

Windscoept



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This is the *Windswept*, a publication of the Shire of Windkeep, of the Kingdom of the Outlands, of the Society for Creative Anachronism Inc. (SCA). *Windswept* is available from Pat Hansen, 10205 Powderhouse Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-9689. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policy.

Subscription Rates are \$0.75 for one issue November - December.
Submission and event announcements for next issue are due by October 25th.

CREDITS

overs:
"Medieval Life Illustrations" by Dover
Movie Reviews: by Da'ud Bob ibn Briggs
Tard Weaving: by Lady Isabeau d'Andrea
Armour 1066-1199: from Glasgow Museum Leaflet Armour 1
Order Designs: Various Clip Art Pattern Books and Chronicler's File



CALENDAR

AUGUST

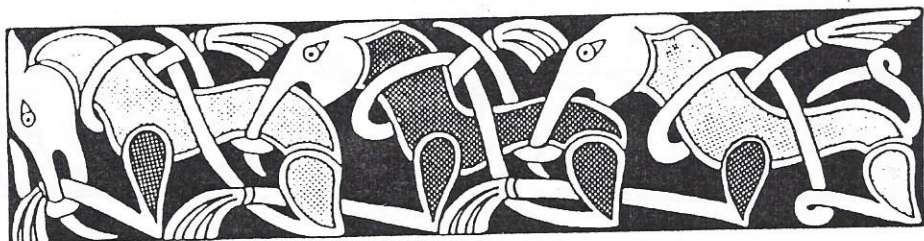
Friday	30	Field Of Gold	4:00PM	Crow Creek Campground
Saturday	31	Field Of Gold		Pawnee Grassland

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	1	Field Of Gold		Briggsdale CO
Monday	2	Field Of Gold	4:00PM	
Monday	2	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	3	Calligraphy Class		7PM 6521 Evers Boulevard
Thursday	5	Fighters/Fencers Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Monday	9	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	10	Research at the Library		7PM Laramie County Library
Thursday	12	Fighters/Fencers Practice	Holliday Park	5:45PM 19th & Morrie
Saturday	14	Queen's Prize Tournament		10:00AM CAERTHE
Saturday	14	Oktoberfest		10:00AM Lions Park
Monday	16	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	17	All Guild's Night		7PM 6521 Evers Boulevard
Thursday	19	Fighters/Fencers Practice	Holliday Park	5:45PM 19th & Morrie
Saturday and Sunday	21, 22	Rising of the Chinese Phoenix		9:00AM ARD TIR (Laramie)
Monday	23	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	24	Taster's Revel		7PM Lions Park Community Center
Thursday	26	Fighters/Fencers Practice	Holliday Park	5:45PM 19th & Morrie
Thursday	26	POPULACE MEETING		7PM Holliday Park
Saturday	28	In Search of Bayard		9:30PM UNSER IIAFEN
Monday	30	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie

OCTOBER

Tuesday	1	Calligraphy Class		7PM 6521 Evers Boulevard
Thursday	3	Fighters/Fencers Practice	Holliday Park	5:45PM 19th & Morrie
Monday	7	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	8	Research at the Library		7PM Laramie County Library
Thursday	10	Fighters/Fencers Practice	<i>Outdoors</i>	5:45PM Holiday Park
Saturday	12	OUTLANDS ARTS & SCIENCES		8:00AM Al-BARRAN
Sunday	13	OUTLANDS CROWN TOURNY		9:00AM Al-BARRAN
Monday	14	Fencer's Practice	Holliday Park	6:00PM 19th & Morrie
Tuesday	15	All Guild's Night		7PM 6521 Evers Boulevard
Thursday	17	Fighters/Fencers Practice	<i>Outdoors</i>	5:45PM Holiday Park
Tuesday	22	Taster's Revel		7PM Lions Park Community Center
Thursday	24	POPULACE MEETING		7PM Holliday Park
Monday	27	Fencer's Practice	Call for place	Call for time 778-3132.
Thursday	31	Fighters Practice	Call for place	Call for time 637-5293



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fighter Practice is Thursday outside at Holliday Park at the corner of 19th street and Morrie. For information call Lord Duncan MacAllister at 637-5293. Contact Lord Mavrikkii Andronikov at 778-8536 for information and availability of a ride to neighboring fighter practices.

