

# G-FEST XXIX

70 YEARS OF DESTRUCTION








**JULY 12-14, 2024 ----- ROSEMONT, ILLINOIS**

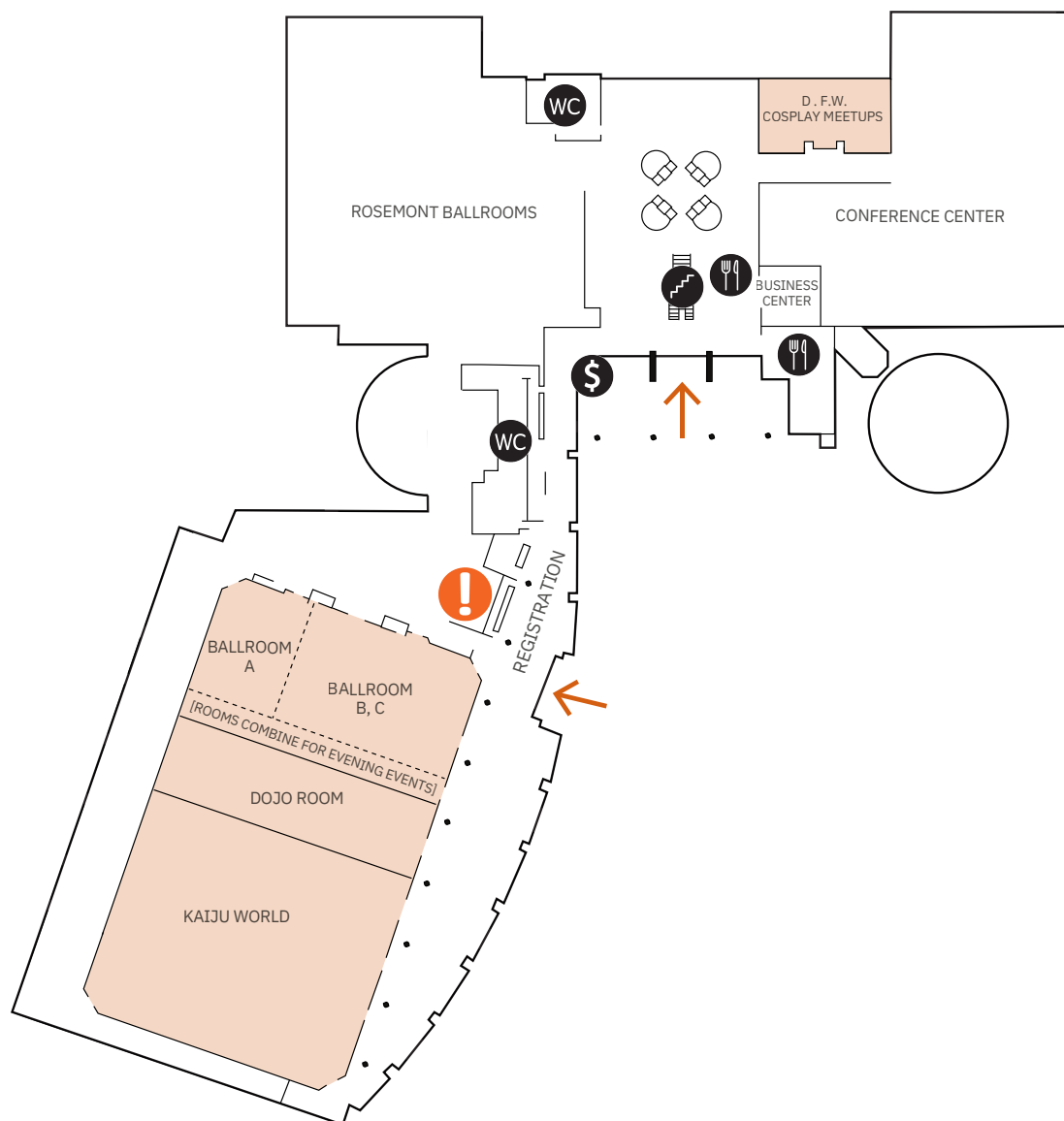
**TAKUJI YAMADA - ALLAN HENRY - RIE OTA - JAMES GROMAN - TOSHIO MIIKE - JEFFREY ANGLES**

