



**Cosmos Cup Controversy Continues**  
Defeated coach protests referee ruling, argues that there's no rule prohibiting mascots from devouring members of the opposing team. **SPORTS D1**



**Activists protest anti-pun laws**  
“Picket lines” of white fences erected, G3



**Stocks down on nova fears**  
Markets tumble, sun-screen shares soar, E18

## Newsline

### Union trouble brewing

Rifts within the 7 Venn Unions continue to widen despite intersecting memberships with parallel agendas. Sources close to the 2 top leaders report that the unions, which have long complemented each other, have developed perpendicular interests and are set to conflict.

### Moonshadow dismembers man

An area man was caught and dismembered by a moonshadow yesterday on Yusuf 5 when his attempts to evade it by leaping and hopping failed. The moonshadow removed the man's hands, eyes, legs, mouth, and 25 teeth. The man remained optimistic, noting, “I won't have to work no more.”

### BWM recalls donut system

BWM has issued a recall for all “B” Ark models 14 and higher equipped with an automatic rotational antigravity glucotoroid dispenser system. Recent tests have revealed the system to be incompatible with BWM's “new and improved” Ionic-23 Deflector Core. “B”Ark owners should bring their vessels to local dealers to exchange the faulty system for a new automatic rotational antigravity koshertoroid system free of charge.

### Ela poachers strike again

A second colony was reported missing from reservation Epsilon yesterday, leaving 12 packs of Cherry Ela unaccounted for on top of the 22 packs of Grape Ela that vanished last week. Authorities are tightening security around the Orange, Strawberry, and 23 other Ela colonies, moving forces away from the Liver and Zima colonies which they believe are unthreatened.

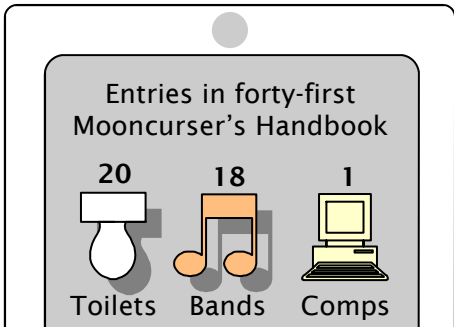
### Rocket really Interplanet Janet

Reports of the Galaxy Girl's return have now been confirmed. “She was traveling like a rocket—I thought it was a shooting star,” said one pilot. “Then I saw her comet team, and I realized it had to be Janet.” It is widely believed that there's never been a planet Janet hasn't seen, and consequently her council is eagerly sought by astronomers, stellar cartographers, and Mark-2 Doomsday machines. The final destination of the Solar System Ms. remains unknown.

### Serial killer Discordia escapes

The so-called “Drinking Straw Killer” Sternento Discordia, convicted on 20 counts of first-degree murder, escaped custody yesterday. Discordia took advantage of a 20-milliwave fluctuation in the transport's power system to shed his restraints and steal a laundry pod from his prison transport. 9 guards were killed in the escape, drinking straws jammed up their nostrils just like Discordia's victims in the Meroccian system. The crew of SharkShip One, Discordia's original captors, declined to comment.

### Galaxy Today Snapshots®



## New Handbook ready for release today

Couriers report traffic up 15%; Markets breathless in anticipation of new Mooncurser's edition



## Mooncurser elite turn out for bash

Over one hundred thirty pilots, traders, and cargo runners rubbed elbows and other appendages in the Lakeway system last night to celebrate the release of the forty second edition of the Mooncurser's Handbook. Some personalities traveled up to 15 light years to hobnob with a who's who of Mooncurser society.

Tickets for the event were closely controlled, though that didn't stop scalpers from pawning worthless fakes for up to 4 times their face value. Security turned 20 disappointed hopefuls with worthless counterfeit passes away at the door.

Attendees were treated to a celebratory 5 course feast, but of course the main attraction was the entertainment. Galactic Consortium pulled out all the stops for the occasion, staging a host of activities culled from some of the most exotic locations in the galaxy. Anchoozian synchronized dancing took center stage, with onlookers encouraging participants, in groups of 5, to step in time with traditional Anchoozian orchest techno bands. Other activities included tests of communication skills without software translation, ensemble mercantile chants, and galactic knowledge challenges.

The Mooncurser's Handbook is the foremost authority on what's hot or not anywhere in the galaxy. From its modest beginnings as a simple travel guide, the Handbook has become the touchstone of an entire cultural movement and lifestyle philosophy, and the center of Galactic Consortium's extensive financial empire. The forty-second edition of the Handbook is widely expected to be the best-selling publication in history, exceeding even *5 Low-Carb Ways To Get To Heaven* and *If I Wanted a Jihad, I'd Have Sent You an Engraved Tablet* by God.



Editors celebrate: Handbook staffers gather for the publication's release

## CEO ousted in scandal

Typhaknee Waddlebottom, chief executive officer of the Mooncurser's Handbook, was fired last night amid 9 charges of embezzlement and corruption. Sources within Galactic Consortium have revealed that funds earmarked for enhanced features of the forty-second Mooncurser's Handbook, such as a backlight and prepopulated index, were instead diverted to Waddlebottom's 12 personal accounts.

Waddlebottom's actions were discovered shortly before last night's release party, prompting Galactic Consortium president Kered DaVeen to terminate the editor's employment immediately. Authorities have since been unable to locate Waddlebottom, who apparently promptly emptied her 12 accounts before fleeing to points unknown.

Waddlebottom first joined Galactic Consortium as an intern shortly after the release of the forty first edition of the Mooncurser's Handbook. The speed of her ascendance up the corporate ladder is exceeded only by the quantity of rumors about her methods. Classmates from Frozni's Finishing School remember Typhaknee as “a three-handed, two-faced brown-nosing 10-timing 5-foot sycophant.” In her yearbook, she was voted Most Likely To Embezzle Funds And Be Ousted Amid Scandal.

## Canary Incident remembered

Memorial services were held throughout the galaxy yesterday to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Canary Incident, considered by many to be the foremost tragedy of our time. Government flags flew at half mast, and baristas served only half-tall lattes all day in memoriam.

Grand Krisnu Pitterpat 5 addressed the faithful in a galactically broadcast address at 4 yesterday morning. After the traditional prayer for the souls lost in the Incident, the 1 holy leader conveyed a message of forgiveness, charity, and half price Mondosurge breakfasts at all 14 Moogie's locations.

Normal planetary traffic throughout 4 systems remained grounded for the day, clearing the way for the memorial

flotilla. Spacecraft flew by the site of the Incident in stately procession starting well before dawn (local time), each ship pausing to ignite a plasma burst in tribute.

Fundraising efforts continue for a permanent memorial, and charity drives report record contributions. Organizations like Children of People Tangentially Affected By the Canary Incident turned out in force today, passing out pamphlets and soliciting donations.

Citizens paused in their day to reflect on where they were when the Canary Incident occurred. “I remember it clear as day,” said retired salesman Sim Abeson. “The sky turned black as pitch. No, that's not right—it was red as blood, it was, 15 shades at least. And loud, like a

battlecruiser. I flew a battlecruiser once, back in the War of 19. Now that was an exciting time, by gum!”

Others were more coherent. Gary Blethwin offered his own account. “I'll never forget it. I was 14. I'd just come out of a bar, and the whole world was spinning. The sidewalk rippled in front of me, and the purple gremlins swarmed my head and knocked me over. When I came to, everyone was talking about the Canary Incident.”

Observances conclude today with the ceremonial simultaneous release of a single canary on every affected world.

For more information about Canary Incident charities and how you can help, tune your telewave receivers to ultraband 13 throughout the day.