Archery is weather dependent therefore call Lord Yanthlos the Quiet at 634-3500 for times, location, and if in fact it will happen.

Armouring is by contact at Lord Mavrikkii Andronikov's at 778-8536.

Calligraphers is the first Tuesday evening of each month at 6521 Evers Blvd. Contact Lady Isabeau d'Andrea at 634-3500

Fencer's Practices are Monday at Fighter's site and Thursday along with Fighter's. Starts Monday at 6:00 PM. Contact M'lord Peredur at 778-3132.

Research at the Library is the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Laramie County Library. Contact Lord Mlodn the Mercheant at 635-1320.

Bowyer's Class on the third Tuesday of each month at 6521 Evers Blvd has become All guild's Night for information call 634-3500.

Tasters's Revel is the fourth Tuesday evening of each month at Lion's Park Community Center from 7 PM to 10PM. Feast by Reservation only. There's a donation of \$5.00 per person. Contact Lady Aldyth Trefaldwyn at 632-1133 for times available and other information

Populace Meeting is the fourth Thursday evening of each month now after Fighters at Holliday Park.

UNSER HAFEN DANCE PRACTICE: is held second and fourth Monday's from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Call 635-1320 to see is a car is going from Windkeep.





OKTOBERFEST

4th ANNUAL

Come join Windkeep help Cheyenne celebrate
OKTOBERFEST

Saturday September 14th from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Lions Park (site of Banner Tourny)

Fighting and Medieval dancing shall be demoed.

USAF Academy Falconers

Puppeteers

Beer Tasting

3 Live Bands

Society for Creative Anachronism

Oktoberfest Pot-Luck

Lions Park Community Center

Site fee \$2.00

Pot-Luck Feast (serve 4 adults)

Building open 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Contact Mavrikkii at 778-8536

SENESCHALE SAYS

I have been remiss in my duties of reporting to our Shire members and those good neighbors who receive this publication out of Shire. For this unintended slight, I apologize.

So far we have had a busy and glorious Tourney Season. Banner was good fun and the public, as always, was fascinated. Thank you Master Rhys for autocrating the affair. Thank you also to Lord Mavrikii for running the Tourney. Crown in July was a wonderful success. I thank THL Aldyth for hosting this event and the cooks, Lord Bjarky, Lady Noemi, Lady Sarah and Lady Eilonwy for a delicious and plentiful feast. Feathers went off with only one small problem this year, lack of guests. Being the intimate affair it was we all knew everyone by name. (See enclosed article for more information and my thanks.) As I write, we are preparing for Defender. My thanks go out to Lady Noemi for putting together the A & S Competition and organizing the feast, Lord Duncan for running the fighting to Sir Mark's specifications and Lord Morcar for sponsoring the Archery Tourney. Next will be Oktoberfest which is always good fun. Thanks Lord Mavrikii for your help and support on this one.

Demo season is fast approaching. (See ad in this issue.) Please consider helping out with this.

THL Aldyth is stepping down as our Treasurer. (For all you hermits out there who are not aware, she is now the Kingdom's Chancellor of the Exchequer.) She has been in service to this Shire for many years and has done, always, an outstanding job. To you, Aldyth, I give a deep curtsy in respect for your loyal and generous service. Lady Madlen will be stepping in as the Shire's Treasurer. Welcome Madlen!



Unless you are one of those hermits I mentioned above, you are probably aware that my husband, Lord Morcar (a.k.a. Yanthlos) has been transferred to Denver. His work will begin with a somewhat, no, a completely awful schedule that includes all his weekends. With a threat of another move within the year, the smalls and I will remain in Windkeep through the School year. The above information is true and correct only for the present time and is scheduled to change daily. (Who knows, they may move him to Timbukto and I might want to go with him. No, they do not presently have a terminal in Timbukto but they might create one.)

Sir Mark, my deputy, has tentatively agreed to take over as Seneschal when needed. He is presently in Turkey (yes, the country) digging up Romans (Archeology) where he assured me he will devote his every moment in deep contemplation of this awesome responsibility. (Baron Titus, I am sorry that Sir Mark is disturbing your country men's rest. Being Roman you know how troublesome those Germanic people can be.)