# MAPS

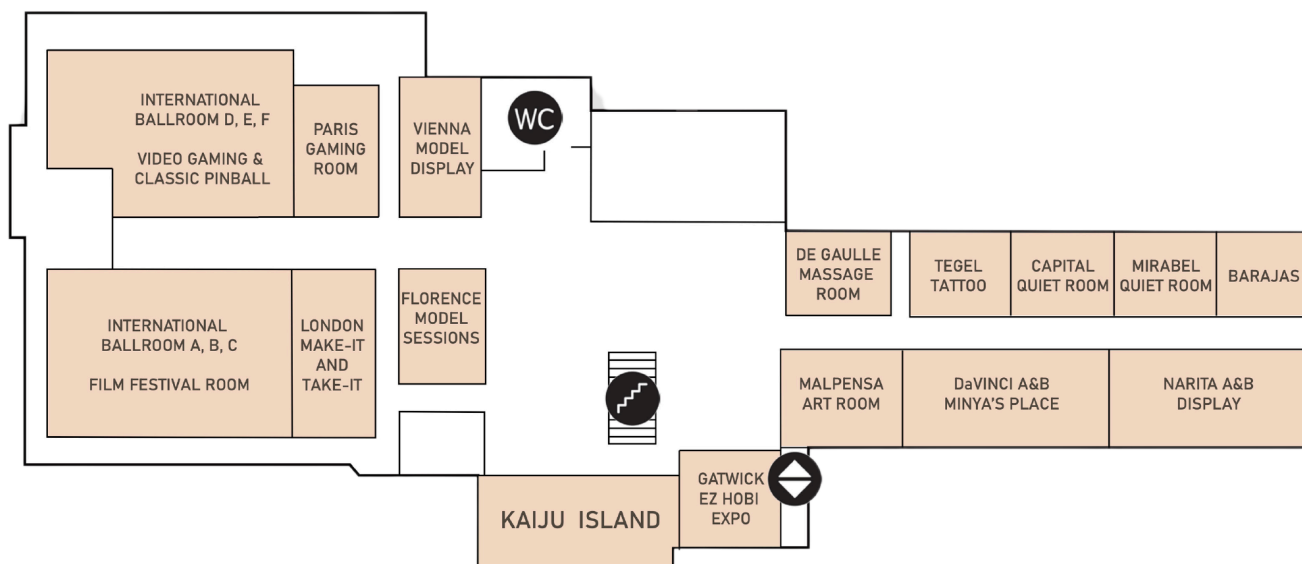
## Entry Level

### Key

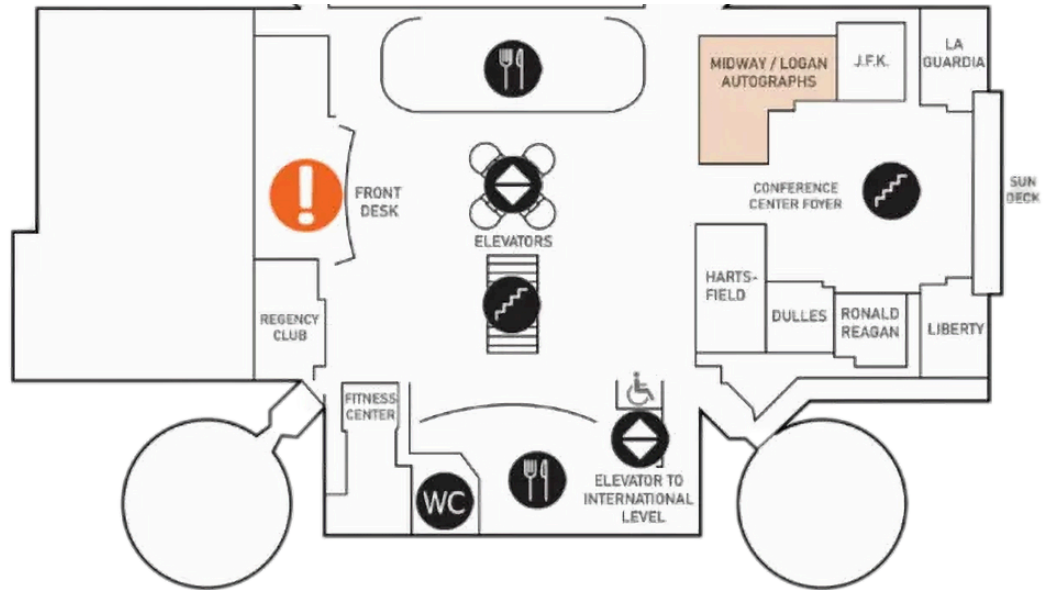
-  Restrooms
-  Food
-  Stairs
-  Elevators
-  ATM



