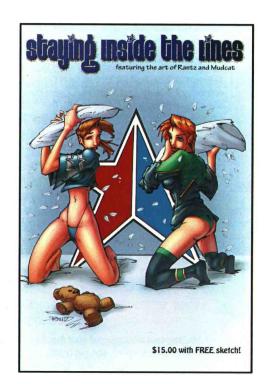
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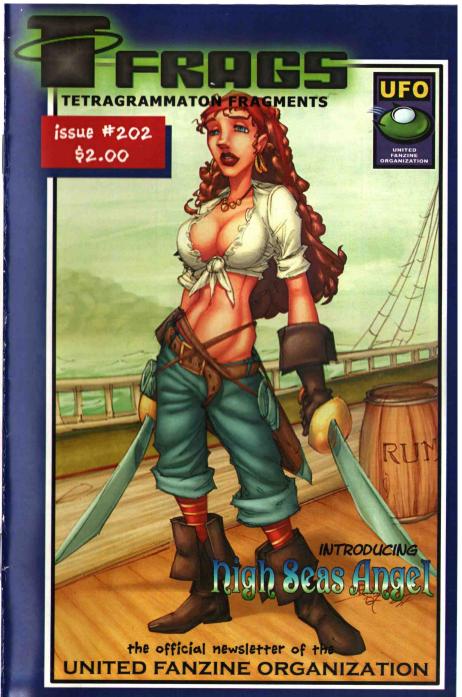
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PORTAL THOUGHTS

Nic Carcieri

Well here it is... my first column in my first T-frags as chairman of our merry little band of publishers. I wanted to once more take a moment and thank all of you for putting your faith in me to lead us into 2008! I'm very proud to take on this role and hope to make a positive impact. As you all know, the website is up and running. Please remember it is a constantly evolving entity and your input and thoughts are more than welcomed. If you have any ideas on how to improve it, please, please, please speak up! I hope you also enjoy my inaugural issue of **T-Frags**. I worked very hard to put together a quality issue. For those of you who read **Snappy Stories Vol.1**, you'll find included in this issue the second chapter of **The London Fog**, featuring art by Anthony Hary.

So, let's start with the obligatory... What's going on? stuff... As you all know, I got selected to move to the second round of the horror screenwriting contest. At the time of publication of this issue, I've handed in the written treatment for my film Quonset and am waiting to see if I make it the third round. I've still got Ninth Order coming out early in '08 and I'm also developing another series for Bluewater called Dead End Boys. Also watch your mailboxes for the arrival of the first issue of my own small press publication called Spaghetti Junction.





Now, onto the sexy lass who graced the cover of this issue. Meet Max Angel, Pirate Queen and star of a project I'm developing over at **Atomic Pop Art**. Look for this project, tentatively titled **High Seas Angel** late next year.

I'd like to close this issue's column with a few words about our out-going Chairman Jason DeGroot. Jason did a fine job during his tenure, bringing in new members and producing some great issues of **T-Frags**, including the landmark 200th issue, which featured contributions from many of the founding members of the UFO.

Recently it seems, Jason's life seems to have taken an unfortunate turn. As you all read in **T-Frags 201**, Jason lost a close friend in a

Ru

tragic accident earlier this year. Whether as a result of that incident or not, Jason has canelled his e-mail and cell phone accounts and seems to have withdrawn from his friends, even taking down the **Repercussion Comics** website.

I've known Jason for a few years. He was the one who brought me into the UFO and got me interested in small press publishing. I was there at the beginnings of **Repercussion Comics**, saw it go through some ups and downs and come out the other side with both guns blazing. I believe **RC** was on the verge of becoming a great small press publisher and it saddens me to think that it's future is now uncertain.

Jason, if you are reading this, please know that we, your fellow UFO'ers are your friends and we're here if you need us. Be well my friend.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

REVIEWS OF FURY

The Adventurers #6

John Yeo Jr.



I'd like to begin this issues set of reviews with the latest issue of *The Adventurers*, written and illustrated by John Yeo Jr. The sixth issue of *The Adventurers*, entitled *The Season of Uncertainty* begins a new two part story arc in which the heroes now must deal with life after *The Greater Good*. The team has to earn a living and find their place in the world now that hey know the truth about Lord Grayle and the true origins of their powers.

