

COMICS

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6

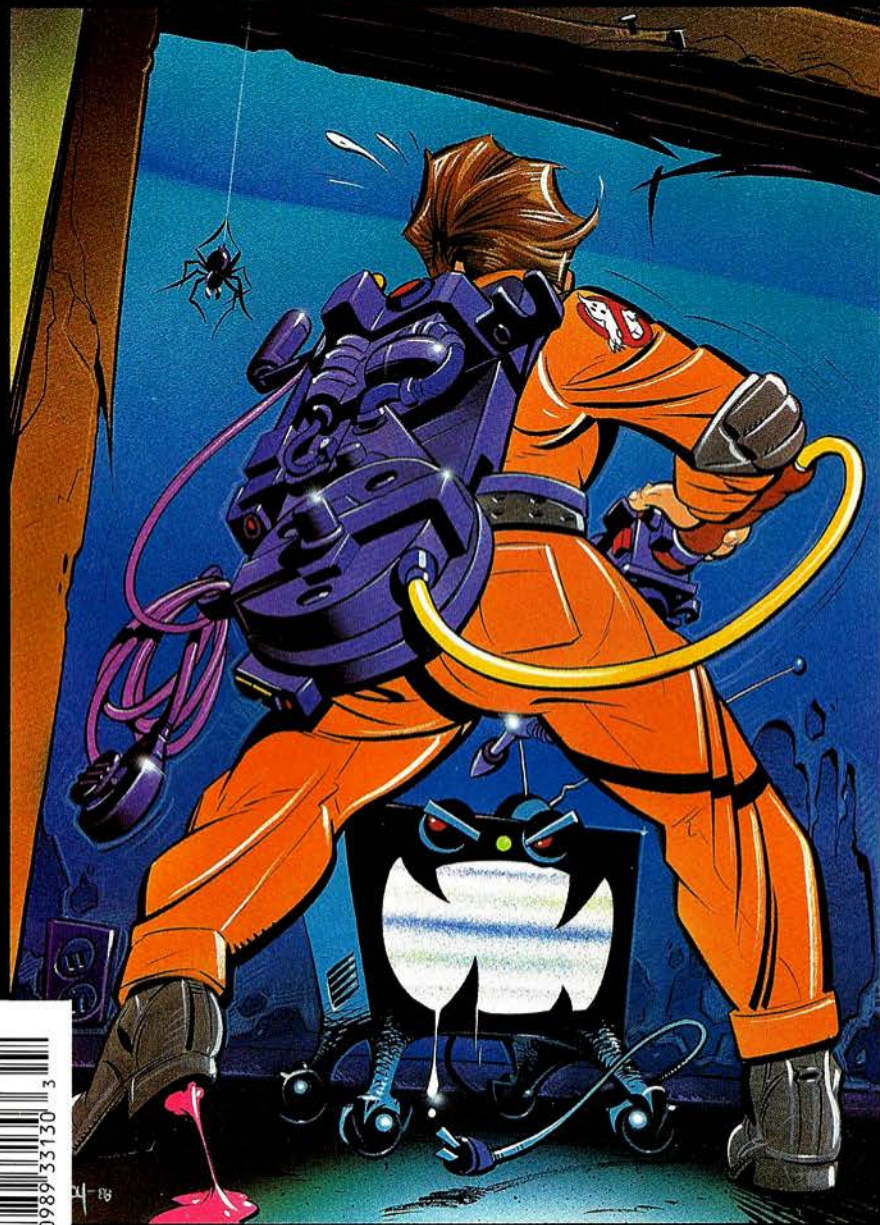
FEB

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# THE REAL

# GH~~OST~~BUSTERS



# NOW ON SALE!

## RACER-X 5

By Steve Sullivan, Vince Argondezzi, Brian Thomas & Marcus David

*Something is up at AZIMUTH CONTROL, and it doesn't look like Chase Dresden! RACER-X against a deformed magnetic monster!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## ASTRO BOY 16

By Ken Steacy & Andrew Pratt

*The DINOSAURS have disappeared but what horrific new creature does ASTRO have to battle now! It's not what you expect!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## SPEED RACER 17

By Lamar Waldron, Joe Phillips, John Dell III, & John Vogel.

*It's the return of THE CAR ACROBATIC TEAM! And what are they doing in Afical?*

**MONTHLY!!**

## THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 6

By James Van Hise, John Tobias, Brian Thomas, & Rich Powers.

*This issue involves VIDEO NASTIES! What happens when ghouls and ghost decide they don't like television programming? They make their own!!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## TERMINATOR 5

By Jack Herman, Thomas Tenney, Jim Brozman, & Rich Powers.

*Part Two of a TERMINATOR in paradise. After being savagely attacked by a black panther, the TERMINATOR decides that the Island's human savages must all die!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## RALPH SMART 5

By Marc Hansen

*RALPH SMART has finally done it now. He's been cursed by HELL, INC. and the old Prince of Darkness is a bit peeved at RALPHIE'S joyous partying in the eternal firey pit!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## FRIGHT NIGHT 4

Jim Van Hise, Doug Murphy & Katherine Llewellyn

*ALL NEW STORY!!!! Charley and Peter bump into the monstrosity called THE OCTOPUSMAN!!*

**MONTHLY!!**

## RUST 1

By Katherine Llewellyn, and Vince Locke.

*The story of Scott Baker. Not an ordinary man, but a monster!*

**MONTHLY!!**

# THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 6

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS VOL. 1 No. 6 FEB 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.

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KEN STEACY

## SPEED RACER...THE MOTION PICTURE!

Guess who's been reading your letters in SPEED READERS? None other than the Producer of the SPEED RACER movie himself!

That's right NOW fans, your letters have sparked a little interest in Hollywood!

In a long and pleasant conversation, The Producer (I promised to keep his name a secret as yet), mentioned how intrigued he was with all the letters about SPEED RACER, especially the fans' recommendations for the stars of his live-action motion picture!

And all along you guys didn't think anyone was listening...?

He mentioned to me that he'd like to make this a top box-office hit, with effects and action like such movies as TOP GUN, and with big name stars! He wants to hear more from you! Who would YOU like to see be *SPEED RACER? REX RACER? TRIXIE? POPS?* Well, there comes a time in everyone's life when they can make a difference, and NOW fans...this is it! Let's not have a Michael Keaton (Starring as the Caped-Crusader in the upcoming BATMAN movie) on our hands, right?**SO WRITE!** Pick up a pen, pencil, typewriter, word processor, or even a crayola! Get those recommendations in here!!

You have a voice that we want to hear from! I want to see a letter of recommendation from every single NOW FAN! Let's make a difference! Let's help in producing the coolest, hippest, totally awesome (?) movie to hit the big screen ever!!

The address is NOW COMICS, c/o SPEED READERS, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1540, Chicago,

IL 60604.

And for those of you who haven't been following SPEED READERS, here are the fan favorites so far...

As SPEED RACER we have only three highly recommended stars from thousands of fans. They are Charlie Sheen, Tom Cruise, and Johnny Depp.

As POPS RACER we have only a few so far. They are Dick Butkus, Mike Ditka and William Conrad.

As MOM RACER we have Amanda Page, and Gates McFadden (Doctor Beverly Crusher, from STAR TREK, THE NEXT GENERATION)

As TRIXIE (Speed's girlfriend), we have as fan favorites so far, Alyssa Milano (of ABC's Who's The Boss?), Tracey Gold, and Valerie Bertinelli.

As RACER-X (A.K.A. Rex Racer), the fan favorites include Tom Cruise, Kyle MacLachlan, and George Michael(?).

