



5
AUG.
1994

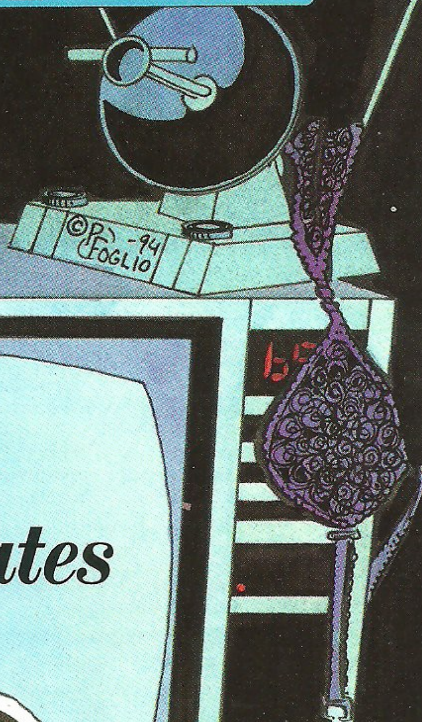
\$2.75
U.S.

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ANTHROPOMORPHIC

Shanda

THE PANDA

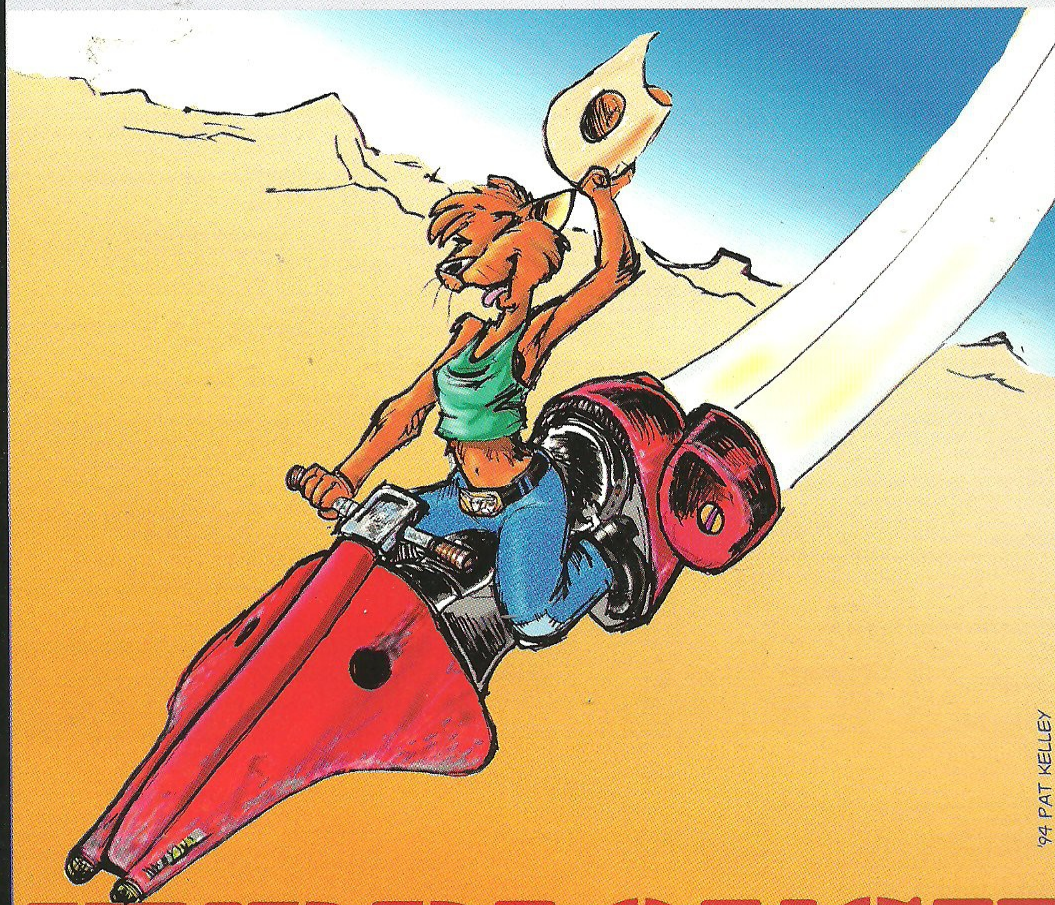


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AUGUST 1994

ABSOLUTE ZERO by Herb Mallette

Nine and a half years ago, Antarctic Press produced its first anthology title, *Mangazine*. The book has undergone many changes since then: different sizes, different cover stock, different interior paper, different page counts, changes from bimonthly to quarterly back to bimonthly to monthly publishing status . . . and finally, the addition and growing importance of the anime section. Throughout all of this change, though, *Mangazine* has remained a proving ground for new creators. By providing a forum for untried artists, the book allowed us to take chances we couldn't otherwise have afforded. Often, these chances have paid off, leading to full series like Joe Wight's *Twilight X* and Fred Perry's *Gold Digger*.

But in the near future, probably by *Mangazine* #36 or 37, that's going to change. The comics section, which has dwindled to a bare third of the book, will disappear, making room for more of the articles and reviews that have become the heart of the publication.

If I wanted to wallow in melancholy wistfulness, I might say it marks the end of an era, that things will never quite be the same, or that all steps into the future require the abandonment of something from the past.

The truth is, though, that we're lopping an extra thumb off the book, and it will

probably work lots better without it. So where does that leave all the aspiring new artists who previously looked, stary-eyed, to *Mangazine* with all their hopes of being published, of getting that foot in the comics industry's door? Are we leaving them completely out in the cold? Well, in a manner of speaking, we are.

Absolute Zero is the coldest possible temperature, the temperature at which all subatomic motion comes to a halt. It's also the name of Antarctic's new anthology title, set to debut late this year or early next. We chose the name because it's in keeping with our general south pole motif, it has a nice ring of magnitude to it . . . and it will make any hostile critics happy because it's sort of like painting a big target on our chests.

The book is now open for submissions — any and all genres are accepted, so long as they don't require an "adults only" label. It will be a big book — 48 pages — so there will be lots of room for fresh new talent. We're pretty excited about it. We hope you will be too.

Herb Mallette

CHECK OUT ANTARCTIC PRESS' other releases

Release dates subject to change.

- Tomorrow Man & Knight Hunter: Last Rites #1** • 32 pages • by Bobee Padilla & Joe Weltjens • \$2.75.
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- Mangazine #13 relist** • 32 pages • \$2.95
- Venus Sampler** • 3 adult books • \$2.99

MORE FINEPRINT BY PAT DUKE

I've been getting a lot of requests for information regarding submitting computer generated art. So, for next month I'll run down some of the basics of how we color our covers on the computer. Even if you aren't an artist, the process we use is quite interesting, so stick around -you might learn something!

Now for the list of the people who won cool stuff in the Gold Digger "Strike it Rich" Contest! The grand prize winner was Jon Bezner of Waterford, Michigan! He takes home one cool ounce of gold! Congratulations Jon! Other big prize winners include Velton Kyle Baker II of Fort Sill, Oklahoma, who should find some original Gold Digger art in his mailbox any day now!

Winners of the signed Gold Editions are:

- Martin Finch of Victoria, Australia
- Alan Daniels of Richardson, Texas
- Andrew Tucker of Devizes Wiltshire, United Kingdom
- Bryan Feir of Toronto, Canada
- Scott Johnson of Castle Rock, Colorado
- Caleb Morris of Gulf Port, Mississippi
- Dave Denman of Centralia, Washington
- Edward Maxwell of Crawfordsville, Indiana
- Timothy Berry of Anchorage, Alaska
- Vince D'Amelio of MT View, California
- Gregory Nace of York, Pennsylvania
- Steven Thesken of Irvine, California

Winners of the 6-month subscriptions are:

- Chuck Blades Jr. of Converse, Texas
- Karl P. Madsen of Poway, California
- Chris Chiasson of Ottawa, Canada

