

COMICS™

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THE REAL

GH~~OST~~STBUSTERS

DANGER!
TOXIC WASTE
DISPOSAL
KEEP OUT!



NOW ON SALE!

SPEED RACER 14

By Lamar Waldron, Joe Phillips, & Brian (RACER-X) Thomas
SPEED RACER and the gang go to Egypt for an international race and TRIXIE is mistaken for a reincarnated Egyptian goddess! Will this new attention spoil her even more than she already is? And if so will she give up her Mercedes, Helicopter, and Airplane for a desert life?

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ASTRO BOY 13

By Ken Steacy and Andrew Pratt!

The world is in peril once again, but it seems that even the mighty ASTRO BOY can't even save us from this being from space!

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THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 3

By James Van Hise, John Tobias, & Brian Thomas

Based on the hit-movie and the smash cartoon show!

In this issue we have Nuclear waste goulies from beyond!

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The conclusion of the first issue's story. The rebels discover that there is a way to stop a TERMINATOR!

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Super-technology, super-cars, super-gadgets, and the ultimate super-agent! Rex Racer has to race across the Grand Canyon to protect a secret witness from the hands of the enemy! Will he survive? Or will he be lost in the Canyon forever?

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RALPH SNART ADVENTURES VOL. III No. 2

By Marc Hansen

The insane mind of Ralph Snart explores the world of roll-playing games and discovers that they are as dangerous, if not more than reading this comic book! This issue's pin-up is of the infamous MRS. (MOMMY) SNART!

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FRIGHT NIGHT 1

By Joe Gentile, Lenin Delsol

The first three issues of this regular monthly series will retell the story of the sequel FRIGHT NIGHT II and then follow into new exciting adventures of Peter Vincent and Charley Brewster! HINT: You will encounter a female vampiress and her three off-the-wall sidekicks!

Full-Color Baxter Monthly \$1.75US/\$2.25CANADA

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 3

WRITTEN BY

JIM VAN HISE

PENCILLED BY

JOHN TOBIAS

INKED BY

BRIAN THOMAS

LETTERED BY

JIM MASSARA

COLORS BY

RICH POWERS

COVER BY

KEN STEACY

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS VOL. 1 No. 2 SEPT 1988. Published monthly by NOW COMICS, (A division of Caputo Publishing, Inc.) 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1540, Chicago, IL, 60604. THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS is copyrighted 1984 COLUMBIA PICTURES INDUSTRIES, INC., copyrighted 1986 COLUMBIA PICTURES TELEVISION, a division of CPT Holdings, Inc. All rights reserved. GHOSTBUSTERS logo and logo design are licensed trademarks from Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All other material unless otherwise indicated is copyrighted 1988 NOW COMICS. Any similarity between any person living or dead and/or institution is purely coincidental. Printed in the USA.

TIGER BY THE TAIL...

I'm a very firm believer in the old adage: "If you want something done right, you've got to do it yourself." No one else has that drive, that determination, knowledge and vision that you would have for what you want to do.

Everyone has their own opinions and concepts on anything and everything.

I have my own ideas of what NOW COMICS is, and will be, and keeping close tabs on it these past few years (although it feels like few decades), has worked. You are enjoying our comics, right? Of course you are, you're buying them! Everyone is buying them!

Ultimately what this does is create a frenzy that has turned NOW COMICS into my pet monster. Like holding a tiger by it's tale, it's dragged me into some wonderful places and situations, and also into not so wonderful places and situations.

And I don't regret a thing. I've learned from my mistakes as well as my triumphs. Just as in life you learn from your accomplishments and failures.

I've made a major commitment with creating a "New Age" comic company. And I'll stand by it to make sure you get every wonderful issue of your favorite characters in our line. But I don't do it alone, mind you, let me introduce you to some of the people who bring you the finest in graphic entertainment every month.

Besides all the creative types, (who always get all the glory) we have Regina Samoska, who, like the REAL GHOSTBUSTERS' ever efficient Janine Melnitz, deals with the eccentrics who roam into the office by door or by phone. My own

personal name for the comic industry is "Little Hollywood". So just as in Hollywood, we have much rif-rif.

Regina keeps them from interrupting the daily schedule. She also handles some of the more important things like re-orders, this is to make sure when your outlet runs out of copies of your favorite books, they get restock A.S.A.P!

And then there's Katherine Llewellyn, the production assistant, who can handle the thousands of letters we receive every month, but still has the time to grace the pages of the few privileged books in our line that she paints.

Now (no pun intended), we come to the heart of NOW COMICS, the Vice-President and Treasurer; Nanette Injeski. This is a woman that pumps the blood through the veins of NOW COMICS. Without a doubt a lion and tiger tamer.

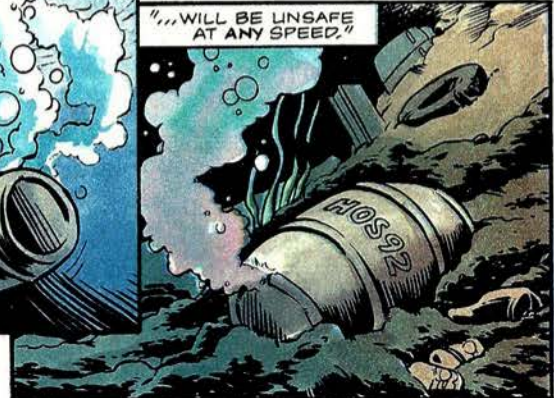
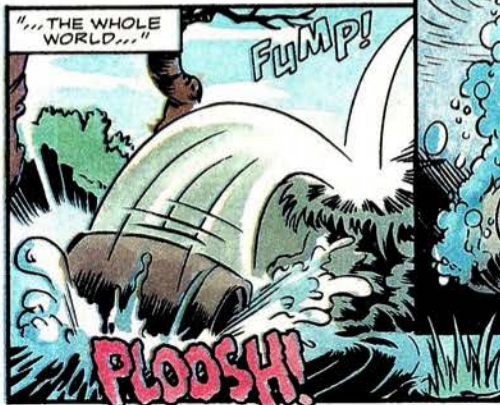
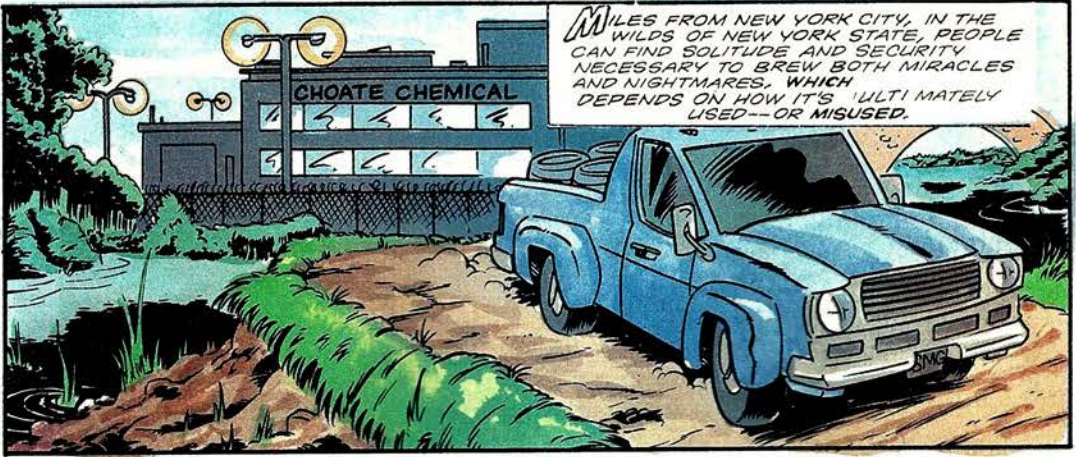
Although a very talented artist herself, she finds it essential to use her keen sense of business to make sure that the comics stay on schedule.

