

GOGAI! iGOGAI!

Central Park Media's
Industry Fanzine
& Literary Review

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fig. 1: Kakurenbo's Sorincha looking cute and creepy / Kakurenbo © YAMATOWORKS / D.I.C.

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Gogai! Gogai! • October 2005 • Page 1

Boo! Did I scare you?

(No, well, look out for the spider on your back!)

By Peter Tatara

With the number of people reading *Gogai! Gogai!*, I imagine that there was at least one unsuspecting reader who actually had a spider on his back. It was probably venomous, too. In fact, I probably saved his life. You're welcome.

That is my convoluted way of welcoming you all to *Gogai! Gogai!*'s second issue. When CPM launched *Gogai! Gogai!* and Anime U last month, I wasn't sure how it would do. Would she sink or would she swim? Well, she's swimming. She's not ready for the Olympics or anything, but she's definitely managing at least the doggy paddle. And, we're going to keep on swimming and swimming and swimming from here.

As I said last time, September's issue was just a test. It was (in the Halloween spirit) the skeleton of what *Gogai! Go*

gai! can and – to to be confident for a moment – will be. This month is the first time you're going to see what *Gogai! Gogai!* looks like with content submitted from all you out there. Thank you to everyone who responded to our polls and thank you to everyone who sent in words and artwork, too. While *Gogai! Gogai!* is coming out of CPM, it belongs to all of you.

If you've already sent stories or sketches, huzzah and kudos. Your work is now being looked at by eyes all over not just North America but the entire world. (Really. See page 16.) If you're still only thinking about it, let me remind you that each time you send something to *Gogai! Gogai!* you're entered to win one of our monthly prize packs. Plus, if you win and you're part of a club, your club takes home a prize pack, too. That's right, club

Presidents and Demagogues, start a fanart-producing factory. There could be a *Descendants of Darkness* boxset on the line!

With the bribery out of the way, let's try to get back on track. Yes, I know everything'll be derailed in another page or two, but let's try to maintain focus here. Please? Okay. When I was in college, my club always made a big deal out of Halloween with cosplay contests, candy, special screenings, and general Halloween related hijinks. As such, *Gogai! Gogai!*'s making a big deal out of it, too. All the articles this month have been hand-selected to extract distilled, visceral terror out of you. Every single page is fraught with fear. I caution you to keep the lights on if you're faint of heart. Yeah, I'm not scared, either. There's another reason for this month's *Gogai!*

Gogai! being extra special. Central Park Media has just released *Kakurenbo: Hide & Seek*, a spooky CG animation that's been screened and won awards across Asia, Europe, and North America. Also screened at conventions all summer long to packed rooms and rave reviews, *Kakurenbo* is a Halloween treat I don't want anyone to miss.

Kakurenbo's convention premiere was at Anime Expo – and while not listed in the program – word of mouth brought over 500 fans to fill the room. Everyone left amazed. I did, too. AX was the first time I saw *Kakurenbo*. Gorgeous. Gothic. Breathtaking. I was stunned, and I want you to be, too. As such, *Gogai! Gogai!* is going to give it some major love.

Now, the introduction done, it's time for the horror to begin!

I played hide & seek a lot growing up. The way I played it, one kid would close their eyes and count to ten while everyone else hurried away and hid as best they could. It was then up to the kid counting to search for everyone else. This is probably similar to how you played hide & seek, too; however, I've got to tell you, we've all been playing hide & seek wrong.

The correct way to play the game is pretty similar to the way I played, except for one minor difference - blood-thirsty, children-eating demons. This, *Gogai! Gogai!* readers, is the plot to CPM's newest title, *Kakurenbo: Hide & Seek*, and this is where Tatara gushes and gushes and gushes about it.

Kakurenbo is the first film from the independent, art house Japanese CG studio YAMATOWORKS. Have you heard about them? If not, you've heard about YAMATOWORKS's founder - Syuhei Morita. No? Well, you've seen his work. *Steamboy*. *The Animatrix*. Ah, that sounds familiar. Formerly a member of the acclaimed Studio 4C, one of the teams responsible for *Steamboy* and *The Anima-*

trix, Morita decided to leave to start his own studio to create a CG project with the feel and soul of a traditional 2D animation. *Kakurenbo* is that project.

While the first work from a new studio and amazingly animated by only a handful of artists, *Kakurenbo*'s attracted some of the biggest names in voice acting in both the North America and Japan - led by Junko Takeuchi (*Naruto*) in Japan and Michael Sinterniklaas (*Alien 9*, *Fullmetal Alchemist*) over here.

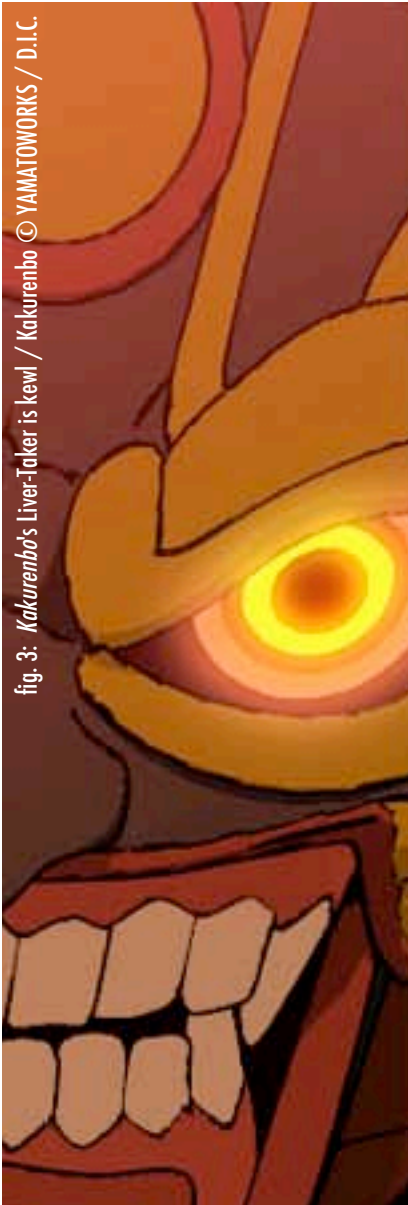
Further, *Kakurenbo*'s been screened at festivals around the world, including the Planet Cinema Festival, Japan Media Arts Festival, and Tokyo International Fantasy Film Festival in Japan, the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival and Cineasia in Europe, and the Fantasia International Film Festival and Waterloo Festival for Animated Cinema in North America, pulling awards including Best-Short Film at Fantasia and Exemplary Production Awards at the Japan Media Arts Festival and Tokyo Anime Fair.

