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DEC 1998

72

FURRLOUGH



DEAR SANTA: A CHRISTMAS LIST

Merry Christmas! It has been a busy year for Radio Comix. We've put out a ton of books and have grown as a company, both of which are the best presents we could think of. But we do have a small list of other things we'd like to see for Christmas:

- 1) **Even more diversity in comics.** Yes, comics have expanded into new genres, but not nearly enough to attract the new readers we could. Comics for girls are a great example; since most readers are male, the market could *double* if we could capture that market.
- 2) **A deeper appreciation of manga.** Japanese comics are really popular right now with the wider availability of anime and import manga. We're hoping that readers and artists can look beyond the superficial visual aspects of manga (which a lot of American creators are shamelessly "borrowing") to the more sophisticated dramatic story-telling techniques.
- 3) **Less talent drain.** Animation, computer games and commercial art have all been luring comic artists away with their promise of lucrative cash rewards. But big money often means working with large teams and creative compromise. Maybe it's time, as an industry, we start putting a premium value on creative control and vision, and treat the *creators* who take the time to hone their craft with respect.
- 4) **A G3 433 MHz Powermac in every home.** (Pat)
- 5) **A Blondie Reunion.** (Elin)
- 6) **Naked Ladies to read his comic Trouble Express at cons** (Will)
- 7) **Whirled Peas** (Mike)
- 8) **More cat toys.** (Indy, Hopey and Yubi)
- 9) **For Pat and Elin to send the solicitation material before the last minute.** (Matt)

Elin Pat Will Michael Matthew

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM RADIO COMIX



Will Allison, artist of *Trouble Express*, did the honors for 1998 Radio Comix Christmas card! It features Yubi, the seven-toed Radio Comix mascot! We would like to wish a happy holiday to all of our readers and fans!

The Hot Spot

cool stuff we like



The stuff we were listening to, reading or playing with when we put these comics together!

Fave Comic

Measles from Fantagraphics
America Extra from Viz

Video Games

Bust a Groove
Sonic Spinball (on my new Genesis 3! It's so cute!)

Cool Animated Feature

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer by Rankin Bass

Fave CD's

Pretty in Pink Soundtrack
Celebrity Skin by Hole
Psyence Fiction by Unkle
Rock & Roll by the New York Dolls

Fave Word Pronunciation

Poe-Kay-Mon by Col. Sanders

Will's Choice

Radio Comix Playlist

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 069 | Various
Furrrough #72 |
| | 7 years down. Now for another 7! |
| 070 | Barnard and Smith
Havoc, INC. #4 |
| | Have a little Havoc in your life! |
| 071 | Tsukasa Kotobuki
Mechanical Man Blues #1 |
| | Maximum manga madness! |
| 072 | Various
Genus #33 |
| | It keeps going and going... |

RADIO COMIX SKETCHBOOK



Here's a sneak peek of *Morning Glory* #4 by Loran Gayton and Michael Vega! It's heading your way this March!

Publishers Pat Duke & Elin Winkler
Retailer Liaison Matthew High

FURRILOUGH

DECEMBER • 1998 • ISSUE 72



Cover:
Eugene
Arenhaus

Frontispiece:
Sara Palmer

Editor:
Elin Winkler

Production:
Pat Duke

Publishers:
Elin Winkler
Pat Duke

Mascots:
Hopey
Yubi &
Indy

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PENCILED AND
INKED BY:
DIANA
SPRINKLE

力見太國中○付太YEN

WRITTEN AND
LETTERED BY:
EDDIE
PERKINS

PART 2





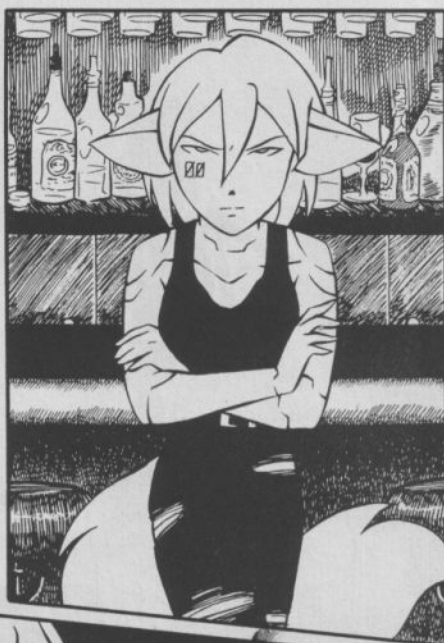
... After being saved from bandits and pointed in the right direction by their friend Becky, Panda and Taylor made it to Podunk Falls, the first stop of the Dragon Heaven contest. It has been a day since they checked in and now they are bored stiff.

