

The Seagate Times

Breeze 30, 798

The Journal by Adventurers for Adventurers

Issue 20

Flugelheim Sells Out



Destiny arranges another deal. Many suspect squid-head involvement

Word has reached the offices of the guild, and thus the offices of this good document, that after events of the last three months, Destiny has made trading and defence arrangements, with the Kingdom (is everyone a kingdom nowadays) of Flugelheim.

It seems that not long after the last Guild Meeting, almost three weeks to be more precise, a small Destinian force blockaded Flugelheim's three ports searching for something or someone that was being transported into or out of Flugelheim. All ships were challenged, must were searched, but apart from frayed tempers and ruffled feathers no reports of damage or harm have reached these offices.

Well, almost no reports of damage. After about one week of the blockade there was an explosion in Port Artz that took out almost half the docks and some nearby warehouses and trading offices. There are reports that a Guild party was in the vicinity at the time.

This Issue

The Pegasus tells all

Vychan's search fur a female earth elemental

Flamis, Basalic and Hagen in love triangle

Silverfoam's sexy swimsuit soire

The ships in the Destinian blockade on Port Artz came into port and lent men and resources to assist in putting out the fire, tending to the wounded and generally assisting in the cleanup. After this was completed all the Destinian ships left Flugelheim's waters.

It seems that for the next month or so, diplomatic messages flew (generally not literally) between Destiny and Flugelheim and sometime in early Breeze a compact was signed between Destiny and Flugelheim.

While either party has not released exact details, researchers employed by these offices have determined the approximate nature of the deal.

In return for preferential trading rights and the right of free passage through Flugelheim's waters, Destiny has committed to patrol and defend Flugelheim's waters extending from Port Artz in the East around Widowmaker Point and to points north of Flugelheim.

Mindless Destruction

The Seagate Times have recently relocated offices to secret premissis after the unfortunate destruction of their offices by, as witnesses report, a man on a Pegasus. All the rider was heard to say, in his deep booming voice, was "Where are they!"

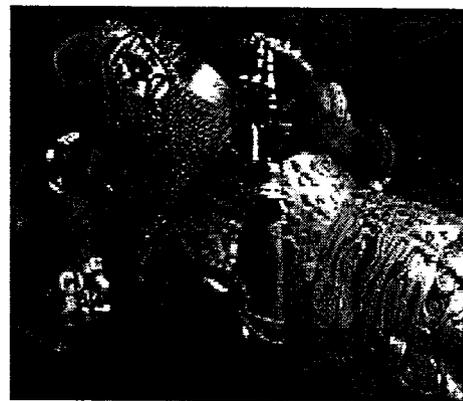
Also, we would like to apologise about the implication that Sabrina is a man. The editors can categorically attest that Sabrina is no longer a man,

Mourning broken in MMHS

MMHS:Midheim was in official mourning until Luginasad for the late Graf of Midheim Boris the Melancholy, who died at his capital, Mittelmarkhauptstadt, the day before Summer Solstice. Some mystery still enshrouds the Events preceeding the fatality.

Popular rumour at the time suggested that he died of shock when he heard of the death of his close confidant? the extremely influential Kommissar Goebbels, together with the captain of the Graf's elite guards, Baron von Grenzstadt, and several other knights, Apparently there was a freak accident with a large barrel of St Neots "Blessed" brandy and a cheese fondue at the Harvest Goose which burnt down just before noon. Kommissar Goebbels was a half-owner of that internationally renown eatery.

Continued on page four



Preparations are being made fur King Carlos

Bounty Doubles!

The 50,000sp bounty announced last season on the head of King Carlos of Destiny has been doubled to a massive 100,000sp — by King Carlos himself! A spokesman for the king said that "the original sum was an insult", and that "His Majesty did not wish to be bothered by petty footpads and low class assassins".

Claimants may apply to the royal palace for collection the bounty.

Southern Lord places bounty on coven of witches

Lord Sedrick of the Sweet Riding has managed to put together a bounty of 15,000 silver pennies for the heads of a witches coven which is reported to have ravaged the area two years ago.

The Duke has decided to put an additional 15,000 silver pennies toward the bounty, bringing the total to 30,000 silver pennies.

Cult on the move

Former adventurer Jade and her acolytes have been exiled from the Superstition Mountains for inciting rebellion.

As a former adventurer, the most honorable high priest Jade wishes to warn the Seagate Guild of the persecution that she was subjected to by the Superstition Mountain dwarves. Thanks to her loyal acolytes, she has now escaped to spread word of The One throughout the rest of the world.

Asked for official comment, the dwarves said "That's one looney that's beyond our ability to help!"

Duke at Charity Ball

Duke Carzala has confirmed intentions to appear at the upcoming Newhaven charity ball later this season on Moonday, the 24th day of Vintage. The exclusive ball is expected to be one of the highlights of the year's social engagements as well as raise a considerable donation for charity. A spectacular and memorable event has been promised with the most popular of today's fashionable artisans travelling from around the Baronies for the event. Tickets are limited and available for the exclusive price of 1000sp per person. Donations to be allocated under the Carzalan Charity Board. Mark your calendar now!

Belief Mad?

Several unconfirmed but worrying rumours have been circulating regarding the sanity of the newest Archangel. Beliel, formerly "Belial, King of Fire" was said by one reputable source to be "tuppence short of a shilling", and by another to have a "pound of raisins more than a fruitcake".

These rumours apparently come as no surprise to the anti-Beliel faction of the Western Church, headed by Archbishop Mordeaux. A spokesman for the prelate stated that they "expected this. The demon could not maintain this devious facade for long". He went on to say that the continuing belief in Beliel was in danger of be-

coming a "schism that could only be sealed by the blood of the heretics".