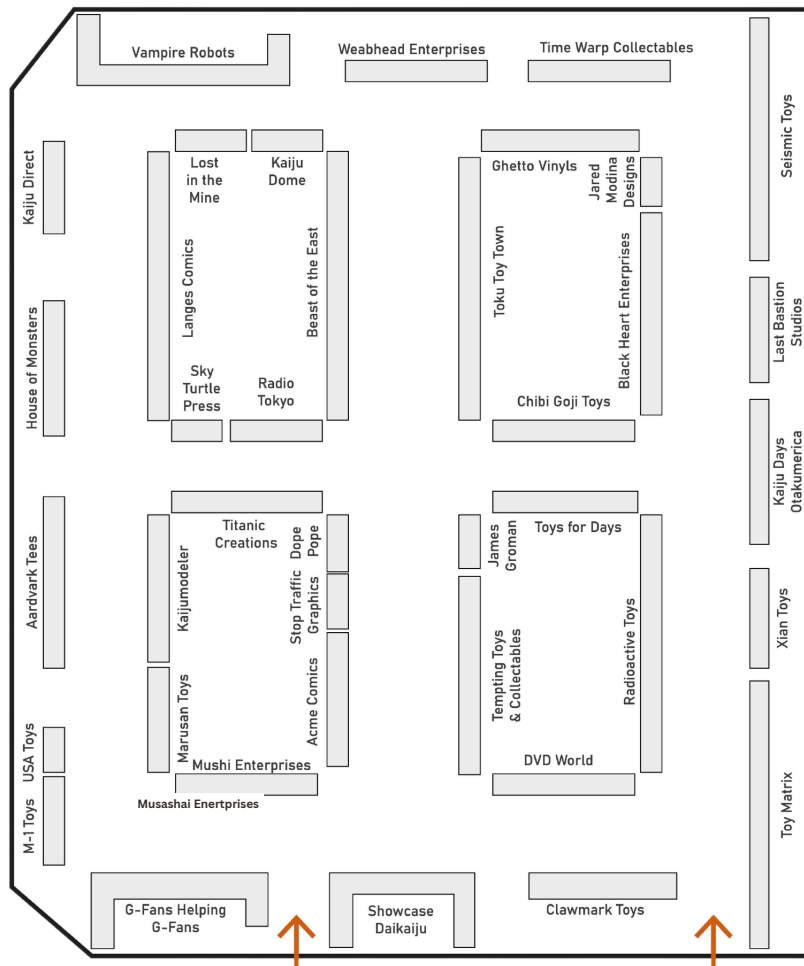
## International Level (-1)