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- Kelly B. Oaks of Long Beach, California
- Bill Noppi of North Royalton, Ohio
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- Chris Adkins of Jackson, South Carolina
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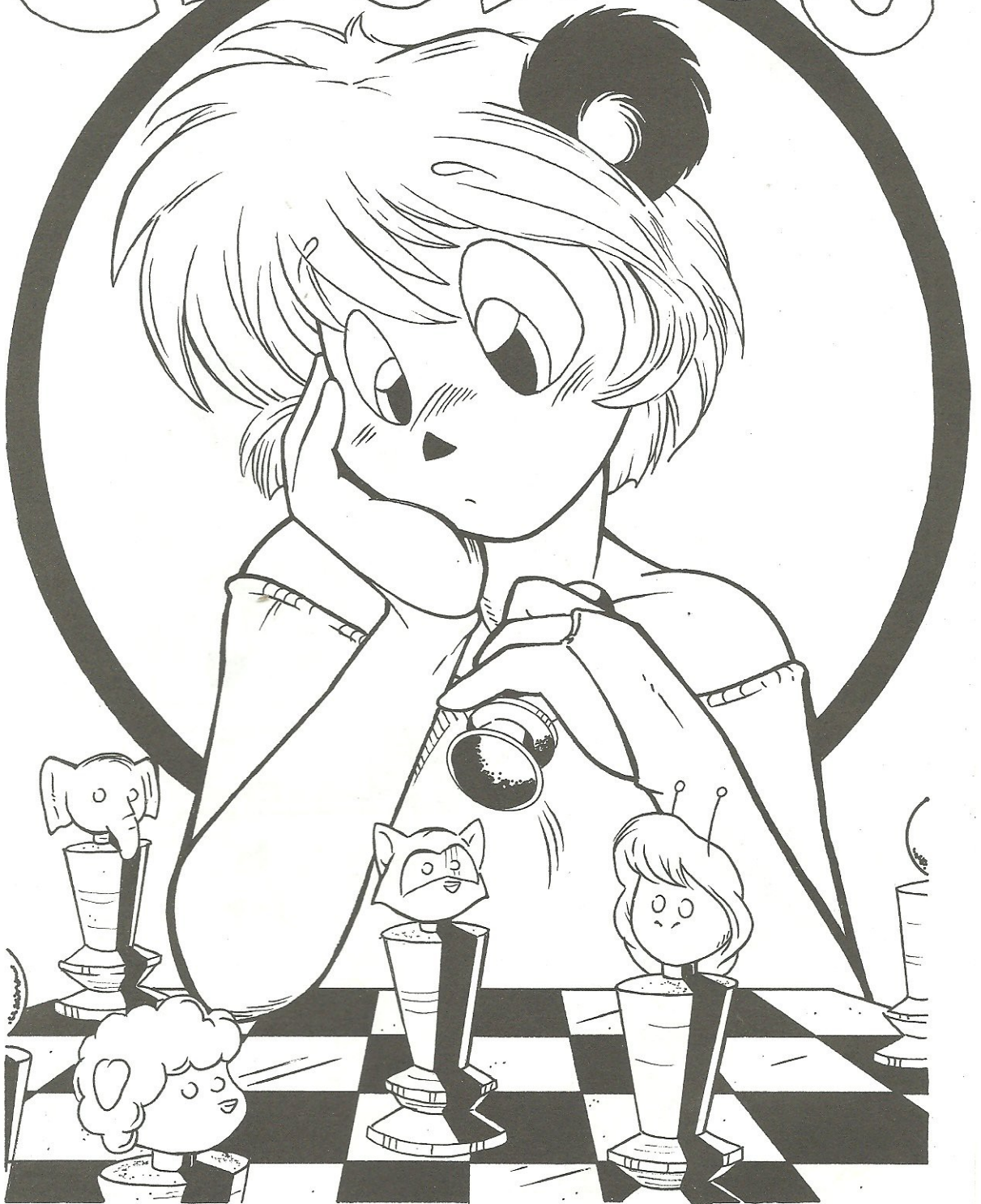
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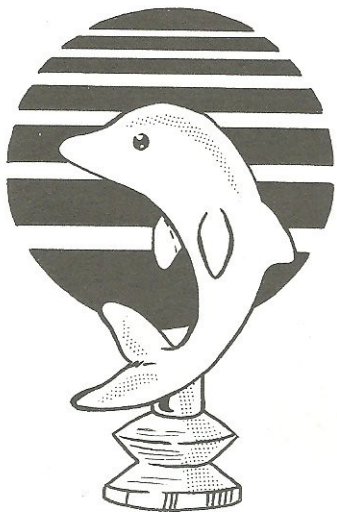
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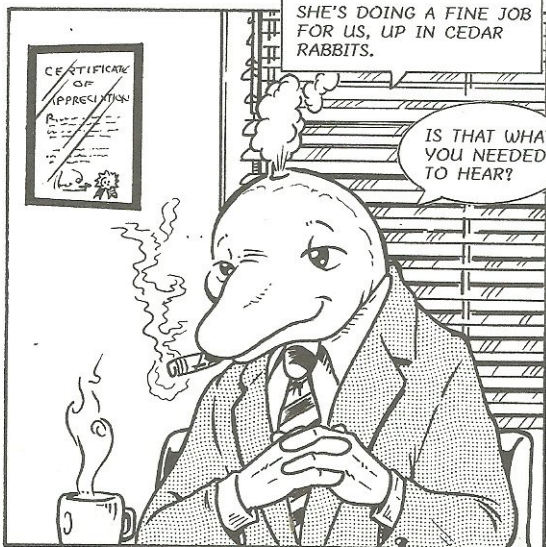
STORY BY MIKE CURTIS • ART BY MICHELE LIGHT • INKS BY MARK BARNARD



NICE TO SEE YOU, MR. BRUIN.
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

WELL, IT'S ABOUT
MY DAUGHTER,
SHANDA, MR.
BECKER...

AHH -- WE DIDN'T PART ON
THE BEST OF TERMS. I HAD
MADE OVERTURES TOWARDS
HER MEETING A MALE PANDA.

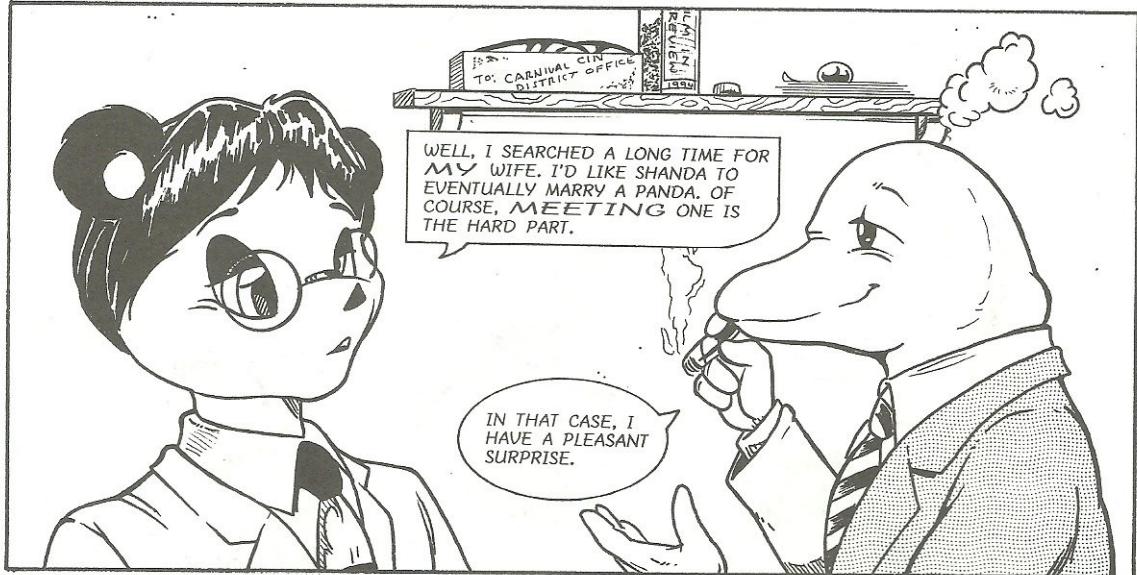


SHE'S DOING A FINE JOB
FOR US, UP IN CEDAR
RABBITS.

IS THAT WHAT
YOU NEEDED
TO HEAR?

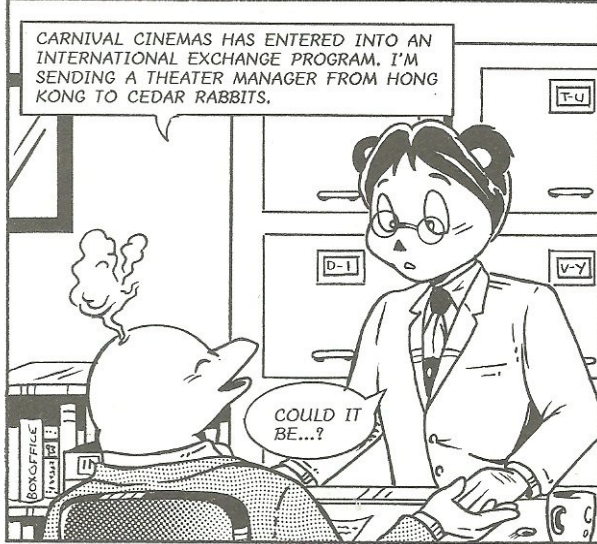


IS BEING SPECIES
EXCLUSIVE THAT
IMPORTANT TO
YOU?



WELL, I SEARCHED A LONG TIME FOR
MY WIFE. I'D LIKE SHANDA TO
EVENTUALLY MARRY A PANDA. OF
COURSE, MEETING ONE IS
THE HARD PART.

IN THAT CASE, I
HAVE A PLEASANT
SURPRISE.



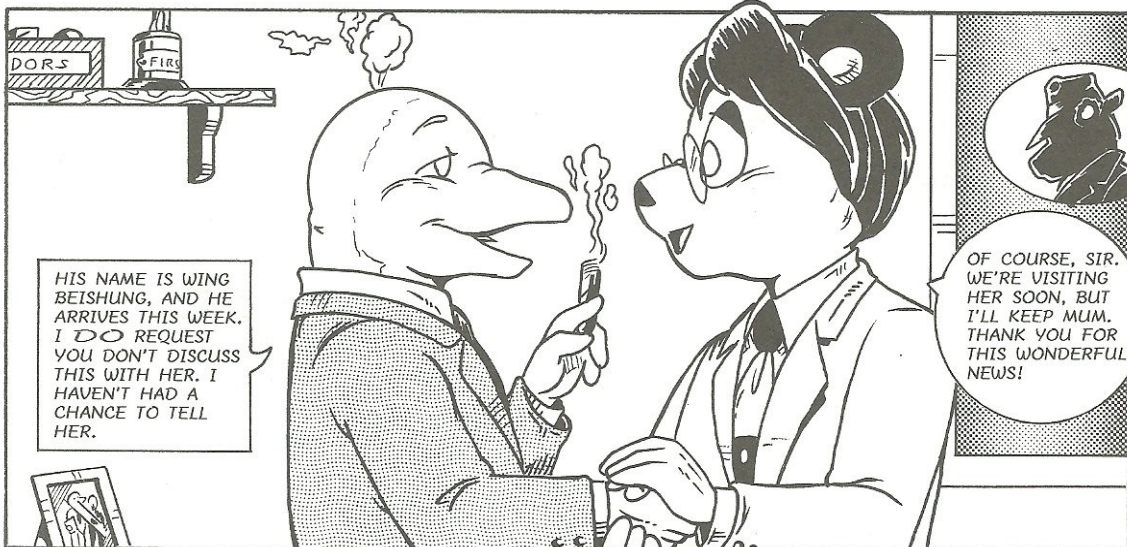
CARNIVAL CINEMAS HAS ENTERED INTO AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM. I'M SENDING A THEATER MANAGER FROM HONG KONG TO CEDAR RABBITS.

