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ANTARCTIC  
PRESS<sup>TM</sup>

**7**

**JAN.  
1994**

**\$2.75  
U.S.**

**\$3.75  
Can.**

**GOLD DIGGER**

**FRED PERRY'S**

**GOLD**

**DIGGER**



NOON OVER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN...

WELCOME TA GULL-BASE, ACE!

YA CLEAR TA LAND ON DA  
PORT-SIDE STRIP.

WE'LL DISCUSS BUSINESS  
AFTAH YOUZE TOUCH DOWN!

WHY ARE WE PUTTING  
UP WITH HER, KEVIN?

WHY DON'T WE JUST LEAVE??

BECAUSE I DON'T  
FEEL LIKE MESSIN'  
WITH THOSE QUAD-  
VHP-2 LASER CANNONS!

ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE  
MOUNTED ON THAT FOURTH-  
GENERATION ADVANCED TACTICAL  
FIGHTER WITH THE NEW S-FOIL  
BASED SURFACE-CONTROL  
SYSTEM!...

I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO  
DO TODAY THAN DIE!!

BESIDES...

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED  
TO VISIT THE INFAMOUS  
**GULL-BASE!**

GULL TO C-141. PROCEED  
TO HANGAR-4 IMMEDIATELY  
AFTER LANDING!

45





UH, OH! THEY'RE WAITING FOR US!!

STAY HERE, PENNY.

I'LL GO SEE WHAT THE DEAL IS.

WELL, WELL, IF IT AIN'T KEVIN 'ACE' KOSS: SELF TAUGHT, SELF EMPLOYED CARGO PILOT. (I AINT IMPRESSED!)

YOU MUST BE DARK-BIRD...

... COMMANDER OF THE MERCENARY SQUADRON, "NIGHT-FLIGHT"...

DAT'S RIGHT.

...AND BEHIND YOU ARE YOUR BEST PILOTS...

BULLDOG, EX-TOP GUN INSTRUCTOR FOR THE U.S. NAVY...

SNAKEFACE FLEW "NOBRA TATTLERS" BEFORE THAT TERRORIST GROUP WENT BELLY-UP...

KILLER, EX-RED FLAG INSTRUCTOR FOR THE U.S. AIR FORCE...

AND FRENCHIE, FIVE TIME WORLD FIGHTER MARKSMANSHIP CHAMPION...

I'M NOT IMPRESSED!

BE CAREFUL, KEVIN. THOSE CUTTHROATS ARE GIVING YOU THE **NASTIEST** LOOKS!

IF ONLY I'D BROUGHT MY TECH-BOW!

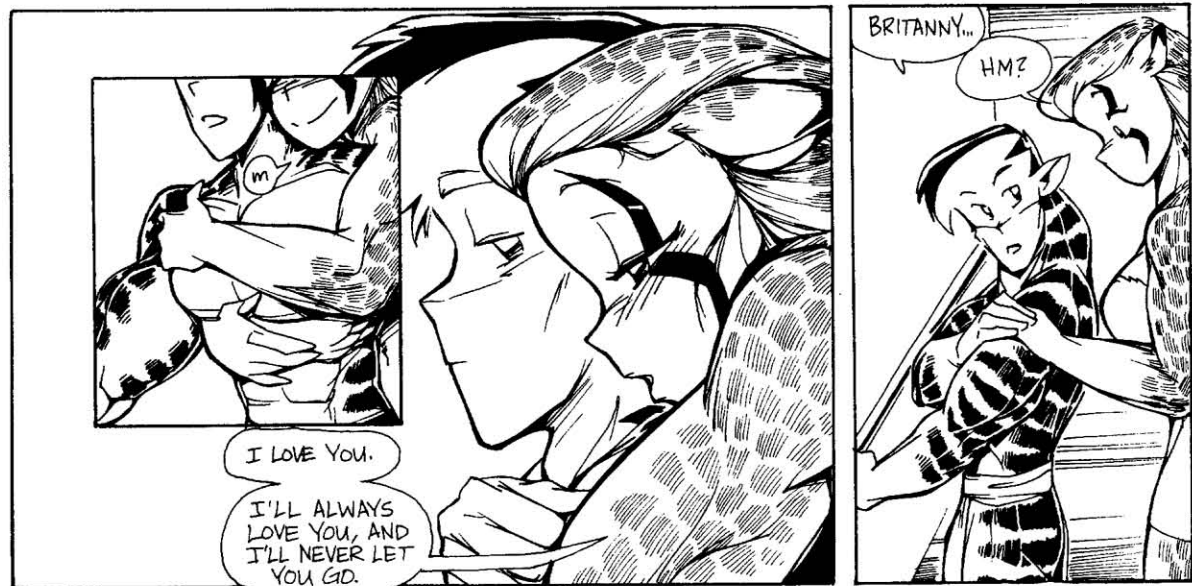
I COULD BACK YOU UP IF I HAD IT.

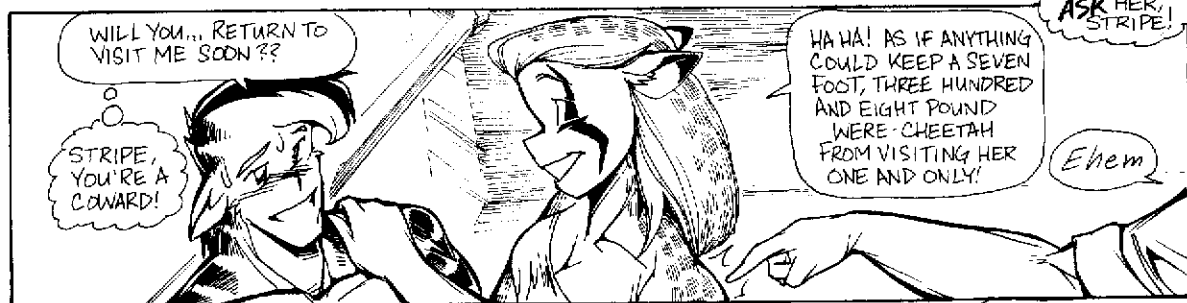
I JUST HOPE NOTHING ELSE GOES WRONG

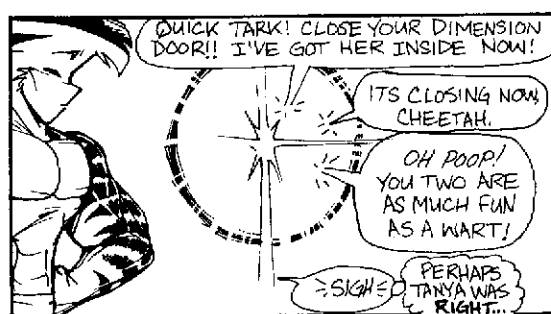
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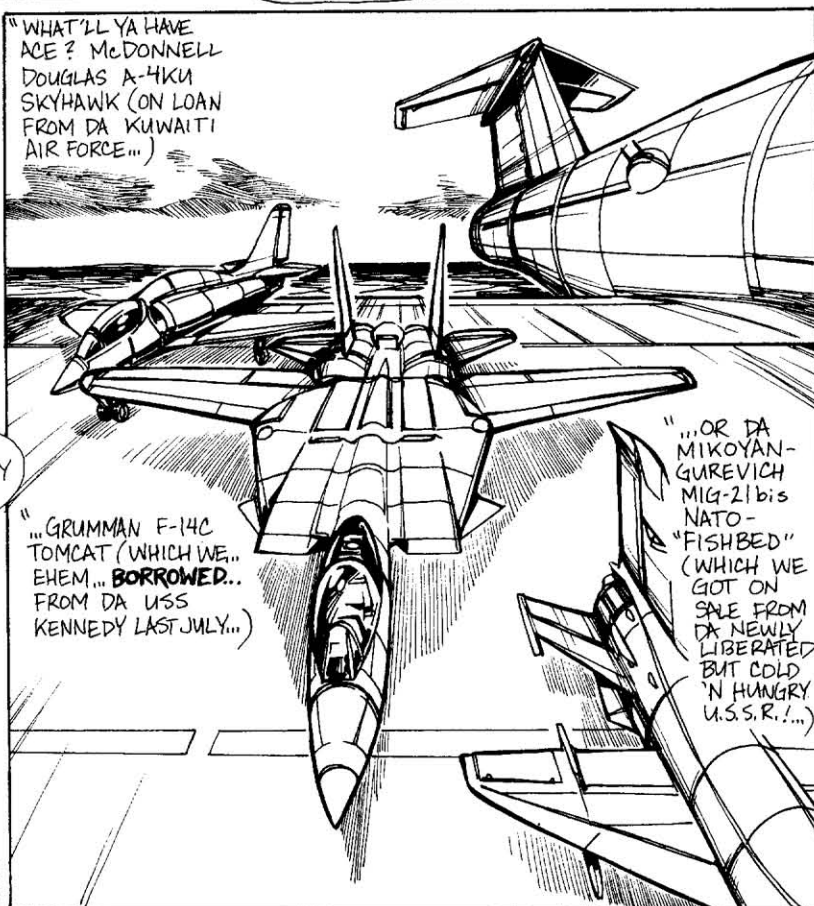
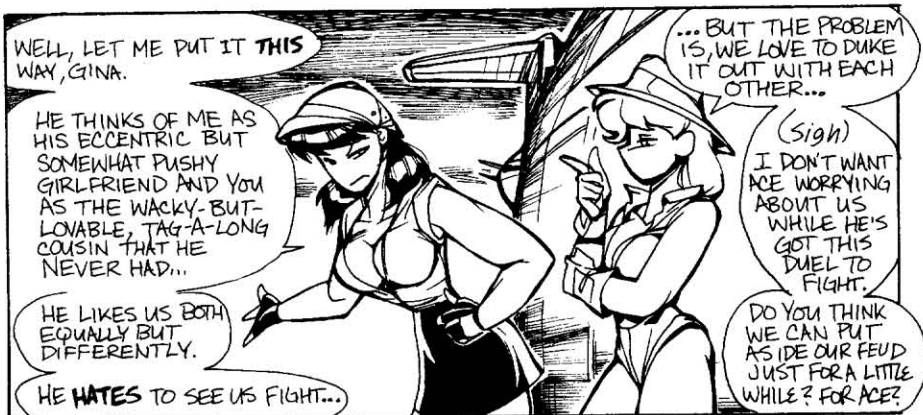




