

# Dark Times

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## Sabbat take San Francisco

San Francisco, which for so long had held out against the Anarchs amidst the Free States, has fallen to the Sabbath. The big question on everyone lips, affiliated with the Camarilla, is how could this have happened when the city has lasted for so long?

At the moment it is unknown who has escaped from the city or even who may have joined the Sabbath in order to bring the city under their control. This is a worrying sign for us all – let us hope that none of the other free-states fall in the coming months.

### Special points of interest:

- Sabbath in San Francisco
- Glass ban in pubs
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- Sudoku
- Calendar of events

## Pub glass ban faces legal fight

A legal challenge has been raised against plans to for a total ban on glasses in Glasgow's pubs and clubs.

The Scottish Beer and Pub Association (SBPA) has lodged papers at the Court of Session opposing the enforced use of toughened or plastic glasses.

The licensing board agreed on the ban, which will be rolled out in January, to reduce injuries from violence.

Glass was banned in pubs and clubs with late night entertainment licences earlier this year.

The SBPA said the ban was a "disproportionate response".

Chief executive Patrick Browne said a judicial review was being sought as it believed Glasgow's Licensing Board was acting outside its powers.

"We argued against the board's blanket ban on the use of glass which we believed could not be justified in terms of cost or risk and was a totally disproportionate response to the issue," he said.

"The industry is in full support of policies designed to target and tackle the violent thugs who use glass as a weapon.

"But we believe that the use of plastic bottles or

toughened glass is best determined on a premises by premises basis where problems exist, and not across the board."

Police in Glasgow city centre and the west end recorded 59 violent incidents involving glass in the 12 months up to November 2005.

Entertainment licences

Gordon Macdiarmid, convener of the city's Licensing Board, said: "We feel entirely on safe grounds legally as this policy, like the continuous pricing policy, is based around undertakings given in relation to regular extensions.

"We are fully aware that the board cannot condition a core public house licence.

"Given the clearly demonstrable success of the policy in relation to entertainment licences, it is astonishing that anyone in the 21st century should seek to place the protection of glass receptacles ahead of the safety of their patrons."

The ban came into force in clubs and pubs with late night entertainment licences in February.

The SBPA said it expected the case to appear before the Court of Session in Edinburgh later this month.





## Batman Sightings on the Rise

In the last month there have been a number of increasing incidents involving the so called Batman. As reported in the last issue of DT, this individual has taken on the image of the famous DC comic book super hero. In the

last few weeks he has stopped several muggings, helped the victims of five knife attacks and three potential victims from sexual assault.

It is also reported that representatives of DC comics have issued a statement with regards to this individual. They stated that whoever he is, he is in breach of copy right laws by using the copy righted image of Batman which law-

## Glasgow City Centre Crime Levels at an all time high

It appears that the crime rate in our fair city centre is still on the rise – one source has revealed that this may be due to an increase in underworld/organized crime and the use of so called protection scams – where money is

extorted from normal businessmen so that their premises don't just go up in flames over night. Another source has hinted that this increase in underworld intimidation can only lead to other more sinister goings on.

## More Biker Attacks in Castlemilk

There have been more attacks on young people in the Castlemilk area by Bikers. The police are calling for witnesses, but so far no one has come forward. A proposal has been made by

the police to the Scottish Executive for there to be a 9.00pm curfew in the area. The results of this proposal will be known in a short while.

## A typical night in knife-culture Scotland

IT WAS a terrifying way for a young life to end. A gang chased him into a dingy block of flats and knifed him to death. Locals in Rutherglen, near Glasgow, had heard screams and shouts as he knocked on doors for help that came too late.

In the early hours of yesterday morning, the as yet unnamed 25-year-old became the latest victim of the knife crime epidemic sweeping Scotland.

But we can reveal that over the course of the same Friday night, at least another 12 people were stabbed or slashed in Scotland. Unlike the Rutherglen victim they were fortunate enough to live to tell the tale.

Eleven hospital A&E departments across the country reported a depressingly "typical" night of mayhem. Edinburgh alone treated four people for knife injuries, any one of which could have proved fatal.

In the west, hospitals reported that the fatal stabbing in Rutherglen was one of

five knife attacks in the greater Glasgow area.

