

Space Gamer

The School of Gamemastering Steve Jackson Games University

This certifies that

_____ ,
having completed an intensive study of *The
Morrow Project, Chill, and Paranoia*, as
outlined in our special section on Mastering
the Games, is entitled to receive this

Gamemaster's Diploma

By order of the board of better Refereeing.

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SPECIAL SECTION

Mastering the Games

Specific roleplaying systems call for specific advice to the referee. Three offbeat games represent special gamemastering challenges, which are dealt with in articles by expert GMs.

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GAMES: *Star Trek: The Adventure Game*, *Advanced Cassiopeian Empire*, *Wabbit Wampage*, *Chill Black Morn Manor*, *The Watersdown Affair*, *Supremacy*, *Star Trek III Starship Combat Game*, *Time and Time Again*, *Tales of the Arabian Nights*, *Star Fleet Battles Volume III*. **SUPPLEMENTS:** *Merchant Prince*, *The Free City of Krakow*, *Zhodani*, *Lands of Mystery*, *Star Fleet Battles Supplement #2: X-Ships*, *Ivinia*, *The Duel*, *Spice Harvest*, *Illuminati Expansion Set 3*, *TOON Strikes Again*, *Clockwork Mage*, *Final Challenge*, *Creatures and Treasures*, *The Yeti Sanction*, *To Tackle the T.O.T.E.M.*, *Convoy*, *Devil's Domain*, *The Road*, *Uncle Albert's 2035 Catalog*, *Thunder Over Jotunheim*, *Hillmen of the Trollshaws*, *Live and Let Die*, *The Man with the Golden Gun*, *Goldfinger II*, *Thrilling Locations* (point/counterpoint), *A View to a Kill*, *Face of the Enemy*. **PLAY-BY-MAIL:** *Landlords*. **MINIATURES:** *Call of Cthulhu*, *Citadel Miniatures*, *Apocalypse Warriors*, *The Outcasts*, *Survival Force*. **SOFTWARE:** *Knight of Diamonds*.

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FBI Selling Much of Blade Line

Blade, a division of Flying Buffalo Inc., is selling "some of [their] more popular products" to other companies, according to Buffalo president Rick Loomis. Negotiations for the sale of *Nuclear War*, *Mercenaries*, *Spies*, & *Private Eyes*, and the "Catalyst" series of roleplaying supplements are under way. Blade will probably retain *Tunnels & Trolls* "for various complicated contractual reasons," Loomis said.

"We are NOT going out of business," Loomis wrote in late June in a letter offering Blade's line for sale. The letter was sent by electronic mail to several adventure game companies. "One of the reasons we are doing

this is because our play-by-mail business is doing so well it is keeping me too busy to pay proper attention to . . . the Blade line," Loomis said in the letter.

In other FBI news, the publishing and play-by-mail divisions have moved to a new location in Scottsdale, AZ. "It's lower rent — I own the building," said Loomis. The new phone number is (602) 945-6917. Flying Buffalo's retail game store remains in the old location in Tempe, AZ.

Sorcerer's Apprentice magazine, which has not published an issue in over a year, is now officially defunct. Subscribers will receive a copy of Adventure Games' *Pentanta-*

star boardgame in compensation — "and we'll give refunds as well to customers who aren't satisfied with that," Loomis added. "We don't have time to work on [*Sorcerer's Apprentice*]; magazines don't make money."

Buffalo has *Pentantastar* because Adventure Games effectively became a division of Flying Buffalo earlier this year, when company founder Dave Arneson (co-designer of *Dungeons & Dragons*) was sent on a one-year religious mission to San Francisco. Arneson "will be able to continue writing game materials," Loomis said, but could not keep up with a publishing operation. Buffalo is warehousing and selling Adventure Games' entire line (*Pentantastar*, *Adventures in Fantasy*, and several historical games). Blade is publishing a scenario pack for AG's *Johnny Reb* miniatures game late this year.

Loomis is now able to run *Starweb* tournaments at conventions, though "it would be expensive." Interested convention organizers should contact him at the number above.

News in Brief

Hurricane Hits Zocchi Warehouse

"We lost 13,000 copies of *Battle of Britain*, most of *Swords & Glory*, and many back issues of *Space Gamer* — now there may be gaps in the run," said distributor-publisher Lou Zocchi, whose Gulfport, MS, warehouse was hit by a hurricane September 2. The storm ripped off four sections of the roof and water-damaged many games, magazines, and other products. Zocchi estimated losses in excess of \$30,000, but "I don't know just what it is yet."

Business operations have relocated to 1512 30th Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39501. Since much desk paperwork and "a private order or two" were destroyed, customers who placed orders with Zocchi around August 25 to 27 are urged to "reestablish contact" to determine whether the order has been lost.

Insurance will cover the damaged products, Zocchi said, but the three-week interruption in business is not covered. However, contrary to rumors and speculation, Zocchi is

still in business: "We're here, we're coming back," he said.

Zocchi took pains to point out that the hurricane will not delay release of the Zocchi-hedron, the new 100-sided die. "It should be out by Christmas," he said.

Another Unusual License

Pacesetter, Ltd. has signed a licensing contract with Elvira, television's Mistress of the Dark. Under terms of the contract, Pacesetter will produce a 96-page perfect-bound book titled *Evenings of Terror with Elvira*.

Elvira is a syndicated horror-movie hostess appearing in 50-60 national television markets.

A press release from Pacesetter says: "*Evenings of Terror with Elvira* includes nine game adventures for use with Pacesetter's *Chill* roleplaying game. Elvira introduces each adventure with a photograph and short narrative. Each adventure is suitable for use as an individual evening of entertainment or as an episode in an ongoing campaign.

"*Evenings of Terror with Elvira* will be released in mid-October, 1985, in time to reach retail shelves by Halloween. It will retail for \$10."

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PBM News Briefs

Play-by-mail rights to *Advanced Dungeons & Dragons* have been purchased by Entertainment Concepts, Inc. (*Silverdawn*, *Star Trek — The Correspondence Game*). Sign-up packages were being offered at this year's Gen Con in Milwaukee, Aug. 22-25. Other PBM news, relayed to us by *Space Gamer's* PBM editor, Bob McLain:

● *Offworld* is apparently defunct. Three correspondents have reported cashed checks but no turns. *Skaal* is also out of action, according to McLain. "Viking Games is still dead," he adds, "and still promising a 'rapid comeback.'" The company operated *Manifest Destiny*, *Prokhoravka*, *Ancient Campaigns*, and *High Tide*.

● *Angrelmar, Court of Kings* (reviewed in *SG 71*) is still in business. The company was apparently on hiatus but has now resumed operations, albeit with due dates three months apart.

● *World of Velgor* has changed hands. Now known as *The Melding*, it's being run by Kelstar Enterprises (Box 455, Zephyrhills, FL 34283). The original moderator, Bruce Abrahams of Comstar Enterprises (Box 601062, N. Miami Beach, FL 33160), has begun an enhanced version of *Velgor*, called *Venom*.

● And lastly, *Midgard*, a new PBM, will be the first in this country to be moderated by a Japanese company.