In service to the Shire,

Isabeau

Isabeau d'Andrea
Seneschal, Windkeep

Exchequer Report

Good gentles of the Shire of Windkeep. The state of the treasury is sound. Windkeep held three events this last quarter, Crown Tourney, Feathers, and Defender. Crown Tourney made a profit of which \$725, roughly half, went to the Crown as the suggested contribution. We refunded \$200 of fees associated with Crown, Feathers, and Defender each lost less than \$20. Tasters Revel is still barely breaking even. The bank statement for August reflects:

Starting Balance:	\$1632.79
Outstanding checks:	\$ 225.48
Total Credits:	\$ 2242.45
Total Debits:	\$ 1485.39
Adjusted bank balance:	\$ 2104.37

CARD WEAVING

A brief history:

Card weaving or tablet weaving is one of the oldest forms of weaving known today. Almost without exception card woven bands from the past were narrow, strong and highly decorative.

Card weaving is known to have existed from Northern Africa to Iceland and Scandinavia - throughout Europe and Asia. It has even been proposed that ancient Egyptian's practiced card weaving.

The earliest discovered cards come from a 4th century B.C. grave in Spain. One of the most famous finds is from Queen Asa's tomb in Norway (850 A.D.) which contains cards, bands with diagonal patterns and also bands with brocading.

Early weaves were done with wool and it was assumed that card weaving was a peasant craft. With the introduction and availability of silk, card weaving changed, became highly refined and was practiced by ladies.

Card weaving was used, in western Europe, on church vestments, as bands and seals for precious documents and as trim on court clothing.

TO BE CONTINUED

Bibliography

Katz, Ruth J. Card Weaving. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company.

Crockett, Candace Card Weaving. Loveland: Interweave Press, Inc. 1991

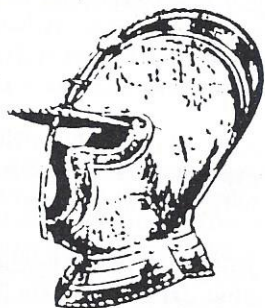
Spies, Nancy, "A Thirteenth-Century Brocaded Belt"
Fall 1994. Rpt. in Tournaments Illuminated, 112
(Fall 1994), pp. 29-35.

ARMOUR

1066-1199

Information Leaflet in multipart. Source: Glasgow Museum Leaflet Armour I.
Will cover "Hard Armour", "Soft Armour", "Under, Overgarments and Footwear",
"Helmets", "Shields", and "Horse Armour and Equipment".

Part III "Hard Armour continued". to be continued!!



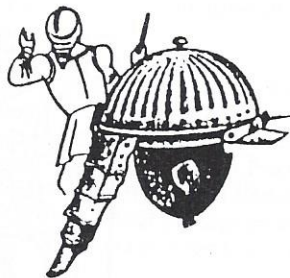
These are mentioned in the early 12th century version of the 'Chanson du Roland'. The face opening could also be tied tight by a running lace around its edge.

A slit in the left side of the hauberk was where the locket of the scabbard protruded, thus all that could be seen of the sword was the hilt at the hip and the chape of the scabbard

During the First Crusade the mail hauberk remained very much the same, the only difference being that most had close-fitting wrist-length sleeves.

By the last quarter of the 12th century mufflers for the hands were being used. The 'Wanchester Bible' (1160-70) shows mail mittens, which are extensions of the sleeves extending over the hands but leaving the thumbs and fingers free. Most had two separate stalls, one for the thumb and one for the fingers. Mail did not cover the palm of the hand (so objects could be gripped) which was covered in leather or fabric, and had a slit in it through which the hand could be slipped out when not in action. Leather thongs around the wrist gave a firm fit and also reduced the drag of mail on the hand. Thongs were also put around the legs under the knees and there may even have been 'belts' under the armour at the waist to help diminish the drag effect of the heavy mail hauberk, which could weigh from between 14-32lb (6.4-14.5kg).

It was not until the late 12th century that a reference to anything that could definitely be identified as a 'breastplate' appears. In a fight between Richard, Earl of Poitou (who became Richard I after 1189) and William des Barres both combatants wore a plate wrought of tempered iron under the gambeson (see SOFT ARMOUR) and hauberk.



