



DaVinci Pilot

Newsletter of the U.S.S. DaVinci
Columbus, Georgia

Volume 5 Number 4

OCTOBER 1999

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

If you have been wondering why Voyager has not been on the air for the last two weeks, wonder no more. Actually it has been on, but on a different channel. With only two weeks notice, Paramount notified WCGT 16 that they were going to lose affiliation with UPN. Paramount wanted to reach the youth-oriented market of Auburn, which the Columbus channel did not. So for the last two weeks, WWSW-66 has been the new UPN affiliate.

The fifth annual Help-the-Hooch river clean up will take place on Saturday, the 23rd of October from 9AM to 12PM. The DaVinci has been a part of this effort for the last 2 years and we will participate again this year. I have requested the same location as in previous years. If you have not participated, it is a worthwhile effort. Last year, the volunteers collected over 45,000 items of trash from area streams and the Chattahoochee River. The event ends with free food, drinks, and a tee-shirt for the volunteers. Past years were well attended by DaVinci crew personnel and I would hope this year to be no different.

We are planning on having a different kind of Halloween party this year. What we are hoping to do is take the kids around our neighborhood with crew members in their Star Trek finest. Another group of crewmembers will stay behind to man a table we will have set up in the driveway. This will be a rest zone for the parents of other children who stop by for treats. We will have hot cider and snacks. This will be a good opportunity to pass out flyers and talk to people about the DaVinci. Of course we will have indoor fun too. Let me know what you think at the night out!

FCPT Freddy Heller

SCIENCE STATION

Guard Those Whales, We May Have Visitors Soon.

A familiar theme among Star Trek shows and movies (most obviously Star Trek IV) is human-caused environmental degradation and destruction. Well, scientists from Oregon State University and Stanford University have recorded just that.

In a report prepared for the International Botanical Congress the scientists show that humans have changed the chemistry, biology, and physical structure of the Earth's land and water. They explain that nearly half of the land surface of Earth has been changed by humans, and that about 50 "dead zones" (areas with little or no oxygen) have grown in coastal waters around the globe. Furthermore, the findings show a "disturbing negative trend in the Earth's ability to maintain the quality of human life." Specifically:

1) Humans have transformed almost half of the land surface by filling in wetland areas, changing grasslands to cornfields, and cutting down forests to build urban areas.

2) Humans have doubled the amount of nitrogen in some areas because of excess fertilizer use and fossil fuel burning.

3) Human changes to the environment (such as habitat loss, crowding, and over fishing) have resulted in the extinction of species at a rate of 100 to 1,000 times of what would have occurred without the changes to the planet.

4) Human activities have increased the amount and concentration of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere - leading to global climate changes.

The scientists stress that while human changes of the land might be obvious, changes in the oceans have been dramatic as well. The largest dead zone

in the Western Hemisphere, for example, is in the Gulf of Mexico due to excess nitrogen and phosphorus flowing down the Mississippi River. Additionally, aquaculture (or growing fish in fish farms for human consumption) accounts for more than one-quarter of all fish consumed by humans. In most cases, it takes two or three pound of fish to grow one pound of seafood (such as shrimp and salmon). Thus the oceans are being cleaned out of food for wild fish, birds and marine mammals.

In the words of Spock, "to hunt a species to extinction is not logical." I think we better save a few humpback whales at least, because you never know - STIV may have been prophetic.

LTJG Mike Walker

NEW TREK SERIES?

The new Star Trek TV series may be centered on a vessel called the USS Excellent which patrols the borders of Federation space. That's the word from an insider source, says SF Crowsnest.

A new, barbaric Federation enemy is on the horizon and the Excellent is the only ship capable of defending Federation colonies from the threat, according to the source.

Sounds good to me!

SCI-FI TV

The following is a list of the shows premiering or debuting in October:

- Earth: Final Conflict Oct 4 (Syndicated - Season 3)
- Beastmaster Oct 4 (Syndicated - Debut)
- Dilbert Oct 5 (Season 2)
- Buffy The Vampire Slayer Oct 5 (Season 4)
- Angel Oct 5 (Debut)
- Roswell Oct 6 (Debut)
- Harsh Realm Oct 8 (Debut)
- Blockbuster Video's Shockwave Cinema Oct 8 (Debut)

**NEXT DaVINCI NIGHT WAS TO BE
AT AREA 51, BUT THEY CLOSED.
INSTEAD, WE WILL MEET AT
RYAN'S ON MANCHESTER EX'WAY
ON OCTOBER 2ND AT 7:00 PM
Y'ALL COME!**

TREK BUZZ

Viacom, the name behind MTV and Paramount Pictures, moved to expand its media empire with a deal to buy U.S. television broadcasting icon CBS Corp. for \$37 billion in stock -- a combination billed as the largest media transaction ever. Aside from the CBS television network one of the Big Three U.S. broadcasters that was once dubbed "the Tiffany network" the deal gives Viacom access to one of the largest collections of U.S. radio stations and outdoor advertising properties.