Why start such a major event in a backwater like Podunk Falls? Well, the contest used to start in the mega-city of Kroywen, but since Dragon Heaven is not a race for time, many contestants stayed in the city. One of the few rules concerning combat between contestants states that if a contestant and their assistants are knocked unconscious or are too injured to continue they must withdraw from the contest. So, those who stayed were hell-bent on thinning out the competition. Massive property damage ensued and the contest was forced to move.

Podunk Falls has very little property to damage and no one in their right mind would want to stay there.



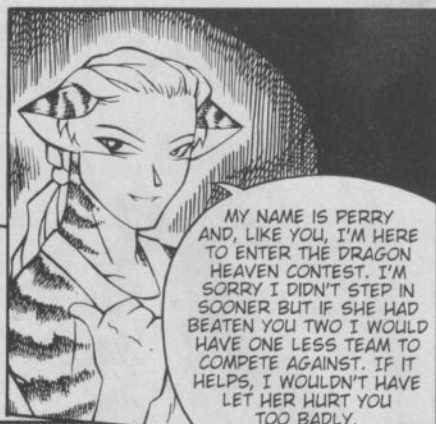






That's fighting words~





MY NAME IS PERRY AND, LIKE YOU, I'M HERE TO ENTER THE DRAGON HEAVEN CONTEST. I'M SORRY I DIDN'T STEP IN SOONER BUT IF SHE HAD BEATEN YOU TWO I WOULD HAVE ONE LESS TEAM TO COMPETE AGAINST. IF IT HELPS, I WOULDN'T HAVE LET HER HURT YOU TOO BADLY.

MY HERO

C'MON, LET'S GET YOU AND YOUR INEBRIATED FRIEND A SEAT AND I'LL SEE ABOUT GETTING YOU SOME ICE FOR THAT EYE.

HEY, MY PARENTS WEREN'T RELATED!

THAT WAS QUITE A PUNCH. BET YOU'RE GONNA HAVE QUITE THE SHINER IN THE MORNING.

SNORE!

AW, THE MARKING WILL HIDE IT.

TRUE. YOU TWO ARE AN ODD PAIR TO FIND IN A TOUGH CONTEST LIKE THIS. WHY'D YOU ENTER ANYWAY?

DON'T *EVEN* GET ME STARTED ON THAT.

OK OK. WE ALL HAVE OUR SECRETS.

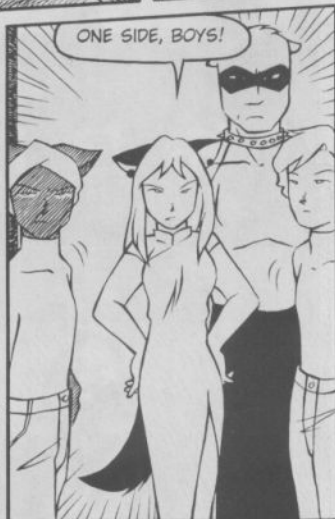
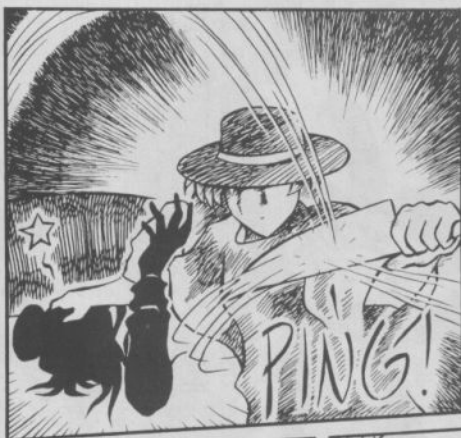
SNORE!