So, it's got a nice resume, but is it good?

Ready or Not, Here I Come! (In the game of Otokoyo, children will disappear) By Peter Tatara



fig. 2: A sketch of *Kakurenbo*'s Inmu / *Kakurenbo* © YAMATOWORKS / D.I.C.



(Fan Responses to the *Kakurenbo* Comic-Con Screening)

OMFG K4kur3nb0 r0x!

Yes! CPM previewed *Kakurenbo* at Anime Expo, Comic-Con, Otakon, Anime Evolution, and CN Anime, and every time, everyone we've shown *Kakurenbo* to has been blown away. And we've got the quotes to prove it. After our 2005 San Diego Comic-Con screening, we asked the audience what they thought. These are their stories...

"It's impressive when you realize that a team of like five guys were able to create this and it's in the same league as *Ghost in the Shell 2*. In anime, there are these long epic films and sci-fi series, then you have *Kakurenbo*, which is a very nice one-shot dark short story." - Jon Anderson

"I think it was great. It offered a lot of philosophical interpretations, it was visually stunning, and it was very enjoyable to watch. Really amazing." - Joseph Corsentino

"I was on the edge of my seat going "Yes, this is great!" To me, I'd say it was right up there with Miyazaki. I'd say it was up there with *Mononoke* in terms of style." - Alicia Miller

"I honestly didn't know if it was all 3D or not." - Spencer Vincent

"It was very good, very unique, very creepy and suspenseful. It actually reminded me of *Akira* in the sense that you watch it once and you'll say "It's really cool," but if you watch it again you'll get more and more out of it." - Brian Dalton

"The animation was very well done. I liked the blend of modern desolation – of uninhabited modern buildings – with the blend of traditional Japanese and Chinese architecture. It gave the feeling of being lost in a forest even though you were not." - Preston Seeholzer

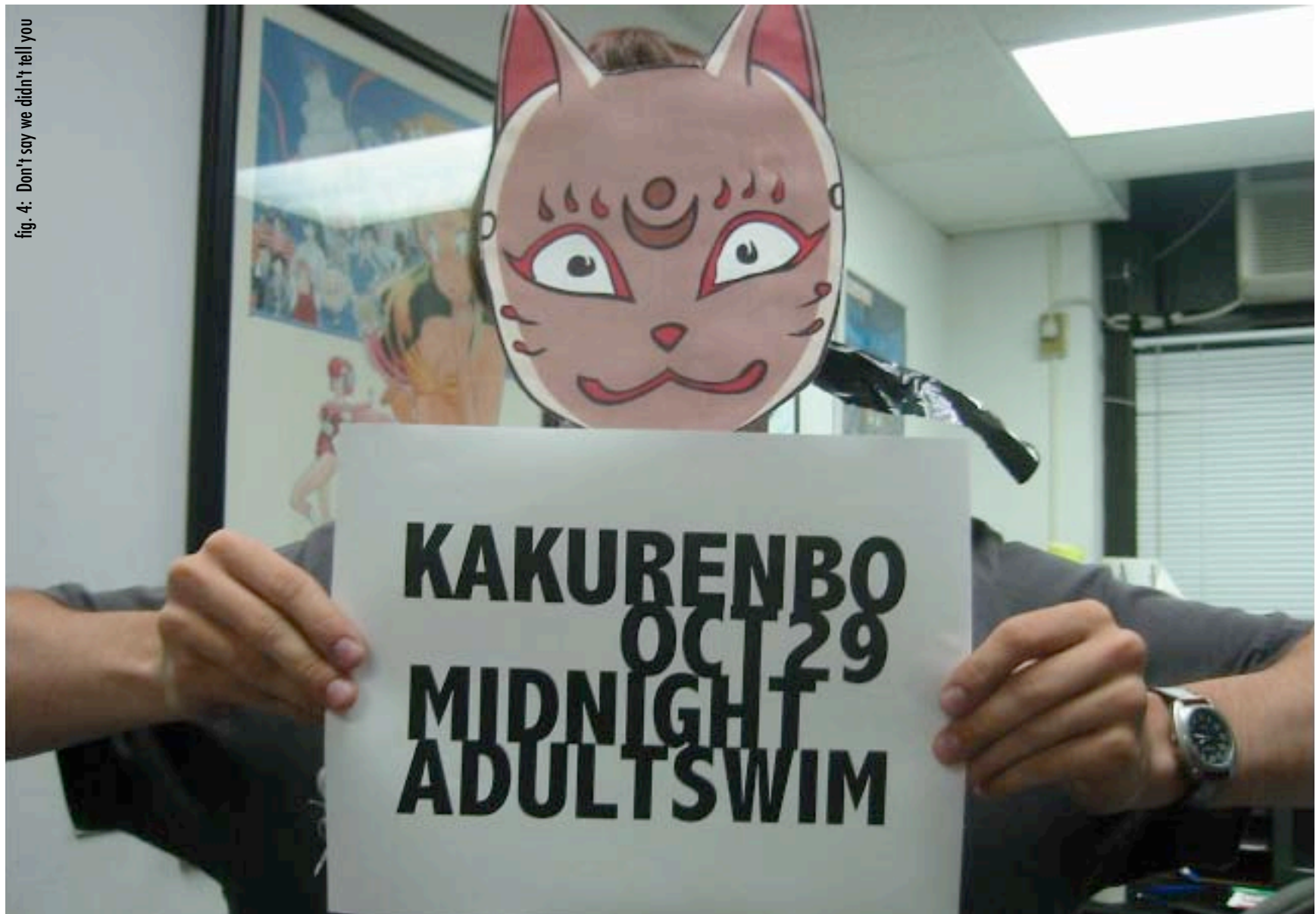
"An excellent short version of a modern fable. It's beautiful, it's short, it's succinct. It's something when you watch it over and over again you'll get more and more meaning out of it. I would definitely recommend it and spread it around and say "People you gotta watch this." It's an excellent example of the storytelling that's out there in Japanese animation." - Michelle A. Manke