Again, as with previous issues, John does a good job of balancing all the members of the group within the book. It's not an easy task

and John does it well. With the exception of John "Manimal" Asbury being abducted by the newly introduced villain, Arsenic, issue six is largely a character / dialogue driven narrative. The read is a bit long at times. John fits a lot of story in each page. By virtue, the fonts are small and packed into each panel. My advice to John would be to be more economical with his dialogue and narrative.

What I liked about the book is watching the heroes deal with real-life situations. Sorceress has to deal with the fact that not only is her father not dead, but he is in fact Lord Grayle. Manimal must find a way to balance his feelings about Sorceress as a teammate and as an object of love. Prism now has to find a job to support not only herself, but her estranged daughter who has now been left on her doorstep. I also like the new logo the streamlined look gives the book a more professional feel.

Am I mistaken, or on page 6 is that the same Chicago restaurant where Ferris Bueller masqueraded as **Abe Froman**, **the Sausage King of Chicago**? I don't think it was a coincidence that the man Comet is meeting with has the last name Bueller as well. Or was it?

All in all, another good outing for John and his bunch, we'll see where this new adventure takes *The Adventurers!*

Summer of Nove

by Tim Kelly



I should start by saying I am a *huge* fan of Tim's work. Though we have never met in person, I feel like I know him through his work. Tim's books are always so real and heartfelt. Like Tim, I am a Dad of a child with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). I received Tim's previous book; *Springtime For Autism* shortly after my son Ben was diagnosed and was literally brought to tears reading it. As a parent, receiving the news that your child is different or challenged in some way can be devastating. Finding out someone else out

there was going through the same things as me was a huge comfort. Needless to say, when I received **Summer of Nove** and was greeted by Tim's rendition of Emily sporting a big, beautiful smile, I was eager to jump right in.

Again, we're treated to a very personal story about Tim and Emily, although this time, we get to see a little be more about Tim's life outside just being Emily's Dad. I don't know, but I suspect that these books are very cathartic for Tim. Trying to find that balance between being a Dad and caregiver to a special needs child and also trying to take care of himself must take its toll at times. Tim seems to have found a very positive outlet for those frustrations.

I wish I had some words of wisdom to share with Tim, but I'm not that wise. What I can say, is that if we ever get a chance to meet in person, I have a big hug waiting for he and Emily. (That is, if she'll let me!!)

Whereas I cried when I read **Springtime for Autism**, when I was finished with **Summer of Nove**, I had a big smile on my face. My smile though, was not nearly as big or as beautiful as Emily's.

skeeps bleeps

Brought to you by Steve Keeter PO Box 536368 / Orlando, FL 32853-6368

This here was typed on November 16, 2007

A New Era Begins for the UFO.

Nic Carcieri has ascended to the mighty and fabled UFO Chairman's throne, and a new era has truly begun for the co-op. Nic is already off to a terrific start, what with that spiffy new website that keeps getting better week by week. It's an honor for this old fan to serve alongside as the Emergency Chairman. Looking forward to a terrific year!

And hats off to our pal Jason DeGroot who, in spite of a year riddled with personal problems, managed to keep the UFO afloat and publish that historical 200th issue. Thanks for the hard work, Jason, and we'll keep reading those great **Repercussion Comics**!

A Few Reviews are in Order.

The Adventurers #6 (John Yeo)

This is a fabulous super-hero comic, one of the very best in small press. John Yeo has assembled a fascinating group of characters, who seem like real living, breathing entities, complete with complex



personalities and relationships. And the half alien premise is fascinating in and of itself; there are just endless possibilities to be examined here. And that is a rarity in today's comics world, an inspiring and engaging epic that is unpredictable, and the sky's the limit. I especially enjoyed the episode with Manimal... taken captive by the mercenary Arsenic, and the witty exchange between them (ending with him at first naked and thenin a skirt! HA! HA!) A very humerous turn in an

otherwise dramatic comic. *The Adventurers* is a 5 star comic, ol' Skeet highly recommends it.