COULD IT BE...?



YES. A PANDA.

SHANDA'S GRANDMOTHER WILL BE SO HAPPY!



HIS NAME IS WING BEISHUNG, AND HE ARRIVES THIS WEEK. I DO REQUEST YOU DON'T DISCUSS THIS WITH HER. I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TELL HER.

OF COURSE, SIR. WE'RE VISITING HER SOON, BUT I'LL KEEP MUM. THANK YOU FOR THIS WONDERFUL NEWS!



SHANDA, DARLIN', YOU'VE BEEN AWFUL QUIET TONIGHT.

MY MOTHER CALLED. SHE AND DADDY ARE FLYING INTO TOWN ON MY DAY OFF. I WANT THEM TO MEET YOU.

AM I THAT BAD LOOKING?

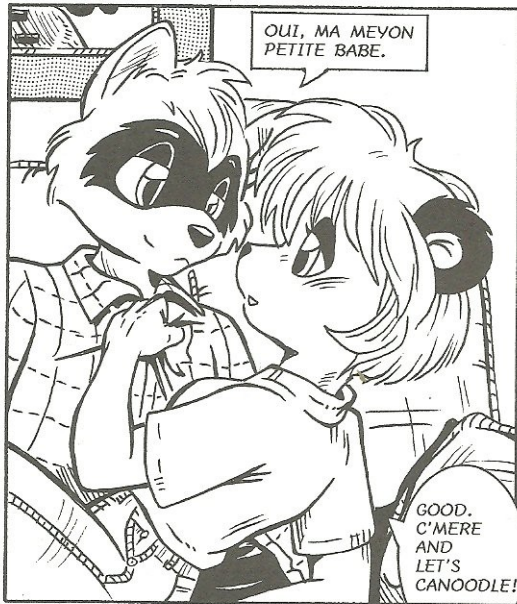


YOU'RE NOT A PANDA.



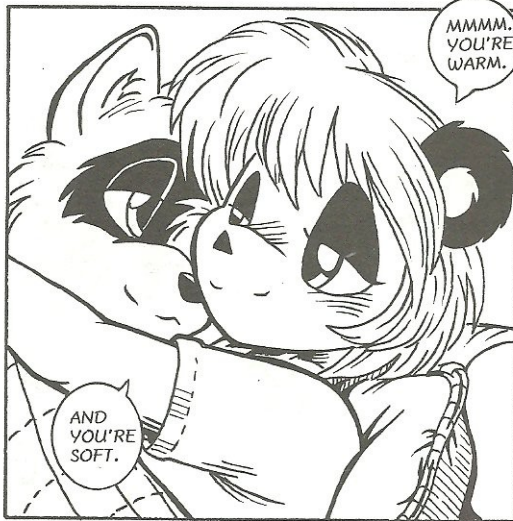
OHHHHH, IT'S THAT WAY. WHAT IF THEY KNEW THAT I'M STILL MARRIED?

THEY'D SHIT. WILL YOU HAVE DINNER WITH THEM?



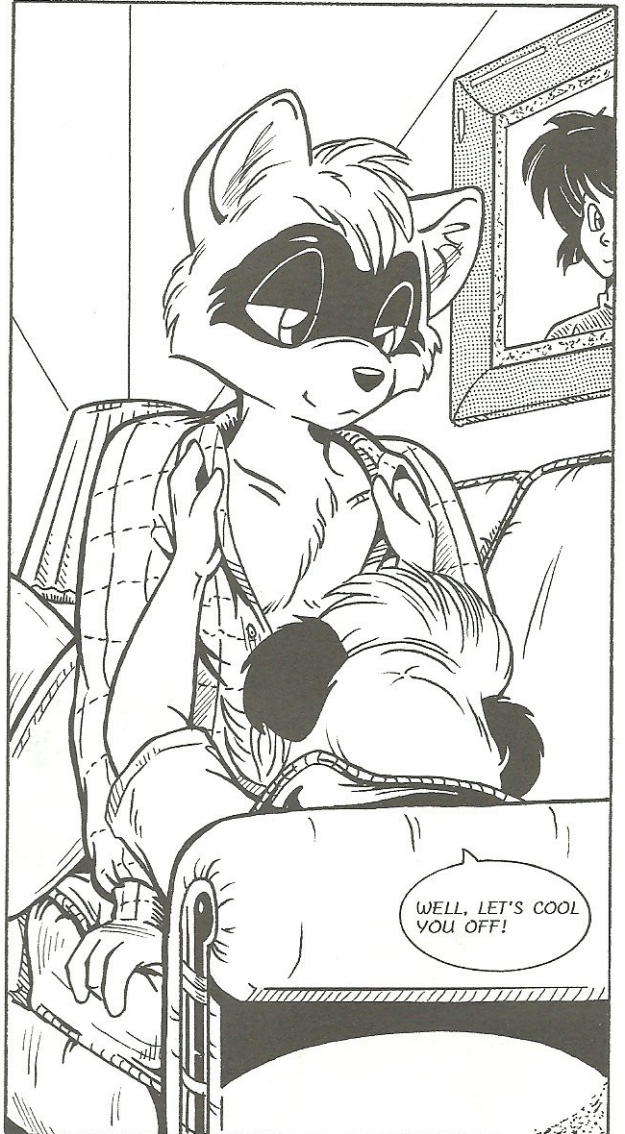
OUI, MA MEYON PETITE BABE.

GOOD. C'MERE AND LET'S CANOODLE!

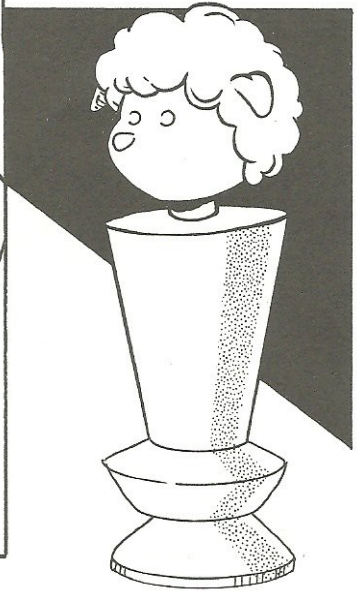
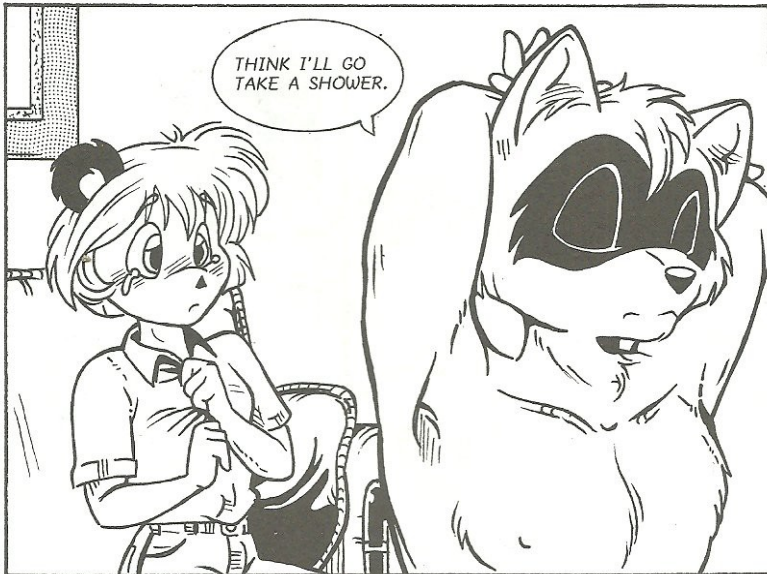
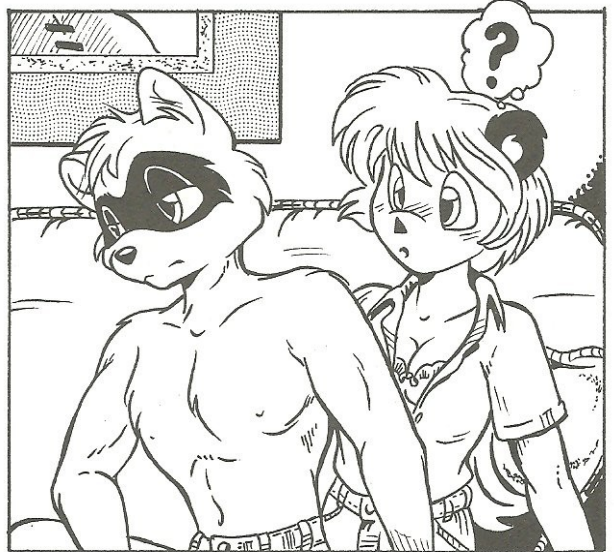
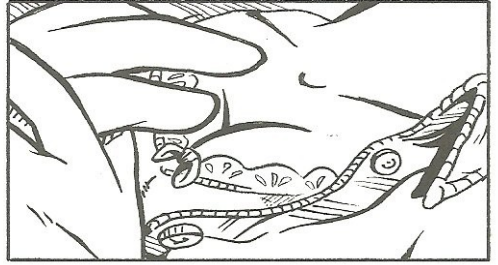
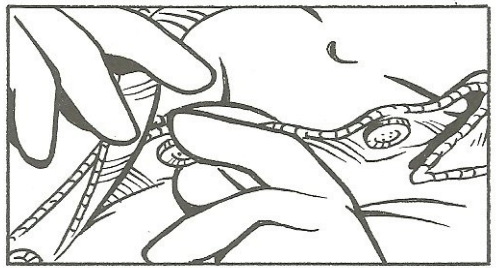
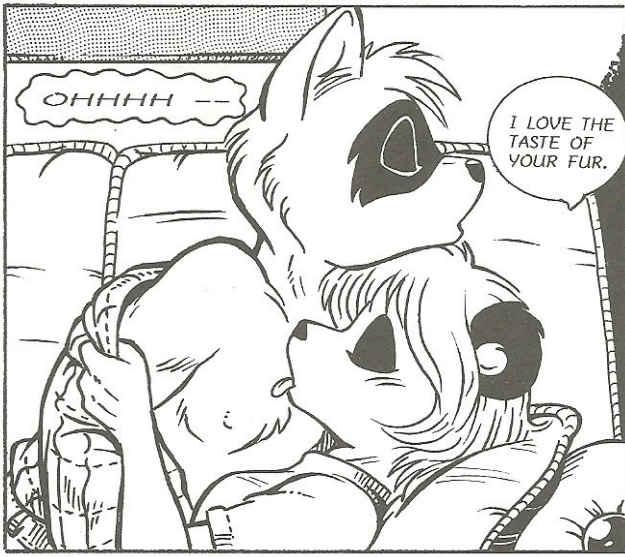


MMMM, YOU'RE WARM.

