

# CRIES FROM THE ATTIC™

## INTO THE GREAT WIDE OPEN...



**C**an you believe it? Another year of KODT ends and a new twelve issue stretch begins...? I think this is the first January issue of KODT put to bed before Christmas in... well — ever!!

A good sign I suppose is that we're keeping true to our promise to try and get ahead of schedule this year.

And it also means as I write this my thoughts are on my upcoming trip home to spend the holidays with my folks.

Based on feedback most of you seem to be enjoying the unpublished sketches I've been running from time to time. So here's another batch. I had to dig really deep for some of these.

To the right and on top — an unused sketch called "Squirrely feeding the pigeons on the roof of the Gamespit." I don't know why, but I've always had this notion that Squirrely keeps a pigeon coop on the roof of Pete's store. It's just never come up in the strips.

To the right-middle — a front side view of Gary Jackson. I did this one before we killed Gary off. One can only imagine what he was about to say.

The right-bottom — When we did the strip of Gary Jackson's funeral we originally had his ex-wife Heidi making an appearance. We later decided it was best if she remained off-camera. This was a sketch I did of what she 'might' look like. I always felt it was too Jackie O looking (not to mention it looks a bit like Sheila).

Finally on the left — "High School" Dave -- drawn at the same time as the sketches of Highschool Bob and Brian published last issue. Course Dave didn't meet Bob and the others until much later.

Here's hoping the holidays were good to you and that 2008 brings you much cheer and joy! And here's hoping you enjoy the issue in hand.

Game on!

*Jolly R. Blackburn*

Jolly R. Blackburn  
December 10th, 2007



**BAAAA!!! THIRD EDITION FLOUNDERED BECAUSE I LET YOU GUYS TALK ME OUT OF MY 'THIRTY-THREE PERCENT MORE' RULE-OF-THUMB!!!**  
IT'S ALWAYS SERVED ME WELL. ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FLUFF THE PAGE COUNT UP 33% AND THE FANS WILL EAT IT UP.

HEY, PETE, WHAT POINT-SIZE WAS THE BODY TEXT IN **3RD EDITION??**

**12 POINT I BELIEVE!!! WE COULD BUMP IT UP TO 14 POINT AND INCREASE THE LEADING A BIT LIKE WE DID ON GATTLEPUNK 2ND EDITION!! THAT SHOULD INCREASE THE OVERALL PAGE COUNT BY 22 PERCENT!!**

**GOOD IDEA!! AND WE CAN ADD SIDEBARS WITH REDUNDANT INFORMATION TO GAIN THE OTHER 11 PERCENT!!**

TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH: This panel from Knights of the Dinner Table Issue 35 (From the strip: A Sure Thing) shows the Hard Eight team brainstorming on the development of HackMaster 4th Edition....