Guardians of the Galaxial Spaceways (Jason DeGroot)

Shades of *Fantastic Voyage*, this tale of the *Guardians* inside their own ship's captain (!) is a hair-raising, rousing adventure! The art by JBroStudio is perfect, at the same time both cartoony and dynamic, and the figures really are never static, they really seem to move. Jason's scripting is at its very best, mixing humor and drama (but mostly humor) in perfect parts. And that front cover is gorgeous. I liked the way the (now seemingly domesticated) monster virus is reading what appears to be a small press comic in the final panel. Great stuff, cover to cover, this one is a real winner.

Kreetor Chapter 1 & 2 (Jason DeGroot)

Jason does it again, with the most complex, epic comic he's created yet. It sort of takes *Planet of the Apes* to a higher evolutionary plain, and introduces us to an amazing world of mutated, apes, birds and reptiles. And these beings are at constant war, defending their sharply divided territories. The overthrow of King Brik in issue 1 leads to political turmoil in issue 2, and the beginings of a fascinating quest. But this quest has alreadt been interrupted, as Gore and his friends unexpectedly find themsleves having to rescue the daughter of an old soldier--from monster crocodilian creatures. Great, great scripting by Jason and stellar artwork from Dann Phillips, Marc Haines, James Newell and Joel Klampert... It's often breathtakingly realistic (check out the brutal battle scenes in #1 and the massacre of the Fulkons in #2). There is very little, perhaps nothing, in today's mainstream as good as this.

Mad trio 2 (Jason DeGroot)

Awesome backstory told here, and, interestingly, from three different perspectives (Kurtz, Murdok and Belrebu). The point of view of the brutal Kurtz is not surprising, he's trying to rewrite history (parallels exist in this century). But what's more engaging is Bel's clarification of Murdok's more truthful version, later in the issue. Bel is one of a persecuted and enslaved race of reptos and can see things more clearly, for just that reason. Clearer than his friend Murdok, a human. And the ending is really unexpected, and totally leaves one wanting

more. Carla Berrocal does a fine job as artist, creating a dark and shadowy post-holocaust world that's suitably grim and gritty. Great comic! When will we see *Mad Trio3*?!?!

Miracle Force 1 (Jason DeGroot / Jerry Smith)

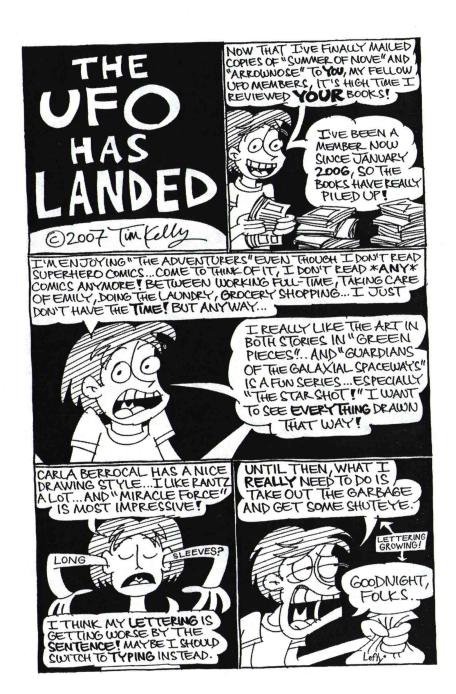
Jerry Smith's wonderful team of unusual super folk gets a new look, with truly astonishing artwork by Terry Flippo. Jerry's writing is better than ever here, exciting and quite clever, and I LOVE the characters!—Especially one guy who is literally a fish in a bowl... perched on top of a superhero's body! And also--Pablo Picasso reborn as a *Ghost Rider* type character (is that weird or what?). This is great, great comix, just about the finest yet from Jerry. And that's saying a lot! Keep up the stellar work Dude; it doesn't get, as they say, any better than this.

Out of time!