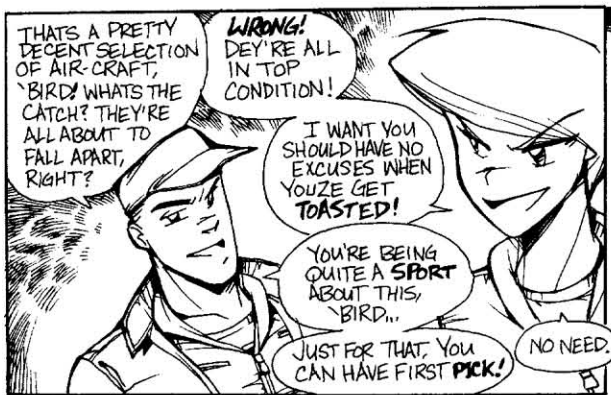












THAT'S A PRETTY DECENT SELECTION OF AIR-CRAFT, 'BIRD! WHAT'S THE CATCH? THEY'RE ALL ABOUT TO FALL APART, RIGHT?

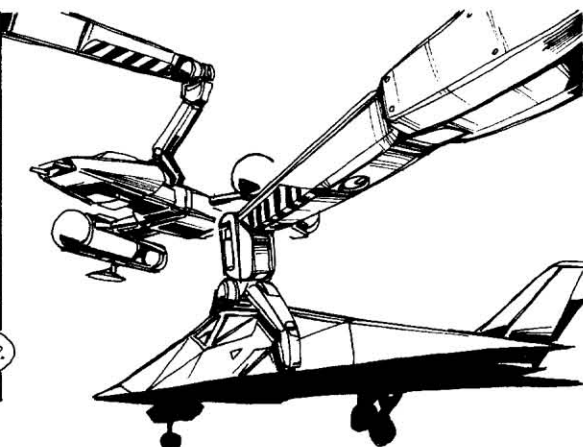
WRONG! DEY'RE ALL IN TOP CONDITION!

I WANT YOU SHOULD HAVE NO EXCUSES WHEN YOUZE GET TOASTED!

YOU'RE BEING QUITE A SPORT ABOUT THIS, 'BIRD...

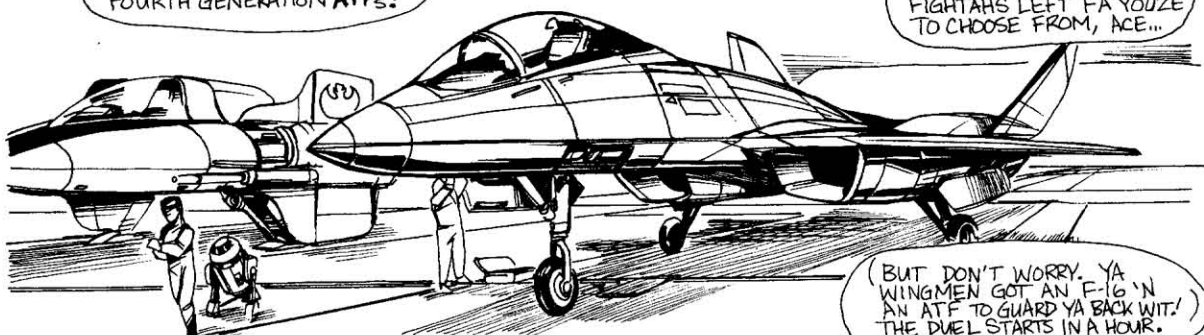
JUST FOR THAT, YOU CAN HAVE FIRST PICK!

NO NEED.



ME 'N MY WINGMEN 'VE ALREADY CHOSEN **OUR** AIR-CRAFT!

WE'RE ALL FLYIN' THIRD 'N FOURTH GENERATION ATF's!



TOO BAD DERE WEREN'T ANY ADVANCED TACTICAL FIGHTAHS LEFT FA YOUZE TO CHOOSE FROM, ACE...



THIS IS **WACK!**

I'M GOING UP AGAINST FIVE VETERAN AND **ELITE** PILOTS WITH PLANES THAT COULD MAKE BACON-BITS OUT OF THE ONES IN **MY** SELECTION!

DARK-BIRD SURE KNOWS HOW TO STACK A DECK!

BUT DON'T WORRY, THE STRONGEST DOESN'T **ALWAYS** WIN...

I RECOMMEND THE F-14C, ACE...

NOT ONLY IS IT A DEDICATED FIGHTER, ITS VARIABLE-SWEEP WING DESIGN ALLOWS IT THE WIDEST SPEED VARIATION OF ANY FIGHTER IN THE WORLD, TOO!

EVEN THOUGH IT ONLY HAS TWO AIM-9P REAR-ASPECT SIDEWINDERS ON IT, ITS STILL THE BEST CHOICE.



I KNOW, BUT I NEED A W.O. FOR THAT ONE.

ANY OF YOU KNOW HOW TO OPERATE A HUGHES ANG-9 RADAR UNIT OR THE '14's ELECTRONIC SUITE?

I READ A BOOK ON THE HUGHES APG-63 DOPPLER-PULSE RADAR SYSTEM ONCE...

BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT...

I KNOW HOW TO OPERATE ONE! I CAN USE THE F-14's **TARPS** WITH IR SCAN AND OPTICAL CAMERA TOO.

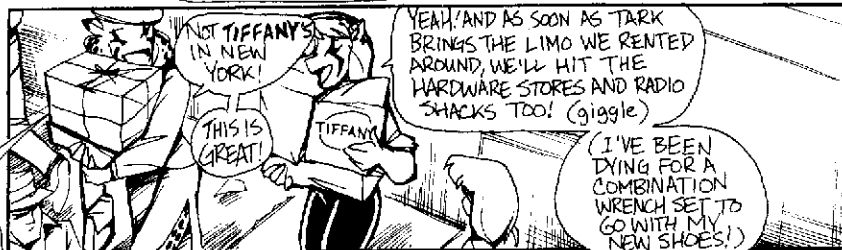
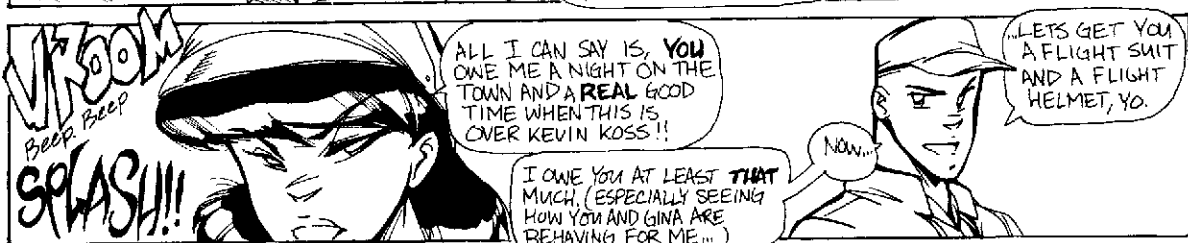
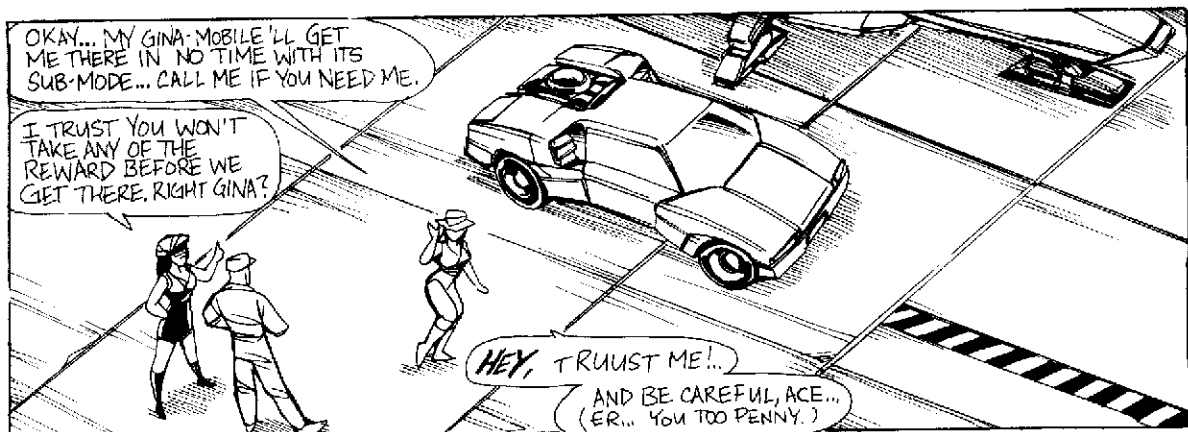
(I BUILT THEM FROM SCRATCH FOR A SCIENCE PROJECT BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.)