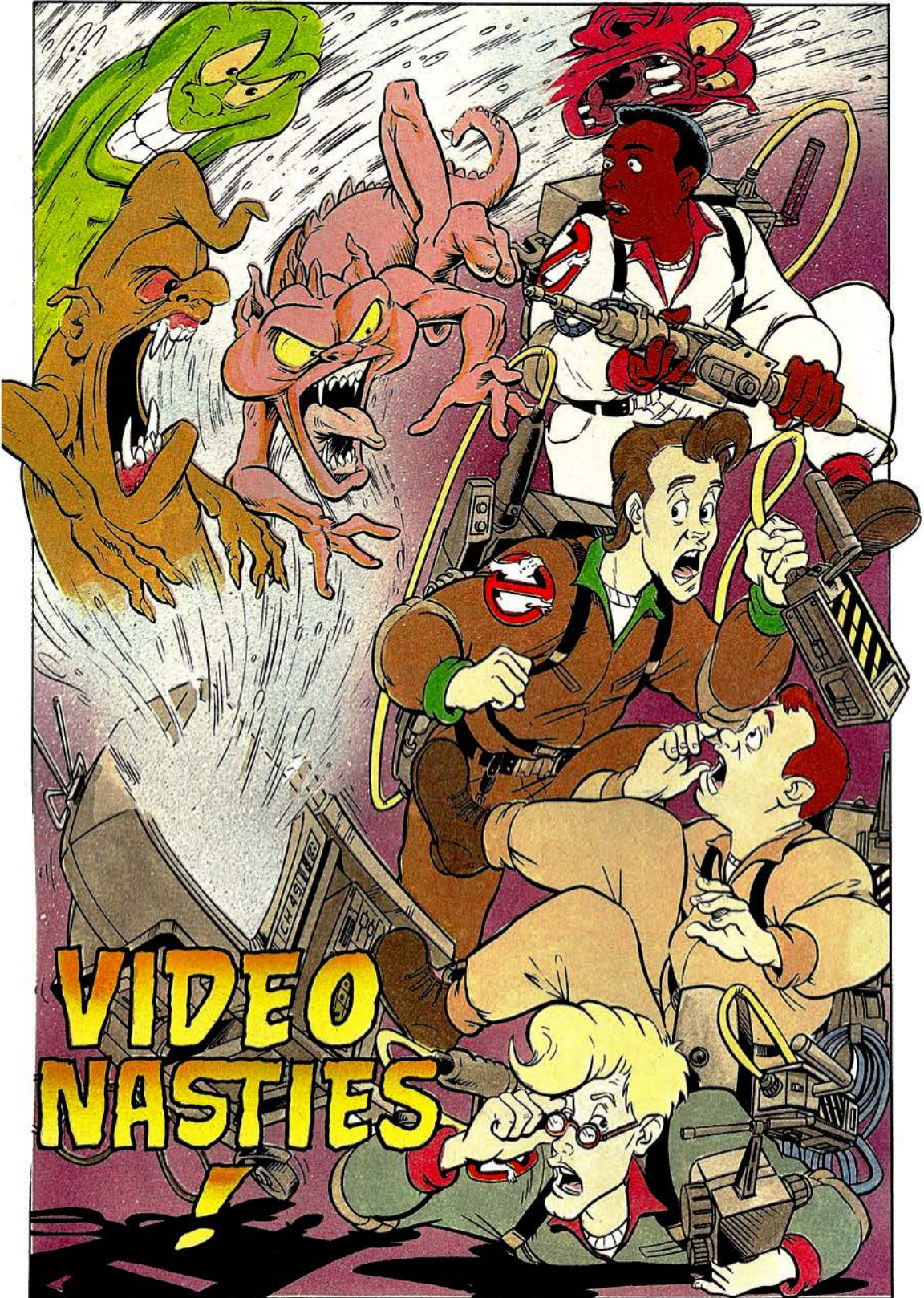
As SPARKY (Speed's mechanic friend), fan favorites are Pee Wee Herman, and Dweeb Zappa.

As far as Spridle (Speed's "chunky" younger brother), and his pet chimp CHIM-CHIM, we haven't had any recommendations.

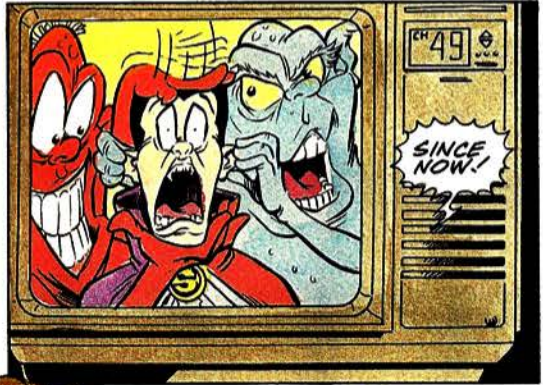
Any fresh ideas? *WE WANNA HEAR THEM!* So WRITE, right NOW!

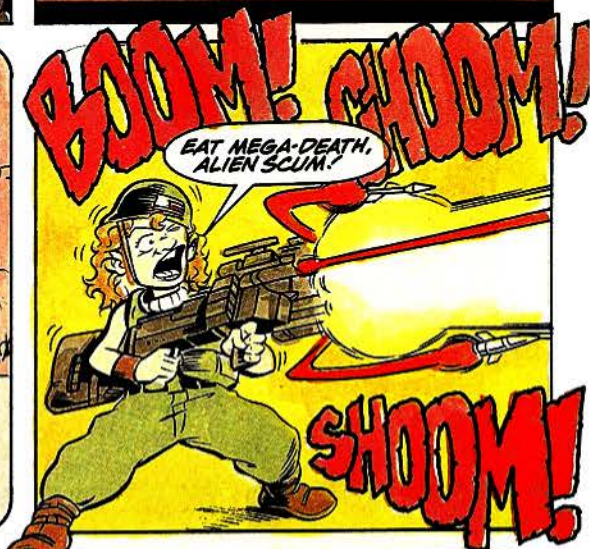
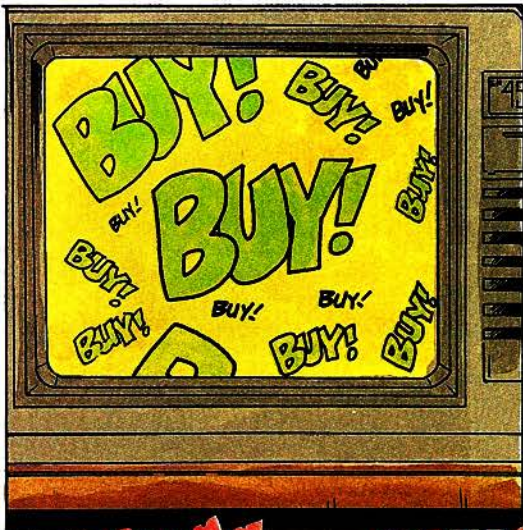
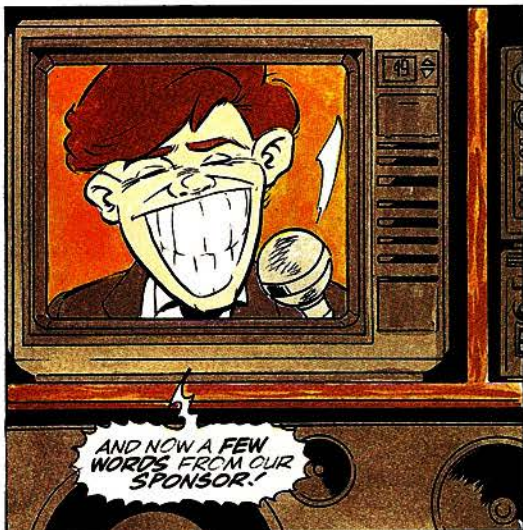
All letters will be passed along to the Producer! The future of SPEED RACER may be in YOUR hands!

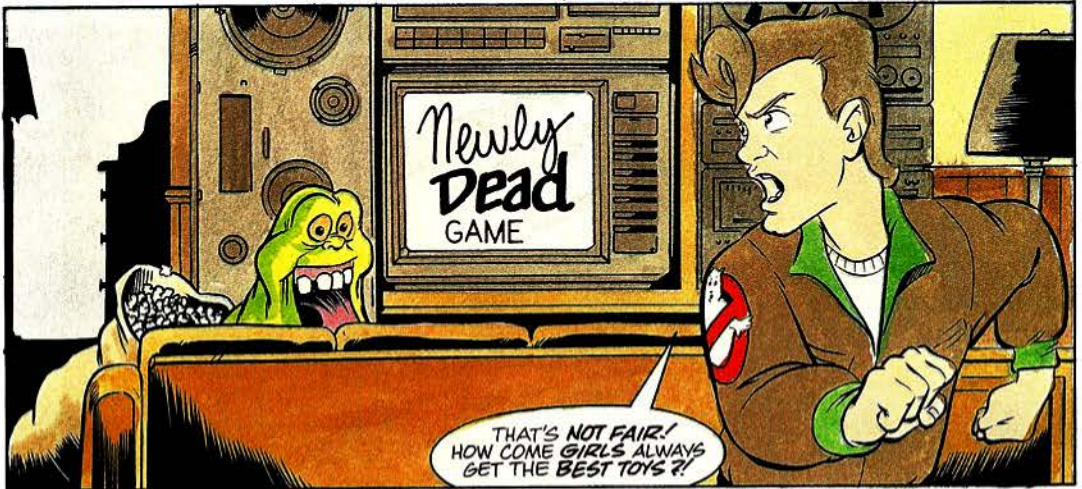
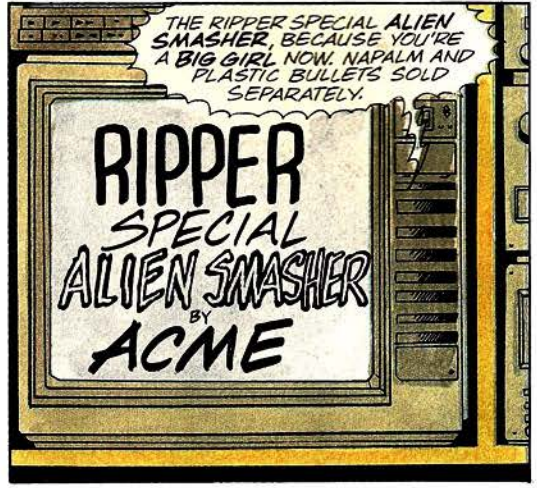
**Tony Caputo**  
Publisher  
Editor in Chief

