



25. First Week of The Pivot

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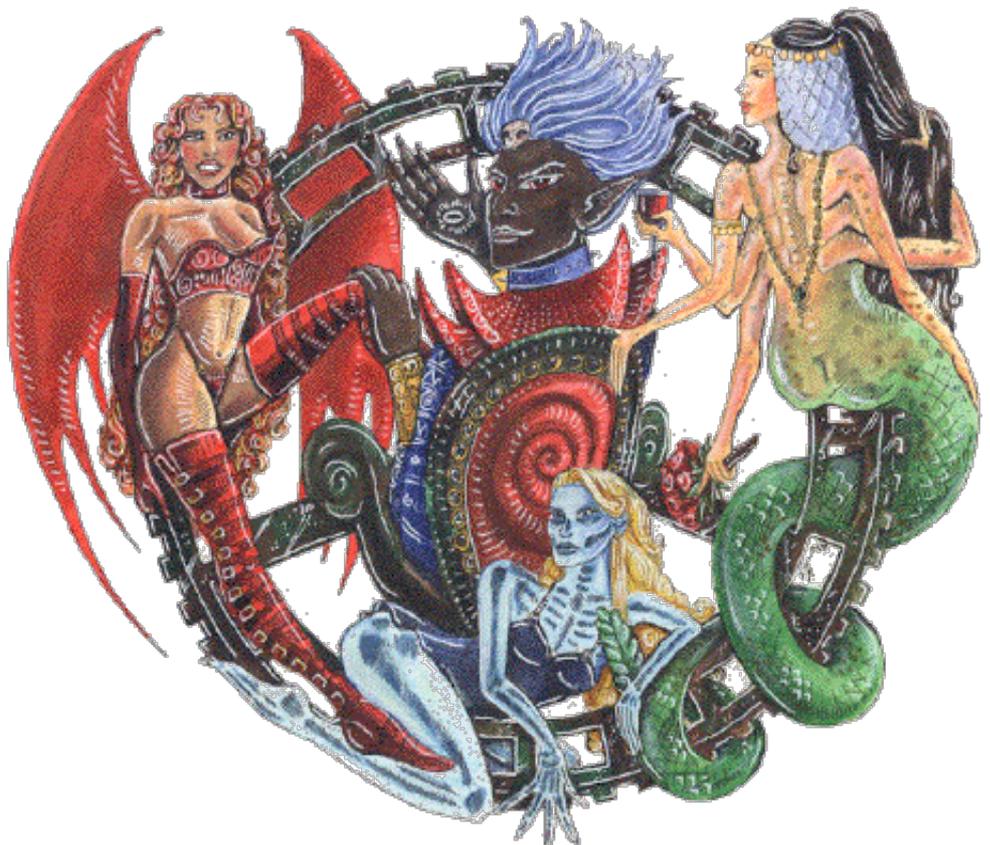
exclusive

GRAZ'ZT SEEKS BRIDE!

by *Daemon Chaas*

ABYSS (The Triple Realm)
-- No, your eyes are not deceiving you, cutter, you read the headline right. The most powerful Lord of the Abyss, the mighty Lord of Shadows himself, is seeking his very own bride! Chant out of the Abyss, straight from the maw of a Balor, is that Graz'zt has been seeking this unholyest of unions for several cycles now, and he has whittled the candidates down to three terrible trollops.

Before I continue, I suspect that the gentle reader might wish to know the source of this chant (because it sure sounds like a pile of stinky



screed only an addle-coved leatherhead might buy). Well, it just so happens that I heard this blinding dark from none other than the Balor high-up Rackthon Firebrand, top Blood War general of the Abyssal lord Pazrael. As most bloods of the War know, Pazrael is no friend of Graz'zt, so this chant might just be a lie sent out to stir up trouble for Graz'zt. However, I have reason to believe that Pazrael is spreading *the truth* for this very same reason: to disrupt Graz'zt's courtship plans. Imagine the chaos that this bit of dark is going to stir up. Every succubus in the plane is going to scramble off to the Argent Palace (*Graz'zt's palace - Ed.*) on the off chance of becoming Mrs. Top-Fiend.

Not only do I have the chant straight from a high-up Balor, but I've also gotten the dark from multiple sources in several Abyssal layers, which is how I lanned the identity of the three fiendish candidates trying to woo His Infernal Majesty. S.I.G.I.S. also managed to gain the services of the Transcendent Cipher artist Victoria Lawbreaker (aka. [Vicki "the Hood"](#) because she breaks all sorts of Multiversal laws -> send her a note and let her know what you think of her images! ;-)) who tapped into the cadence of the Multiverse* and scragged a psychic image of the courtship.

THE TOP TROLLOPS

Tashara of the Seven Skulls

This strange witch is not your typical fiend. Apparently she resides in Thanatos, the 113th layer of the Abyss, as a "guest" of the Drow goddess Kiransalee. Our sources report that Tashara has her own little kip within the "Belly of Death" (as Thanatos is sometimes called), and her case is a horrible tower created entirely of pulsing undead flesh. Those who have seen her, and kept from going barmy (very few indeed), describe her as a beautiful, green skinned woman with crimson hair. On the outside at least. But in the light of the frozen moonlit night of Thanatos, her true nature is revealed: underneath that delightful skin is an ashen skeleton held together by necromantic force of will. What a catch she is!

Red Shroud

Any planewalker worth her salt (river of Salt that is) has heard of this succubus. She's the infamous iron-fisted ruler of Broken Reach, the top burg on the Plain of Infinite Portals. Besides her legendary beauty, Red is an obvious choice for a mate: she's held on to the hotly contested burg through numerous attacks by mobs, githzerai, and even a minor Abyssal lord, and has reigned there longer than any other fiend in memory (and fiends live a long time). Her ruthlessness, power and craftiness are a clear turn-on for Graz'zt. You won't find a more able Tanar'ri ruler in the infinite layers (although I expect a great challenge to her rule once chant of the courtship leaks - sorry Red).

Rynin Blackscale

The final contender for the prize has also shown magnificent leadership skills; this time as a high-up in the Blood War. In her short history, Blackscale has shown tremendous ambition, a real fiend among fiends. In less than five cycles, she's moved from Manes to Marilith and has been a top leader of many a Blood War excursion. Her victories include a surprisingly successful raid on the Stones of Draetilus (a Blood War battle site in Carceri -Ed.) as a succubus. The raid allowed the Tanar'ri to hold the Stones for a full day - something that neither side has been able to do in the *history* of the Blood War. (*For the full story, check out the story Tanar'ri Seize Portal Stones in the SIGIS archives [Issue 1](#) - Ed.*) More recently, she was instrumental in a recent raid on the Baatezu Fortress of Justice (*see last issue -Ed.*). Apparently, all this has not escaped the notice of Graz'zt, and she's a hot contender to the throne.

