

COMICS™

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THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS



Raff Stealy '88

NOW
ON SALE!

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 4

RACERX 3

By Steve Sullivan, Vince Argondezzi, Brian Thomas & Marcus David
Something is up at AZIMUTH CONTROL, and it definitely is not good!
MONTHLY!!

ASTRO BOY 14

By Ken Steacy & Andrew Pratt
The DINOSAURS have returned from the dead and are creating havoc throughout the world! But where have they come from!! PLUS: ASTRO GIRL!
MONTHLY!!

SPEED RACER 15

By Lamar Waldron, Joe Phillips, John Dell III, & John Vogel.
TRIXIE is mistaken as an Egyptian Princess! Can Speed save her, or will she be lost from him forever?
MONTHLY!!

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 4

By La Morris Richmond, Even Dorkin, Andrew Pratt and Ken Steacy!
A vault of an old gangster is opened to find: NOTHING! Or so they thought! Entitled: GHOST GANGSTERS!
MONTHLY!!

TERMINATOR 3

By Tony Caputo, Thomas Tenney, Jim Brozman, & Rich Powers.
The savage assault on the SARAH'S SLAMMERS homebase which ends in death, destruction, and a startling revelation!
MONTHLY!!

RALPH SNART 3

By Marc Hansen
It's RALPH SNART as the toughest ROBOHUNTER ever! A laugh a minute as RALPH shows everyone what he's made of!
MONTHLY!!

FRIGHT NIGHT 2

By Joe Gentile, Lenin Delsol & Katherine Llewellyn
The conclusion of the premiere issue's story which adapts the original FRIGHT NIGHT movie! NEXT ISSUE; An all new story!!
MONTHLY!!

SPEED RACER CLASSICS VOL. 1

By Tatsuo Yoshida, Nat Gertler & Cover by Mitch O'Connell
225 PAGES FOR ONLY \$3.75!!!!!! ALL NEW SPEED RACER STORIES!!
VOLUME ONE OF TWO (B&W)

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ILLUSTRATED BY

**KEN STEACY &
ANDREW PRATT**

LETTERED BY

ANDREW PRATT

COLORED BY

KEN STEACY

COVER BY

KEN STEACY

FUN IN THE SUN, WITH A PROTON GUN!

There's an annual comic book ritual which takes over the downtown San Diego Performing Arts Expo Center the first week of August.

This little extravaganza, called simply; The San Diego Comic Convention has publishers, dealers, artists, writers, etc., from all over the world. This year's convention (August 4-7), attracted over 10,000 people.

NOW COMICS was there, and we brought a few extra special treats. Within our three large booths was a replica of the ECTO-1 car used in the GHOSTBUSTERS movie. Along with this twenty-one foot automobile were three individuals dressed as Dr. Ray Stantz, Egon Spengler, and Janine Melnitz. And popping up every once and a while was a seven foot StayPuff Marshmallow Man!

Also at the NOW Comics' display was the art team for THE ORIGINAL ASTRO BOY comic, Andrew Pratt and Ken Steacy. These two talents are also the creators of THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS monthly cover art (notice they only work on books with three word titles). Brian Thomas

was also there, the inker for both THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS and RACERX. Brian will be working on the ASTRO BOY backup for a few upcoming SPEED RACER comics!

Jim Van Hise, the man behind the stories in THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS was there occasionally to sign some autographs. Jim informed the crowd of the upcoming GHOSTBUSTERS movie sequel which is scheduled to go into production this November, with a 1989 release date!

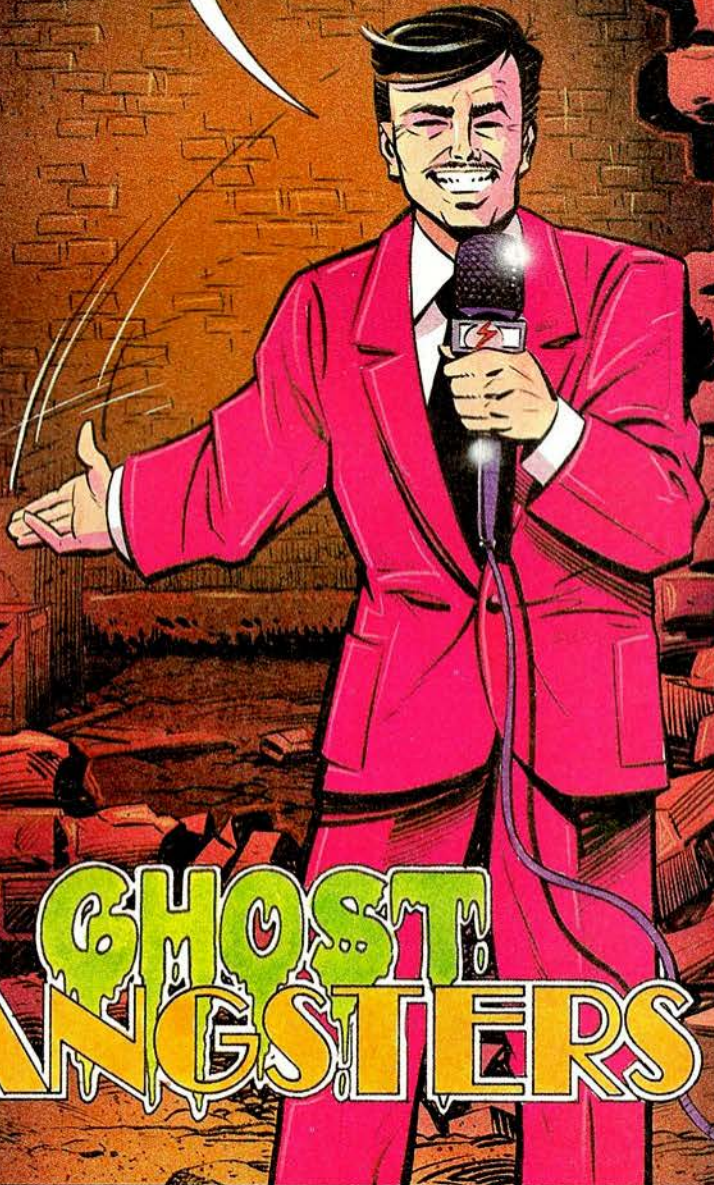
Usually, these conventions consist of answering thousands of questions, signing autographs and staying on your feet for twelve hours. It can be quite tiresome, but at this one, after seeing the hundreds of children (and adults), with eyes full of wonder and joy as they walked up to our booth made it much easier on our feet!

