



Pleasant Places of Florida

[Suggested in The Five Orange Pips]

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

ISLAND CHATTER Wins Wessex Cup II: From **Silver Blaze's** post position (No.4), **Bill Henry** guided **Island Chatter** to a 2½ length win in the 2nd Annual Re-Enactment of the Running for the Wessex Cup at Tampa Bay Downs, Saturday, Feb. 8th. Most of our enthusiastic, Sherlockian-clad PPoffers present backed **I Love the Game** (Which game? - the one that's afoot, dummy.), but, alas, he was last seen headed for the glue factory. Otherwise, it was a great day at the races - sunny weather - a tasty cordon-bleu luncheon, and good fellowship. **Mike Carroll** presented the trophy to the winner's owner, trainer & jockey, ably assisted by **Judy Buddle, Laura Henderson, Brenda Tanguay,** and Event Chairman, **David McCallister. Ted & Anne Friedman** were our out-of-town celebs, com-all the way down from New Jersey.

A copy of the PPoff's Souvenir Programme and the Track Program are available (for \$1 each) from your Recorder. (Track Note: **Big Eyes Moment**, last year's winner, ran in the 8th Race, but finished 4th with **Bill Henry** up.)

TAMPA BAY DOWNS RESULTS

PPoff's Wessex Cup II

FOURTH Race Purse-\$ 3,600 3 Yo Md Sp Wt 7 Fur Time: 23.2 47.3 1:14.3 T:28.1

Horse	Off	¼	½	Str	Fin
Island Chatter	4	1-Hd	2½	2-3	1-2½
Jetasea	6	4-4	1-1½	1-1½	2-2
Transfer	7	5-1	5-1½	3-2½	3-4
Independance Pass	2	3-1	3-2	4-3	4-4
Shot From The Hyp	8	7-1	7-2	5-2½	5-1
Commander Sur	9	9-8	9-7	6-Hd	6-2
Hoos Sturning	1	6-Hd	6-1	7-1	7-Nk
Pickpocket Ken	3	8½	8-Hd	8-10	8-12
All's Trophy	5	2-Hd	4-1	9-6	9-8½
I Love The Game	10	10-	10-	10-	10-

JOCKEYS: Henry W., Corpes M., Stroud S., Dominguez F., Feagin C., Hanley M., Valles E., Azeff Y., Blackstun K., Londono O.

Island Chatter (6)	3.40	2.60	2.40
Jetasea (9)		4.60	3.40
Transfer (3)			5.40

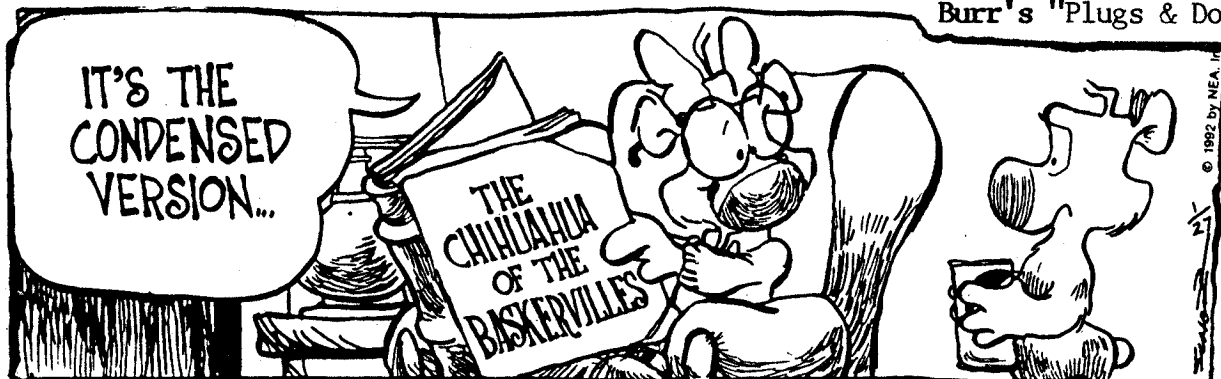
Quiniela 6-9 Paid 10.00
Trifecta 6-9-3 Paid 97.20
Pick 3 (4-5-6) Paid 60.80

Dave McCallister ran a fabulous Sherlockian display for 3 weeks at the Tampa Central Library.