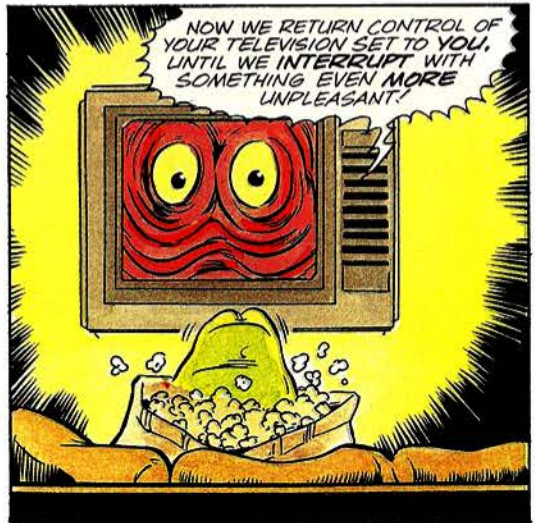
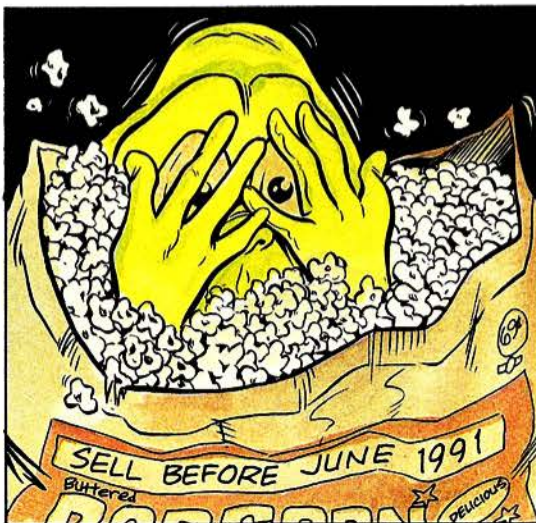
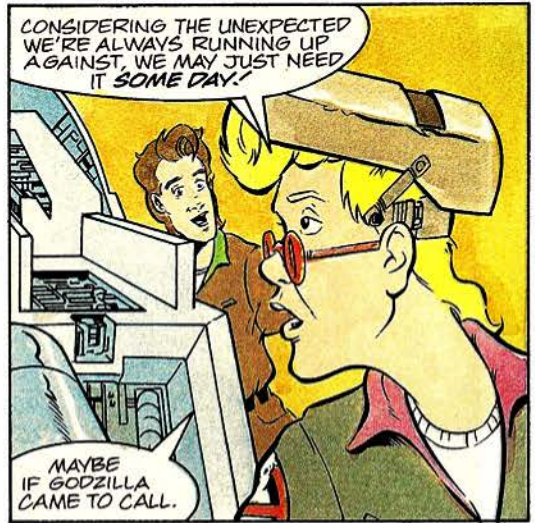
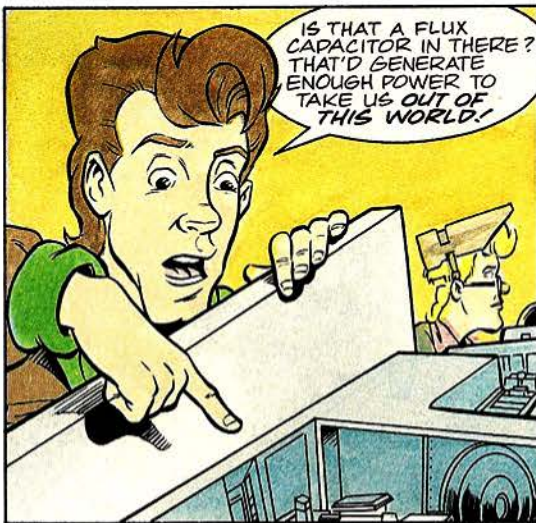


THIS IS COUNT SPROCKULA WITH THE SUPER-DUPER ALL-NITE THEATRE. TONIGHT IS THAT, er, SCARY THRILLER. ANCHORS AWEIGH!

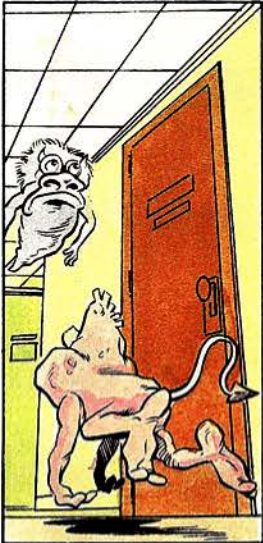








AND AT THE STATION WHERE THOSE PROGRAMS ARE ORIGINATING, THE REAL EMPLOYEES ARE TOO AFRAID TO EVEN FLEE THE BUILDING.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SCARED OF. AT LEAST YOU'RE DRESSED FOR THIS SURPRISE PARTY!



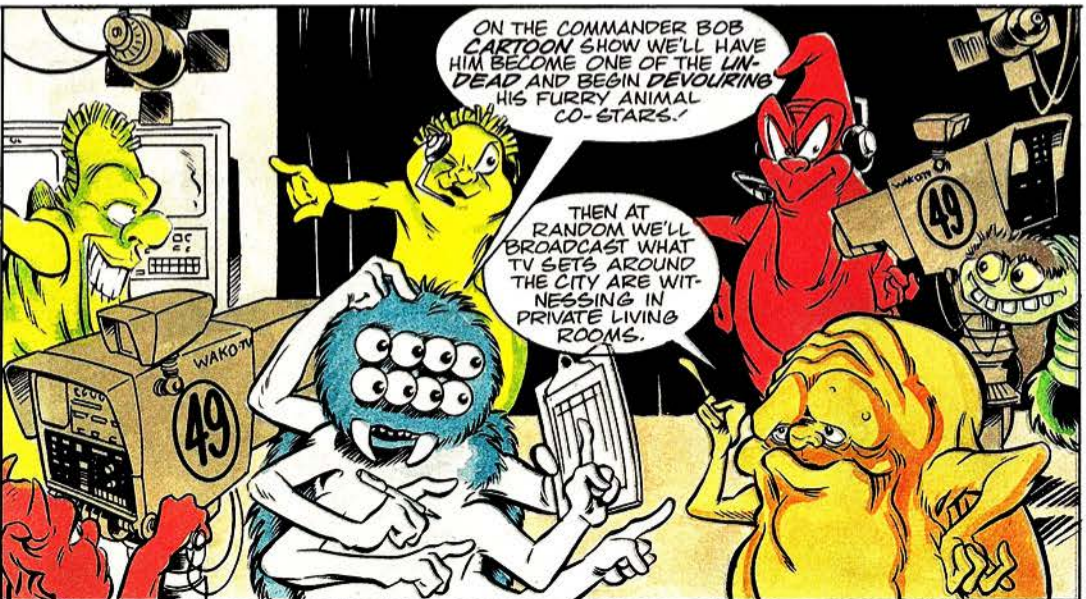
I WISH MR. WIELAGE WERE HERE! HE'D THINK OF SOMETHING!

Oh, RIGHT! THE MAN WHO'S NEVER AT A LOSS FOR THE WRONG THING TO SAY IS GOING TO CLEAR OUT A STATION OCCUPIED BY THE MONSTER SQUAD!

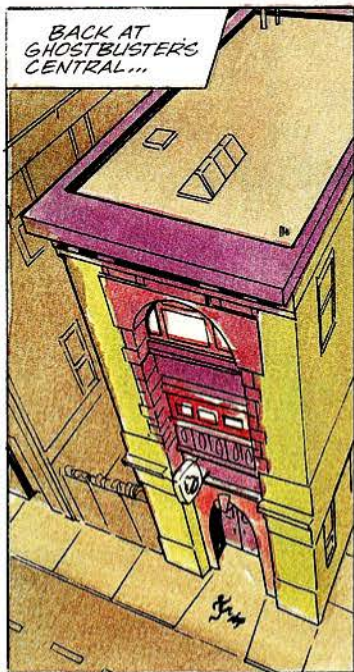


ON THE COMMANDER BOB CARTOON SHOW WE'LL HAVE HIM BECOME ONE OF THE LIVING AND BEGIN DEVOURING HIS FURRY ANIMAL CO-STARS!

THEN AT RANDOM WE'LL BROADCAST WHAT TV SETS AROUND THE CITY ARE WITNESSING IN PRIVATE LIVING ROOMS.







# BIG!

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VOLUME ONE

COMICS

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*This is SPEED RACER CLASSICS VOLUME ONE, a square bound reprint of the original Japanese black-and-white SPEED RACER comics!*  
**VOLUME ONE includes THE RETURN OF THE MALANGA X-3! THE DEADLY DESERT RACE! ANOTHER RACER-X/SPEED RACER CROSSOVER STORY, and a whole lot more!!**

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COMICS

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**Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery. Canadian orders please add \$3.00 for shipping and handling. Sorry, no foreign orders.**

SPIFFY SQUARE BINDING  
MAKES FOR NEAT BOOKSHELF  
STORAGE!

FANTASTIC WRAP-AROUND  
MITCH O'CONNELL COVER!

HEY!? JUST WHO IS  
THIS BLONDE GIRL?