Tony Caputo
Publisher
Editor 'n Chief



BEHIND ME LADIES AND GENTLEMEN IS A GREAT **HOLE**...
... NOW AS YOU ASK YOURSELVES "WHO CARES", ALLOW ME TO INFORM YOU THAT THIS PARTICULAR **HOLE** IS A DOORWAY...
... TO THE PAST.

ON THIS SPOT SIXTY YEARS AGO BEFORE THIS WALL WITH THE **HOLE**, WAS ERECTED, LED A PATH TO THE PRIVATE "**SECRET**" VAULT OF CAESAR 'THE UNTOUCHABLE' CALDONI; THE EASTCOAST'S MOST POWERFUL **CRIMEBOSS**.



GHOST! GANGSTERS

IN THIS PROGRAM WE SHALL EXPLORE THE ROARING TWENTIES AND THE WORLD OF CAESAR CALDONI...



... CULMINATING WITH THE OPENING OF HIS SECRET VAULT.



NEW YORK CIRCA 1928, THE AGE OF THE SPEAKEASY. A TIME WHEN THE COUNTRY WAS DRY...
... UNLESS YOU KNEW HOW TO GET WET.



IT WAS TIMES LIKE THAT CAESAR CALDONI BUILT HIS VAST VICE EMPIRE, BRUTALLY ELIMINATING ALL OF HIS COMPETITION ...



... ALL EXCEPT FOR...

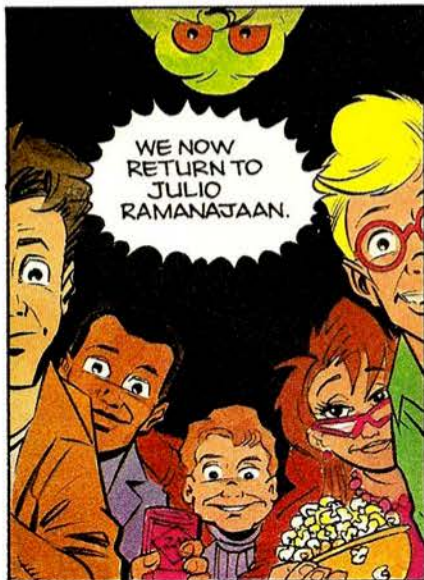
... WEBBY 'THE TRACTOR' MCBAIN, WHOSE OWN VICE EMPIRE BORDERED ON CALDONI'S OPERATIONS...
THE TWO FOUGHT A CONSTANT NEVER-ENDING BATTLE TO CONTROL THE FLOW OF ALCOHOL.



WHEN I RETURN, THIRTY SECONDS FROM NOW, THE WHOLE SHOCKING STORY OF CALDONI AND MCBAIN SHALL BE REVEALED...



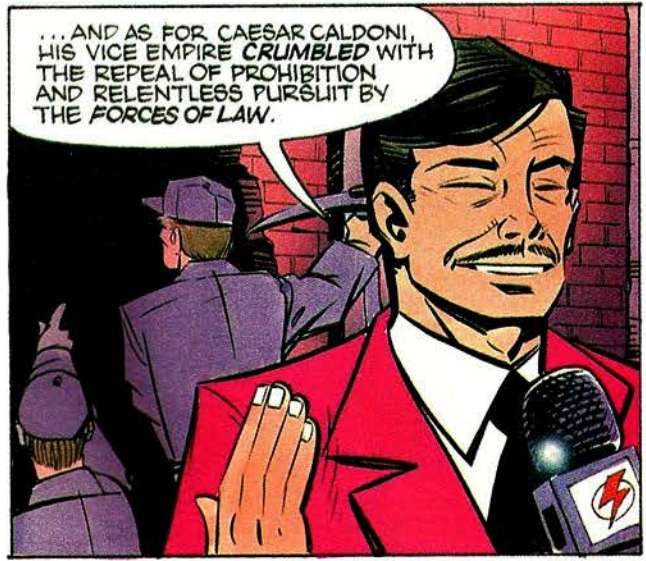
... THROUGH METICULOUSLY ACCURATE RE-INACTMENTS AS TOLD BY ACTUAL EYEWITNESSES OF THE VICE AND CORRUPTION PERPETUATED BY THEM...





ONE HOUR LATER

WEBBY'S CAREER ENDED ABRUPTLY WHEN HE AND HIS MOB MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN...