"I thought it was amazingly well done, just beautifully created, and the story was just really well written." - Don Dean

"I really enjoyed it. It scared me. I'm not really a big horror or suspense person, and it freaked me out." - Aaron Worley

Jon, Joe, Alicia, Spencer, Brian, Preston, Michelle, Don, and Aaron are all real people. They don't work for CPM, either. We didn't even bribe them. Honest.

fig. 4: Don't say we didn't tell you





Daisy *(Daisy likes to wear a black bath towel as a cape.)*

By Petrina Cheng

Daisy is a weird girl. Daisy is not a normal girl. She does not like to play with dolls or play kitchen with Mommy. She does not like to play tea party or play dress-up with her friends. What Daisy likes to do is to pretend to be a vampire.

Daisy likes to wear a black bath towel as a cape. She wears the plastic fangs she kept from the Halloween party at school. She likes to go "Rrrrr!" and scare her little brother. Daisy laughs when her little brother starts to cry.

Mommy comes in the room. "Why don't you stop scaring your brother and play with your dolls?" asks Mommy. Daisy raises her hands high above her head. "Rrrrr!" Daisy responds. "Why don't you play dress-up with your friends?" asks Daddy. "Rrrrr!" Daisy responds. Daisy gives her brother another scary face. "Rrrrr!" He starts to cry again.

Daisy is sent to bed early. Daisy is fast asleep. There's a noise outside her window. She gets up and sees a giant bat knocking on the other side. Daisy reveals a grin. The bat stares at Daisy. Opening the window, the thing flies in. Poof. The giant bat becomes a vampire. He wears a real black silk cape and smiles with real fangs. "Aren't you scared of me?" he asks. Daisy shakes her head. "Rrrrr!" she says. The vampire laughs. "You're funny. Let's be friends." He changes back into a bat. Daisy gets on his back, but not before she grabs her cape and fangs. Out the window they go.

They fly to London to have afternoon tea. They fly to China and watch the fireworks from the Great Wall. "Let's go home," says the vampire. But they don't fly back to Daisy's house. The giant bat flies to a giant cave in the mountains.

The cave is dark and damp. There are even noises that start to scare Daisy. And there's a funny smell. Daisy doesn't want to pretend anymore. She is scared and starts to cry. The vampire feels bad and changes back to a bat. He takes Daisy back to her home. Once she's home, Daisy takes off her cape and throws it in the wash. Daisy takes out her fangs and puts them on her dresser. She climbs into bed, falling back asleep.

Daisy starts to play with dolls. She doesn't scare her little brother anymore. Daisy even likes to play kitchen with Mommy. Daisy doesn't like to pretend to be a vampire anymore. But if you're not careful, "Rrrrr!"

Petrina Cheng is a member of the Anime Society of Ithaca College. She likes corsets, Anne Rice, and the color black. She is going to be a vampire this Halloween.

CPM@IGPX@iGAMES

(Soppy gets his geek on and gets to catch the IGPX premiere) By Soppy

It's the dream of many to attend the premiere of a movie or television show. It's also a dream out of reach for many, as many, many times, premieres are restricted to VIPs and industry. This doesn't always happen, though. On Friday, September 9th, Cartoon Network held the premiere of its *Immortal Grand Prix (IGPX)*, their new collaborative effort with the famed Production IG at the 2005 iGames Expo in New York City. On hand were Cartoon Network honchos Sean Akins and Jason DeMarco, who introduced their new giant robot racing show.

I was able to have a chat with Jason DeMarco about *IGPX* before the premiere began. Catching up to him in the crowded screening room, he took some time to tell me about the changes the show went through in the creative process and how they decided early on to change it from a fairly typical giant robot battle show into its unique racing concept. DeMarco also said there was surprisingly little culture clash in terms of fleshing out ideas for *IGPX*, the Cartoon Network staff and Production IG on the same page from the get go. "We love working with them," said DeMarco.

Speaking about iGames itself, it hosted a World Cybergames Championships qualifying tournament – basically recruiting Team USA for the video game Olympics. Watching how the competitors played *Halo*, *Counterstrike* and *Starcraft* was absolutely unbelievable.

And, before the *IGPX* screening, the iGames MC called people on stage and made them either do push-ups or reenact famous video game moments for the chance of winning some swag. Yours truly made a fool of himself for a chance at a digital camera. (My *Ninja Gaiden*

recreation was severely underrated, but I got a free T-Shirt. Huzzah!)

Finishing up, the concept of a giant robot racing show is pretty cool and its execution was well done. It premieres on Cartoon Network on November 5th, so check it out. It has a talking cat. Who doesn't like a talking cat? Communists, that's who.

Soppy is the Sales Coordinator at CPM. He loved going to iGames as just a fan. He is not now nor has ever been a member of the Communist Party.

TALES FROM THE KAKURENBO

(A Story of Marketing Genius in Action)

When CPM toured *Kakurenbo* at the summer cons, it was an unknown at first, and there were a few shows when it didn't appear in their guide books. How'd we get lines out the door for our screenings? The only way people learned

about *Kakurenbo*, sometimes, was by stopping by CPM's booth, but from just the trailer, screenings filled. We also threw posters at everyone. They weren't graphical gems, but they did have funny sayings. Here are some of the phrases

CPM's in-house witcist came up with... *Hide & Seek: With 100% More Death, They're Not ANBU Masks, I Want To Be The Liver-Taker, This House Always Wins, Christmas in July? Try Halloween, Free Swag.* We're brilliant. I know. I know.

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It Burns, Sempai, It Burns!

(Spotlight on the Delaware Anime Society)

*An Interview with DAS's
Chief Executive Otaku Mattie*

CPM's spotlight is on the Delaware Anime Society this month. Let's see what makes 'em tick before they melt in the 400 tetrawatt bulb...

How long has DAS been around?

We started out as a purely online mailing list in 2002 but then progressed to having meetings in 2004. Our new PA Chapter requested to become part of DAS in March of 2005.