Okay berk, at this point you must be asking yourself the crucial question: Why would the most powerful Abyssal Lord take a wife? Sharing power doesn't seem to be his style (or the style of any fiend for that matter). The short answer is one word: Dowry. (I delve into this issue more completely in the Editorial section below, as we interview the Blood War sage Akin, an Arcanoloth with tremendous insight and knowledge.)

At this time, the front runner appears to be Red as the psychic image indicates, but the others are close on her heels. She seems to have the most to offer Graz'zt - the richest burg on the plane, full of planewalkers with a death wish who are just loaded with jink and magic. However, her proposal is by no means assured, and, as we mentioned earlier, she will probably have a lot of challenges to her rule very soon.

So there you have it bashers! Where else can you get this kind of chant but S.I.G.I.S.?

* Some berks say the Ciphers never really transcend, but these berks obviously have never seen Vicki's work!

[Author: [Scott Kelley](#)]



newsbriefs



ANARCHIST TRIAL BEGINS TODAY

by Rahel Ivist

SIGIL -- The City Courts are expected to be a hotbed of Hardhead activity today as the brain-box behind the Anarchist cell, the Cadre, begins his much anticipated trial. Zibby the Fan, tinker gnome bombster for the Cadre, was arrested several weeks ago and indicted on multiple counts of murder, destruction and general mayhem in the months long assault on the Cage's "jinked" sectors. The first day of the trial is expected to be entirely taken up by the reading of the charges against the dirt devil.

Chief of Court Security, Mover Three Ilon Penome issued this statement earlier today:

"Though all members of the Cadre have been rounded up, we are taking no chances with the security of the City Courts. Inattention and underestimation of the foe foiled early operations against the cell. This will not be the case today. My best officers are on site and will conduct thorough security checks of



Possible Member of Red Cell

all person entering and exiting the City Courts area."

The trial is expected to take several weeks with hundreds of witnesses, investigating officers, cohorts, and possibly Zibby himself taking the stand to tell of the events that held the Cage in fear for all those months. No word has reached this office about the identities of the prosecuting judge or the defendant's counsel.

[Author: [Paul Wolfe](#)]



MODRON MOCKS MARCH

by *Streebo*

This secret missive was received by the newsrag S.I.G.I.S. two days ago by a tout from the Outlands, who claimed it was secreted out of Fortitude by a member of the Revolutionary League. Events transcribed are believed to be written by Streebo the Culler, a tiefling in the pay of S.I.G.I.S.:

I HAVE no way of knowing whether or not this dark will make it out of this lonely birdcage in Fortitude to where you are, gentle readers, but I have faith that the truth will emerge, regardless of Hardhead attempts to stop the chant from flowing. The march has continued across the Outlands to Fortitude (gate-town to Arcadia and oppressive base of the Harmonium), but not without incident. A certain rogue box named Umpik Uhbox hipped to the idea that the proper thing for modrons to do was to march the Ring, so it set out to do just that, origins unknown. Only Umpik was a spellslinger and had a wand that it used to polymorph others into boxes as well, which made them more likely to join its mock march in the wake of the Great One.

This culler joined voluntarily, but others were "forced", including a brace of Hardhead notaries (a furtive, evil berk named Pindick and an aasimar basher named Wiggermark) and other unfortunate travelers, including some Guvner sods from Automata. Forced to march to the point of exhaustion, the small squad nearly caught the March outside of Fortitude, but an ambush by a number of Sinker slayers delayed the reunion of boxes. In the fray, the Doomguard were slain or scragged by the Hardheads, but one of our marchers was transformed into a monodrone by Umpik for insubordination. (He tried to nick the box with his arrows!) We were finally allowed to rest.



The glow of pre-peak in the Outlands heralded our continuation, and we soon found ourselves confronted by Hardhead minders at the gates of Fortitude. They seemed dubious,

but Umpik got them arguing inharmoniously about its entrance, and managed to give them the laugh by hopping through the flaming portal to Arcadia. In the pursuit and chaos that erupted, this culler managed to slip the blinds and witness the fate of the rogue box. When it approached the Great March and attempted to join, it was "assimilated" (read: disassembled and put in the dead book) by the horde of modrons and sent back to Mechanus for "reprogramming". Thus ended the false march. Umpik's wand fell into Hardhead hands (no telling what purpose they'll use it for) and yours truly was scragged for writing down the events as printed here: the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I can't guess what the Hardheads plan to report on this obvious lack of control and chaos. One thing's certain: Don't believe what you read in the Tempus Sigilian (nothin' but Hardhead propaganda).

[Author: [Tim Perrotta](#)]



GODSMEN ENDANGERED ON OUTLANDS NINTH RING

by Steuban Tuekston

FAUNEL (Outlands) - Factol Ambar of the Believers of the Source has put out an all points warning for Godsmen traveling the Ring of Gate-Towns in the Outlands, especially in the area of the Land between Tradegate and Sylvania. Godsmen seem to be finding their way to the dead-book with all too much frequency these days as two more factioneers hit the blinds, this time at the hands of the one-two punch of wights and giants. That brings the recent loss of Godsmen to twelve, eight during the month of Savorous, and four in the first three days of the month of the Pivot.

The faction members lost in the Five Peaks area near the Wilderlands were One-Who-Seeks and Forbee the Fury. The two, apparently using bad judgment and traveling with an unknown Proxy of mischievous Loki, were ambushed by three wights who may or may not have previously been members of the Vile Hunt, the sect that sees multi-morphic beings (such as centaurs and couatl) and sentient animals (such as animal petitioners in the Beastlands, or in-and-around Faunel) as an affront to the way the multiverse should be.

After being softened up by the undead, the three planewalkers were ambushed by Hill Giants out hunting the varied food sources of the Five Peaks area. One-Who-Seeks apparently was thrown off one of the many

Until this month, the varied deaths were assumed to be just failed "tests" for ascension, but some Godsmen suspect there may be some more sinister force behind these mounting fatalities. Factol Ambar has created a commission to look into this rash of Godsmen deaths, and placed the ninth ring on High Test status. Travel in the area is suggested for those faction members of the highest accomplishments, while others are to seek out the gate-towns at their own peril. The Commission, to be led by Tia, Factor of Ecstasy, will conduct an investigation to find the dark of these deaths and whether they have been perpetrated by any particular force (such as the Vile Hunt, Loki, or perhaps the recent untimely eruption from Mechanus of the Great Modron March) or are but a massive test for the faction as a whole. More on this topic as more dark is uncovered by the Commission and this dogged culler.