THE RISING OF THE CHINESE PHOENIX

September 21-22, Aird Beinne Duthaich

The shire of Aird Beinne Duthaich and the household of The Flying Gauntlet wish to invite you to a celebration and exchange of cultures. This glorious event will include heavy weapons combat, archery, and if enough requests come in, light weapons combat. For those who are not so talented in the area of combat there will be the Arts and Sciences exhibition.

After all this, only a delicious feast would serve the evening. On the menu will be many oriental dishes. These include Peking Duck, Lemon Chicken, Drunken Chicken (for adults only), Spring rolls, and other delicious dishes.

Due to the lack of lighting along the road to the camp site the gates will be closed shortly after dark. There are places that one can ditch a car very easily. Ground clearance is another factor and mundane vehicles will only be allowed so far. Not to worry, we have two vehicles that can carry equipment down to a drop off point.

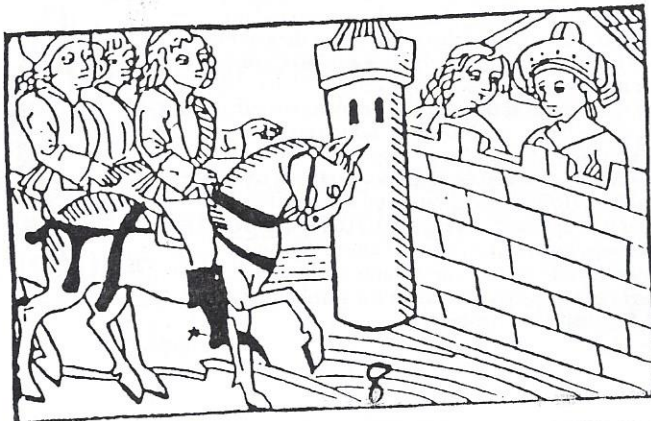
This is a very rustic site and it is a good idea to plan for it. We do have outhouses, we do not have running water. So bring your own. We do have cactus, bring a shovel. We have seen some ticks so come prepared with repellent. We have fire pits and trash cans, please bring trashbags. This is a dry site so please do not bring alcohol. Children and monitored pets very welcome.

Please make feast reservations by September 7th with the autocrat (see below). Off-board seating will be available.

Site will be open 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning, allowing for time to set up camping sites and time for play! Site will close 6:00 p.m. Sunday REMEMBER: DUE TO POOR ROAD CONDITIONS THE GATE WILL CLOSE SOON AFTER DARK ON SATURDAY, BUT WILL OPEN AT SUNRISE AGAIN ON SUNDAY!!

Directions: Take Interstate 80 to Buford, Wy. (exit 335), turn north, follow the road five miles (until you see a banner) turn in and follow the markers.

Autocrat: Yin Chaing (Karen Smith), 916 South 11th St. #A
Laramie WY. 82070, (307) 745-7421, email: KBJORNSMIT@AOL.COM



QUEEN'S PRIZE TOURNAMENT

September 14, Caerthe

Their Royal Majesties, Irel and Ileana, invite all to participate in the Outland's second Queen's Prize Tournament. The Barony of Caerthe will be hosting the Tournament at the National Guard Armoury (main hall) located at 55 Potomac St. Aurora, Colo. The site is wet and non-smoking. The fee is \$3.00. A luncheon will be served for an additional \$3.00. Please make checks payable to SCA - Barony of Caerthe. Advanced registrations are most appreciated. Tables will be provided for display and for lunch. In addition to the Queen's prize tournament there will be both a heavy weapons and a fencing tournament. The site will open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. The lists will open at 10:00 a.m. and the fighting will commence at 11:00 a.m.

All entries must be on site by 10:00 a.m. The judging will begin, in stages, at 11:00 a.m. Judges are required to check in by 10:00 a.m., and to attend an orientation meeting with Her Majesty at 10:30 a.m. Judging will be based on five criteria: 1) Documentation: Is there any at all? Is it logically presented? Are there both primary and secondary sources? 2) Construction: How well is the project put together as a whole? What are the weak points, what are the strengths of the construction? 3) Creativity: Is the project unique and original, or has the project been previously researched and produced many times? 4) Authenticity: Is this product something (or representative of something) that could have existed in the Middle Ages? 5) General Impression: Judges will use this area to make any other constructive criticisms, comments and evaluations.