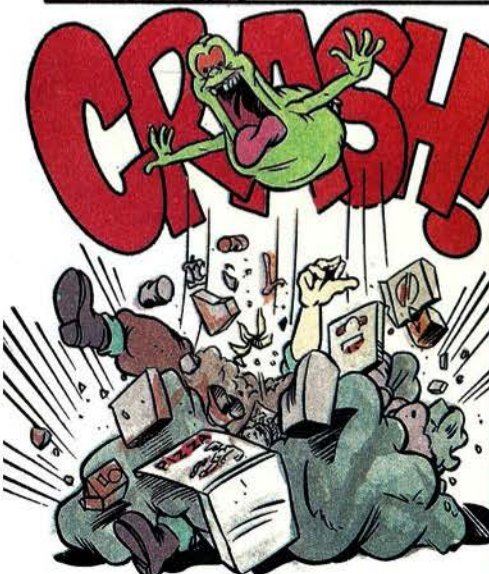
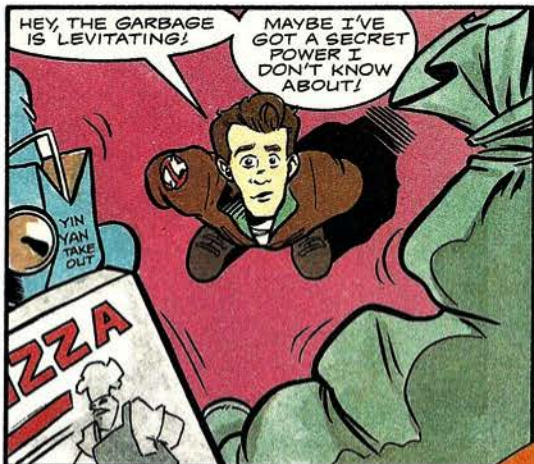
Then of course there's myself, the publisher, owner, designer, and now, Editor n' Chief. Hey, it's a big responsibility, but somebody's got to do it, and do it right.

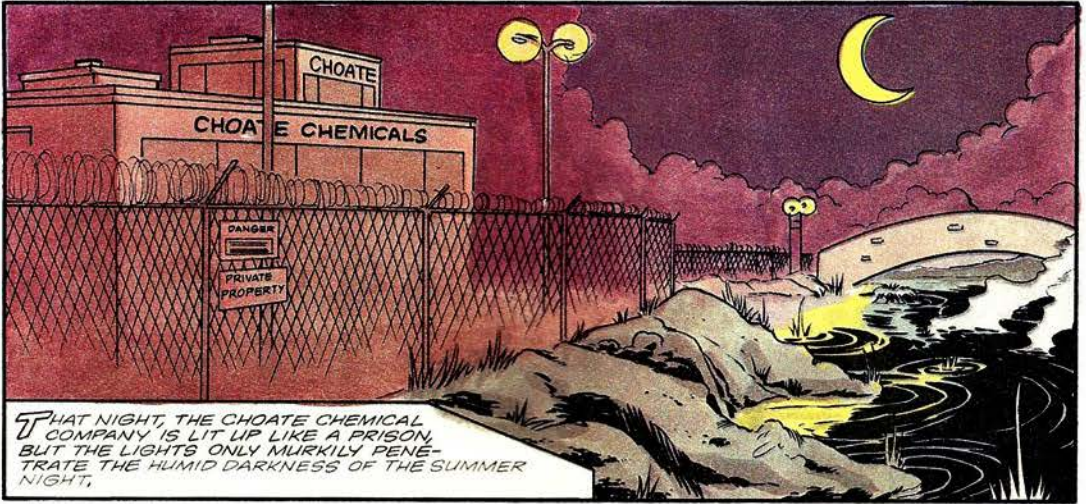
But of course, that's only my opinion.

Tony Caputo
Editor n' Chief
Publisher









THAT NIGHT, THE CHOATE CHEMICAL COMPANY IS LIT UP LIKE A PRISON, BUT THE LIGHTS ONLY MURKILY PENETRATE THE HUMID DARKNESS OF THE SUMMER NIGHT.



