

# Raven's Herald

*Might and Magicks*

May, 596

## Mystical Shockwave Felt Throughout Duchy

For almost a year, Ravenholt has been subjected to periodical harassment by a set of monoliths that had risen around the boundaries of the city.

Investigations by several bands of adventurers and citizens of Ravenholt had shown that the monoliths were of Arcane origin. Information gained from T.F. Arcevol suggested that the devices were part of an ancient artifact created by an unknown race. The exact nature of the device was unknown, but Arcevol stated that the artifact may have been cre-

ated to destabilize magic. Over the last few months, it appeared as if Arcevol were correct. globes of iridescent energy absorbing magic, stone constructs destroying wards and other barriers, and the last fall, the monoliths projected a field of entropy, disrupting all magic that entered it.

After the initial appearance of the monoliths, several citizens went about deciphering the strange runes carved upon the surfaces of the stone pillars. The writing gave the key to entering each monolith. Citizens

speaking the names of the monoliths were mystically transported to one of several chambers where they were tested for strength of body, mind, spirit and determination. It seems that after several teams defeated the test of one monolith, the next monolith until the group now known as Stormwatch, led by Drax and Cynesra, entered the second monolith, that Ravenholt discovered the cause of the mystical assault. Upon entering the central chamber, Stormwatch

was set upon by the leader of the Lizardmen, Primus. Even with six of their members cut down, Stormwatch subdued Primus with binding spells, but before they could question him, he vanished from the chamber threatening doom upon the "Warm blooded Ravenholt. His claim almost came true late fall, the monolith a field of entropy disrupted magic. This effect was so powerful it stripped citizen

## Mystic Wood Elves Disappear

Shortly after the Gathering of Nobles in Ravenholt City on May \*\*, many reports began to hurriedly come to the attention of various magistrates and sheriffs throughout the Duchy of missing friends or loved ones. As these disappearances grew, it became apparent that only those of the Mystic Wood Elf race were reported missing. Fast riders sent word to Baroness Ganthe of Eastwyck of the disturbing news. The Baroness quickly dispatched the Eastwyck Rangers to investigate the Mystic Wood itself for any clues as to these disappearances. Led by Knight-Champion, Sir Victar, the Rangers entered the Mystic Wood on the morning of May the \*\* and found ... nothing.

The Mystic Wood was a peaceful, undisturbed place. Animals were seen all about as the Rangers proceeded deeper into their mission. The day itself was quite sunny and a light breeze softly caressed the trees from the west. After a fruitless search throughout the entire day, the Rangers retired to Elveswood for the evening. Subsequent missions on the next three days failed to provide any additional evidence of the missing people.

"It's as if they never existed," Sir Victar was quoted after the fourth day of searching. "We looked under almost every rock

**BY DECREE OF HIS ROYAL MAJESTY II** of the Royal House of Endarr, by Sign and Edition the One True King of Evendarr, Lord of All and of its Several Peoples, Knight Protector of Homelands, Lord Guardian of the Waters, Marsial Armies, Lord High Admiral of the Navies, Knightian of the Royal Ways, and in concordance with the Highnesses, the Princess Lillian Rotari, and Princes Kevynn Blackfox and Miles Tegg of the Principalities of Evendarr, We Do Hereby Call Forth All Nobles, Citizens, and People of Good Will to Bear Witness to The Coronation of His Royal Majesty Mykel Andros Willem Lawrance Endarr as King and Liege of the Realm of Evendarr and of All Its Lands and Waters and of All Its Peoples.

This Ceremony shall take place at the 8th Hour after Midnight, in the Royal Plaza in Evendarr City on Midsummer's Day, the 20th Day of June, in the 596th Year of the Realm.

In Honor of Our New King and Liege, a Week of National Celebration and Feasting is Declared.

All Persons are Commanded to Give Ear to this Decree and to Bring Word to Any and All who have not been made Aware.