You have different branches?

When the online mailing list evolved to having meetings, they occurred in only North Delaware. Unfortunately, a lot of the Southern Delaware members couldn't make it due to time and distance, and the club members decided that we should have a South Chapter. The Kanameiji Chapter was originally an independent anime club that became affiliated with DAS. They were so impressed at the Society's accomplishments that they decided to become the first branch of DAS in

Pennsylvania. All the Presidents and me, the Chief Executive Otaku, work closely together to run the meetings the same way and we share a similar vision for how an anime club should be run.

How often does DAS meet?

Meetings are held once a month at each chapter. They include video gaming, raffles, and other activities. The Dover Chapter also has meetings that we call DAS Omake. These meetings have a special theme. September's theme was "Schoolgirls, Dollies, and Mecha." Members brought in their Japanese dolls and mecha figures to share. Many DAS members attend meetings of more than just one chapter, and most of us know each other. We're a pretty tight knit group.

Do chapters gather for larger events?

Yes! We had our second convention, Zentricon (www.zentricon.com), on October 16. We had been working really hard and are proud to say that we had a

nice dealer's room, video area, video game area, concert, rave, cosplay and more. And we were honored to have special guest Corinne Orr – the original voice of Trixie from *Speed Racer*. Additionally, we often engage in DDR meets and sushi dinners.

What suggestions do you have for other clubs looking at starting up?

Network with like-minded people and with other anime clubs. Put up flyers at libraries and other public places. Start an e-mail group. Join online anime groups, and tell them about your club. Often times, presidents and officers of other clubs are happy to talk about their experiences, and they may have access to resources to help along the way.

Do you have a Rose Bride?

Pocky is our Rose Bride!

Do you have a website?

www.delawareanimesociety.com

What's the ratio between guys and girls?
At the DAS Wilmington and Pennsylvania meetings, it's often exactly 50/50. In Dover, I'd say it's around 60/40.

How many members do you have?

122 in DAS Dover. 56 in DAS Wilmington. 39 in the Kanameiji Chapter.

Have any inside jokes we wouldn't understand? Care to share one?

- A) Watch out for snakes!
- B) NUMA NUMA YAY!

If DAS could splurge on one new piece of club equipment, what would it be?

I would say a new projector, but we just got a great deal on one! So, I will say it would be really cool to have a van with our mascot on it. The DAS-Mobile. It would be like the Batmobile – except fewer missile launchers. We could take club trips in it and store our rapidly-growing equipment piles in it. And an anime tune for a horn, of course!

When CPM Attacks!

If you look on the first page, you'll find my boss's name. If you look below his name, you'll find *his* boss's name. That boss is John O'Donnell, Captain of the Good Ship CPM. With his partner and wife Masumi Homma O'Donnell, they steer us through clear skies and troubled waters. They've recently been out of the office a bit, spending time in Japan to license more programs and get more materials for our US releases. John, in Tokyo, wrote in with a message and photo:

"On the way to our meeting with Toho, we saw this fellow running around in the streets near their office. Masumi grabbed her camera and managed to get a great shot for all the Gogai Gogai readers. I wonder if he has any connection to Toho?" - John O'Donnell

(Shocking Photo from Tokyo!)

fig. 6: Just one of the Tokyo sights / Photo Credit Masumi Homma O'Donnell



What Scares CPM is Scary (Or is it? You decide)

With Halloween just a week or so away, we took a poll around the office, asking CPM staffers what creeps them out the most. We figured we'd better actually start getting some Halloween content into our Halloween issue beside a sad picture of us in *Kakurenbo* masks. (But look at the spooky picture to the right.) Anywho, I annoyed the staff composing a list and now present the top ten, numbered for reading convenience.

What were the results? Revealing? Revolting? Maybe both? As you can see from the top ten below, we've got an assorted laundry list of phobias. Some grounded. Some just bizarre. But we can all agree that we fear Mondays...

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 10. Spiders | 5. Tap Water |
| 9. Ghosts | 4. Clowns |
| 8. Snakes | 3. Newton Grant |
| 7. Rent | 2. Spider Monkeys |
| 6. Deadlines | 1. Mondays |



fig. 7: One of the Delaware Anime Society's mascots, Momo, dressed up for Halloween by Faia

Kickin' Back

(Soppy Kicks Back and Cuts Loose – Talking About Fish)

With Soppy

By Soppy

When you work at an anime company, it's safe to assume what your workday consists of (mostly anime, gambling, and the company laser tag tournament). We all have our personal hobbies, though, and in this column we'll be looking at some staff members and what they do in their spare time. To make things simple, we'll start with yours truly, the Soppy.

In late September, I traveled through Upstate New York to Lake George for a bass fishing tournament. Lots of fish were caught all around, although I could have done better. The first day was amazing. Beautiful weather, nearly no wind, and the fish were biting. Let me tell

you, nothing wakes you up like going down a lake at 65 MPH in a bass fishing boat at 6 AM. The second day was a turnaround. The sky was overcast, the wind made fishing many good spots impossible, and it was taking a lot more to get a bite. This was due to a front that had moved in the night before. You see, fish respond to pressure more than almost anything else. When a storm moves in, it changes the pressure and usually ends up making fishing tough. Most of the fish were in about 20-50 feet of water, so weights were important.

Most of my fish were caught on a rig called a dropshot, which works well in deep water and is pretty simple to make -

- unless you're on a boat, soaking wet, while it's 40 degrees or less out. To make a dropshot, you need a 1/4 oz. weight, a hook, and a worm. First, tie on the hook leaving about 6 to 18 inches of lead on the line. Attach the worm to this. Then, on the end of the line, tie the weight. This is outlined in my figure. The best way to fish with a dropshot is, like the name says, drop it in the water. Casting it out far isn't recommended as you use a dropshot to fish deep not long. When you feel the weight hit the bottom, set the bail and give the slack in the line a few light tugs. Don't pull the weight from off the bottom, as that isn't the objective. While the weight stays on the bottom, the tugging causes

the worm to move up and down, making a pretty tempting bite for a fish. Use this information wisely. Whether you still use your old Mickey Mouse rod or sleep with your arm, fishing is a great, calming pastime that can be enjoyed by pretty much all ages. Of course, having the patience to fish is a completely different story.