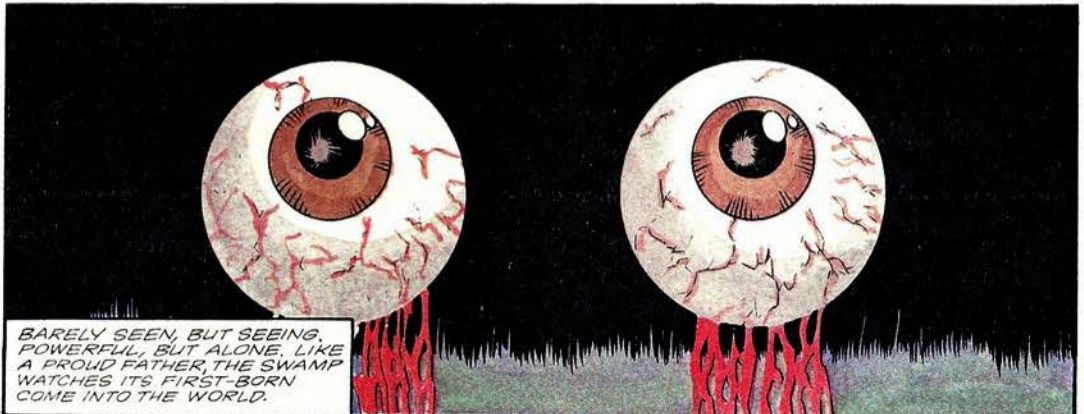
THE WATER RIPPLES AND CHURNS, THE POND SCUM SEEMING TO BOIL WITH FURY AS SOMETHING RISES FROM THE DARK EMBRACE OF THE SWAMPY DEPTHS.



IT RISES FROM THE MUCK, ITS HEAD COVERED WITH GREEN SLIME AND TINY INSECTS. LIVING WHERE THERE HAD BEEN NO LIFE, IT EXISTS, DRAWN TOGETHER FROM THE REFUSE THE SWAMP HAD LONG HIDDEN.



IT CRAWLS ON TO A SMALL ISLAND IN THE SWAMPY WASTES, RISING TO TAKE ITS FIRST STEP.



BARELY SEEN, BUT SEEING. POWERFUL, BUT ALONE. LIKE A PROUD FATHER, THE SWAMP WATCHES ITS FIRST-BORN COME INTO THE WORLD.

LOOKING UP INTO THE SKY, IT GIVES FORTH SOMETHING LIKE A BIRTH CRY AND REACHES OUT AS THOUGH TO EMBRACE THE DARKNESS.

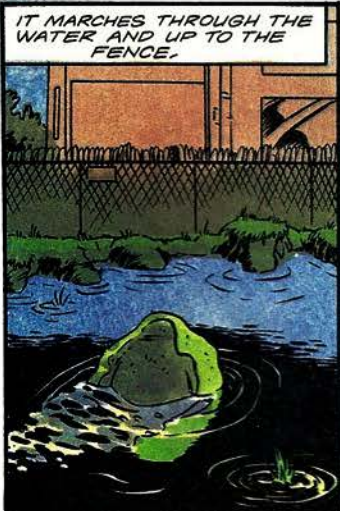
RESIST THE SOOTHING CALL OF THE ORB OF NIGHT.

SEARCH OUT THE SLUDGE OF LIFE.





GRIMLY DETERMINED, IT OBEYS.



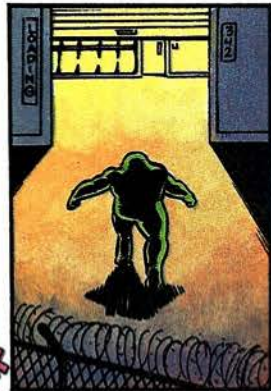
IT MARCHES THROUGH THE WATER AND UP TO THE FENCE.



NOTHING MUST STAND IN ITS WAY.



SMASH CLANK



DRAWN BY THE PUNGENT SCENT OF THAT WHICH GAVE IT LIFE, IT FINDS ITS SOURCE.



BUT WHAT IT NEEDS IS IN A VAULT BEYOND ITS PRESENT STRENGTH TO ENTER.



NEED HAS 92



WHAT'S THIS?



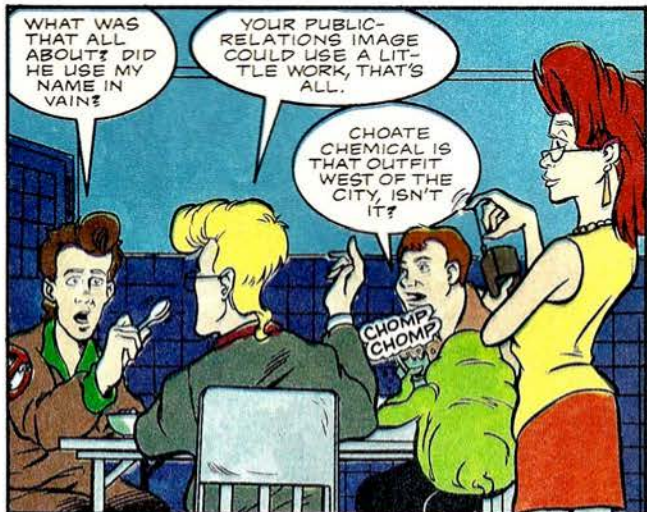
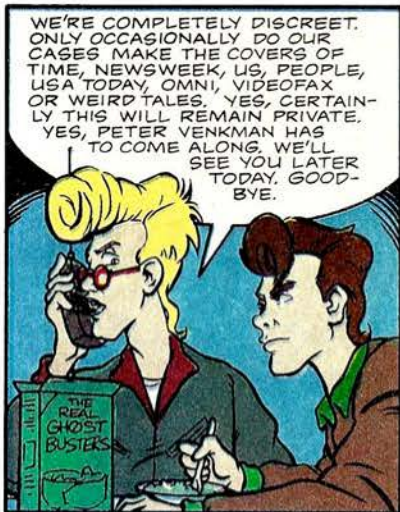
WHY, IF I WERE SUPERSTITIOUS, I'D BELIEVE YOU WERE SENT TO HAUNT ME FOR FAST MISDEEDS, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE IN TWISTS OF FATE!





SSSSSHHHH

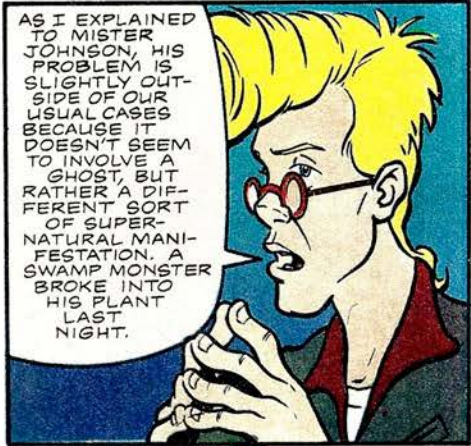






GREAT! SO WE'RE GOING TO SEE SOMEONE WHO WON'T TELL US WHAT HE MAKES, IS AFRAID THE GOVERNMENT WILL FIND OUT HE HAS A PROBLEM, AND ON TOP OF THAT HE THINKS I'M A JERK!

HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW YOU LIKE WE DO. WE LIKE YOU IN SPITE OF YOUR FAULTS.



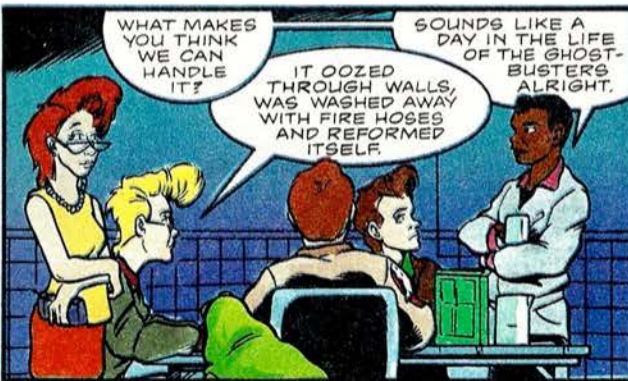
AS I EXPLAINED TO MISTER JOHNSON, HIS PROBLEM IS SLIGHTLY OUTSIDE OF OUR USUAL CASES BECAUSE IT DOESN'T SEEM TO INVOLVE A GHOST, BUT RATHER A DIFFERENT SORT OF SUPER-NATURAL MANIFESTATION. A SWAMP MONSTER BROKE INTO HIS PLANT LAST NIGHT.



SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING SLIMER SHOULD HANDLE.

PETER, YOU'RE SCARING HIM!

YEAH, I KNOW.



WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WE CAN HANDLE IT?

IT OOOZED THROUGH WALLS, WAS WASHED AWAY WITH FIRE HOSES AND REFORMED ITSELF.

SOUNDS LIKE A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE GHOST-BUSTERS ALRIGHT.



WE'RE DUE THERE LATER THIS AFTERNOON.

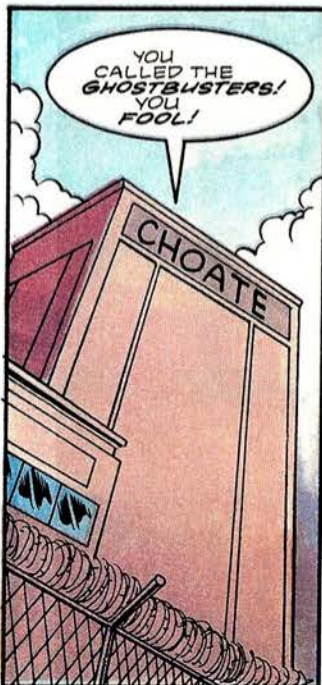
I'LL GET THE ECTO-1 READY.

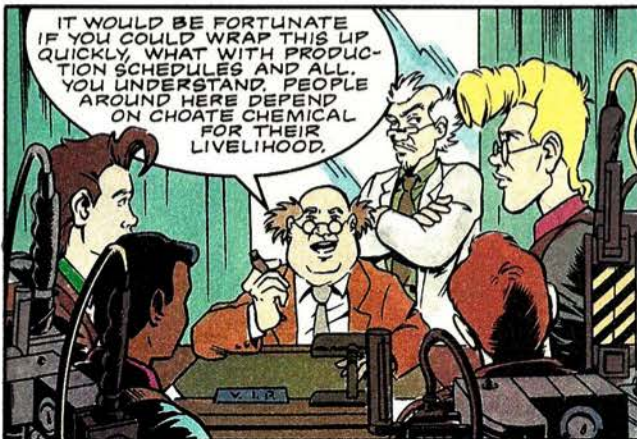
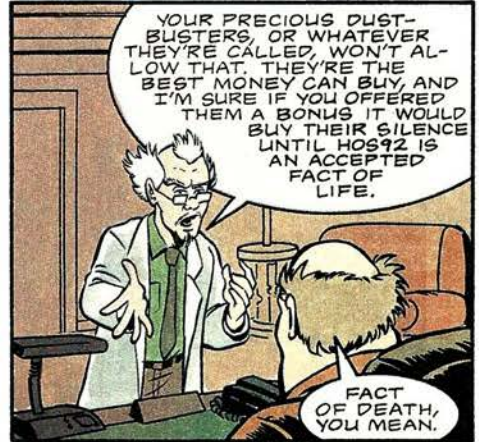
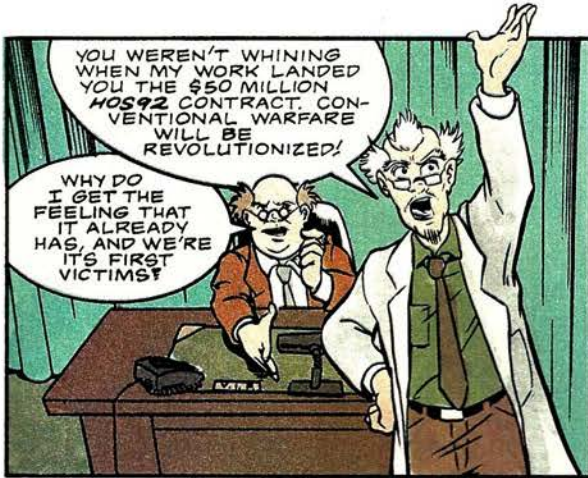


HEY, I'VE GOT EXPERIENCE FOR THIS CASE! I WENT TO A PARTY ONCE AS THE SEWER THING. I SMEARED ON A HUNDRED POUNDS OF...

WE REALLY DON'T NEED TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR USELESS STUNTS.

HEY, IT WASN'T USELESS! IT WAS DISGUSTING, BUT IT WASN'T USELESS!







I'M HERE IN THE NORTH LOT WHERE IT WAS SEEN LAST NIGHT.



I'M HERE ON THE WEST SIDE WHERE I HOPE IT WON'T BE SEEN AT ALL TONIGHT...



EYAAH!!



DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT THE MONSTER. I JUST WANTED TO OBSERVE YOUR METHODS.

THEN I USED UP A PERFECTLY GOOD SCREAM FOR NOTHING-- I'VE GOT PLENTY LEFT, THOUGH.

DEEP IN CONVERSATION ABOUT HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT, PETER DOESN'T NOTICE SOMETHING OOZING PAST HIS OUTPOST.