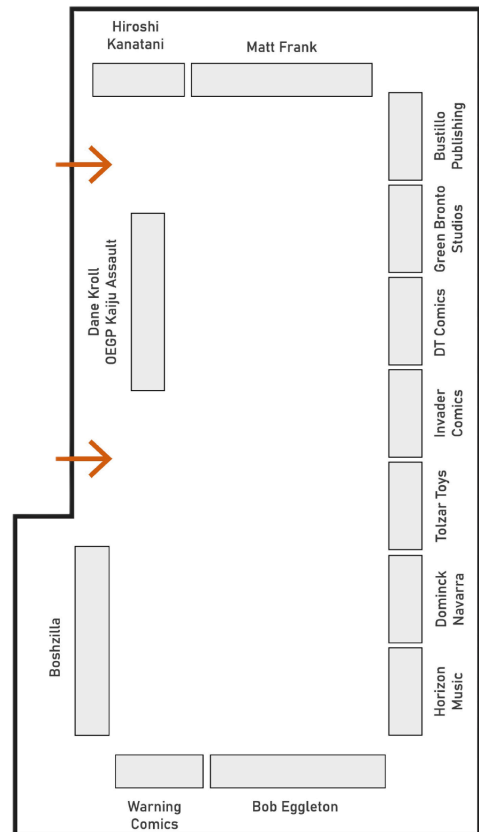
# LOBBY LEVEL



# KAIJU WORLD



# KAIJU ISLAND



# GENERAL SESSIONS

## FRIDAY

TIME	BALLROOM B/C	
10 AM	The Return of Godzilla 40th Anniversary	A review of the first Heisei Era film, looking at both the Japanese and American cut version. Will also discuss Kenpachiro Satsuma's role as the Heisei Godzilla. (Brendan Morley, Daniel DiManna, Nathan Marchand, Neil Riebe)
11 AM	Jaws vs Japan: Kaiju Shardsploitation	A history of the giant shark as a movie monster, focusing on depictions in tokusatsu and other places where these aquatic predators chomp up against the kaiju genre. (Kevin Derendorf)
12 PM	Every Godzilla Video Game... EVER	Returning for a fourth installment in his popular "Kaiju Video Games History" series of panels, Alex Rushdy provides insight on practically every Godzilla video game out there. (Alex Rushdy)
1 PM	Marusan Original Kaiju & Robot Toys	In addition to its +F5world-famous line of licensed toys, in the 1970's Marusan Toys introduced their own original kaiju characters and later produced a series of original robot toys as well. In this panel, Eiji Kaminaga (president of Marusan Toys) will explain the history and evolution of the Japanese soft vinyl and robot toy industry and how Marusan is continuing to expand their own catalog. (Eiji Kaminaga)
2 PM	Female leads of TOHO films	A discussion on the significance of the female characters (protagonists and antagonists) throughout TOHO's Godzilla franchise. (Jessica Tseang)
3 PM	Godzilla Minus One	Godzilla Minus One has done what seemingly no other Japanese G-Film has done prior with a record breaking release, multiple award nominations, and massive mainstream notoriety. Join Nick Crispino, Jacob Lyngle, Elijah Thomas, and Mary Sutedja as they discuss what some are calling the greatest Godzilla movie of all time.
4 PM	Godzilla vs...wait, who?	An overview of some of the weirdest crossovers and collaborations in the history of the Godzilla franchise. (Kevin Derendorf)

TIME	BALLROOM A	
10 AM	Ultraman In America	The Sky Turtle Nova editorial team will be joined by Tsuburaya executives to unveil plans for the future of Ultraman in America. (Steve Smith)
11 AM	Ghidorah the Three-Headed Monster: 60th Anniversary	Celebrating 60 years of King Ghidorah, with behind the scenes and special effects info to bring the kaiju in this film to life. (Kevin Horn)
12 PM	The Islands Of Godzilla	Buckle up as we navigate the turbulent seas, uncover the mysteries of the islands that birthed Godzilla, like Bikini Atoll and delve deep into the historical background behind these islands, including film details from Godzilla Minus One. Get ready for a monster-sized adventure as we discuss the legacy of these islands. (Nicholas Huber, Daniel Meaney)
1 PM	60 Years of Dogora	Join Kyle Byrd, Matt Parmley and Kevin Derendorf of the Kaiju Transmissions Podcast for a 60th anniversary retrospective on Ishiro Honda's underrated film Dogora, the Space Monster. This panel is a discussion of the genesis, production, and legacy of everyone's favorite diamond-eating space jellyfish. (Kyle Byrd, Kevin Derendorf, Matt Parmley)
2 PM	50 Years of Godzilla vs Mechagodzilla	This year Godzilla's mechanical menace celebrates its 50th birthday, and not a bit of tarnish or rust! (Elijah Thomas, Daniel DiManna, Michael Hamilton, Matt Frank)
3 PM	Secrets of Japanese Sci-Fi Scripts, 1956-1964	The censor records held at the New York State Archives include dialogue transcripts and shot lists for 13 Japanese sci-fi films that played in the state from 1956 to 1964, including the first four Godzilla films. This panel presents an analysis of these documents, revealing unexpected translations, dialogue missing from home video releases, hilarious misspellings ("Modra"?), and even an entire dub which has gone unheard for decades. (Michael Callari)
4 PM	G-PARDY Kids edition	This kaiju quiz has been designed especially for kids! The crowned 2024 Kid's Champion will be awarded a mini trophy they can keep. For those interested in entering, be sure to arrive on time to gain highest marks on the qualifying entry pre-quiz, as only three players will be able to compete for this title. For players ages 12 & under only. (Aaron Roberson)



