

# THE FURTEAN TIMES

A WORLD OF STRANGE ANIMAL FOLK

/ 2 / Summer 2007 /

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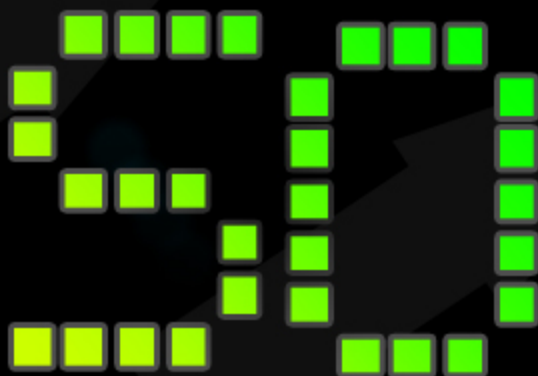
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## THE TOP



## FURRY CHARACTERS

**Loads of new stuff!** Convention Calendar  
Interview with the NorthernFurs · Snippets  
In The Back · WTF?! Furrries? · FT on MSN

# THE EDITOR

Lists, I for one am nearly addicted to lists, I list everything! Everything in my freezer is on a list stuck to the front, for example. A few weeks ago I made a list of all my catchphrases, from that MSN classic of mine: "I'M BUSY!!!" to the quite simplistic "Y helo thar" to the downright weird song parody of the *Family Guy* theme tune I wrote... and that ditty about landfills.

So this issue we bring you the TOP 50 furry characters from film and print as voted for by you lot out there! We set up "polling stations" at Fur Affinity, deviantART and our own Furtean Times forums to find out what fuzzy friends you think are worthy of the top furry character ever made!

Enjoy the show!

~ Tori Bellachi



The Furtean Times is looking for people to contribute to the magazine. If you have good writing skills and want to promote your work then write an article about whatever you want and send it in to [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com) along with your name, an image we can use for the profile page and even a web link so we can give your work some free advertising! It's not hard! Do it today!

谢谢你

Oh yeah, and there's smallprint.

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Disclaimer! The views and opinions published in this fanzine do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or the public, whether furry or general, at large. They are wholly the writers own words, and we will not suppress free speech under any circumstances. However we do hold limits on subjects such as how offensive and crude submissions may be.

## Long Awaited Update For Furcadia

On April 6th, Dragon's Eye Productions, the company behind Furcadia, released the first update for the game in over a year.

The 'Kitterwing' update for the game provides a number of new add-ons for characters and a series of 24-bit portraits. More updates were originally going to be available in the update - including 32-bit colour - however the popular MMORPG was hurried online to ensure that the program was compatible with the recently released Windows Vista. The game last year celebrated its tenth year online, and turned over a profit of \$1 million last year from selling sponsorships, avatar upgrades and gifts.

In similar gaming news, Wyrnkeep Entertainment's Inherit the Earth RPG has been made available for Pocket PC users. Versions for Windows, Mac and Linux have been available since 2004. [www.furcadia.com](http://www.furcadia.com)



## Major ConFur Delay

ConFur, the planned social networking site from Furry Media International, has currently been postponed due to personnel having personal projects that currently require more attention. However the status of the project has been upped from "highly unlikely" to "likely." [robomilk.sirkain.net/interactive/confur](http://robomilk.sirkain.net/interactive/confur)



## ConFuzzled T'updates

The UK's first official furry convention ConFuzzled has now opened up to registration! Attendance prices started at £160 (US\$320) per person for the whole convention and are, at time of going to press, £170 (US\$340) per person.

Sponsoring membership is currently £210 (US\$420). We are also excited to report that the Furtean Times' own deputy editor, Diesel Leon, will be attending the con and reporting on the events inside! A ConFuzzled special edition of the Furtean Times will be available from the 30th of June 2008.

The folks at CF have also released new information on their website, including a revised schedule, a forum, Frappr map, a redesign of the website and the announcement of Brok Badger, the convention mascot. [www.confuzzled.org.uk](http://www.confuzzled.org.uk)

We here at the Furtean Times were quite pleasantly surprised to find that we have been nominated for the 2007 Ursa Major Awards in the anthropomorphic fanzines category (well dur!)

We wish to extend our gratitude to whomever submitted us to the nominations; thanks!

[www.ursamajorawards.org](http://www.ursamajorawards.org)

# Major Awards 2006

May 2007 brought the results of not one, but two events in the furry fandom.

The first is the announcement of the renowned Ursa Major Awards, this year presented at Califur 3. 53 nominees took battle to gain the rank of champion in each of 10 categories. And this year was dominated by popular Dreamworks movie *Over the Hedge*, which bagged two awards for Best Motion Picture and Best Dramatic Work or Series for *Hammy's Boomerang Adventure*. In the literary sections Kyell Gold left with three awards for novel *Pendant of Fortune*, short fiction *Jacks to Open* and Best Published Illustration, also for *Pendant of Fortune* (image by Sara Palmer).

## UC Davis Survey Published

This century has brought a great increase of interest in the furry fandom. With ever more media attention, a lot of people are looking to the fandom and wondering. At the time the first edition of the Furry Times was thrown online there were two furry surveys floating around the internet. And now one of them. The one being conducted by the University of California, Davis Department of Psychology has been published.

The results are largely unsurprising. With an average age of 24.6 years. 89% of respondents were listed as "white," 81% male and 83% were resident or born of the United States. 37% classed themselves as bisexual, 33% heterosexual, 26% homosexual and 8% other/unsure.

The full report and more information on the results can be found at [studyf3.livejournal.com/1383.html](http://studyf3.livejournal.com/1383.html).

Another furry survey is currently waiting to be published. Held by Australian furry and psychology student Kyle Evans. He based his study off David Rust's *The Sociology of the Furry Fandom*, which has been ridiculed for what many consider to be great inaccuracies which have led to some of the fandom's greatest stereotypes.

Evans' Furry Sociological Survey can be found at [www.furnation.com/thefurysurvey](http://www.furnation.com/thefurysurvey).

### Motion Picture

*Over the Hedge*  
(Dreamworks)

### Short Work or Series

*Hammy's Boomerang Adventure*  
(Dreamworks)

### Novel

*Pendant of Fortune* by Kyell Gold  
(Sofawolf Press)

### Short Fiction

*Jacks to Open* by Kyell Gold  
(Fur Rag)

### Other Literary Work

*A Doemain of Our Own* by Susan Rankin  
(Plan Nine Publishing)

### Comic Book

i.s.o. by Vince Suzukawa

### Comic Strip

*Ozy & Millie* by D.C. Simpson

### Fanzine

*Anthrolations*

### Published Illustration

Cover painting by Sara Palmer for *Pendant of Fortune*  
(Sofawolf Press)

### Game

*Okami*  
(Clover Studios/Capcom)







## TORI BELLIACHI AND THE CHAINED WOLF

### QI Futures?

Issue contributor The Chained Wolf has started up a furry related discussion on the website for UK comedy quiz show QI.

The show, popular worldwide for being the only "impossible" quiz show with points being awarded depending on how interesting answers are, uses an alphabetical system with each series being centred around subjects starting with the corresponding letter. Let's see if the little known "furies" will make an appearance to boggle the minds of Alan Davis and co!

Furiously enough, QI forum members are called 'Newshounds,' which fits nicely with our next snippet.

> [tinyurl.com/2srnuf0](http://tinyurl.com/2srnuf0)

### Newshounds II Coming Soon

Thomas K. Dye, writer and cartoonist for the long running furry webcomic *Newshounds*, has announced the launch of the sequel to the comic which ended on 1st December 2006 and has since been replaced with archive commentary and a trial strip named *Kid Gloves*.

The new series starts July 2nd.  
> [www.newshounds.com](http://www.newshounds.com)

### Channel 4 Documentary Update

The still unnamed documentary mentioned (and soon circulated) in last month's edition of *The Furtean Times* has started production. It is reported that filming has occurred at a London-Furs furmeet in early 2007. However these rumours are currently unconfirmed.

If any readers have any information concerning the show then feel free to email us.