Soppy is the Sales Coordinator at CPM. He may talk about another CPM staffer's hobby next month or may instead devote another column to fishing. Look forward to either more Kicking Back with Soppy or Soppy's Definitive Fishing Almanac - Volume One. He insisted on including the above picture. Sorry.

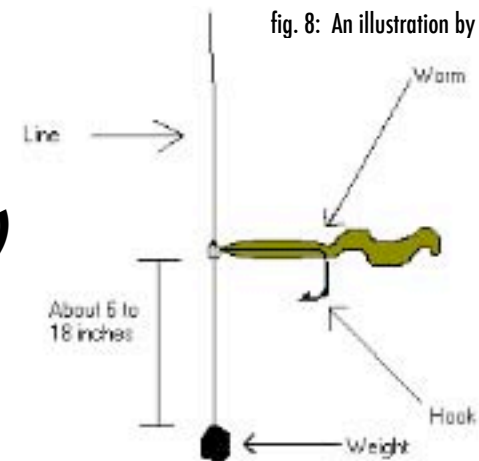


fig. 8: An illustration by Soppy

(An interview with a real-life ninja employed right here at Central Park Media)

Mo-Chan the BA Ninja

In the second issue of *Gogai! Gogai!*, we wanted to interview someone with a personal connection to last month's Pirates vs. Ninjas contest (whose results are on the very next page). As such, after passing several feats of strength, I was allowed access to Mo-chan, one of CPM's BA ninjas. What's a BA ninja? What's a Mo-chan? Let's find out!

Is Mo-chan your real name?

Yes, it's my mahou shoujo secret identity.

How'd you get a job as a BA ninja?

I'm just that much more awesome than all the other people who wanted the job, and I really, really, really wanted to work for CPM because it does something I love, which is bring awesome anime, manga, and manhwa to North America.

What's your average day at CPM like?

I check my e-mail, and then I spend the rest of the day flipping out and killing people. Well, actually, I don't do a whole lot of flipping out. Most of my job right now is organization – that is, I get to make things run more smoothly for the higher ranking ninjas.

What does BA stand for?

Most people will tell you that it stands for "Business Affairs," the department where we decide which titles to acquire. But "BA" actually stands for something top secret, which I may not reveal under penalty of an ignominious death.

Are you really a ninja?

DO YOU DARE QUESTION MY MADPHAT SKILLZ!?!?!?!?

What does CPM look for in someone working in BA?

I'd say it's pretty much necessary to speak/read/write/type either Japanese or Korean. Fluency in both is definitely big. Other than that, I think a lot of what we do here is stuff that you pick up on the job. BA ninjutsu is very hands on. You can't learn it without doing it.

Are you fluent in Japanese?

Almost. I'm getting there. I'm taking a night class in advanced kanji, and I read a lot of manga.

How'd you learn Japanese?

I took the language all four years in college, and I spent my junior year abroad in Kyoto. If you're interested in Japan, don't think twice about it, just go study abroad. I made a lot of Japanese friends who I'm still in touch with, and I'm homesick for Kyoto all the time.

Can you tell us about licensing?

We screen something that hasn't been acquired here yet. If it's good but not so popular that the royalties will have us

going broke in six months, then we start negotiations, a long process that ideally results in a signed contract. The negotiations, of course, are where the ninjutsu comes in.

I hear you're going to Yaoi-Con.

WAAAAAAAAAIIIIII!!!! TEH BISHIES!!!!!!! Yaoi-con is in San Francisco at the end of October, and yes, I'll be going. The author of the yaoi classic *Kizuna*, Kazuma Kodaka, is going to be there as our Guest of Honor, and she'll need a couple of ninja bodyguards.

What's the most important thing you've learned while working at CPM?

Ninjas don't really flip out all the time. Sometimes they have to hide their ninja identities and be polite. So even if you're a ninja, it pays to know polite Japanese.

Are there any new licenses CPM's going to announce in the near future?

Oh, there might be a couple. If you want to find out about our new titles in the immediate future, come see our panel at Yaoi-con. It'll be soooooooooooooo sweet!

The Immortal

(The Answer of the Ages!) **Question**

We were overwhelmed with the response to last month's Pirates vs. Ninjas poll and now, all the numbers tallied, we can reveal the winner! Pirates vs. Ninjas! Who would win?

68% Ninjas!

There you have it, the definitive answer, ninjas would whomp on the pirates. Along with this main question, though, *Gogai! Gogai!* also asked if you readers are guys or gals.

61% Guys!

The big shocker came, however, when I cross-referenced the results from the two poll questions.

82% of the Girls voted for Pirates!

I asked a friend about the results. She had three words. *Captain Jack Sparrow*. She had nothing more to say, and neither do I, but with more space to go, I believe we'll make the best out of this situation by announcing October's two poll questions. Answering both not only lets me create fun statistics but also enters you and your club into a monthly prize drawing. So, October's questions!

**Do you
trick-or-treat?**

And...

**Singles
or Boxsets?**

E-mail your answers to *Gogai! Gogai!* at animeclubs@teamcpm.com with "Poll" in the subject. One winner and his or her club will receive a prize pack next month!



fig. 9: One of the Delaware Anime Society's muscats, Taro, dressed up for Halloween by Fata

fig. 10: Don't forget



Practical (Banzai!) (Banzai!) Nihongo

If you're going to Japan or just want to get strange looks when walking down the street, *Gogai! Gogai!* is here to help. With the Tokyo Game Show recently wrapping and Christmas not that far away, *Gogai! Gogai!* decided to tackle the pressing question of how to get a PlayStation 3. Huzzah and kudos to Mo-chan for her help.

I'll trade you my liver for a PS3.
PS3 no kawari ni, watashi no kanzou wo agemasu.

No? What if I give you two livers?
Dame desu ka? Ja, futatsu no kanzou nara dou desu ka?

I'll give you my first-born, too.
Sore ni, watashi no shosei no kodomo mo agemasu.

Officer, I did not steal this PS3.

Omawarisan, kono PS3 wa touhin ja arimasen.