AND YOU'RE SOFT.



WELL, LET'S COOL YOU OFF!

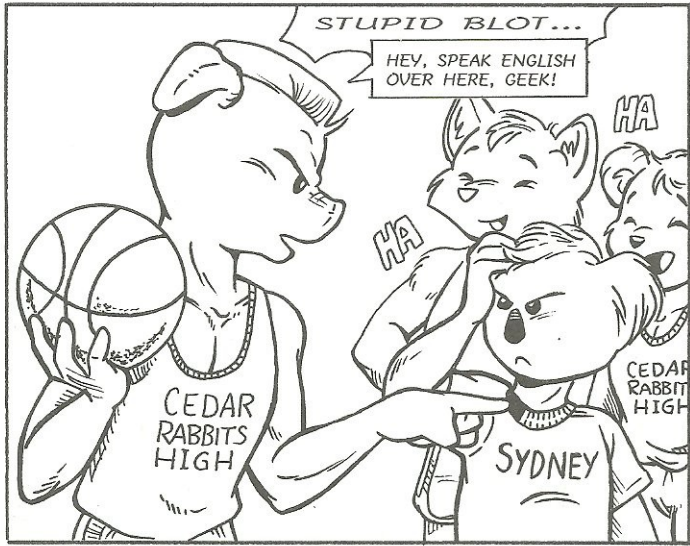




THEY PICKING ON THAT NEW GUY, AGAIN?

I'M AFRAID SO.

BUNCH OF BULLIES!



STUPID BLOT...

HEY, SPEAK ENGLISH OVER HERE, GEEK!

HA

HA

CEDAR RABBIT HIGH

SYDNEY



OKAY, PORKER. LEAVE HIM ALONE.

KRHK
KRAK

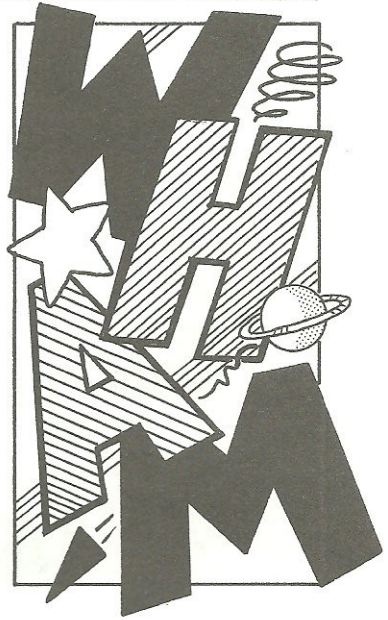
RABBITS HIGH



WHY DON'T YOU MAKE ME, SISSY?

I DON'T MAKE MONKEYS, I TRAIN THEM. CUT HIM SOME SLACK.

AND IF I DON'T?



NOW YOU KNOW. COME ON, FELLA'. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

QUAMUS. QUAMUS SMYTHE.

GO JACKRABBITS!

QUAMUS, HE'LL WANT TO GET EVEN. BE CAREFUL.

I'LL KEEP MY EYES OPEN!

BOYS LOCKER ROOM

GIRLS LOCKER ROOM

CEDAR RABBIT HIGH

SYDNEY

BUT...I WANT TO SQUARE THIS WITH YOU, TABBV.

CEDAR RABBITS HIGH

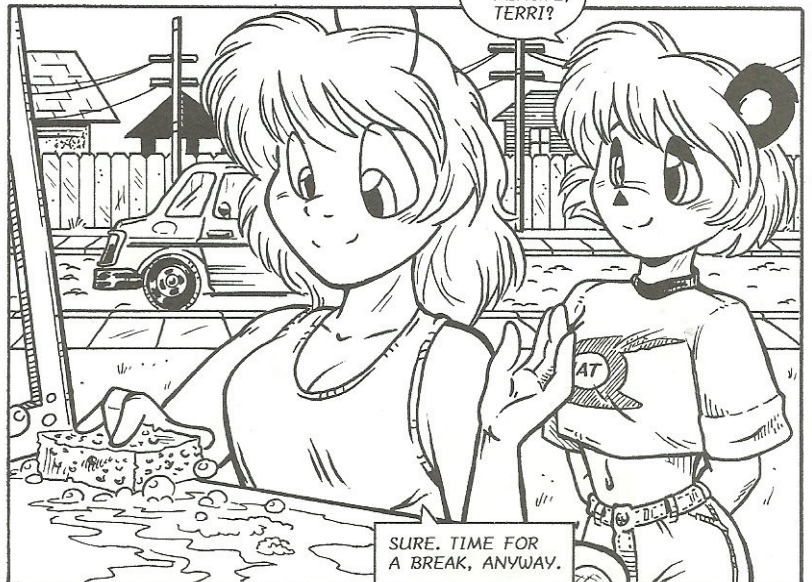
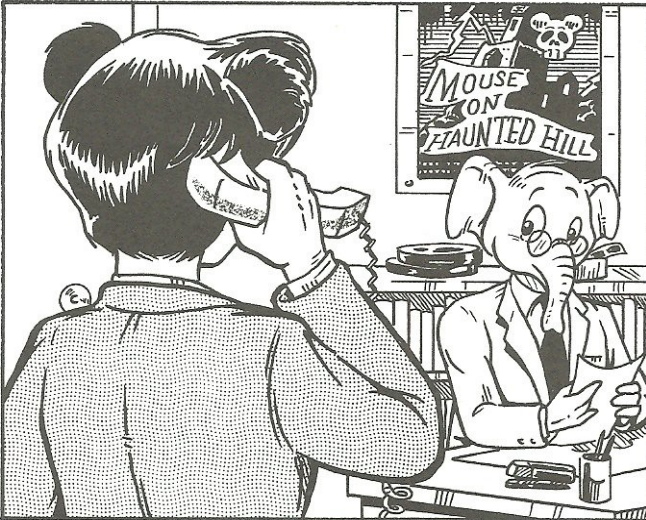
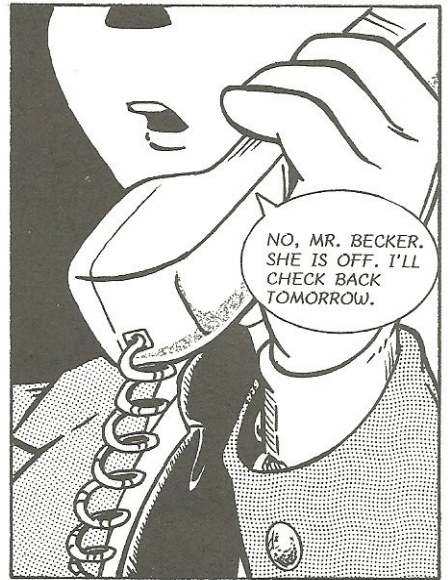
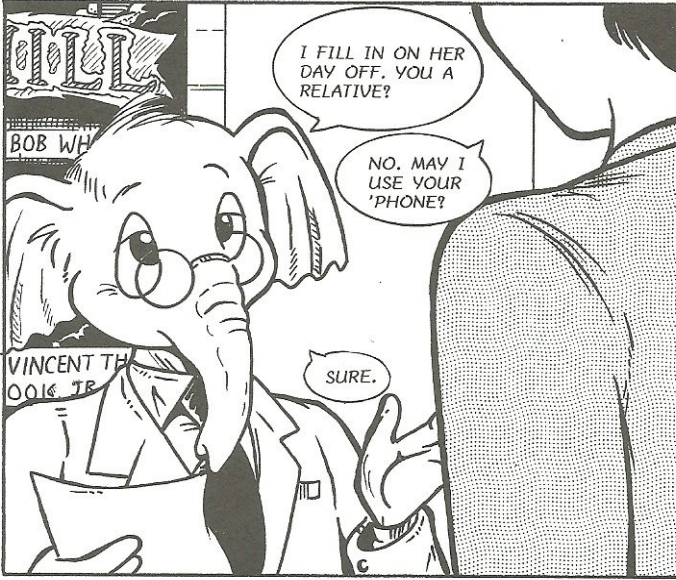
SYDNEY