> [www.channel4.com](http://www.channel4.com)

> [www.londonfurs.co.uk](http://www.londonfurs.co.uk)

### C-ACE'd

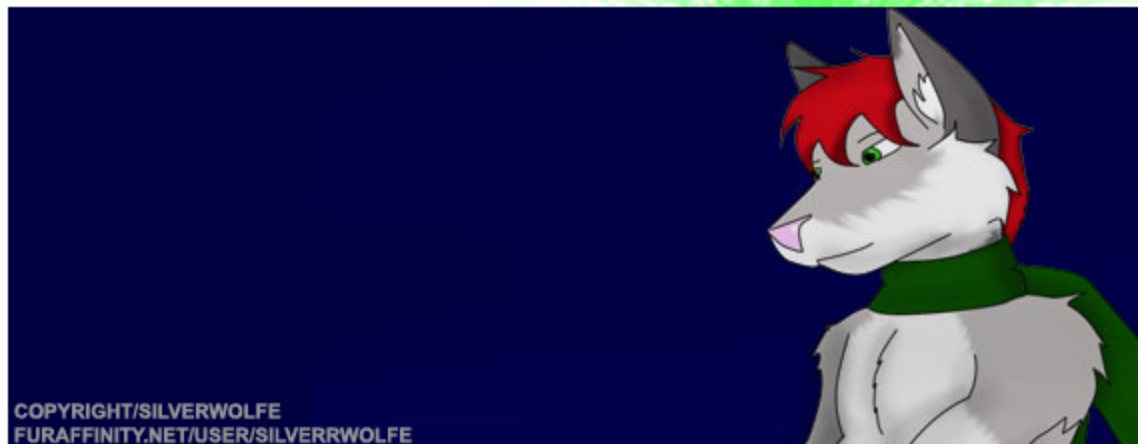
C-ACE - the Canadian Art and Cartooning Expo - has finished for the last time on June 10th after six years in the running. It reportedly lost out to Anthrocon due to conflicts in scheduling.

> [www.c-ace.org](http://www.c-ace.org)

### KO Injured By Washing Machine

Rocket City FurMeet chairman KO has been injured in a freak washing machine carrying incident on June 4th. He has gone into surgery and donations to pay the bill are being accepted.

> [community.livejournal.com/rcfm/53368.html](http://community.livejournal.com/rcfm/53368.html)



# WORKING THE FUR



## ENIGMA VULPINE

**When it comes to fursuits, most of those in the UK to own one have had it made by someone else. Most of those that make them are overseas, and charge a hefty fee for shipping. So how many furs in the UK have even tried to make their own. The answer is not many.**

As someone who has, themselves, taken on many commissions, (some of which are still in progress), it surprised me to find that about one in thirty furs on these islands have tried their paw at making a full blown fursuit. We're talking like the picture in the bottom right, not simple paws, tail and/or ears. Can it really be that hard to make something to wear? Believe it or not the answer is yes!

Stores that sell fur don't appear in many places in the UK, and getting hold of quality fur or the colour you want can be almost impossible. Even if you have the fur, most people don't want to take the time out to cut it and sew it. I'm not saying they're lazy, but making a mistake can cost time, fur and of course money. If this is the case however, then why do some still try their paw at making one? The answer for me (I'm not sure of others) is personal. By that, I mean it has a more sentimental value because you made it yourself. I feel the same about some of the commission pieces I have made before, and feel sad to see it go, as there is a good chance I'll never see or hear of it again.

Now some people who read this will wonder how you can be so attached to something that isn't alive. You really have to watch this creature take shape from flat foam and sheets of fur, into a full animal costume that someone will bring to life. Don't forget that once you're in suit, you are that character, which makes it as alive as the wearer. Meaning that a limp performance will leave little to the imagination of those around.

We'll step away from that though, this is about constructing, not performing. Yet maybe they're quite similar. A good fursuit that you feel comfortable in, can help you give a better performance. Saying that, what could make you feel more comfortable than knowing you made the fursuit that you're wearing. Faux furs are readily available from eBay if there isn't a store nearby, as well as

foam, hotglue, spray glue, carpet tiles and rubber mats (for the sole of the foot-paws). Patterns for costumes are also available, and full instructions means that pretty much everyone can use them.

There are a few things to think about when it comes to making a fursuit though. 1) It will take some time to make, so have some free time set aside. 2) It will cost money, though how much depends on what you want. 3) Knowing your limits is key. If you feel tired, or bored then take a break. Just make sure to unplug your hotglue gun...

Tutorials are widely available on the internet for things like head and foot-paw construction. There are even some for padding if your suit is to be fat, muscled or even the opposite gender. Having an image to go by so you know what you want it to look like helps too. It doesn't have to be expensive commissioned work, you should see the sketches I use to check my work, yikes!

Whether it's a fursuit for you or someone else, when it has to fit closely, you can't have too many measurements...within reason at least. Often you can just modify a paper pattern. Or make up a poly-cotton body suit, and pin it closer to the body of whoever will be wearing the finished item. This is often the best method, but remember that although fur has a little give, a tight suit will cause problems.

If you're dead set on saving yourself time, and trouble then commissioning would be better. However I still don't think anything can beat a suit you made yourself.

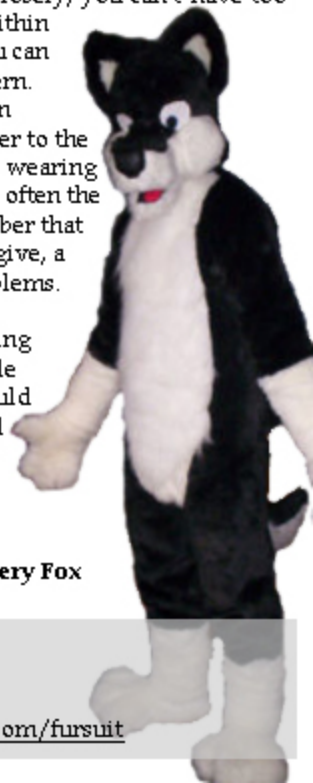
**Enigma - The UK's Mystery Fox**

### Useful Links

[www.fursuit.info](http://www.fursuit.info)

[db.fursuit.org](http://db.fursuit.org)

[community.livejournal.com/fursuit](http://community.livejournal.com/fursuit)



## Issue 2:

# Almiras *Nominated by Enigma Vulpine* Silverwolf

Almiras Silverwolf is a freelance artist and student based in the UK. With nearly 20 years drawing experience behind her back, there's much to expect from this lass. Add to that 20 years another 10 working with textiles and plushies then we're racking up 30 years of experience in one person.

It doesn't end there. Add yet another 17 years for costume making and performing and we've hit the big time of 47 years experience. Almiras is one werewolf that's getting so hot she might burn through the page!

Coollest thing? She has a furry tattoo on her left arm!

[www.bloodmoonstudios.com](http://www.bloodmoonstudios.com)

Nominate your favourite artist! Email [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com) and tell us who and why! And don't nominate yourself (you cheeky buggers!)





# FEATURED ARTIST

ALMIRAS SILVERWOLF

- Mega level
- Cyborg type
- Data group

**Cybercryson**  
010010100101001



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



## DIESEL LEON

**Face it, a lot of you. Why are you here? What brings you to the fandom? From what inspirados did you succumb to become, as it has been wont to be known, a Furry?**

Chances are you've seen Disney's 'Robin Hood' at least once, right?

Right. Furry Characters in the popular or public realm! There is, and has been, a perhaps startling wealth of such anthropomorphised beasts since the very dawn of cinema and the golden, dawning age of the 'cartoon' - Mickey Mouse, Bugs Bunny, Tom and Jerry - for over seventy years we've been entertained by a humongous host of sleek, spiny, fluffy, feisty, quick-heeled and generally loveable characters, and in an age when the furry subculture appears to be merely at its true dawning, the centenary for such beasties doesn't seem like such a difficult target to swing a hit at.

Thus, here it is. The 50 Greatest Furry Characters as voted by YOU, the Furtean Times readers, the staff, members of DeviantArt and FurAffinity - from the realms of film, of cartoon, of comic and even possibly of your own creations. Who will nab crown of all-time greatest fur? Will they be righteous in their grasping of the golden fleece? Hell, I already know.

just your average beagle... till he lets his imagination get the better of him. A pilot, a scout-master, a tennis star and ace blockbuster scriptwriter, Snoopy's life stretches far and beyond what his downtrodden master Charlie Brown could ever imagine. Quick-witted, satirical and forever a dog of equal leisure and japery, the eternal beagle's mastery was perhaps overshadowed by the anarchic clout of Garfield in his later years - but like hell that he'd be left forgotten. Almost ten years on, the world is still missing the great Charles Schulz. Kicked the crap outta Fred Freakin' Basset...

### 48

#### Lola Bunny *Looney Tunes*

It has to be said, the creation and inclusion of Lola Bunny into 1997's big-screen knockabout, Space Jam, was one that was both overdue, and even slightly epoch-making. The inclusion of a major female role into the Looney franchise had not been realised up until this point (whilst Tiny Toons had been doing it since the early 90s), and given the equal-opportunity basis on which the latter quarter of the 20th century adhered to, it was both high time and indeed a good time to incorporate Lola into Bugs' bachelor life. We haven't seen much of her since SJ, but chances are she'll not go down forgotten in a swift hurry.

### 50

#### Baloo *The Jungle Book*

Kicking off the list at the lowest rung is every man-cub's bosom buddy, the affable and impossibly-unlovable Baloo, the central stooge and main player of Disney's 30s classic *The Jungle Book*. Whilst Baloo's clout in current climates feels slightly weaker than what he used to bear over at least three generations, this fun, though quietly philosophical and gentle giant showed Mowgli the ways of the jungle.