[Author: [Dana Winston](#)]



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jumped off the sixty foot precipice and taken his own life, literally not a very "ascending" thing to do. Forbee was apparently clubbed over the head by one of the mighty monstrosities, although proof of such may be hard to find as there was very little left of the cutter's corpse.

It was just three days ago, that two other faction members, centaur warrior One-Who-Hunts and khaasta lineaged tiefling, Oricanis Maledictus, were dead-booked when they tried to cross the Fester Pits of Kokolum with the aforementioned Proxy of Loki, not far from the area in which One-Who-Seeks and Forbee were done in. It make one wonder it Loki has it in for the Godsmen. Last month, eight Believers went on to other incarnations after violent ends in the Sylvania-Faunel-Ecstasy area. Three perished when they attempted to thwart wandering Athasian defilers during a play at Faunel's crumbling Olidemareum. Two others were found poisoned at the edge of Wrath's pool while two more were found desiccated at the edge of the Halakari Desert between Faunel and Ecstasy. The last one slain during Savorous was a canny cutter named Old Ben, an ursinal assimar found skinned just outside the revels of Sylvania. The proxy of Loki has not, so far, been connected with these other deaths.

and find out what you're missing out on! Always wanted to visit Carceri but have a desire to come back again? We can let you experience it! Live out your darkest desires without fear of prosecution! And if you're evil, why not see what it's like to do something nice for a change without fear of harming your reputation!

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[Author: [Jon Winter](#)]



TRENCH METAL MAY CHANGE WAR

by Koshtrim'yamal

MINETHYS, on the third layer of Carceri, is where the baatezu and the tanar'ri have battled for eons. The sandy soil moves with the constantly shifting winds. This sand can rip the unprotected flesh off the bones of mortals and fiends alike. This place is a battleground like no other in the Blood war; a deadly game of trench warfare. When one side wins a battle, the other side retreats back to take refuge in yet another trench. This is the battlefield where all those that fall out of favour with their high-ups go to continue to fight in the Blood War. Most hope

BLOODBATH IN GUILDHALL WARD AS MORE CIPHERS MURDERED

by Laxuli Phae

SIGIL (Great Gymnasium) -- In the past week, assaults upon Ciphers have become increasingly more frequent and deadly. Seven attacks have been reported, leaving five dead, and healers in the Gymnasium fighting to restore the sight of one victim and the limbs of another. Both the faction and the Harmonium have issued general warnings to badge-wearing Ciphers to be on their guard, especially in the Clerk's Ward, where most of these attacks seem to have occurred.

However, despite the number of incidents,

to end their life here on the burning plains, while others go insane and rush into a sandstorm never to be seen again. The tanar'ri are the ones who experience this the most, whereas the more organised baatezu deal better with the mental anguish that comes from trench warfare.

But now all this may have changed. A mortal trench digging slave of the baatezu apparently uncovered a new type of metal ore that promises to change the direction of the War. This metal glowed, and a sample was taken to be analysed by the baatezu. However, according to a cornugon named Glemgoth, during the transport, the osyluth carrying the sample happened to "fall upon a metal shard" (a little baatezu experiment?), and the metal pierced the sadistic heart of the osyluth killing it instantly. The details are few, as the baatezu have no wish to give information to the enemy.

However, word has leaked to the tanar'ri about the metal. The tanar'ri are preparing for a mass assault on the baatezu position, and the baatezu are sending in reinforcements to stabilise the area. If this metal is what it seems to be, whichever side controls the ore will have weapons that can easily pierce the flesh and hearts of their fiendish opponents.

[Author: T]

the Hardheads appear no closer to catching the perpetrators. Mover Three Malkalotl attempted to justify the faction's lack of results. "The Harmonium are working very hard to collect clues in this case. This week alone we have doubled the number of officers assigned, and we are slowly building up a profile of the perpetrator. With the recent Savorus celebrations, the faction has been sorely stretched to cover its usual duties as well as policing the boisterous celebrations and dealing with a higher-than-usual number of arrests due to bacchae and satyr visitors."

I asked Malkalotl why the faction was not employing its star detective Christopher Verdue in this case and he became defensive. "We have only one Verdue and many crimes to deal with. While the Transcendent Order attacks are clearly a high priority, we can only assign our best factors to a limited number of cases."

I then confronted the Hardhead with the rumour I heard recently on the Razorvine that the Harmonium was in fact not acting quickly against the threat to the Ciphers because they secretly approved of the perpetrator, in principle if not in deed. I quoted the recent examples of Hardhead-originating attacks on Free League members. Malkalotl's form shimmered distinctly (I believe the aasimar's true nature is dark) and the Hardhead stalked away without commenting. I leave readers to draw their own conclusions...

[Author: [Jon Winter](#)]



GLITTERGLEE AND THE RULE-OF-THREES

by Maija Intwood

SIGIL (Civic Festhall) -- During a special seminar session in a lecture room of the Civic Festhall, the ursinal Guardinal named Tripicus revealed the findings of his study on the composition of the dangerous dream drug known as GlitterGlee. GlitterGlee (or "glee" as it is known on the streets) is a multicoloured powder that literally contains the dreams of the creatures from whom the dreams are distilled. When ingested, the glee causes the user to relive the dream in an extremely vivid

Both planar hibiscus and jarra spice are well known around the planes for their addictive and hallucinogenic properties. In fact, the Harmonium and the Planes of the Order Militant (OPM), an Upper Planes sect, have been fighting a War on Drugs for some time now, trying to cleanse the Multiverse of these substances. A few years back, another prominent Cager newsrag [Lady's Sharper Eye](#) ran a series of articles on a pact between the Hardheads and the OPM. (See article

fashion, which some Sensates have described as a "transcendental Multiversal extravaganza". However, after a half-dozen glee hits, users often act out their dreams in a most disturbing fashion. For instance, if you glee dream a murder, you might wake up to find your spouse dead by your hands.

SIGIS ran an expose on the glee in issue 11, and one of our cullers uncovered a glee factory (which turned out to be a living Tanar'ri fortress under the swamps of Torch) in issue 15. After that story, the factory disappeared from Torch and the glee disappeared off the streets. But recently, the substance has reappeared in several gate towns, including some upper plane burgs like Sylvania, Tradegate and even Excelsior. Authorities in all the burgs are very worried about what this means for the fates of these towns and their citizens.