GREAT. YOU CAN GO UP WITH ME, PENNY. GINA, YOU GO DOWN TO ATLANTIS AND WAIT FOR US.

BUT ACE...

I DON'T WANT THEM TAKING YOU HOSTAGE DURING THE FIGHT. YOU'LL BE SAFE THERE.





NEXT TIME YOU SNATCH SOMEONES PURSE, PAL...

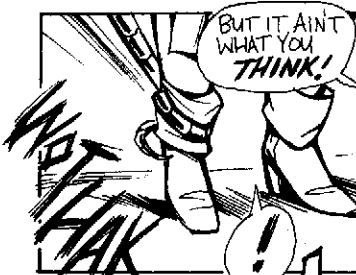
...YOU SHOULD AT LEAST CHECK TO SEE IF THEY COULD SPRINT AT SUPER-SONIC-SPEED FIRST...



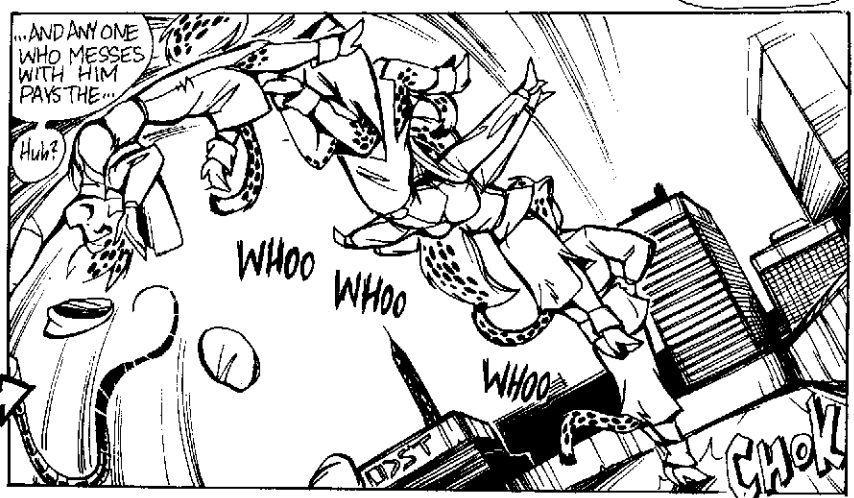
BUT I GUESS YOU WON'T BE "CHECKING" ANYTHING NOW EXCEPT THE INSIDE OF A PRISON CELL...

NOW, I BELIEVE I HAVE A HAND-BAG COMING TO ME...

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHIN' COMIN' ALL RIGHT...



BUT IT AINT WHAT YOU THINK!



...AND ANY ONE WHO MESSES WITH HIM PAYS THE...

Huh?

WHOO

WHOO

WHOO

CHOK!



EEK!

OOOO! CAUGHT A BIG ONE!!

A BIG ONE THAT WANTS TO BE ALL TOUGH AND MESS WITH ONE OF MY BOYS!!

THAT KID WORKS FOR ME, SUBARU!



I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU, HONEY!

YOU'RE IN DEEP STINK-STINK!!

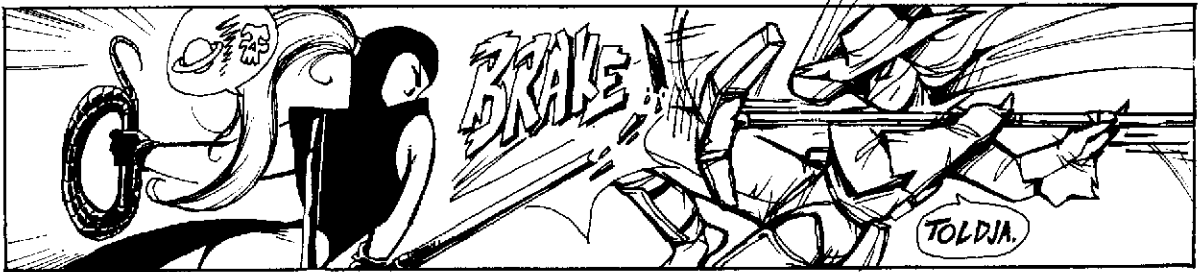
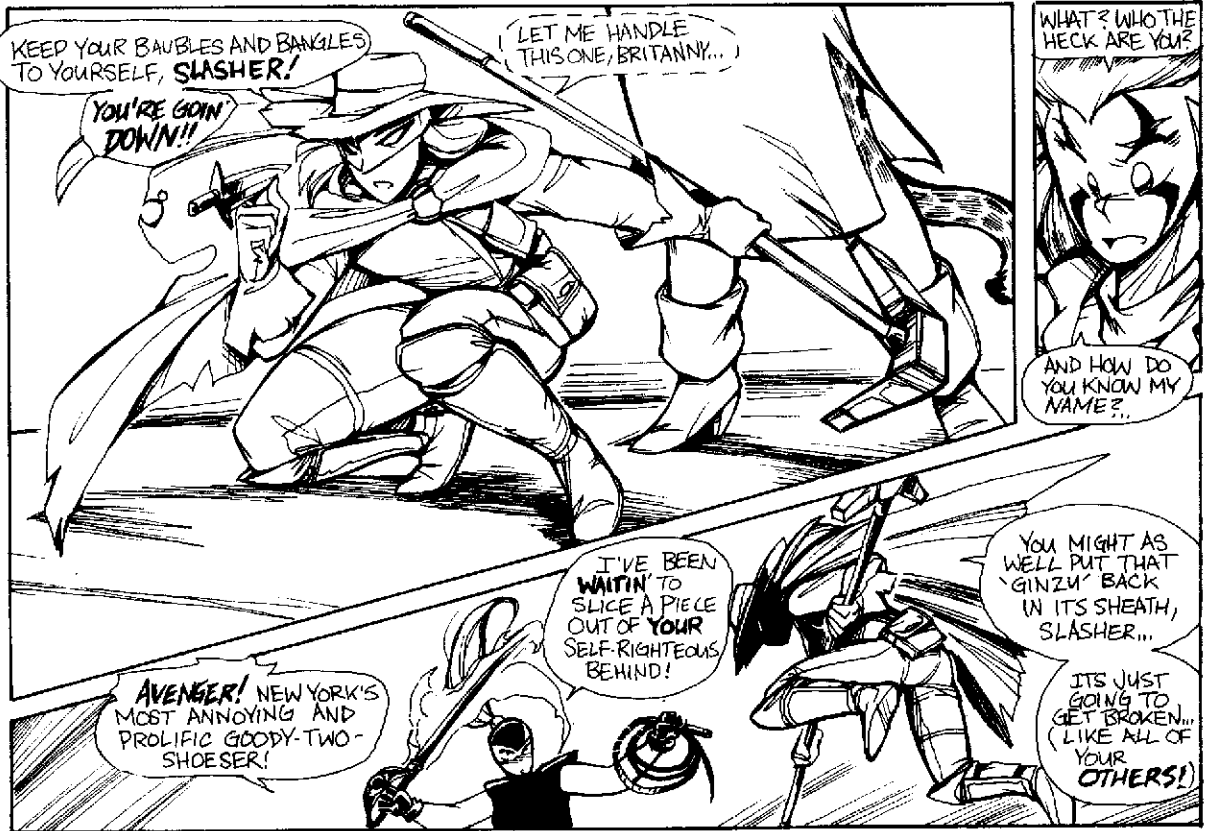


WE'LL LOOK AT YOU! THATS NOT A COSTUME, THATS YOU ISN'T IT!

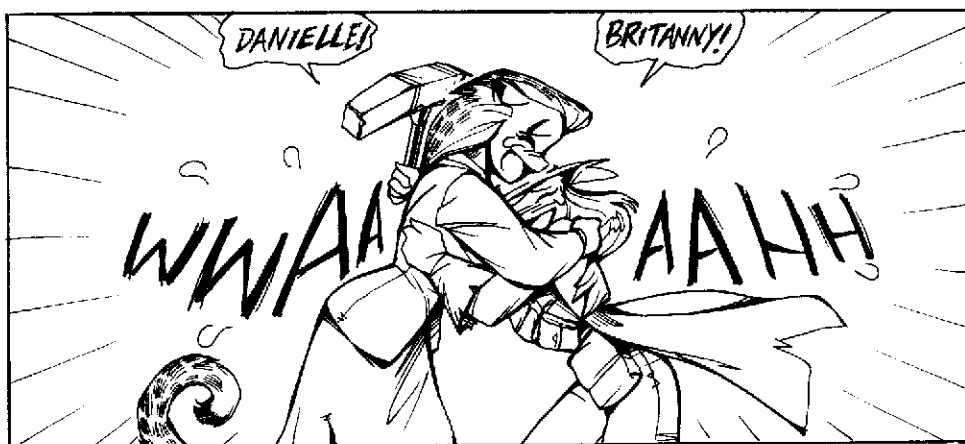
YOU'RE SOME KIND OF CAT!

How CHIC!! (HERE! HAVE ONE OF MY FASHION ACCESSORIES!)