I did not steal this liver, either.
Kono kanzou mo touhin ja arimasen.

I'll give you the liver if you let me go.
Hanashite kuretara kanzou wo agemasu.

Stop beating me! You'll break the PS3!
Utanaide kudasai! PS3 ga kowaremasu yo!

And The (Swag!) Winners Are

We gave away our first prizes this month to Andrew Lynn, Alicia Hart, and the Reseda Anime Club, and Pinckneyville Public Library Anime Club. Andrew Lynn and the Reseda Anime Club were selected as our poll contest winners, and Alicia Hart and the Pinckneyville Public Library Anime Club took home prizes for Alicia's art submission.

Andrew, Alicia, and their clubs have all been mailed out Halloween-themed DVD packs including *Yami No Matsuei* and *Yu Yu Hakusho: Poltergeist Report*. Plus genuine CPM office supplies! (We sent Alicia one of the signs used in our *Kakurenbo* photoshoot! That's right, Alicia's getting a sign held by an actual CPM staffer! How long till it hits eBay?)

Want your chance at our next round of giveaways? Simply reply to *Gogai! Gogai!*'s polls and send in art and stories. Any submission will enter yourself and your club into our drawings!

From Tokyo With Love

By Peter Tatara *(Fads and happenings transmitted from Tokyo Tower)*

Incase has made a limited-edition iPod case to celebrate the opening of Apple's Shibuya Store – the second Apple Store in Tokyo. The cases feature an image of Hachiko, a bronze akita (that's a breed of dog) statue standing outside of the Shibuya Train Station. They're for sale for \$39.99 only at the Shibuya Apple Store (and eBay).

If you're unfamiliar with Hachiko, it's time for a story. In the 1920s, Professor Eizaburo Ueno took the train from Shibuya Station every morning to Tokyo University. Every morning, Ueno's dog, Hachiko, followed him to the station and returned there every evening to wait for his master to come home. However, on May 21, 1925, Professor Ueno passed away while at Tokyo U. When Hachiko returned to Shibuya Station that night, his master didn't depart from his train. The next day, Hachiko ventured to Shibuya Station again, sitting and waiting for Ueno. Every day for almost

ten years, Hachiko ventured to Shibuya Station again, sitting and waiting for Ueno. On March 7, 1934, Hachiko passed away at Shibuya Station, still waiting for Professor Ueno to return home.

Following Hachiko's death, a bronze statue was constructed over the spot where Hachiko waited and died. (The statue was melted down to make bullets during WWII; however, a second Hachiko statue was assembled in the same spot in 1948.) Today, Shibuya Station's Hachiko statue is one of Shibuya's best-known landmarks and most-popular hang-out spots.

For more on Hachiko and Incase's Hachiko iPod holder, visit...

<http://www.goincase.com>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hachiko>

<http://www.timyoungonline.com/japan/hachiko.html>

Takara, maker of many fine toys – such as the *VOTOMS* and *ZOIDS* lines – is introducing something called Ma Mail. You may ask just what Ma Mail has to do with *Ma* or *Mail*. The answer is it has zero to do with either. Ma Mail is the first of Takara's shoku-gan. (That means plant-toy.) Ma Mail is a tin containing a seed etched with one of six messages – *Thank You, Give It Your Best Try, Congratulations, I'm Crazy About You, Good Luck, or I Love You* – that's revealed as it sprouts.

Takara's got a second plant-toy, too, the Pyocoto. For people who can't wait a week for a seed to sprout, the Pyocoto has a device that, when wet, immediately pops up. So, the first time a Pyocoto is watered, a Hello Kitty, Winnie the Pooh, or Snoopy toy sprouts. A bit later, some lemon balm grows. For more...

<http://www.takaratoys.co.jp/life/0509/index1.html>

Asashoryu won his sixth consecutive Emperor's Cup at the close of the Autumn Grand Sumo Bashi. It was a close final match between Yokozuna Asashoryu and Sekiwake Kotooshu. Of note, neither Asashoryu nor Kotooshu are Japanese, Asashoryu Mongolian and Kotooshu from Bulgaria. For more on the Autumn Sumo Tournament, visit...

<http://www.japantimes.com/sumo.htm>

The 2005 World Expo, held for the past six months in Aichi, Japan, just ended, Crown Prince Naruhito and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi attending the closing ceremonies. Over 22 million people from all over the Earth attended the Aichi Expo – an international event showcasing unique cultural customs and innovative technologies from around the world. The next World Expo will be held in Shanghai in 2010. For more...

<http://www-1.expo2005.or.jp/en/>

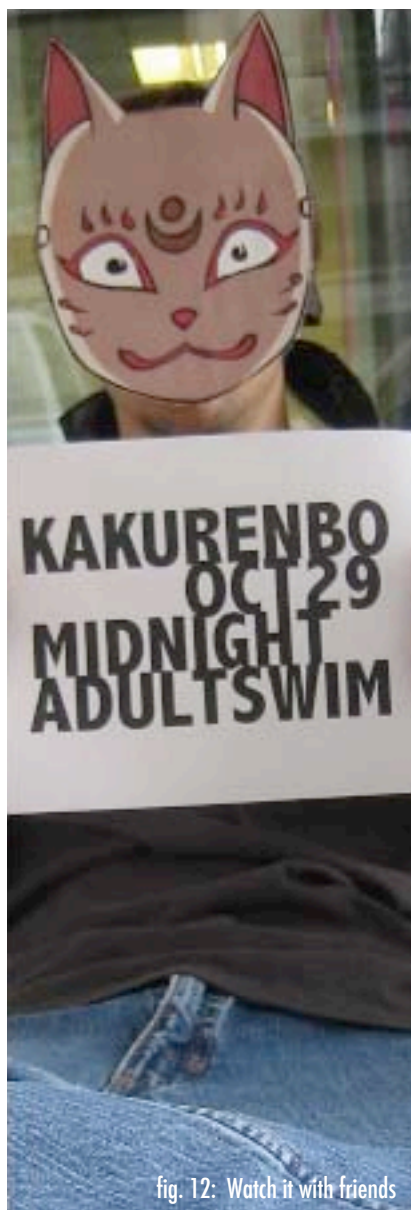


fig. 12: Watch it with friends

Gogai! Gogai! Goes To Japan! (We're Serious, Seriously)

Did you know *Gogai! Gogai!* is read not only all across North America but also all around the world? It's true! Japanese website *Anime! Anime!* recently commented on the first issue and enjoyed it, especially the part about Tatara's hat.