Bishop Threadneedle of the fledgling Church of Beliel, and a former Raphaelite abbot, told us that "these unfounded allegations are being circulated by our enemies in a doomed attempt to discredit us, and the salvation of our lord Beliel".

The Bishop may have good reason for optimism in the form of a royal proclamation last month. At the instigation of Dulciena — Marquessa de Bowcourt, and mother of the western king — the Western Kingdom is set to formally recognize the Church of Beliel, beginning with the Marquisate in a huge ceremony planned for Candlemansa in spring.

The Western Church is still divided over the Beliel issue, with most of the Raphaelites and Urielites backing his inclusion in the Powers of Light pantheon, and the churches of Michael and Gabriel strongly opposed to any accord. With royal recognition pending, and new rumours regarding Beliel's state of mind appearing, it looks as though the next few months may be rather stressful ones for all concerned.

Explosion rips through Artz

Midmorning on the 25th Meadow a huge explosion ripped through the dock area of Port Arts causing a fireball visible from over five miles away. The ensuing blaze destroyed over half the docks and a large portion of the nearby town including sections of the merchants quarter. Residents spent four and a half hours battling the blaze along with members of the Seagate Guild and the Port Arts Magicians guild before finally extinguishing the inferno. Over four hundred people were killed in the explosion as waves of Greek fire washed down streets covering those who had been incapacitated by the large number of nails that

accompanied the blast. Another eight hundred lost homes and businesses. Three trading ships and several warehouses of goods were destroyed and the total damage is estimated to be in excess of twenty thousand guineas.

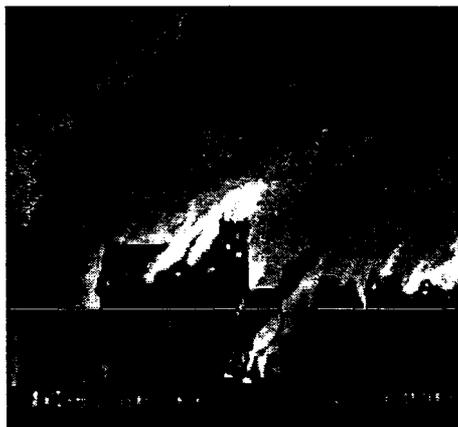
Trading has since resumed after a mysterious donation helped cover the cost of rebuilding the wharf. The explosion is believed to be caused by twelve hundred barrels of methane and a similar amount of Greek fire with a number of barrels of nails added to the mixture. Adventurers apparently knew of this hazard some hours before the explosion and were in the process of informing the harbourmaster when the explosion occurred. Two Guild members were almost killed attempting to stop someone entering the warehouse but survived when the blast knocked them off the wharf. "There was just sheets of fire cascading the wharf, it was terrible... although quite pretty really." moaned one survivor who also escaped by diving under the wharf.

Guard members are still uncertain of the motives for those who started the fire but evidence uncovered by a Guild party indicates a slaver ring in league with the Calamar using the explosion to help cover their tracks. The guild wishes to extend our congratulations to the brave adventurers who helped put out the blaze and heal the injured. It also wants anyone with information about the Calamar and any possible connections between the Calamar and the explosion. A reward for information is offered.

Lunar Ambassador Returns

Baron Logan of Newhaven, acting Guild ambassador to the Lunar Empire, recently returned to Newhaven following an extended diplomatic mission in Lunar City and Tyco. "The empire and the Guild are both positive the following year will see mutual economic benefits for both the Lunar Empire and Carzala." Baron Logan kindly accepted the prestigious position shortly after an exceptional donation to the Guild of property reportedly in excess of 4 million SP. On the status of the Tyco Guild Outpost, Baron Logan commented "Outfitting of [the outpost] is progressing to plan. The Empire's master interior designers are working with us to provide quarters sure to please the most discerning of dignitaries."

Baron Logan will be returning to his diplomatic duties shortly after the Guild Meeting.



Adventurers claim - "We didn't do it!"

Terranovan Report

What is happening in the lands over the sea? The Elven crown reacted quickly and firmly to the surprise declaration of an alliance between Destiny and the Calamar. The Elves immediately withdrew all rights and privileges that they had accorded Destiny and sent a strongly worded missive to King Carlos requiring that he recall Governor Santiago and his troops and ships at once. The portal between the Elven Isles and New Destiny is however believed to be still inoperable and even if the elven command were to reach the Destinians over the sea there is no guarantee that they would willingly leave. Matters became more interesting two weeks after Beltane with the return to Seagate of the former western governor Don Francisco Pizzaro de Cordoba, who arrived in the harbour with two ships and some hundred troops, laden with golden booty from the west. Don Pizzaro has had his position as "Governor of the West" reinstated by the elven Queen and is currently mustering men for a further expedition westwards. With the portal down, no other news has come directly from Terranova, and so in lieu of our usual incisive and carefully researched reporting we are offering:

Ten Rumours from far Terranova

1. That the Drow of Dylath have completely recovered their naval losses following the Destinian attack, and are even now preparing a mighty fleet of invasion. (Heard in a pub on the Seagate docks).
2. That the Frog Empire (believed destroyed by the halfling Bozo Crambely) is in fact alive and well and marching to the eastern coast destroying all in their path. They are expected to reach the settlement of Puerto Damieno by winter. (As reported by reputable adventurers recently returned from the area).
3. That rumours of the Ruby Scourge's death were greatly exaggerated. (Heard from various reliable sources).