### 49

#### Snoopy *Peanuts/Charlie Brown*

Pick up your jaw. One of the world's best-loved, best-recognised and arguably most-merchandised fictional canines has finished barely inches above Kipling's hulking Baloo, though again, his inclusion alone is worth the weight he bears. Snoopy's

### 47

#### Yakko, Wakko and Dot *Animations*

Okay, that's three characters, technically. But you'll never, ever, see this trio apart. They just wouldn't operate. Whilst what EXACTLY they are is a factor that's never quite surpassed being hazy to a point, Yakko, Wakko and Dot were an essential staple of what became one of the, if not THE greatest Saturday morning cartoons of all time. Working entirely on a tireless basis of pastiche, Groucho-wit and old-timey slapstick, the Warner Brothers and Sister brought Saturday morning cartoons a touch of vaudeville class and satire that had been missing from screens for years on end. One of the few shows which appeals to almost every generation living in some faction or other, the trio may operate on being intensely annoying, but unbearably and tirelessly agreeable at the same time.

# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



46

## **Yoshi** *Mario Brothers*

Yoshi is one of the few characters born out of the cult market into popular culture who no one seems to fail to recognise. Mario's green, bouncy, endlessly-happy dinosaur chum brought a sense of furry charm to Nintendo's franchise with his debut in the groundbreaking Super Mario World; and has remained both ageless and as charm-filled as he was when he first started chomping berries back in 1991. Inevitably, Yoshi outgrew Mario's shadow and branched out into a series of other titles, the pick of the crop being the sublime Yoshi's Island, which was released a decade ago as one of the last truly good Super Nintendo titles to be released. Whilst Yoshi now seems content to remain one of Mario's many, MANY understudies in various multi-player jaunts, his doglike charm and doe-eyed naivety hands Spyro the Dragon all he ever wanted to be on the shiniest of silver plates.

45

## **Fritz the Cat** *Fritz the Cat*

Fritz the Cat broke several boundaries as soon as he hit the printing press. The cult American artist Robert Crumb's brainchild and piece de resistance, Fritz was born a weapon of satire, of drugs, sex, and of burgeoning sleaze in and around the Big City. Whilst Crumb's comics have often been lauded as cult masterpieces and classics in their own right, the two animated features that were born out of the feline's underground popularity have consistently been given a thorough 'meh' in comparison. Regardless, the first FTC picture was the first-ever animated feature to receive the big 'R' certificate in the US, featuring, given its appearance in the 1970s, the world's first true look at 'yiff' in what remains a very raw, unashamedly visceral set of scenes built to challenge censorship laws and to twist the conventions of the society Crumb was somewhat accurately satirising. To this day, it seems no animated feature, nor series, has matched the controversy Fritz courts with inimitable flair.

44

## **DIESEL LEON**

### **Salem** *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*

Okay, scream all you like. Salem HIGHER than Fritz the Cat? Maybe a little controversial, but nevertheless a tough allocation. Salem was, for many, the key reason a lot of people found the live-action Sabrina TV show quite as watchable as it was. Sure, animatronics weren't NEW, Gremlins had been out a good 7 or 8 years by the time Melissa Joan Hart strutted her way off Clarissa Explains It All into her arguably more popular role as Sabrina, but... there was something about that blatantly puppeteered, wisecracking cat that had the exact same voice as Norbert the beaver. Salem provided the show with his role as the self-obsessive wit, the bored, sarcastic apprentice to Sab's teen melodramas, and left his mark as one of the only arguably cool characters to be seen on an American teen-orientated comedy for donkey's years (Carlton Banks and Kenan Thompson excepted).

43

### **Flareon** *Pokémon*

Inevitably, the top 50 surges ahead with the debut of the first and ONLY Pokémon to appear on the chart, kicking a certain yellow mouse into cretinous touch. Whilst many far and wide may deride Pokémon and its unfeasibly gigantic franchise from hell, for a time many of us were captivated by the sheer thrill of being able to 'collect' animals and making 'em fight 'til they 'fainted' through a variety of turn-based HP-lowering attacks and manoeuvres. One of the undeniably cooler varieties of Pokémon was the enigmatic yet ever-intimidating Flareon - face-on, a fennec on fire, but to those in the know, the evolutionary outcome of an Eevee blessed with a fire stone - whilst I myself forever prefer Pupitar as per my choice of fighting beastie, as far as furry characters go I believe Flareon's a nifty choice to make from the gazillions now at your disposal thanks to Game Freak and Creature's endless programming talents and marketing skills.





# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



DIESEL LEON

42

## **Any Rose** *Sonic the Hedgehog*

Amy, the archetypal unrequited lovesick puppy of any true saga, made her debut quietly via the ground-breaking Sonic CD as Sonic's damsel in distress, his first since taking on Robotnik and his endless minions from hordes of games preceding. To this date Amy, one of the more distinguishable characters from her bright pinkishness and ruddy great mallet, has remained Sonic's feisty admirer, making no secret about her wanting for his rescue once again... in recent years, Sonic has shown little sign of surrendering to Amy's tomboyish charms, with a human maiden in tow in his most recent gaming venture, and for those remaining true to the SatAM cartoon series and Archie comics, Sally Acorn.

41

## **Fiver** *Watership Down*

Watership Down remains one of the world's best-known and loved children's books and animated films despite its visceral detail and unflinching scenes of anti-censorship - the tale of 'rabbits versus mankind and another bunch of rabbits and a dog' has become an archetypal staple of many an upbringing, with the determined psychic, Fiver, being the driving force of the entire plot. Had Fiver, a young and incredibly impressionable young rabbit, not foreseen the destruction of his clan's burrows and gone with his heart in helping lead his somewhat sceptical troupe towards the fabled Watership Down, death for all would have been more than certainty... Fiver represents bravery in an odd form, though the message of 'be true to what you believe in' could not be more obvious in this lowly rabbit's courteous valiance.

40

## **Falco Lombardi** *Star Fox*

If there were ever a furry character outside of Garfield to deserve the title of 'biggest and most anarchic cynic', Fox McCloud's second-in-command on board Team StarFox and resident necessary maverick - Falco Lombardi - would strut away with the spoils, muttering that he both deserved it, and that in actuality it means 'very little to him'. From the debut of Star Fox upon the Super Nintendo back in

the early 1990s, Arwing maestro Falco's lack of workmate compassion and sense of 'brotherhood' was more than made up for in his technical prowess and do-or-die attitude. Making up the avian quarter of the original team, surly Lombardi was sadly absent from Gamecube launcher Star Fox Adventures, but still pleasingly present within every Fox Follower's consciousness. And lemme tell you, he kicked some prime arse in his surprise reincarnation via Super Smash Bros. Melee, too.

39

## **Shadow the Hedgehog** *Sonic the Hedgehog*

Shadow, within the uber-expansive franchise that is the Sonic universe, has perhaps taken off in popularity a little more than once expected. Created as essentially an anti-Sonic and foil to both good and evil forces within the Mobian war, Shadow essentially took on Knuckles the Echidna's previous role as mysterious patriarch of neutrality and drifterism; even seen wielding a gun, and a perpetually unsure expression plastered across his face. Whilst the jury may always be out on Shadow's place in the balance of good versus evil, one thing's for certain - no fool gets in the way of him finding out this for himself.

38

## **Sabrina** *Sabrina Online*

Sabrina Online, which has been running a good eleven years, cannot be ruled out as never having made a mark upon the fandom and how it operates. Artist Eric Schwartz's eponymous heroine and central lead is one of clear, contextual and quirk-worthy intelligence, right down to her preoccupation with the Amiga (something with which Schwartz himself is hardly a stranger). She typifies the high school geek, and parries it away against her porn-video-magnate-boss, the outlandish Zig Zag, with the power of making opposites work against each other. Whilst she is typically not best known in absolute public consciousness, her furpopularity renders her statuesque enough to place her 38th in this here all-time list.



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



## 37

### **Felicia** *Darkstalkers*

For a while, until import-mania grabbed everyone by the goolies, the beat-em-up of beat-em-ups, on any gaming format, was *Street Fighter 2*. Could've said what you'd've liked, everything else was mere imitation - even the once shining *Mortal Kombat* franchise fell scrutiny to being weighed up against Ryu and co., despite blatant differences between the two series of games being incredibly easy to see. For a while, many believed all Capcom ever produced were the aforementioned SF and many, many *Rockman/Megaman* games until the turn of the decade - when the team fought back with the long-since-lauded arcade franchise, *Darkstalkers*. Though the series of games are instantly comparable to the SF engine and bear striking resemblances to the SF3 franchise, *Darkstalkers* brought with it Felicia - the epitome of the anime 'catgirl', only with a backstory to explain why she appears as she does... i.e. with a ruddy great tail and fangs and whatnot. Whilst the internet community may have more of a soft spot for Felicia as essentially 'eye candy' before any more substantial; Felicia highlights an important move in the history of the furry coming nearer into the public focus, and is thus an important piece of history in her own right.

