

The GRIDLEY WAVE

CONTACTING THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

Tars Tarkas Leaps Into the Movies



In a series of recent interviews, actor Willem Dafoe discussed his role of Tars Tarkas in the forthcoming Disney film of *John Carter of Mars*, directed by Andrew Stanton. He said he looked forward to playing a ten-foot tall green Martian with four arms, especially since the “Pixar people” of the studio have done a thorough job of research and know how to protect the actors. Dafoe has read the book, *A Princess of Mars*, and intends to read the rest of the Martian series before shooting begins. He will probably be given two extra prosthetic arms and a special voice. He said that Tars Tarkas and the human actors will be intermingled playing real scenes, not by computers. Although Dafoe’s actual face will be used, it will be “enhanced” similar to James Cameron’s current film *Avatar*. He said that he and the other actors are now attending “Thark School” to work out the details. They will have time, since the film is not scheduled to be released until 2012.

Meanwhile, Disney Studios contacted the Burroughs Memorial Collection in Louisville for permission to send researchers to gather background material for *John Carter of Mars*.
... “Ye Editor”

Above: Phil Saunders’ conceptual art for *John Carter of Mars*. See more on the reverse and at: <http://phil-saunders.blogspot.com/2009/02/more-john-carter.html>.

Right: Lynn Collins (Dejah Thoris), Taylor Kitsch (John Carter), and Willem Dafoe (Tars Tarkas) in a composite against Frank Frazetta’s background painting.



The Gridley Wave #330 🦋 March, 2010

Published monthly for the Burroughs Bibliophiles as a supplement to *The Burroughs Bulletin*. Edited by George T. McWhorter, The Edgar Rice Burroughs Memorial Collection, William F. Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292.
© Copyright 2010, The Burroughs Bibliophiles. E-mail: george.mcwhorter@louisville.edu. Telephone: (502) 852-8729.



Johnny Weissmuller 1904-'84. The actor best known for his portrayal of Tarzan won five Olympic gold medals in swimming, and he was an excellent golfer. He made five holes-in-one and once shot 63 at Lakeside. He was also a regular at Bel-Air, where he would sometimes run up onto the rocks to the left of the fourth hole and deliver his famous Tarzan roar. (The creator of Tarzan, author Edgar Rice Burroughs, was also a keen golfer who briefly acquired a course during the Depression—what is now the El Caballero Country Club in Tarzana, Calif.)

Tarzan, who won five gold medals in swimming, was an excellent golfer who made five holes-in-one and once shot 63 at Lakeside.

◀ Johnny Weissmuller 1947

1950 2010
GOLF
DIGEST

GOLFDIGEST.COM MARCH 2010

Burroughs Bibliophiles Anniversary Plaque

When the 50th year of the Burroughs Bibliophiles arrived, I decided it was time to have a commemorative plaque made. When the Stephen Fossler Company of Crystal Lake, Illinois sent me a serendipitous offer, I jumped at the chance. The plaque is pictured here, and will remain in the Burroughs Memorial Collection until a permanent home is established for Burroughs Bibliophiles, Inc. ... "Ye Editor"