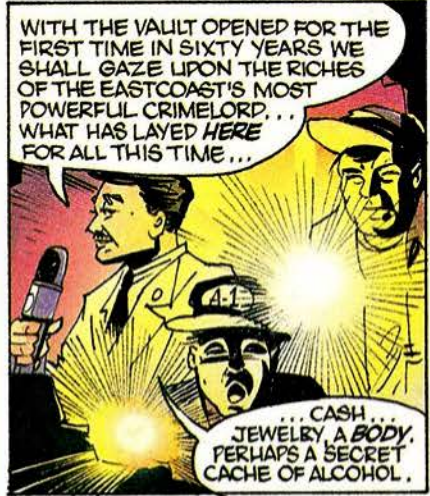
... AND AS FOR CAESAR CALDONI, HIS VICE EMPIRE CRUMBLED WITH THE REPEAL OF PROHIBITION AND RELENTLESS PURSUIT BY THE FORCES OF LAW.



HEY, MR. RAMANATAAN, WE'RE THROUGH! WE'RE THROUGH!!

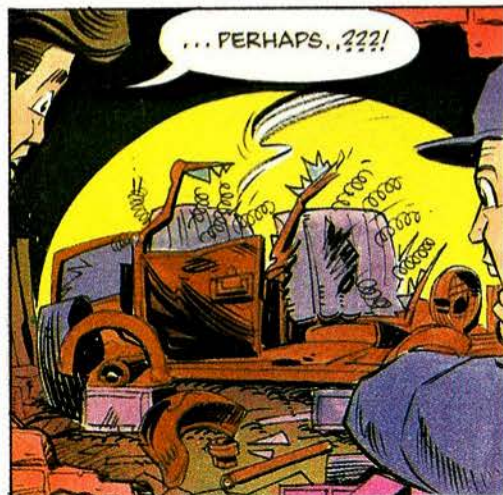


AS YOU CAN HEAR FROM THEIR JUBILANT CRIES THE WORKCREW HAS FINALLY BROKEN THROUGH THE WALL OF CALDONI'S VAULT.



WITH THE VAULT OPENED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SIXTY YEARS WE SHALL GAZE UPON THE RICHES OF THE EASTCOAST'S MOST POWERFUL CRIMELORD... WHAT HAS LAYED HERE FOR ALL THIS TIME...

... CASH... JEWELRY A BODY. PERHAPS A SECRET CACHE OF ALCOHOL.



... PERHAPS... ???!



QUICK, CUT.

WHAT ?!

CUT!!











JUS' LOOKIT 'EM RUN !!

YEAH, AN' DEY NEVA' KNO' WHA' HIT 'EM !!



BLASTDEM !!
BLASTDEM !!

VENTALATE 'EM !!



... JUS' LIKE
OL' TIMES.



OKAY, BOSS,
WHERE
TO NOW ?

YOU
MUGS MAKE
GOOD OUR
GETAWAY ?!

YEAH, WEB !!



GOOD, THEN WE MOVE
TO HIT CALDONI !!

SHOULDN'T WE
LAY LOW FOR
A TIME, BOSS ?

NO !!
CALDONI TRIED
TO PUT A HIT ON
ME !...

AND WHEN YOU
HIT WEBBY MBAIN,
YOU HIT TO BE HIT
BACK... HARD!



MEANWHILE AT GHOSTBUSTER CENTRAL

"YA NO GOOD BLIM !!"

HUINH ?

SNORE!

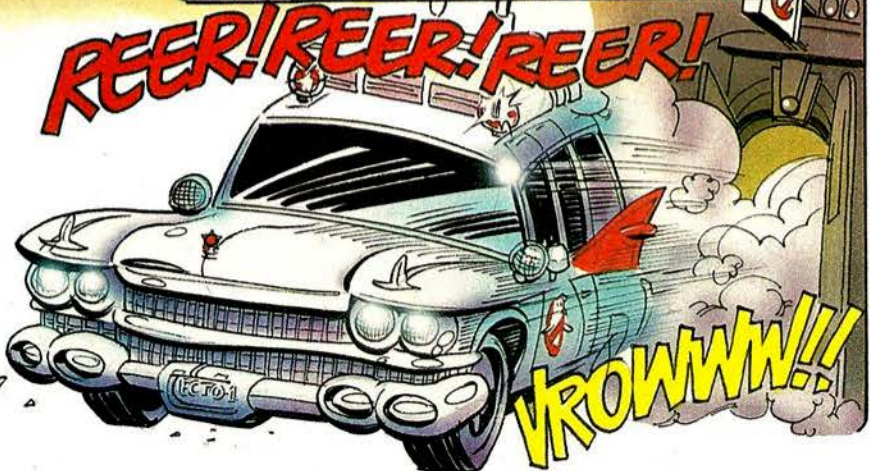
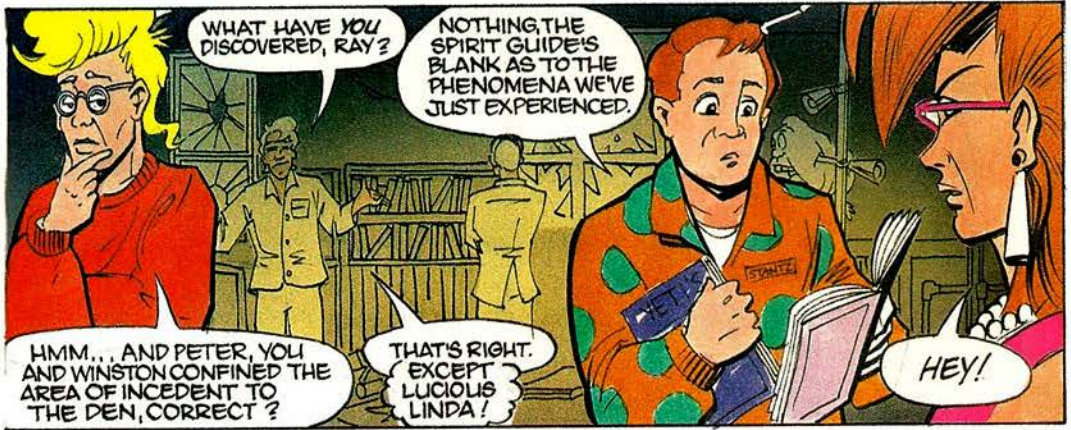
GOOP -
NUT & PEANUT
TREAT













EGON, WHY'D WE COME *HERE*? THOSE GHOSTGANGSTERS COULD BE ANYWHERE!