YOWZA! WAIT 'TIL YOU  
SEE THE BACK COVER!!

HANDY COUPON IN CASE  
YOUR FAVORITE STORE IS  
SOLD OUT!!

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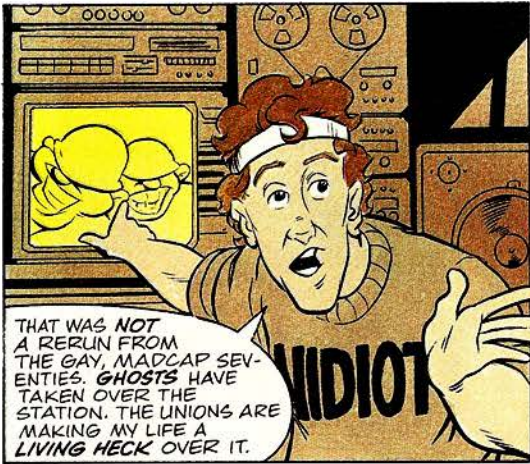
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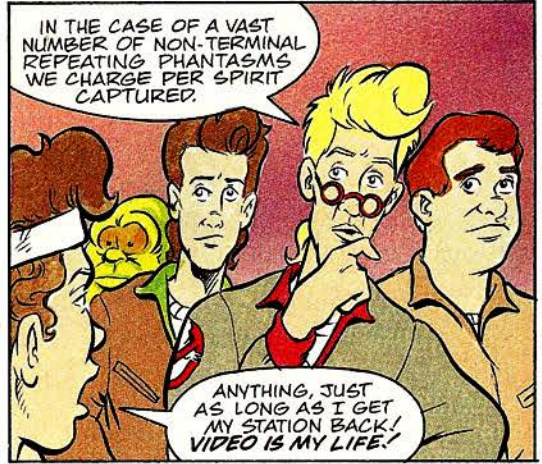
# SPEED RACER

CLASSICS





THAT WAS NOT A RERUN FROM THE GAY, MADCAP SEVENTIES. GHOSTS HAVE TAKEN OVER THE STATION. THE UNIONS ARE MAKING MY LIFE A LIVING HECK OVER IT.



IN THE CASE OF A VAST NUMBER OF NON-TERMINAL REPEATING PHANTASMS WE CHARGE PER SPIRIT CAPTURED.

ANYTHING, JUST AS LONG AS I GET MY STATION BACK! VIDEO IS MY LIFE!



YOU MEAN YOUR LIFE IS FLAT AND TWO-DIMENSIONAL?



BOY, CAN HE GET ANY LIGLIER?



HEY!

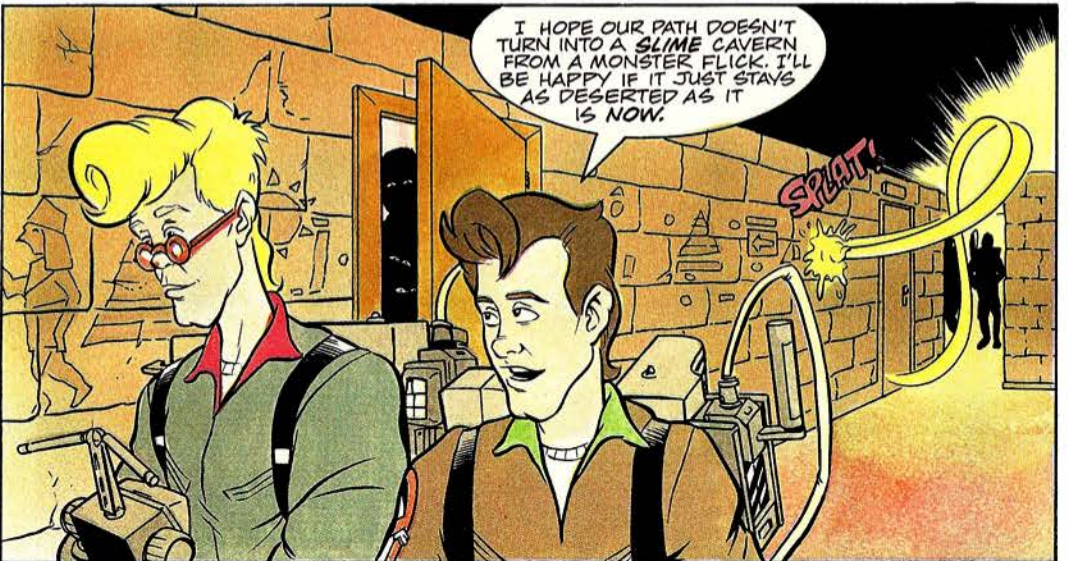
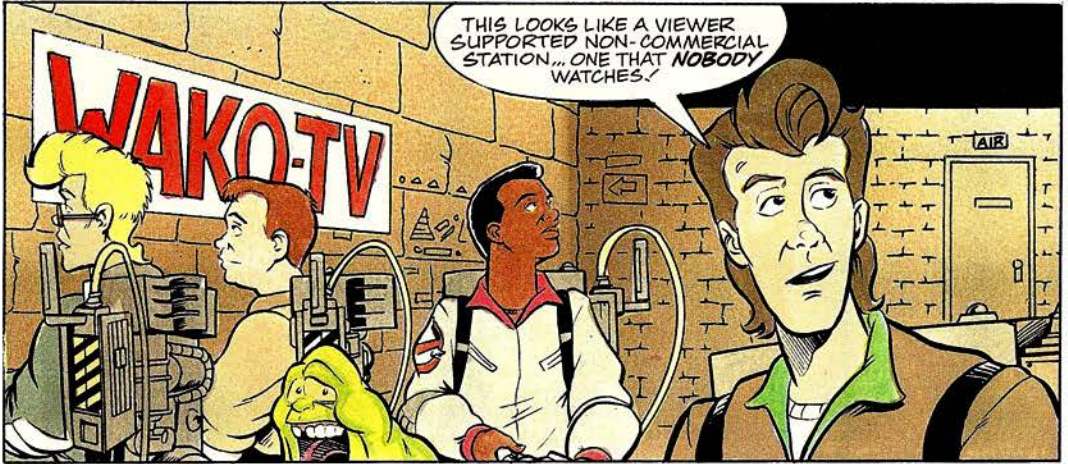
WE'LL GET RIGHT ON IT. CAN'T YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THE MANIFESTATIONS?

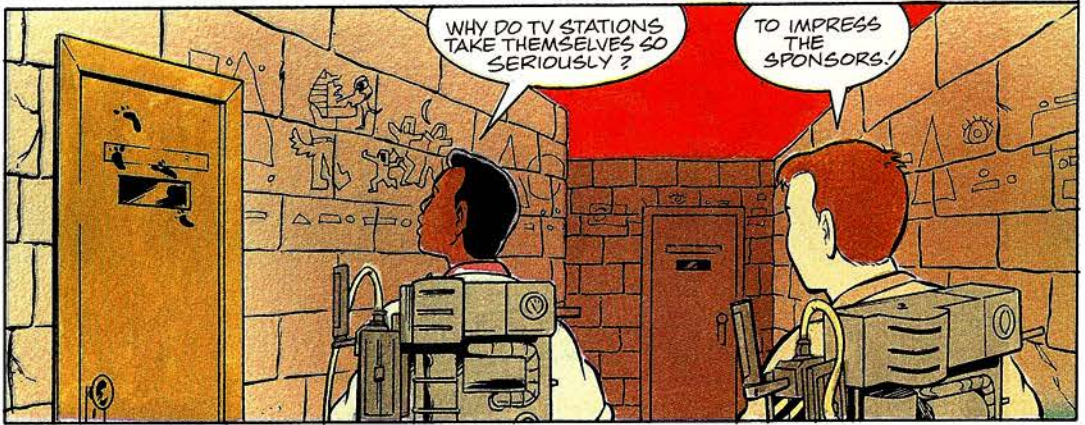
THEY'RE THERE AND THEY'VE TAKEN OVER. THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