The rules for the Queen's Prize Tournament are as follows:

Entrants: 1.) Entrants may not be members of the Order of the Laurel. 2.) All entrants must have a sponsor from the Order of the Laurel, Ladies of the Rose, or a Companion of the Desert Flower. 3.) Entrants do not have to do something in a field for which the sponsor is known. Entries may be in any field. 4.) Entries will be judged on the aforementioned criteria in a kind, humane and constructive manner. 5.) Completion of entries is highly encouraged. If the work is incomplete, be prepared to explain the finishing of the entry. 6.) All work shall be completed by the entrant. For this reason, group entries are discouraged, but may be entered as long as there is only one entrant in the group. 7.) Please make every attempt to be with your entry during the assigned judging time as we are planning on having face-to-face judging. There will be a schedule posted.

Sponsors: 1) Sponsors must be members of the Order of the Laurel, Ladies of the Rose, or Companions of the Desert Flower. No one may sponsor themselves. 2.) Each sponsor must bring at least one "prize" or token, preferably made by their own hand, for each entrant they are sponsoring. In this manner, everyone will receive at least one "prize"; however, feel free to make extra tokens to award personally to other entrants. 3.) The sponsor may not physically assist in the production of an entry, but is encouraged to teach skills, help direct research efforts, offer advice or encouragement as needed or requested by the entrant in order to facilitate the production of the entry. 4.) Sponsors are responsible for pre-registering their entrants. 5.) There is no limit to the number of people you may sponsor, but try not to sponsor so many that you cannot give adequate encouragement and help to all. 6.) If either the sponsor or the entrant is unable to attend the event, it is the sponsor's responsibility to make sure the entries/ prizes get to the event on time.

Members of the populace are encouraged to give tokens to the entrant(s) of their choice. If you are interested in judging contact the autocrat before September 1, 1996. If you would like to be a sponsor of someone entering, but do not have an appropriate partner please contact Mistress Celine (Cynthia Harris) at (505) 254-0586, or preferably on e-mail at selene@unm.edu. To register for Queen's Prize please send the following information to the autocrat: Name, address, and Phone # of Sponsor; Name, Address, and Phone # of Entrant; Type of Entry (i.e. Woodwork, Costume, etc.); Brief description of entry and approx. dimensions, No later than September 1st! For further information or registration please contact the autocrat.

Autocrat: Countess Madigan (Madigan Chandler), 415 Girard SE Apt. 2
Albuquerque N.M., 87106, (505) 260-0325

Site/Lunch Coordinator: Lady Taryn Brannick (Ronnie Hunter), 3150 W. 26th Ave.
Denver CO 80211. (303) 458-8754.

THANKS FROM THE AUTOCRAT OF FEATHERS

Feathers was wonderful. The weather was perfect, the bugs were scarce, the feast was delicious and a good time was had by all. Feathers was again a group effort of people from Windkeep, Hinterlands, Unser Hafen and even a group from way down in New Mexico. Below is a list of the many people who helped make this the best Feathers of all.

Lady Renate put together an extremely tasty feast and Lord Mlodn, as always, was a tremendous help to her and the feast. Lady Aildhcinna and Lord(?) Kasigi also helped prepare and serve this feast. Thank you for all your assistance.

On Saturday Master Thorfin, Lord Suleyman, and Lord Hiro all taught classes on different aspects of archery. Lord Peregrin was on hand to teach also but we ran out of time. Sir Mark taught a class on Sunday. Thank you all for sharing your knowledge. I know that those attending learned and will share this information with others as well.

Fighting was cancelled on Saturday due to fighter participation in Archery. I thank all these fighters for their support of the Archery. A heavy weapons tourney was held on Sunday and two people were recognized for their skills Robert and Jael. Lord Mavrikki dreamed up, organized, ran and donated the gifts for the fighting. Thanks Mav, I appreciate your continued support and help. (He been a substantial part of all the Feathers events.)