## 36

### **Mewn** *Funny Farm*

*Funny Farm* is a webcomic that's been around long enough to be considered one of the pioneers of the 'furry boom' of the 1990s; and is well-read and loved enough to be missed by a legion of readers. The strip works on the simple 'odd couple' basis, pairing up a logical, organised and on-the-occasion sarcastic canine, Ront, and his fellow boarding house co-owner, the lovable, laid-back Mewn. Mewn represents the archetypal 'stooge' of any comedic act, and whilst he is not entirely devoid of intelligence is portrayed as the least mature of the varied cast of furs and humans within the strip. Despite several 'furry boom' webcomic characters having sadly missed out on hitting the top 50, Mewn's carefree edge has carried him through as an adequate representative for the expansive realm of the webcomic here at #36.

## 35

### DIESEL LEON

### **Pink Panther** *The Pink Panther*

Whilst blatantly having little to do with the Peter Sellers films apart from having the clumsy Clouseau obtaining his own mini-show alongside him, Pink's inclusion in the top 40 would have been criminal to avoid. With a theme tune and opening sequence that everyone over the age of at least ten years old is aware of, the cunning-yet-surprisingly-unlucky rinky-dink panther has been entertaining for what must be coming on to seventy years. Forever silent, this bipedal puss spoke to us through his physical scheming and hilariously theatrical day-to-day life, whilst never losing an inch of charm despite his many comeuppances. Pink's position on the scene has dwindled to the extent that these days he is merely 'nostalgic', with the decision back in the 1990s to give him a new, trendier series, and Rob Paulsen's voice, perhaps contributing to this derailment slightly. I'd also like to blame Steve Martin, just because I can.

## 34

### **Jenna Grape** *Macropod Madness*

Another webcomic player, Jenna Grape is perhaps the best-known counterpart of Kelvin the Lion's phenomenally successful online webstrip, *Macropod Madness* - another stalwart since the 'furry boom' of the nineties. Whilst the comics perhaps revolve more around high fantasy action-adventure than the majority of other furry webcomics out on the market, this fails to stop it being both consistently entertaining, and remarkably popular - also notably, Jenna's stomping-ground has been known to elude to several sub-sub-cultures of the fandom in the past, perhaps most obviously revolving around fatfur and babyfurry-related escapades in the past.



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



33

## **Meeko** *Pocahontas*

Known as the silent comical lead of Disney's best-known Native American princess, Meeko is perhaps the best-known racoon character outside of the Care Bears fandom - at such a point in time when furriness was still a new concept for the public eye to be viewing, Meeko was a surprisingly salient and fan-winning character, so much that to this day he is still revered to such an extent that a 'meekometer', a system of measuring the size of plushies, has wormed its way into furspeak.

32

## **Sylvester** *Looney Tunes*

Sylvester, alike fellow failure in Looney Tunes-related questings, rarely ever triumphs against his diminutive foil, Tweety Pie - in fact, he's only ever 'won' once - but this makes the bumbling housecat all the more likeable. If Tom Cat could talk, he wouldn't talk like Sylvester (lisp and all), but chances are they'd share similar temper tantrums. Unlike Wile E and Tom however, Sylvester is perhaps slightly dimmer than his fellow cartoon counterparts - a terrific bumbler and lovable stooge to boot, we all know that should Sylvester ever come out on top more than once, he'd lose his charm. The eternal cockiness and belief in his striving attempts to eat that ruddy bird makes this 'puddy tat' such an essential furry character that he trounces Tweety in knocking him clean of the top 50!

31

## **Fifi LaFume** *Tiny Toon Adventures*

Not especially one of Tiny Toons' biggest players, Fifi LaFume harbours a lucrative fan audience through the furry community perhaps more so than any other character to have come out of the show - pourquoi? Pepe Le Pew, arguably one of Warner Bros' most memorable characters, has evidently passed on his French charm and infallible dignity through the family line, with Fifi as a female, younger version showing the Pew-Fume traits through her sense of style, her flair for life and her adurance in knowing that she's utterly wonderful. A disappointingly underused character in the series, Fifi makes up for the jaw-dropping lack of Plucky or Hampton on this fine list.

30

## **DIESEL LEON**

## **Darkwing Duck** *Darkwing Duck*

"Let's get dangerous!" Entering to what is perhaps the greatest cartoon title theme beneath Duck Tales and Heathcliff, Disney took the aforementioned 'Tales' formula and spun it inside out with a sense of mystery, action and high adventure at the hands of the nattily-dressed yet slightly-incompetent-in-an-Inspector-Gadget-sense Darkwing Duck, helped along by the even dozier yet equally lovable Launchpad (the big pilot dude from Duck Tales) as a essential assistant. DD, whilst obviously borrowing a little from DIC's Gadget in more than one way, heralded a rise in the popularity of Disney's Sat AM lineups, borrowing a lot of wit and slapstick techniques from rival animation moguls Warner Bros - however, this worked to an awesome advantage. One of the few Disney serials to run without having a preceding animated film, Darkwing Duck remains deep within the memories and hearts of those who grew up in the mid-90s, amongst those sodding Power Rangers and collectable cardboard discs.

29

## **Jenny** *Bucky O'Hare and the Toad Wars*

Jenny, first-name-only, was a cat on board the good team O'Hare, providing female lead to central hero Bucky and sensible foil to the manic Deadeye Duck. Jenny's role does not look entire dissimilar to Star Fox's Krystal (in fact, both series bear somewhat similar cast set-ups all around) - though, a shared difference in the sense that, unknown to her crew but one Willy DuWitt, Jenny has hidden, psychic abilities... shh! Perhaps the runner-up in the 'Foxiest Feline' stakes, with Cleo of the Cadillac Cats scoring just more points to inch ahead. Even so, Jenny's fan following is hardly understated.



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



DIESEL LEON

28

**Gadget Hackwrench** *Chip 'n' Dale's Rescue Rangers*  
Within Rescue Rangers, perhaps one of the most undeservedly underrated Saturday morning cartoons of all time, had the classic gallery of characters and personalities in the roster - Chip, the surly-yet-earnest one, Dale, the goofy-yet-lovable-one, Monterey Jack, the fat cheese fetishist, Zipper, the quiet, consistently alert guy at the back and, ultimately, Gadget, the smart, sensible one with the majority of the plans up her tiny sleeves. Face it. If it weren't for Gadget's involvement in the Rangers' crime-solving, all that would happen is that one would have a nervous breakdown whilst the others farked about in disarray. All there is to it. Gadget is the vital cog in this superb shows machine.

27

**Timon** *Timon and Pumbaa*  
Sadly, his dopey warthog friend is nowhere to be seen in the top fifty, and perhaps MORE shockingly, the only other LK character to get anywhere near was the fearsome Scar, who fell at the final hurdle at an impossibly unlucky #51. By-the-by, Timon's place is thoroughly deserved, as he's not only the only meerkat to feature in our chart. Timon is sassy, strident and goal-seeking - he's the plot-driver and the hyperactive nut, the go-getter and resident emo, the brains and the beauty - given that he's paired up with Pumbaa, these traits are hardly hard to attain, but instead of being a hard-case to Pumbaa's soft, endearing side, Timon too has a pathetic, lovable streak, to the extent that we want him to succeed in everything he valiantly and persistently strives for in life. Thankfully, he often does!

26

**Babs Bunny** *Tiny Toon Adventures*  
Babs Bunny probably takes after Bugs far more than the lower-octane Buster Bunny does - to the extent that sitting down for more than three seconds without pastiching something, or ridiculing her nemeses, would prove an impossible task. Babs has an enormous imagination, and whilst her cohort Buster makes up for the majority of the wit and the sly of Tiny Toons' core, Babs provides the majority of the wacky soul that keeps the show afloat. Clearly a figure that the Animaniacs found inspira-

tional, Babs is undoubtedly a character many would fail to forget in a hurry.

25

**Sally Acorn** *Sonic the Hedgehog*  
In at #25 comes an archetypal female fur, and perhaps the best-known squirrel outside of Tufty and Rocket J (both of whom are notably absent from the list) - some may say Sally's appearance in the master list has come a little low, but alas, the people have spoken! Before Sonic X and the nu-gen games erased most memories of the glory days of the Sonic franchise, Princess Sally Acorn was the blue fiend's right-hand royal, taking on the brainwork and the technical aspects that Sonic himself found too slow or time-consuming - as a team, the duo worked on an 'I'll do the math, you do the legwork' basis, and suffice to say it worked wonders! Their relationship has been will-they-won't-they and up and down for donkey's years, but alas it seems fate is destined to draw these infinitely different furs together.