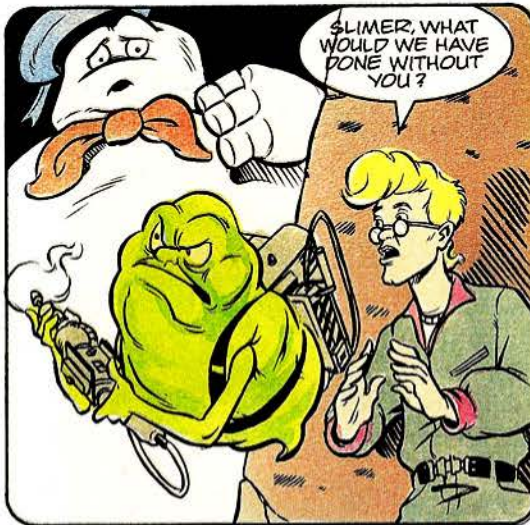
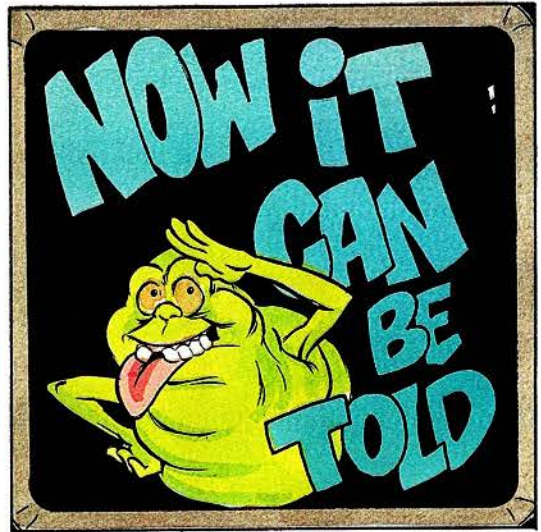
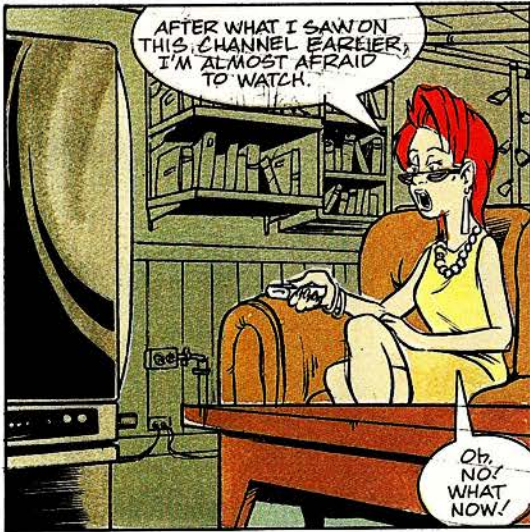


WELL, GOTTA RUN. CAN'T BE LATE FOR MY TANNING APPOINTMENT! I JUST LOVE FEELING THE TICKLE OF INTENSE ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION.









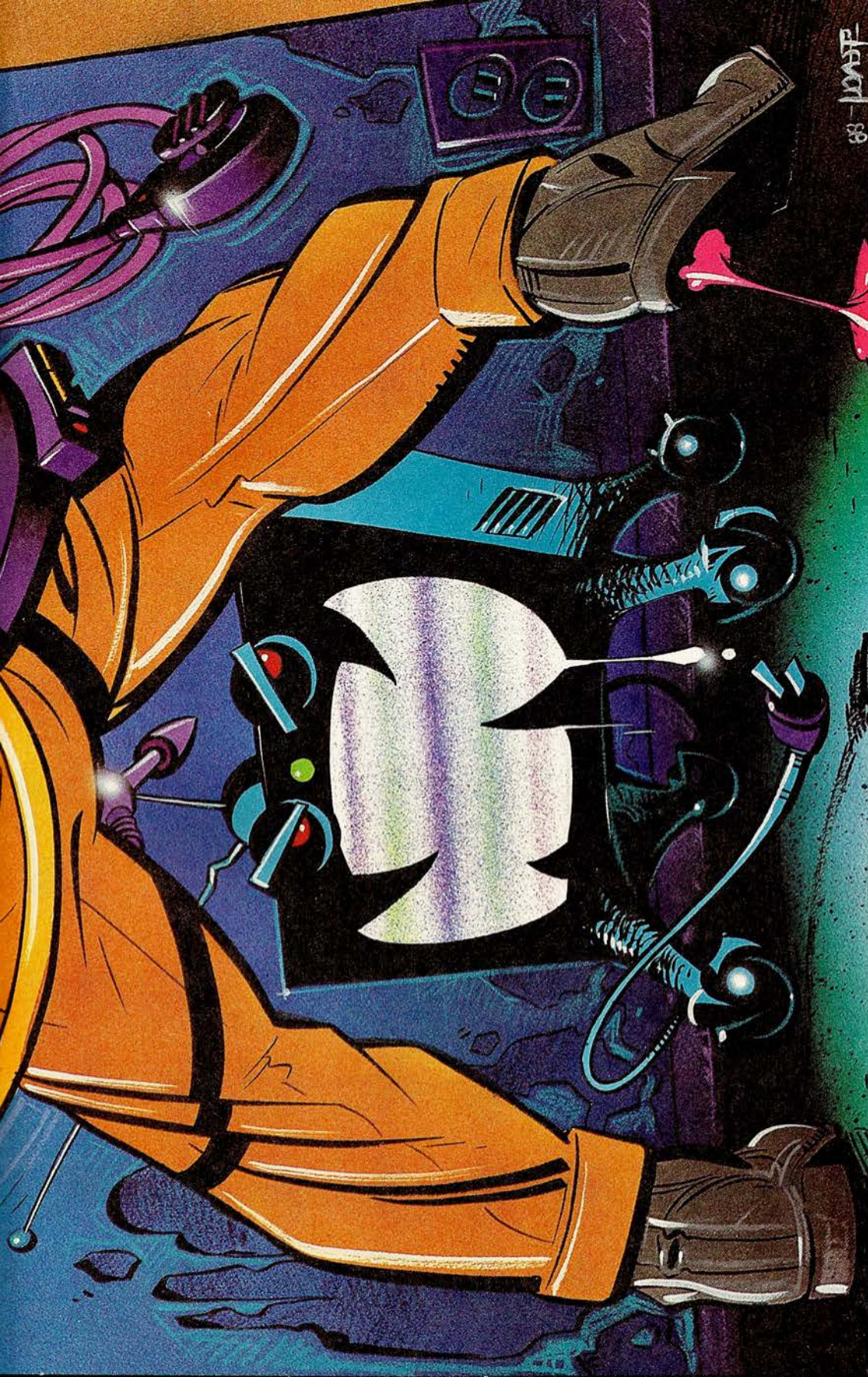


***GIANT FULL COLOR PIN-UP***



**THE REAL  
GHOSTBUSTERS™**

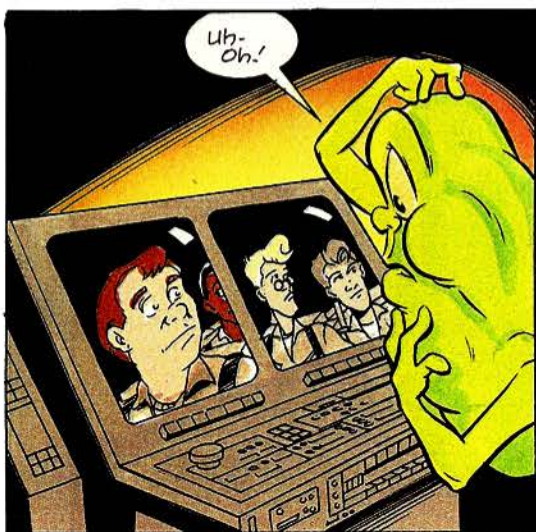
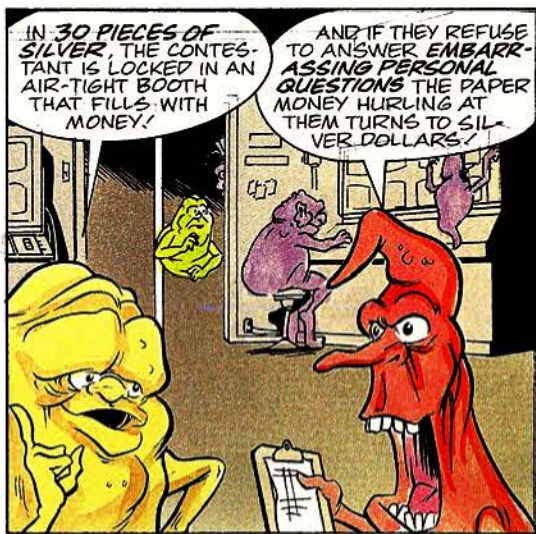




The logo features the word 'NOW' in a large, bold, sans-serif font, where each letter is filled with horizontal black stripes. Below 'NOW' is the word 'COMICS' in a smaller, solid black, sans-serif font. A small 'TM' trademark symbol is located to the right of the 'W' in 'NOW'.

**NOW**™  
**COMICS**

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I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I WOKE UP, STILL WEARING MY PROTECTIVE GOGGLES, AND I HAD A PERFECTLY SMASHING TAN, BUT I WAS HERE!

WHERE DOES THE MUMMY OUTFIT COME IN, OR ARE THOSE BANDAGES FROM THE AFTERGLOW OF YOUR TANNING EXPERIENCE?



I TAKE IT THE KING TUT LOOK ISN'T FROM YOUR LATEST REDECORATING SPLURGE.



SOMEONE PUT THIS ON ME. I'M NOT INTO PYRAMID POWER!

SO WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?



ACCORDING TO ARBITRON, THE STATION'S RATINGS ARE GOING THROUGH THE ROOF, BUT COPYRIGHT HOLDERS WANT TO SUE AND THE FCC IS GROWLING AT ME.