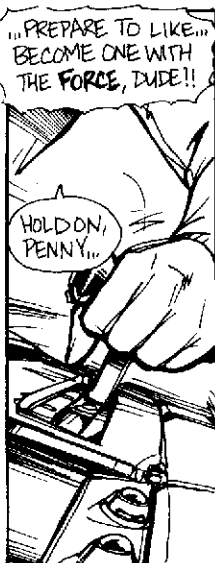
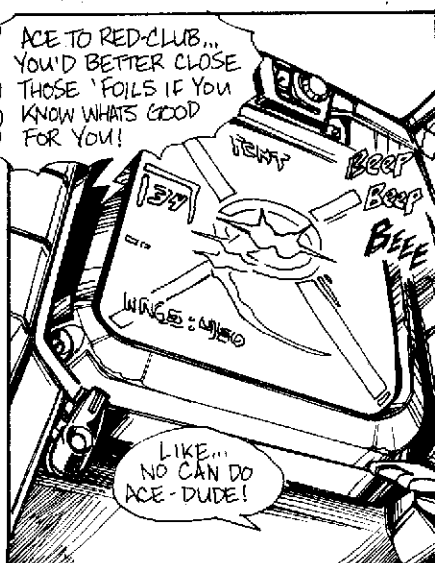
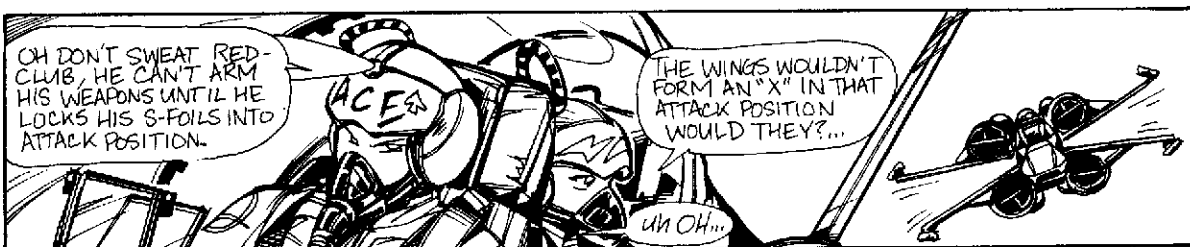
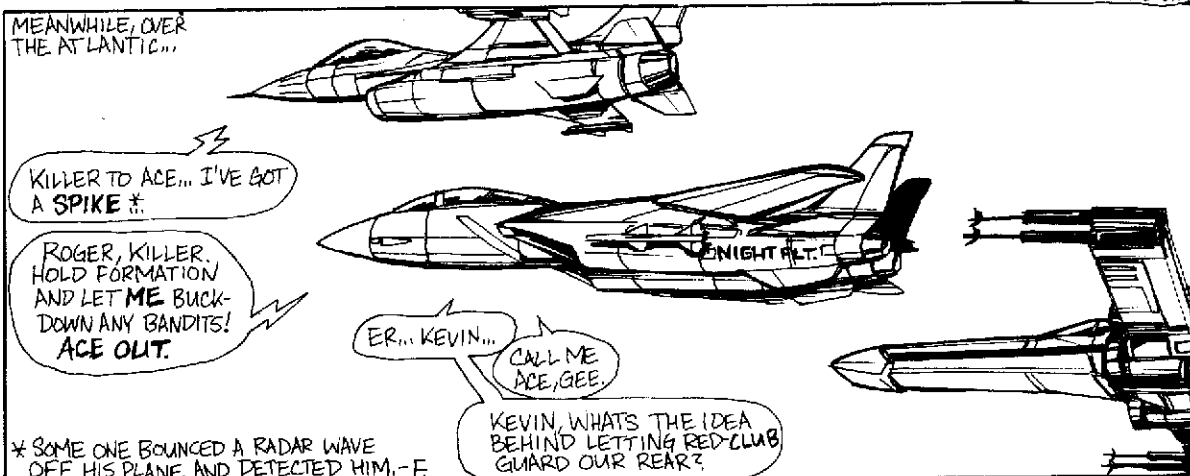
CATCH

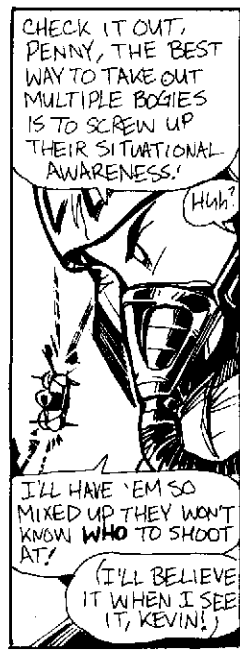
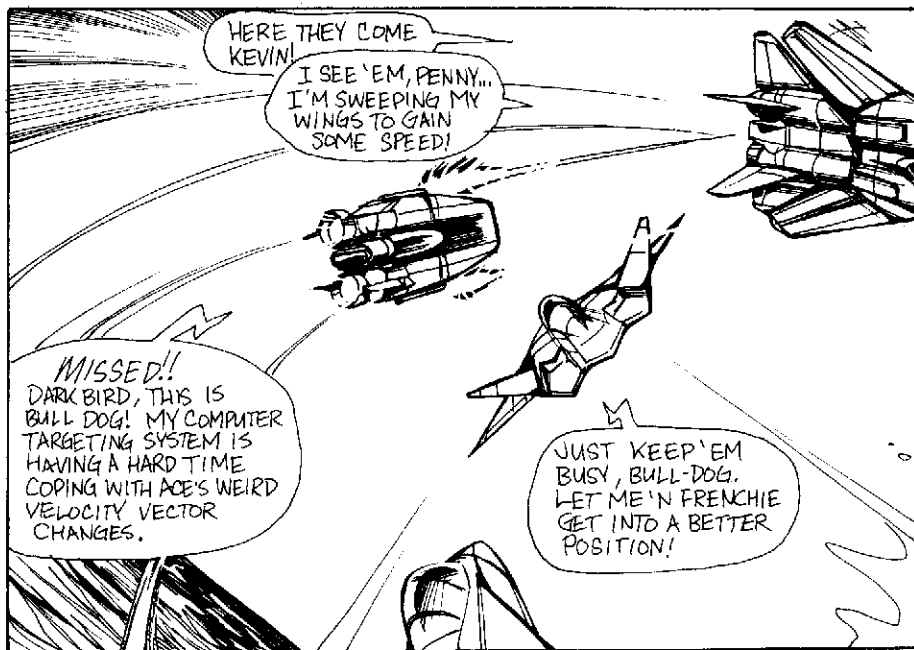
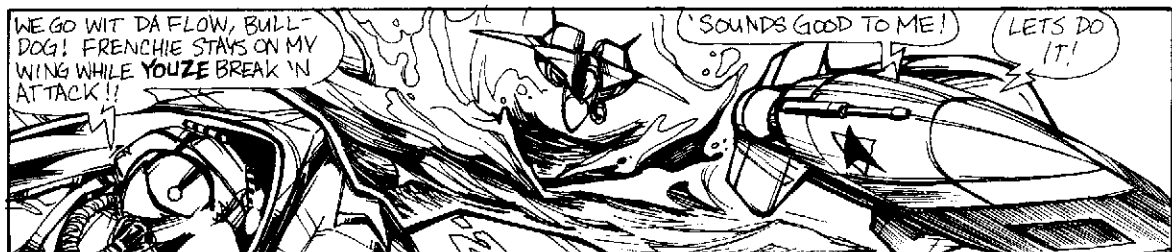
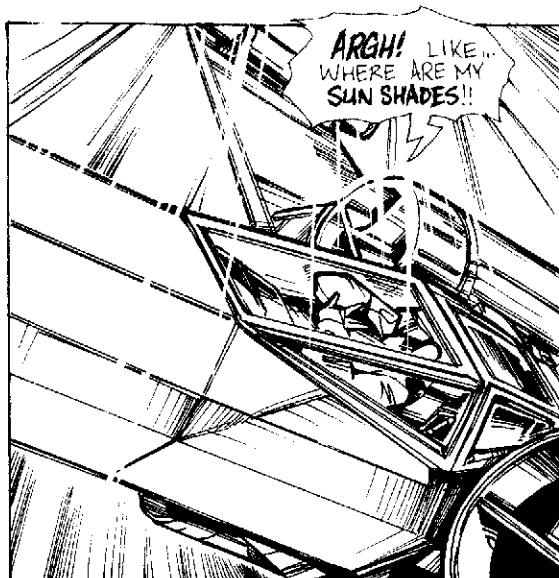