SNORE!

-AHEM- SO, UM, YOU LEAVE YOUR BOYFRIEND BEHIND FOR THIS?









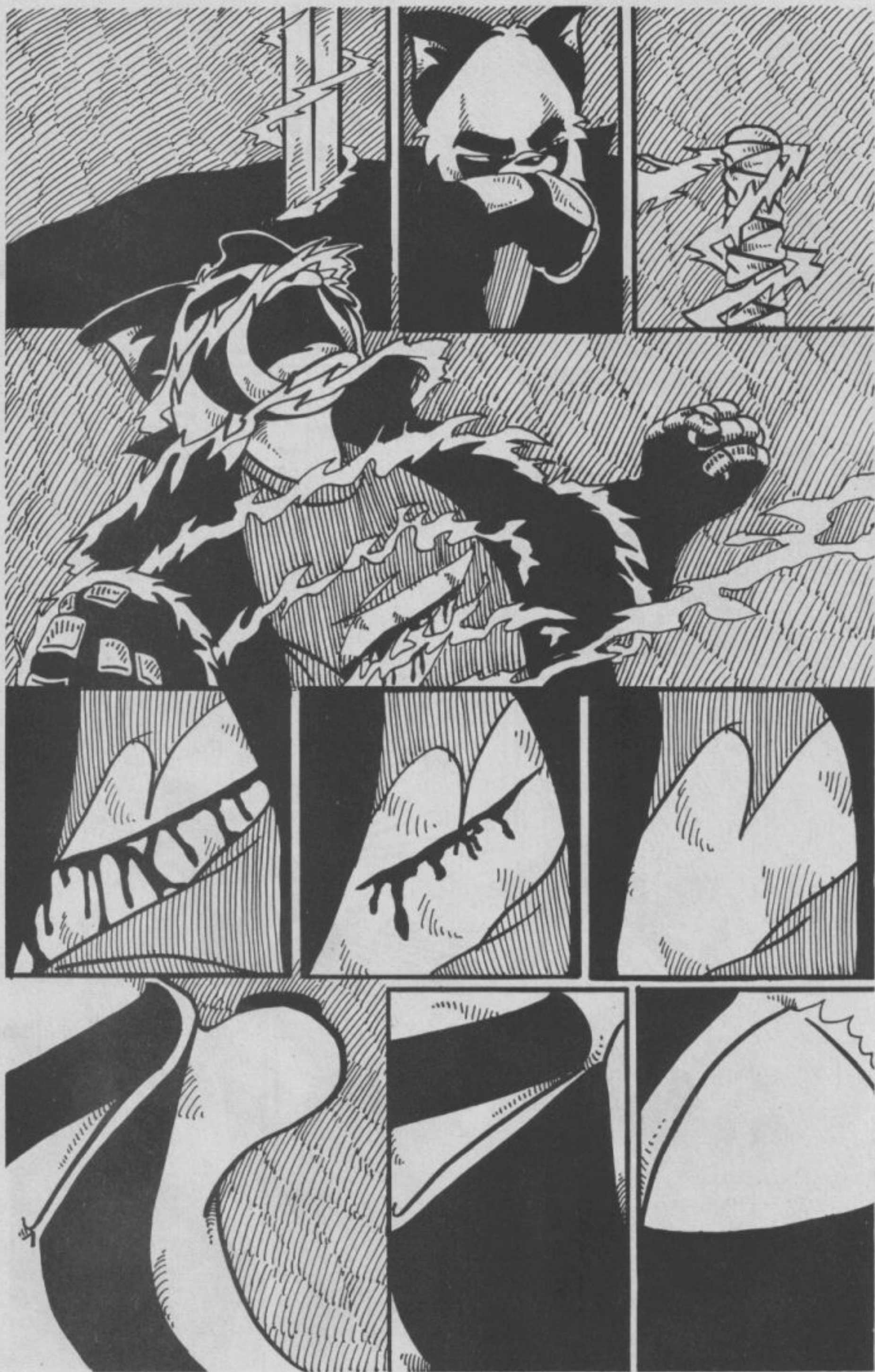
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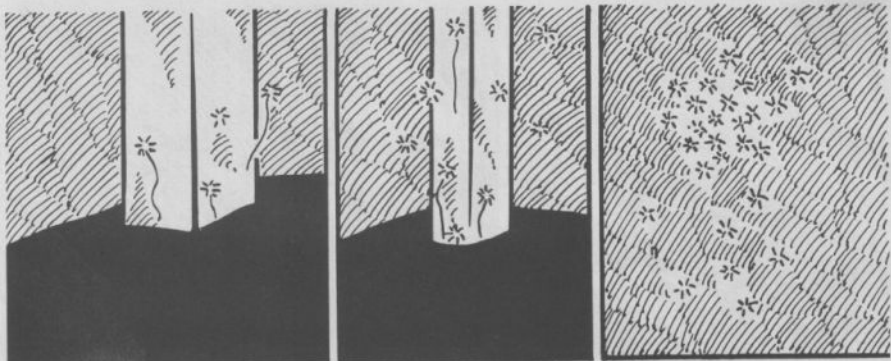
V A M P Y R E H U N T E R

