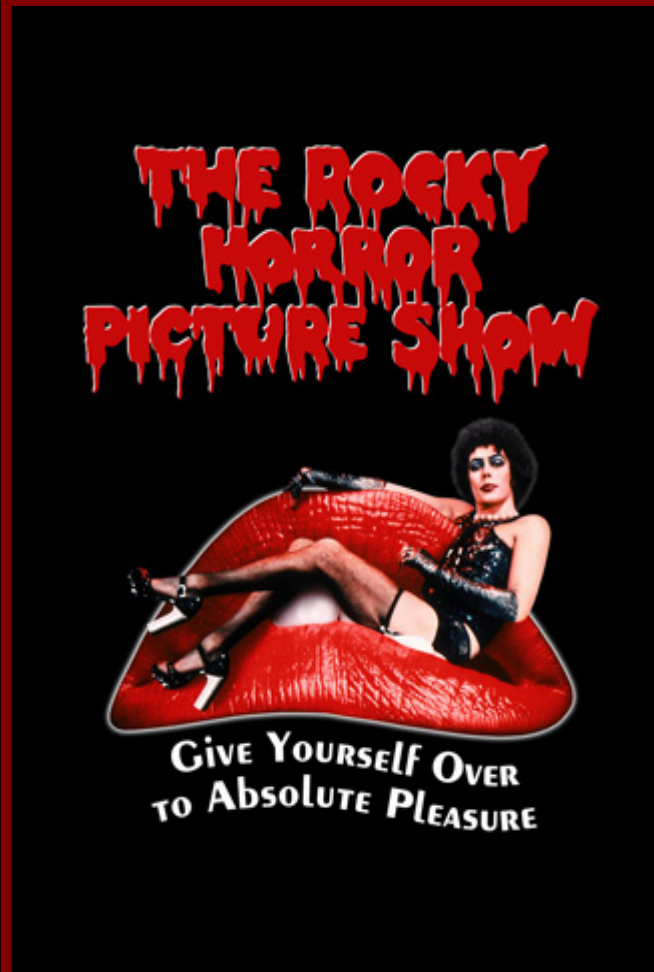


Sometimes, I just gotta ask myself why I took this assignment as Captain. At least there is never a dull moment.



Tune in next month for an exciting new adventure from the Mighty Max Adventures!

Brought to you by Skritweb Productions.



THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

GIVE YOURSELF OVER TO ABSOLUTE PLEASURE

THE FISHNET MAFIA INVITES YOU TO COME UP TO THE LAB, AND SEE WHAT'S ON THE SLAB

Sat. Apr. 5, 2008
RHPS: THE SWITCH SHOW
11:30pm at Studio 35
Admission: \$5

Sat. May 3, 2008
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
11:30pm at Studio 35
Admission: \$5

Fri. May 23, 2008
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
9:00pm at MARCon 43
Admission: Free with convention registration

Keep checking our website for news and updates
<http://www.columbusrockylive.org>

I SEE YOU SHIVER WITH ANTICIPATION

Incident at Exeter Continued

*Submitted by Lt. Todd McDaniel
Communications*

(Continued from page 9)

She said a huge, silent, red and brilliantly glowing airborne object had chased her from the town of Epping about 12 miles away. It had been only a few feet from her car before it departed at a tremendous speed and disappeared.

Bertrand saw nothing but a bright star and sent her home. Toland also spoke to the woman, who told him she had been chased by the "low-flying, large, round object with flashing red lights."

An hour later, Bertrand received a call from Toland to report back to the station immediately because "a kid had come in who had seen a UFO." The police officer picked up Muscarello at the station.

The teen led him back to the site where he'd seen the craft. After sitting in the parked car for several minutes, Bertrand radioed the dispatcher to say they saw nothing unusual.

Bertrand, instructed to check out the field before heading back, proceeded to do so with Muscarello.

Horses in a nearby barn began to kick and whinney. Dogs in the neighborhood began to howl.

(Continued on page 14)

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Rocky Horror
6 Bowling League	7 TV Night	8	9	10	11	12 Maximillian Meeting
13 Bowling League	14 TV Night	15	16 Babs Magera's Birthday	17	18 Isa Gunther's Birthday	19 USS Columbus Meeting USS Asgard Meeting
20 Bowling League	21 TV Night	22	23	24	25	26 Quidditch Practice
27 Bowling League	28 TV Night	29	30 Monthly Dinner			

SCIENCE FICTION

U.S.S. MAXIMILLIAN

FAN ORGANIZATION



Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 5:30...Max Bowling league! High Performance Lanes, 2012 Innis Rd.

