

Satellite News

Formerly The Binding Polymer



BRAINS BOFFO DESPITE ACE SHUTOUT

HOLLYWOOD: On a crisp Sunday in January, the sumptuous art-deco overkill of the legendary Pantages Theater was further festooned with the graceful presence of the entire Best Brains staff for the Nth Annual Ace Awards Ceremony. "This is it, this is what it's all about, pass the syrup", touted Best Brains prexy and voice of the darling Gypsy Jim Mallon over a plate of waffle a la King at Roscoe's House of Chicken and Waffles. But hearts were broken and tears were shed when MST 3000 was not picked for the coveted "Best Comedy Series" honors. Picked instead was HBO's libidinous adult sitcom "Dream On", which also scooped up the most ACE's of any show that night.

"Typical," TV's lovable Frank was heard to say, "squirt a little whipped cream on some women and you'll wow 'em every time." But the loss of the award did little to diminish the bright star-struck faces of the Best Brains gang. "Cause this is Hollywood, dag nabbit," offered a spirited Info Club Chief Jann Johnson, "and we're show people. We thrive on this stuff. We eat it for breakfast, we snack on it mid-morning, we breathe in show business like we were out in a smog alert with a death wish."

Undaunted, the Brains proceeded to take the smokey valley by storm, schmoozing at Teutonic snackmaster Wolfgang Puck's trendy nibble hut Spago, pounding 'em back at the legendary sho-biz watering hole the Polo Lounge, and culminating with Frank's now-legendary rooftop jam

from the top of the Bargain Clown Surplus store on La Brea. "But I still haven't found what I'm looking for," winkingly paraquoted a buoyant sleepy-eyed star-slash-heartthrob Joel Hodgson. Ever in the know, eh, Joel?

The Ace Award evening was exciting, filled with show-biz glitterati and rented tuxes which didn't fit too well. Tanned midget extrovert Dick Clark was the show's producer, looking relaxed with a voice as smooth as Yoplait. Hosted by chemically blonded Cybill Shepherd and dumbstruck yuppie character type Danny Glover, the show treated the audience to a mind-roasting smorgasbord of awards, presented by a veritable Bishop's Buffet of stars; from the chunky yet likable Beau Bridges to a weepy pre-Cambrian Darrin McGavin. David Bowie's wife, Manute Bol look-alike Iman said little that was intelligible, and according to MST Head Writer Michael J. Nelson, her hair "looked like a butter sculpture". Paunchy also-ran Elliot Gould was seen rubbing elbows with likable Disney puppet John Lithgow and idolized sci-fi convention junkie Patrick Stewart.

Spirits were raised (as well as laps) for the true highlight of the evening when pigeonholed, aging pseudo sex kitten Kim Cattrall hit the stage in a ravishing see-through black evening sheath. Tart Kim purred her way through an introduction for an award none of us can seem to remember, can't imagine why. Massive second-rate understudy Christopher Reeve spear-headed an adjective-heavy tribute to the late yet still lovable Dr. Seuss. Then a

Cont'd on page 4

MUSINGS BY THE WATER COOLER

by Gypsy

ed note: Although she is often accused of having a low IQ or of being just plain stupid, Gypsy is perhaps the most intelligent and thought provoking robot on the Satellite of Love. Just because Joel is using my CPU to run all the life support and higher systems on board leaving precious little CPU time for conversation doesn't make me dumb. Oh! Ah, anyway, last week Gypsy took some time off from her very important duties to pen the following:

Springtime on the Satellite of Love: red and yellow scratch 'n sniff tulips, digitized robin tweets, the smell of ozone after an electronic air cleaning session, and, most importantly, spring cleaning. Time to take stock of what you got and so last week I shoveled out my living cubical and made a big pile in the load pan bay.

Right below my 8 x 10 color glossy of Richard with the general's stars on the collar is the centerpiece of my collection: my old reliable Northgate 386 33 megahertz with the 160 MB hard drive. I have to say I really love that machine. For openers, the OmniKey keyboard justly deserves its legendary reputation. Just the right amount of click, just the right amount of resistance, especially for a one-lip typist like myself. The Northgate has

Servo's Super- Duper Quiz



In memory of the massive mind and sideburns which were Isaac Asimov, we present this Super Duper quiz. So sharpen your pens and your powers of reasoning, drink deeply from the draught of pure reason, and sweat it out. Answers in the next newsletter. Oh, and please don't send these quislings back to me. I got enough to do as it is.