— PART 12 —

STORY AND ART BY: KEVIN I. MURANAKA









THEN WHAT
HAPPENED?



I CAME HOME, YOU WERE
STILL UNCONSCIOUS, SO I
PICKED YOU UP AND WE
BOARDED THE SHIP.

DID YOU TELL
YOUR FRIENDS
WHAT HAPPENED?

OF COURSE!



DID THEY BELIEVE YOU?



OF COURSE NOT!
WOULD YOU? THEY'LL JUST
HAVE TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES.



YOU MEAN
THEY'RE HERE?

ALONG WITH A FEW OTHERS.

DO THE OTHERS KNOW?

NO. NOT YET.

MISA, THEY'RE FAMILY.
THERE IS NOTHING WE
WOULDN'T DO FOR EACH OTHER.

PLEASE!
TRUST ME!

(SIGH!)
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M
SAYING THIS. BUT, IF
YOU TRUST THEM,
I GUESS I CAN TOO.

NOW, LET'S SEE
THIS SHIP OF YOURS.

ADJUST COURSE THREE POINT
TWO DEGREES STARBOARD.

THREE POINT
TWO DEGREES, CHECK!

SO, HOW DO YOU
LIKE IT SO FAR?

THIS SURE BEATS
SECRETARIAL WORK!

HEY! I THOUGHT YOU
ENJOYED TYPING AND FILING?

PUN-LEESE!

YES?

JUBEI, LETS TAKE
HER UP ALL THE WAY!

AYE AYE.



BEGIN SEQUENCE!



ENGAGE AUXILIARY
THRUSTERS!



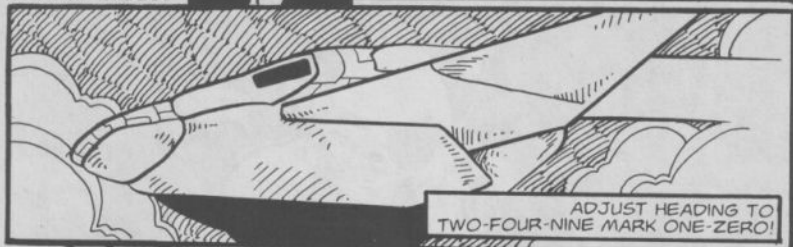
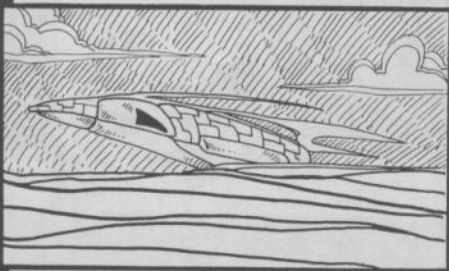
DEPLOY WINGS!



INCREASE SPEED!



WE HAVE REACHED
BREAK AWAY SPEED!