By The King's Command

On this 30th Day of March, 596 Y.R.

Lord Dugan Haversham, Royal Chancellor of Evendarr

to forge amulets that would for a time hold off the destructive nature of the energy fields and allow many other brave citizens into the third monolith, where important lore about the monoliths were found.

Late Saturday night on the 25th, with several explosions and bursts of energy a fifth monolith arose from the ground in the center of the common fields in Ravenholt. No writing was seen upon the stone, and no one dared to touch its glowing surface. Though several citizens tried to enter the monolith, it appears that the language that it was translated from is very different in pronunciation, and it wasn't until Sunday morning that the correct pronunciation was learned. Unfortunately with many of the citizens drained of their resources from helping the Crimson Guard, none were willing to face the possible onslaught that Primus and his elite warriors had set for them in the chambers of the monoliths. It wasn't until several citizens were warned from multiple sources that the sixth hour of the afternoon would be too late to stop Primus and the destructive plans that he had set in motion

Citizens then tried to be forced back. Those who succeeded in getting into the monoliths could not be helped. Rumors spread that citizens tried to stop the Primus but attempted to be put before the Duke. Those who were: Dame Eleanora, Bishop, Connor, Greymist, Drano Battlehammer, Drax, Sir Havalock, Tempus, and several others unknown to the Herald at this time.

Only with the combined effort of the Arcane Blade wielded by the Crimson Guard, and several citizens calling upon strange lore, were those who had not been allowed to pass able to enter the monolith. It is said that the battle against Primus raged on and on, as wave after wave of lizardmen and saurians died trying to slow the people of Ravenholt. Even when Primus was cut down, he laughed, calling them fools for he had already activated the device that would destroy them all.

With quick wit, and some insight from Arracor Stormhaven, they were able to stall Primus' plan with barely two minutes left. These brave people were thrown into a series of challenges that tested them to their limit. When they were done, they left the monolith and returned to the center of the Commons just outside the monolith, not knowing how successful they had been.

At the second hour past noon

on the 27th the fifth monolith exploded in a burst of arcane energy that has destabilized magic within the bounds of the Duchy of Ravenholt. The energy released by the fifth monolith seems to have altered the flow of magic in the Duchy, said a representative of the Mage's Guild. Since Ravenholt is near several ley lines, and our world is closely connected to several other planes, the danger is not over. It appears that many objects of mystical power failed, some grew hot to the touch, and others were unaffected. After several days of investigation, both guilds have found that many of the objects that had lost their power are now active again, but losing their enchantment slowly. After further investigation, the Guilds have found that mystical objects that were to survive until the next cycle of changes may be losing their power. Worst yet is that the flux in magic has altered things to such an extent that even the most basic of objects are failing. Already, potions, scrolls, and even the mystical herbs in alchemical solutions seem to be breaking down. It appears that

and twig throughout the wood with no sign that anyone ever had lived within. It was quite disturbing. I felt as though the Mystic Wood itself was holding its breathe waiting for an answer."

Duke Andros and Duchess Alexa have sent word to other Duchies throughout the Kingdom in hopes of word or clues on this strange occurrence. Lake Hollum was also sent

many, if not all mystical devices are decaying and will be completely drained before the first snow fall. Both guilds are looking into ways to slow the decay of magic. The Duke has stated that any knowledge that helps in stopping or slowing the decay may be rewarded.

We at the Herald would like to thank those citizens who fought against Primus and bought us time against his hideous plans. These are the names of the heroes that we know of: Daenar, Antro Accipiter, Johann of Ribe, Sir Havalock, Tarlisen MacFarlane, Garth Seyseyer, Marsan, Tempus, Bishop, Kestryn, Scott, Calvin Littlefield, Azamar, Donnal, Talin, Bailiwick Stormhaven, Arracor Stormhaven, Brendel Poundstone, Martimus Wilder, Drano Battlehammer, Delahr Greymist, Sir Togan Icciteri, Countess Altair Lithill Ravenhurst, Keyla of Dragonshire, Cynesra, Taimar Korugar, Silverwing, Nevill Vallenwood, Connor Darkwolf, Sir Aryenne She' and Reilan Silvertalo Dragonshire.

word shortly after Sir Victor's first report. His Grace has further ordered that any information at all is to be forwarded immediately to Baroness Ganthe who has taken over the investigation.