24

**Jack** *Jack*  
Despite his job, his sour appearance and his morbid fascination, Jack, a sin personified from the underworld, is ultimately a fatherly, guiding soul - helping those who need guidance through the murky sewers of the afterlife find their way amongst the temptations of going back to the overworld, or to succumb to what fate demands... a frank, marvellously-arted and genuinely touching web-comic, Jack is one of the few characters that many may have never heard of, or have forgotten about, but is still one whom every fur cannot afford to idly dismiss. His place within the top 25 is thoroughly justified. Plus, UNCAINLY, seeing the number '24' next to 'Jack' brings up pictures of Kiefer Sutherland. MAKE IT STOP.



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



23

## **Misty the Mouse** *Misty the Mouse*

Misty is the trademark character of the stunning artistic talent of Dutch, who has been drawing in and around the furry community via the internet since the 90s, and is revered as somewhat of a god within the fatfur segment of the fandom in particular - and for good reason! Whilst the Misty website isn't functioning too well at the minute, her presence within the minds and memories of many a fur is hard to delete - and I myself am only just discovering her world... get back to me next year when I've looked through the archives!

22

## **Daffy Duck** *Looney Tunes*

When he's happy, he bounces all over the place. When he's angry... he's livid. In a Donald Duckish sense, Daffy is an irritable, grouchy old sod, primarily sick of that damn wabbit getting all the hooks and the shares in the limelight. Were Daffy an inch more cunning, perhaps enough to outweigh Bugs in intellectual skill, he may one day be able to win a feud without his beak getting twisted the other way round. Still, we love him for his angst... and his laugh. HOO-HOO! HOO-HOO! HOO-HOO! HOO-HOO!

21

## **Dr. John Zoidberg** *Futurama*

Dr. Zoidberg is wonderful. Seriously, he's an absolute treasure. The Decapodian Lobster-creature from the year 3000 is steadily employed as a physician (albeit an incompetent one) for the delivery company Planet Express, where he is constantly ridiculed and undermined by his fellow employees that his status as 'lowly' became an in-gag by season three of *Futurama*. Zoidberg, ultimately, has a massive heart beneath that hard shell and often confused brain, and beyond that pseudo-Jewish accent that he flips and flops about almost as if he were Groucho's dimmer half only makes him more appealing. Consistently *Futurama's* crowd-puller outside of the freight train of gagery that is Bender Bending Rodriguez, Dr. Zoidberg misses out on the top twenty barely, but deservedly clings onto 21st, shockingly knocking the archetypal Daffy of Duckington back into 22nd.

20

## **DIESEL LEON**

## **Sally Acorn** *Sonic the Hedgehog*

Personally? Yes, yes, I do. I agree. Cleo is supreme. Supreme to the extent, that Chuck Norris would lose to her in any battle of any fixed type. The late 1980s saw Heathcliff hit the old colourboxes, and with it came a lovable cast of characters, a kickass theme tune and... Miss Cleo. Hell, I'm not even gonna type any more, 'cause I don't need to. By refraining to disclose any more information I will convince you to go look for some. Please do. Go on, read #19. It's Tom and Jerry. PS, next time we do one of these things; get Cleo into the top ten, please.

19

## **Tom and Jerry** *Tom and Jerry*

Ah yes, this pair. Recently named in a Channel 4 poll as the '2nd Greatest Cartoon Ever', beaten back by *The Simpsons* and a neck ahead of *South Park*, this warring cat-and-mouse have endured much from their 1930s beginnings, and are just as well-known and sought today. Whilst they may have occasionally teamed-up now and again, the rules have always been simple - Tom vs Jerry, Jerry wins. Classic. Also, violence = always a must. To this date there's been countless videogames based around the pair's hilarious household exploits, a feature-length movie where they TALKED (see 'Pink Panther' as to how THAT sorta thing goes down...!), and most recently, a brand-spanking new series of cartoons which recaptures the style, flair and wit of the original shorts, albeit without that obese housekeeper, and the full brass section playing to every single scene.



# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



18

## **Roger Rabbit** *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*

In perhaps arguably one of the finest animated pictures of all time, we were given the first - and definitely best - glimpse of mixing cartoons with reality, and in center stage we were given Mr. Rabbit, the undyingly frantic, obsessive-compulsive loon with a gorgeous wife and a grouchy Bob Hoskins as private eye cohort. Whilst the film was perhaps best known for its introductions of clashing studios' characters (Daffy shared a brief spat with Donald! HOLY CRAP!) and stunning video technology that frankly beats the crap out of Space Jam, Roger is ultimately the oft-forgotten star, and thus we are paying respects to him by placing him aloof at #18, kicking Tom Cat and Jerry Mouse into touch. He's not appeared anywhere since, but never, EVER, say never...

17

## **Wile E. Coyote** *Looney Tunes*

For a while, Wile E. was leading this race, though he shouldn't feel disheartened with a superb 17th, as he's by FAR the unluckiest guy on the list. Unlike Tom Cat and Sylvester, Wile E has NEVER won. All the battles he's fought against the unwitting yet annoyingly lucky Road Runner have made him come a cropper, and this silent star's merciless efforts to kill the irritating little thing have backfired in numbers that simply have to enter triple digits. We're entertained by his immense effort leading to consistent downfall in a sick sorta fashion, and that's what's made him so memorable. What life does Wile E have outside of trying to catch Road Runner? He doesn't - he revolves around the chase - and it's this simple life he leads that makes him such a friggin' star.

16

## **DIESEL LEON**

### **Gromit** *Wallace and Gromit*

Let's face it. We are Gromit. When nutty inventor Wallace screws something up, goes whole-hog over trivial matters, or merely acts characteristically insane over cheese-eating, when Gromit rolls his eyes, we do. In a relationship similar to the pairing of Hong Kong Phooey and Spot the Cat, Gromit is ultimately the secret dog-of-action, saving his dizzy owner from every scrape he's ever gotten into, and going about it in a vaudeville-cum-silent-movie style series of charades. Nothing stops Gromit when he's on the move, and like all true heroes, he never fails to succeed in saving the damsel. Erm, Wallace, in this case. Best scene? In 'A Close Shave', where Wallace goes through a series of surreal pulleys, levers and chutes to get dressed and into his motorbike - and Gromit merely walks through the door into the garage, rolls his eyes and gets into the sidecar. If that's not the epitome of why Gromit kicks canine ass I don't know what is.

15

### **Bugs Bunny** *Looney Tunes*

How can you NOT have Bugs Bunny on this list? Safe to say he was one of the furry pioneers, and is such a huge card in the scheme of things that he barely needs his own column to describe him. Besides, I'd be here for years. Somewhat shocking that he didn't make top ten, but meh - that's the way it crumbles, I guess.





# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



14

**Bunnie Rabbit** *Sonic the Hedgehog*

Bunnie Rabbit is one of the few characters to appear in what was undoubtedly the most superior cartoon adaptation of the videogame to date AND the highly recommendable comic collection to never have appeared once in any of the big S's games or adventures to date - sharing this accolade with Sally Acorn, Bunnie is one of the few characters that people remember about the Sonic franchise and can't explicitly put their fingers on it - could it be that you don't get a half-rabbit, half-cyborg every day of the week? Or one at that with a severely distinctive deep southern accent? Hmm. It's notable that Bunnie has finally beaten her over-study Ms Acorn to the punch in a jaw-dropping position above the Lord God Bugs of Bunnydom, of which I'm sure Ms Rabbit owes more than a wielded carrot to.

13

**Ozymandias Justin Llewellyn** *Ozy and Millie*

In at #13 is the male lead of arguably one of the furry webcomic 'Big Three', the Ursa Major-winning and uber-lauded five-strip-a-week fare, Ozy and Millie. A 'traditional' comic in its stylising and character personalities, Ozy and Millie follows a very Peanuts-esque path, with perhaps Ozy, the first (but not last) arctic fox on our chart, representing the quiet, philosophical Linus Van Pelt of the comic. Described by WikiFur and the strip's hub, [ozyandmillie.org](http://ozyandmillie.org), Ozy is the introspective, sombre yin to the hyperactive Millie's over the top yang. Studious and profound, he could perhaps be the most intelligent fur on the list... but that's with having to beat off the mighty Bugs and a couple of heroes we're saving up for the top ten...

12

## DIESEL LEON

**Mrs Brisby** *The Secret of NIMH*

The Secret of NIMH is one of master animator Don Bluth's finest hours, and arguably one of the finest furry flicks to be out there in the thick of the ether. A dark yet overwhelmingly heartwarming story in drips and drabs, Mrs. Brisby is the rodent mother at the center of an epic journey concerning human medical experimentation, the safety of her young family and the fate of her late, tragic Mr. Brisby. One to see, one to read into... definitely from the Watership Down school of furrymovieism, methinks.