WINSTON'S GOT A POINT, EGON.

THINK ABOUT IT. THE GHOSTGANGSTER APPARITIONS MANIFESTED THEMSELVES AFTER...

... CALDONI'S VAULT WAS OPENED, RIGHT?

EXACTLY. LOOK AT THE VAULT ITSELF. IT HAD BEEN RESEALED BUT NOW IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN BROKEN OUT OF... THE P.K. ENERGY HERE IS THE SAME AS AT THE STATION. ONLY *HERE* IT'S STRONGER.

SOMETHING WAS TRAPPED IN *HERE* FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

I THINK I KNOW WHO IT IS!

W. McBAN

EGON'S GOT A POINT, WINSTON.

IF ONLY WE HAD A CLUE WHO *IT* IS...

JANINE TO ECTO-1, I'VE GOT UPDATES ON GHOSTGANGSTERS SIGHTINGS...

GO AHEAD, JANINE!

THEY WERE LAST SEEN ATTACKING AN ABANDONED BUILDING ON FARCHER AVENUE!

IT ALL ADDS UP NOW...

ALL THE PLACES ATTACKED BY THE GHOSTGANGSTERS WERE ONCE OWNED BY CAESAR CALDONI...

SO THESE GHOSTGANGSTERS REALLY HAVE A PURPOSE, A MOTIVE?

RIGHT! WEBBY MCBAIN'S PURPOSE, *REVENGE*, *REVENGE* ON CAESAR CALDONI!

WITH MCBAIN'S PREVIOUS SIGHTINGS CORRELATED WE CAN DEDUCE THAT WEBBY AND HIS MOB WILL NEXT STRIKE AT... *STEP ON IT, WINSTON!!*

WHAT IS IT?! WHAT IS IT?!

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL! IF RAY AND I ARE CORRECT, IT WILL BE MCBAIN'S NEXT AND FINAL POINT OF RETRIBUTION. THE PLACE WAS ONCE THE MAJESTIC HOTEL...

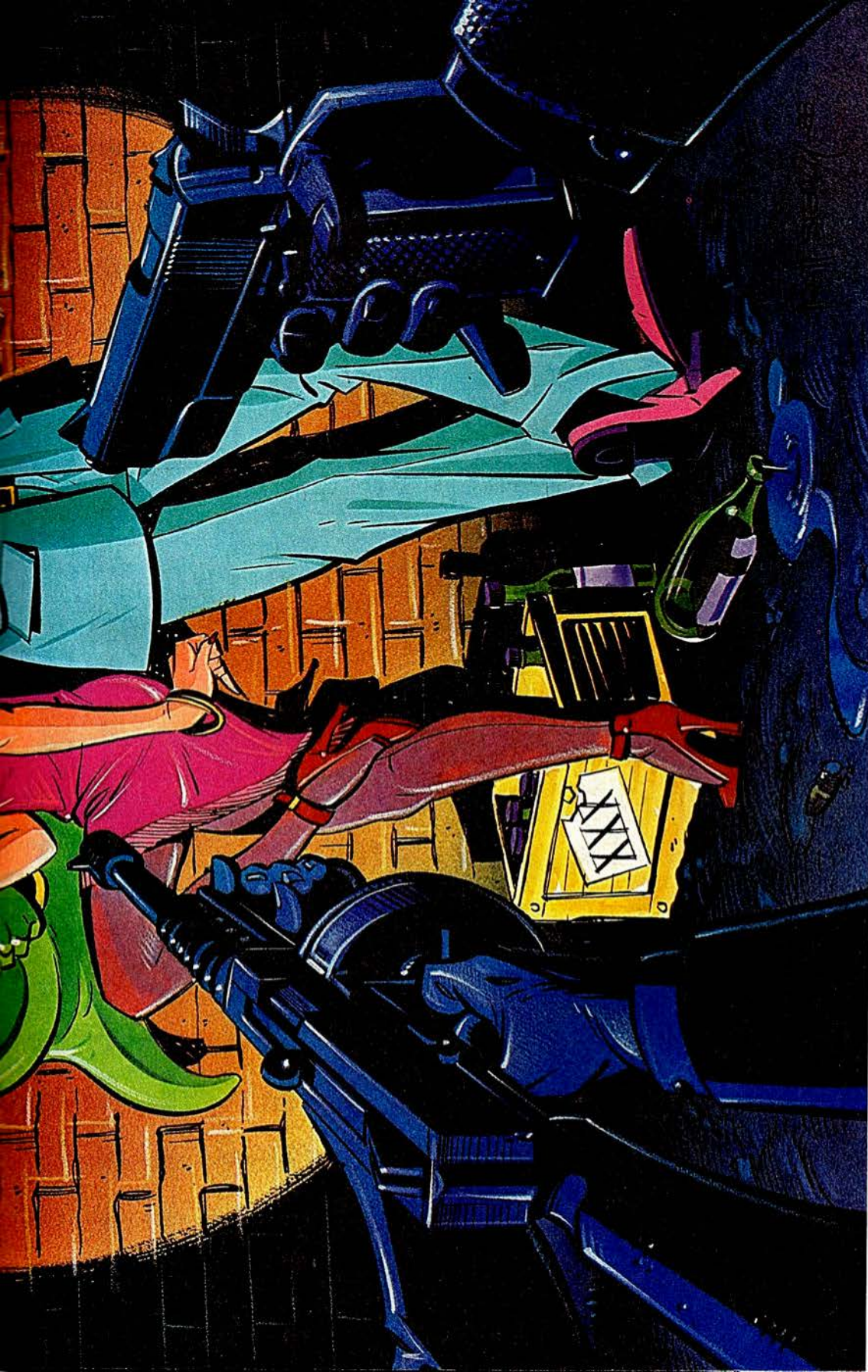
... AND HEADQUARTERS OF CAESAR CALDONI! THEY THINK IT *STILL* IS!