4. That in Southern Terranova there is a mighty halfling empire where the streets are paved with gold. (Heard from several returned conquistadors).
5. That the elven Queen is sending elite troops to Terranova via a secret portal. (Heard from an drunken elven sailor).
6. That the Calamar have made a secret alliance-with the Frog Empire. (Heard from one of General Pizzaro's officers).
7. That the Calamar have declared war on the Frog Empire. (Heard from another of General Pizzaro's officers).
8. That Frog warriors taste particularly good fried in a little butter and garnished with chillies. (Heard from Tizoc — a Terranovan halfling).
9. That the demonic Emperor Apollyon is personally leading the Frogs on their mission to bring about the end of the world. (As reported by reputable adventurers recently returned from the area).
10. That the disruptions to the Terranovan portal may be being caused by a fourth, previously unknown demonic Emperor sleeping on the ley line connecting both ends of the portal. (Overheard from a discussion involving a close friend of Bozo Crambely).



Trouble lurks beneath Terranova

Naughty Ned the Nec-romancer

Ned 'Sugar Daddy' Tanner has been seen about the town escorting not one, not two but three nubile young women, all from his last party. Sources close to the 'couple' state that the women are under his protection. A personal friend has revealed that the women are in a delicate condition. The eagle eye of this reporter spotted Ned Tanner rattling his silver pennies while knee deep in bonnets and booties. The menage à quatre are rumoured to be playing house together. The 'fertile fancy man' will be out looking for his next adventuring party packing fertility potions, nappies and oozing with charm.



Ned fends off latest lovers

Pleasure Toys by Mortimer

For the sophisticated customer Mortimer's Emporium are pleased to offer pleasure toys customised to your requirements. These little beauties start from as low as 30,000sp and are powered by the Graves patented steam-empowered engine.

*"The best ride I've had in years" -
Braegon*

Come and view our catalogue at:

Mortimer's Emporium,

2 Eden Close,

New Seagate.

The Greatest Enchantment?

To mark the occasion of his return Newhaven, Baron Logan of Newhaven has offered a special service to guild members. For a strictly limited time, permanent *Rank 20 Greater Enchantments* are available with the Baron's unique personal guarantee. "If the enchantment is accidentally removed in any way within 12 months, I will personally replace it." This reporter is stunned by such a bold and unprecedented guarantee. "It is an investment in your future." remarked a satisfied customer, "No longer will you have to feel out of place next to those prestigious Adventurers and nobles. I especially like the easy payment terms and peace of mind from the Baron's wonderfully personal Guarantee. Why, just weeks after getting my own enchantment, I have lost 30 pounds and feel like I have ab's of steel."

Of course you will probably want your own enchantment immediately. So how can you get such a valuable investment? All this can be yours today with a deposit of as little as 5000sp (with 4 easy installments), or a once-off investment of 20000sp. But wait – there's more! The first 10 applicants will also gain free of charge an exclusive invitation to the upcoming *Newhaven Charity Ball*. Contact your local **Newhaven Representative** immediately to secure your appointment before your next adventure or social occasion.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the retraction posted by you in the last Times. It is indeed true that my pleasure toys are made to the highest standard, and I am always happy to customise for the discerning client. One size does not suit all and the 30 footer that I designed for myself would not necessarily be suitable for others. It did stand up well to rough treatment and there were no complaints from Lysander, Serendipity, Martin, or Braegon. I can fit one of my new "steam-empowered" engines to almost any pleasure toy provided that it can support the five tons or so of weight. My own steam-yacht may be viewed in Seagate harbour and I am willing to offer rides to prospective customers.

Yours Faithfully,

Sir Mortimer Graves.

Dear Sir,

On my last adventure I made use of some of the guild services.

The Stable service run by Carlos of Seagate provided me with a very well trained horse which was willing to be skinchanged into a mouse on several occasions for flying. It was also excellently equipped with tack and bridle and stuff and fully insured. For three weeks this cost 150 silver pennies., I feel this is excellent value.

The Curse removal service run by Claudia Singer removed two major curses from my and Violas unborn child (curse unborn). This cost 7200 Silver pennies which I feel is expensive (100 SP/hour) but fair considering the high rank (15) and difficulty of the ritual. Fortunately our party employer the Wort, Orchid Black paid for this, Thank you Orchid Black I would have been hard pressed to afford to pay this.

The Greater enchantment "service" was used by several party members however I feel that Cathrin Thunderfoot is a rouge and a scoundrel in charging 1000 Silver pennies per hour + 1000 SP ingredients for rank 11 greater. How can she justify charging ten times the hourly cost for a ritual which is four times easier to learn and has taken half the time to rank as the curse removal service ritual.

The Lesser enchantment "service" makes Cathrin Thunderfoot look honest. Rob Darktunnel can make twelve thousand silver pennies in under four minutes with no chance of backfire. Scum rip off merchant

you shall never see a single Silver penny of mine.

As a guild purported to help adventurers these rip off enchanters should be hammered with penalty taxes or blacklisted by the honest members of the guild. On a positive note I would like to thank Carlos of Seagate and Claudia Singer for the excellent services they provide.

Ned Tanner - Healer.

Dear Sir

This is a note for new, non-Elven adventurers. If you adventure with either Keyshar, or the Teleri Silverfoam, please don't think that all elves are like them. I was very worried that we were of the same race, until Bozo pointed out that they weren't very good representatives. They are both perfectly acceptable people, but Keyshar isn't very bright and Silver-foam talks a LOT - DON'T let them get talking about official stuff because then they are REALLY boring.

Just to avoid confusion, I have decided to give up my elfhood, and now wish to be known as a Republican (which is not the same thing as a tavern owner).