11

**Maid Marian** *Robin Hood*

Maid Marian just misses out on a place in the top ten (will her beau reach into higher echelons? Bet all the money you own) all-time greats, but firmly makes her presence known as the valiant vulpine Hood's fair damsel and possibly first true 'foxy' fur, and contributing healthily to many a hetero malefur's interest in the yiff echelons of the fandom. Despite this, Marian is far more than mere eye candy, and contributes plentifully to the fabric of Disney's film, providing our hero Mr. Hood with more than one goal beyond the felling of the Sheriff and the bringing of wealth to the poor... she's the communist dream, everyone. The communist dream. See? It works. Ask Trotsky.

Before we enter the top 10 of the poll, whom you may or may not have sussed, let's take a moment to recognise a few of the big names that were nominated, yet failed to impact upon the top 50:

**Susan Hartland** *A Doemain of Our Own*

**Gene Catlow** *Gene Catlow*

**Odie Garfield**

**Banjo** *Banjo-Kazooie*

**Spot** *Spot the Dog*

**Blastoise** *Pokémon*

**Bowser** *Mario*

**Knuckles** *Sonic the Hedgehog*

**Llewellyn** *Ozy and Millie*

**Kimba** *Kimba the White Lion*

**Basil** *Basil, the Great Mouse Detective*

**Bubsy** *Bobcat Busby*

**King Louie** *The Jungle Book*

**Foghorn** *Leghorn Looney Tunes*

**Sly Cooper** *Sly Cooper*

**K-9** *Doctor Who*

**Wolf O'Donnell** *Star Fox*

**Scar** *The Lion King*

# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



10

## **BRIAN GRIFFIN** *Family Guy*

Kicking off the top ten is a character which breaks so many walls and boundaries that he should be considered illegal. Brian - Family Guy's resident talking, alcoholic canine - is argued by many to be the show's star, if overshadowed slightly by Seth McFarlane's other characters - Stewie, the diabolical infantile genius, and Peter, the overweight imbecile with an unhealthy addiction to pop culture. Family Guy is a show that operates on controversy, human stupidity and often classic slapstick, with the awkwardly-placed Brian (as the only talking animal within the canon plot of the show) solely providing the wit and disgruntled zing to Peter's whimsical philosophy on life, to Stewie's overtly camp hyper-tantrums, and to the general idiocy of humanity that plagues his every blinking moment. Some argue that Brian is truly the only sane character on board the good ship Quahog, and perhaps that's true - out of all of the cast, Brian has had the hardest share of heartbreaks and life challenges, yet seems to always pick up and carry on - whilst working his way through a line of Martinis. And at the end of it all, he still cannot avoid the ultimate of truths - he's still a dog. A dog with more woes than canines were born to handle.

09

## **ZIG ZAG** *Sabrina Online*

In what might be a somewhat surprising turn of events, Sabrina's polar antagonist and dominatrix-rund boss enters our all-time list at a very respectable #9, of which we can only assume she'd be disappointed with. Sassy, strident and downright sexieriffic, ZZ fits her role as porno magnate perfectly - she rules with an iron... god-knows-what, and is perhaps not as well-known in the popular forum as she is in the fandom, though this would undoubtedly change, putting her place amongst some of the many toon vixens we've come to see in this list so far - it seems she's not won the Furtean Times' Beauty Pageant, coming 3rd to two more entries yet to come, but my God... you wouldn't wanna mess with ZZ if you offered her the Bronze...!

08

## **DIESEL LEON**

## **GARFIELD** *Garfield*

Personally? I think this is the biggest shocker of the list - he was bound to turn up in the top ten somewhere, but to see the world's most famous cat finish outside of the top 5 is somewhat surprising, though still pleasing to see that the fat tabby can still pull in the fans. In the 1980s, you couldn't move for the big orange dude. If he wasn't on your bookshelf talking about being 'undertall' as opposed to being overweight, he was suction-cupped to your car window. He was sat on your windowsill, hugging a heart and bearing the cheesiest of cheesy grins. He was on your TV screen, kicking Odie's butt in perhaps one of the most-missed animated series of all time. He was everywhere. Agreed, though this may have been down to 'big bucks' over sentimentalism, it can't be avoided that Garfield wields a sword in his own league. He has no special powers, no particularly outlandish quirks, nothing in his day-by-day behaviour which outlines him away from normal housecats. And that's just it. Garfield is a fat, lazy, cynical master of the house, with a long-suffering master and dog to utilise as scratching posts. And what cometh of such a cat? Only the simple trick whereby you ask absolutely anyone who Garfield is - and you'll not ONCE hear 'who?' in response. A big, fat freight train, who shows no sign of stopping with his 30th birthday looming next June.

07

## **MILLICENT MUDD** *Ozy and Millie*

The battle seems to have been finally decided, as peaceful Ozy is beaten to the punch by feisty Millie at the last hurdle, the aforementioned arcvulpe's boisterous best friend marching her way in, kicking Brian, Garfield and even Zig Zag into the lower echelons of the top flight. Millie's place in the top ten, along with Double Z's, highlights the amazingly broad trend within furry comics in recent years expanding to the extent that they're a) cropping up everywhere, and b) I've not seen one that sucks ass. Millie's tomboyish inquisitiveness perhaps rings through as the strip's most prominent hook and reliable conceit, though to see the pair separated across such a borderline is rather odd to swallow.

# THE TOP 50 FURRIES



DIESEL LEON

06

## **MINERVA MINK** *Animaniacs*

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the top ten? Hmm, maybe. Minerva Mink was such a controversial character for a Saturday morning show that she was vetoed out of most of the episodes, leaving her buxom self in a mere two segments in the *Animaniacs*' history. So how did such a brief yet incredibly provocative character manage to stay within the minds of the furs of today to the extent that she finishes above ruddy Garfield? Firstly, Google Images. Secondly, search her. Thirdly, it's hard to forget, at the age of say, nine or ten, a segment based around a big-chested, blonde-haired mink on what appeared to be very, VERY hot heat. Hell, I voted for her. Kudos!

05

## **ROBIN HOOD** *Robin Hood*

Ah, reliant Robin, undoubtedly many's first taste of furriness, and undoubtedly the absolute favourite to top this list - he hasn't! OMG! But all is not lost. Taking the tale of the valiant Robin and kitting him out as a daring, charismatic fox from the forests of deepest Nottingham was a brave, and ultimately very fruitful move - in one of Disney's best-known movies, it's surprising Robin's legend hasn't grown to the extent as it has in the furry domain, but nevertheless, picture this - up until I told him otherwise, my housemate always believed Robin Hood was actually a fox, and that the BBC adaptation of the legend was merely a human re-writing of the furry cartoon. He cannot be escaped...

04

## **KRYSTAL** *Star Fox*

A relatively new character to the fandom, Krystal made her debut as the long-running *Star Fox* franchise's first female lead, debuting in the Gamecube's much-underrated platform-action adventure, *Star Fox Adventures*. The sassy-thoughtful hyper-intelligent femme fatale to Fox McCloud's raging masculinity, Krystal perhaps borrows a little from former femfurs such as Minerva Mink or the High Priestess Cleo (and don't you FREAKIN' FORGET IT) in terms of her balance within the fabric of the plot, and ultimately seems well-

aligned with Sally Acorn and Jenny in terms of personality - but there's a crucial difference, and that's in the sense that Krystal could quite easily challenge Fox for leadership of the team *Star Fox*! She is one of the few 'fighters' on this list, and rather than being 'eye candy' alone, Krystal kicks some serious arse. I mean, really. If Fox put his gun down for a SECOND, and they were to brawl for who gets the leadership... to the girl goes the spoils!

03

## **MILES 'TAILS' PROWER** *Sonic*

Every hero has a second-in-command, and Tails is perhaps the best-known of them all, to the extent that his own fanbase through means of Internet or otherwise is fairly astronomical. The young, naive and consistently trouble-encapsulated young kitsune is notable not only for being the world's best-known understudy and thus perhaps the first to break through of his overstudy's reins, but for a time, was the clear leader of this poll - controversial? I doubt it. Tails seems to be beloved by all, and known by almost as many - chances are, if Sonic didn't get you into the fandom, Tails will've done. Gone are the days when you could merely follow behind whoever friend was playing as Sonic on the second pad - but sadly, the days when Tails has an annoyingly docile voice sadly aren't. Regardless, the fact that he can pilot such machines at such a young age is definitely worthy of plus points, and signs that he's a Fox McCloud in the making.





