



WALTER FARBER finished the basic manuscript of his book on incantations for the benefit of sick and crying babies; after a final revision, it is expected to go to press later this summer or fall. Besides this, he finished an article on some examples of wordplay in magic texts and several book reviews for German and American journals. He attended the XXXII Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Münster in July 1985, where he chaired a session, and the 196th Meeting of the American Oriental Society in New Haven in March 1986, where he read a paper "Second Millennium Astrology: The Role of Elam." During summer 1985, he also gave two evening lectures in Germany, at the universities of Tübingen and Marburg, on the central scene of some famous Lamaštu amulets, and its reflections in the incantations against this much-feared demoness.

He ended the academic year by exchanging the stylus for the cello bow and joining the University of Chicago Symphony Orchestra on their European tour, thus trying to give some new dimensions to the Oriental Institute's outreach into Yugoslavia, Hungary, and Austria.