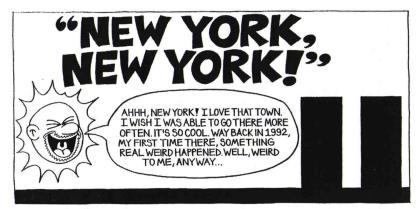
Gotta run, the family's on its way to North Carolina to spend Turkey day with the Grandfolks. See you all soon!

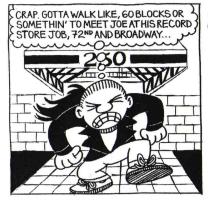
All the best.

Steve Keeter

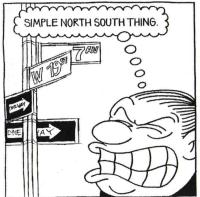


^{**}Thanks to former UFO member and Fan-Atic Press founder Allen Freeman for the great illo of Skeet's alter-ego The Loathly Daddy!











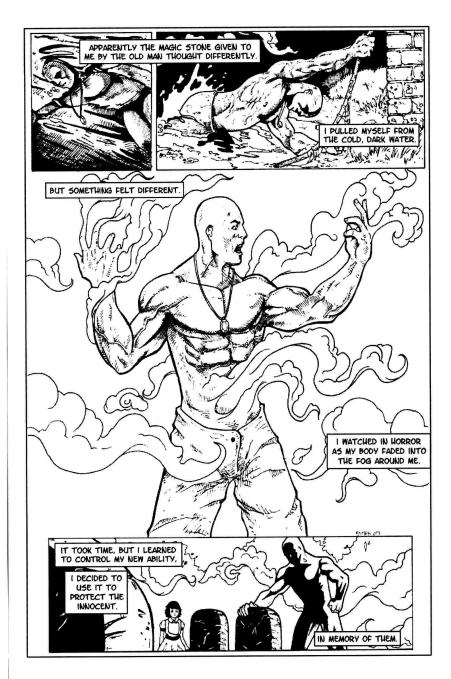














DEADLY WORD PRODUCTION

from the hands and mind of marc haines

Hello my fellow UFO-nians. I hopw the holidays are treating you well. As some of you may or may not know, there's been a bit of a shake-up at the Repercussion Comics foundation, and I thought I'd share my portion of the story. Our good friend and former chairman Jason DeGroot has decided to go on a bit of a 'leave of absence', leaving the reigns of the RC stable in my hands. Wow. It came as a bit of a shock, as he canceled his email address, cellphone, and slipped away into the night. Through the network of his friends, we found out he was all right, and is going to be incommunicado for a while. It seems the weight of producing comics and the pace, as well as the cost, was getting to be a bit much for him. I can completely understand. I got back into doing comics again for the fun, the joy of putting together lines on a page to tell a story. What I didn't intend to do was get into something that was

supposed to be a money-making or self-supporting venture. I want to make comics because it's fun.

Now, I find myself in the same place as Jason. What next?

For now, it's doing fun pieces, like this cover for John Yeo's Adventurers. I love doing super-hero stuff, and this is a lot of fun. This cover here is part one of a three-part storyline, and if done right, the three covers will spread out and make one dynamic panorama of action. Fun! I am going to now have to script issues three and four of Doe, Jane myself, as well as the

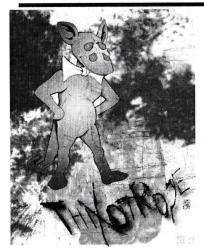
rest of the chores, because I will see this series finished. You will too. I will mail you all out issue 2 of Doe, Jane this next week, and I hope you like it.

Does anyone here remember our old pal Rafer Roberts? Well, his Plastic Farm got picked up by Ambrosia Press so you'll see more from this demented genius and the exploits of Chester Carter and the Kamikaze Kid.



DEADLY WORD PRODUCTION

from the hands and mind of marc haines



Here is a piece I shot off for the new series, the Thixotrope; an agent sent to keep an eye on Chester (unseen to everyone else besides Chester, that is). I told Rafer that Plastic Farm was my inspiration for the courage to do Sketch, and this is my tribute to his work. Thanks Rafer! I urge all of you to follow his work at www.plasticfarm.com and wish him luck!

In the 'What Else Is New' column, I have begun doing reviews for www.comicnews.info!