DIESEL LEON

02

## FOX McCLOUD *Star Fox*

In 1991, the world of videogaming unarguably changed for good - the Super Nintendo, or SNES for short, signalled the explosion of 16-to-32-bit games, with Super Mario World heralding the march. In a brief time later, Nintendo took a weighty dare in launching the 'Super FX' chip - arguably the first glimpse at 3D console gamers had ever gotten - and with it came Star Fox, and its team of (perhaps even further revolutionary) furs. Enter Fox McCloud - heroic, respectable and downright sexieriffic to go with it - leader and prime Arwing pilot of the jet fighter sent to rid the galaxy of the megalomaniac Andross and search for his long-since missing father James. Fox's clout as a furry idol would not half be the punch it packs until the launch of StarFox Adventures on the Gamecube, where for the first time the vulpine was able to venture beyond his claustrophobic arwing, and onto a planet where one-on-one combat would become a new, necessary means... and he'd find sexual tension with our 4th greatest furry character, Krystal. In a top 5 dominated by foxes, the eponymous McCloud tops his fellow vulpes somewhat suitably, and is perhaps the most oft underrated of the trio.



## SONIC

01

### *Sonic the Hedgehog*

Surprised? Maybe not. It's hardly inexplicable that the world's best-known videogame character (topping Mario), be it through comics, cartoons or mere fandomage, has sped his way up to the top of our list, suitably being crowned The Furtean Time's Greatest Furry Character of All Time. What is it about the spiky blue blur that has made him such an enduring, encapsulating character from the days of 16-bit gaming, entrenched sixteen years into the past? Despite Sega's downfall and a stoop in critical plaudits for his most recent game appearances, how has the wisecracking, fearless nocturne from Mobius (or is it Earth?) managed to stay atop of his game for the good part of a lot of our lifetimes? This question is possibly one to be posed for another article, but at the very least we can surmise that Sonic is arguably the best-known furry character in popular and fandom culture, and is at such a height in underground and internet cultism that there's categories for 'Sonic Characters' on various internet art depositories. He is unavoidable, indefatigable, and I've never met anyone who's never played as Sonic in one form or another at least ONCE. This is testament; let it ring, as to why Sonic the Hedgehog is the Greatest Furry Character of All Time.



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# INTERVIEW WITH

## THE NORTHERNFURS

Goten Raccoony, Whitewolf,  
Lycanfox & Greskil Vulfhart



**NorthernFurs Manchester Minimeet, 15 April 2007:**  
They suggested it. I implemented it. Behold Interview with a Furry! First up, the NorthernFurs! Meet organiser Goten and Whitewolf, Lycan and Greskil from the crew answer my questions!

### How long have you been a furry?

**Goten:** Two and a half years.

**Whitewolf:** One year.

**Lycan:** Since I was 13, but I didn't know what it was.

**Greskil:** Same as Lycan, but I've only known about it for 6 months.

### How did you find the fandom?

**G:** My first boyfriend was a fur.

**W:** It came to me in a dream, so I googled around and found Furtopia.

**L:** I saw that CSI episode and got curious. So I looked on t'interweb for it.

**GV:** I was searching around for art sites and found the BeastForum. There I met an African dragon and he directed me to Furry2Furry.

### Why did you come to this meet?

**G:** I'm the organiser!

**W:** I came with the organiser!

**L:** I came to meet people and my wolfie [Greskil].

**GV:** I came to meet my fox [Lycan] and my furry friends, of which there are too many to name.

### (To Goten) What's it like being the organiser?

**G:** It's a pain in the f\*\*king arse, but it's fun. (He then found a pound coin - "Yay!")

### What furry websites do you regularly visit?

**G:** None really. Apart from NorthernFurs to check meet plans and Furocious, which I made.

**W:** Mostly Fur Affinity.

**L:** Fur Affinity, Second Life - not for the yiff, Furocious, Macrophile.com, deviantART and NorthernFurs.

**GV:** deviantART (rarely), NorthernFurs, Furocious and UKFur. Not really any others, I'm too busy on MSN.

### How did you choose your furry name?

**G:** Dragonball Z. Simple as.

**W:** I was called Link Wolf; blame Twilight Princess for that. Although now I changed it back.

**L:** I like werewolves and foxes, so I combined them.

**GV:** It came to me in a dream...

### Burrito?

**G:** Do you want fries with that?

**W:** What is one?

**L:** Birdie, birdie, birdie, birdie!

**GV:** What in furs name is a burrito?

**W:** I'm a retard!

### Are you like your fursona in real life?

**G:** Definitely, definitely, defi-shiny.... YES!

**W:** Erm... (everyone then looked up to a window in a nearby office block)

**GV:** There's a guy poking the window up there. (We ended up writing a sign saying "Rawr" and holding it up to him.)

**L:** Yes, but on a full moon I don't become evil and kill people.

**G:** Like s\*\*t he does!

**GV:** I am like my wolf fursona, definitely.

### What kind of furry do you class yourself as?

**G:** A fursuiter and writer. I don't make the suits.

**W:** Leet gamer!

**L:** Gamer, art appreciator and "artist."

**GV:** Everything, more or less. I make fursuits, writing, art.

### Finally, anything to add?

**G:** God's a c\*\*t, worship me! I taste nicer!

**W:** Merf???

**L:** Mao!!!!

**GV:** I used to eat lots of Frosties but I never felt Tony the Tiger once.



# THREE FURS WALK INTO A BAR

Before my association with the furry fandom, I have been trying to get into the world of comedy, both writing and performing. So, when I got my own internet connection, I started looking for comedy on the web, using Wikipedia as a source of reference. I was quite interested to stumble upon a webcomic. What was even more attractive to me however, was the style of this particular comic, called Exterminatus Now. It was in the style of Sonic the Hedgehog. I love Sonic! I have done since I was five. So I had a look, and I enjoyed it. Going back to the Wikipedia entry, I noticed this odd thing in the genre section, called "Furry". I looked at the "Furry fandom" article, and since then I have been a full-on furry.

The one thing I have been interested in the most is the relationship between the worlds of comedy and furry. After reading Exterminatus Now, I went on to read some more webcomics, such as Newshounds, Poisoned Minds (aka S.S.D.D.), Sabrina Online, The Suburban Jungle, Kevin and Kell and Ozy and Millie. Having read these and several other comics, I started to realise how much comedy there is in the world of the fur.

I believe that there are several areas where comedy and furriness pop up. One is the observational. The idea of depicting what we all experience, but in the hidden guise of performing as an animal, separating oneself from reality. The second is the bridging into science fiction and fantasy. The fall of human and the rise of the fur, in a world free from the constraints of human life. It is a way of rebelling against the status quo.

In all, it appears the main function of furry comedy is to remove oneself from the human world, and attack it in animalistic form. To exclude yourself from the humanity is the main aspect in any furry comedy. It is a shame then that the most famous furry stand-up comedian does not do this.

Am I the the only fur who finds 2, The Ranting Gryphon incredibly annoying? 2 is not a real furry comedian in my opinion. Yes, he may be a furry and make jokes about the furry fandom, but he does not exclude himself from humanity. Lots of his routines are just personal experiences. He's more of an observational comedian than a furry one.

## THE CHAINED WOLF



Not only that, I do find his style irritating. I always think that ranting is the poor mans/furs satire. The main difference between satire and ranting is that with satire, you observe a problem and you try to solve it. With a rant, you see a problem and you just moan how horrible it is, without helping anyone or trying to make the world better. One of 2's most famous quotes is, "Why be enlightened, when you can be pissed off?" Well, if you were enlightened, you would be able to solve the things that pissed you off, and therefore not be pissed off about them. I do have a sneaky feeling that if he were to become enlightened and to be no longer pissed off, then 2 would have no material and would be out of a job.

I hope that one day there will be a truly furry comedian, and one who seriously refused to let the world hold them back. One who will let their animalistic form take hold of them on stage and hunt down the laughs they deserve.

By the way, a fox went to the doctor. The receptionist asks him why he is there. The fox complains, "I keep seeing spots in front of my eyes." The receptionist replies, "Of course you are, I'm a cheetah."

## FT on MSN

Users of Microsoft's popular messaging program can now use it to contact The Furtean Times! Just add [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com) to your contact list and you can see whenever editor man Tori Belliachi is online to answer your queries and hear your views on the 'zine!





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs:

After reading the Furtean Times - specifically the Mediaphile article - I felt I should e-mail you.

**DO NOT TRUST CHANNEL 4 UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!**

My own dealings with the channel show them to be both anti-furry and anti-wildlife in general. (I've got the e-mails to prove it!) They'll try to make us furries look like a group of loonies who should be locked up, rather than the people we really are.

Participating in this documentary will likely damage the UK furry community, and its relations with the non-furry public.

I thought it only fair to warn you.

~ Steve Alford

First off, I have to admit that the report on the Channel 4 documentary was a bit biased towards their end. And this kind of ruined the supposed neutrality of the fanzine. Apologies if any readers didn't take too well with that.

Keep checking up on new editions of The Furtean Times as we'll be updating you on the progress of the program.

Is there any possibility that The Furtean Times will become an e-mailed magazine?

~ Regiar Shadow

To be honest: not really. To set up a system that automatically emails the issue to any amount of subscribers would be fairly difficult for us in the current circumstances. Plus that'll leave us less time to actually make the mag!