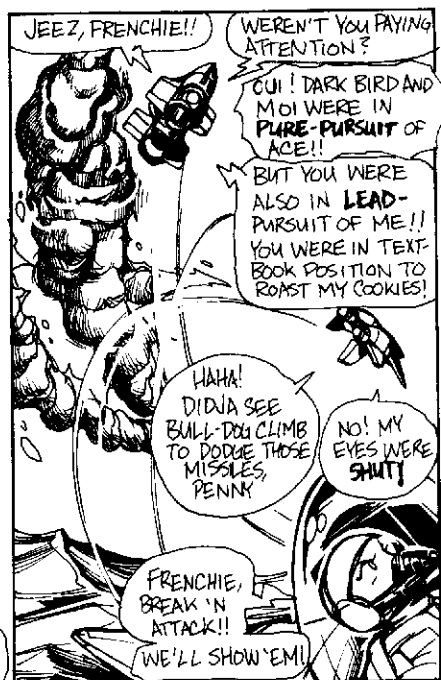
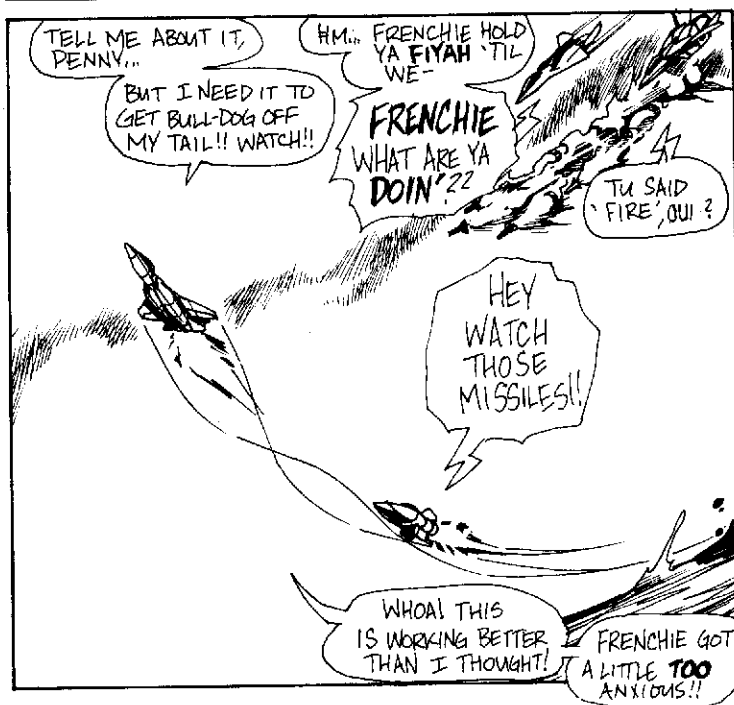
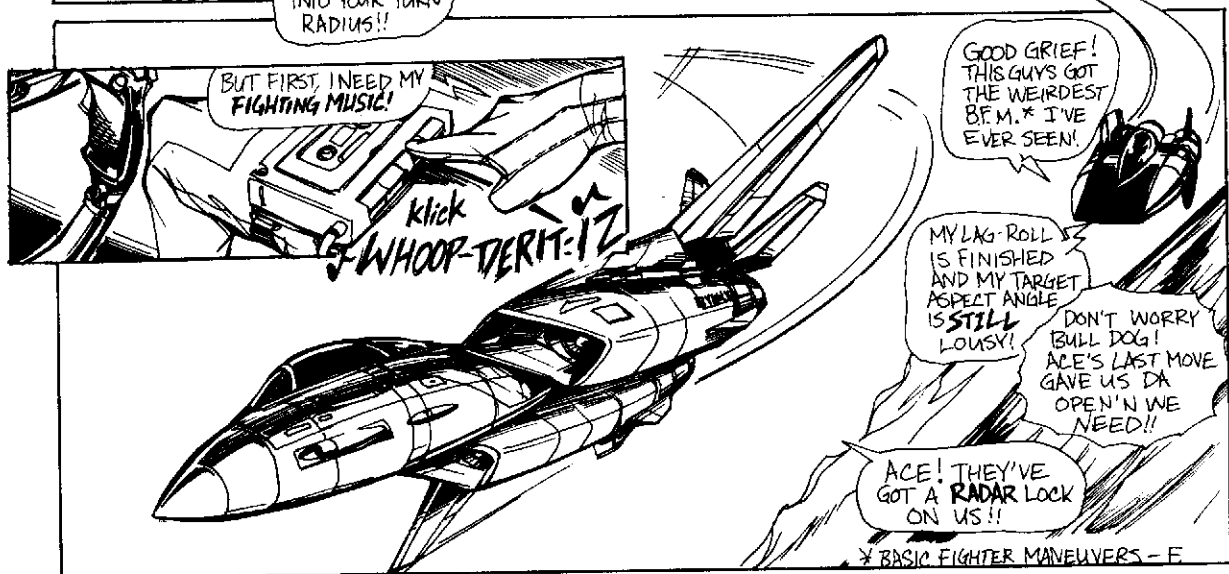
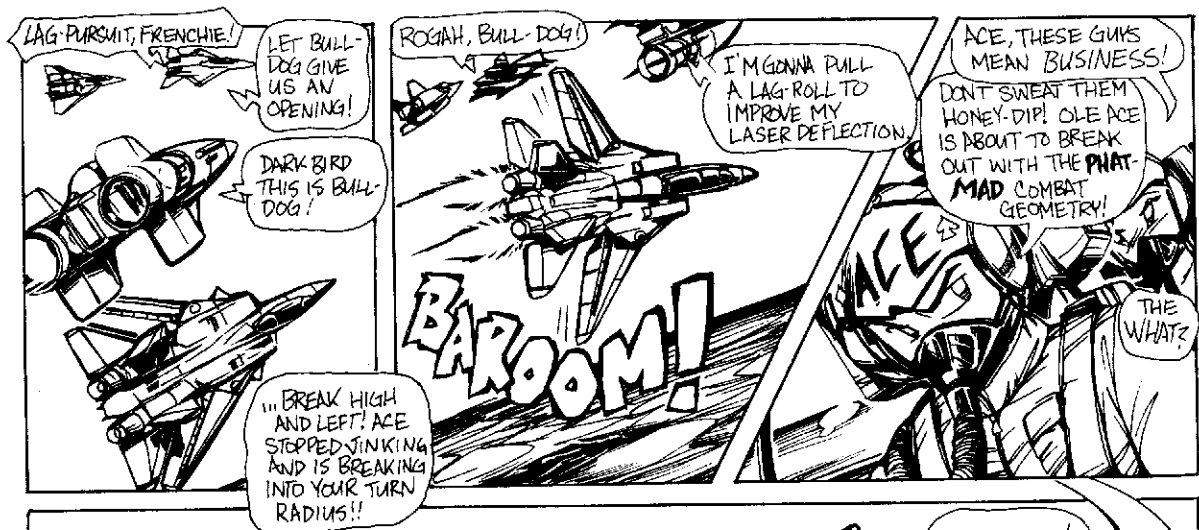


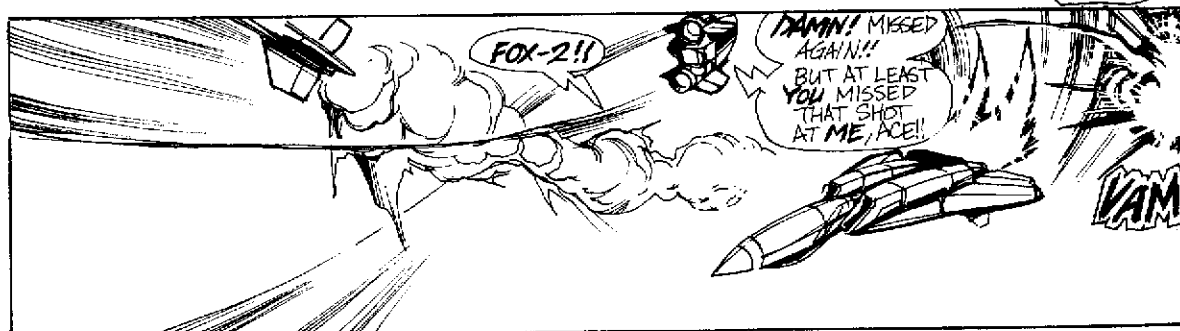
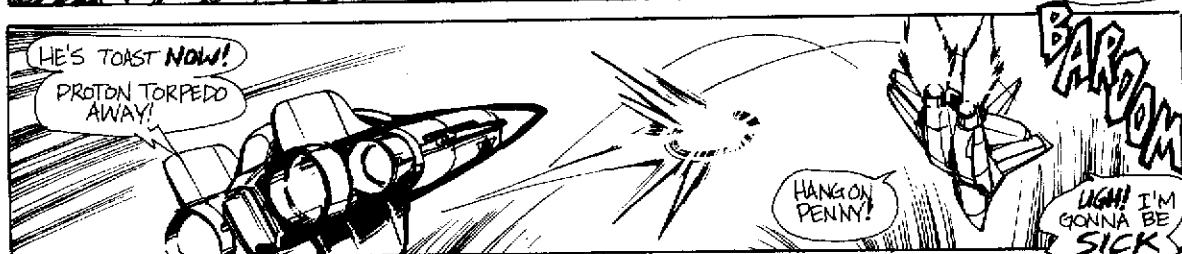
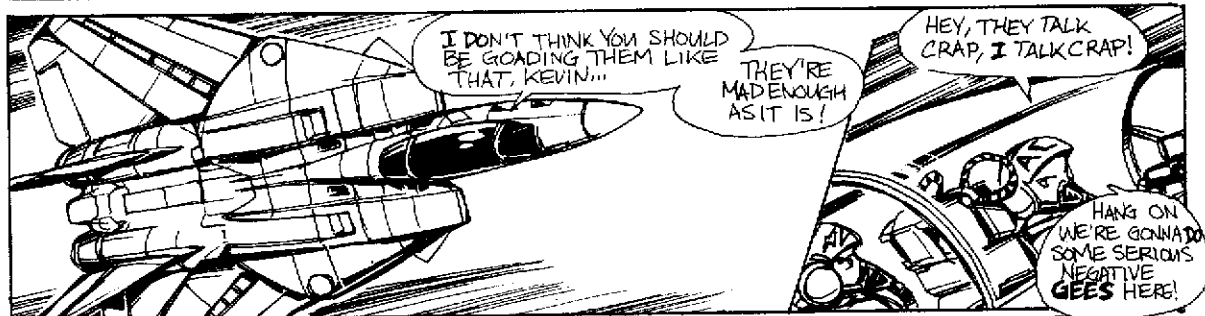
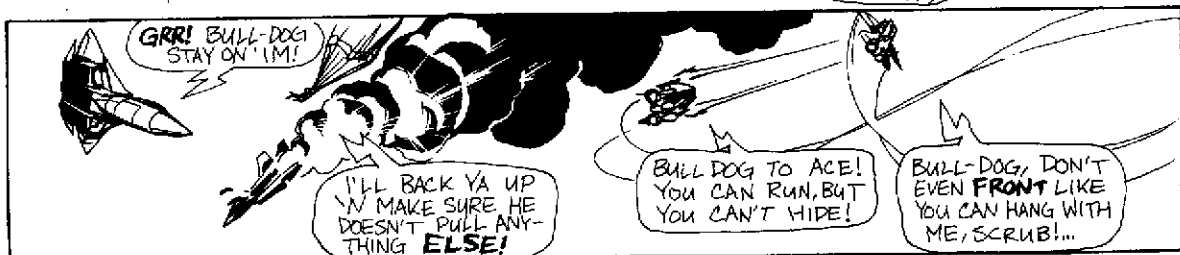
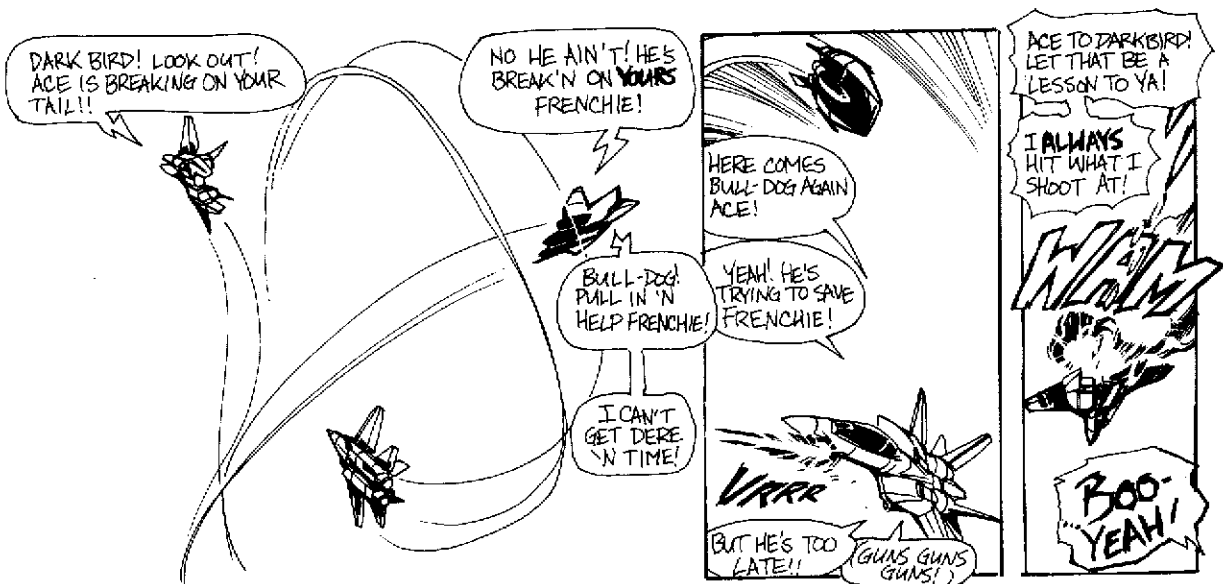