I was lucky enough to submit a few sample reviews and the next thing I knew I was throwing out a weekly spiel on The Good, The Bad and The Ugly in today's mainstream and indie comic offerings! I find it kinda funny, as I don't think of myself as a writer but an artist; but, with my new 'sitution' creator-wise, I guess I'll have to bust my chops in yet another category! Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

I have not seen a lot of new stuff from the group lately. I'm not sure if Jim Kingman's fabulous 'zine has seen another issue, which is a shame because his knowledge of Silver and Bronze age books dwarfs my own, and it was a joy to relive some of those wacky books of the '60's and '70's. JKC is still trudging along on Fantasy Theater, and every issue gets better. John Yeo's Adventurers is a small press gem of a group book. I hope everyone is grooving on it. I might get brave and do a few small copy machine-stapled Kinkos books for a goof, get back to my roots.



DEADLY WORD PRODUCTION

from the hands and mind of marc haines



I would have to say that my best piece of news is the release of issue 2 of Doe, Jane. It has been received very well her in lowa and back in Texas, and it is probably the most confident art work I have been lucky enough to produce. I know we are all our own biggest critics, but I feel really good about this one! I will get copies out to one and all shortly, and look forward to your feedback. As I mentioned at least once or twice, moving forward I will have to handle the actual scripting dialogue, so it might take an extra month to get #3 rolling.

So, as we move into the New Year, I look forward to some new blood with Nic and Skeets at the helm. As Nic has made clear, Steve's been around a looooong time and is a huge influence in both the UFO and the indie small press comic scene, and I don't think we've seen a glimpse of what Nic is truly capable of. I'd like to see a lot of enthusiasm and input over the next year from all of our members, as I believe you get out of something what you put into it. Remember: don't take this all so seriously! It's comics and it's fun. That's what the UFO is all about. I can't wait to see where we take Serial:Killer this year, and I wouldn't be surprised if Nic has another trick or two up his sleeve. Also: if anyone needs any pin-ups or lettering or pre-press done, drop me a line. I might just be freed up to do it! 'Til next time, Excelsior!!! -marco/Dr.Ink!



WELCOME TO MY YEONIVERSE

JOHN YEO * SCREAMING MONKEY COMICS 1302 N. MAIN STREET - SUITE 7 - Crown Point IN 46307 www.screamingmonkeycomics.com

Hello, everyone! Well, the holiday season is upon us once again, and I hope all of you are well, and safe, and more importantly, I hope you're all hard to work on new projects!

I'd like to begin the column by congradulating Nic Carcieri on his landslide victory in his quest to take over the reigns of this grand old organization. In what seemed like just days after Nic's appointment, we had a fresh new website with a great new look, and T-Frags #201 finally appeared.

I know Jason was doing a great job, and he's one of the coolest cats I know, but I can't help but get the feeling he was in over his head this year. (Believe me, I know that life can intrude...remember my tenure as chairman in 1997? For what it's worth, you did a better job than I did!) So now that Jason has stepped down, he can concentrate on telling the great stories that he's known for! We all win!

For those of you that mentioned an apparent allusion to the Iraq war in my recent ADVENTURERS book, I applaud your keen eye! I thought the subtle hint might have been missed! But to answer the questions I was sensing, I wasn't really trying to preach an anti-war message. It was merely a comment on the frustrations of parents who don't agree with the war, yet have children who are dying in the conflict. The war may be necesary, but the pain it causes is all too real and that's what inspired Grayle's motivations for what he did. The ADVENTURERS has so, so little to do with the Iraq war, I assumed no one would notice a subtle anti-war sentiment. I shall never the underestimate the sharp minds of the UFO again!

On another note, I'd like to apologize about our main character Joey in my installment of SERIAL: KILLER. I modeled our protagonist after the only artwork I had available to me at the time, which was the pages from Chapter Four. Apparently, he looks NOTHING like he did in Chapter One. How did that happen?

Thanks to everyone who said such nice things and such constructive criticism for my book---I will take all of your comments to heart and try to make future issues even better. Team books may be tough to write, but I love doing them and I'm glad some folks out there are enjoying them.