Thank you

Penluncien

(formerly known as an elf)

Dear Sirs,

I note with sadness and disappointment that you have chosen to libel me in the last issue of the Seagate Times, falsely attributing to me a quotation implying that I engage in unnatural acts with Sabrina and immoral acts with men. You have tarnished your souls with this black lie, and thus I fear for your safety. Corruption of the soul can in turn corrupt the body. For example, spreaders of malicious, libellous gossip have been known to develop hideous skin diseases while attempting to seduce young women or to be struck blind while landing with shadow or star wings. I urge you to confess your sins and mend your ways, for the sake of your body and soul.

Anathea.

Dear Sirs,

It has come to my attention that some members of your guild recently travelled north

through our lands.

At about the same time a length of cart track appeared in our lands and some of our farmers claim to have seen a cart drawn by 8 horses flying through the air at the beginning of a long starry trail.

Where did the cart come from?

How were the horses flying?

How did the flying cart leave a trail on the ground?

Why was a strange trench found at one end of the trail?

Why are the trees in the area dying?

Where did all the beetles come from?

Is the truth out there?

If you or any members of the Guild could shed any light on these matters, please contact me

Lord Sarchan of South Marchant.

Armouring Available

To All guild members, especially all you delightful ladies out there, Hagen the Armourer, Weaponsmith, and blacksmith, is pleased to announce his services.

I specialise in projectiles, leather, and dragonskin. Measured to fit.

Easy Term.

For the ladies special, *tempting* lay-by terms are offered.



Quotable Quotes

Keshah — “I’m a self exposed exile”

Dragon — “What can you offer me!”

Mebh (Pointing to Amber) — “She’s a virgin.”

Amaranth to Bozo — “Do I have to swallow?”

Keshah — “The trick is to not think about the fact that you’re climbing up a tiny tunnel under hundreds of feet to earth” (To the somewhat nervous Penny as the party negotiate the tight confines of a halfling made escape tunnel).

Silverfoam — “I thought that you were going to suggest the standard solution of sticking their head between my legs”

Penny — “I don’t think that things will ever become that desperate”

Amaranth Vale’s name for a group of elite fighting hobbits: THE CREAM BERETS

After listing the number of skills she knows.

Penny — “What else can I do...”

Mary M — “Show off.”

Silverfoam — “What would Elves be without tedium?”

Ameranth — “Shortlived?”

Galand — “No of course I can’t make an illusion of a bouncing rock. Rocks don’t bounce!”

(While being attacked by a bouncing rock)

Ameranth — “Teleri Silverfoam, or Mr Windy as we like to call him.”

Tulip — “Perhaps you should put some clothes on Viola!”

Viola — “Perhaps you should take yours off.”

Keshah — “I don’t make things; I’m an elf .”

Penny (Introducing herself) — “Pennlucien... I don’t know the rest.”

Bozo — “Thats a very long surname.”

Walks on Earth — “I’ll tickle it in places that horses like to be tickled. I should know.”

Michael — “Rek, do you have an amulet of luck?”

Rek — “No.”

Michael — “It shows.”

Party Motto — “Remember, we’re *Dangerous* people on *Dubious* business.”

Haarn — “Amazing, we’ve been in port five minutes and we haven’t killed or tortured anybody.”

Shoka — “Oh, don’t worry, we’ll find somebody.”

Ned Tanner (Before getting half the party pregnant)- “No nappies on the equipment list, I’ll have to add that for next time”

Amaranth’s College Reunion

Well now, if you cast your minds back far enough, you may remember attending the illustrious “College for the study of Ensorcelments and Enchantments”.

If you can’t remember it, or were never there, why are you reading this?

Any Enchanters or Enchantresses of sound mind who would like to get together to chat about old college days (or new spells) should let me know so I can organise the catering. I thought a quick meeting an hour or so before the next guild meeting might be appropriate.

Let me know your thoughts on the matter.

I might organise some activities, such as a project to sleep all guild necromancers for a few sessions. Or maybe a sleep out. Most prone Orcs wins!

Do say you’ll be there.



Who watches the watchers?

LOST AND FOUND

Missing Two Parrot’s; one red with green trim on the wings, answers to the name of Vorgath the undying destroyer of realms, and a lovely multi-coloured parrot with yellow under its belly, called Ragnarak spawn master of the underworld. Both went missing last weekend, and Guild security has advised that these two NOT be harmed. Reward offered, plus free resurrections for those slain during a successful capture.

Lost Virginity and innocence, if found please return to Thorn

Found The Seal of Ancient Invocation. If you can describe it it’s yours. Contact Security

Found Cream buns. Report to the gutted remains of the Fight ‘n Fuk to retrieve.



Horticulture Section

A new long blooming rose has been grown in Gracht. Dowager Countess Anastasia (no relation to the guildmember, who isn’t a dowager) praised the delightful way that its dusky carmine flowers individually turn pure white overnight. As a born-again pacifistic earthmage she appreciates the compliment.

The local halflings advise that, despite its lack of perfume, the rose makes invigorating tea, excellent wine, and a delicious jelly ideal for superb cream buns.

The Western Kingdom

This quarter's Cultural Supplement focuses on the past which has affected us. With the coming of the 800th anniversary of the Western Kingdom we have decided it would be a good time to look back over its turbulent history.

Being a brief introduction to the subject of Old and New Western Kingdom history, by Mortimer Graves and Hieronomous Haynes.

The original Western Kingdom was established some 1200 years after the fateful events at Penjare plunged the western part of the Alusian continent into an age of darkness.

Northern tribes under a paramount chief "Ulric the Wolf" overran the fertile and densely populated, but militarily weak and disorganised south-lands. Ulric proved to be as good a politician as he was a general, and welded the feuding lands that he had captured into a great kingdom.