FRESHMAN LEVEL

- 1.) Which is the nearest Galaxy?
 - a. M31
 - b. Anromeda
 - c. Whichever one Isaac Asimov says is closest
 - d. The one in the garage (Just kidding, of course! -ed.)
- 2) Do you like to make money?
 - a. Sure, we all do!
 - b. What, are you kidding?
 - c. Boy howdy, that's for me.
 - d. I suppose, but I'd give it all away to bring back Isaac Asimov.
- 3.) Richard Nixon was:
 - a. A form of mildew
 - b. The 37th President of the United States
 - c. No friend of Isaac Asimov
 - d. Just a simple country doctor, Jim

GRADUATE LEVEL

- 1.) Who's the most loathsome, over-prolific, pedantic writer of the 20th Century?
 - a. William F. Buckley
 - b. Steve Allen
 - c. Certainly not Isaac Asimov! No!
 - d. William F. Buckley
- 2.) William James was:
 - a. The subject of many articles by Isaac Asimov
 - b. The subject of a Kenny Rogers song
 - c. a pragmatist
 - d. The first American philosopher with two names

- 4.) What did Hamlet do to Polonius?
 - a. Tried to kill him with a forklift
 - b. Mistook him for his stepdad and stabbed him through a tapestry
 - c. Consulted Isaac Asimov's Shakespeare annotation
 - d. Cracked him over the head with a leather mug, said "Huzzah" a lot

POST-GRAD WITH A FAT FULLBRIGHT WAITING IN THE WINGS LEVEL

- 1.) He believed that God exists as the only ultimate reality and unity, intermediary agencies successively producing the world as we know it through conventional avenues of perception:
 - a. Muhammed ibn-Muhammed ibn-Tarkhan ibn-Uzlagh Abu-Nasr al-Farabi
 - b. Isaac Asimov
 - c. Imam Abu-Hamid ibn-Muhammed Al-Ghazzali, or Algazel
 - d. Abu-Yusef Ya'qub ibn-Ishaq Al Ki
- 2.) Which of the following enzymes is not essential to the digestion of Glucose?
 - a. Hexokinase
 - b. Phosphofructokinase
 - c. Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenate
 - d. Isaac Asimov

PROFESSIONAL STUDENT LEVEL

- 1.) Which University offers free coffee refills at the student Union?
 - a. Cornell
 - b. Sarah Lawrence
 - c. Boston University, where Isaac Asimov sat on the faculty
 - d. Cal Poly
- 2.) If your shoe is a men's 8c, what's the corresponding size in a Birkenstock?
 - a. 6.02x1023
 - b. 41 narrow
 - c. 10d (Asimov's shoe size)
- 3.) In the soon-to-be published collection of J.R.R. Tolkien's scribblings on cocktail napkins, what's his opinion of eggplant?
 - a. it was, along with Gilgamesh of Uruk, his inspiration for the legend of the elf-warrior Gil-Gilad
 - b. He hated it.
 - c. It looks like Isaac Asimov, only smoother

THE TEN MILLIONTH MISNOMER
FOR TOM SERVO: "Tom Turbo"

run flawlessly since I got it. Just turn it on and go. In November I dressed up the system with an NEC MultiSync 3FGx monitor. Friends, it fit like an old umbilical tube. This flat screen is brilliant and to my one eye raises the bar on visual performance. I could stare at it all day. Don't walk, run out for one of those babies.

Right next to my Brunhilde costume is my old faithful Zeos 286 20. Now before you go pushing the button for it not being a 386, hear me out. I loaded up the motherboard with 4 megs of ram and although I'm not much of a power user this system runs Windows and its application just fine. I have never run out of ram for an application and, since Microsoft tweaked 3.0, those pesky UAE messages have simply disappeared. I put a MultiSync 2A monitor on this pup which is a noble cousin to the 3FGx. The keyboard is good, but for my money the OmniKey is the way to go. I use this machine mostly for my diary and games, and I use QuickBooks to keep the Satellite of Love in the black.