ADJUST HEADING TO
TWO-FOUR-NINE MARK ONE-ZERO!

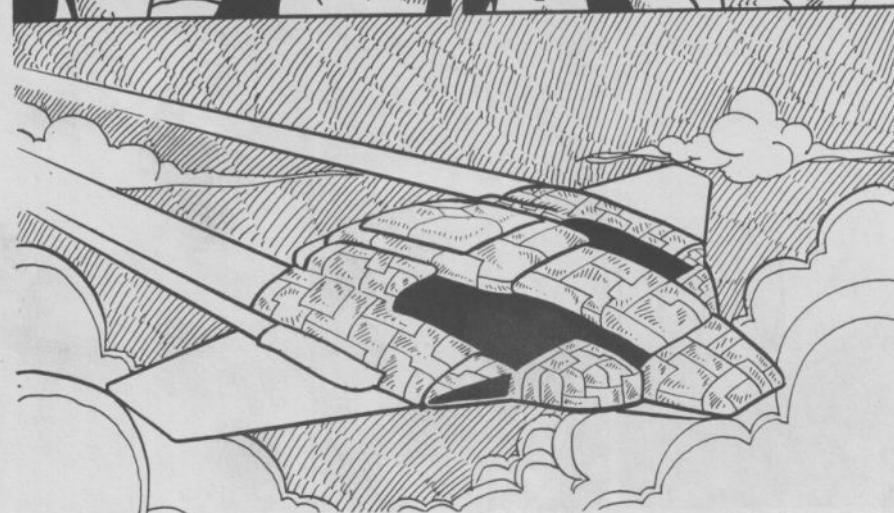
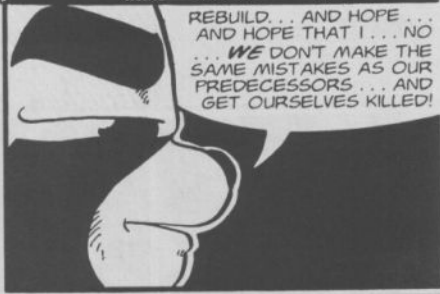


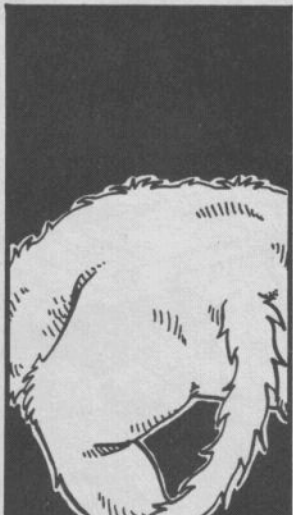
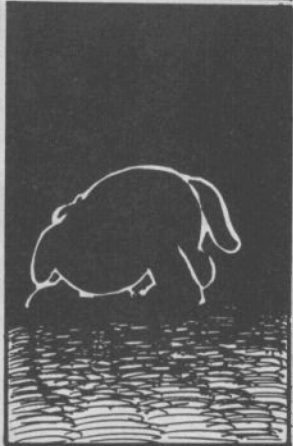
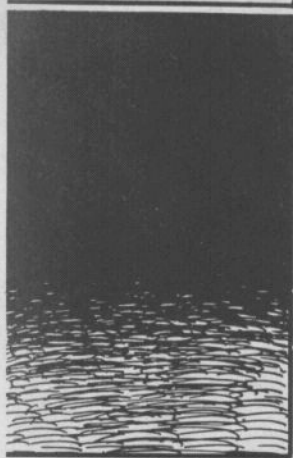
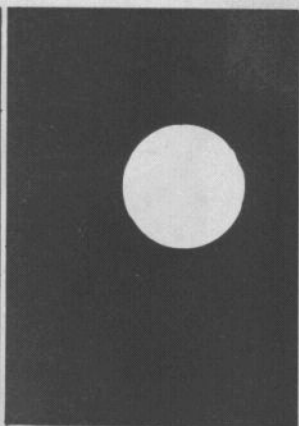
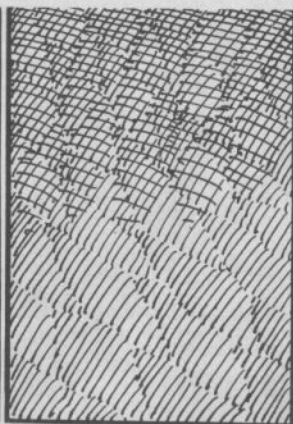


TOBI, WHAT'S GOING
TO HAPPEN NOW?