GIANT FULL COLOR PIN-UP



**THE REAL
GHOSTBUSTERS™**





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"I JUST HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!"



SO HE SAYS, "WHAT'LL WE FIND?... MONEY?... ALCOHOL?... A BODY?!"

OKAY, SO WHAT WAS INSIDE?

NOTHING.

NOTHING?!

JUST GARBAGE AND BITS OF A JUNKED CAR!



CALDONI'S VAULT WAS REALLY HIS GARAGE...?

HEH, HEH, YEAH!

WOW, WHAT A RIP!

I GAVE UP ON RAMANAJAAN WHEN HE DID THAT SPECIAL REPORT ON THIS CHILD THAT HAD FALLEN INTO ANOTHER DIMENTION IN HER ROOM...



OH, RIGHT! THEY DISCOVERED THE KID WAS HIDING IN THE CRAWLSPACE... EATING!!

HUH?!

HA, HA, HA! SHE GOT STUCK THERE LIKE A BIG OL' POOH BEAR!



IT LOOKS LIKE OUR HEROS ARE TOO LATE...

STEP ON IT, ROD! GET US IN GOOD!

VRAAAAAW!

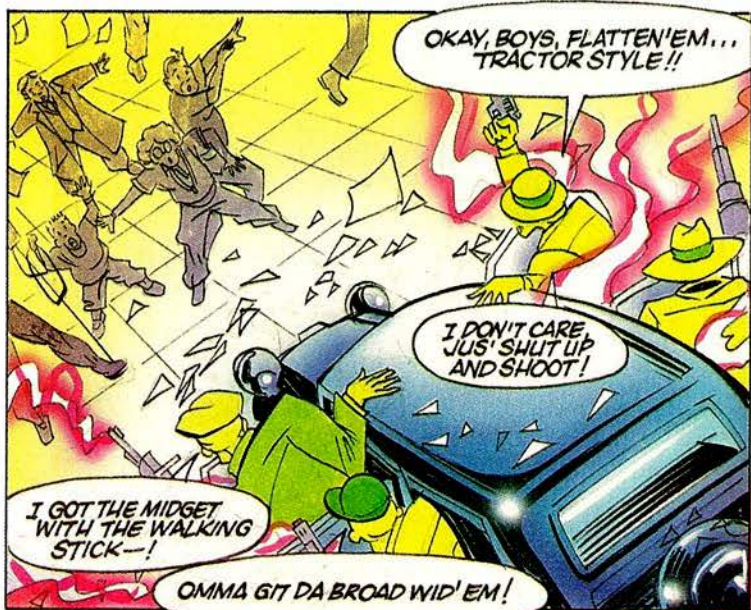


LET'S SHOW THESE GOONS HOW TA HIT!!!

BZAT ATAT ATAT!

SKREEEEEE!

MOMMA !!



OKAY, BOYS, FLATTEN'EM... TRACTOR STYLE!!

I DON'T CARE JUS' SHUT UP AND SHOOT!

I GOT THE MIDGET WITH THE WALKING STICK--!

OMMA GIT DA BROAD WID' EM!



CLEAR US A GOOD PATH, BOYS, I DON'T WANT NO TROUBLE GETTIN' CALDONI! REMEMBER, HE'S MINE!!



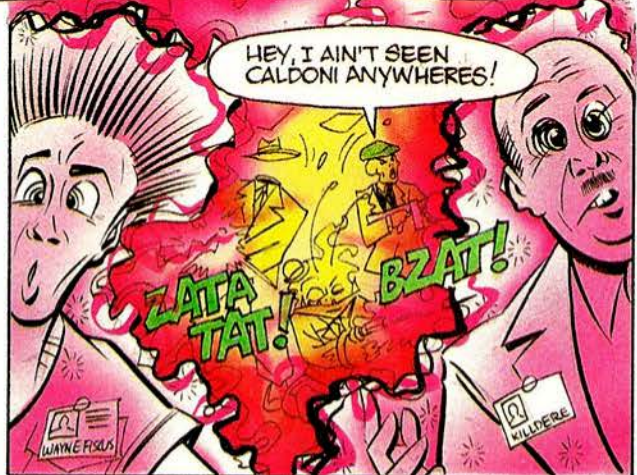
NO PROBLEM, BOSS!

BZAT
A-TAT
A-TAT!

YEAH, WE GOT PLENTY TA KEEP US BLISY!