Part of the stability of the kingdom came from Ulric's own longevity. He was probably in his mid twenties when the kingdom was established (though he is said to have never known his exact age) and ruled for sixty four years, outliving most of his own children. When he died the crown passed to his grandson, Magnus Ulrich.

The Western Kingdom grew and prospered for nearly 500 years. In 494 the last Western King, Sigismund the Pious led a great crusade south, across the Sea of Grass, through the Superstition Mountains, and into Knega. Little is known of subsequent events except that the King, his retinue, and a large part of the chivalry of the West vanished into those mountains, and were never seen again.

Sigismund left behind seven sons and a daughter. Sigismund's Queen, Jacqueline de Bowcourt had died giving birth to her youngest son, Drachen, and the eldest son, Frederick Albert, was only twelve. The dead Queen's uncle, Fulk, Count of Foxcourt, was appointed regent. The disappearance of the King and so many nobles had left the kingdom in turmoil, and Fulk wasted no time in turning the situation to his advantage. He began by selling vacant titles and peerages, pocketing the money on behalf of the young, and as yet uncrowned, Frederick. The real trouble began when he started selling titles to which there were surviving legitimate heirs.

Disputes multiplied, private wars started, and with no strong central authority to stifle them, flared into major confrontations that threatened the entire Kingdom. In 499 Fulk announced that he was entering voluntary exile in the Lunar Empire, and escaped the capital with a great treasure in

gold and jewels. Fulk was caught and killed by assassins as he journeyed through the Sea of Grass, but no trace of the treasure was found.

Frederick Albert, now 17, attempted to claim his throne, but found himself opposed by three of his younger brothers, Aladar, Calder, and Branden; backed by powerful northern families. The crown of the Western Kings had gone missing along with other state treasures believed to have been stolen by Fulk, and the Northern Confederation claimed that without it Frederick could not become the true king. The southern families backed Frederick, and as the political situation deteriorated, and both factions prepared for what would have been a destructive civil war, a desperate compromise was reached. In order to avert the war, Sigismund's kingdom was divided into eight parts, with areas being granted to each of the children. The rulers of each of these Palatinates were to meet once every ten years and elect from their number a Western King, with the first election being made once the Western Crown was located, or a suitable substitute agreed upon.

Frederick Albert claimed for himself a large central part of the kingdom including the royal capital Aquila, and named his Duchy for it. The remainder of the kingdom was broken up and granted to the other sons. In addition, the Marquisate of Bowcourt, although not created in the breakup, was granted to Sigismund's sole daughter Eleanor.

The Electors and their areas were:
Duchy of Aquila - Frederick Albert
County Palatine of Aladaria - Aladar
County Palatine of Brandenburg - Branden
County Palatine of Moravia - Magnus
County Palatine of Ranke - Otto
County Palatine of Caldersfield - Calder
County Palatine of Drakenberg - Draken
Marquisate of Bowcourt - Eleanor

Although never officially dissolved, the Council of Electors never met, and no Western King was ever elected. The kingdom collapsed, and the sons of Sigismund, now styling themselves Dukes, ruled their areas as sovereigns. Later, torn by internal struggles, several of the areas disintegrated further into independent Baronies and fiefs.

In the spring of 1992 (After Penjare), Duke Frederick III of Aquila married Dulciena, Marquessa of Bowcourt, and less than a year later the following announcement was

cried across the Baronies:

"It so pleases the Lords of the Middle Duchies to announce the birth of the new Western King. Born of the houses of Aquila & Bowcourt and named Ulric Schwartzrotgold in honour of the founder of the Western Kingdom: his revered majesty Ulric the Wolf; his majesty was crowned on the 11th day of Blossom, the sacred day of St. Jessup, the Kingmaker. His Majesty will be represented until the time of his majority by his Regent and father, Duke Frederick of Aquila. With the resumption of the Western Kingdom, His Majesty's Regent feels that it is only proper that the years should once again be numbered from the kingdom's original foundation. It pleases his Majesty to declare this in his coronation year. 793".

This announcement marked the restoration of the Western Kingdom. and would lead to the most destructive war fought in the west for nearly 800 years.

For the interest and enjoyment of our readers, we offer here a list of the Kings and Queens of the West. The familial notation beside each indicates their relationship to the previous monarch. Dates are for their reign only. For further information we recommend to the reader "Children of the Wolf - The Kings and Queens of the West" by Ioran the Younger. This in his coronation year, 793".

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Artist's impression of the crowning of King Sigismund

Apocalyptic Prophecies from Terranova

The following prophecies were handed to us here at the Times by Mary M, recently returned from many exciting adventures in Terranova. She assures us that all three are from extremely reliable sources and are believed to date from the last days of the ancient elven empire. The first one was carved into a crystal pillar on the edge of an undersea abyss, deep below the western ocean. The other two were found in ancient elven ruins in Southern Terranova. Mary M told us that, "I believe that they are a true and accurate telling of things that are yet to happen". She continued on to say that they agree with the legends and history of the Terranovan halflings and that "therefore they must contain an element of truth". She is interested in hearing from anyone who has knowledge of any similar prophecies or legends. She hopes that a y of these may provide clues to preventing the coming end of the world. We wish her well in her quest.