You can find the *Anime! Anime!* article at <http://animeanime.jp/biz/archives/2005/09/cpm918.html> or directly to the right.

What's it say? It gives *Anime U* and *Gogai! Gogai!* a strong, positive review and even throws in an exclamation point. And after *Anime! Anime!* ran its story, the number of Japanese fans enrolling spiked. Uh huh. If you think that's amazing, *Gogai! Gogai!* also has readers in England, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, and France.

Gogai! Gogai!'s a chance to have your words and art seen around the world!

米CPM アニメ業界情報と批評のフリー雑誌発刊

米国の大手アニメ流通会社セントラルパークメディア（CPM）は、アニメファン向けにアニメ産業の情勢や作品批評をメインにした月刊の情報誌を開始する。発刊されるのは『Gogai! Gogai!』と名付けられたもので、CPMが支援するファン組織のAnime Universityを通じて配布されるほか、CPMの登録者にも無料で配布される。

記事の内容はアニメのほか日本のポップカルチャーも広く扱い、業界ニュースや批評、インタビューなどを予定している。CPMのスタッフに加えてAnime Universityのメンバーも寄稿をする。CPMはこの雑誌の目的をアニメ業界とファンとの間にあるギャップを埋めることだとしている。

この2005年9月号は、CPMのウェブサイトで開催されており、特集として韓国アニメの『Hammer Boy』やワシントンDCにあるDCアニメクラブの紹

介、アニメ業界で働く方法、帽子の被りかた（!）などを扱っている。

今回の情報誌の発刊は、CPMが全米各地に数多く存在するアニメファン団体のアニメクラブを支援する活動のひとつである。CPMはこうした活動をAnime Universityとしてまとめてアニメ関連の各種情報を提供している。

現在、CPM以外でも、ADVフィルムやファンニメーションといった米国の日本アニメ流通会社は、ファンの囲い込みやファンのニーズを知る方法としてアニメクラブの支援に力を入れている。これまでの支援の方法は、番組資料やプロモーションDVDの配布、上映会での作品上映の許諾などであった。今回の情報誌発刊は、他の会社のアニメクラブ支援との差別化とより強力なファンの囲いこみといえるだろう。

Anime! Anime! liked *Gogai! Gogai!* I wonder if it's because we have similar names. The original story is © *Anime! Anime!*, located at www.animeanime.jp.

Exclusives! Discounts! Deals!

(The Anime University Store is now online) By Peter Tatara

Gogai! Gogai! received a number of e-mails last month asking about getting discounts on Central Park Media DVDs. We listened. The Anime U store is up at www.centralparkmedia.com/animeu/. Just click on the *Store* link in the menu bar. Because it's exclusive to Anime U members, you'll be asked for a password when you click on the link. Where can you get a password? Right here. Each month, your new Anime U store password will be found the latest issue of *Gogai! Gogai!*, and each month, each new password will unlock a new selection of exclusive offers for Anime U members.

What's October's code? In honor of *Kakurenbo* (which is gonna be on Adult Swim, did you hear?), to access the Anime U online store, you simply need to type in...

BLOODTAKER

Creepy no? So, what's in the store?

Kakurenbo: Hide & Seek

With Exclusive Icons

From Syuhei Morita, formerly of Studio 4C (*The Animatrix*, *Steamboy*). Starring the voice talent of Junko Takeuchi (*Naruto*) and Michael Sinterniklaas (*Fullmetal Alchemist*). After winning awards and acclaim around the world, the chilling, awe-inspiring *Kakurenbo* has come to DVD. Own it and make every day Halloween. *\$19.95 – with a link to exclusive Kakurenbo icons!*

Black Jack Bundle

Two boxsets at an unheard of price

Osamu Tezuka's *Black Jack* is legendary. Period. A wholly unique paranormal drama with hour-long episodes from the creator of *Metropolis* and *Astroboy*, it must be experienced. Now, it's only *\$69.95 – Two boxsets at only \$9.95 a DVD! You save over \$30!*

Yu Yu Hakusho: Poltergeist Report

Own CPM's *Yu Yu Hakusho* movie at an exclusive Anime U price

When the River Styx overflows, only Yusuke Urameshi stands in the way of ultimate evil from drowning the entire Earth. Originally *\$29.95*, own *Yu Yu Hakusho: Poltergeist Report* at the Anime U exclusive price of *\$9.95 – save \$20!*

Hyun Se Lee Bundle

Discover the worlds of Korea's master storyteller in an exclusive set

Hyun Se Lee may be Korea's most acclaimed master of the graphic novel. Now, you can explore the breadth and depth of his imagination with some of his best books. Anime U's Hyun Se Lee bundle contains *Mythology of the Heavens: Vol. 1*, *Armageddon: Vol. 1*, *Hard-Boiled Angel: Vol. 1*, and *Nambul: Vols. 1*

and 2. Together, all five books retail for over \$50. Through Anime U, you can own them now for the exclusive price of only *\$19.95 – save over \$30!*