I also have a genuine IBM: a PS1. Now this is an odd machine. I've got one of the newer versions with the super-fast hard drives. I also went through the hell of how to upgrade the DOS to 5.0 (make sure you get IBM DOS not MS DOS!). I disabled all the silly front end interface and now boot directly to Windows, and, hey, it's OK. Its VGA monitor is small and leaves a little to be desired but the small footprint and the unique case makes this one a winner for those looking not to clog up their desks.

Many of you may be surprised to find that I am not a Mac owner like Tom Servo. I've got nothing against Apple. I think they have made fine products and really done the heavy lifting on graphics and interfaces. I figure its because I started out on a DOS machine, (a PC jr. no less!) that I've grown to love what Windows does for the old C: interface. And though they say the Mac GUI is more intuitive, it seems really awkward if you're already used to Windows.

The game of the month around here has to be Civilization. Tom Servo and I have been playing it for hours on end. I've found arming yourself to the teeth is the only way to go, whereas Tom relies

MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000

TECH-TALK

VOL 4

IN THIS EDITION OF TECH TALK CROW TAKES A FEW MOMENTS OUT OF WHATEVER IT IS THAT HE DOES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FOLKS AT HOME

Howdy folks at home! Crow T. Robot here. Comin' at ya from ye jolly olde Satellite of Love. I just love spending my time looking out the window at the big beautiful blue ball floating gracefully in space. No not the earth. The big blue ball Tom Servo and I pushed out through the airlock. Boy, is Joel gonna be mad when he finds out. But he's mucking out the load pan bay right now, so I thought I would take this opportunity to hide, no, I mean *answer* a few questions.

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THE GREEN BUTTON FOR? YOU HIT THE RED BUTTON TO TALK TO THE MAD SCIENTISTS AND THE YELLOW BUTTON IS FOR COMMERCIAL SIGN, BUT WHAT IS THE GREEN BUTTON FOR?

Kevin Daglieri, N. Kingstown RI

The green button is used in combination with the red button and the yellow button to make "MOVIE SIGN". (Or orange with some green in it.)

WHY CAN'T GYPSY WATCH THE MOVIES WITH YOU AND WHY CAN'T WE UNDERSTAND WHAT SHE IS SAYING?

Buddy Hand, Orange CA

Well Mr. Hand, (if that really is your name.) Gypsy will be joining us in the theater for a segment or two sometime in the middle of season four. (A really smashing season actually. It all starts with, ehem, a, "rocketing" little number called "Space Travelers"...but, I digress.) As for understanding Gypsy, we have no problem. You see, Gypsy runs the higher functions of the ship's massive inner workings. What you hear as garbled speech, we as robots perceive as zeros and ones. Cute, eh?


IS THAT THING THAT SPINS AROUND THAT HAS THE WORDS "MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000" ON IT A MEATBALL, A BRAIN, OR A PLANET?

Nicki Damascus, MD

The thing is a hollow sphere four feet in diameter. It is made of fiberglass coated with some yucky foam insulation stuff. It is what it is. Happy?

WHERE IS THE "SCIENCE" IN MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000? FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WAS NO SCIENCE IN CATALINA CAPER OR WILD REBELS.

Jeff Bub, Delafield, WI

Each movie that Joel and we "robot pals" are forced to watch is an experiment. If that's not science, then I'm no robot. 

SEE YA! YOUR PAL CROW.

on acquiring advance technology through the tedious process of scientific research. (And all the while being nice to his citizens!) He has yet to win playing that way so I guess that pretty much says it all. This month's CD-ROM is "The World of Richard Basehart". It contains every known fact about Richard and features clips from most of his work. A must!

From the funny notion of the week department: They now say that right before the Big Bang all the matter of the universe was shrunk-compressed down to the size of the period at the end of this line. You know, that's what happened to my blue rayon blouse I threw into the dryer last week. Hmmm. Funny.