Hi there,

I've just been reading through the first issue of FT and I have to say, your paper has promise. At the moment, it's a bit lightweight, but articles such as Fur Queen and Country (which tells a good yarn familiar to many a fur) and the Mediaphile section (I had no idea about this doco - and now I'm very excited about it) show that this paper could have a nice bit of substance to it. No doubt we'll see future editions jam packed with more content. So yeah, pretty much my advice would be the articles need a bit more meat. Oh, and maybe a bit of a name change wouldn't be a bad idea. Furtean doesn't exactly roll off the tongue. Still, it's great to see we now have two online furry zines (Anthrozone being the other one.)

~ Kyle Evans

I think this edition of FT will be meaty enough for you. We kinds struggled for articles on the first issue, the last being submitted mere days before the deadline; however since then we've been bombarded by new contributions! Thanks all you lot that sent stuff in (or tried to but couldn't make the deadline.) You've made a folf very happy!

As for changing the name, that's not very likely right now. It would appear that although we are still in early stages we've already got a number of good links with the community as "The Furtean Times"; so that's not likely to change anytime soon.

Just wanted to say, that as a furry, I find your "newspaper" to be utterly ridiculous. If you want people to take you seriously, quit with the puns on the word "fur." And don't feature art depicting an obese green fox, ok?

Also, this isn't a newspaper. It's a bunch of JPG's on a website. :)

~ Anonymous

Firstly, this isn't a newspaper; it's a fanzine featuring news. Secondly, seeing as this fandom is a diverse one, we can't suit all tastes when it comes to content and artwork. And thirdly, imagery was the only way we could properly show the design aspect coveted by magazines both offline and on. Apologies if this isn't suitable for your needs, but no good alternative is currently available to us.

Email the editor at:

[furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com)

Emails may be printed if considered appropriate. Please specify a name to be used within the email or the name associated to the address will be used, or even "Anonymous"



**Seeing as it was only 2 days following April 1st, most people would have thought of it as a joke. Even more people wish it was.**

Yes, this once great and fabulous fandom of fuzziness has gotten it's latest dose of bad media coverage! This time from British tabloid paper *The Sun*. Owned by media conglomerate *News Corporation*, *The Sun* is one of the hundreds of children from the corporate nature behind the *Fox* channels and studios, popular social site *MySpace* and the world known *New York Times*. One only needs to utter the words 'tabloid' and 'furry' to sense disaster. And disaster did indeed come bursting through the door.

"We're at it like rabbits" tells the so called 'stories' of three couples as they partake in sexual intercourse with one of the partners dressed in fursuits. And fairly bad ones at that.

Anyfur reading this may be thinking "Well they're just animal suits, they might not have been talking about the furry fandom." Well there you'd be wrong. I quote part of the article:

Tristan is dressed in a rabbit suit and the couple are having "furry" sex, where one or both partners dress in animal outfits.

More and more couples are answering the call of the wild in the bedroom. There are now more than 25 conventions worldwide for "furries".

This is the defining point of the article. Many are outraged at the description of conventions as being full blown sexual rampages.

*The Sun* claims that the act of "furry sex" was popularised by porn star Jim Slip, shown on the right wearing his, ahem, 'fursuit' in an image taken from the same article.

You may now send hate mail to [reallife@the-sun.co.uk](mailto:reallife@the-sun.co.uk) and we would also like to hear your comments on the forum or at [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com).

**You can read the article in question at [tinyurl.com/yt598x](http://tinyurl.com/yt598x)**

### From the forum:

Join us at <http://robomilk.sirkain.net/forum/>

**Dr. Diesel Leon:** I LOVE how the Sun chooses to only focus on the yiff elements, and positively classes furcons as large scale 'sex-meets'. Oh, the amount of effort that went into researching that article must've been horrendous! It's SO well read-up on, and doesn't insult every single person in the fandom whatsoever! [/sarcasm]

Seriously, with coverage like this, it's easy to see why it's hard to be a BritFur when the public are having these vague generalisations being fed to them through drips. Rant over!

**noodles\_husky:** The Sun are tosspots!



# CONVENTION CALENDAR

5 July - 8 July

## Anthrocon 2007

Any self respecting fur would know that Anthrocon is the grand daddy of all furry conventions. Held annually in sunny Pennsylvania, USA - Anthrocon has drawn record crowds in the past and looks to draw even bigger crowds this year. Guests of honor include Rob Paulson (voice of Raphael in *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*), Mark Evanier (writer for the *Scooby Doo* and *Garfield* TV series) and Carolyn Kelly of pop-culture "funny animal" comic, *Pogo*.

[www.anthrocon.org](http://www.anthrocon.org)

## FA: United!

10 Aug - 12 Aug  
NJ, United States

The collaboration of Fur Affinity and the Northeast Anthropomorphic Association brings the newest furcon to New Jersey! Meet FA mascot Fender in the fur! Hang out at the "Stephen Colbert's Home for Wayward Furs" lounge! Artists Blotch and Roxikat stand as guests of honor.

[www.faunited.org](http://www.faunited.org)

6 Jul - 9 Jul / Australia

### RivFur

[rivfur.furstralia.org](http://rivfur.furstralia.org)

20 Jul - 22 Jul / Austria

### Lakeside Furs

[www.lakesidefurs.at.tt](http://www.lakesidefurs.at.tt)

27 Jul - 29 Jul / QC, Canada

### Anthrofest

[www.anthrofest.org](http://www.anthrofest.org)

24 Aug - 26 Aug / WA, United States

### RainFurrest

[www.rainfurrest.com](http://www.rainfurrest.com)

27 Aug - 31 Aug / ON, Canada

### Camp Feral!

[www.campferal.org](http://www.campferal.org)

31 Aug - 2 Sep / TN, United States

### Memphit Furmeet

[www.mephitfurmeet.org](http://www.mephitfurmeet.org)

5 Sep - 9 Sep / Germany

### Eurofurence

[www.eurofurence.org](http://www.eurofurence.org)

## Wordsearch

Find the words and win... well, nothing



### The Word Association Game



**noodles\_husky:**  
FURRY!

**Tori Belliachi:** YIFF!  
:D

**Dr. Diesel Lyon:**  
JIFF LEMONS!

**Tori Belliachi:**  
GREEN!

**Chris:** APPLES!

**Jace:** MICROSOFT!

**Dr. Diesel Lyon:**  
BANKRUPTCY!

**Tori Belliachi:**  
ADMINISTRATION!

**noodles\_husky:**  
SOFA!

**The Chained Wolf:**  
COMFORT!

**noodles\_husky:**  
pure!

**Tori Belliachi:**  
Andrex puppy.

**Dr. Diesel Lyon:**  
RIK MAYALL.

**Chris:** THE QUEEN!

ConFuzzled  
Fursuited  
Robin Hood  
Channel Four  
The Sun  
Furry Survey  
Furcadia  
Newshounds

Anthrocon  
Ursa Major  
NorthernFurs  
Comedy

All the words are based on topics mentioned in this issue of the Furteen Times. Can you find them all?

Join the discussion at the  
Furry Media Forums!  
[robomilk.sirkain.net/forum](http://robomilk.sirkain.net/forum)

## Comics

If you want your comic, no matter how large or small, in the Furtean Times, then just email [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com) and we'll discuss it!



KB Komics [www.furaffinity.net/user/kbryme](http://www.furaffinity.net/user/kbryme)

## “In the Back”

“In the Back” was made to be YOUR dump. Here we will place just about any content that we believe is fit to publish, from stories to comics, art to - hell - even advertisements! And all it takes for a bit of showing off is an email to [furteantimes@gmail.com](mailto:furteantimes@gmail.com), just stick within the rules (see Page 2) and we'll all be as happy as anthropomorphic clams! And best of all, it's **free**!! You get all credit to your name, and we'll even stick on a link, provided you supply one in the email.



# Reader Art

Greskil Vulfhart, the musketeer wolf



“Lonely”



# STAFF AND CONTRIBUTORS



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TORI BELLIACHI



**DEPUTY EDITOR**  
DIESEL LEON



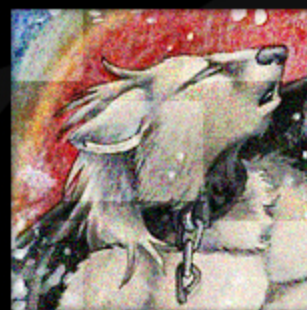
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Special thanks to Chris Spence, Disney, Eric Schwartz, Flayrah.com, Goten Raccoony, Greskil Vulfhart, Jace, Lycan, Nintendo, Noodles Husky, Robert Crumb, Silver R. Wolfe, Sega, Touchstone Pictures, United Artists Television, Warner Brothers, Whitewolf and WikiFur.

No thanks to The Sun newspaper.

**FurryMedia**  
International

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