Every Monday at 8:30...TV night. Jekyll, Sarah Connor Chronicles, Torchwood, and other genre shows!

April 5 - Rocky Horror at Studio 35—11:30 PM

April 12 - USS Maximillian meeting at the Karl Road Library — 5:15 PM

April 19 - USS Asgard Meeting at Fairfield County District Library — 2PM
USS Columbus Meeting at Karl Rd Library — 5PM

April 26 - First Quidditch practice of the season, TBD

April 30 - Monthly Dinner—Place to be determined— 7:30



Fan of Harry Potter?

Want a chance to experience a fun, fast paced, and exciting bit of the Harry Potter lore? Come play Quidditch for the USS Maximillian team, **AstraMaxima**, Part of the Ohio Quidditch League!

It's more fun than a box of Bernie Bots Every Flavor Beans and a case of house elves!

See your team captains, Cmdr. Lisa Lombardi, or Adm. Greg Dunn for details!



Candidates still needed for the following Ship Positions

Ship's Librarian

Command Staff Yeoman

Counselor

Charity Events Coordinator

Submissions for the April 2008 edition of the Mighty Max are due on **April 1, 2008**. Submit to **Maxsubmissions@gmail.com** or 614-284-4962

Of Dollars and Cents

CMDR Erica Stanley
Purser



Hi, all. Here are the totals after the February meeting.

Total Balance: \$493.83
General Fund: \$40.29
Charity Fund: \$453.54
MCAE (aka Rob Fund): \$0.00

Renewed Memberships (\$45.00):

Catherine Biro
CJ Biro
Danielle Biro
Rachael Biro
John Chubb
Isa Gunther
Lee Highfield

Memberships Due within 3 months:

Dominique Black (April)
Joseph Brown (May)
Al Chavez (April)
Robin Goldblum (May)
Gavin Haire (May)
Mary Haire (May)
Tom Haire (May)
Tommy Haire (May)
Mark Hamilton (May)
Linda Lizard (March)
Sal Lizard (March)
Babs Magera (March)
Todd McDaniel (May)
Alexa Murray (March)
Red Nienkirchen (May)
Steven Pompa (April)
Sean Synder (May)
Vicki Stewart (March)
Jamie "Squirrelly" Wilmoth (April)
Jim Yoder (May)
Dan Young (April)

Memberships Past Due:

Melanie Brackney (December '07)
Pat Gallagher (December '07)
Brandy Jackson (November '07)
Randy Jackson (November '07)
Ed Locke (December '07)
Susan Moran (February '08)

Incident at Exeter Continued

Submitted by Lt. Todd McDaniel
Communications

(Continued from page 11)

Muscarello shouted, "Look out, here it comes!" and they watched as something luminous rose from behind tall ever-greens.

The aircraft, about 100 feet away, silently sped so close to Bertrand that he dropped to the ground and drew his service weapon.

"There was this huge, dark object as big as that barn over there with red flashing lights on it." Bertrand later told an investigator. "It barely cleared that tree right there, and it was moving back and forth...It seemed to tilt and come right at us. Norman told me later that I was yelling, 'I'll shoot it! I'll shoot it!' I did drop on one knee and drew my service revolver, but I didn't shoot."

Bertrand dragged Muscarello, frozen with fear, back to the cruiser.

From the car, the men saw no tail, no wings, and heard no sound.

Already en route, Hunt arrived within minutes and saw the UFO as it "floated, wobbled, and did things that no plane could do." before it darted away toward Hampton. They returned to the station to write their report.

Toland received a call shortly after from a Hampton telephone operator who said that a distressed motorist attempted to contact the police from a pay phone. He yelled at the operator, saying he was being chased by a flying saucer that came right at him and that it was still out there. He was then disconnected.

A Hampton Police Department's blotter entry for that night reads: "September 3, 1965: 3 a.m. Exeter Police Department reports unidentified flying object in that area. Units 2, 4 and Pease Air Force alerted. At 3:17 a.m., received a call from Exeter operator and Officer Toland. Advised that male subject called and asked for police department, further stating that call was in re: a large unidentified flying object, but call was cut off. Call received from a Hampton pay phone, location unknown."

