

Furthermore, to help stimulate the industry, most fansubbers and fansub distributors agree that if/when an anime becomes available on the commercial market, they will halt distribution of those anime in the fansub format.)

Anyway, fansubs no doubt led to an increase in anime exposure. I was able to obtain many popular Japanese titles that came highly recommended, including "Fushigi Yuugi," "Vision of Escaflowne," "Yuu yuu Hakusho," and "Marmalade Boy," to name a few. In this way, it became brutally clear to me how much more was out there. Had I been limited to "Sailor Moon" as a representation of all that is anime, I would have made a grave mistake. However, this notion is common. Many people today brush aside anime as a gawk-fest filled with busty, leggy catwomen, but that is a gross misrepresentation of the genre. Sure, there are entire series dedicated to the aforementioned qualities, which have die-hard fans (take "Goldenboy" for example). The injustice comes when one thinks that's all there is to it.

Any true anime fan will tell you that there is anime out there that can suit anyone's interest. In Japan, anime is taken as any other industry, just like the U.S.'s movie industry. It's not even as die-hard popular there, as it is with

many anime fans in the States. The major injustice is in the ignorant generalization of all anime. Rather, anime is like any other form of entertainment.

Miyazaki's work exemplifies (6) the dramatic and beautiful aes-

thetic elements. Beyond that, there is "shoujo," for girls, and "shonen," for boys, but not necessarily limited to. Much of the popular anime, however, is like any popular Hollywood movie—composed of many varying but intertwined elements that appeal to a wider audience. "Fushigi Yuugi" is a consented favorite, loved by both genders, not just girls, for which it was originally intended, as it complements humor with drama, action with romance. And like any genre of entertainment, one doesn't have to like all aspects. Some prefer rap, some prefer country; some prefer



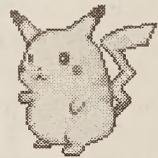
(5) "Pokemon" and "Cardcaptors," and Fox an increasingly popular "Digimon."

If there was ever a time for anime lovers, that time is now! EW

**F.Y.I....**

UNC-CH offers the Carolina Otaku Uprising, an association for fans by fans...for more info, go to <http://www.redrival.com/coup/>

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For years now, North Carolina has hosted its own anime convention: Animazement. This year, Watase Yuu, creator of Fushigi Yuugi, among other anime, will be a guest. The convention will be May 25-27, 2001, in Durham! For further info, go to <http://www.animazement.org/>



(8)

(5) Escaflowne, courtesy of Janie's Vision of Escaflowne Image Gallery at <http://www.angelfire.com/sk/escaflowne/>

(6) Princess Mononoke, courtesy of the Official US site at <http://www.princess-mononoke.com/>

(7) Pikachu, courtesy of the Pikachu Center at <http://titan.spaceports.com/~maya/>

(8) Fushigi Yuugi, courtesy of Brawling Boys at <http://www.geocities.com/tokyo/highrise/4420/>