Meanwhile, it seems that Tripicus has been doing his own bit of research on the drug. In a special lecture, advertised with a few fliers around the Clerk's Ward, Tripicus revealed that the glee powder was composed of three very potent natural compounds. "With the help the bariaur Wooly Cupgrass*, I have uncovered the nature of the Glitterglee," said Tripicus during the lecture. "Through an extensive process of elimination, we discovered that the powder is composed of three natural substances: *planar hibiscus*, *jarra spice*, and a very rare substance from the Prime known as *glow weed*. Combined in the proper fashion, and with the use of strong enchantment magic, these three substances can hold the dream essences of all sorts of creatures for an indefinite period of time."

16.) Apparently, they agreed that the substance caused all sorts of chaos and evil wherever it went, and they were determined to stop it. The pact was a defining moment in the history of the two groups, as Factol Sarin sat down for the first time with Prefect Increase VII of the OPM to work out the agreement.

Tripicus continued to say that the glow weed was not a weed, but rather a fungus that grew deep underground. "I stumbled upon the glow weed pressed in the pages of an ancient Prime alchemy book, perhaps 400 years old " continued Tripicus. "The weed, which is really a fungus, was still glowing brightly after all this time! I took it straight to Cupgrass who said he'd tasted it before in some glee - it was only a matter of time before we figured it all out. I'm still puzzling out the language of the manuscript, which is akin to Prime elf, so I don't know what crystal sphere it came from. If any of you know some Primes who could help me out, please send them over to me right away!"

The findings of Tripicus may be the big break needed to cleanse this "scourge" from the Multiverse. Only time will tell.

* Wooly Cupgrass is well known around the Cage for his ability to drink all sorts of liquids, including potions, with almost complete immunity. So far, not even Bebilith venom has been able to permanently harm the basher, though he has been known to a few suffer stomach aches and side effects. Many cutters visit Cupgrass to have him identify potions and poisons.

[Author: [Scott Kelley](#)]



editorial

THE DARK OF GRAZ'ZT'S COURTSHIP

by *Daemon Chaas & The Friendly Fiend*

BY NOW, chant has spread to the far corners of the Multiverse that Graz'zt is seeking a Union with a powerful Tanar'ri. The headline article of this issue



gives the chant on the three potential candidates. However, the article does not reveal just why the most powerful Lord in the Abyss would seek such a marriage. It seems counter-intuitive for a Tanar'ri to share power in any way. In order to solve this puzzle, I went down to the kip in the Lower Ward known as the "Friendly Fiend" to have a chat with my good friend A'kin. A'kin is the Arcanoloth owner of the kip, and is a reputable sage of fiendish lore.

After serving me a steaming cup of Arborean green tea, A'kin told me there could only be one reason for the great Lord to wed: the reward of a fabulous Dowry. "Graz'zt, like all Abyssal lords, is only interested in power," said the friendly fiend. "I can only conclude that he believes such an alliance will net him something quite marvellous that he could not gain in any other way. Or at least not as quickly; Tanar'ri are not known for their patience."

I asked Akin what kind of treasure might be worth the power sharing that might come along with a such a union? "Whatever it is," Akin assured me, "the prize will certainly bring him more power than he has to give away to the Bride. And he will have to give her power, make no mistake about that. I suspect that the prize might be enough to allow Graz'zt the opportunity to scrag another layer. Each of these [*ahem*] lovely ladies is a major high-up loaded with jink and power. And the one who comes up with the best offer will get the hand of his Lordship. What Tanar'ri would not kill all comers for such a proposal?"

But what exactly might these ladies have to offer? "Well," continued A'kin, "I suppose that Red Shroud might be able to offer the most important burg in the plane: Broken Reach. All the planewalkers and their jink march through there first, and it might be the ticket to owning the whole layer. Blackscale might be able to offer a legion of Blood War veterans, and Tashara a whole horde of undead. But really, they might have many more things to offer that one could only wildly guess at. More tea?"

So there you have it dear readers. A plane-shaking cat fight for the Lord of the Triple Realm's hand. The bookies down at Fortune's Wheel are going to be working overtime placing bets for this one. Remember bloods, you can't get dark like this anywhere but S.I.G.I.S.!

[Author: [Scott Kelley](#)]



MERCYKILLER LYNCHED BY HIVE MOB

by *Blondie Blutheim*

SIGIL (Hive Ward) -- In a new heightening of faction tensions this week, a Mercykiller who entered the Hive to scrag a jail-breaker was lynched and burned by a violent mob.

Veelik Noshbrothot had been commissioned personally by Factol Nilesia to recapture the escaped gangster Queeger Benn. Benn was being transferred from the courts to the prison, when he escaped, killing two of his guards. Benn had been convicted for extortion, murder and encouraging others to worship the Lady of Pain. When Noshbrothot entered the Hive, where Benn was reported to be hiding, his presence was quickly announced by numerous street-rats, and within half an hour he had been dragged through the streets and hanged by an angry mob of locals from a tavern-sign in the heart of the Hive. An eyewitness told S.I.G.I.S. that, as the Mercykiller appeared to be dying, his still-twitching body was set on fire by rioters with torches. In the ensuing chaos, the Spitted Mule tavern was burned to the ground, although it is not believed there were any casualties as a result of the blaze.

Benn is still at large, and it is believed he may have fled the city. The Harmonium and the Mercykillers have launched a joint investigation into the murder.

[Author: [Alex Roberts](#)]



Letters



LET'S SET THE CHANT STRAIGHT

In a recent S.I.G.I.S. (Last issue: "GITHZERA! GIVES HARDHEADS THE LAUGH, AGAIN!" -Ed.) it was reported that one Moff Neaxalder (aka. Neax) had given "the Hardheads the laugh". As a response to this obvious Anarchist screed and in the

POTATO BOSS RUNS AMOK IN THE LADY'S WARD

by *Eclipse Dabusmind*

HEARD THE dark, cutters? The Potato King of Sigil is acting up again. This Xaositect boss was first spotted in the Hive, mucking about and causing no end of nuisance. After a couple of poorly chosen wishes, the sod got himself a bottomless bag of potatoes. Now he and the chaosmen who follow him go around spreading potatoes around the Cage. Some of these potatoes get eaten by the critters of the Cage, and others end up in soup, but most of them just lie to rot among the razorvine. His latest spree through the Lady's ward littered the streets with spuds like cobblestones.

The Hardheads have been after him, but it seems the Sinkers are protecting his chaotic efforts because it stirs up the Cage. One of his followers was caught yesterday and taken in for questioning. This particular sod was running about tying potatoes to the back of cats and dogs in the Cage. He tried to tie one onto an innocent looking dog who was actually a shape-shifted wizard. The wizard reported him to a local Hardhead, who scragged the berk. His fate is unknown at present. The Hardheads have offered a reward of 350 gold for the arrest of the Potato King.