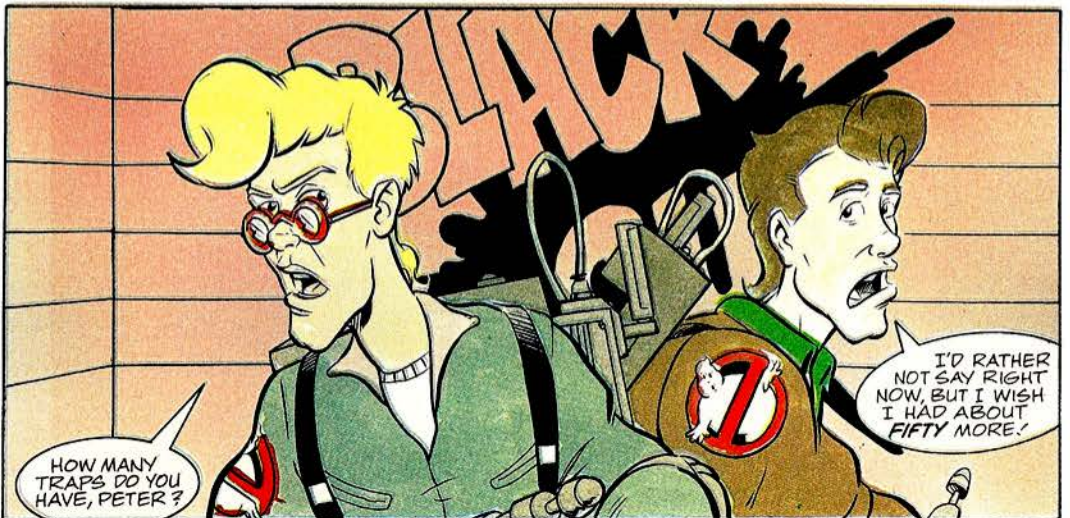
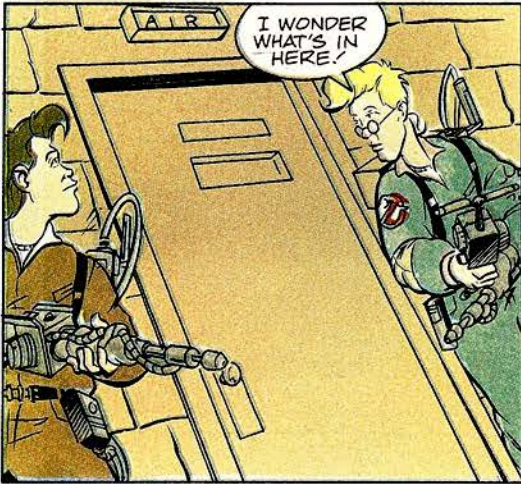


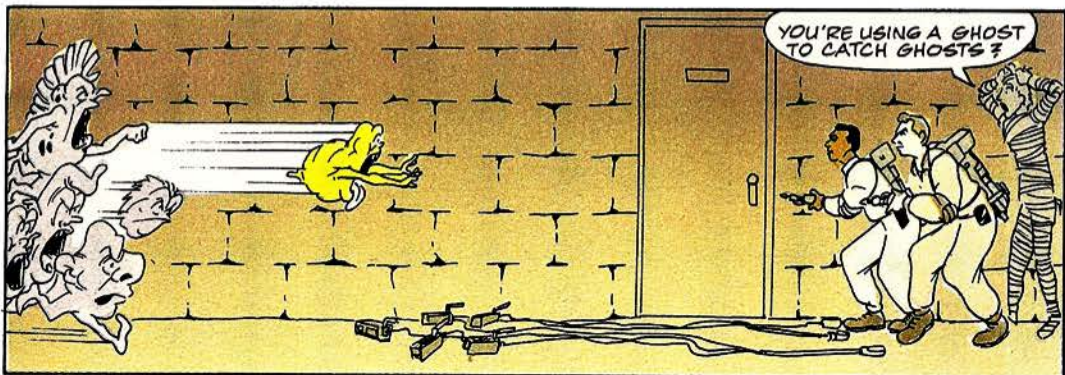
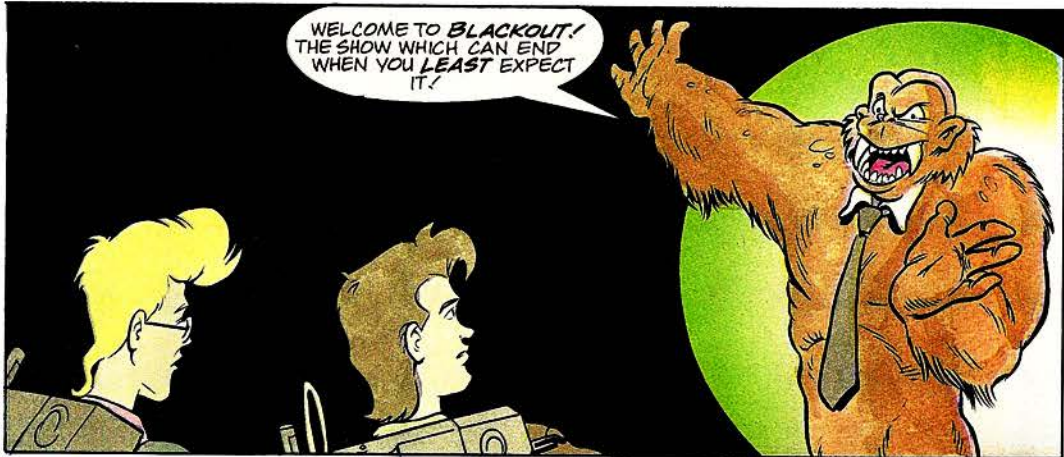
IS THERE ANY GOOD NEWS?

SURE, THIS STUFF IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COUNTER-PROGRAM! IF OTHER STATIONS COULD COPY THIS, TV WOULDN'T BE BLAND AND DREARY ANYMORE!

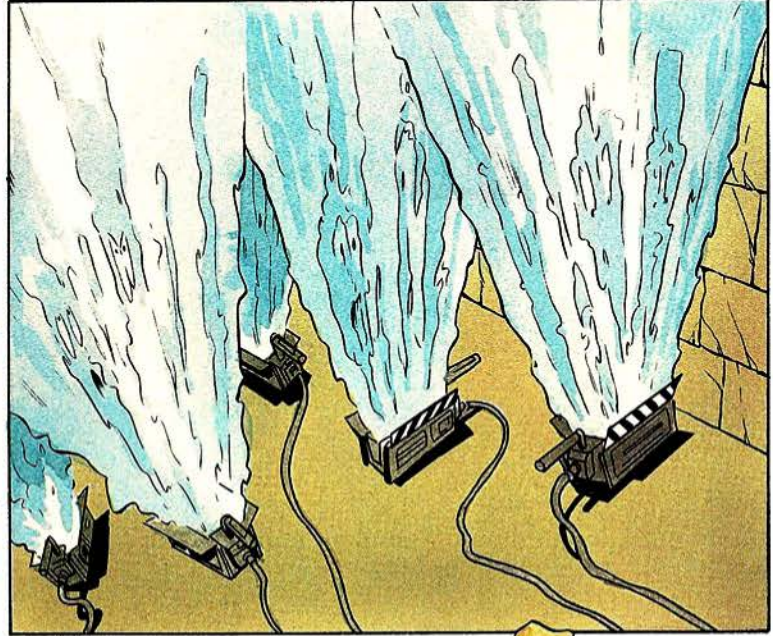
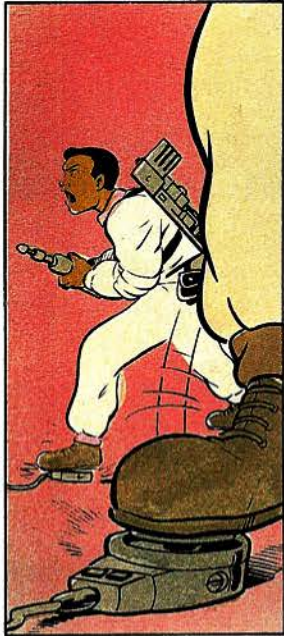


SOON THERE WILL BE A RECKONING!











QUICK, THEY CAN'T GET US IN HERE!



CANCELLATION TIME!



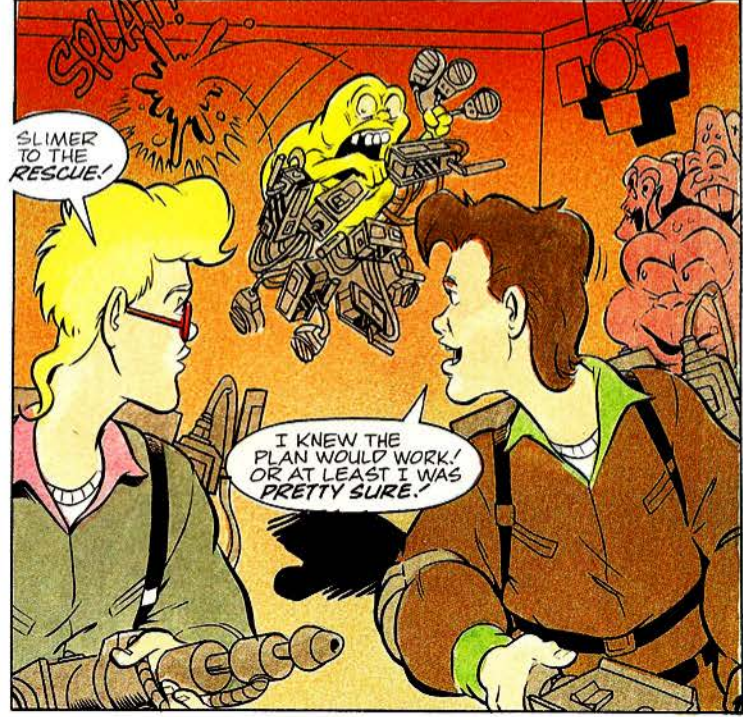
THE MODERN VIDEO WAY!