Report on B.S.I. WEEKEND: Blessed with unseasonable good weather, **Joan & Ben Wood** enjoyed an citing and event-filled BSI Weekend, in NYC, Jan. 9-12. The main events included **Bill Rabe's** "Aunt Clara Singalong" at O'Lunney's Pub; the **Stetak's** "Martha Hudson Breakfast" at The Al-goquin Hotel; **Susan Rice's** "Wm. Gillette Memorial Luncheon" at the Homestead Restaurant; the B.S.I. Dinner (and Joan's "The Woman"'s Dinner), and finally the B.S.I. Reception at 24 Fifth Ave. (That's a lot of calories, believe you me!). Former PPoffer, **Marsha Pollak** was one of fifteen ladies who attended the BSI Dinner. By the by, 3 men & 4 women were invested into the BSI by **Tom Stix** ("Wiggins"), head of the Baker Street Irregulars. Joan & I saw many old S'ian friends and met for the first time a number of other Holmesians. We had a super time!

BILL WARD has sent on his warmest greetings to one & all of the PPoff.

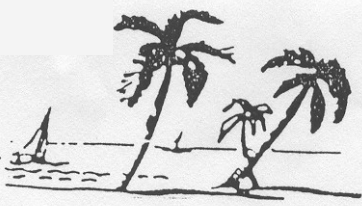
"All the Prints that Fit the News": 'Twas late in the afternoon on a cold and wet day in February when Watson returned to Baker Street after visiting a sick patient on the east side of London. "Ah Watson, my good fellow, you have finally returned," remarked Holmes. "Is it still raining, might I ask?" "Of course it is, Holmes," was Watson's reply. "That's why I'm standing on this newspaper. These are the Times that dry men's soles." (Borrowed from **Bob Burr's** "Plugs & Dottles")



Please direct correspondence to: Dr. Benton Wood, BSI - Recorder

P.P. of Fers in the News

Communication #113



Hot on the trail of Holmes

■ It takes the sharp mind of a sleuth to track down the true identities behind the characters in Sherlock Holmes lore. But one man is up for the adventure.

By AMBER GRIMES
Times Correspondent

WESLEY CHAPEL — Whenever David McCallister dons his authentic Inverness cape and plaid deer stalker hat, his wife knows that he's on the trail of another Sherlock Holmes mystery.

For the past 16 years, the 39-year-old lawyer from Miami has been an avid fan of the great fictional detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, so much so that he has begun tracking clues that might uncover the identities of the people on whom the famous characters are based.

"All true Sherlockians believe that Dr. John Watson was a real person," McCallister said. "We think that Conan Doyle acted as a literary agent for Dr. Watson. All the adventures in the stories were things that really happened to Watson."

McCallister has even traveled to England to search out the actual pubs and hotels that appear in the novels.

One of the more famous places he visited was Holmes' residence at 221B Baker St. The place now is occupied by a savings and loan company, McCallister said.

"Baker Street has been pretty much commercialized," he said. "There are still some streets in the vicinity with the buildings that look very Victorian."

McCallister says he thinks he did track down the real identity of one Conan Doyle figure, John Hebron, a black lawyer from Atlanta who fathered the child of a character in the story "The Yellow Face."

St. Petersburg Times

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1992

"It took some work, but I went and looked up all the black lawyers who were a part of the (Georgia) Legislature back in late 1870s," McCallister said. "There was only one guy, so I knew it was him.

"This guy was run out of Georgia because it turned out he really wasn't a lawyer at all. He met and married a white woman in New York. After he got in trouble with the law again, she took their child and went to England. It was there that she remarried and became embroiled in one of the mysteries."

McCallister maintains there are all kinds of realistic clues and historical facts throughout the adventures of Holmes and his trusty companion, Watson.

"There are different reasons for why people get hooked on the Sherlock Holmes lore," he said. "Some do it for the historical references, some the academic and others because they just like detective stories."

McCallister got involved with Holmes lore in 1976 after he graduated from Emory College in Atlanta.