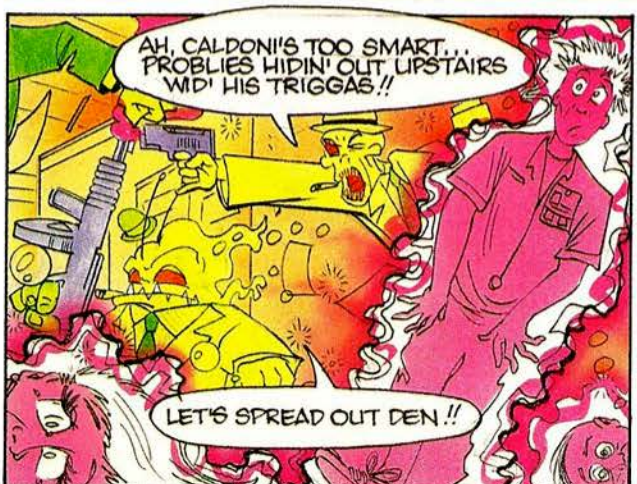
UM HMM!

ZAT
ATAT!



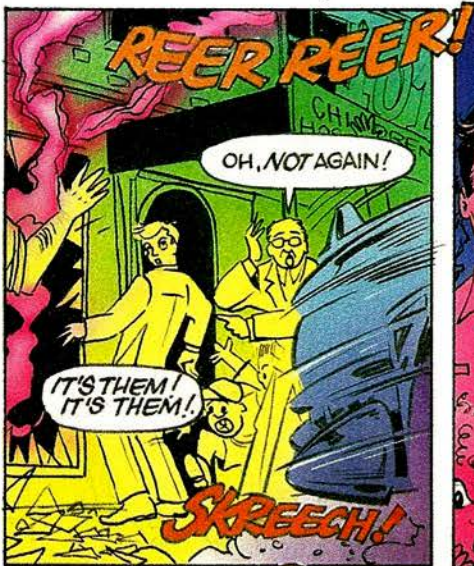
HEY, I AIN'T SEEN CALDONI ANYWHERE'S!

ZATA
TAT!
BZAT!



AH, CALDONI'S TOO SMART... PROBLIES HIDIN' OLT UPSTAIRS WID' HIS TRIGGAS!!

LET'S SPREAD OUT DEN!!

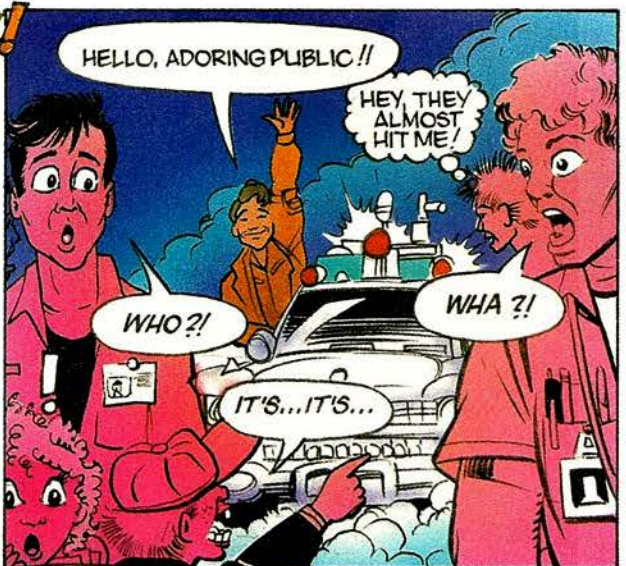


REER REER!

OH, NOT AGAIN!

IT'S THEM!
IT'S THEM!

SKREECH!



HELLO, ADORING PUBLIC!!

HEY, THEY ALMOST HIT ME!

WHO?!

WHA?!

IT'S...IT'S...



**YAY!
WHEE!**

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS!!

YAHOO!

**KRASH!
ZATATAT!**

ZATATAT!



DR. VENKMAN !!

HUNH?!



RAMANAJAAN, YOU PEST... WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

CAREFUL, DR., WE'RE ON THE AIR.

WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ON THE SITUATION INSIDE THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL...

...WHERE THESE SO-CALLED "GHOSTGANGSTERS" ARE ON THE RAMPAGE, AND DO YOU SEE ANY CONNECTION TO THEIR APPEARANCE WITH MY GANGSTER PROGRAM?



YOU WANNA KNOW WHAT I THINK? REALLY?

YES.

CENSORED!

WHAT?/ HOW DARE YOU!

EASY! SO BACK OFF, MAN, I GOT A JOB TO DO!



THIS PLACE IS IN DEFINITE NEED OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

HEY, LOOK OUT! I'M A SICK KID FOR CRIPES SAKE!



WHICH WAY TO THE GHOSTS?!

THIRD FLOOR, THIS WING!!

THANKS!



GOOD GOING, WINSTON.

'S NO PROBLEM.

WELL, EGON?

HER INFORMATION IS VALID... THERE DOES SEEM TO BE A HEAVY CONCENTRATION IN THAT VICINITY BUT, THE SIGNAL FLUXUATES... POSSIBLY REGISTERING MOVEMENT...



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, EGON?

I'M DETECTING AN UNUSUALLY HIGH AMOUNT OF PSYCHO-KINETIC ENERGY...

...IT'S GIVING ME SOME DIFFICULTY IN LOCKING IN ON THE GHOSTGANGSTER'S WAVE-LENGTH. I CAN'T TELL WHERE TO START OUR SEARCH—!



SHRIEK!