## SATURDAY

Time	BALLROOM B/C	
10 AM	Godzilla vs. Mothra Anniversary Panel	1964's Mothra vs. Godzilla remains one of the most acclaimed and beloved of all the Godzilla sequels. Join a panel of diehard fans and historians as they break down the history, filmmaking, thematic depth, and pure fun that makes this film so special. (Daniel DiManna, Kevin Horn, Billy DuBose, Dominic Lopez, Hope Boyer)
11 AM	INTERVIEW: Toshio Miike	(Jessica Tseang)
12 PM	INTERVIEW: Rie Ota	(Diane Dougherty, Nick Huber, Daniel Meaney)
1 PM	INTERVIEW: Jeffrey Angles	(Joyce Boss, Kevin Derendorf)
2 PM	INTERVIEW: Takuji Yamada	(Jacob Lyngle)
3 PM	INTERVIEW: Alan Henry	(Jessica Tseang, Martin Arlt)
4 PM	Jim Groman: 35 Yrs Designing Toys and Collectables	(Jim Groman and Terry Webb)

Time	BALLROOM A	
10 AM	From Cryptids to Kaiju: Japanese Cryptozoology	Join cultural studies scholar Justin Mullis for a look at the history of Japanese cryptozoology (the study of purportedly real monsters like Bigfoot and Nessie). How well do you know Japan's homegrown cryptids like the Hibagon, Tsuchinoko, Ningen, and Kappa? Learn about these monsters, where to find them in Japanese popular culture, and cryptozoology's surprising influence on the kaiju genre. (Justin Mullis)
11 AM	The Kaiju Writer's Panel	Artists, modelers, and filmmakers all have a place at G-FEST, and this is where the writers congregate! Nathan Marchand (co-author of Destroyer, creator of The Monster Island Film Vault podcast) and Daniel DiManna (Godzilla Novelization Project) lead a Q&A panel with fellow kaiju writers Neil Riebe (Gilgamo vs Super Allosaurus), Donny Winter (Feats of Alchemy), and Dane Kroll (Realm of Goryo series) that is sure to answer your (atomic) burning questions about the craft and business of writing. (Nathan Marchand, Daniel DiManna, Neil Riebe, Donny Winter, Dane Kroll)
12 PM	Space Godzilla Behind the Scenes	A 30th anniversary celebration of Godzilla's 30th anniversary film, which introduced the bizarre but popular Space Godzilla. This panel will include behind the scenes video and fun facts. (Kevin Horn)
1 PM	Creating Original Kaiju	In a genre dominated by a fire breathing lizard, how do you create something new? Join Dane G. Kroll, author of the Realm of Goryo series, and the creators of Kaiju Assault Card Game in a discussion about the creative process of adding new and exciting Kaiju into pop culture. (Dane Kroll)
2 PM	Drawing Monsters with Matt and Hiroshi	Join fan-favorite kaiju artists Matt Frank and Hiroshi Kanatani in an interactive panel as they take audience requests to draw monsters! (Matt Frank, Hiroshi Kanatani)
3 PM	Getting into the Ultraman Franchise for new Fans Nicole Seraphita	The Ultraman franchise can be daunting for new fans, with over 57 years of TV shows, anime, merch, and more to take in. We will discuss the basics of the Ultraman franchise, its characters, and themes, as well as the best places for people to start with no experience with the Giant of Light. (Nicole Seraphita)
4 PM	Kaiju Kingdom Podcast: Godzilla/Kong creators	Jessica Tseang and Chris Eaton discuss with Jared Krichesvsky, (concept artist for Legendary's Kong, Godzilla, Shimu, Skarr King), and Brian Buccelleto (writer) / Christian Duce (artist) of DC Comics' Justice League vs Godzilla vs. Kong their own unique approaches to these classic characters, and the big year for our two favorite kaiju. (Jessica Tseang, Chris Eaton)