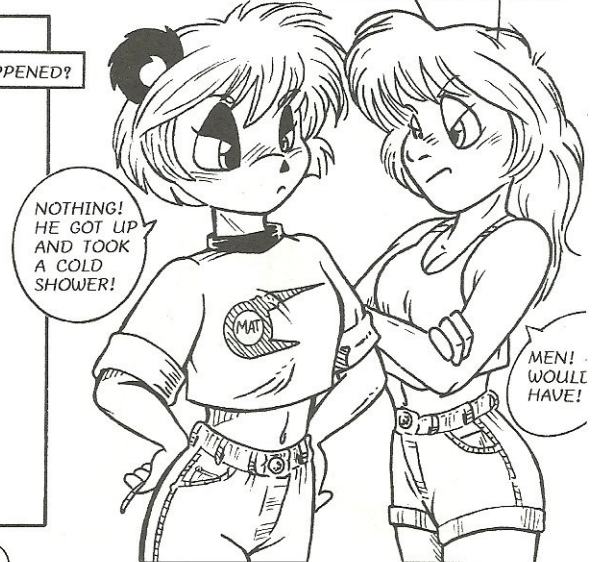
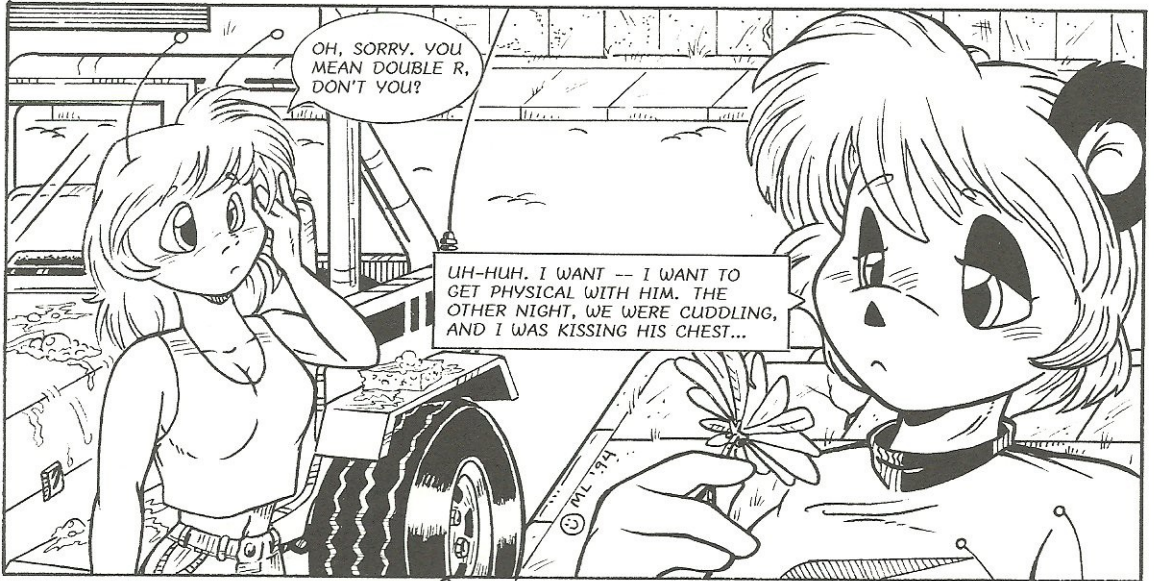
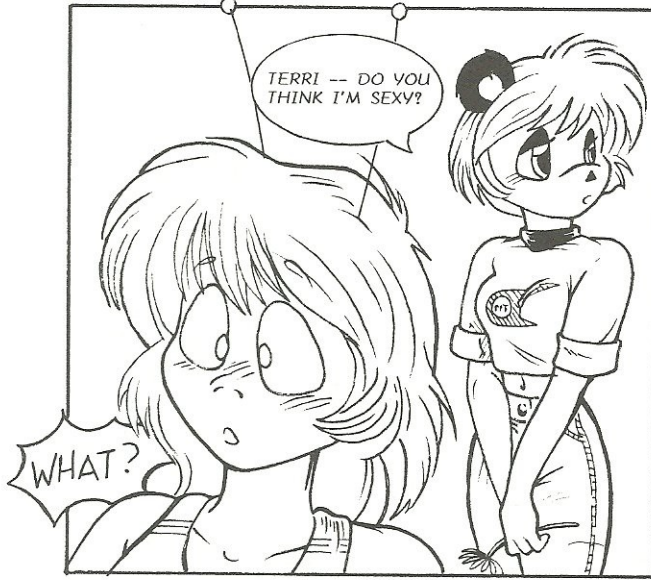
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, QUAMUS. AND THE NAME IS SISSY.

IT'S HER DAY OFF, SONNY. I'M MR. PAKDERM. SAY, YOU'RE A PANDA!

IS MS. BRUIN HERE?

NO MORE SNIFFS!





TONIGHT, HE'S MEETING MOM AND DADDY! AND DADDY WANTS ME TO MARRY A PANDA!

WELL, RACCOONS ARE A RELATED SPECIES.

NOT CLOSE ENOUGH! HE WANTS MY SISTERS AND I TO REPOPULATE THE WORLD WITH PANDAS.

BE SERIOUS, TERRI!

HEE
HEE

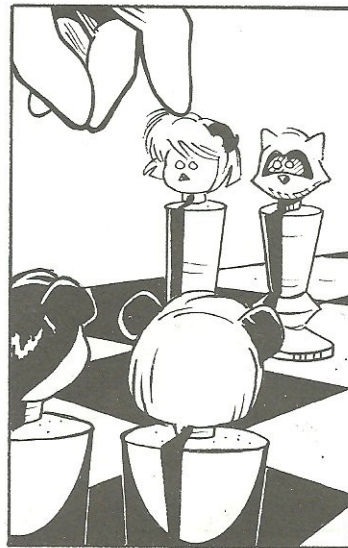
INTERESTING,
BUT YOU'D
GET TIRED.

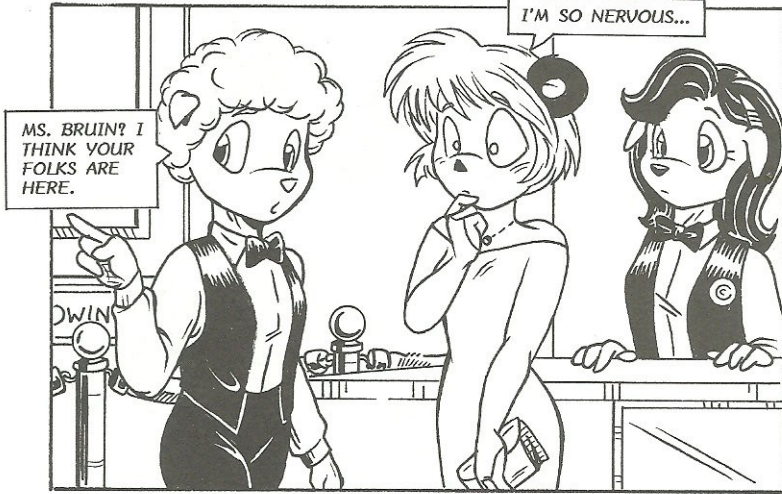
I'M GETTING MORE
SERIOUS ABOUT
HIM, AND I'VE GOT
TO KNOW IF HE
WANTS ME.

HAVE YOU
ASKED
HIM?

NO.

HOW DID YOU BECOME A THEATER
MANAGER WITHOUT BEING DIRECT?
ASK THE GUY!





SHANDA, THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT. I'VE TALKED TO YOUR FATHER. HE SAW MR. BECKER, WHO TOLD HIM ABOUT YOUR GOOD WORK HERE.

ALL RIGHT, MOM.



SISSY, ARE YOU STILL THINKING ABOUT THAT EXCHANGE STUDENT?

THAT LITTLE GUY? GET REAL!

SHANDA'S REALLY DONE A LOT WITH THE THEATER, SINCE I RETIRED, MR. BRUIN.

SO MR. BECKER TELLS ME.

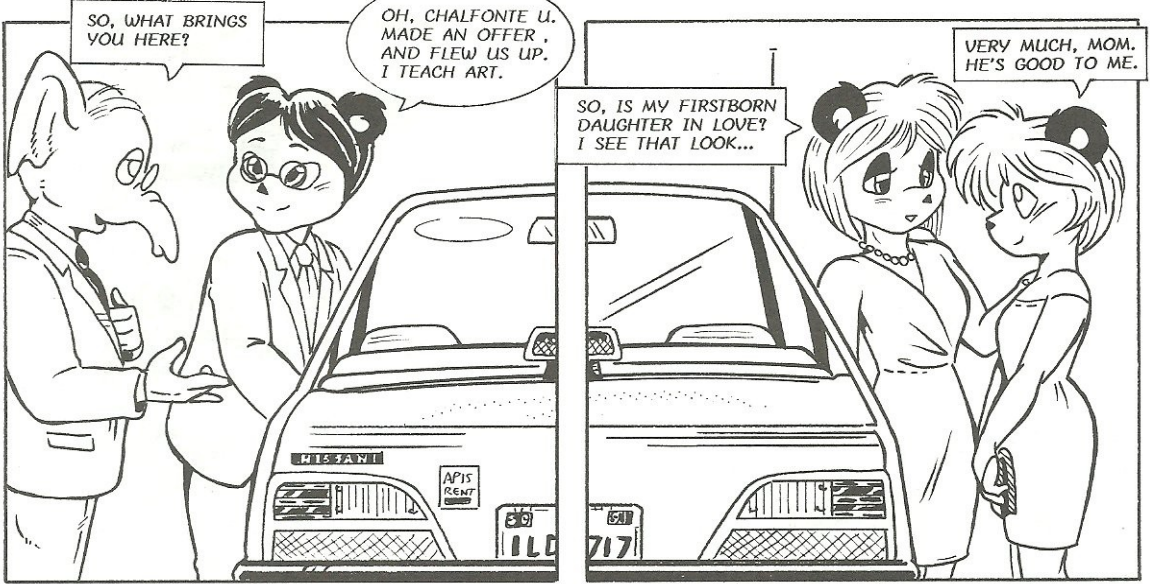
SEE? THAT WASN'T SO HARD. NOW WE'LL MEET YOUR RICHARD AT THE RESTAURANT.