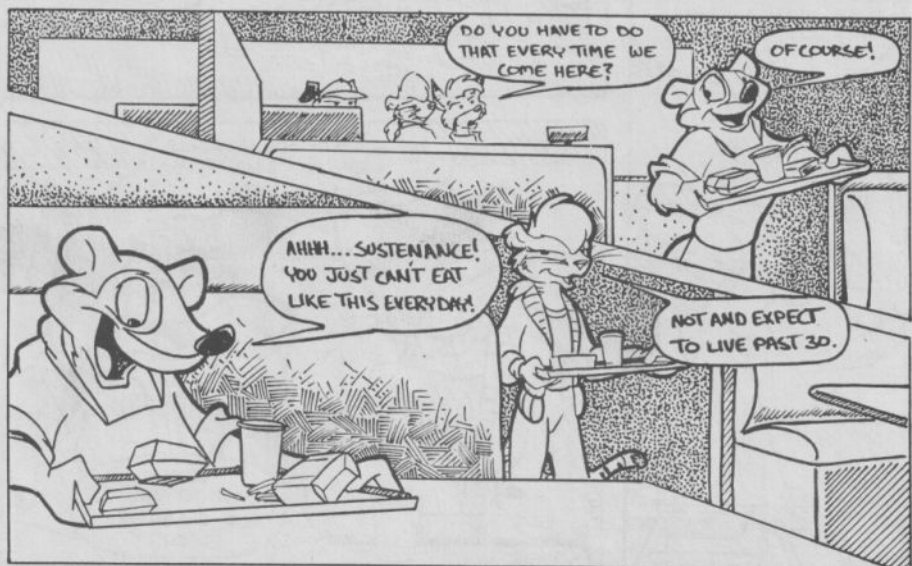
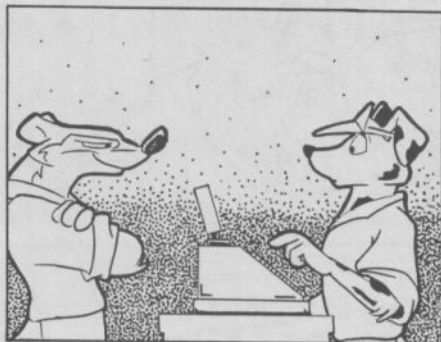
REBUILD... AND HOPE...
AND HOPE THAT I... NO
... **WE** DON'T MAKE THE
SAME MISTAKES AS OUR
PREDECESSORS... AND
GET OURSELVES KILLED!