Products mentioned in this article:

286-20

Zeos International LTD
530 5th Avenue NW
St. Paul, MN 55112

386-33

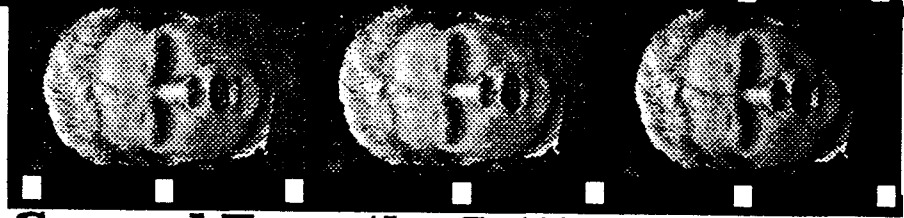
Northgate Computers System, Inc.
7075 Flying Cloud Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

PS1

International Business Machines
Old Orchard Road
Armonk, NY 10504

Civilization

MicroProse Software
180 Lakefront Drive
Hunt Valley MD 21030



Scraped From the Cutting Room Floor


by TV's Frank

Joe Besser had a career in show business spanning over five decades. He did it all: Vaudeville, Broadway, movies, radio and TV. His artistry left an indelible mark on America in the 20th Century. And yet, no one seems to remember him.

I remember him! I remember his unforgettable stage performances in Vaudeville and on Broadway. Well, actually, that all happened before I was born. I certainly remember him when he was in "The Three Stooges." I especially loved it when he would go, "Woop woop woop woop," and "Nyuk nyuk nyuk." Oh wait, that was Curly. One thing is for sure: I'll never forget his immortal portrayal of "Stinky" on the "Abbot And Costello Show."

Stinky was a lisping cry baby who appealed to the child in all of us. He carried around a big lollipop, wore a "Little Lord Fauntleroy" sailor suit and tried to beat the heck out of Lou Costello. Don't we all wish our own kids were like that?

Perhaps no one better represents our "inner child" better than Joe Besser's "Stinky". There is a chubby little pansified namby-pamby weasel within us all who needs to be nurtured and loved. We all need to get in touch with our "Inner Stinky." We need to release him from that part buried deep inside us. We need to let him get out, prance around like a sissy, scream out idiotic gibberish at the top of his lungs and get beat up by the neighborhood bully. Only then will we be able to heal the wounds of our collective childhoods.

The man whom we all have to thank for revealing these timeless truths to us is Joe Besser. Thank you Joe Besser. Your short lived "Stinky" stint will live long in our collective consciousness. Whenever the world becomes a bit too harsh for us, we will hear a little voice inside us say "Not so h-a-r-d!" When society pushes us a bit too far, we will hear that voice defiantly bark back, "I'll h-a-r-m you!" And when life becomes overwhelmingly oppressive, we will all hear our Inner Stinky play hop-scotch on our souls and cry out "Oooh, I'll give you such a p-i-n-c-h!" 

SATELLITE NEWS is the official newsletter of MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000.

SATELLITE NEWS is intended to be published quarterly by BEST BRAINS, INC.
PO BOX 5325
HOPKINS, MN 55343

All stuff submitted to Best Brains, Inc., becomes the property of Best Brains, Inc.

Brought to you by:

Trace Beaulieu, Paul Chaplin, Frank Conniff, Joel Hodgson, Jann Johnson, Jim Mallon, Ellen McDonough, Kevin Murphy, and all the gang down at BBI.

© Copyright 1992 Best Brains Inc.

Joel Robinson's List of Things That I Normally Wouldn't Have Thought About Today

Gary Glitter, Ann and Nancy Wilson, Creepie People, "Chocks" chewable vitamins, Kent McCord, The Devil and Max Devlin, Essene Birth Control, Silly Symphonies, Terry Tomas, Thor Hyerdal, The Association singing "Wendy", Tex and the Horseheads, The Blue Meanie, The Book of Job, David Brenner as "The New Man from Glad", Dan Yeager, Cousin Trent, Bobby "Boris" Picket, The Critters, Tubular Bells, K-Mart Subs, The Stadium Cinema 1 and 2, Boyd Dowler, Dresden, The Lapsometer, Terry Jacks, Johnny Lightning, Johnny Thunders, Egghead, Jerry Todd, Roachy Odor, Terence Trent Darby, Windsong, Mrs. McGinn, Bees, "Ball of Confusion", Wrist Rockets, The Electroshot Shooting Gallery, Mapo.