One resident in the Greenhill Court area where the fatal stabbing occurred, said: "I heard my door almost being knocked down and when I ran out there was a boy standing there terrified.

"He asked me to call the police. It was a real sin. The boys had run into our flats for help. I think the victim was stabbed just as he got inside the main door and the other lad had run for help. He was totally distraught because he had left his friend behind."

Worried locals said fighting and violence in the area had spiralled out of control. They told how they were too scared to walk the lanes which encircle the tower blocks at night, and sometimes even during the day.



## Lordi revel in Eurovision glory

**Eurovision winners, Finnish heavy metal band Lordi, speak to the BBC in their first British radio interview since their victory.**

"There is a saying in Finland that hell freezes over before Finland wins the Eurovision," singer "Mr Lordi", whose real name is Tomi Putaansuu, told BBC Radio Five Live.

"There were so many people against us before we went to Athens and where are those people now?"

"Well I hope they moved to Sweden. There were a lot of people who said if Lordi got through to the final, they would move to Sweden.

"Now we did it and won the whole thing, we will help them pack and wave to them at the border."

Mr Lordi said the band had "no links whatsoever" with Satanism, despite Hard Rock Hallelujah being released as a single in the UK on 6 June or 06/06/06, considered to be a Satanic number.

"OK, so it's a good point for some moron to point his finger and say 'hey, they're devil

worshippers, they're Satanists'.

"But if you read the lyrics for Hard Rock Hallelujah, it's more like gospel.

"I said in an interview in Finland, 'we are not Satan worshippers'. The next day the headline screamed 'I am a man of God!'.

"If you think there is heaven and hell,

where would you like to spend eternity - being barbecued or sitting on a cloud and listening to some harp music? I think the answer is obvious.

"Our drummer used to work for a church and actually composed some church music for children, and it is still used in churches in Finland today. He is a religious guy.

We have absolutely nothing to do with Satanism or devil worshipping.

"This is entertainment. This is like horror movies. No real Satanists or devil worshippers watch horror movies. I don't know what they do, but I'm sure they are not listening to Lordi and watching horror movies."



## Persuasive power of coffee that gives men dating edge

SCIENTISTS have discovered why men are so keen to ask their date in for a coffee after a night out - it seems caffeine makes us more likely to say "yes".

Moderate amounts of the coffee stimulant can increase people's willingness to be persuaded, say researchers.

Scientists found that after consuming caffeine, volunteers were more likely to agree with persuasive arguments.

Two experiments were conducted involving about 140 students who were questioned about how they viewed voluntary euthanasia and abortion.

Volunteers were then asked to read persuasive messages about the subject that were opposed to their own opinions.

Before reading the arguments, they were asked to drink either straight orange juice or juice laced with the caffeine equivalent of two cups of coffee.

Finally, they were tested again on their attitude to the controversial topics.

Under non-distracting conditions, caffeine increased the chances of the students changing their points of view.



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**Dark Times Sudoku**

	3	1		6	4			
8			2					
				9	5			
		6		3	1		4	
5			4		8			7
	2		6	5		9		
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**The Omen (2006)**

This remake is like listening to a cover version of a Beatles song. You like it but really want to hear the original again. The original Omen is such a terrific film, convincing, beautifully cast and with a great, raw Brit Gothic feel to it. The remake is a slightly glossier affair which is enjoyable enough but doesn't really take the story in any new directions, although it hints that it will. Opening images of 9/11 and the Asian tsunami promise a new take on the tale, but with the exception of the

very final scene, this doesn't really happen. The set pieces of the original were beautifully done - here they're well done but don't seem to last long enough; they don't feel 'special' enough. The cast is good but, again, it lacks the gravitas of the original. This ambassador is no Gregory Peck. Overall, this isn't a bad way to spend two hours in the cinema - it's a hundred times better and more cinematic than The Da Vinci Code for instance - but could have been a lot more than it is.

**Submissions Accepted**

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- Features:
- Guaranteed acceptance of articles
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**GVLARP**

Deadline: 28 June 2006  
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**June 2006**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <small>Court</small>	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
				<small>DT</small>		