YES, I'VE DEVELOPED KEEN NERVES AND HEIGHTENED SENSES AS A GHOSTBUSTER...



NOTHING GETS BY ME.

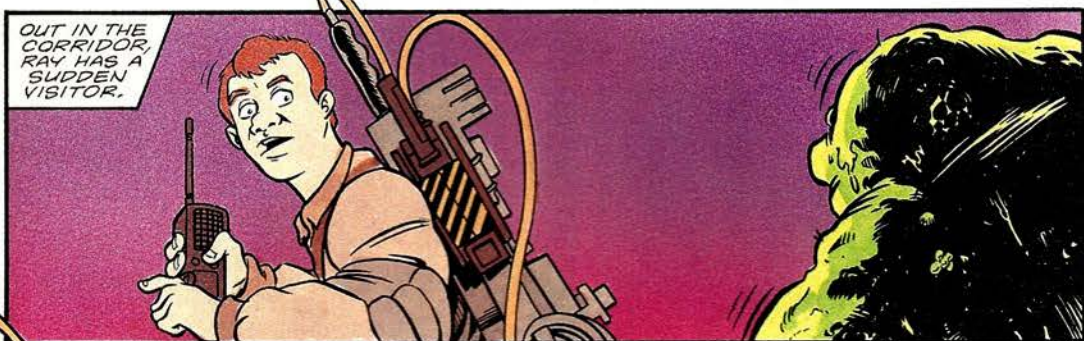
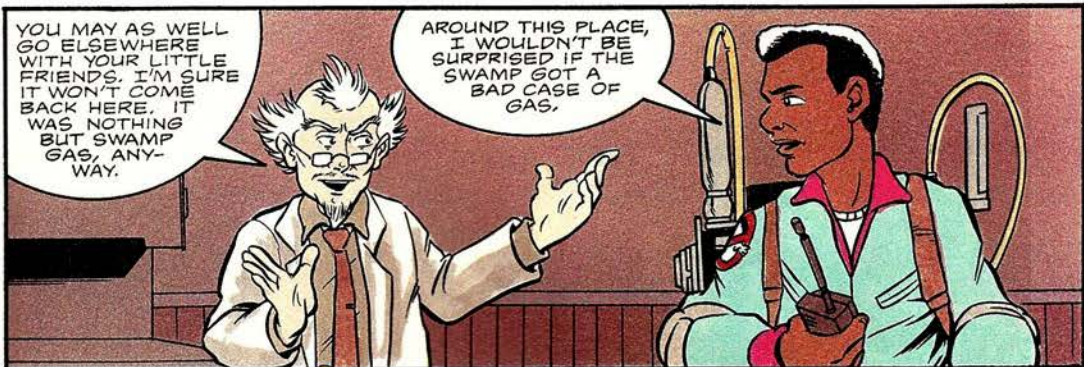
SOUTH GATE



WINSTON, YOU READ ME IN THE LAB?



LOUD AND CLEAR. DOCTOR DIABLO WANTS ME TO LEAVE. I THINK IT'S MORE THAN JUST BEIN' AFRAID I'LL BREAK HIS TEST TUBES. HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT ALL THIS, I'M SURE OF IT.





HE LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE WHO FELL ASLEEP IN A GAR-BASE TRUCK!

I SHOOT PIECES OFF BUT IT KEEPS RE-FORMING.



I CAN'T LET THIS THING INTERFERE WITH THE HOS92 PROJECT.

COMBAT WILL BE REVOLUTIONIZED, AND WHILE WARFARE MAY NOT BE MUCH BETTER, IT WILL CERTAINLY BE DIFFERENT.



SO, BACK AGAIN! BUT I'M READY FOR YOU THIS TIME!



SPLAT!



WHAT A MESS! IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING IT ATE! HEH, HEH.



BUT THE CREATURE QUICKLY RE-FORMS FROM ANOTHER TRASH BARREL.

NO! I REFUSE TO BE CONSUMED BY MY SUCCESS! I DON'T BELIEVE IN POETIC JUSTICE!

GIANT FULL COLOR PIN-UP



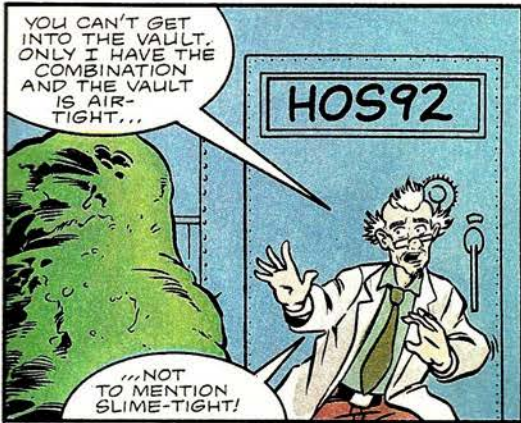
**THE REAL
GHOSTBUSTERS™**







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YOU CAN'T GET INTO THE VAULT. ONLY I HAVE THE COMBINATION AND THE VAULT IS AIR-TIGHT...

HOS92

...NOT TO MENTION SLIME-TIGHT!



ONE CAN ONLY IMAGINE DOCTOR DIABLO'S SURPRISE WHEN THE CREATURE WALKS THROUGH THE SCIENTIST, ABSORBING AND THEN RELEASING THE DISTURBED INVENTOR



NOW I'M A REFLECTION OF YOUR SOUL!

HOS92

SPOOP

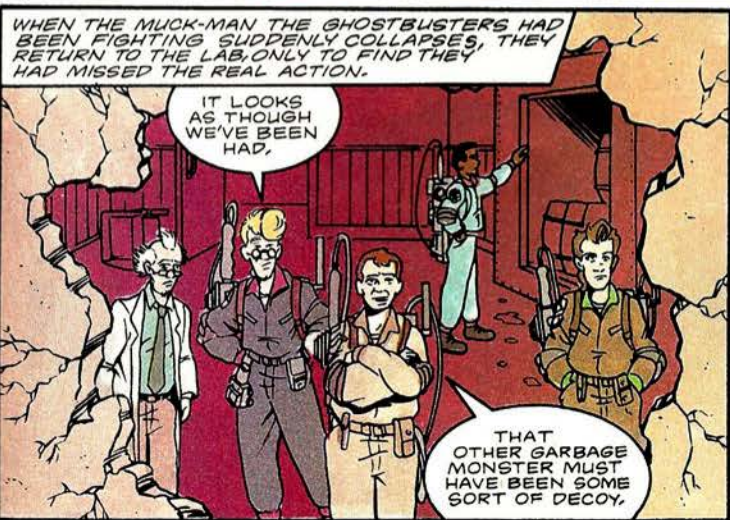
PING

YOU CAN'T REFLECT WHAT ISN'T THERE!

