

# The Comicaze Report

"The best way to get the really good scoop is to just make it up."

issue #2, may 2004

## HOLLY-WATCH

New Line fined for indecency with the title of their new *Hawaiian D---* movie.



Halle Berry looks to prove her versatility as she signs on to play Abbey Chase, Sydney Savage, Silicon Valerie, and Natalia Kastle in the upcoming *Danger Girl* movie.



HBO and Marvel team up to produce a new supervillain prison drama series.



Dark Horse spoofs Tolkien and Flatley with their new movie, *Lord of 'The Mask.'*



After *Seinfeld*, Superman looks for some street cred alongside Chris Rock.



Columbia Pictures plans on shaking things up with their big five movie crossover event.



Lions Gate Films snatches up the film rights on Alan Moore's most recent writing...a letter to a friend.

## DISCLAIMER

All material in The Comicaze Report is fictitious and intended solely for the purpose of entertainment. Names are fabricated and any similarity to real people or places is purely coincidental except in those cases where public figures are being satirized.

## Magical Writing Gnomes End Strike

Portland, OR - Brian Michael Bendis finalized an agreement today to end the strike of his magical writing gnomes. The gnomes, source of Bendis' prolific writing speed, walked out six weeks ago in a bid to gain better healthcare, a better percentage of the royalties from trade paperback collections, and Rooty Tooty Fresh and Fruity® breakfasts.

"I'm glad that's over with," said Bendis. "I got a little nervous when I realized we slipped from six months ahead of schedule down to just four."

This is the first incident of a walkout since 2002 when gnomes left writer/director Kevin Smith. According to Smith, a dozen of the gnomes involved in the Bendis strike used to be in his employ. "Those little #@\*&\$\$. We were talking things out, and they just left. They were gonna get a #@\*&!%@ Jacuzzi and the extra allowance for action figures they wanted. And they still walked. They claimed some crappy prophecy said Bendis was their long lost gnome king. That's total %^!\$#\*+. He doesn't even have a #@\*&!%@ beard!"

Smith further speculated that more gnome losses and strikes could soon follow. Some writers, like *Invincible's* Robert Kirkman are already prepared for those possibilities. "A while back, I started studying necromancy and kept a close watch on Bendis' home. When he started getting more books from Marvel, he started burning through lots of gnomes. Just one simple ritual, and now, they work for me as completely loyal zombie gnomes. Even though they're not quite as efficient as living gnomes, they don't eat or sleep or strike, and in a few years, I'll have numbers on my side. "

Gail Simone, writer on *Birds of Prey*, approached the situation with a lot more optimism. "We like the same shows and the same foods. We're like family,

## Wizard World Alaska

Congers, NY - Taking inspiration from the tech industry, Wizard Entertainment joins forces with Geek Cruises, Inc. ([www.geekcruises.com](http://www.geekcruises.com)) to create a new twist on comic and pop culture conventions-the convention cruise. Gareb Shamus, CEO and Chairman of Wizard, chatted with The Comicaze Report about Wizard World Alaska.

Comicaze Report: So, why a cruise?

Gareb Shamus: We wanted to do something unique that would also allow for a tax-deductible vacation.

CR(azy): Unique? Were you aware that the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund did a comic cruise back in 2000 called Making Waves?

GS: Yes, but we have that situation under control.

CR(epes): Under control?

GS: Our R&D department is close to a breakthrough in time re-engineering. With this new technology, we'll be able to purge that event from history and be the first ones with a comic cruise.

CR(icket): Why does Wizard have a research and development department?



and they've never given me any trouble. Okay, I caught them one time playing doctor with my action figures...and the egg beater, but other than those incidents, there haven't been any problems."

Other writers are treating the situation a bit more cautiously, and companies like GnomeTemp, Inc., the discount agency that provides outsourcing for Chuck Austen, recently increased their staff of gnome laborers by twenty percent to prepare for the situation. Many creators still seem concerned about the quality of the firm's work though. GnomeTemp CEO Sheldon P. Liddleman provided some details on their quality control process. "Every gnome at GnomeTemp undergoes weeks of intensive training and must pass strict in-house certification exams created by industry professionals like Chuck Austen, Mark Alessi, and Bill Jemas."

GS: It's the result of a brainstorming retreat in New Hampshire. Weeks of bad food and dehydration will lead to interesting ideas like using time manipulation to erase all the events that caused the industry to crash back in the 90s. The technology's also good for a little temporal line-cutting.

CR(oak): Well, good luck with that...I think. So, back to Wizard World Alaska...do you have a lot of creators lined up as guests?

GS: Plenty. We actually had to start turning creators down to leave room for fans.

CR(etin): Really? That many creators wanted to attend?

GS: We were concerned no one would want to actually go to Alaska, so we offered to cover their bar tabs. Response was overwhelming. In fact, the entire Image staff reserved five minutes after the release went out.

CR(ooked): That'll definitely spice things up a bit. For more information on how to meet drunken creators stranded on a ship with no hope of escape, check out the latest issue of Wizard magazine.