*Below the thunders of the upper deep;
Far far beneath in the abysmal sea,
In his ancient, dream-swept, unresting sleep
Leviathan waiteth: all shadows flee
From his phosphoric sides: around him swell
Huge storms of thaumatic element and might;
And encircling within the sickly light,
In many a hideous grot and secret cell
Unnumber 'd and warp 'd anathema
Winnow with great fins the slumbering green.*

*There he hath lain for ages and will lie
Spawning foul and curse'd seaworms in his sleep,
Until chthonic light shall pierce the deep;
Then once again by mortals to be seen,
kin and kind shall rise and to the surface
hie.*

*When the Eagle again on high crag stands,
And clasps his crown with bloody hands,
Darkness seeks the sunlit lands.*

*When great heart follows the prodigal's call,
And candles are lit within the hall,
Day is done and night will fall.*

*When they that were four are five once more,
And the four that were first return,
The one who was high shall seek the sky,
And iron to fire will turn.*

*When the air grows thick with the carrion call,
Seven birds to his hand will fly,
But if darkness stands against the light,
All hope need not die.*

What's Hot and What's Not

Whats Hot

Getting wings from a magic portal.
"The Ship at the Heart of the Flame"
Craving to eat lace doilies
Flying horses and carts
Dragons aligned to Xanadu
Being Emperor for a day
Halfling empires
Bound Air
Elven ruins

Whats Not

Wings that only last 1 hour
"Everwinter"
Going cold hanky
Jumping out of flying carts
Dragons aligned to Bune
The day after you were Emperor
The Lord of Parakas
Sulphurous Volcanos

The Lost Tithe

His Grace the Bishop of Leicester, having heard of the exploits of one Hooded Robin has expressed concern over the souls of a group of associates.

Now His Grace, being fully cognisant of the littoral chasm between secular and proper courts, and wishing to avoid a schism? and having twice remonstrated a certain shire reeve on the non-transferral of church tithes (a third would not be acceptable conduct), therefore prooses to commission a guild party to explore the voluntary avenues of an appropriate tithe.

The guild is pleased to advise members that weapon spells act with greater efficacy on the plane of Sherwood.

[Ed.: I thought bishops weren't allowed to be cognisant, if that means what I think it does]

Death of A Genius

Great Plaz'toran Artist is no more.

Alexandro the Sculptor died earlier this year, in a hunting accident in Plaz'toro. Military governor hil-Tollsworth and General Don Enrico di Ravenswood personally investigated the tragedy. It is understood that death was entirely accidental. The hildagoes have attested that the Artist was mistaken for legitimate game, following a lead from several of Don Enrico's employees. Unfortunately this was the first time that the ex-patriate had returned to Plaz'toro. He has been resident in Ranittere since 788. The King of that country, a personal friend of the famous painter and sculptor, requested the return of the body to his adopted country. A state funeral was held, and a dedicatory opera has been commissioned.



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The Evils of Engelton

This article continues the Seagate Times secret investigations into various allegedly "Saintly" high level adventurers working out of our own Seagate Guild. This months expose is in to the self-titled "Saint Engelton" a.k.a. "Engelton the Despoiler" as he is known to his own band of hardened adventurers. The results of our crusading investigation will shock you.

"Saint Engelton" the same ruthless villain as widely reviled "Engelton the Despoiler"?

"It cannot be!" you say.

Well true it is, and the Seagate Times has incontrovertible proof. We begin our expose with an interview of an anonymous adventurer we will only refer to as "Morgan" to protect his identity. Morgan accompanied "Saint Engelton" on his last adventure to a Plane known as Greyhawk. We interviewed Morgan anonymously while he was hiding inside a Dark Sphere, the only place he deemed safe enough to talk about Engelton openly.

Seagate Times - When did you first meet Engleton?

M (hands shaking) - "About seven years ago. I've known him a long time. He's evil! Thoroughly evil! The... the things he's done. Its... its appalling. You know they call us the Engleagoons!" M shakes and cries a little, rocking in shame.

Seagate Times - "There there, it can't be that bad. Can it. . . ? How about you just tell me about Engelton's last adventure."

M- "Got any drugs? Give me something for the Possession sickness. Give me what ya got and I'll tell you!"

ST- "Well no, not on me at the moment. I usually get mine from Father Rowan - good shit too. Dipped in elf blood he claims. . . . How about this - you give me the goods on Engelton and I'll spot you 300 silvers worth of Herbalist '98 with Father Rowan."
M- "Ohh..Ok. ok. Well lets see. Well firstly we all ask has anyone gone to Greyhawk before or returned from there. Get some info before we go ya know? But Engelton says no one has ever been there, certainly not him. Yet as soon as we step through the gate everyone in Greyhawk recognises him. Everyone! Even the demons and Horrors and things! I was suspicious but ya have to trust your party leader ya know? Well we try creeping around but everyone still recognizes him! Everyone! Its like he wants everyone to know he's there! We're ambushed continually and its just awful and all Engelton can do is laugh and laugh and lick at our bloods and sores like he's mad or something. I'm starting to get really worried ya know?"

ST - "And then what happened.."

M- "Well, we went to this village, just simple fisher folk ya know. Good people! And they offer to sell us this talisman to protect us from THINGS that live in the nearby lake. Only a copper piece they want. Well we all say, "Yeah!" but Saint Engelton says "No", and has this odd gleam in his eye. Says he's not spending a copper regardless of how useful the talisman is! Well we turn around to argue it and next

thing we know Engelton has cast a curse on the village! The whole thing! Somehow he's removed the villagers' ability to make talismans and their whole economy is ruined! Next thing we know hordes of monsters are swarming ashore and villagers are screaming and screaming Engelton's just roaring with laughter. Laughing and laughing and laughing as the peasants scream and die and blood and entrails are spattering everything. EVERYTHING!. Arrrrrggghhh

ST- "Calm down. Calm down. And then what happened?"

M - "Well Engelton's running around crying he's Engelton the Despoiler and if the villages don't pay he'll sacrifice them all to his Dark God! He grabs this one kid, a girl of about five I think and just kind of cuts her in half! Its horrifying! Horrifying!"
ST - "Are you sure those are his exact words."