Joel Robinson's Popular Phrase List

Here are some new popular phrases that are going around. Use 'em at the airport or just anywhere.

1. "Type 'A' Personality"
2. "Type 'B' Personality"
3. "Conventional Wisdom"

Joel Robinson's Counter-Culture Phrase List

It's summertime so use these phrases when talking to your city friends.

1. "Howdy!"
2. "Patchouli Oil" or for a funny turn, "Eau de Hippie"
3. "Appropriate Technology"

cont'd from pg 1 stage full of musicians (who didn't honor the dress code) were bathed in a lemony roscoe fog. Lead by aging androgynous anorexic heartthrob **Kenny Loggins**, they offered a cross-cultural musical anthem, which, apparently if sung loud enough, will save the planet from itself. Finally the by then butt-numbered audience was treated to a massive tribute to the bully broadcasters of **Desert Storm**, the folks who know what the President's eating for breakfast before he does, CNN. Among the overwhelmed and overpraised honorees was furry overnight sensation **Wolf Blitzer**, gutsy deadpan skipper **Bernard Shaw**, alleged traitor **Peter Arnett** and, of course, fiery cable-casting martinet **Ted Turner**, accompanied by his newest spouse, mature step-hopping ultrastar Jane Fonda.

Voice of Tom Servo **Kevin Murphy** said the highlight of his evening was to see groggy pigeonholed director

wannabe **Leonard Nimoy** stepping out of a Porta-John.

Retiring to a swanky star-laden soiree hosted by Cable Tyrannosaur **HBO**, the Brains partied in full force with a broad range of stars, from sinny skinny passé hip-quipmaster **Richard Belzer** to raging Canadian naughty boys **The Kids in the Hall**. But Voice of Crow and Body of Clayton **Forrester Trace Beaulieu's** star shone the brightest as he posed and pattered with ancient character patriarch **Lloyd Bridges** and charming jilted ex-Gomez **John Astin**.

"Pinch me, I must be dreaming," quipped Trace as he rubbed elbows with his idols. "Ow!" he giggled. "I didn't mean *really* pinch me!"

And as streams of champagne flowed in the streets like raw sewage in an L.A. River flash flood backup, the Brains fleet of limos left the City of Angels behind, and headed off into the dawn, ever Eastward toward the starchy sanity of the Upper Midwest.

Joel Robinson's Poetry Corner

"James Taylor"

Hey there somebody may I follow?
To drake in the Sun and drink deep draughts
Mexico!
Waddy Wachtel drank here, a lot!
pool cue fight with Sweet Baby James
but Livingston has this thing about jumping off buildings
onto people.
walking down a country road
I miss Carly too.

Happy Together

More and more people are watching MST3K in groups, with friends, the way all of America used to gather for FDR's fireside chats. Some of these gatherings are even evolving into clubs or lodges or something, and since we're partly responsible, we've assembled a quick checklist of our opinions:

- What is the proper term -- club? Pack? Den? Really -- anything is fine. We're pretty flexible.

- Uniforms are mandatory. No exceptions.

- Should you charge dues? Sure.

What percentage should you send to us in Minnesota? The short answer is, almost all of it. A "sliding" scale can be useful -- that is, each year annual dues increase by, oh, forty percent, in a "sliding" motion.

- Games: We hear reports of "Talk Like Tim" or "Glenn Manning, Glenn Manning," to which we say "tally ho." Remember, though, games are supposed to be fun, and they are, if you win. So if you do play games, remember to win. Try to embarrass your opponents.

- Child Care: We think you should take very good care of your children.

- Don't pick at your food.

Mystery Science Theatre 3000
Satellite News/BEST BRAINS, INC.
P.O. Box 5325
Hopkins, MN 55343

MEMBER # →