UH-HUH. I'LL RIDE IN WITH YOU, AND HE'LL TAKE ME HOME.

NOW, WHAT KIND OF MAMMAL IS YOUR YOUNG MAN, SHANDA?

OH, MY. *THIS* IS GOING TO BE AN INTERESTING DINNER!

HE'S A RACCOON, MOM. HOW DO YOU THINK DADDY WILL TAKE IT?

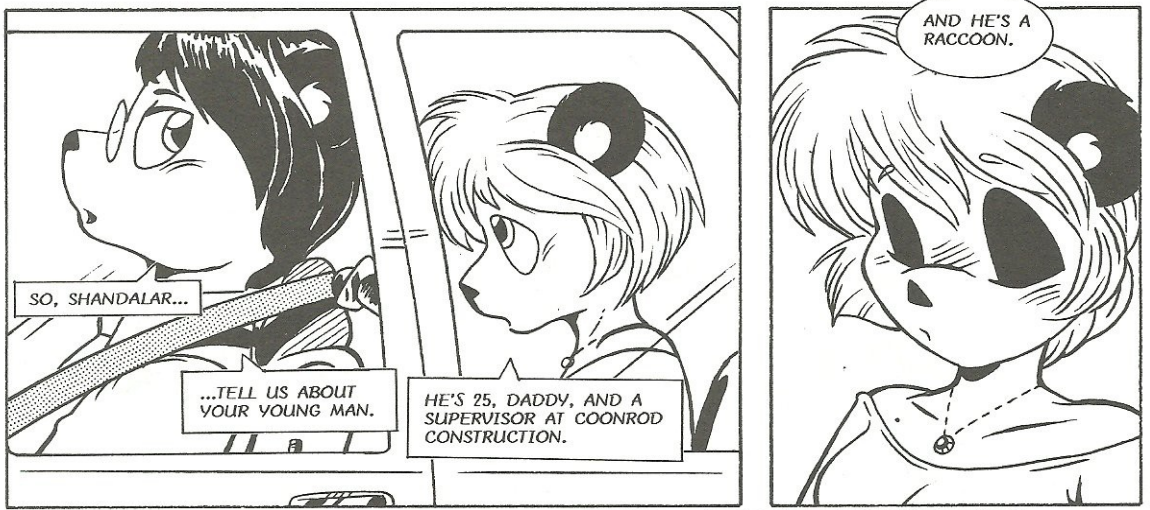


SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

OH, CHALFONTE U. MADE AN OFFER, AND FLEW US UP. I TEACH ART.

SO, IS MY FIRSTBORN DAUGHTER IN LOVE? I SEE THAT LOOK...

VERY MUCH, MOM. HE'S GOOD TO ME.

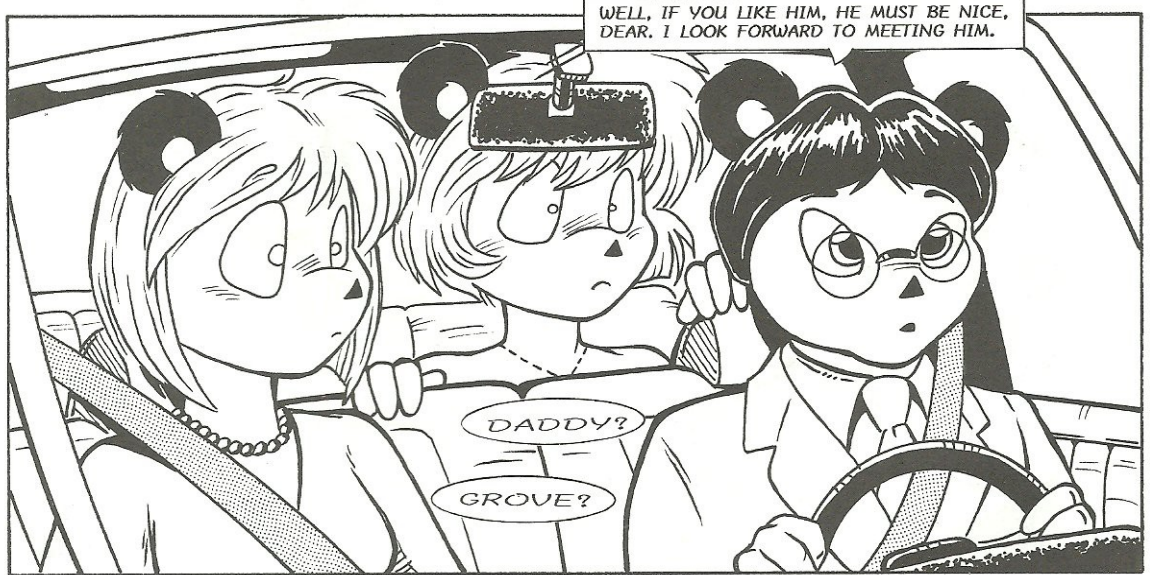


SO, SHANDALAR...

...TELL US ABOUT YOUR YOUNG MAN.

HE'S 25, DADDY, AND A SUPERVISOR AT COONROD CONSTRUCTION.

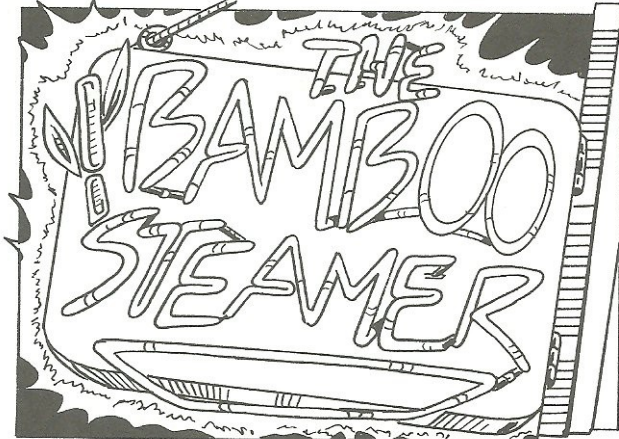
AND HE'S A RACCOON.



WELL, IF YOU LIKE HIM, HE MUST BE NICE, DEAR. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING HIM.

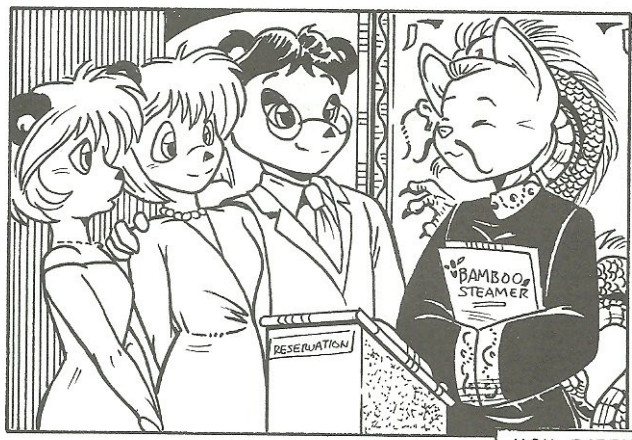
DADDY?

GROVE?

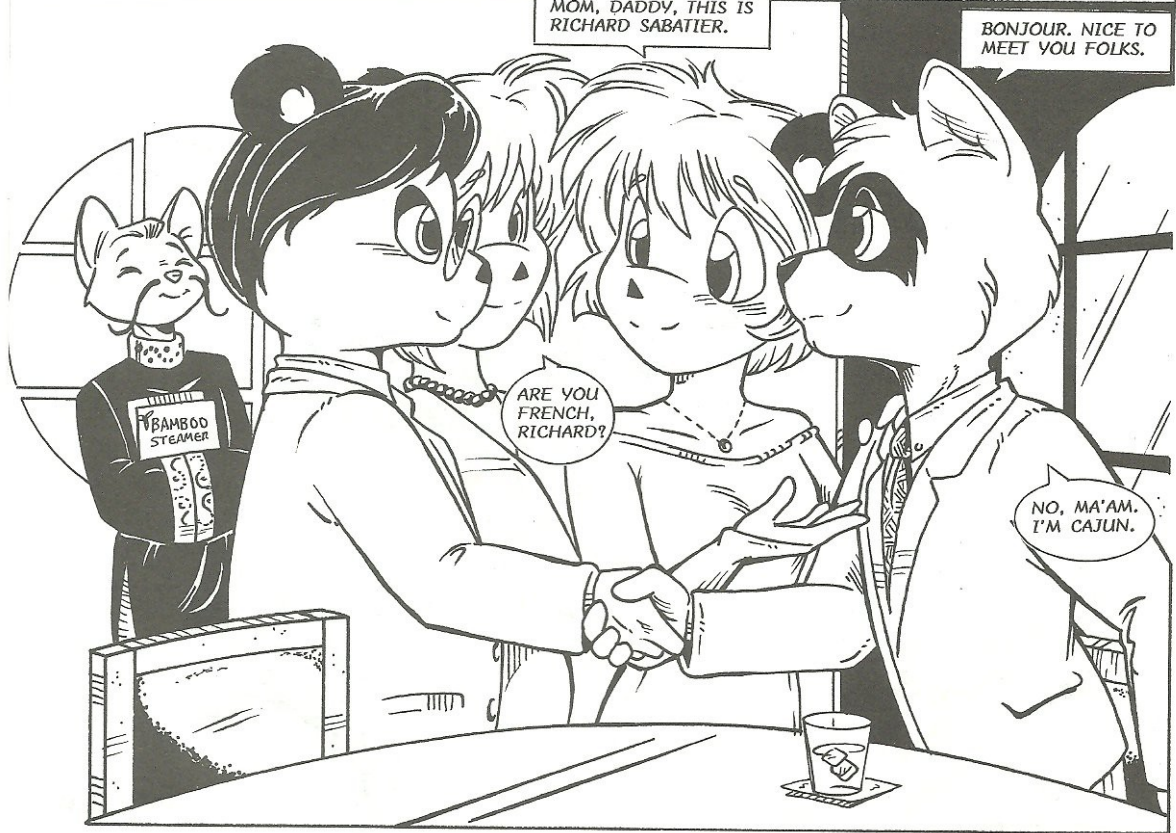


IS THAT HIM, HONEY?
HE'S HANDSOME!