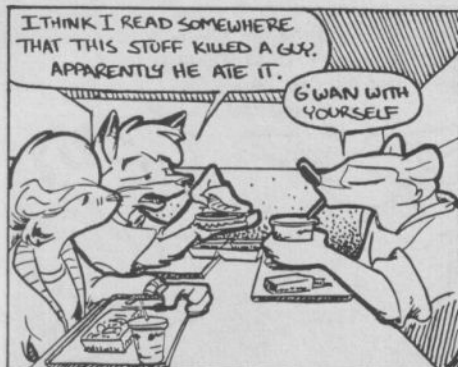




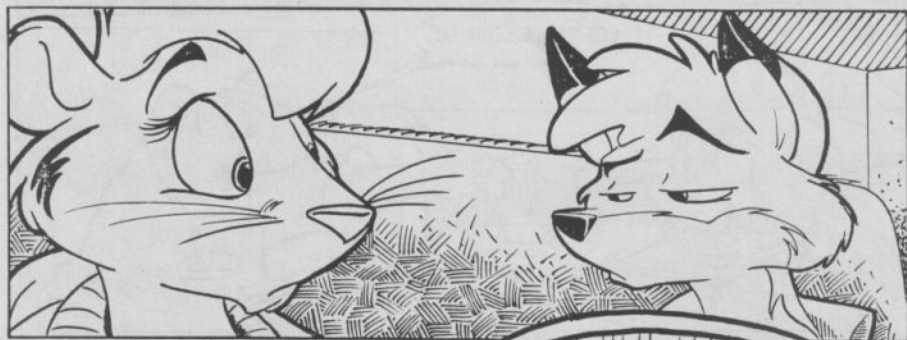










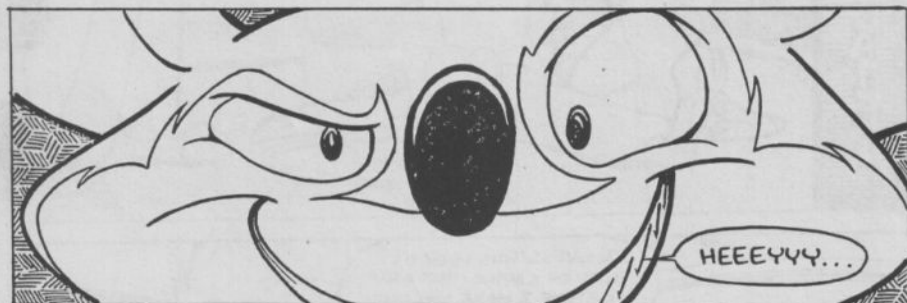






SEVERAL HOURS LATER







COMMUNIQUE

LETTERS TO FURRLOUGH

11765 West Ave. #117

San Antonio, TX 78216

radiocomix@aol.com

More older letters in an attempt to clear out those files. Let's get some more letters in here! --EW

Dear FurrloUGH:

(Re: FurrloUGH #63) Now that "Tiger Orange" has had its turn at the digital chopping block, only a few other fairly consistent stories are up for covers.

I'd like to comment on the frontispiece a little more than I usually do. Why, with the addition of huge, sometimes grotesque, ears, are manga-styled characters suddenly assumed to be furry? The barrier between human with animal traits and animal with human traits is definitely fuzzy, but don't you think this touches a little nearer to, say, costume party, than pure furry? Then again, s'pose I'm being a little critical of furry ethics. In itself, the art is very nice.

"Tiger Orange" is getting formulaic, like most manga I've seen. More yelling, lots of firepower, simple ideas and plot.

"Artist's Fantasy" is good for a chuckle or two. Heh!

"Love, Death & Money" is just about the best story of the issue. Another light-duty funny animal excursion into silliness. The plot-twist was, at least, surprising. They should've had a moral at the end. One question, though... I'm assuming this is a fairly middle-age-era storytale setting. Why's the Barker for the auction using a microphone?

"Aardwolf Agency" is best for its humor, and an okay short overall. The art is just a bit wobbly. In a strange way it compliments the short and jaunty storyline.

"Therionpangrams" are improving for what they are, which is splash pages. Very nice art on this one.

Sincerely,
Enzo Sica,
State College, PA

Dear FurrloUGH:

Once again, I waded through the humidity of Central Pennsylvania to write you my per-issue review, critique and compliment of FurrloUGH. I believe it's #63 this time. Cover looks as loud as the last issue that featured the "Bronze Age" thing. The artist's use of differing backgrounds seems to work very nicely here. Sometimes I get the impression that he won't draw anything less than two or more scenes happening at one time. Bill Fitts is drawing from Vietnam, obviously. Hate the gun. Doesn't look as cool as anything that was in Vietnam, such as the M-14, M-16, AK-47, M-60, etc. Wonder if there's any story to the military furries?

This particular "Bronze Age" story, like all of them in a way, gets a little bit beyond the reader, as if it expects them to know at least a rudimentary history and background to this densely packed series of comics. I don't like it for some reason.