[Author: [Sable](#)]

PUBLIC NOTICE FROM GUVNERS TO SIGIS

[A Faction of Order tells SIGIS how to run itself once again! -Ed.]

Let it be known hereafter that the Sigil's Independent Global Information System -

Primes alike, it is important that this libelous chant be barred. In a peaceful, harmonious way, I shall endeavour to spill the dark on this "well-lanned cutter", so that others will be able to avoid any danger. To wit:

1) These are the current charges against Moff Neaxalder [case #119-65a/4]:

- Possession of Illegal Property with Intent to Disseminate (Factol's Manifesto: see case #119-65b/1 "Birthday Gift")
- Resisting Arrest (twice)
- Receiving Stolen Property
- Assault on an Officer with Intent to Harm
- False Representation and Identification
- Attempted Murder
- Murder (two accounts)
- Association with Known Felons
- Endangering Public Safety
- Evasion of Justice (Mercykiller case filed and pending)

Heroic, eh?

2) The families of the two loyal and unfortunate Notaries who were put in the dead-book by this felon are paying now for his "heroic deeds", are they not? Funeral arrangements in Arcadia have been made and the Harmonium is accepting donations for their orphaned children. A reward of 1000 jinx has been tendered by the Factions of Law for any chant leading to the scragging of this "hero". A warning: do not attempt to apprehend this cutter alone, as he has shown in the past no regard for the lives of others or their safety.

3) Investigation into the dark of this culler Godsmen, Steuban Tuekston, has revealed that no such persona exists within the Great Foundry records or in the City Courts. What sort of culler poses chant with a pseudonym and expects others to act on it? An **Independent** culler, alright, who obviously can go stag on a faction faster than a modron'll go barmy in Limbo.

If S.I.G.I.S. wishes to remain harmonious with the peace-loving factions of the Cage, you'd best check your chant for accuracy in

otherwise known as S.I.G.I.S. - public forum article, denoted in title as "Faction Reaction," has been found in conflict with the Rule of Public Discourse as discovered and practiced by the Fraternity of Order - specifically in regards to Rule of Standards of Public Notice and Print concerning the issue of the Sowing of Public Dissent. The Rule of Standards of Public Notice and Print state clearly that no public forum, or semblance of, shall incite public discord, based on, or concerning, questions arising from unwarranted or unfounded allegations, where the questions in question are capable of insinuating wrongdoing, or suggesting lack of substance of the function or meaning of a lawfully chartered and publicly established faction existing in the city denoted as Sigil to its current populous.

-- Paragraph 1, Section A, Article I, Volume I of the Establishment of New Public Protocol Concerning S.I.G.I.S. and Faction Involvement Therein, Factol Hashkar.

DEAR Readers, fellow Seekers of Knowledge, and Lawful Public:

A new rule concerning the correct, that is to say morally lawful and fair, content of print and expression of thought has come to light. After the meriting efforts of our previous Public Information Bureau Chief, Hartin Meideggar - otherwise known as the Fraternity's 'Faction Reactor'- has discovered that the format of the Faction Reaction Article of the S.I.G.I.S. is both morally unhealthy and degrading to the Public Trust. As a result of his research, we formally request the editors of S.I.G.I.S. to change the format of the article to reflect our faction's Rule of Public Discourse, so that the public will be led by lawful knowledge and not led to civil unrest by chaos-spawning provoking questions.

In regards to the numerous inquiries of Bureau Chief Meideggar's mental health, we are happy to report he is in stable condition at the Gatehouse. The Bureau Chief's confrontation with the Faction Reaction's unlawful format reminds us the constant sacrifice by our Fraternity's members to maintain Order in our fair City.

the future.

In Harmonious Service to Law

Signed, *Measure 4 Stalkrim of the Harmonium*

[Author: [Pillthroat](#)]



SIRS of S.I.G.I.S.,

I am offended that after several months of a good relationship between my faction and your newsrag, you resort to rumour about the Doomguard instead of coming directly to me as you have so often in the past. I could easily have told you that Lady Pentar has indeed left the Cage on faction business. She has gone to the Inner Planes to attend a regular meeting of the Doomlords.

As a gentleman of Sigil, I would ask that you ask myself regarding the state of my faction rather than listening to chant off the street. Especially if you're stooping to asking the Sensates.

I hope that our relationship will continue along its flawless path as it has until this point.

Yours in Entropy,

Signed, *Sir Twist*

[Author: [David Byrne](#)]



advertisement

GANYMEDE

The Sigilian City Opera continues its season of operas by Petrino Rhabando with this popular work about the Olympian pantheon. This new production by Laam Thinvail combines modern style with the classic and timeless ambiance of Arborea.

Starring:

- Nul Val-de-Sarne (Tenor) as Zeus

May Oghma hold and preserve you.

Signed, - *Jamis, Bureau Chief of the Ad Hoc Bureau of Courts.*

[Author: [Nathan Letsinger](#)]



[Another letter complaining about last issues article on Neaxalder - seems that Harmonium just don't like this berk very much!]

REFUTATION OF STEUBAN TUEKSTON'S SCREED *by Sergeant Stubonius*

Dear Editor -

As a strong supporter of the Harmonic Way and the loving efforts of our faction, I find it inconceivable that you would present such a biased presentation on the activities of murderers and Knights-of-the-Cross-Trade. I of course speak of your article from the last issue of your newsrag, "Independent Githzerai Gives the Hardheads the Laugh, Again." This cutter, Neaxalder (a.k.a. Moff Neaxalder, Neax and Alexander Bittzelbacht) has dead-booked three Harmonium in the last year. Tuekston attempts to avert the responsibility of Neaxalder by claiming that crime may have been done by "some Blue Slaad also named Neaxalder." The fact that both that Blue Slaad in last year's lawful raid in the Hive and the githzerai from Tuekston's article both transformed into Black Puddings is enough for my brain-box to put it together, just as Measure Four Stalkrim states in his official report and retort in this very issue.

And as for Tuekston's assertion that Measure Four Stalkrim admiring this addle-coved spellslinger, it is pure screed. I've heard the good Measure speak on this disturbing situation and he has nothing positive (nor even neutral) to say about this murderer of fathers and sons. It's bashers like Neaxalder that makes the Cage (except for the Lady's Ward, of course) unsafe for the good Citizens of the Multiverse who wish to know that Justice and the Rule of Law make every cutter, basher, barmy and berk, safe. Biased screed, such as presented last issue,

Ganymede

- Minette Sheaffer (Contralto) as Hera
- Tomas Kamilevic (Tenor) as Eros
- Amartina Petronella (Soprano) as Aphrodite

and Introducing:

- Albrecht Weltschlange (Bass) as Prince Maramus

At the Circus Operum, Clerk's Ward, every four days at 6 AP for five weeks. Tickets 2 jinx.