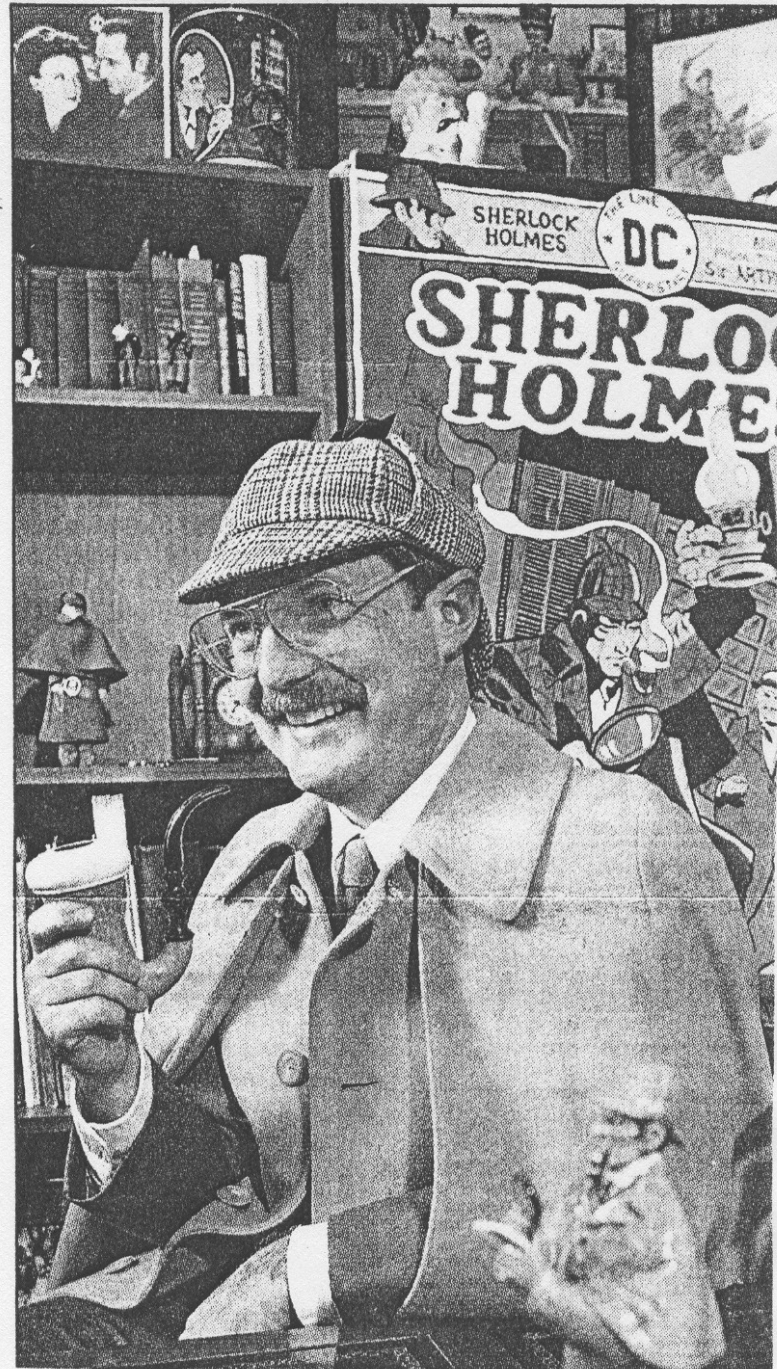
"I saw an ad for a meeting of the Confederates of Wisteria Lodge, which is the name of a lodge that appears in one of the stories," McCallister said. "I was curious, so I went, and I've been hooked ever since."

When he moved to Tampa in 1983, his hobby expanded.

He joined the local Sherlock Holmes club in Tampa and also became an associate member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London. He has yet to join the New York group, the Baker Street Irregulars, named after the street children in Conan Doyle's books.

"You basically have to wait for someone to die before you can get into that one," he said.

The Tampa group, Pleasant Places of Florida, meets twice a year in English pubs to discuss stories and even have a quiz on a previously assigned story.



David McCallister's passion for Sherlock Holmes has led him to England to search out the actual pubs and hotels that appear in the novels.

"We get quizzed on different facts in the stories. Things that aren't real obvious, like where Watson went to school or where Holmes keeps his cigars," McCallister said.

Only enthusiasts can join the 60-member group.

McCallister qualifies. Traces of Holmes memorabilia spill over from his private life into his professional life. In his Wesley Chapel law office, several posters depicting Holmes hang on his walls.

His back closet is filled with

books about Holmes.

At home, his wife, Cecilia, allows him to keep his collection of Holmes memorabilia in the den. There he has miniature statues of Holmes and Watson, photos of Holmes and Conan Doyle and even an authentic first edition of the *Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*.

"She deals with my hobby with amused tolerance," McCallister said with a smile. "As long as I don't start trying to take over the rest of the house with my hobby, she doesn't really raise too many objections."