IT'S THERE, BUT IT'S A NIGHTMARE.

CRANK

GOODBYE, DIABLO, UNTIL LATER.



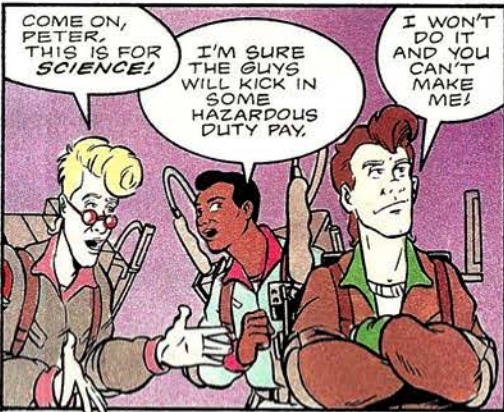
WHEN THE MUCK-MAN THE GHOSTBUSTERS HAD BEEN FIGHTING SUDDENLY COLLAPSES, THEY RETURN TO THE LAB, ONLY TO FIND THEY HAD MISSED THE REAL ACTION.

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE'VE BEEN HAD,

THAT OTHER GARBAGE MONSTER MUST HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF DECOY.



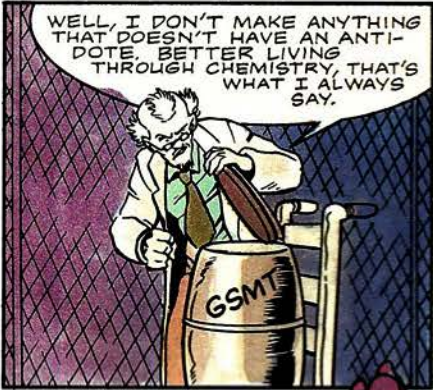
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, WHAT WE NEED NOW IS A PLAN!





THAT THING WALKED ALL OVER ME! IF I WANTED TO BE TREATED LIKE THAT, I'D WORK IN A BUSINESS SERVING THE PUBLIC!

IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE JUNK MAN WAS CREATED BY THE HOS92, ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO WORK ON INANIMATE MATTER. JUST POST-ANIMATE MATTER.



WELL, I DON'T MAKE ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T HAVE AN ANTIDOTE. BETTER LIVING THROUGH CHEMISTRY, THAT'S WHAT I ALWAYS SAY.



THIS SHOULD COUNTERACT THE EFFECTS OF THE HOS92 AND REALLY POLLUTE THE SOUP! OOH, I JUST LOVE MY JOB. I REALLY DO!



THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE NOISE SOMEONE WOULD MAKE IF THEY WERE BEING FLUSHED DOWN THE TOILET. I HOPE IT'S JUST THE SWAMP PASSING GAS.

BOY, I REALLY HATE THE WAY THIS STUFF SQUISHES BETWEEN MY TOES.

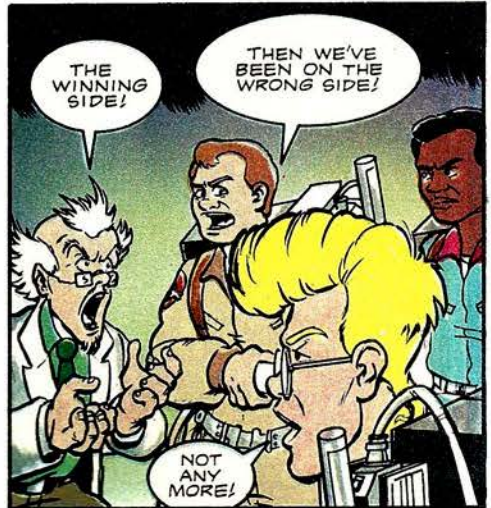


DON'T WORRY, PETER, WE'RE BEHIND YOU!

YEAH, BUT LOOK WHAT'S IN FRONT OF ME.