Lathander and Tyche is still running, and performances of Ganymede will take place two days after performances of Lathander and Tyche.

[Author: [Alex Roberts](#)]

encourages those who are "rough around the edges" to deny the potential of the Universal Harmony that the Lady has called on us to enforce. Factol Sarin has placed a reward of 1000 yellow jinx on this Transcendent Convert. Citizens of the Cage, let's work together to get this githzerai off the streets of the Cage and into the Prison where our good friends, the Mercykillers, may apply the Justice he deserves, after a fair Guvner trial, of course.

Print all the Chant, Not Just Half-Screeds.
Signed, Measure One, Sergeant Stubonius

[Author: [Dana Winston](#)]

Update on the Harmonium/Neaxalder story

We just learned that Harmonium factioneer Sergeant Stubonius was given this threatening message concerning his letter:

'Stubonius you are busted/scragged! You had better check out the new SIGIS before you think to write for the Harmonium, berk. If you were indeed a true Measure, you would know that Stalkrim has already responded to the article in SIGIS and has issued the formal faction statement regarding this matter. Just who do you claim to work for? We'll have to start investigating you, Mr. rogue "Measure"...'

Stubonius asked us to print this because he is afraid for his life. Does the message signal some internal conflict that goes beyond the problems with Neaxalder? Is this a signal of some deep divide in the faction over cross-trader policy and who gets credit for what? We here at SIGIS would not be surprised to find the Harmonium acting less than harmoniously once again.

[Author: [Scott Kelley](#)]



streetchant

SHATTERED TEMPLE STREAKED!

by Ainvar Aberth Menua

SIGIL (Lower Ward) -- The Lower Ward was in uproar yesterday after a rather bizarre intrusion upon the Defier's patch. Seems a barmy Chaosman - is there any other kind, we ask - took it into his head that "streaking" the Shattered Temple would be a good idea. Naturally, the berk had to go and do it shouting,

"Praise Paladine! Praise Mishakal! Glory be to the gods of good!"

By all accounts, the Xaositect was under the influence of a "haste" spell, and for quite a time the Athar were unable to lay their hands on the poor sod. When they did, mind you . . . well it doesn't bear further consideration.

What did the locals have to say about all this?

Lucius of the Athar: This was an intolerable intrusion onto our patch. These leatherheaded believers are constantly preaching their mindless, half-headed babble. I can't blame my companions for tunnel-jacking the barmy.

NI of the Xaositects: Illbay asway ay icenay ellowfay. Ay ittlelay isguidedmay, uetray, utbay lay inkthay atthay anyoneay ohway ivesgay ethay Efiersday ethay aughlay isa orthway oremay anthay ay ukedplay ickenchay. Atwhay? Ehay idn'tday ivegay emthay ethay aughlay? Elphay! Elphay! Ay ephitmay! Etgay esethay iderspay offay emay!

Tashnal, Choking Cloud, Lord of the Bleak Wastes, Mephit of Finest Dust: Yes, I was present at the display. Amusing how you petty sods find such trivial pursuits of interest . . . though I must say those bally Defiers are always good for a chuckle.



Lucius of the Athar

[Author: [Christopher Adams](#)]



feature

PLANEWALKER JOURNALS

HUNTER AND HUNTED

TANA'S RELIGIOUS REPORT

by Elder Tana of the Morrigan

by Quin'tatheal "DeathStalker"

Dawn comes to the horizon

I sit here looking out over the plains wondering if all that we have gone through is really worth the trouble. Then I gaze upon the troubled face of me sleeping kindred. If not for him, I would most likely be with my god, battling countless legions of undead beside him. It was 20 long years ago when myself and me kin was exiled from Evermeet for my practices of the ways of the Paladin. We had hid it for so many years before we were found out, then all was chaos as the council thought to execute me.

looks to the snoring dwarf and chuckles

After the defeat of that Necromancer on the prime, we decided it best to enter her portal and seek her master. To our surprise, we ended up in Sigil. We now walk the planes in search of undead legions to vanquish. We know that at any time some lich or worse could crush us into oblivion, but it comes with the territory.

tiefling stirs

Well, it would seem that the day for us has begun again. We are on our way to the Grey Waste in search of what ever awaits for us.

*Signed, Memoirs of the Bone-Crushers
(penned by Quin'tatheal)*

[Author: [Rob Smith](#)]



advertisement

NEED SOME GUARDS?

YE BE travelling the plains? Ye be needing guards? Well, look no further, for we of the *Silver-Swords Company* offer our services...for a price. We supply Wizard types, strong-armed Warrior types, P.T.G. (professional treasure gatherer) types, and on dem rare occasions, a Holy Warrior type.

If interested...contact *Silver-Sword's*

My name is Elder Tana and I'm a celtic Druid. Seems S.I.G.I.S. needs some people to report religious chant, and that's what I'm here to do. Here is a listing of religious happenings I'm familiar with around the Great Ring and in Sigil.

This week marks the historic reenactment of the war between the Celtic and Greek pantheons about 800 years ago. While there is still a considerable amount of friction between both groups, this is put aside for the playing mock battles. The greatest victory we Celts achieved was the Battle of Thaliasia, where we took the burg for a period of 3 days in the heart of Olympus by sailing from Ossa and invading during the night. For those of you who are more of Greek bent, The Battle of the 9 Isles reenactment is for you. The superior Naval forces of the Greeks sailed from Hade's realm and blockaded Arawn's palace on Albain from the other nine Isles of Annwn for 4 days before they were defeated. While this is obviously contrived, anyone is welcome to participate and have a great amount of fun. Afterwards, a feast sponsored by Dionysus's church will be held for all participants.

This week is Multiversal Faith Week, as sponsored by Brihaspati and his church. Numerous sessions and discussions about faith will be held all about the city of Sigil (Athar need not apply). Most temples will be open extra hours, and healings prices will be lowered for non-faithful. Faith marches and walks are being sponsored by the following religions: Girru, Enlil, Brigantina, Moradin, Laduguer, Osiris, Pthah, Corellon Larethian, Eilistraee, Ukko, every gnomish and halfling god except Urdlen and Urogalan, Zeus, Athena, Maglubiyet, Gruumsh, Brihaspati, Ameratasu, Odin, Thor, Shang-Ti, and Ilsensine. Lastly, most every religion has organised peaceful (or perhaps not so peaceful) protests against the Athar near the Shattered Temple. (Also note that during this week the government has forbid protestations against established religions or gods by the Athar or other groups).