# SUNDAY

Time	BALLROOM B/C	
10 AM	G-PARDY	For players ages 13 and older comes the classic kaiju quiz game! All would-be contestants must arrive 30 minutes early to challenge the radioactive fallout of a pre-entry quiz. Top three scorers will arise for a battle of monster knowledge that will determine the new monarch of kaiju quizzes. (Aaron Roberson)
11 AM	Kaiju Music Theory: "Godzilla" 1954–2024	A music theorist breaks down of the main themes of the Godzilla franchise, ranging from Akira Ifukube's stunning original work to today. (Ryan X. Messcher)
12 PM	A Tribute to Kenpachiro Satsuma	In 2023, we lost Kenpachiro Satsuma, a longtime friend of G-FEST. He began performing in Godzilla films in the Showa Era, portraying key villains like Hedorah and Gigan, before performing as Godzilla himself throughout the Heisei Era. Come help our panelists remember this special friend.
1 PM	The MonsterVerse: 10 Years Later	In 2014, Legendary and Warner Bros. reintroduced the King of the Monsters to Western audiences with "Godzilla" (2014). After seeing massive success at the box office, they took it a step further with a shared cinematic universe featuring Kong and a full roster of original and familiar kaiju. Panelists breakdown the franchise's history, give their personal opinions on past instalments and their hopes for the future of the increasingly popular Monsterverse. (Nick Crispino, Scrooge Jones, John Sheola, Ramone Flores)
2 PM	The Storytelling of Godzilla: Minus One	Godzilla fans agree that Minus One is one of the greatest installments of all time. Why did it work so well? Award-winning screenwriter and author Thomas A. Fowler explores the storytelling of G-1. The characters we loved, the themes that resonated, and the emotional moments that made us cry, shout, and cheer all through an incredible Kaiju film! (Thomas Fowler, Sam Khushal, Nathaniel Steitz, Martin Felshman, Luke Flip)
3 PM	Godzilla Turns 70	Our reason for gathering at G-FEST every year began 70 years ago with the release of the first Godzilla film, Gojira, in Japan. Come hear a celebration of that first film's accomplishments and legacy. (Kevin Horn, Jeffrey Angles, Daniel DiManna, Nathan Marchand, Elijah Thomas)
4 PM	Kaiju Konfessions	It's time to pack up G-FEST for another year. Join the celebration of Kaiju song and dance! What's a monster movie without a catchy tune? It's time to participate in the fun! Let's SAVE THE EARTH!!!! (Stan Hyde)

Time	BALLROOM A	
10 AM	Soft Vinyl Toys (Sofubi) 101	Before SHMA, before X-plus, before Bandai, there was soft vinyl. A classic method of toy production that continues to this day. Learn about the history and impact of this traditional style of toy making from a toy maker himself: Alex Rushdy of Seismic Toys! (Alex Rushdy)
11 AM	Raising Kids with Godzilla	Fandom thrives when parents pass their passion on to their kids. This panel will be a place for people to share their experiences with introducing their children to Godzilla and other kaiju. Highlights include dealing with fear, understanding real vs. non-real threats, and potentially other inquisitive mind questions. (John Ellis, Brandon Kirkman, Thomas Fowler )
12 PM	When Dinosaur Comics Ruled the Earth	Dinosaurs and ancient monsters are more than just movie stars; they've also made a splash in the world of comics! Join the dino fun and dive into the world of paleo storytelling from "Age of Reptiles" to "Xenozoic" and everything in between! (Greg Noneman, Danny DiManna, Samuel Iller, Robert Monsarrat)
1 PM	Radioactive Radio - Vintage Kaiju Audio Ads!	Take a trip back in time and enjoy rare radio ads from classic kaiju films - with added visuals! (Nigel Dreiner, Jacob Lyngle)
2 PM	Godzilla: Final Wars - 20 Years of Monster Mayhem	20 years ago, Godzilla: Final Wars was released. It marked the last time traditional tokusatsu effects were used in the Godzilla franchise and the final appearances of Godzilla alumni actors, Akira Takarada, Kumi Mizuno, and Kenji Sahara. (Elijah Thomas, Daniel DiManna, Nick Crispino, Billy DuBose, Jacob Lyngle)
3 PM	American Godzilla Fandom in the '70's and '80s	Join us for a nostalgic review of Godzilla media in the US in the 1970s and 1980s, an era of movies on TV, theatrical releases, merchandise, comics, and cartoons. (Frank Judd, Neil Riebe)
4 PM	G-FAN & G-TOUR	The editor of G-FAN, J.D. Lees, will discuss the future of the fanzine and answer questions from the audience. This fall's G-TOUR will also be a topic of discussion. (JD Lees)