ISN'T HE,
MOM?



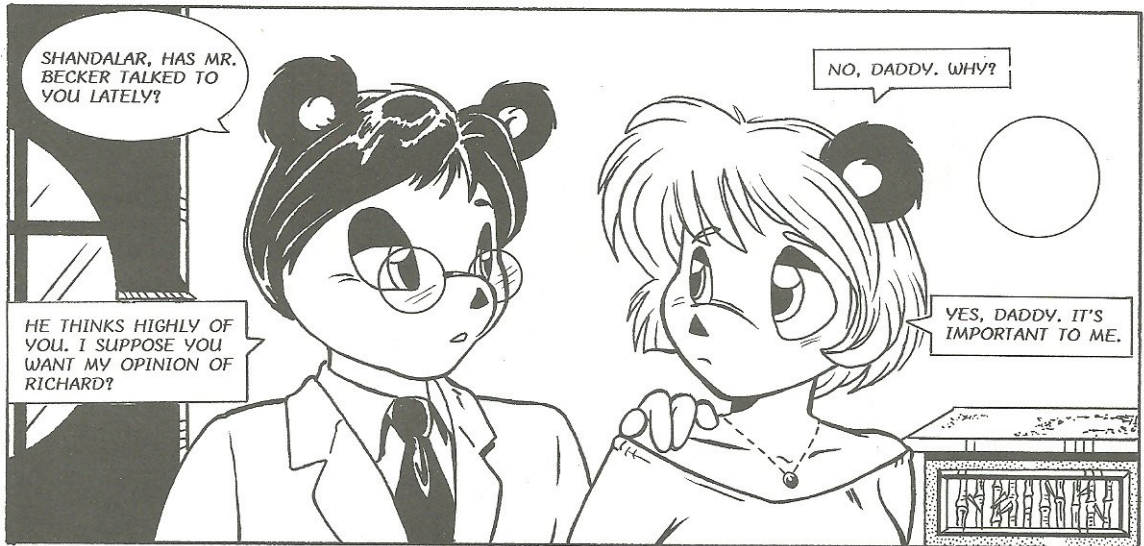
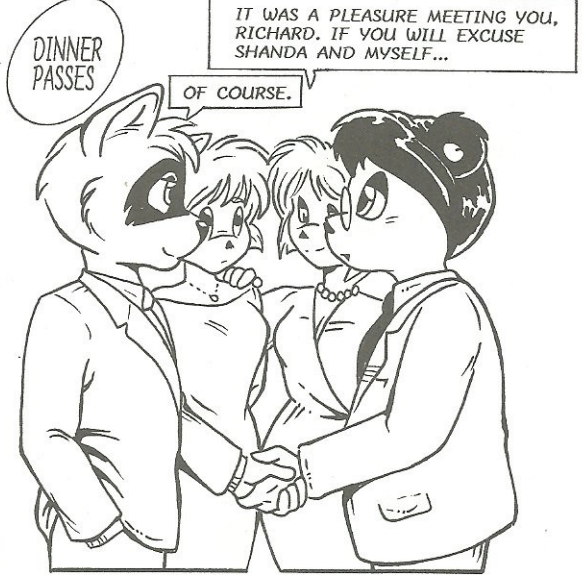
MOM, DADDY, THIS IS
RICHARD SABATIER.

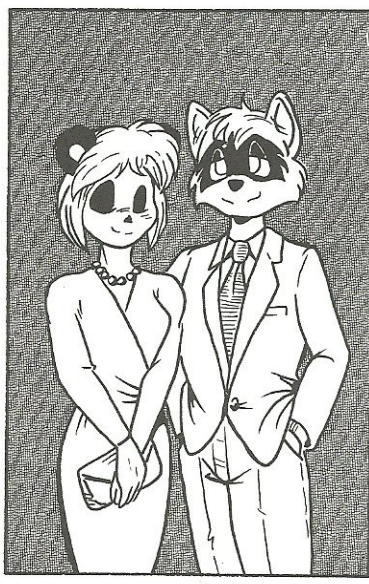


BONJOUR. NICE TO
MEET YOU FOLKS.

ARE YOU
FRENCH,
RICHARD?

NO, MA'AM.
I'M CAJUN.

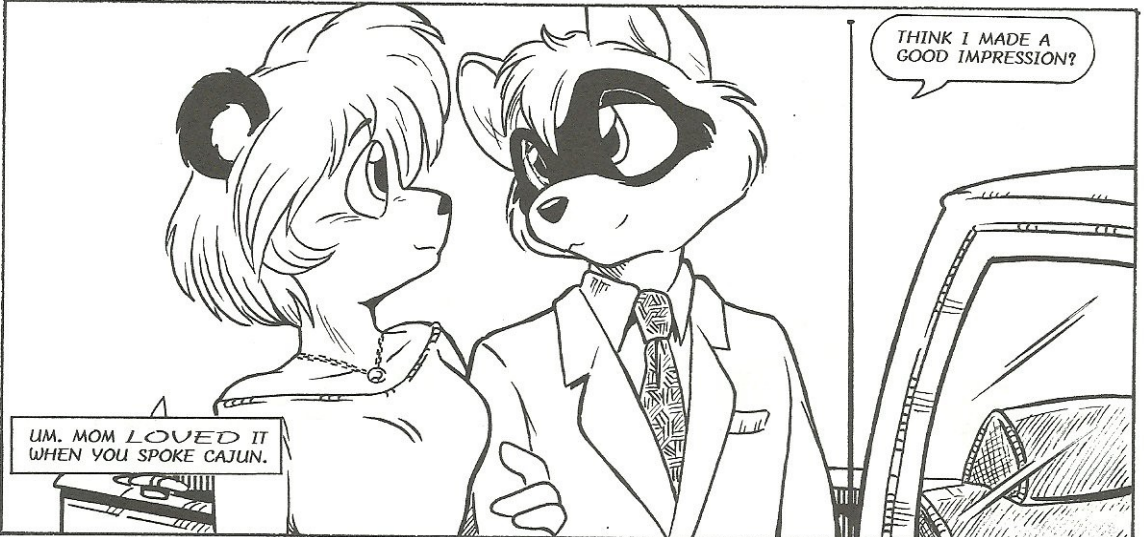




RICHARD -- DO ME A FAVOR?

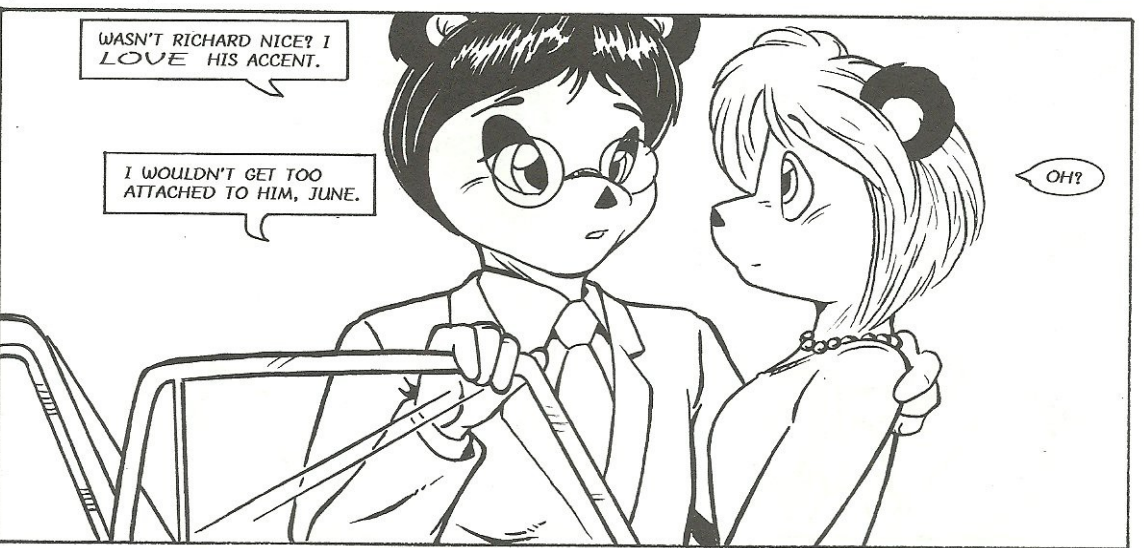
SURE, MS. BRUIN.

MMM! I DON'T GET TO HUG MANY HANDSOME MEN, SINCE I GOT MARRIED!



UM. MOM LOVED IT WHEN YOU SPOKE CAJUN.

THINK I MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION?

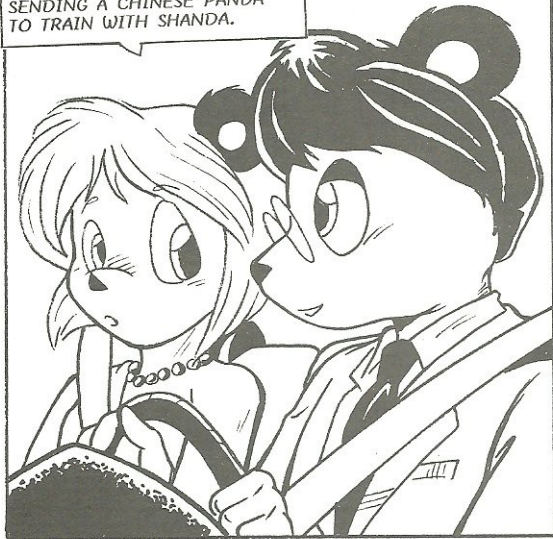


WASN'T RICHARD NICE? I LOVE HIS ACCENT.