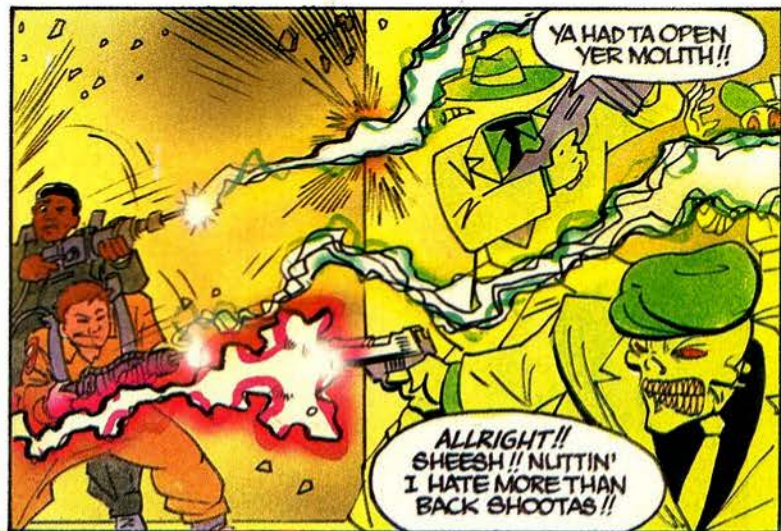
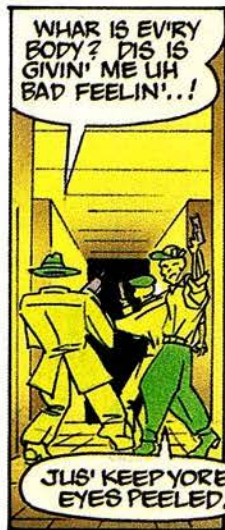
EXCUSE ME, NURSE!!...



...THIS IS STILL VERY ODD. I MUST INVESTIGATE THIS FURTHER.

WELL, ANY IDEAS HOW TO DO THIS?

YEAH, I'VE GOT A BEAUT!











WAIT, I DON'T SEE WEBBY!!
WHERE'S THE "TRACTOR"??
THAT SOUND?? THOSE LIGHTS??



IT'S THE GHOST
CAR AND IT'S
COMING
STRAIGHT
AT ME!!



YEA!!...IT'S DA BOSS!!

EGON, LOOK
OUT!!

YAAHHH!

VRAWWW!



...WHAT HE SAID...
...WHAT HE SAID...

CALDON SAID...
...I'M...



EGON...
HURRY, THE TRAP...
OPEN IT!!
IT'S YOUR ONLY
HOPE!!



KLAK!



YAAHHH!!

BAAP!



...I'M... DEAD!

In a world crowded with amaturish, low-quality comic books, one dares to be different...

"Unlike so many 'humor' comics, this one was actually funny."

Charles Dixon
Author of *Airboy*

"... I read Ralph Snart last night - It's changed my life..."

Roger Bain
Centel Cable

"...witty, often nastily funny..."

Mark Shainblum
Graffiti Magazine

"Marc Hansen is very funny both as an artist and as a writer."

Don Thompson
Comics Buyer's Guide

"... New Comic book a campus winner... Ralph Snart Adventures originally planned for a three-issue series, but with a take off so fast that it will be published monthly!..."

National Association of College Stores
CAMPUS MARKET REPORT

"Ralph Snart has the potential to be a true classic, and it's already funnier and more well done than at least 95% of the competition. As it stands now, Ralph Snart is the kind of all-too-rare comic book that you can actually show to non-fan friends and know they'll enjoy it. And that's the ultimate praise for any comic..."

Steve Monaco

Ralph Snart Adventures™ A Monthly "funny" Book.

From NOW Comics

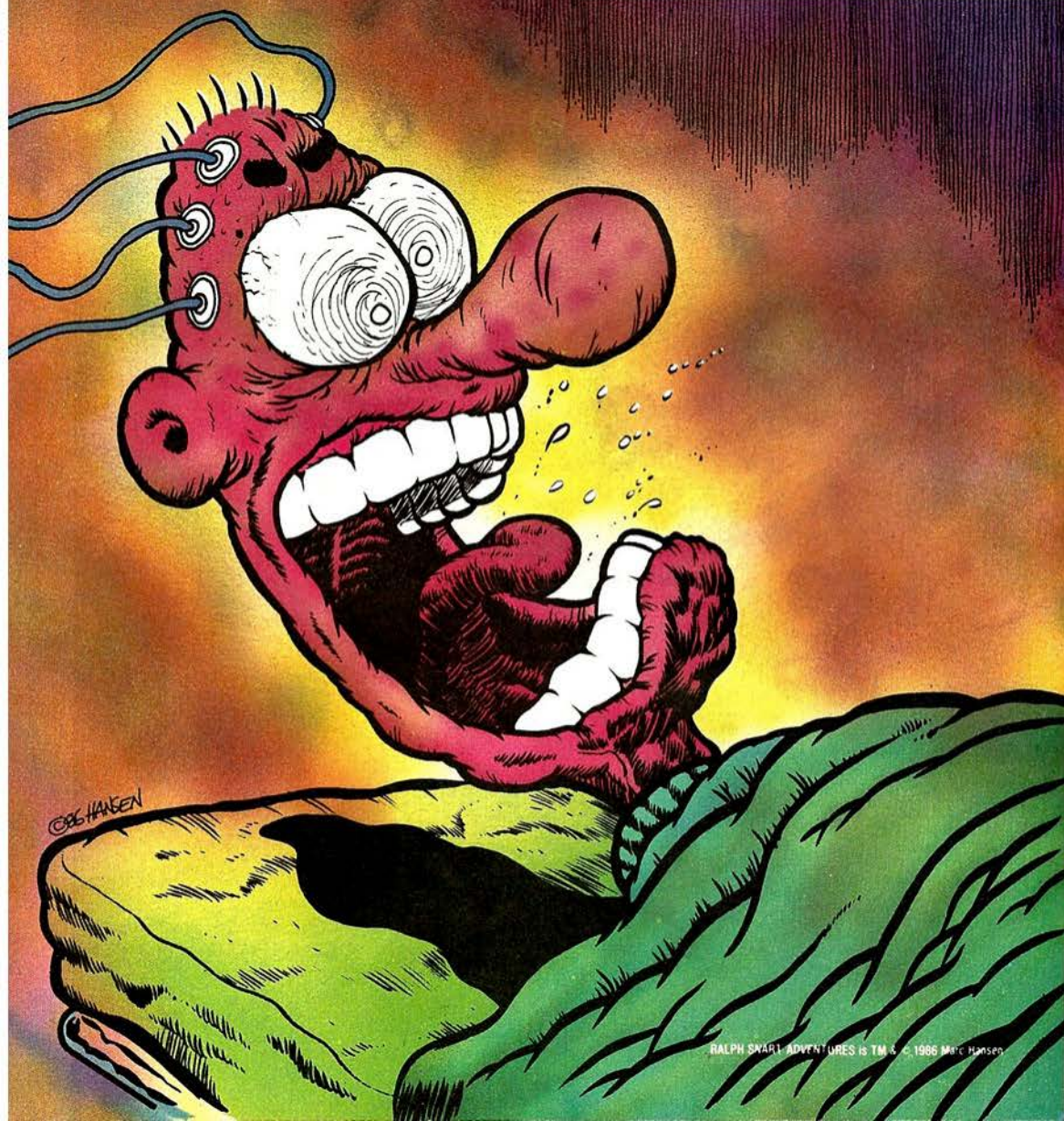
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RALPH SNART IS HOT!