The official report to Project Blue Book from the director of administrative services of the Pease Air Force Base at Portsmouth concluded with this paragraph by the investigator: "At this time, have been unable to arrive at probable cause of this sighting. The three observers seem to be stable, reliable persons, especially the two patrolmen. I viewed the area and found nothing in the area that could be the probable cause."

Project Blue Book is a compilation by the U.S. government to refute the existence of extra terrestrial objects.

Peter Geremia, New Hampshire state director of the Mutual Unidentified Flying Objects Network Inc., noted: "The police
(Continued on page 17)

Showdown 2009: Star Trek vs. Wolverine...Who Will Win?

Written by Silas Lesnick
ISB.net

Trek film just because it has Star Trek in the title.

X-Men, on the other hand...

The *X-Men* films have, by comparison, blown *Trek* out of the water. The first film opened to \$157.3 million. *X-Men 2* grossed \$214.9 million and -- the real kicker -- *X-Men 3* hit \$234.4 million.

For *X-Men*, that's only domestic. The numbers just about double when you look at foreign grosses for the three films of \$139, \$192, and \$225 million, respectively. That brings worldwide totals to \$296 million for the first film, \$407 million for *X-Men 2* and \$459 million for *X-Men 3*. For whatever reason, *Trek* has always failed to be a real performer on the foreign market.

As a fan of both franchises, I'll go out on fanboy limb and say that *X-Men 3* and *Star Trek: Nemesis* are about as poorly made they could possibly have been. That's a fact that killed *Trek* at the box office and bounced harmlessly off *X-Men 3* as its domestic gross rose meteorically.

Imagine for a second that *Wolverine* and Abrams' *Star Trek* are nothing but crap. (And, in both cases, I think that's going to be far from the case.) History seems to say that *Wolverine* could still be a hit just because it has *X-Men* in the title. *Star Trek's* a title that -- for a bad movie -- could alienate new audiences and -- as a revamp -- longstanding fans as well.

So why May, *Star Trek*? There's two distinct explanations:

Best case scenario, *Star Trek* is the most amazing and impressive film anyone has ever seen. The studio is so incredibly confident in it that all other summer blockbusters can just get out of its way as it becomes the biggest movie of all time.

I really, really wish that were the case but somehow, I doubt it and explanation number two is probably a little closer to the truth:

There's no way the film is going to be done by this Christmas. There's rumors that the budget has grown immensely and that Paramount is looking a final price tag north of \$200 million dollars. *Star Trek* -- as much as I love it -- has the potential to bomb and bomb hard. If the whispers are true of a budget that high, this film is only going to a real success with a franchise following it.

If it is a matter of waiting so that what goes on-screen is the best possible *Trek* film, I'm all for it but I'd be inclined to wait even longer if that's what's best for *Trek*. I'd love to see it still hit this December but if the move is a necessity rather than a marketing gimmick, even December of 2009 seems preferential.



Will *Star Trek* get gutted by *Wolverine*? We want to know what you think, send me an email and let me know your thoughts. [Si-las@iesb.net](mailto:Silas@iesb.net)

AIR Review

*CMDR Nathan Cobaugh
Chief of Security*

For fans of science fiction anime, there is a relatively new show out on the web/ air waves.

AM Driver.

There is a race called the Bug-chine which appeared in the not so distant past and no conventional weapons will destroy them.

Enter the AM Driver.

Soldiers bred to use the new AM tech, they strive to defeat the Bug-chines. Lots of cool designs for what seems a bit similar to some Robotech designs. For more info on the AM tech, well just watch the show, or I would spoil it for you. AM Driver is also a video game for the PS2, for gamers who might be familiar with the VG. As far as information provides, there are so far 51 episodes. The character development is not half bad, some a bit stereotypical for the genre, but at least this is one of the newer anime shows that is available one of Time Warner's newer channels, Cutting Edge On Demand. Or you can watch it online.



Latest news from security:

Not a whole lot going on other than work right now. I caught the flu and was sick for a couple of days. Still working of course. Not exactly the line of work I want to continue to do, but at least it is a job. I am hoping to be able to get some time off for at least Marcon if I can. I would very much like to be able to be there for this year.

I know I keep saying this and I would like to get some honest feedback from the crew concerning The Mighty Max Adventures. What kind of storylines would you like to see? I am working on coming up with some new designs for some new characters. Obviously, there was The Doctor. Please send any suggestions or helpful insights to musicmuggle@aol.com or skritsys@yahoo.com. I am always going to keep an open door policy when it comes to the comic and would very much appreciate any comments and/or suggestions.