MEANWHILE, OVER THE ATLANTIC...

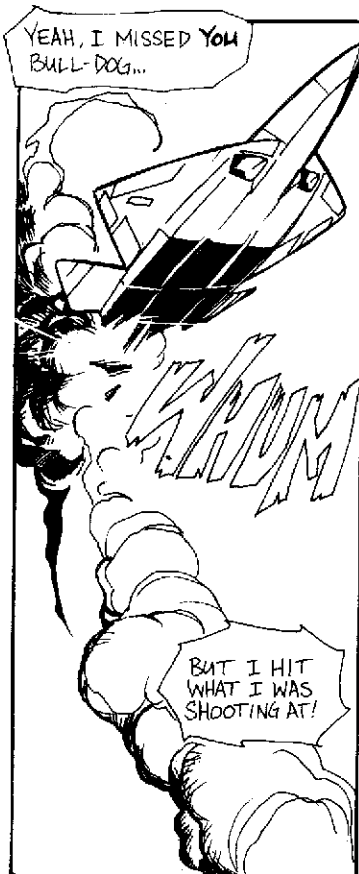












YEAH, I MISSED YOU BULL-DOG...

BUT I HIT WHAT I WAS SHOOTING AT!



I DON'T BELIEVE IT! YOU FIRED THAT MISSILE WITHOUT A LOCK YET IT STILL HIT!

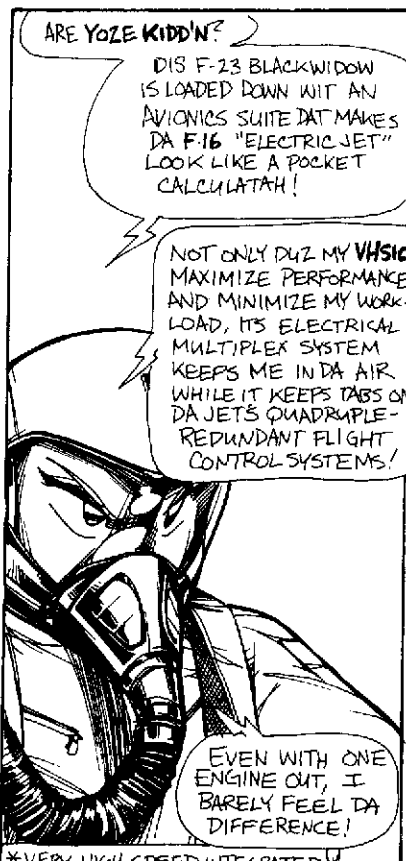
WHAT CAN I SAY, PENNY?

KICK 'N BUTT IS JUST SOMETHING I'M GOOD AT!!

DAMN! **FLAME-OUT\*** ON MY STARBOARD ENGINE, BULL-DOG!

HOBBLE BACK TO THE GULL, BIRD! I'LL SPLASH ACE!

\*THE ENGINE STOPPED RUNNING - F.A.



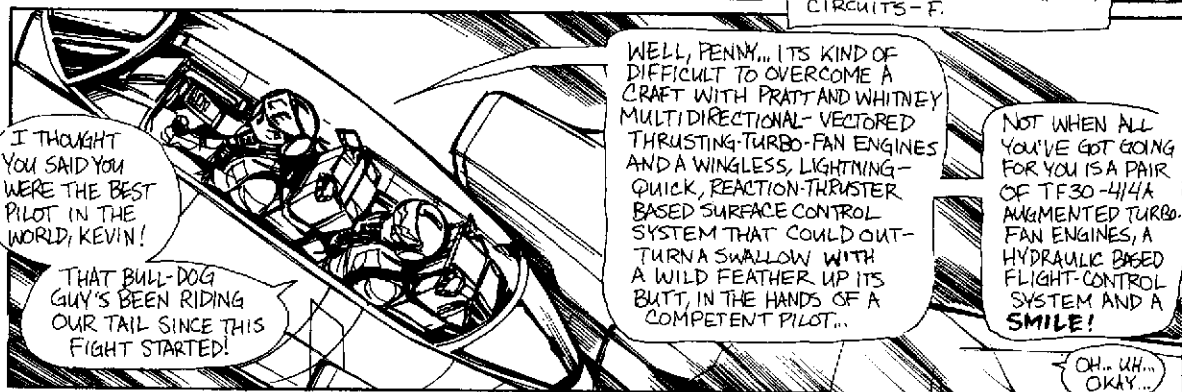
ARE YOZE KIDDIN'?

DIS F-23 BLACKWIDOW IS LOADED DOWN WIT AN AVIONICS SUITE DAT MAKES DA F-16 "ELECTRIC JET" LOOK LIKE A POCKET CALCULATAH!

NOT ONLY DUZ MY **VHSIC\*** MAXIMIZE PERFORMANCE AND MINIMIZE MY WORK-LOAD, ITS ELECTRICAL MULTIPLEX SYSTEM KEEPS ME IN DA AIR WHILE IT KEEPS TABS ON DA JET'S QUADRUPLE-REDUNDANT FLIGHT CONTROL SYSTEMS!

EVEN WITH ONE ENGINE OUT, I BARELY FEEL DA DIFFERENCE!

\*VERY HIGH SPEED INTEGRATED CIRCUITS - F.



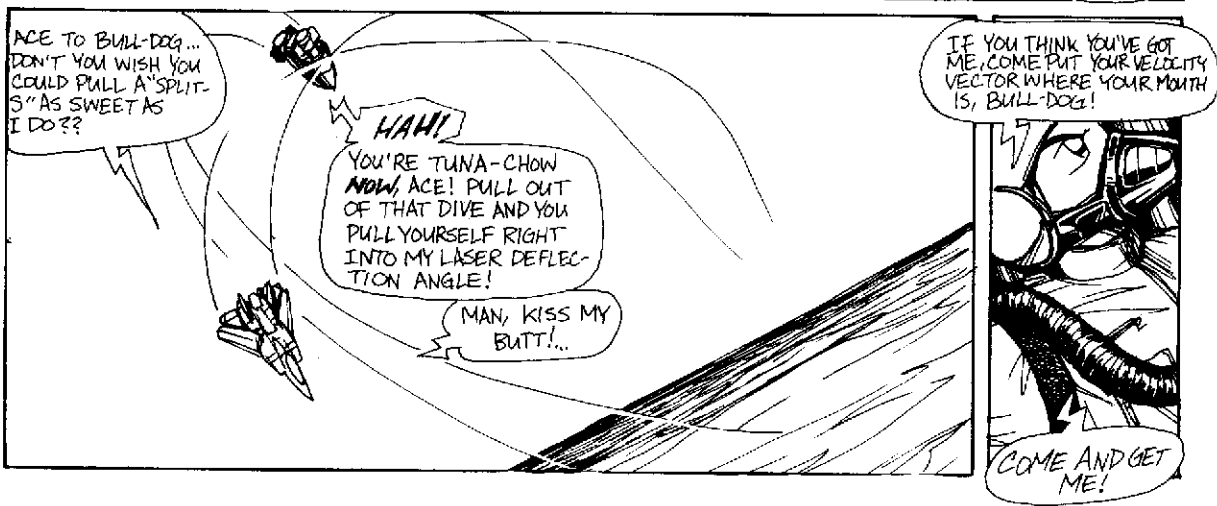
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE THE BEST PILOT IN THE WORLD, KEVIN!