Ralph Snart is not your ordinary, everyday comic book character. Deep in the dark recesses of his imagination lurks the overwhelming urge to explore the outer boundaries of the ridiculous and the outrageous!

Join him each month, and discover it too!

HOW
COMICS





NOOO...
NOT THE DARK
AGAIN...
I DON'T LIKE
THE DAAARRRK!!

NOOO!
YAHGH!
AAAHHH!
SHHH-
LORK!



ZZZLOONK!



EASY, HINH
PETER?



"AT THE HOSPITAL,
THE EXCITEMENT
IS OVER AND THE
CLEAN UP BEGINS."



"WHILE ABOVE IT,
IN A UNLUSED
PENTHOUSE..."

"IT'S JUST THE BEGINING."



SO YA SAY SOME FEDS
WITH FANCY HEATERS
NABBED OL' WEBBY?

THAT'S WHUT
HAPPEN, BOSS.

WELL, I'M NOT SURPRISED,
AFTA OUR CONVERSATION, WEBBY
DID LEAVE HERE IN A STATE!



BUT I CAN'T BEGRUDGE
OL' WEB. HIS ANTICS
ALWAYS MADE DE
PLURFECT DEECOYS!

SO, BOSS, WE'S
GO ON AS YOU
PLANNED?



HECK YEAH!!
AIN'T NUTTIN' CHANGED!

YOUSE GIVIN'
LIS DA WORD
DEN'?



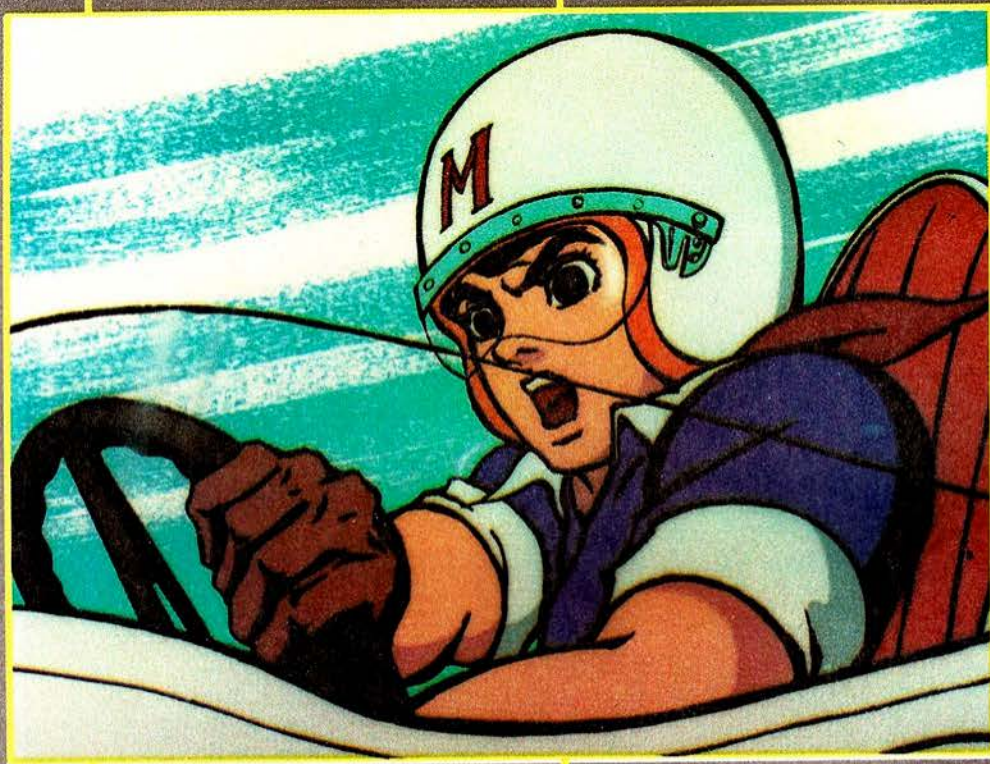
YEAH, PASS IT AROUN' TA
ALL THE LIDDERS...

... TAMARROW WE
START TA TAKE ...
NEW YARK!

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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THE ORIGINAL
ASTROBOY

ON SALE MONTHLY!

COMICS