I want to enjoy your books too, gentlemen---I've noticed a slim stream of new books from my colleagues in the UFO. Why, I believe there are some of you who haven't sent me anything yet! Let's get cracking, my friends! I want to see your work---it motivates me to try harder!

KREETOR #1 and 2 (Jason DeGroot)

I was just flat out impressed with what I saw in Kreetor! I've always wanted to do a fantasy adventure, and I will certainly use this book as an inspiration.

Jason's writing is wonderful as usual, and his choice of artists seem to be just as motivated to tell a great tale as Jason is! An epic tale, colorful characters, and a great little clifthanger to keep us waiting eagerly for part three.

a great little cliffhanger to keep us waiting eagerly for part three.

Now, I've heard rumors that I'm known for packing too many words on one page myself, and Jason is doing the same thing here from time to time. (Of course, that nice full-size comic page makes it a lot easier to read than mine, I'm sure.) I'm also having a problem relating to our central characters. These aren't the most attractive group of heroes....I want my fantasy women to have noses, dammit! But that's just my hang-up...KREETOR has the beginnings of a terrific epic in the making. Now let's up the ante and get some fantastic battles, deadly traps, high adventure and romance and magic and make this a really fun ride! I wants more!

TWILIGHT SAMURAIS #3 (The Keeters!)

Ah....ummm.....I'm lost. This was hard to follow. Someone in the industry once told me that every chapter of your story should try to quickly sum up What Has Come Before early in the book, for the benefit of people (like me) who did not get a chance to see the first two issues. This was hard for me to judge...and the truth is, it's a flat out adorable book! I liked what I saw and the art is fun, so when you resume the further adventures of the Twilight Samurais down the line, please add an intro page to let me know who's who and what's happened before. Because this looks like a book I would love!

SUMMER OF NOVE (Tim Kelly)

There's no other way to explain it. I complete fell in *nove* with this book. A beautiful, beautiful heartfelt love letter from his father to his daughter. If Tim were in my store, I'm sure he'd be showing me endless photos of Emily...and since he can't, he's given us this book instead. I've never done any autobiographical books before, but I'm pretty sure I'd never be able to one as touching as this one was. (*My* book would probably tell the story of the Forbidden Hot Tub Incident of 1995, but that's a whole 'nother story.)

The mailbox was light this time around, so let's keep those stories coming!

Now, what are the plans for this year's UFO Annual? I've got a comic book store and a space waiting on the shelves to show off your work to everyone else, so let's all pitch in and make a spectacular one this year!

Tell next time, it's a honor to be in your company gentlemen. Have a grat holiday season, and let's have a very productive 2008!

- john

Land of Albonia by Alan Evans

Hey all, I'd like to start with a 'thank you' and 'good luck' to our outgoing chairman, Jason DeGroot. We'll miss you and hope you come back soon.

I got to see J.Kevin and John at Wizard World back in August. It was great seeing JK again, and it was great meeting John. I wish I would've had time time to chat more and maybe even hang out. Maybe next year, eh?

I'm happy to report that *Sawdust* finished its 4 issue run (132 pages BW) and we collected it in time (and I mean just barely in time) for Wizard World. We did better sales with the trade than at any other time we've been selling comics, so that was very cool. If anyone is interested in picking up a copy for themselves, drop me a line at workshedstudio@yahoo.com and I'll hook you up with the friend price of \$10, which includes shipping.

Enough of the shilling, let me catch up on some great material that you guys put out.

Let's start with T-Frags 201.

Serial Killer-I've known Jason to be a very good writer for a long time now, so his skill in this short story was not surprising. I'm still a tad new to Xia's work and his stuff was excellent. Jason and Xia worked complimented each other well on this collaboration. Serial Killer is a lot of fun and I can't wait to get my crack at it.

Are We Dead Yet, written by Nic and illustrated by Jason Flowers.

It was a great teaser and I think the artwork was generally solid throughout. I don't think it's easy to spot heavy blacks like that, so that's a big plus right there. I've always liked Nic's writing so this teaser has got me hankering for more.