In the latest issue of the Sci-Fi Channel's Sci-Fi Entertainment Magazine (October 1999), Star Trek's toughest fans (from the SOS - "Spoiler Free Opinion" internet fan survey) rates the ten best (and worst) episodes of Star Trek Deep Space Nine. For the full list and reviews, go to:

<http://www.scifi.com/pulp/sfcurrent/ds91.html>

EON Magazine website has a exclusive preview of the new WB sci-fi teen drama TV series, ROSWELL, from executive producers Jonathan Frakes and David Nutter (X-Files). For a peek:

http://www.eonmagazine.com/archive/9907/news/two_days_after/roswell/news_frameset.htm.

One of the most intriguing TV series that stirred the public appetite for space adventure was remembered when a new postage stamp was unveiled by the U.S. Postal Service at Star Trek: The Experience at the Las Vegas Hilton. The Star Trek stamp is one of 15 stamp subjects chosen by the public during nationwide balloting as part of the Celebrate The Century commemorative stamp and education program honoring the 1960s. The stamps were issued September 17, 1999, joining six panes of 15 stamps saluting the 1900s-1950s, now available at post offices nationwide.

Bikini magazine has voted Terry Farrell as one of the eight sexiest women on television for her role in Becket.

Thanks to TrekWeb and Magrathea/SFTV, PRNewswire for the information.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16th AT
7 P.M. AT THE CAPTAIN'S HOUSE.
COME ONE COME ALL!**

THE X-FILES FINAL YEAR??

The highest-rated sci-fi show on network may be in its final season, since one of its two stars has said he will not return for an 8th year. The X-Files will be back on FOX Sunday nights at 9 EST, though its start date appears to be a bigger mystery than the origins of human life on Earth. Once it was going to premiere on Halloween, now it will reportedly kick off on November 7th to usher in sweeps month. The sequel to last season's finale, "Biogenesis," may or may not clear up the question of human origins at least.

Rumors abound of big changes - the possible deaths of Krycek and Covarrubias, the end of Diana Fowley - but who knows what twists executive producer Chris Carter will throw in next? We all hope the series will answer enough of its initial questions to keep everyone happy until the next film. So, let us assume this will be it for The X-Files on network. Give us definitive answers about Samantha, clean up the FBI, and for heaven's sake let Mulder and Scully kiss!

Of course, one big reason Chris Carter wants to move on from The X-Files is that he has high hopes for Harsh Realm, which debuts on FOX in Millennium's former Friday night 9 p.m. slot. Based on the comic book series, Harsh Realm's setting is a sophisticated virtual reality world where Thomas Hobbes is sent to test a new military combat training simulation. But once inside, Hobbes finds himself fighting for his life and he can't get out. Starring Scott Bairstow as Hobbes, with D.B. Sweeney, Terry O'Quinn, and Samantha Mathis, this series will supposedly feature guest appearances by Lance Henriksen and Gillian Anderson, plus who knows what other Carter alumni.

Thanks to the Mania reviews WebPages for the information!

ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Lisa Neal who has recently been accepted at Columbus Technical Institute!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to the following DaVinci personnel and Star Trek celebrities and events who are celebrating birthdays in October!

CADET Matthew Green	6 th
Todd Bryant (Klaa)	8 th
Mark Lenard (Ambassador Sarek)	15 th
CRMN Brenda Hawkins	18 th
John Winston (LT Kyle)	24 th
Gene Roddenberry Dies (1991)	24 th
Robert Picardo (Holographic Doctor)	27 th
William Campbell (Kolothe & Trelaine)	30 th
ENS Deniece Dunn	30 th
CMDR Josh Ainsworth	31 st

WELCOME ABOARD!

Welcome aboard to the following crew personnel who have recently joined or renewed their membership in the DaVinci (D) or Starfleet (S)!

Karen Ferris (D)
George Ferris (D)

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FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	142.94
Nix Printing (Copy Card)	42.75
Postage	33.02
Closing Balance	67.17

CMDR Connie Heller

SPACE: THE GAME

If you are looking for this month's game pieces – forget it. We had a WINNER! Our very own CPT Joe Perry called me one day a few weeks ago and began reciting “Space: the final frontier...”. Your game show host, Connie Heller, confirmed the correct pieces and declared Joe the winner. For his effort, Joe won a very nice autographed poster of William Campbell as Koloth. It was presented to Joe at the September meeting.

There will be another SPACE game in the near future. Look for it in future issues of The Pilot!

DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer Freddy Heller 562-TREK

Executive Officer	Joe Perry	327-5888
Finance	Connie Heller	562-8735
Community Service	Teri Massoud	568-9943
Publications	Freddy Heller	562-8735

Science Officer	Michael Walker	214-5179
Counselor	JoAnne Vazquez	563-9185
Morale	VACANT	
Medical	Emma Certo	582-3442

Engineering Officer	Deniece Dunn	291-0150
Communications	Karen Baker	323-4217
Quartermaster	Randy Dunn	291-0150
Security	Zach Farley	682-0140

Cadet Corps Commander VACANT

Master Chief Petty Officer VACANT

CARGO BAY 1 - THE CREW

WANTED: Star Trek fan material. In need of trading cards that came in pre-recorded videos of original series episodes. Call Freddy at 562-TREK.

FOR SALE: Cards, action figures, and a whole lot more! Both Star Trek and Star Wars! Call Freddy at 562-TREK.