THAT BULL-DOG GUY'S BEEN RIDING OUR TAIL SINCE THIS FIGHT STARTED!

WELL, PENNY... ITS KIND OF DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME A CRAFT WITH PRATT AND WHITNEY MULTI DIRECTIONAL- VECTORED THRUSTING-TURBO-FAN ENGINES AND A WINGLESS, LIGHTNING-QUICK, REACTION-THRUSTER BASED SURFACE CONTROL SYSTEM THAT COULD OUT-TURN A SWALLOW WITH A WILD FEATHER UP ITS BUTT, IN THE HANDS OF A COMPETENT PILOT...

NOT WHEN ALL YOU'VE GOT GOING FOR YOU IS A PAIR OF TF30-414A AUGMENTED TURBO-FAN ENGINES, A HYDRAULIC BASED FLIGHT-CONTROL SYSTEM AND A SMILE!

OH... UH... OKAY...



ACE TO BULL-DOG... DON'T YOU WISH YOU COULD PULL A "SPLIT-S" AS SWEET AS I DO??

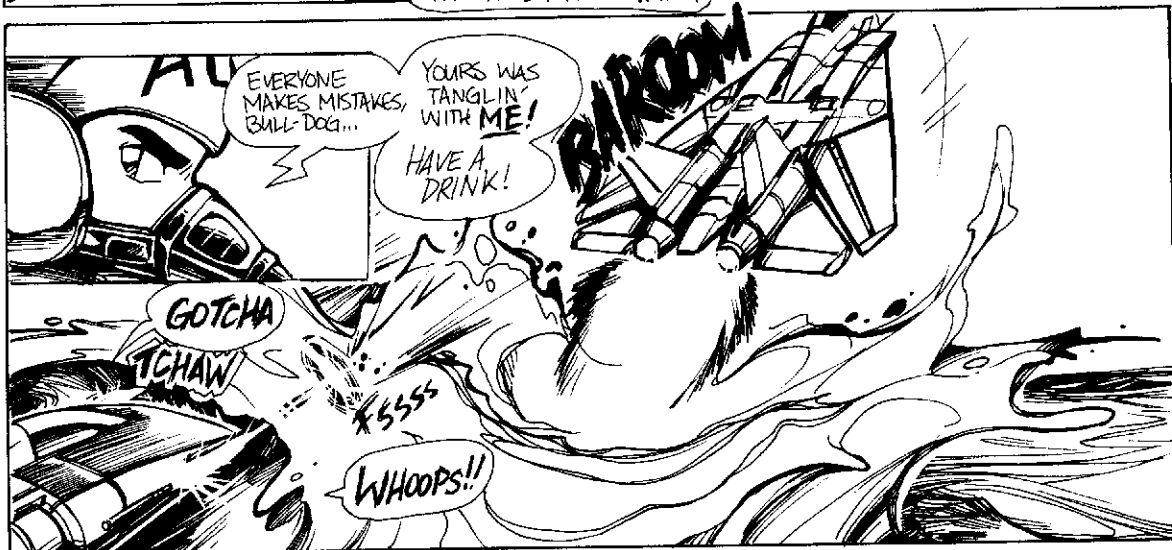
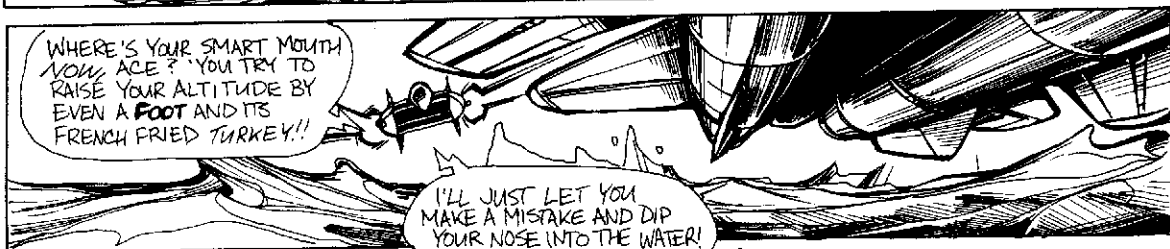
**HAW!**

YOU'RE TUNA-CHOW NOW, ACE! PULL OUT OF THAT DIVE AND YOU PULL YOURSELF RIGHT INTO MY LASER DEFLECTION ANGLE!

MAN, KISS MY BUTT!...

IF YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT ME, COME PUT YOUR VELOCITY VECTOR WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS, BULL-DOG!

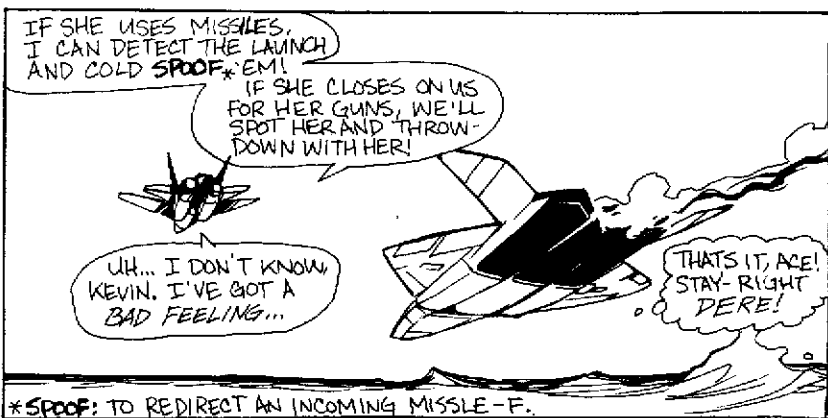
COME AND GET ME!





UH OH! KEVIN! I LOST DARK-BIRD! I CAN'T FIND HER ON MY RADAR SCOPE!

KEEP A LOOK OUT THEN!



IF SHE USES MISSILES, I CAN DETECT THE LAUNCH AND COLD SPOOF\*EM!

IF SHE CLOSES ON US FOR HER GUNS, WE'LL SPOT HER AND THROW-DOWN WITH HER!

UH... I DON'T KNOW, KEVIN. I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING...

THATS IT, ACE! STAY-RIGHT DERE!

\*SPOOF: TO REDIRECT AN INCOMING MISSILE-F.



IT'LL JUST TAKE A SEC TA OPEN MY BAY DOORS 'N ARM MY FAVORITE WEAPONS!

AHAH! I'VE GOT A PERFECT BEAD ON ACE'S VELOCITY VECTOR, 'N A DIAMOND-RIGHT 'N MY TARGET DESIGNATOR TA PROVE IT!

DARK BIRD TA'DEADMEAT! ANY LAST WOIDS?

AAH! WE'RE HIT!!

KINETIC ENERGY-ROCKETS! FASTER THAN ANY MISSILE WITH THREE TIMES THE RANGE OF ANY BULLET!

DAMN! I FORGOT THAT F-23S COULD USE THOSE!

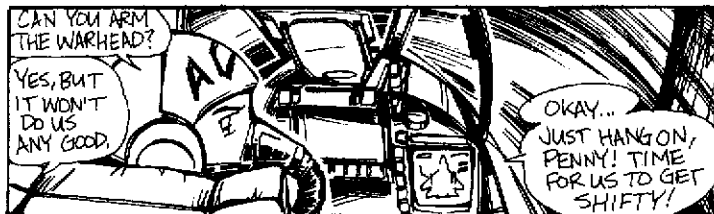


SH-SHOULD WE EJECT???

KRUNK

NOT YET... I'VE STILL GOT A GOOD ENGINE! (HYDRAULIC CONTROL FOR THE SWEEP-WING ON THE RIGHT SIDE IS OUT THOUGH...)

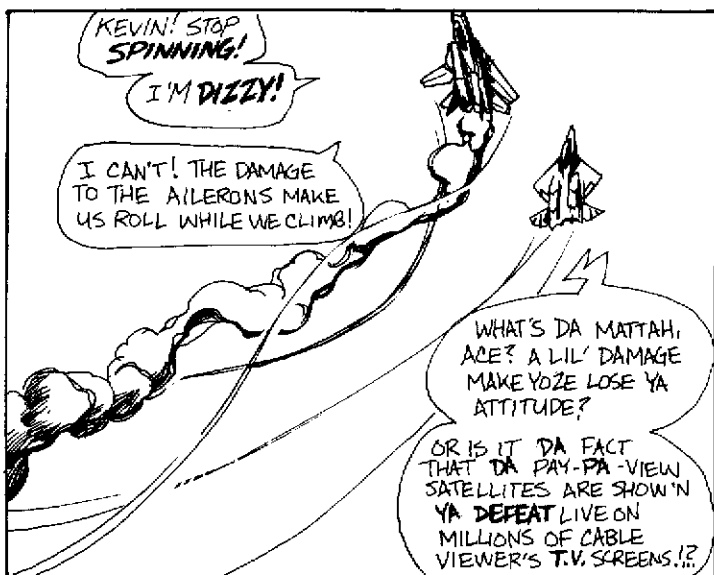
THATS NOT ALL, KEVIN! THE STORES MANAGEMENT DISPLAY SAYS OUR LAST SIDEWINDER WON'T FIRE! ALL WE CAN DO IS DUMP IT!