Until next month.

Skrit

March Security Report

*CMDR Nathan Cobaugh
Chief of Security*

Incident at Exeter Continued

*Submitted by Lt. Todd McDaniel
Communications*

(Continued from page 14)

officers involved put their careers on the line. They courageously came forward and stated what they saw at aq time when witnesses were not allowed any credibility on the subject."

Geremia, who has appeared on national media programs including "Unsolved Mysteries," presented chronological depiction of what happened the night of the Incident at Exeter.

His "decent rendition of what happened' matches the series of events starting with Muscarello being frightened by a UFO.

"What do you call a UFO? Was it from another planet? We just couldn't identify it," he noted.

Bertrand, although an Air Force veteran, was never able to put a name to the UFO.

He meticulously described it as a "huge, shapeless object with five sequentially pulsating-from-left-to-right bright red lights, so bright you couldn't look at it."

The Pentagon repeatedly denied the sightings, but the incident was read into the congressional record in April 1966 by Raymond Fowler, representative of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in Washington. It was the first open congressional hearing on UFO's.

Fowler, internationally renowned author of 11 books about UFOs, has studied UFO reports for decades.

In a recent interview, he shared his thoughts on the Exeter incident and the stories that followed.

"The second-hand speculation stories were varies and perhaps hypothesized," Fowler said. "Muscarello's mother purportedly saw confidential drawings of a UFO landing site pattern that was handcuffed to an Air Force investigator who visited her house. The neighboring farmer was instructed by the Air Force to plow under the landing marks in his field.

"The hens in the neighborhood stopped laying eggs. The air-base intelligence officer was seen buying up all the newspapers carrying stories about Sept. 3. A base commander was seen in civilian clothes rather than uniform while investigating," he related.

Then, there was the irrefutable.

There were major similarities with these area sightings that conform to documented cases. UFOs tend to be seen near swamps, malor power lines or nuclear sources. Muscarello noticed the object coming from over a line of trees behind which were major power lines. There was a swamp in the area. Pease and the Navy yard both had nuclear power entities. And, when a Pease Air Force base commander attempted to disprove it was a UFO by simulating the incident by turning on runway lights, he failed," noted Fowler.

Fowler, now retired from active investigation, noted in a letter to the United States Air Force, "The UFO sighted by Norman Muscarello was identical to the UFO seen later by Muscarello, Bertrand and Hunt.

"There is no question in my mind that the same or similar object was involved in both of these particular sightings.

"Since I did not interview the unnamed woman, I am not certain of the details....but according to Officer Bertrand, the object....was very similar to the UFO they sighted later....another witness, a male motorist, also sighted a similar object...."

Because of the viability of these testimonies of those involved on the night of Sept. 3, 1965, and because of Fowler's testimony into the Congressional Record in April 1966, the United States Air Force admitted that indeed, the Incident at Exeter involved an unidentified flying object.

Case ID: 426.

***Muscarello shouted,
"Look out, here it
comes!" and they
watched as
something luminous
rose from behind tall
evergreens.***

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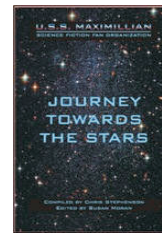