Sir Mark and Lord Morcar (a.k.a. Yanthlos) created and managed two full days of exciting archery including a shoot on Saturday night that lasted until 11:30. The Candle shoot was beautiful to behold as well as being great fun. Sorry Mark about your candle holder. Most of these shoots were not your traditional S.C.A. archery but we did managed to squeeze in an IKAC.

Sir Mark and Lord Morcar were busy for months creating gifts. As has become tradition, Sir Mark gave away one of his brooches. For their many hours of work I am in their debt.

Stephan the Kingdom's Royal Archery, Michael, Roger, Master Daffyd, and Tarran were all given gifts for their outstanding skills and enthusiasm.

I tell you truly, all of the above people create Feathers. I confess that all I do is figure out the time and place and they do the rest. I am very grateful for their support and their willingness to help with this event. I couldn't have done it with out you and that is the highest praise I can think of to give all of you. THANKS!

Isabeau

Isabeau d'Andrea

Autocrat,

Feathers in the Wind III

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

With the start of school comes demo season. Yes folks it is that time of year again when we go out and share our knowledge with many school children in Cheyenne. If you would like to participate, i.e. teach, talk on a particular subject, loan stuff for display or just stand around and look good- WE NEED YOU! Please call me with the days and times you might be available and also your particular interests or areas of expertise. Call Lady Isabeau 634-3500.

The only constraint I put on you is, if you want to teach, check your facts, (Oooh documentation! As you probably know, Lord Mlodn has an extensive library and would help you research things if needed.) I don't want to scare you off but I also don't want to give these kids any incorrect or misleading information.

Renate and I will be attempting to put together a loose format for these demos and if you have ideas or suggestions, we would love to hear them.



Da'ud Bob ibn Briggs
Historical Drive-In Movie Critic

I swear, I'm just going to have to give up reading the TV listings any more. Doing so is just something that gets me into trouble every time. I mean, really! There I was, just minding my own business, thumbing through the TV magazine to see if there was anything interesting coming up that week, when WHAMMO! There one is! A title that grabs you by that shoulders, turns you around a few times, and then cracks you right between the eyes. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews *The Golden Blade*

Starring Rock Hudson as Harun, Piper Laurie (from those other really bad Middle Eastern films with Tony Curtis) as the princess Khairuzan, Gene Evans as Hadi, and George Macready as Jafar, this one is a cross between the story of Arthur's sword Excalibur, *The Prince and the Pauper*, a classic tale of revenge, and a classic tale of betrayal, all somehow tied up with the second most familiar name (after Saladin) to Western audiences: Harun al-Rashid. Never mind that caliphs are not kings, that their daughters are not "princesses", or that only blood relatives may hold the title and office. No, historical reality has nothing to do with this movie. Or vice versa.

Plot. Hmnn, it's got several almost, and interlinked, plots. Or maybe just one highly convoluted plot. Let's see: Sole survivor of tribe goes to Baghdad to enlist aid of caliph in retribution against raiders, finds magic sword, meets daughter of caliph dressed as common person (they fall in love, of course), and must overcome plot of caliph's advisor to overthrow him and have his own son succeed to the caliphate by marrying the princess. Sword ends up stuck in stone wall from which no one but Harun can "unsheathe" it; caliph is killed, but his advisor, the leader of the raiders who killed Harun's tribe, is overcome and killed in the end, and Harun becomes the caliph and is surnamed "the Rightly Guided" by the princess -- Harun al-Rashid. Yeah, I think that's most of it. Except for Barcus, the Greek trader, who sells the sword to Harun and later translates the writing on its blade.

Good points: The movie is only ninety minutes long. (If only *Buffalo Girls*, which has Anna Sue's and my vote as the longest mediocre movie ever made, had been as brief.)

Bad points: High-heeled shoes. Smoking tobacco -- in the Ninth Century! The costuming (by "J. Morely, Jr.") Hadi's helm. The town square portrait painter. Scarves as favors. (Women in the Islamic world didn't give scarves as favors; they gave the embroidered drawstrings from their pants! I am not making this up.) The 19th Century bathtub, complete with bubble bath. The plaster axe. The Manchu magician. "Achmed, Prince of Cathay". (Cathay, as you all know, is China. No prince of China would bear this patently Arabic name.)