## THE ANTI-FANBOY BRIGADE



### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

You find yourself afflicted with Hominidaetis--a condition where your neck disappears and your feet shrink. This disease became a widespread epidemic in the 90s, but it's very rare nowadays. A number of comics from that era can show you how people were able to go on with their lives as normal when afflicted by this strange condition. Recommendation: Rob Liefeld

### GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

After a near-fatal identity theft situation, you'll change your name and get a new lease on life. With one syllable each for your first and last name, this new name is so much easier to remember, and you quickly leap ahead of talented coworkers with names like Seinkiewicz, Snejbjerg, and Dzialowski. Recommendation: Jim Lee

### CANCER (June 22-July 22)

We are UDON. You will be assimilated. Recommendation: UDON

### LEO (July 23-August 22)

After lathering up with that ultra-strength industrial soap you bought on eBay, you slip in the shower and slide right through dimensions to a world where there's only a half dozen different types of faces. At least, they don't all have the same hair style. Recommendation: John Romita Jr

### VIRGO (August 23-September 22)

You and some friends stumble across the rundown home of an aging inventor and discover his unpatented filmmaking technology "Undies-Vision." Plan for a lust-hate relationship during your career in the industry. Recommendation: Ed Benes

### LIBRA (September 23-October 22)

Your inquisitive nature gets the better of you this month. Your constant questioning of moral and potentially illicit situations leads to a CIA investigation, which uncovers your stash of monkey porn artwork. Lucky for you, it's not kiddie monkey porn. Recommendation: Mike Oeming

### SCORPIO (October 23-November 21)

You find yourself trapped in a box so small that the echo of each word is deafening. You really wish you could be in a bigger box that had more room to allow you to talk. Recommendation: Seth Damoose

### SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21)

This month you'll find a way to make money with a farm animal and scantily clad women...and it doesn't involve the porn industry or Paris Hilton. Recommendation: Marc Silvestri

### CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19)

Still feeling a bit paranoid? Try Sue-B-Gone brand law firms...recommended by 3 out of 4 Hollywood studios. Recommendation: Todd McFarlane

### AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18)

A brawl breaks out in your local arcade, and a book flung through the air finds its way to your skull (we're not quite sure why someone would be reading in an arcade, but that's what the stars tell us). You awaken on a gurney in a recovery room at the local hospital with the book tightly in your grasp..."Finding Your Own North Star." You read through the book and discover your true calling in life...what you truly want to do. You leave your old life behind to pursue this new path, and after a couple years, you discover you're following the wrong star. Recommendation: Joe Madureira

### PISCES (February 19-March 20)

You encounter a block when trying to get some of your creative work done, so you decide to stretch your artistic wings with a little painting. You soon discover why painters are so creative and imaginative...paint fumes. Recommendation: Alex Ross

### ARIES (March 21-April 19)

John: Why are you standing like that?  
Jane: Standing like what?  
John: Like you're some kind of supermodel.  
Jane: I have no idea what you're talking about.  
John: See! You even did the pouty lip thing just like one of those big-name models in the cosmetics commercials.  
Jane: I think you've had a little too much to drink.  
John: No, I haven't.  
John: Sharon! I need your opinion on something.  
Sharon: Whatcha need?  
John: Look at Jane. Doesn't she look like she's striking one of those supermodel poses?  
Sharon: No.  
John: Whadya mean 'no'?  
John: Waitaminnit...you're doing it too.  
Sharon: Doing what?  
John: Standing like you're in the middle of some big fashion show. Just like Jane.  
Jane: I'm just standing. There's nothing special about it.  
Sharon: Same here.  
John: Oh yeah? Then why is everyone else standing...differently?  
John: Now, everyone's standing just like you. I feel like I've landed right in the middle of some crazy Zoolander world.  
Jane: Crazy. I think that description sums it all up.  
Sharon: Definitely.  
John: I'm not crazy, and I'm not drunk. Why am I the only one standing...  
John: Gah! Now, I'm doing it too!  
Recommendation: Michael Turner

THE COMIC REPORT

## QUILTY PARTIES

The *Comicaze Report* is brought to you in reality-defying insane-o-vision by writer Jeffery Stevenson and illustrator Seth Damoose (with logo donated by Jim "Kep!" Keplinger). These two creators still pick on those poor Asgardians tykes (and their family and friends...and enemies) every week in their *Brat-halla* webcomic at [Moviepoopshoot.com](http://Moviepoopshoot.com), and they're almost ready to unleash their fantasy-genre buddy comedy series, *Arazel & Xarenia* (it's also a screenplay...and a short story...and the characters are just so much fun to write that I might even write an epic poem or a rap). And there's not enough room to talk about the other projects...maybe we'll mention those next month.

Feel free to send comments to: [comicaze@darkora.net](mailto:comicaze@darkora.net)  
Archives: <http://storyboard.darkora.net/comicaze>

Thanks to Kevin Melrose (<http://thoughtballoons.blogspot.com>) for helping out with some name research.

Seth Damoose