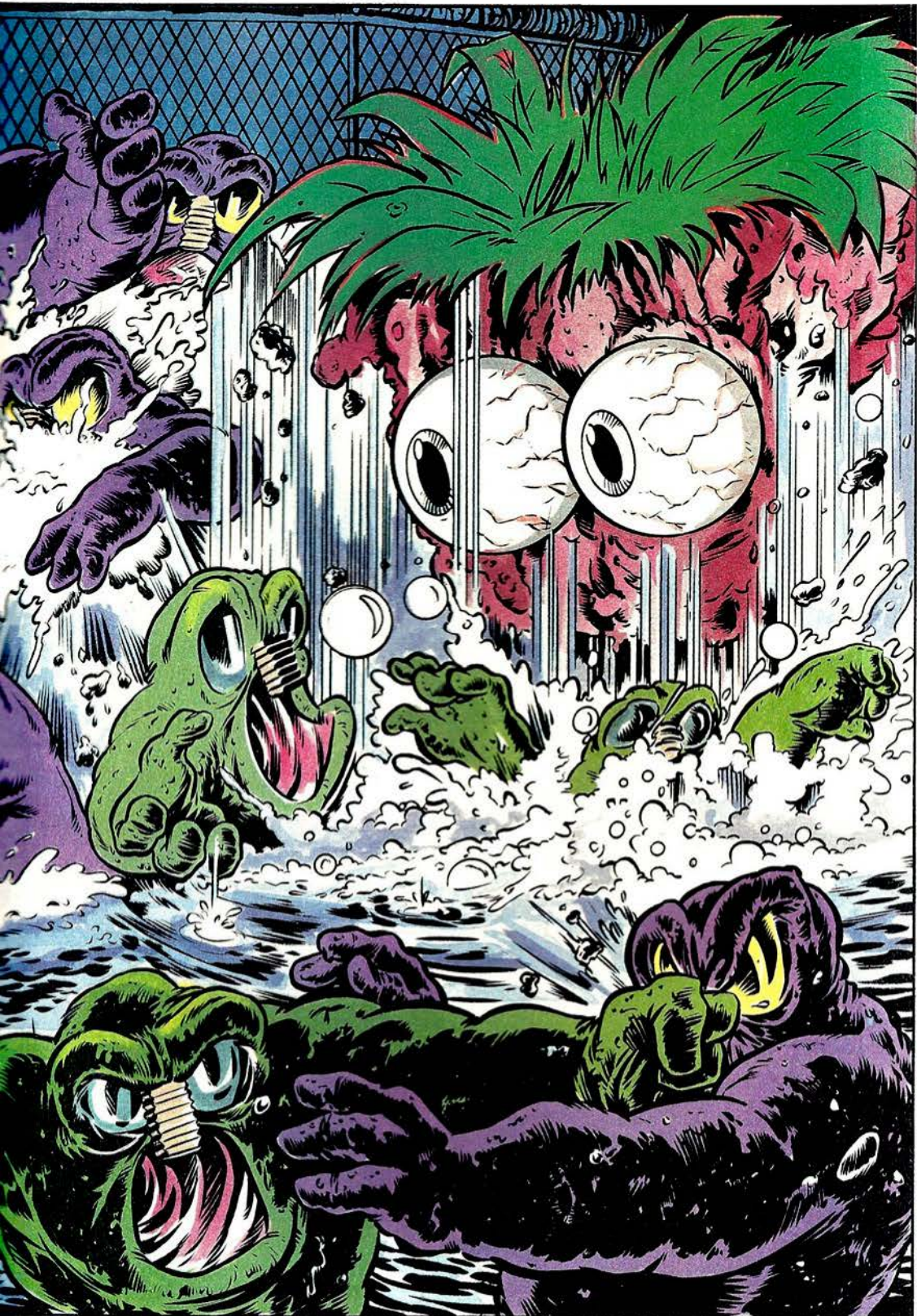




WHAT'S THAT THING OVER THERE?!

WITH ANY LUCK, IT'S A SPECIAL DELIVERY JUST FOR YOU!

BUT THE HOS92 COULDN'T HAVE CREATED THAT!



SPEED RACER

Speed Racer is a unique teenager who drives a special sports car called the *MACH 5*. This extraordinary sports car contains gadgets and features that enable him to drive over, through or under land and sea!

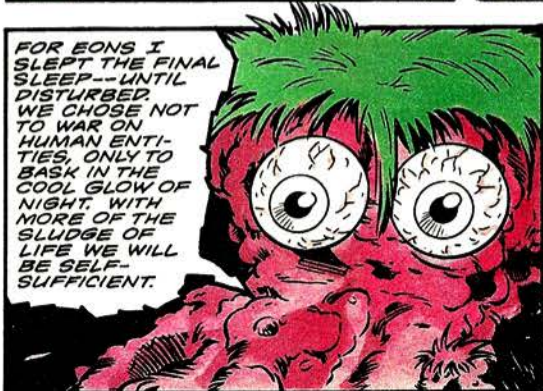
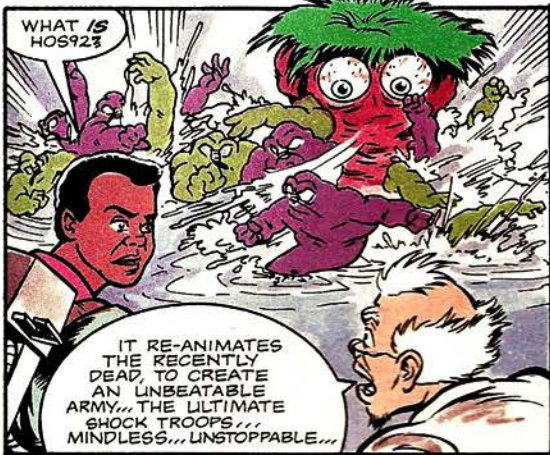
Follow the exciting monthly adventures of **SPEED RACER**, his girlfriend **TRIXIE**, his kid brother **SPRIDLE**, and **SPRIDLE'S** pet chimp, **CHIM-CHIM**, as they take you along for a ride in the fastest car and on the greatest adventures around the world!



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NOW
COMICS

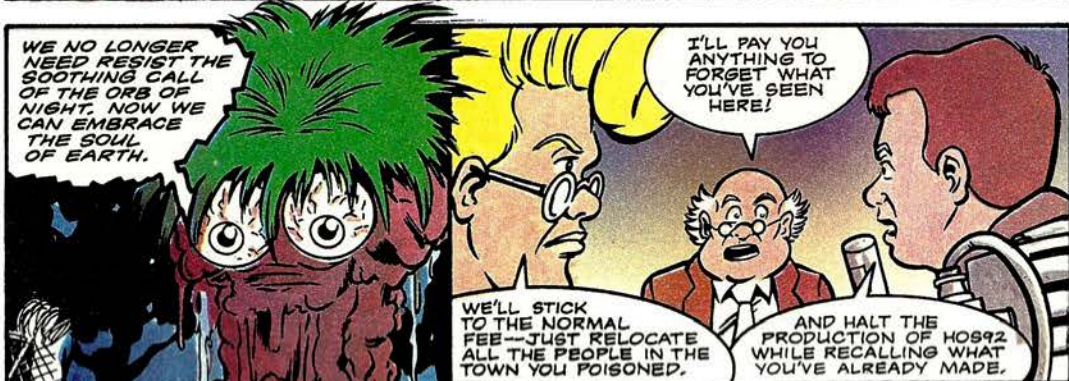




STOP THEM!
I HIRED YOU
GHOSTBUSTERS
TO PREVENT
THIS!

YOU HIRED US TO SOLVE YOUR
PROBLEM. THE SWAMP ISN'T YOUR
PROBLEM. DOCTOR DIABLO AND
HIS ETHICAL MORASS ARE
YOUR PROBLEMS.

YOU'RE EVEN
MORE SLIMEY ON
THE INSIDE THAN I AM ON
THE OUTSIDE! THAT MEANS
WE CHARGE YOU DOUBLE!
BEING OBNOXIOUS WARRANTS
EXTRA SERVICE CHARGES.



WE NO LONGER
NEED RESIST THE
SOOTHING CALL
OF THE ORB OF
NIGHT. NOW WE
CAN EMBRACE
THE SOUL
OF EARTH.

I'LL PAY YOU
ANYTHING TO
FORGET WHAT
YOU'VE SEEN
HERE!