This is just a rumour, but it might bear some

Adventuring Company in da Lady's Ward.

[Author: [Rob Smith](#)]

it that Bast has discovered a way to do away with the Cat Lord who is so hurting her religion. While The Church of Cats and Pleasure has been peery about people asking questions, I managed to get some rumours out of a mid-ranking priest. He said that the discovery of a very ancient tome has revealed a sure-fire way to defeat the Cat Lord for good. That's all for now, go with faith in all your endeavours.

[Author: [G. Lopez](#)]



the faction extraction

FACTION NEWS FROM THE CAGE AND BEYOND



MERCYKILLERS

by Justiciar Tragus Cul

Has your enemy escaped justice by a quick death at your hands?

True Justice knows not death. Return the remains for resurrection, trial, and punishment in full accordance with the Law. All bounties honoured.* Remember, don't take the Law into your own hands, take them to the Red Death.

* Disintegration and Shadowfiend gems not honoured.

[Author: [Nathan Letsinger](#)]



XAOSITECTS

by Quirk the Collector

Blue mural painting week! All this week, particular to nothing in celebrate, there will be a great artistic outburst - all Cage throughout the! Provided we feel like it that day. Join in the fun, brush a building and grab and attack the nearest bucket! I'm off to the mud pits now, recipe for grues and a pit fight are a

BELIEVERS OF THE SOURCE

by Strom the Gatemaker Goldwand (Factor of the Godsmen)

Hello bloods! I've got the latest chant in the Cage for you all to hear. Tis great news! A couple of prime planewalkers recently arrived in the cage from a prime world known as Valdor. It seems that one of them is a priest for a local god of knowledge, Oderan. A few days before they arrived in Sigil, this priest of Oderan says that he and his fellow priests all received dreams of their god's disappearance. He says that Oderan combusted in a great cloud of godly power and rose to the heavens above until he disappeared from sight. He's not dead, they know that for sure, but the next day none of their prayers were answered.

The way I see it is that Oderan discovered the secret of the Multiverse, or at least some of it, and advanced to the next level of existence. This would explain why the priests know he isn't dead although he is no longer granting spells and seems to have disappeared. There you have it, Cagers! Proof that the Godsmen know what they're

giant in sandworms instant fun, eh heh!

[Author: [Tom Bubul](#)]

may you find yourself up another ring on the ladder next time around.

[Author: [Jason M. Black](#)]



BLEAK CABAL
by Otum the Mad

Well, apart from the whole roof-caving-in-and-killing-a-bunch-of-factols incident recently, the Gatehouse has been rather quiet. Sure, old Mr. Pickling (a barmy old illithid in the criminally insane ward) has been a bit more off the cuff than usual these days, but sod it, who isn't, what with all the factions at each other's bloody philosophical throats these days? Oh well, he can be barmy as he wants for all I care. Mmm. Anyhow, current events, let's see... there's the flower exhibit in the Gardens coming up soon, that's always a show, as they let some of the barmies out to have a look and enjoy the air. Should be interesting; it usually is.

[Author: [Tom Bubul](#)]

ARCHONITES
by Droni Forssen

In a press release this week, the Archonites announce that the popular composer Tuleman Ralesil is to be the organist and director of music at the new cathedral of Saint Sophia. The announcement has added to speculation that the provision of sacred music will be high on the agenda in the construction and furnishing of the new cathedral. Ralesil, who has recently achieved great acclaim for his oratorio *_Sophia_* and his anthems for the institution of Archbishop Julia Spesinfracta at St. Azrael's church a few weeks ago, is thought to be working on several new projects, although he is presently living in Excelsior and was not available for comment on his new appointment or his work.

[Author: [Alex Roberts](#)]



HARMONIUM
by Ear to the Gear

Has the Harmonium traded one Baatezu-lover for another? The appointment of the outsider Catrina de la Coeur as Chief Interrogatrix Diabolus (C.I.D), a Mover Four position, led to insinuations that the Harmonium will be pursuing "business as usual". The position of CID has recently been opened after the disappearance of Mover Five Durkayle and many other Harmonium officers.*

CID de la Coeur was seen recently at the Rule of Fours celebratory gala* in the Fire room with a bunch of her cronies next to the table of Ambassador Zimimar of the Dark Eight. The chant is that the CID raised an expensive pint of flaming Torch ale and proposed a toast to the Ambassador's good health!

FRATERNITY OF ORDER
by Rujana, Marut Servant of the Bureau of Pubic Information

Investigation of Unidentified Appearing Object code H-18 (UAO H-18), otherwise popularly known as the "Acheron Cube" continues. All Citizens with information concerning this incident, or the whereabouts of missing Mathematician Par Vectum Hexadecimal, last seen in the Gatehouse, are to direct their statements immediately to Bureau Chief Jamis in the City Court.

Bureau Chief Jamis reports that if you wish to avoid long processing times at the Public Courts, please have all forms and scripts in order. Disputes involving animal mounts or livestock do not require the animals in question to be present. Those bringing animals into the courts will be stiffly fined for the removal of any soiling refuses.

[Author: Kina Thackray]