Summer of Nove by Tim Kelly

Man, this was a really sweet read. It was one of my favorite comics that I read. I read it a few times and it really made me smile. :)





Fantasy Theatre #18 by many people and J.K Carrier. The first story, "Song of the Siren," was very good overall. The part about seeing the villian on TV so soon after the first brawl seemed a bit of a stretch, but the rest of the story and art more than made up for it.

'Custody Battle' had me until the very end with the future self swerve. Overall, the art was good and the story flowed well.

The Adventureres #6 by John Yeo Jr.

The art isn't always great on this, but it's consistent. The story is well done and John always packs the pages with a great amount of action, both active and passive. Manimal had me cracking up at every other thing that he said. Too funny! I also liked John's notes at the end.



Snappy Stories Volume 1 by Nic Carcieri and others.



as it should've been! More!! But, I'll take what I can get.

The London Fog was terriffic. I've worked with Joel Cotejar before (seen in Sawdust) and I know just how dynamite he is as in illustrator. Top notch, the guy should be working in comics professionally. The story was very cool too, set in the times of yore (you don't really see too much of that nowadays) and that helped build up my interest. Perfect Storm was another winner. I think overall it was a splendid read and I'm partial to anthologies by nature. I think the lettering could've used some help. The football shaped slugs of type with the straight edge balloon

The only real complaint here was that Kylie West wasn't nearly as long

tails was a tad distracting, though it's understandable if not many others were bothered by

I actually wrote a lettering tutorial, and I might have to submit it to the next T-Frags, especially if you guys have Illustrator.

Thanks for reading this far!

Alan Evans www.workshedstudio.com









R.I.P. MIKE WIERINGO

I wanted to take a few minutes to talk about Mike Wieringo. It was a sad day this summer when the news of Mike's passing broke. On August 12, 2007 Mike died of an apparent heart attack. He was 44

years old.

It would be impossible to summarize everything he accomplished over his career in just a few paragraphs, but suffice it to say Ringo's hands touched nearly every major character from DC and Marvel. From The Flash to Robin to Spider-man to The Fantastic Four to Superman, Ringo had memorable runs on them all. Mike also worked with a virtual who's who of writers including Todd DeZago, Chuck Dixon and Mark Waid, with whom he co-created Bart Allen, the young speedster known as Impulse.

I've had the honor of meeting Mike at a couple of cons. Mike always carried

himself in the most courteous and professional manner. He took time to sign every book, shake every hand and talk to every fan that came

e every hand and talk to every fan that came to see him. His friends would say that at every con Mike would prepare a long list of commisions, often times he would be unable to make it through the list due to the time he gave to each fan. Many a fan would receive an envelope in the mail a few weeks after a con with their artwork.

artwork by Craig Rousseau

Those who only knew his work admired Mike Wieringo. Those who knew him well, loved him. My deepest condolences go out to his family and friends. He will be missed.



THE LIFO CHECKLIST

January 2008





T-Frags #201 & #202: The latest editions of the UFO newsletter. Covers by Marc Haines and Rantz. Featuring contributions by Jim Pack, Jason DeGroot, Steve Keeter and Nic Carcieri. For ordering info, contact Nic Carcieri at: unitedfanzineorg@gmail.com



The Adventurers #6: "The Season of Uncertainty" continues the story of John Yeo Jr's team of heroes following the events of "The Greater Good." For ordering info, contact John Yeo Jr at: screamerboy23@hotmail.com



Kreetor #2: The long awaited follow up to the epic fantasy that began it all! "The Pyron Scourge" After the successful Gorillian coup, Gore finds himself in the most challenging role yet.... Gorillian Ambassador! Meanwhile, the savage creatures from the ocean continue their deadly rampage in Gul! For ordering info, contact Jason DeGroot at: jason.degroot@gmail.com



Mad Trio #2: Murdok and his Repto pal have been arrested for providing books to the people of Horrorshow. The only way to save themselves is to recite the Official History to the Lord and Master Kurtz himself. A tale of torture, madness and reptile jokes with some nuclear holocaust thrown in for good measure. For ordering info, contact Jason DeGroot at: jason.degroot@gmail.com

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