Zero breasts. One-half gallon of blood. Nine dead bodies. Fighters roll. Horses roll. Stones roll. Sword fu. Arrow fu. Carpet fu. Gratuitous belly dancing. (Belly dancing, no matter how poorly done or how inaccurately portrayed, seems to be mandatory in movies where Baghdad is the setting.) Gratuitous beggar. Gratuitous wenching. Gratuitous winching. Gratuitous lace. "Let him who can unsheathe this sword, claim any crown as his reward." Academy Award nominations to Rock Hudson as Harun for "Is not the embrace of a woman like the clutch of a snake?" because of its unintended underlying meaning, and to Piper Laurie as Khairuzan for "Protects me? He demolishes me!" An 87 on the Vomit Meter. 1½ Stars. Da'ud Bob says "Check it out!"



Well, the review in Dallas' Only Daily panned it so badly that I just couldn't resist. I mean, here's this really great plot -- something similar to *The Navigator* of a few years back. Time travel. The medieval mindset meets the modern world. And all this guy can seem to do is complain about the French sense of humor (along with the mandatory reference to the French love of Jerry Lewis). I thought, he must just not get it. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews *The Visitors*.

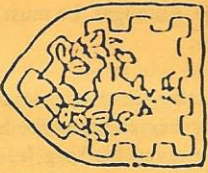
Yes, it's French, starring Christian Clavier as Jacquasse the Crass, Jean Reno as Count Godefroi le Hardi, and Valerie Lemercier as the love of le Hardi's life, Frenegonde. The year is 1123, and le Hardi, having saved his king from the English, is permitted to go home and marry his love. On the way, he arrests a witch, who feeds him a potion which makes him think his father-in-law to be is a bear chasing his lady love, and he (le Hardi) kills the "bear". Of course, Frenegonde will not marry him now. le Hardi's wizard, however, has a plan. He can send the good Count back in time, to just before he shoots his future father-in-law, to change the course of the crossbow bolt. However, the good wizard forgets to put the quails eggs into the potion, and the good Count and his faithful servant end up in the 1990s, where a descendant of the servant is now the owner of the Count's castle become hotel. And, of course, all that explanation does not begin to touch on the many facets of this medieval meets modern comedy. It is, in many ways, the story of a man who simply and single-mindedly wants to return to his own time.

Good points: The armor! Wow. It was great. The costuming in general was very good. There were a couple of pieces I have my questions about, but overall, the level of the costuming was very, very good. The shoes. The heraldry (for the most part). The Count's haircut.

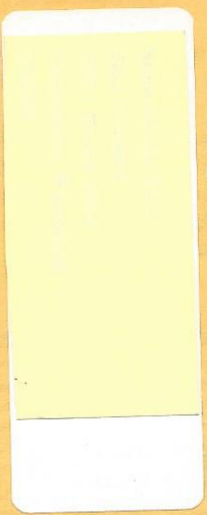
Bad points: The way the skull is used as a mug in the witch's sabbath. Looked like plastic to me. Some of the heraldry. The good Count's arms are not something that would have appeared in 1123, or for many years later. (Field divided *per chevron*, with color on color charges around the chevron.) It's hard for me to really believe that even the peasants got that dirty.

Zero breasts. (I really don't know quite why this movie got an 'R' rating.) One gallon of blood. Four dead bodies, plus two more in a really, really decomposed state. Head rolls. Cars roll. Crossbow fu. Mace fu. Sword fu. Tooth fu. Tureen fu. Gratuitous Black Sabbath. Gratuitous car sickness. Gratuitous weird facial effects as the wizard's potion starts working. Academy Award nomination to Christian Clavier as Jacquasse the Crass for "A Moor in a Devil's chariot!" Great attack on a car. The last scene at the end of the credits is definitely worth waiting for. A 76 on the Vomit Meter. 3 Stars. Anna Sue gives it a definite "thumbs up"! Da'ud Bob says "Check it out!"

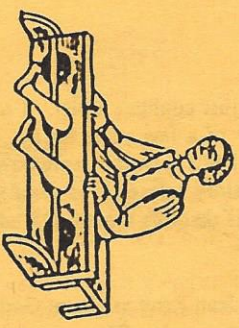
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