I would like to submit 153, 872 votes for "Full Knight Gear". It's rapidly becoming the best story there is in the history of FurrloUGH since it's been in your hands. Without any more "Ninjara" and not a lot of "Heebas" to give it comparable competition, "FKG" is definitely the topper for the last few issues you've put out. Enormous amount of fun to read, although it's just a little irritating to find the sequence of the word balloons. Art is phenomenal. Note: scene in which the slain Prince is picked up by the Zombie Wrangler is the single brightest idea I've seen in the pages of FurrloUGH. Much better than anything the X-men could think up to bring back a superhero.

"Eye for an Eye"; Bad, bad, bad. Very bad. Very, very bad.

Awaiting more next time. Please do tell the guy who does "Heebas" to do more of it. And-- Ninjara, Ninjara, Ninjara!

Sincerely,
Enzo Sica,
State College, PA

Dear FurrloUGH:

Much thanks for again printing my letter in issue #66. One of the best things which draws me to your series are the consistently simple, beautifully colored covers. This one doesn't slow the routine a bit.

The frontispiece is... uhmm... reminiscent of an attitude that would be right at home in, say, 1987, 1988 and 1989. Cute pose.

"Cross of the Dolls" looks like the most likely candidate for a

If They Married" show featuring "Full Knight Gear" and "Tobias Wah". "Tobias Wah" for the confusing layout and blacks and whites. "FKG" for the highly manga-esque action, criss-cross shading and bodily exaggerations, i.e. characters with hands big enough to rip their own heads off with, etc. The persistence of drawing medium to close-up shots doesn't give much of a sense of depth, nor of the characters' placing in their environment. Still, it's off to a brisk start.

Chris Whalen's "The Connoisseur" is very cute to read.

Richly textured for a B&W single page, hope she does more.

"The Otters" looks like something I'd be more likely to find in The Comic News, (an actual, monthly publication of newspaper cartoons) being a scrawpily drawn, slightly stupid, mostly weird or quirky gag story. (I see nothing resembling otters here-- I think they all look like ducks, except for the cucumber/sheep.)

"Tobias Wah" is not good. It just isn't. Like I have repeated a few times, panel borders, however they may detract from the mood of the story, would go far in improving its smoothness of plot.

This "Therionpangrams" thing is, in my humble opinion, a bit detracting from the quality of your book. I like the WWII theme, but a whole lot less is being said in one page than could.

And finally-- if "Stosstrupp", "FKG" and "Ninjara" are on one side of the quality spectrum, "Misty the Mouse" is definitely on the other. I'd rather read Shanda the Panda any day.

Thanks again for the printing and even though some things may not always be liked by me in particular, I always think your book is very good, if not for its per-issue content, then simply for its persisting existence.

Sincerely,
Enzo Sica,
State College, PA

Dear FurrloUGH:

I was wondering what I would need to do to have some of my work published in FurrloUGH.

Other than that, I have nothing but good reviews for a majority of the many talented artists featured inside the comic book.

Thank you,
Robert L. Corey,
Sacramento, CA

A copy of our submission guidelines is in the mail to you, Robert! Pretty much all of the people in FurrloUGH today got their start by sending in samples of their work. Many of them also honed their talents in fanzines or on webpages like Yarf (<http://yarf.com>). Fanzines and webpages are a great way to get exposure and also constructive criticism-- two things that are invaluable to a developing artist. The third most important quality is perseverance-- not all the artists who have "made it" got accepted on the first try. --EW

The Top Ten List got a shock as "Full Knight Gear" took over the top spot, nudging "Stosstrupp" and "Heebas" down the list! Remember, you can vote as often as you like for any story from the entire run of FurrloUGH! Send in your votes and be counted!

TOP TEN FURRLOUGH STORIES

- 1) FULL KNIGHT GEAR by Michael Vega
- 2) STOSSTRUPP by Ted Sheppard
- 3) HEEBAS by Scotty Arsenault
- 4) NINJARA by Dean Clarrain & Chris Allan
- 5) TIGER ORANGE by Kurt Wilcken & Ken Lowe
- 6) ZAIBATSU TEARS by Richard Bartrop
- 7) TOBIAS WAH by Kevin I. Muranaka
- 8) HERE COMES A CANDLE by Mary Hanson-Roberts
- 9) ROMANICS by Joe Rosales
- 10) THE OTTERS by Norman Scott

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