CAN YOU ARM THE WARHEAD?

YES, BUT IT WON'T DO US ANY GOOD

OKAY... JUST HANG ON, PENNY! TIME FOR US TO GET SHIFTY!



KEVIN! STOP SPINNING!

I'M DIZZY!

I CAN'T! THE DAMAGE TO THE AILERONS MAKE US ROLL WHILE WE CLIMB!

WHAT'S DA MATTAH, ACE? A LIL' DAMAGE MAKE YOZE LOSE YA ATTITUDE?

OR IS IT DA FACT THAT DA PAY-PA-VIEW SATELLITES ARE SHOW'N YA DEFEAT LIVE ON MILLIONS OF CABLE VIEWER'S T.V. SCREENS!?



AHAH! NOW  
I SEE WHATCHA  
DOIN'!

YOU'RE TRYIN'  
TO LOSE ME  
BY CLIMBIN'  
INTO DA  
SUN!



IF I FIYAH A HEAT  
SEEKKAH AT YA, YOZE  
CAN JUST MOVE OUT  
DA WAY AS IT HEADS  
FA DA SUN!

DATS WHY  
I'M ARMIN'  
MY M61AI  
**VULCAN**  
CANNON!

...AND AS SOON AS  
I LINE MY TARGET  
DESIGNATOR UP WIT  
MY M61 AIMING  
FUNNEL...



...DA NEXT SOUND YOU  
HEAR'LL BE MY HOT-  
LEAD PUNCHIN' HOLES  
THROUGH YA HELMET!!

WAITAMINUTE...

WHATS  
THAT?



**NOOOO!**



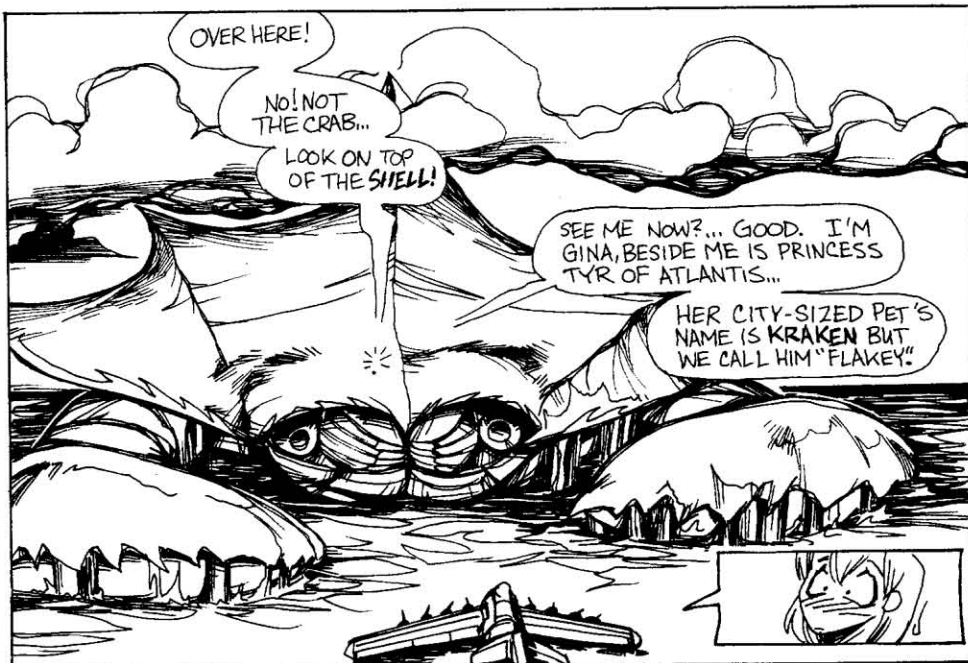
**OOH, YEAH!**  
I'M THE MAN!  
I'M THE MAN!

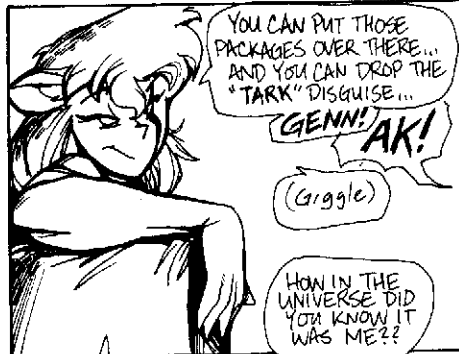
HAHA! I'D  
HAVE LOVED  
TOVE **SEEN** THE  
LOOK ON HER  
FACE!

I BET SHE SOILED  
HERSELF!!









YOU KNOW, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, IT **WAS** MIGHTY STRANGE THAT MESHA WASN'T WITH YOU!

MESHA AND TARK ARE ALMOST ALWAYS TOGETHER!

THAT'S RIGHT! AND EVEN IF THEY'RE APART, THEY NEVER STOP TALKING ABOUT EACH OTHER.

YOUR "TARK" BARELY EVEN REMEMBERED MESHA, GENN.

WHAT WAS THE DISGUISE FOR? WHY WERE YOU PRETENDING TO BE TARK? WHAT HAPPENED?

BEING A RAKSHASA, I SUSTAIN MYSELF BY COLLECTING AMBIENT MAGICAL ENERGY FROM THOSE WHO DON'T USE IT.

I COLLECT THE ENERGY AFTER...Eh... EXTENSIVE CLOSE PHYSICAL CONTACT. LIKE HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT OR... UH... YOU-KNOW-WHAT.

LAST NIGHT I GOT A LITTLE "HUNGRY" AND MADE A DEAL WITH BRIANNA... SHE'D LET ME CONSUME HER ETHEREAL ENERGY IF I USED MY **MASCULINE FORM**\* AND LET HER CALL ALL OF THE SHOTS.

kika kika

ONLY AFTER I ENTERED HER ROOM AND USED MY **ESP** TO SEE WHAT SHE PLANNED TO DO, DID I DISCOVER THAT THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY I'D COLLECT WOULD BE SMALL COMPARED TO THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY I'D HAVE TO **USE** TO GET IT!

\*GENN CAN BECOME A MALE, FEMALE OR NEUTRAL RAKSHASA AT WILL - F.

I TRIED TO LEAVE, BUT SHE MADE ME STAY AND... (YOU KNOW) UNTIL **DAWN**!

BRIANNA! THAT WAS **MEAN**!

FORCING YOURSELF ON GENN LIKE THAT...

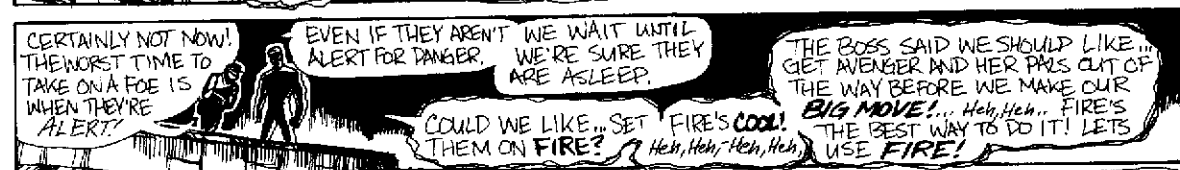
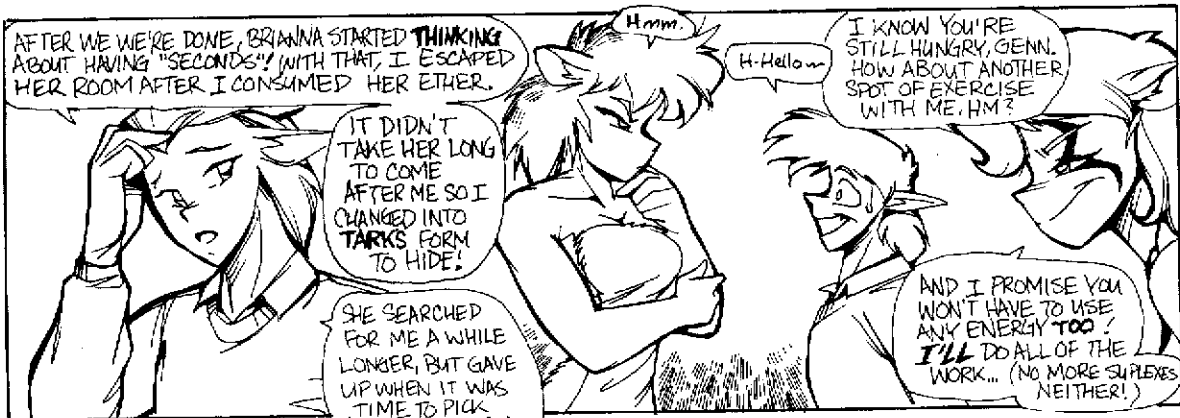
OH, BRIANNA DIDN'T **FORCE** ME. SHE JUST WOULDN'T LET ME TAKE ANY ETHER UNTIL SHE WAS **SATED**.

I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED IF BRIANNA WASN'T SO..... **ENTHUSIASTIC!**

OKAY, OKAY... MAYBE SUPLEXING YOU ONTO THE BED **WASN'T** SUCH A GOOD START...

**SHLAMMA**

IT SEEMED LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO DO AT THE TIME...



NEXT, IT GETS WEIRDER FROM HEREON!!