

Author upholds tradition of modern sci-fi writers



"The Sails of Tau Ceti"
Michael McCollum
Del Rey Books

By Sam Kepfield
Staff Reporter

In his eighth book, Michael McCollum continues the hard sci-fi tradition pioneered by Robert A. Heinlein and carried on by other contemporaries such as David Brin and Greg Benford.

In the 23rd century, humans have colonized the moon, Mars and the moons of Jupiter and Saturn. Final preparations for the launch of the Starhopper, our first interplanetary, manned mission, are under way.

Suddenly, long-range telescopes pick up a spacecraft headed toward Earth from nearby Tau Ceti. The Starhopper is diverted to intercept the ship, powered by a light sail and apparently deserted.

However, when the four human travelers approach the ship, they are hailed by alien beings — in perfect English. The Phelan have been fleeing their dead sun for centuries, and the 100,000 refugees are

seeking a new home — Earth. To that end, they have studied Earth's culture, languages and even humor extensively in order to readily assimilate. They know us well — almost too well.

They ask Tory Bronson, Starhopper's chief engineer, to be their "advocate" in making their case to Earth for resettlement. And when she accepts, she learns the Phelan are not what they appear to be.

There are not three ships, but more than 20,000 loaded with 3 billion Phelan and they're all headed toward Earth. They demand a portion of Earth's surface for settlement. If not, they will move on to the next star and power their light sails by blowing up the sun.

Bronson is caught in an impossible situation and faces being called a traitor no matter what she does. She races to find a solution that will save humanity and allow the Phelan to survive.

McCollum mixes hard science with a believable, fast-moving plot and some memorable scenery (such as a restaurant on top of a tower on Mars' Olympus Mons) and does it in less than 300 pages.

"The Sails of Tau Ceti" is a first-contact, space tale well done.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
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Be descriptive. The more information you provide the readers, the better your responses will be. **Begin the ad with the item for sale or offered. Include the price of the items for sale. Highlight the ad with larger type, boldface, art or a box.**

3 Bicycles For Sale

53cm white Bianchi, Italian frame, campy equipped, 4-tires (Continental & Kevlar) \$350 firm. 476-6838 message.

Lincoln Police Department notice of sale of unclaimed bicycles. September 19, 1992 10:00am. Lincoln Land Towing, 410 W. P.St. No checks accepted.

MUST SELL: Schwinn/Essience Mountain bike, 18 speed, excellent condition. Best offer. 423-6365.

Street ready, low cost bicycles, many makes and models. Call 475-3847. Stop by 2252 Orchard.

6 Computers For Sale

IBM compatible 286-12 computer for sale. High density drives, VGA color monitor, many software titles, 40 MB hard drive, mouse, 101-Key Keyboard, DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1 included. \$700. Call David 436-0002.

8 Furniture For Sale

Metal desk, L-shaped. Locks. Excellent condition. \$250. 489-8948, leave message.

Super single waterbed plus 3 sets of sheets. \$75. 476-3066.

10 Misc. For Sale

CHEAP! FBI/U.S. SEIZED

89 MERCEDES\$200
86 VW\$50
87 MERCEDES\$100
85 MUSTANG\$50
Choose from thousands starting \$25. FREE Information-24 Hour Hotline. 801-379-2929 Copyright #NE11KJC

Vacuums. Good, used. \$30 with warranty. Randolph Vacuums, 2712 Randolph. 438-3163.

18 Stereos/TVs For Sale

MUST SELL! VCR-General Electric, 4-head, Hi-Fi Stereo, remote control. \$290. 421-8284.

Yamaha stereo system (receiver, CD, dual cassette, equalizer), 2 Technics 27 inch 3-way speakers. Excellent condition \$750. Call Chad 436-7916.

19 Ticket Exchange

2 tickets U2 concert in Ames, Iowa. Face value or best offer. 434-3421 or 474-5859.

2-U2 tickets for sale! Great seats! Anne 464-2705. Call Now!

Four U2 tickets, 32 row turf. Best offer. 488-7242.