HOW DO YOU CATCH SOMETHING THAT'S ONLY ON TV?



**BLACK-OUT**

SO TELL ME PING PONG, YOU GET OUT ON THE TOWN MUCH THESE DAYS?



SLIMER TO THE RESCUE!

I KNEW THE PLAN WOULD WORK! OR AT LEAST I WAS PRETTY SURE.

**SPLAT!**

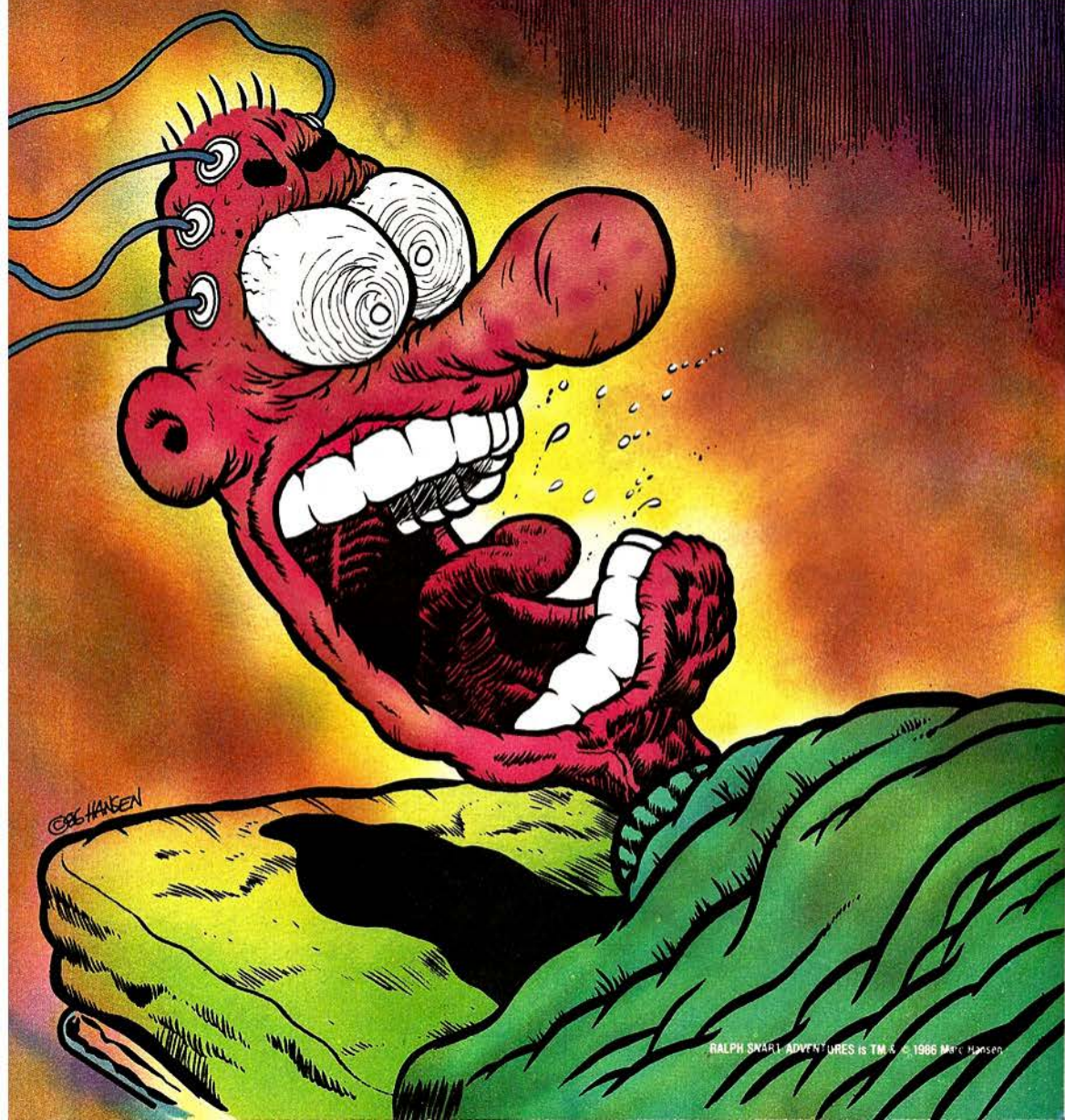


# RALPH SNART IS HOT!

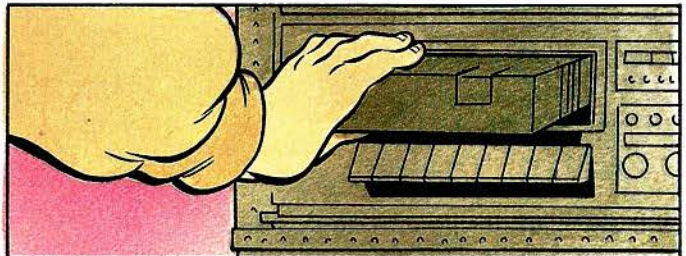
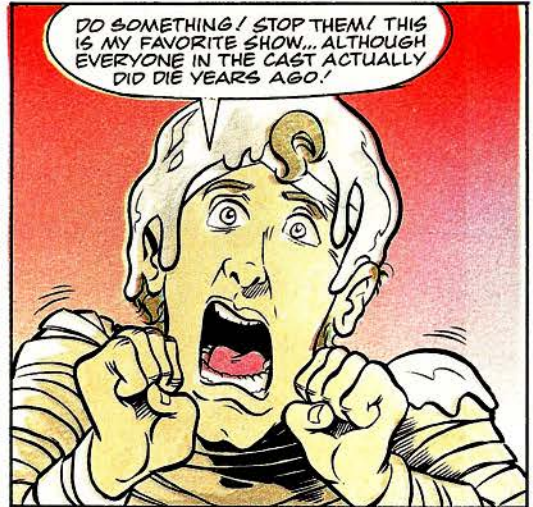
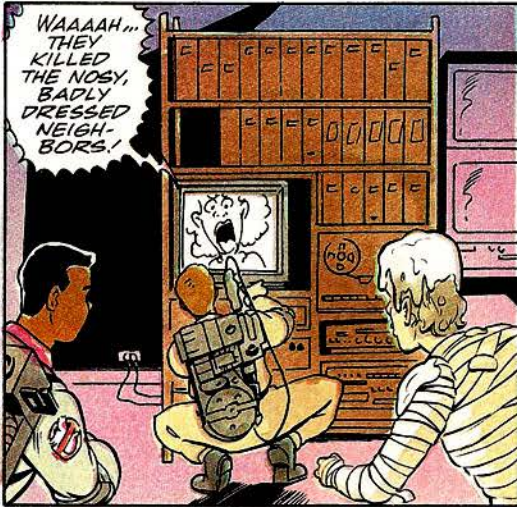
Ralph Snart is not your ordinary, everyday comic book character. Deep in the dark recesses of his imagination lurks the overwhelming urge to explore the outer boundaries of the ridiculous and the outrageous!

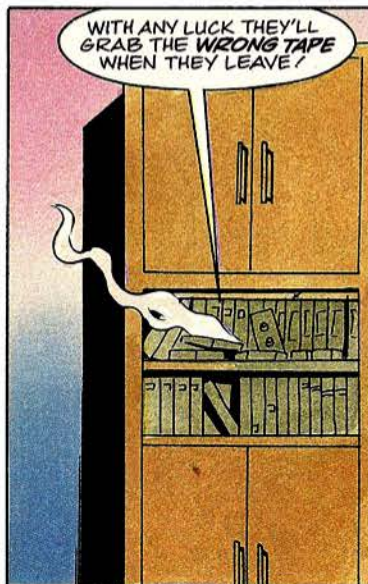
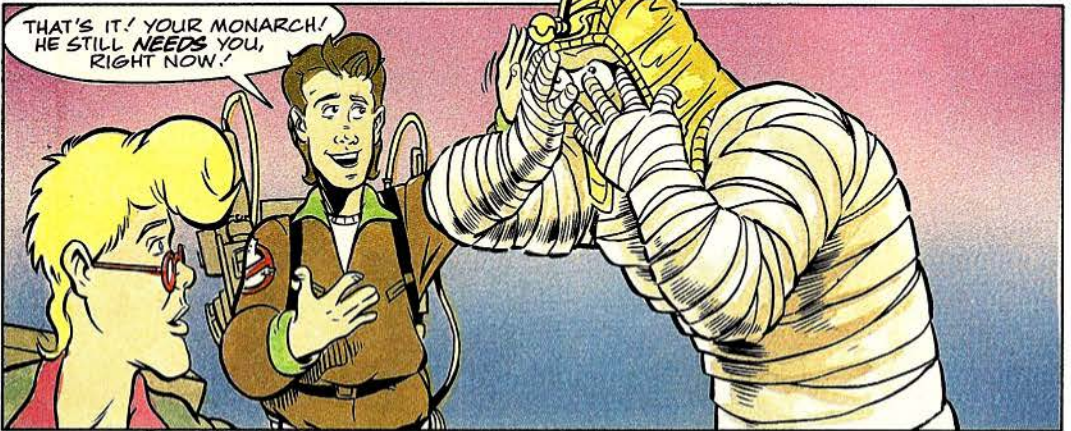
Join him each month, and discover it too!

