

Small Ensembles

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Summer Stars

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SPORTS SECTION C

The New Mock Times

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2 CENTS

GAMBIER, OHIO SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2011

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MURDOCH ABANDONS TAKEOVER OF SUMMER INSTITUTE

PURCHASE ATTEMPTS EXTEND TO THE UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION ITSELF

GAMBIER, OHIO

An international surveillance scandal reached this tiny Ohio town this week, an unusual and unlikely backwater of the publishing realm.

In a spectacular setback for the News Corporation empire, Chairman

first with the Kaleidoscope and that other rag, followed by the proposed purchase of the UU World. We feel these outlets complement and expand our reach beyond that of Fox News and the Wall Street Journal," said the media mogul,

remain suspicious of Fox News and our other products. We feel we need to reach out to them in ways they find more comfortable," he said. When this reporter pointed out that South Park appears on Comedy Central, and isn't a News Corp. production, Mr. Murdoch replied sardonically, "You can believe that, if you wish."

Critics of the News Corp empire expressed doubt that, given the distraction of the continuing investigation by the British Parliament, the UU acquisition would survive the week.

Eerie echoes (say that three times fast) of the London wiretapping scandal have surfaced in Gambier, with

listening devices suspended between the chandeliers in the dining hall,

local Murdoch operatives have tapped the Kenyon network, reading



Chairman Murdoch expresses disappointment at losing liberal audience for Fox News.

along with the corporate cell phones of the Summer Institute Main Planning-Like Entity, or SIMPLE.

Authorities have also determined that

campers' emails and other electronic communications in Gambier. The chief operating officer of the Collidoscope is under investigation. Particularly suspect

Wiretapping scandal erodes what little credibility News Corp has remaining. Stock value falls, ratings plummet.

Rupert Murdoch announced late Friday the decision to abandon the planned "acquisition" of both the OMD Summer Institute and the UUA itself.

"We had been excited by our expansion into the NPR demographic,

speaking from the local offices of their newspaper, the Colonoscope.

Murdoch explained News Corp's interest in the liberal market well represented by UUs. "Liberals like Fox products such as the Simpsons and South Park, but they

is the hostile takeover of the competing newspaper, the Mockingbird, which survived as a pale and bloodless ghost of its former self on

the back pages of the Telescope.

Murdoch's connection with the subsidized operations of the Cal-lies-oscope appears to be

intertwined with the finances of not only the OMD Summer Institute, but the UUA itself. It is not known to what extent News Corp is currently in control

of the UU World, but it's probably no accident that former UUA President Buhrens and Chairman Murdoch are in Gambier together this week.

Thursday their talks showed signs of discord, leading Rev. Buhrens to cancel his scheduled appearance at the theme talk-back that afternoon. 20

ALTERNATIVE NEWSPAPER TO RETURN TO SUMMER INSTITUTE, NAME CHANGE LIKELY

Due to the change in fortunes in the media market, the offices of the Mockingbird™ are being reconstituted, according to publisher Phyl N. Good. "Our competition proved unable to continue the high standards set by the Mockingbird™, and now that their finances have collapsed, we found our old steam-powered presses in the alley behind the Kalideofdopes' main offices. They're a little dusty, but still in working order."

The situation improved when the SI Fairy was called to appear in court to present her libel case against the Mockingbird™, but was unable to actually appear.

"Sure, she's visible to UUs and at Summer Institute, but the judge, being an Episcopalian, was completely unable to see her, even though she was standing right in front of the bench," said Philo T Farnsworth, counsel for the defense. "If she fails to appear, the case can be dropped.

Ongoing negotiations with the SI Fairy are being described as "both frank and productive," and it is hoped that the parties can reach an amicable agreement which also serves the wider SI community. "We would like to offer her a position on our Board of Trustees, if she is

willing. She rejected our offer of a weekly column as 'so not my business' but we hope she will consider our counter offer of a flock of mockingbirds™ to eat the bugs off the house that fairies built. We value her contributions, and hope we can put the current misunderstanding behind us. Besides, we have the photographs!" said the editor, Fried Cal.

Between the Fairy Union, the Cauliflowerscope and News Corp, however, the status of the name "the Mockingbird™" remains clouded. "I don't think we'll be able to recover the old name of the paper," Mr. Cal said, "not even with



It is hoped that an agreement can be reached with Ms. Fairy in coming weeks.

an entire Hogwarts defense team full of *expelliarmus* spells. We'll have to come up with something new, hopefully something that doesn't infringe any trademark but which still captures the Mockingbird™ heritage."

It is believed the newspaper can be

revived with all the original staff, who oddly enough remain unemployed. Apparently, service at the Mockingbird™ is viewed unfavorably on one's resume in the newspaper business.