Six U-2 tickets. Good seats. 464-1691

Two Lyle Lovett tickets for sale. Main floor seats for Sept. 12 Omaha show. 467-3807.

Two U2 tickets for sale. GREAT SEATS. Best offer by Friday. Leave message at 436-8812.

Two U2 tickets for sale-Great seats! \$80 each OBO. Call 421-3641 and leave message.

U2 Tickets: Ames IA Friday, Sept. 11. Good seats. 475-1923, ask for Geoff.

TWO GA tickets for Cornhusker game Saturday, September 12. Admission cost. 475-9301. Evening or leave message.

20 Vehicles For Sale

1991 Geo Metro convertible, red, AM/FM tape, 14,000 miles, great school car. Price negotiable. 466-5292, 464-1574.

1987 Honda Accord LXI. Three-door hatchback. Five speed. Loaded. \$5250 offers. Baer's Auto Sales, 1647 S. Third. 477-8442.

1982 Datsun 210; 2-door; 5-speed; Excellent mechanical condition. 33mpg/hwy; Asking \$775 OBO; 438-3196 evenings/weekends.

1985 Nissan 200 SX, white 2-door, 70,000 miles, \$4000. 466-8985. Leave message.

1974 Volkswagen Bug. No underbody rust, great campus car. Tons of extras. \$2,000 OBO. Call Rob at 477-4788.

CENTURY USED CARS

'82 Citation
Good School Car. Good Gas Mileage. Looks nice.

'79 Olds Cutless
Two door, auto, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning, stereo cassette, vinyl roof.

'84 Chevy Cavalier
Two door hatchback, red, 4-speed, air conditioning, bucket seats. Nice car.

We buy and sell used cars. Trade-ins welcome. Financing available on the spot. 421-3911

100 Rides

We need a ride to BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA for any long weekend this semester. Will share gas expense, help drive. Can leave Wednesday/Thursday, return Sunday. Call Terri, 477-5164 and Meghan, 438-2758.

105 Career Events

Career Workshops for the Week of Sept. 14th
Tues. 9/15: Interviewing Skills, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, NE. Union
Wed. 9/16: Resume Writing, 3:00 - 4:00 pm, NE. Union
Thurs. 9/17: Selecting a Major, 3:30 - 4:30 pm, NE. Union
Fri. 9/18: Interviewing Skills, 10:30 - 11:30 am, East union

110 Announcements

ATTENTION FRESHMAN:
Interested in developing your leadership skills? Join the Odyssey Program: "A Journey With Another Leader: to begin a mentoring relationship with a student leader. For more information contact the Office For Student Involvement, 200 NE Union, (472-2454). Application deadline September 14th.

New Shuttle Routes

Shuttle service is available for students parking in lots at 20th and Vine, 22nd and Vine and 17th and Holdrege. The new lots on Vine Street are for those who have either permit numbers 2 or 20. The new stop 17th and Holdrege is for students parking at Devaney. Questions??? please call the Student Government office at 472-2581.



FAITH NO MORE

SPECIAL GUEST:

HELMET

SEPT. 16 • 7:30PM
PEONY PARK BALLROOM

Tickets available at all



Ticket Centers

CHARGE-BY-PHONE: 402-475-1212



MARY RIEPMA ROSS
FILM THEATER
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery; University of Nebraska-Lincoln
12th & R Streets; Lincoln, NE 68588-0302; Film Information Phone: 402/472-5353

Thursday, September 10 through Sunday, September 13
Screenings 7 & 9 p.m. Daily
Matinees on Saturdays at 1 & 3 p.m. and Sundays at 3 & 5 p.m.

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Fri., Sept. 11th and Sat., Sept. 12th
9 pm to 1 am
No Cover Before 10 pm
Pre-Concert Party Friday 4:30-7:30

Live Broadcast by **The Blaze 106.3** (Free Prizes)
50¢ Draws \$2.50 Pitchers
\$1 Longnecks Miller Lite

1435 'O' Street (Next to State Theatre) 474-2166