WE'LL STICK
TO THE NORMAL
FEE—JUST RELOCATE
ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE
TOWN YOU POISONED.

AND HALT THE
PRODUCTION OF HOS92
WHILE RECALLING WHAT
YOU'VE ALREADY MADE.



BUT THIS IS
A GOVERNMENT
CONTRACT! I'M
APPEALING TO
YOUR PATRIOTISM!

PATRIOTISM
MEANS LOVE OF
COUNTRY, NOT
LOVE OF
MONEY.

YEAH,
OTHERWISE
I'D BE THE MOST
PATRIOTIC GUY AROUND!

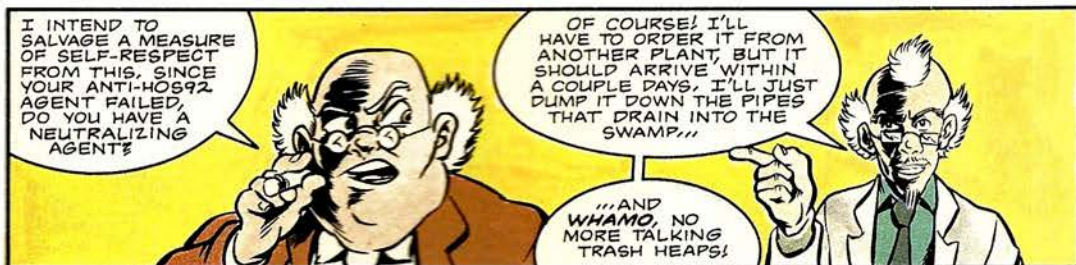
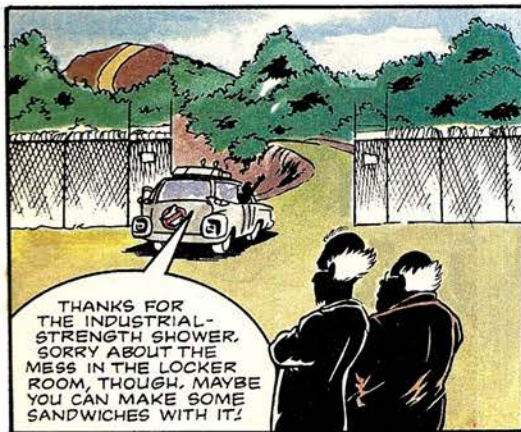
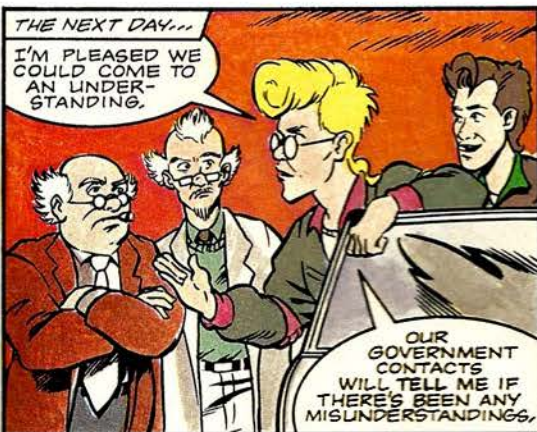


HOW CAN
YOU BE
IRREVERENT?
I'M OFFER-
ING YOU
A LOT OF
MONEY!

JUST BECAUSE WE
CAN BE RENTED DOESN'T
MEAN WE CAN BE
BOUGHT!

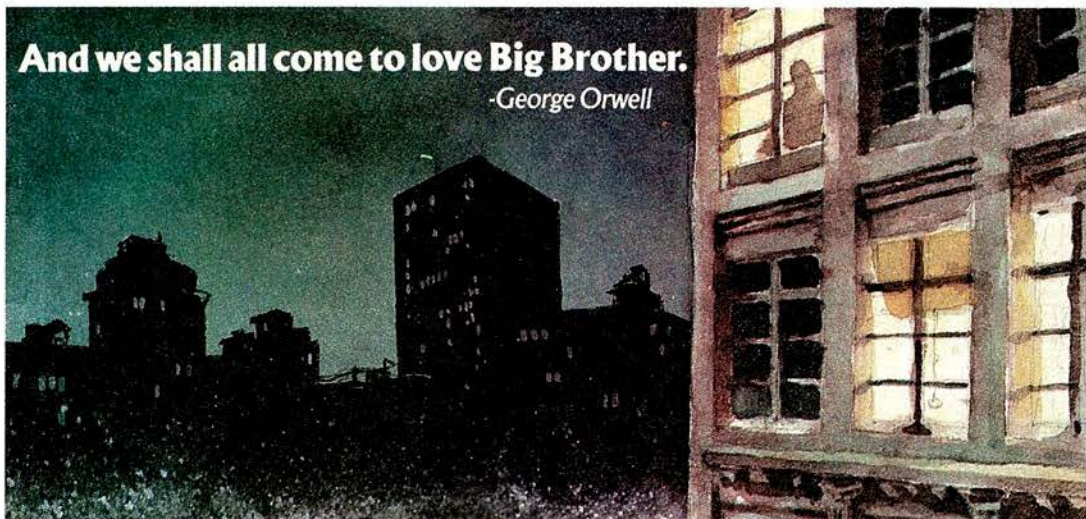


YEAH, WE HAVE
OUR SELF-RESPECT
... HOW MUCH
WERE YOU
OFFERING?



And we shall all come to love Big Brother.

-George Orwell



It's been three years since the deadly plague that almost annihilated the human race. The handful of people that survived fell into a totalitarian society built on power and greed.

Scott Baker for years had cursed his very existence as the undying monster he had become, and the corruption of Man that changed him that way.

The evils of Man have disfigured Scott Baker, but he will not allow them to deface the rights given this race by the universe itself.

Perhaps, this is his destiny...



THE ALL NEW RUST

Written by Katherine Llewellyn, Vincent Locke

Edited by Tony Caputo

Painted in watercolor by Vincent Locke

COMING THIS FALL

A MOST UNUSUAL COMIC BOOK EXPERIENCE

NOW
COMICS™

**Nominated for Best New Character by the
GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS**

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- SPEED RACER RACER-X ASTRO BOY
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 BRIGHT NIGHT RALPH SMART

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THE ORIGINAL
ASTROBOY

ON SALE MONTHLY!

COMICS