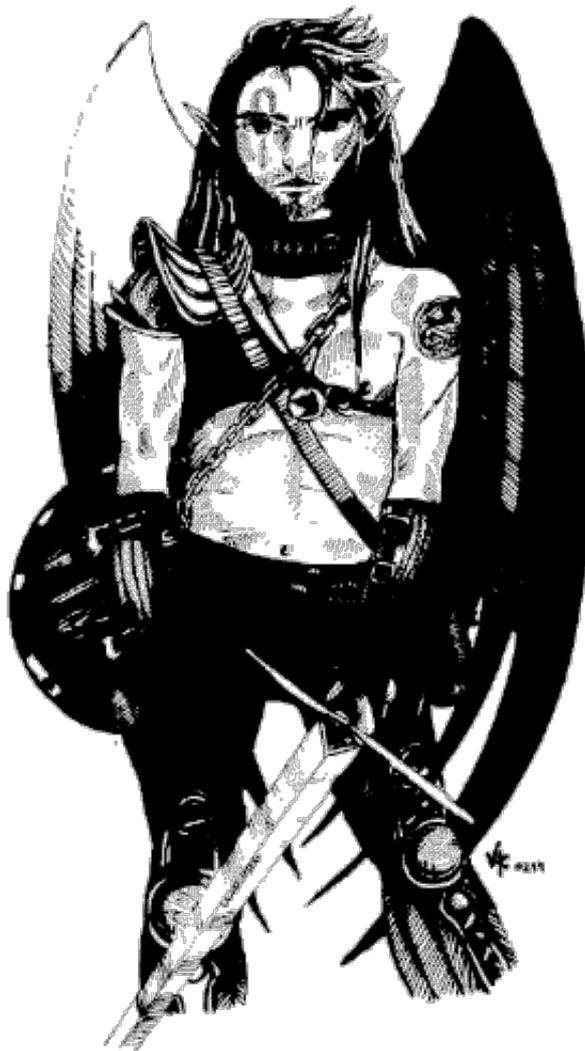
stop press

BROKEN REACH UNDER SEIGE

by Maija Intwood

ABYSS (Plain of Infinite Portals) -- The defensive forces of Broken Reach reportedly came under the biggest siege since the infamous Assault of Furcas (now a member of the Dark Eight) 673 cycles ago. But this time the invasion did not come from Baator. Instead, just as our culler Daemon Chaas predicted (see Headline Article, page 1) the burg is being assaulted by mobs of maddened Tanar'ri. Apparently, chant leaked about the potential "Union" of the burg's high-up, the succubus Red Shroud, to the Abyssal Lord Graz'zt. Suddenly, all sorts of fiends went barmy and started to swarm up from all layers of the Abyss, and converged upon the town.

One planewalker visiting Broken Reach from Plague Mort looking for a specific magical item said he first lanned the chant from fiends in the "Gutless Grill" tavern. Tefel, a tiefling mage-warrior, said the chant barely left the lips of a nearby babau Tanar'ri, when absolute chaos broke out. "I was just about to nail a deal for this excellent Abyssal long sword," reported Tefel, "when the fiend just started screaming 'Red's shacking up with Graz'zt! Graz'zt is coming!' Of course this started a vicious brawl which I avoided with a Sphere of Force under a table. Just as it got really vicious, a Nalfeshnee burst in and dead-booked the babau. I think it was Ygrax Skullbiter, Red's right hand fiend. He came in with a bunch of Herzou who quickly ended the brawl in a most impressive fashion. Then the Herzou started rounding up berks to fight, saying 'Mithrengo* is attacking - let's get the sods!' which seemed to excite the fiends."



At this point, Tefel decided to slip the blinds on Ygrax fearing he'd be recruited to defend the burg, and his notion wasn't too far off. "As I left the pub, I saw the fiends rounding up all the planewalkers in the burg and sending them to the walls to fight. Most planewalkers who come to the Abyss are pretty well prepared for trouble, so this was a smart decision by Red. They also tend to fight in a more organised and effective fashion than the fiends with lots of magic. I knew I was next, so I teleported to the Plague Mort gate which was a very good thing, because right after I slipped out, Red ordered the Gate sealed, probably to keep the planewalkers in. I had to bribe my way out with all the jink I had - who cares for jink if you're in the dead-book, right?"

Since the gate was sealed, no more information has been coming directly out from Broken Reach. In other Abyssal news, it seems that portals to the Triple Realm have been sealed by Graz'zt, perhaps because of the same chant-leak. The Abyss is always in turmoil, but sages say this may herald a whole new era of chaos in the Lower Planes.

*Mithrengo is another burg on the layer, not far from Broken Reach.

[Author: [Scott Kelley](#)]



DEMONWING

by *Sconion*

MY NAME is Sconion, Alu-fiend sorceress who in on the team of reporters with Koshtrimâyamal. I have been sent on a mission to find the ship **Demonwing**, and report of its recent whereabouts. After a sighting in Baator, the ship disappeared and reappeared on the River Styx in Khalas, the first layer of Gehenna. The boat was said to be giving passage to anywhere for anyone, for a fee. The Demonwing has the ability to go anywhere in the known Multiverse, and perhaps beyond. The Abyssal lord Demogorgon was said to have contracted a well-known tanar'ri shipwright named Reyniss to make the ship. Reyniss has since disappeared from sight, but rumour has it that the ship is made of an entire layer of the Abyss. Although the ship doesn't have a crew, the ship is now without a owner. Major players in the lower planes have made moves to find and control the ship, but all spells and other methods come up short. Demogorgon has refused to comment on the ship, or how he lost control. *[Like we could get a hold of him anyway! Sometimes the cullers are a little overly ambitious. -Ed.]* Anyone with information please contact S.I.G.I.S. as soon as possible. A reward of 100 gp is offered for information leading to the finding of the ship.

[Author: [T](#)]



PLEASURE PALACE (PANTY?) RAID

AS WE WENT to press, it was reported that Mistress Daratzia's Hall of Pleasure, a nightclub and brothel in the Rue des Vetement en Cuir, near to the Festhall, had



CHAOS ON ELYSIUM

by *Serafine d' Lache*

ELYSIUM (near Tradegate) - Unconfirmed reports have reached the SIGIS offices that a small horde of slaad invaded Elysium, near Tradegate. Chant on the planes is that some unexplainable planar effect dumped about 200 of the frog fiends into a platoon of guardinals. Though details on the incident are sketchy, it is believed that at least one Sigilian merchant caravan was involved in the altercation that ensued.

The Planar Trade Consortium was quick to deny that the caravan belonged to their operations, stating that "there are so many independents these days. More the reason for a strengthening of planar trade regulations."

[Author: [Paul Wolfe](#)]



HARMONIUM ISSUE VAGUE DESCRIPTION OF CIPHER KILLER

IN AN unusually abrupt announcement, the Hamronium have issued what can only be described as a pathetically vague description of the killer of Ciphers, who is at the time of press still at large in the Cage. The eye-witness descriptions, so inadequate they could have been gleaned from a *speak with dead* spell, describe the attacker as "human-like, of average height and build, wearing nondescript clothing, and with no special distinguishing features". A stunned gaggle of cullers heard this announcement and were too

been raided by the Harmonium. Although the precise details are at this stage unclear, it seems that the establishment was the front for some kind of slaving cartel. However, Sensates in the place said the Harmonium were just looking for a thrill. We'll have the full dark of this story next week.

[Author: [Alex Roberts](#)]

Hardheads involved in the investigation had made themselves scarce. On later grilling, Mover Three Malkalotl admitted that magic and psionic detection had been used to determine the description, a practice which has led in the past to suspects escaping from trial on technical grounds. However, given that the killer is more likely to be killed by a falling rock than get caught given that description, the Harmonium appear to be making a rather poor pretence of doing their jobs, in this cullers humble opinion.

[Author: [Jon Winter](#)]



***Callers and artists wanted for SIGIS
applicants must be literate and on the case***
[Applicants should contact the Editor](#)



[Consult the Mimir Again](#)