M - (nodding) "Yeah, yeah they are. Sacrifice them to his dark God he said! You can ask Blitzkrieg or Easy Luyessa. Ya see Blitzkrieg was angry and wanted to help the villagers but found he was controlled or something. Same with Vychan."

ST - "Easy Layessa? Do you mean the Mind Mage Layessa?"

M - "Yeah that? her The whole party always just calls her Easy Layessa - her and Engelton and a bunch of Orcs have all been... you know. All at the same time for ages."

ST - "Urrr...disgusting. Ah.. does she take bookings? No? Just groups? Hmmm umm never mind but back to Engelton..."

M- "Yeah well then Saydar tries to stop him."

ST - "Saydar the Black Necromancer? Saydar the Evil? Saydar the Slayer. Why would he help! He's as evil a necromancer as they come!"

M- "That's him - but he's not, not evil I mean. He's been reformed for ages. Its Engelton working through him. He keeps Saydar's dick in his backpack you know. TWO of them. To control him." shudders



Engleagoons go shopping

and rubs at his groin).

M- "mine too..."

ST - "Must be a bugger I suppose. So what happened to Saydar then?"

M- "Well Blitzkrieg was frozen and the villages were dying and running and screaming. There was blood everywhere. Vychan started to twitch and have some kind of fit. Next thing he seems to go deaf and blind and keeps rubbing at his armor All the while he's drooling about a little hammer that would grow. It was horrible like something had been done to his mind.."

ST - "Back to Saydar?"

M- "Sorry. Where was I. ah yes, Saydar yeah. Well Saydar is yelling 'Engelton Stop!' But Engelton is just laughing as he hurls small children in to the paths of the onrushing monsters. Next thing you know Saydar's writhing and crying on the ground and ripping at his eyes crying 'Yes Engelton. We serve you forever and abide in your execrable darkness'. At the same time this little lizard he keeps with him most times, just keeps scratching out a strange message in the dust with a claw.

It says "I am Saydar. Help me help me help me." Its really weird like there? something

Another riddle from Jorgen the Sphynx

What is not enough for one,

Just right for two,

Too much for three?

The first correct answer to Bob the messenger wins.

else in Saydar's body. There's this awful smell as well.. "

ST - "That must have been very disturbing.. "

M - " Yeah, well I could tell it wasn't Saydar in there really. Some Horror was just wearing his body... some horror of Engelton 's."

ST - "What happened after that?"

M- "This huge Demon appears. Murmurs or something its name is. Engelton falls to the ground and starts worming his way towards this Murmurs on his belly, licking at dust and blood and bile as he goes. Then Engelton grabs the last infant left alive and just rips it in two, offering it up to Murmurs from where he's groveling on the ground. Then this Murmurs says 'Come bask in the sewerage of my desires, most foul of my pets' and Engelton crawls closer and then up in to Murmur's lap like a pet or something. Murmur then starts to stroke him and call him his 'Precious One '."

ST - "Ye Gods! And you saw all this with your own eyes?"

M - (nods)

ST - "So what were you doing while all this was going on?"

M- "Just killing innocents. Nothing too sick, I'm just an ordinary adventurer ya know. Not like Engelton. They had cash you see - the innocents I mean, so I looted them like anyone in the Guild would..."

ST- "Did Engelton indulge in the looting as well?"

M- "Indulge in it? He led it! And he kept insisting we collect all the testicles from all the grown men and boys as well. Something about pleasing Easy Layessa and the orcs. He also claimed Father Rowan needed six hundred and sixty six foreskins of innocents for some spell he e dt o cast against Phaeton, Starflower & some orphans. Rowan was going to get that Black Solar Eidolon to help... I don't know all the details.. "

ST - "Can we leave this issue for the moment? Back to Engelton. Where was the female Earth Mage Callas during this attack? She's meant to be an Engelgoon. Where was she while these atrocities were taking place?"

M - "Ahem.. well I don 2 want to say really. You know about her and Engelton and the burning of the Fight and Fuk don't you?"

ST - "The Times is aware of the story that Callas and Engelton burnt the F&F with children inside but have never been able to verify it. "

M- "Yeah well its true - take it from me, I was there. Anyhow, Callas never kills directly in combat ya know, she just comes along later. She...she...she eats the sweetmeats of Engelton's victims if you know what I mean. Says it keeps her earthy. She even petrifies some so Engelton can

carve them in to beads to sell to Goodly folks as fertility charms. Says she and Engelton have a good laugh selling cursed items to children too. That's what she was doing - eating sweetmeats. Many of her victims weren't even dead when she started.. "

Well now Saydar, Blitzkrieg and Vychan look like they're starting to recover So her and Engelton suddenly cut the nuts off them! Gods it made me shudder! Engelton said it was so they would keep their mouths shut or they would get worse. Don't know if they listened or not but they sure ain't talking now!"

ST- "My God! That's appalling. So what else happened on this plane of Greyhawk?"

M- "Look I gotta go. Gotta get a fix. I need that shit ya know? You'll fix me with Father Rowan won't you? Won't you? Like you promised. "

At this point Morgan lapsed in to unconsciousness and our reporter couldn't revive him despite the use of several "approved" herbalist stimulants. Father Rowan appeared with Eidolon soon after and they said they would deal with the problem. They then revived M after some chanting and chewing on some substance I couldn't quite identify. When he recovered Morgan refused to comment further to the Times and went off with Rowan and Eidolon.

Readers will be interested to know that attempts by this reporter to interview other members of the Engelgoons met with no success. Callas claimed she was out to lunch. Easy Layessa could not be contacted but her door was answered by a large number of male orcs in various states of undress. The sound of a party was clearly heard in the background.