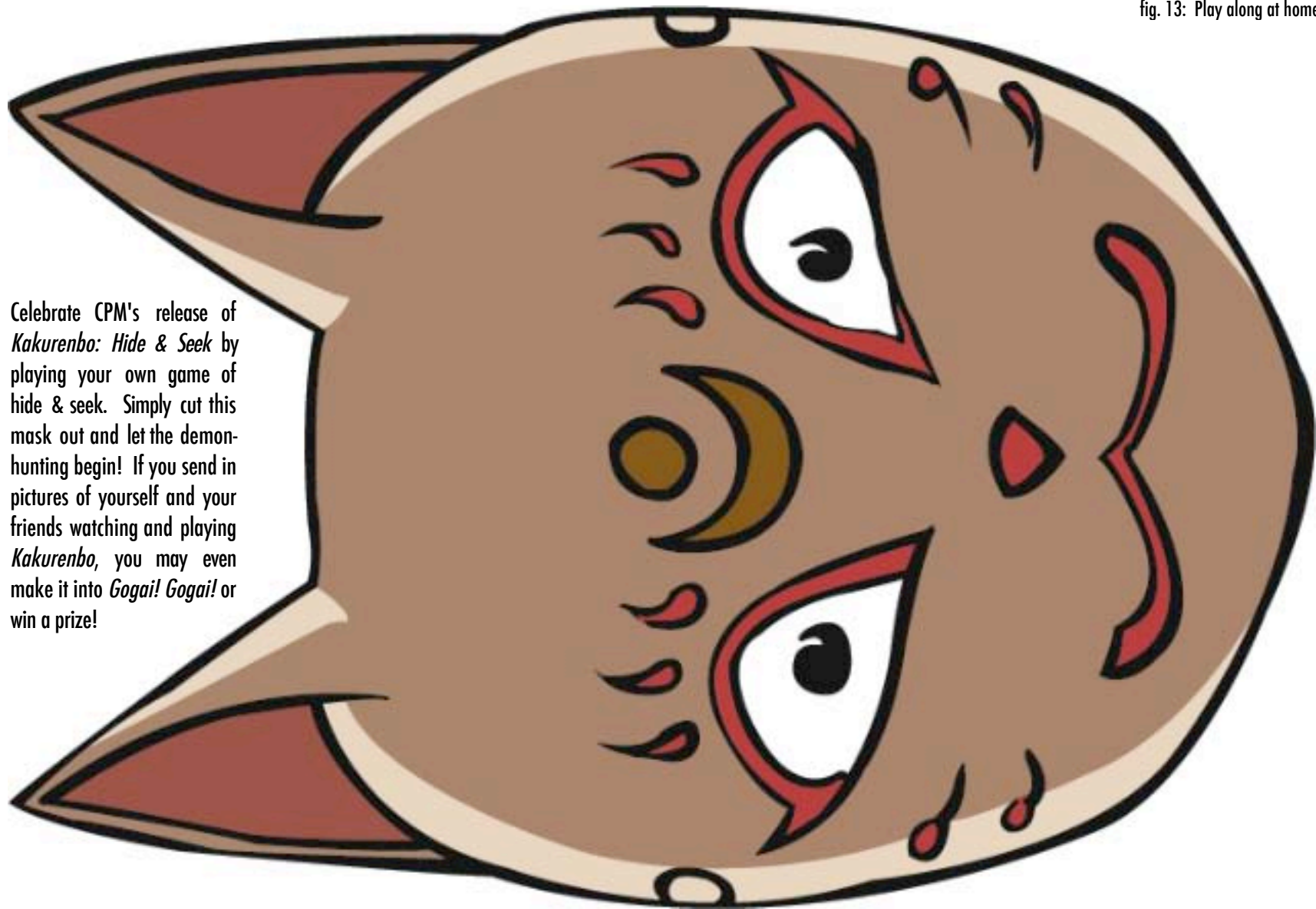
Kakurenbo, *Yu Yu Hakusho: Poltergeist Report*, the *Black Jack* bundle, and Hyun Se Lee bundle will only be available until the next issue of *Gogai! Gogai!* is sent out. Furthermore, supplies are limited. In other words, if you don't order what you want early, it might not still be there when you do come looking for it. You've been warned.

You won't see these prices elsewhere, and this month is just the start. We're going to be offering a select assortment of deals and bundles every month. Send an e-mail to animeclubs@teamcpm.com with any suggestions of titles you'd like.

We'll do our best to offer discounts and exclusive swag with every purchase.

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fig. 13: Play along at home



Celebrate CPM's release of *Kakurenbo: Hide & Seek* by playing your own game of hide & seek. Simply cut this mask out and let the demon-hunting begin! If you send in pictures of yourself and your friends watching and playing *Kakurenbo*, you may even make it into *Gogai! Gogai!* or win a prize!

Words of Wisdom from CPM *(It's spooky!)*

By Peter Tatara

I've often made instant ramen. In fact, I've become a gourmand, mixing and matching different prefabricated ramen packs with fresh vegetables, tofu, eggs, and sauces. Sometimes, though, if I'm especially peckish, I've taken a bite of the dehydrated noodles while waiting for the water to boil. Always yummy, I've always wondered what it would be like to eat an entire package this way. Well, today, I did just that. I worked late and couldn't stand staring at the ramen package mocking me. The water yet to bubble, I attacked the noodles. Delicious. Initially. After five bites or so, though, my driving hunger satiated, I began having second thoughts. I still ate the whole thing.

Now, looking back, I must admit this probably wasn't a smart move, my stomach making noises it probably shouldn't

make. I can't tell whether it's the MSG exploding or the dehydrated noodles sucking all the moisture out of my insides, but I must tell you all that while eating un-rehydrated ramen may at first sound novel, its appeal is short-lived, and I must add dry ramen to my list of things not to eat. (If you're curious, the top spot of this list is currently occupied by a 4 AM breakfast of Doritos and Coca-Cola. I downed large quantities of both of these early one Sunday morning in my youth on my way out to deliver papers in a black snowy New England predawn. I believe I stopped halfway through my route to dirty the snow. What was a wonderful story!)

At the very least, I'm full. Tomorrow, I think I'll make some taco ravioli pizza. It's good. Really.

Bye Bai LegalJazz

*(What's coming
up next?)*

*(It's so we
don't get sued)*

We've come to the end of our second issue. Wasn't it fun? Well, I thought it was. As such, look forward to a new issue in November. If you enjoyed *Gogai! Gogai!*, let us know. If you didn't enjoy *Gogai! Gogai!*, let us know. Tell us what you want at animeclubs@teamcpm.com. You can do more than tell us, too. *Gogai! Gogai!* welcomes all submissions – from pictures, to stories, to essays. Recipes, too. We've looking for a good recipe for tamago.

What's coming up next time? Something amazing I can't say yet. Until then, check out *Kakurenbo* on Adult Swim and take it home on DVD. Let me repeat that, check out *Kakurenbo* on Adult Swim and take it home on DVD. One more time, check out *Kakurenbo* on Adult Swim and take it home on DVD.

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fig. 14: No excuses