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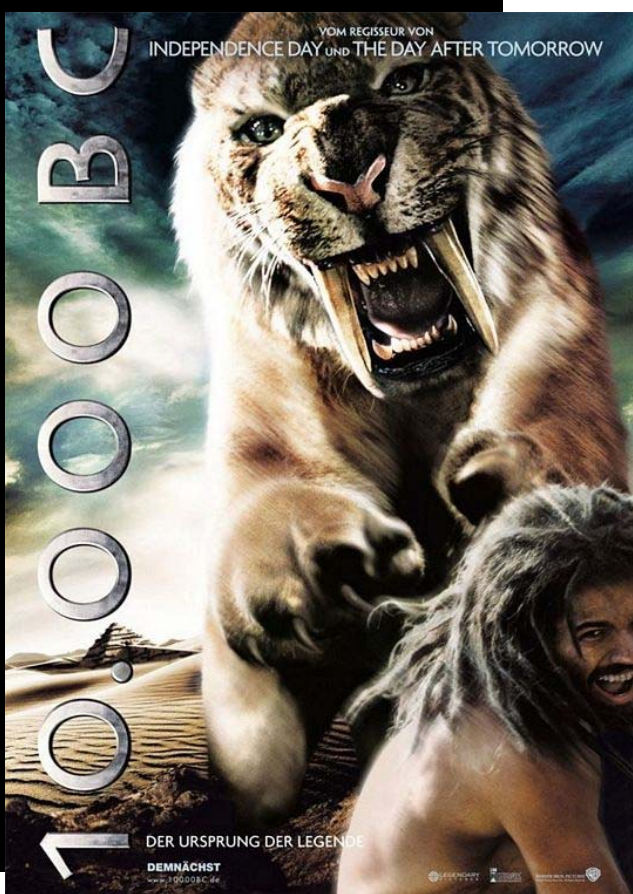
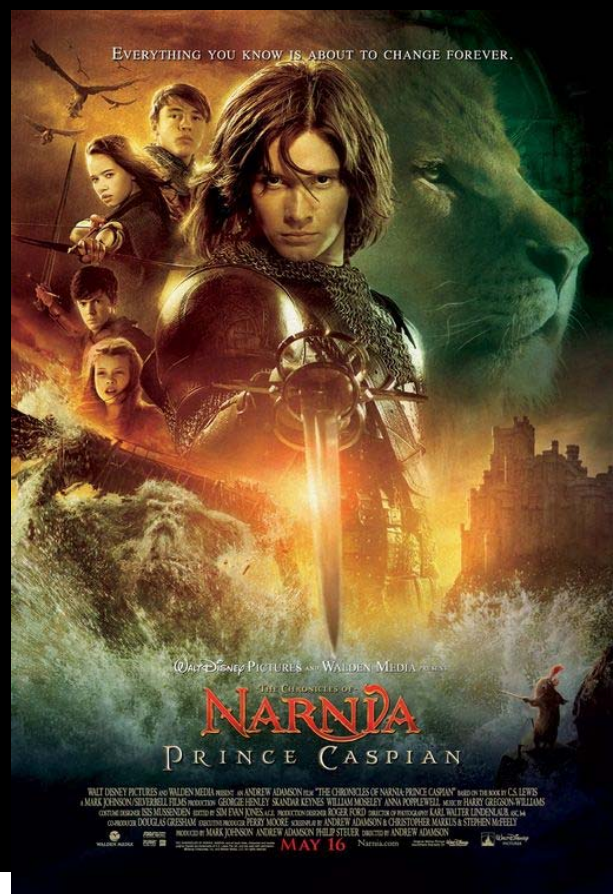
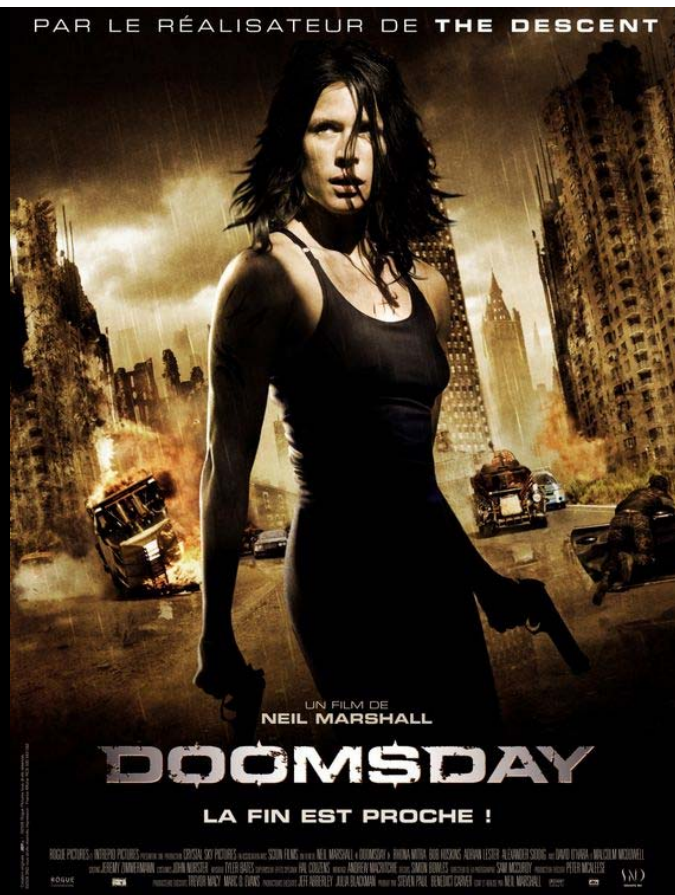
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MARCH 2008**

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