Saydar, Vychan and Blitzkrieg refused to be interviewed - but it was noted all were walking in a distinctly bowlegged fashion. Morgan himself has now disappeared completely and Saint Engelton was not available for comment.

Note from the Editor: This concludes our investigation into the alleged activities of Engelton the Despoiler. Unfortunately our reporter suffered a nervous breakdown soon after commencing this article and was found rocking in a corner of the toilets at the F&F. He was crying to himself "There is no Engelton, never was an Engelton. I was wrong, I was wrong, I was wrong." He had also stabbed himself repeatedly in the back forty seven times. It is only by a miracle of healing that he survived.

The Seagate Times prides itself on its editorial independence and refuses to be intimidated. Neither the less we feel it is our duty to indicate that we in no way believe

these scurrilous rumors about Engelton and this article was commenced only at the instigation of one over-zealous reporter. We apologize for our inability to finish this article.



Engleton's Big Day Out

MMHS - Continued from page One

Letters expressing regret for the tragedy flowed in from many important individuals from the Western Kingdom, Alfheim, Borovia, etc.

According to the Succession Act (of 791), the throne will not go to the late Graf's son, Feodor the Simple, but to his beautiful daughter Flavia the Radiant. Flavia has decreed that the 2-week Harvest Festival will be extended for an extra week of celebrations, and balls, at the end of which (on Michaelmas) she will be crowned at the Cathedral of Ulric with the traditional Mittelmark ruby & diamond tiara. Also the Act requires Flavia to marry within the year. It is understood that there will be a spring wedding, although the groom has not yet been selected.

On the day of Boris' demise, Flavia published & confirmed the Graf's last decree, signed the day before, abolishing all rights & dignity of the Barony of Blutsanger, regardless of any future claimants. The last baron had not been seen since the fall of the former Ct of Barovia. in 785.

In an unprecedented move, apparently in accord with her fathers last wishes, the Graffin abolished all extradition treaties and expelled the Destinian Western Kingdom trade legations and several other individuals. It is understood that almost no nobles from those two countries have been invited to the coronations.

Was Boris bopped when Kommissar Kompromised?

By "Elvis" Koenig, formerly
investigative reporter at Der Spiegel.

DISCLAIMER: The following rant does not necessarily reflect the truth, or even the editors own salacious views. It is published purely as speculation by one reporter.

Der Spiegel, MMHS's leading weekly, says that the Graf died after hearing of Goebbel's or Grenzstadt's death. Well Boris must have had good ears because the events were virtually simultaneous. Perhaps he got the message from a high ranked phantasm, or some other fast little burgher.

Goebbels was believed to be a powerful mind mage, never seen by daylight. He killed by being "accidentally" impaled by a burning curtain rod (one of several facts Der Spiegel refused to publish). Leap to your own conclusions. Von Grenzstadt died with his hands around the flaming curtain rod. Perhaps he was trying to pull it out? Did I mention that the knights were in full armour?

This is what REALLY happened.

11/2/98 (night): Goebbels flits off to the Drakwood to prepare for a private Summer Solstice party.

12/2/98 (day): An unknown Destinian arrives & gets a private audience with the Graf.

13/2/98 (day): Graf calls a surprise, early council meeting, Goebbels is not present; much discussion. Only publically acknowledged order signed was for the abolition of Blutsanger.

13/2/98 (night): Goebbels unexpectedly returns, before dawn. Goes to ground at the Harvest Goose.

14/2/98: People die. Flavia throws out Aquilan & Destinian diplomats, spies, and treaties.

Does she intend encouraging dissidents? Are these countries implicated in her father's death? Is it punishment for previous crimes? Well, perhaps the following letter, which Spiegel also refused to print claiming it was a blatant forgery, will help to clarify the suation It IS genuine. It is an intercepted letter from Kinky Carlos to the ex-Duchess of Plas'toro:

Margherita,

I write you because the Farseer has been stolen and cannot be located by spell, soothsaying, or even by P--x. And that is why you have not heard from me in several days. This disaster may be the work of a secret turncoat within My government, or of gifted outsiders, perhaps that guild of thieves in Seagate. Foreign spies must not be allowed to know our current weakness.

This note introduces my semi-acknowledged half-brother Don Amatus Gerritsoon who will be My ambassador to MMHS. He has My full confidence - work with him until we may once again thinkspeak privately.

My military advisers confirm your estimates and conjectures based on the military units holding Innesburg & environs. Aquila could take MMHS from within and hold it successfully. We must not allow this to happen yet. The ultimate external threat of the Drow must force the Baronies to internal peace. If the Drow attack in or soon after the millenium they probably will succeed if the humans are recovering from conflict. My advisers cannot directly in-

form me of the Drow's timetable or power -- because of obvious conflicts of interest? re-damn them.

Research indicates that the Device of Blutsanger could destroy the portals, making a direct assault impractical. You MUST work B. to our cause without letting him know the threat against his city. Threaten to expose the secret identity of this Kommissar Gerbil, his human sacrifices in the Drakwood, his predilection for blood, etc. I have full confidence in your grace's powers.

Carlos R.

New Look?

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Contact:

Gerald de Claory-Grael

at guild offices.

Guild Lodgings

The following characters can be contacted at Guild Lodgings at the following address.

Character	Player	Phone
Sabastian Silverfoot	Terry Spencer	302-0477
Logan Bury	Neil Davies	828-5819
Bob (Messenger boy)	Greg Taylor	
Gerald de Claory-Grael	S turan Judd	828-2320
Hagen	Mike Parkinson	

The Seagate Times

Opinions expressed in this document are not necessarily the opinions of The Seagate Times or Management.

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We would like to thank all contributors and the production staff who helped make this fine issue possible.

(We detest all those out there who did not help in any way)