As many of our family and friends have gone missing it is hoped that they are alive and safe and that their unexplained disappearance can be quickly unraveled

# News from Arden

**Evendarr City** ~ The pennants are flying in the best finery because everyone can see them with excitement over the formal ceremony. The city is still surrounded by a sense of wonder and awe. After all, Mykel was crowned again. To briefly retrace his "time" as the result of a mysterious event in the autumn of 595 when he appeared seven months later, he will be crowned again. As a historian and amateur astrologer and seer, I suppose I had the opportunity to see him in our city, and he seems every inch a king.

Meanwhile speculation reigns about the whereabouts of the traitor who disappeared from Saxony Keep during the time that the city was currently hiding with her Sessuar allies.

"All steps are being taken to locate her," said Lord Ambrose Huntington, the King's chief advisor. "Colvendar Riechart, being so closely related to the traitor, is very anxious to settle the matter once and for all, and we have no doubt that he is prepared to take any length to secure the Traitor's capture."

Colvendar Riechart, as Field Commander of the Royal Army, as well as brother to the Traitor Iloni, has been placed in charge of the search.

**Unity Volta** ~ Yet another year has passed for the Guild to official MacAilan, now in his seventh year.

It has been said that the legends of the serpent have caused the Unity Wizard's interest in Voltan History. "Amyrdin said, 'There has never been a year when the serpent will truly go down in our history.'"

MacAilan points to the legends of the serpent. The fact that it has been seen in the city," as MacAilan points out. "The serpent is, admittedly a great danger to the city. The situation with Niman, is not a good one. It is not non for people to be more aware of the danger. So many reports of strange events. The serpent reports are the result of a great danger to the city."

"I have always watched for the Serpent," said veteran seer. "I know she's been about more for us to see. Of course, the serpent at our seeing the Serpent is nothing but shot nerves. I am not a seer."

## Elemental Juncture to Occur

Astrologers and seers have concurred that a minor elemental juncture will occur around the 15th of June. During this time, elemental magicks will be strengthened as our worlds connection to the elemental planes grows close. It is believed that the circles of power that were placed in Ravenholt by Skane "the Elemental Lord" could have been used as a powerful focus for summoning rituals had they not been destroyed months ago. The Herald has also received reports that several outposts of Skane's were raided and the elemental circles there destroyed over the week of the 26th of May. The Duke has issued a warning to all citizens to be alert to any elemental activity, and that evidence shows that Skane may be planning an assault during the juncture.

# Alm

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## Eastwyck Town Overrun

The small town of Alnwick in the barony of Eastwyck was recently destroyed. According to our sources, the assault was performed by a large force of elementals in an attempt by Skane to kill one of our own local notables, Kestryn Ardaen. She and her husband, former knight of Eastwyck Vastin Ardaen maintained a residence in the formerly peaceful town. It is not known at this time whether the two were in residence when the attack took place. Baron Victdar of Eastwyck has announced relief efforts for the displaced citizenry, but details were unavailable at the time of this printing.

<p><b>HEALER'S GUILD SEEKING COMPONENTS</b></p> <p>The Ravenholt Healer's Guild is interested in acquiring most any ritual component that may be available. The guild is offering an average of 1.5 gold for most common components, and 2 gold for common power components.</p> <p>The Guild serves the greater good of Ravenholt, and any components that we receive are used to those ends, not for personal gains. Any help in this regard would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>~Kendrick, Guildmaster Ravenholt Healer's Guild</p>
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