

The Scoop!

HONEST NEWS
DONE FAST

7 Pharast, 1563
2 CP

Fish stock LIES ruin farmers

Rumours around Apogee says fish stocks are low, despite many ships at Scrimshaw Docks teeming with the catch of the day. "I reckon it's anglers from Over-The-Bridge being outclassed by the tried-and-true methods down here," claimed one fisherman.

The news could be a plot by Salvator Genya, Fisheries Guildmaster, to increase the ticket price of the annual Fish Festival but he refused to admit it to our reporters.

Pirates TERRORIZE River Traffic

Rogue sailors have once again preyed on good men and women working on the Gresia River. Three ships have been ambushed in the past few weeks, with many dead or injured and even a ship was scuttled.

Overprotective regulations disallow ships to arm themselves with cannons or ballistas, which of course the pirates use indiscriminately on local merchants. No such regulations exist for ships orig-

inating from Jade Sea ports like Ruogang or Shian-Tang.

Merchants are now faced with a dilemma: fight back or give up mercantile forever. Either way, it will come at a price.

The kids have gone mad!

Editorial
By REDD THRUM

Children in the Apogee Protectorate used to be brought up with traditional values of hard work and family ethics. With the recent orders for all kids to go to Goldmoss University, standards have been left to rot like pumpkins after Hallow's Eve. They don't learn the value of a copper piece, and will happily spend it boozing around town before getting their kicks with theft, vandalism or even violence.

I think all those children under the age of reason need to be put to work, either in proper industry (not limp-wristed clockmaking or alchemy) or in cleaning up our fair cities. Failing that, The Shadow should return to teach them a lesson or two about civil obedience.

Of course, most of these kids are the offspring of the Apogee Council, so it will be an uphill battle to maintain our standards of decency.

"Lucky" Lou murdered by gang

Local legend Lou Morlan was murdered in his own bar last week by gang members. This was part of their vicious initiations which some say involve mutual torture challenges and demon possession. Allegedly dozens of thugs entered the bar to murder the publican, steal his ale and molest his staff. Only half a dozen left the building, eyewitnesses say. One went directly from the debauchery to a local beer garden to brag about his exploits.

Where was the guard? Good question. Probably taking money to keep their eyes Apogee-side.

Farmers brutally attacked

Oxrip Park was the scene of a brutal attack on four travelling farmers. They were merely wandering past a small, peaceful crowd gathered in Oxrip when a gang hiding in a cart leaped out and attacked them. Reports vary about how many were killed, but the damage seemed extreme to the townsfolk. Some say the gang were a rogue company of bodyguards from Summerquartz Arms.

Mina family museum: "Not for plebs"

Old money socialites Rue and Delphi Mina have made their feelings known: "You have to be rich to see our art museum." Recent renovations are out-of-bounds to the tireless Nadiran workers who made the extensions possible. Education is only for those born in a chest full of gold pieces, it seems. Art experts claim that the new exhibits aren't really worth the asking price anyway and you could find pieces just as good down at The Confish.

More fires, Dragonbloods blamed

Another house burned to the ground last week, prompting calls for tighter regulation on Dragonkin immigrants. "It's in their culture to burn down people's homes... Just remember the ol' tale about Nyrveranth the Hungry!" The Apogee Council again ignored all decent petitions on this matter.

[LATE PRINTING UPDATE
Lou's ex-wife Valda sold the tavern later that week and moved to Penumbra]