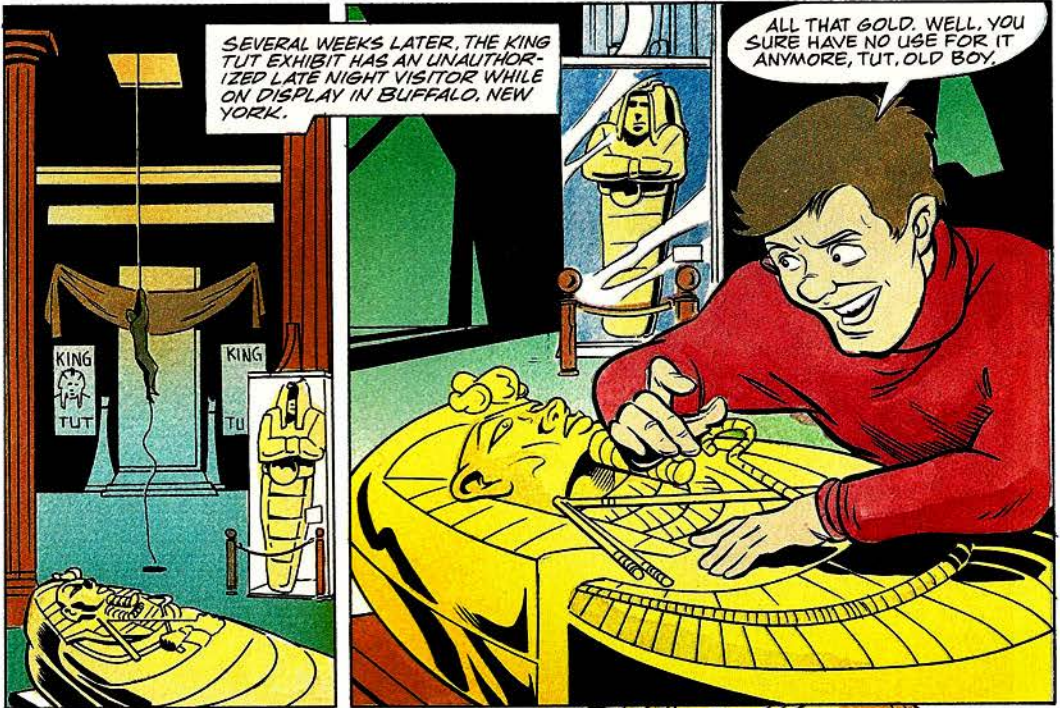
**NOW**  
COMICS











SEVERAL WEEKS LATER, THE KING TUT EXHIBIT HAS AN UNAUTHORIZED LATE NIGHT VISITOR WHILE ON DISPLAY IN BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

ALL THAT GOLD. WELL, YOU SURE HAVE NO USE FOR IT ANYMORE, TUT, OLD BOY.



NO



BEATS ME! SAME THING HAPPENED IN LIBERTY, NEW YORK.

AND THERE'D BEEN A POWER FAILURE THERE, BUT THE BURGLAR NEVER LEFT--JUST SEEMED PARALYZED FROM FEAR, LIKE THIS ONE.

FIN!



# LETTERS

NOW COMICS, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60604.

The NOW Comics booth at the 1988 San Diego Comic Convention played host to the Ghostbusters as three costumed counterparts of Ray Stantz, Egon Spengler and Janine Melnitz, who brought along a copy of the Ecto-1 which looked so authentic, it looked like it was ready to speed off for the filming of *GHOSTBUSTERS III!* And if that wasn't enough, the StayPuft Marshmellow Man was also bouncing around at the booth in the shadow of a huge Slimer balloon. TV spots on *THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS* alerted fans to these special guests appearing at the convention. Other publishers in attendance at the convention (who hadn't thought of putting together an attraction which would be this elaborate) paraded by the booth and posed with the StayPuft man while kicking themselves for not thinking of something as interesting for their own booths. The Ghostbusters attraction was such a hit, that they'll be returning for the 1989 San Diego Convention next summer. We'll be on the lookout for you!

Congratulations!  
I admit it--I had my



doubts, but you did it! You took an established set of characters and improved on them. Add an intelligent, fairly serious plot and interesting villains--Well, it's more than I expected! Hats off to your wonderful staff. James Van Hise has done his homework, and it shows.

Naturally, when I heard about a comic coming out I was determined to find it and see exactly how well the characters fared in transition to print. You guys didn't disappoint me. Being a comics fan from way back (way back to the silver age), I was really impressed with the quality of your magazine: You are proof that big isn't necessarily better.

I was even more impressed with the treatment of the individual Ghostbusters. You've definitely done the animated series one better. While DIC is concentrating less and less on the four Ghostbusters and more and more on Slimer and weak, often rehashed plots, you've struck out in

a different direction entirely, concentrating on character development and a strong storyline. Egon, Winston, Peter and Ray are four unique personalities with miles of potential just begging to be realized, and by golly, you guys look like you just might do it!

Slimer is cute, but I hope you don't overuse him as has been done in the t.v. series. He's best used as comic relief.

Speaking of secondary characters, I wouldn't mind seeing Peter's Dad, Ray's Aunt Lois, Egon's Uncle Cyrus and other back-



ground characters appear now and then. Please don't bring in the contrived Jr. Ghostbusters. They are a product of the Hanna Barbara Syndrome, where more and more characters are added to make up for a lack of creativity on the writer's part. They can only weaken your fine product.

Well, I'd better sign off before you get eyestrain. Good Luck with your latest venture. Your company is young, but it produces quality. With the real Ghostbusters, you've created a magazine that parents can enjoy reading to their children--when they're not fighting over it.

Deborah Van Fossen  
3497 Cullbreath Rd.  
Brooksville, FL  
34602

*As anyone who has watched THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS cartoon show knows, they employ a lot of different kinds of stories. Some stories are a little silly, like "The Return of Captain Steel", while others lean towards the grim, such as "Ragnarok and Roll". We plan to do both kinds of stories in the comic book series, as well as those that fall in between. Those who would like to see THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS tackle a more sober menace at least once in awhile will thrill to the upcoming three-part story slated for issues 9-11, in which the guys encounter a menace which personally affects every human being on Earth--and that's just in part one! And characterization will play an important role in that story.*

Dear NOW,

If there's a letters column for the REAL GHOSTBUSTERS, I hope my letter is the first to be in it. I think it's a pretty neat idea to have comics that are independant and cheaper than others.

I picked up THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS and told

myself that I had to get them all. The pictures were excellent and so was the price. It's great to have a different pace once in awhile.

There were a few things that were displeasing though. First, I thought the poster in the middle was great, but I didn't think anyone was crazy enough to pull it out. Another problem I found were misplaced word balloons. On page 11, panel 4, I would read Peter's balloon first and then Egon's, though it goes the other way around. (With us comic book collectors, reading a comic is a pure instinct.) Other than that everything was great! Keep up the good work.

Chris Stonier  
151 First St.  
Wadsworth, OH  
44281

*Sometimes those tricky ghosts haunt the production department when no one is looking, but we've taken steps to insure that their pranks won't slip into any future stories.*

Dear NOW,

I was very disappointed this morning to turn on my television to see a show which I enjoyed greatly, only to find it had suddenly changed. Now, if you're wondering why I'm telling you this, it's because that show happens to be THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS.



now known as SLIMER AND THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS. It's the Slimer part that bothers me. To me, this is like Coke and the new formula; why change a good thing? I don't know about anyone else, but I don't like it! I mean the art is screwed up, the plot is no better, and why is the Slimer so important to the story?

Well, I just hope that you don't follow in their footsteps. I would appreciate it if you would pass my sentiments on to the company that produces THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS. Thank you. A concerned fan.

Kelly Hargesheimer  
12400 Springwood Dr.  
Oaklahoma City, OK  
73120

PS would like to see the vehicle, Ecto 2 in the REAL GHOSTBUSTERS comic books.

*The comic will continue to retain the flavor of the cartoon show you like so much. Should the decision be made to feature Slimer more prominently, it will be in a title of his own.*

*How about we go you two better than the Ecto-2 and introduce the never before seen Ecto-4? It'll appear first in REAL GHOSTBUSTERS #7 and figure prominently in issue #11.*



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NICE DAY.



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