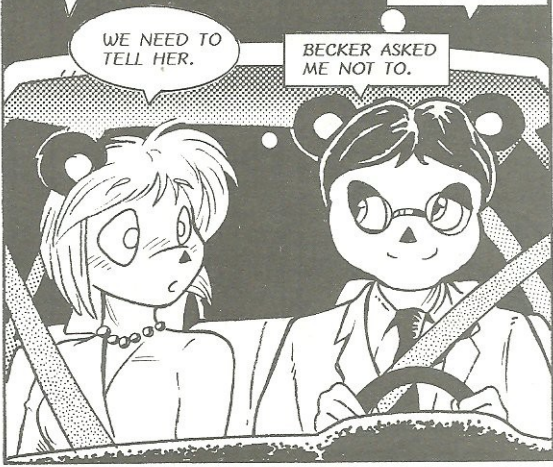
I WOULDN'T GET TOO ATTACHED TO HIM, JUNE.

OH?

MR. BECKER TOLD ME THEY'RE SENDING A CHINESE PANDA TO TRAIN WITH SHANDA.



OH -- BUT SHE'S NEVER MET A MALE PANDA. AND THE FIRST TIME WITH THE SCENT... NOW YOU SEE.



WE NEED TO TELL HER.

BECKER ASKED ME NOT TO.

WHAT'S THAT NAME YOUR DAD CALLED YOU? SHANDALAR?



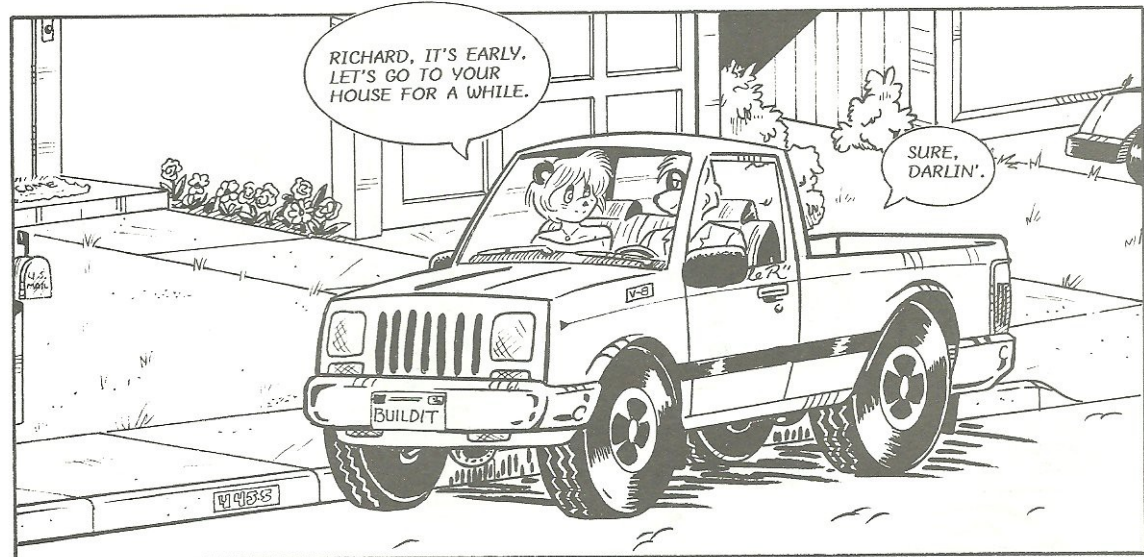
OH, MY MIDDLE NAME IS LAURA. IT'S HIS PET NAME FOR ME.

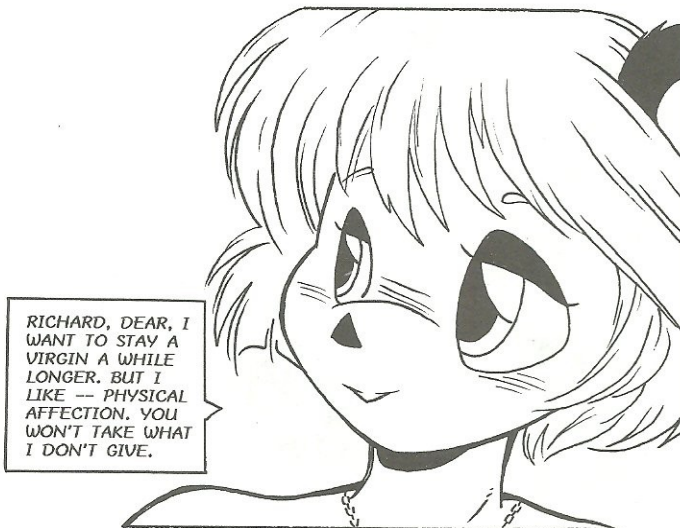
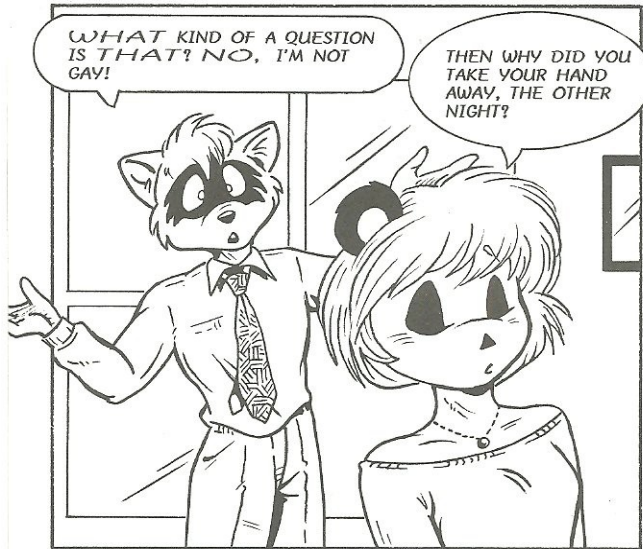
I LIKE IT.

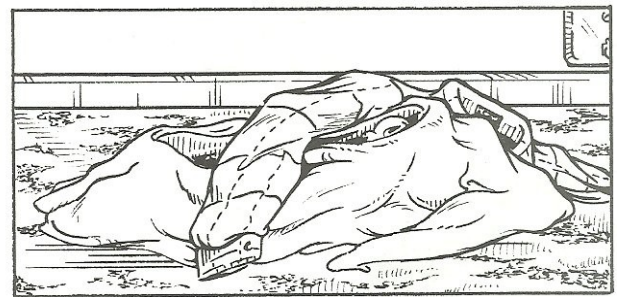
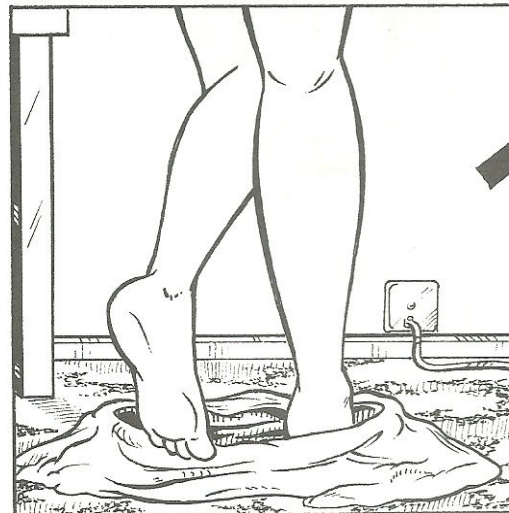
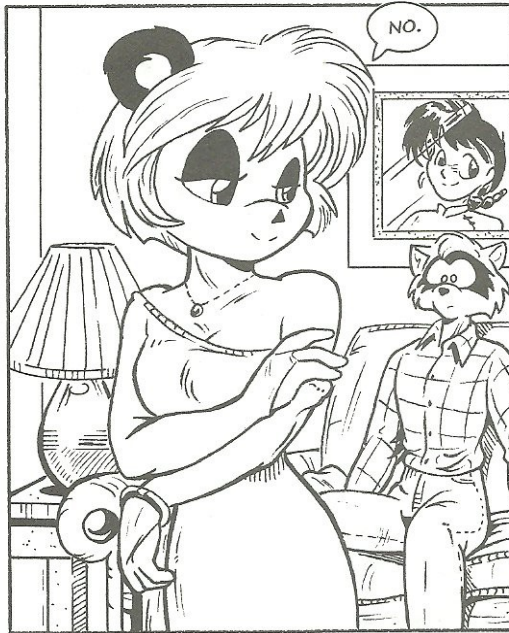
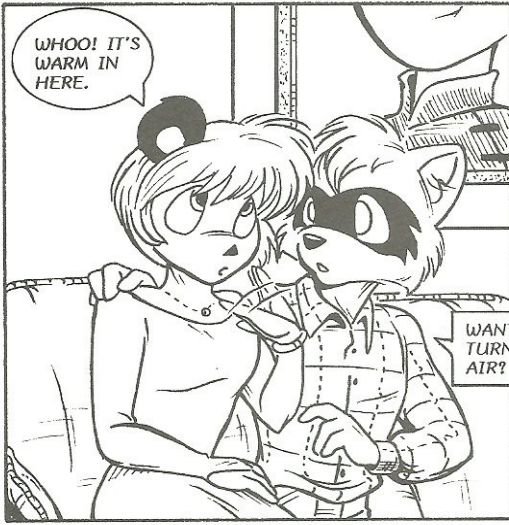


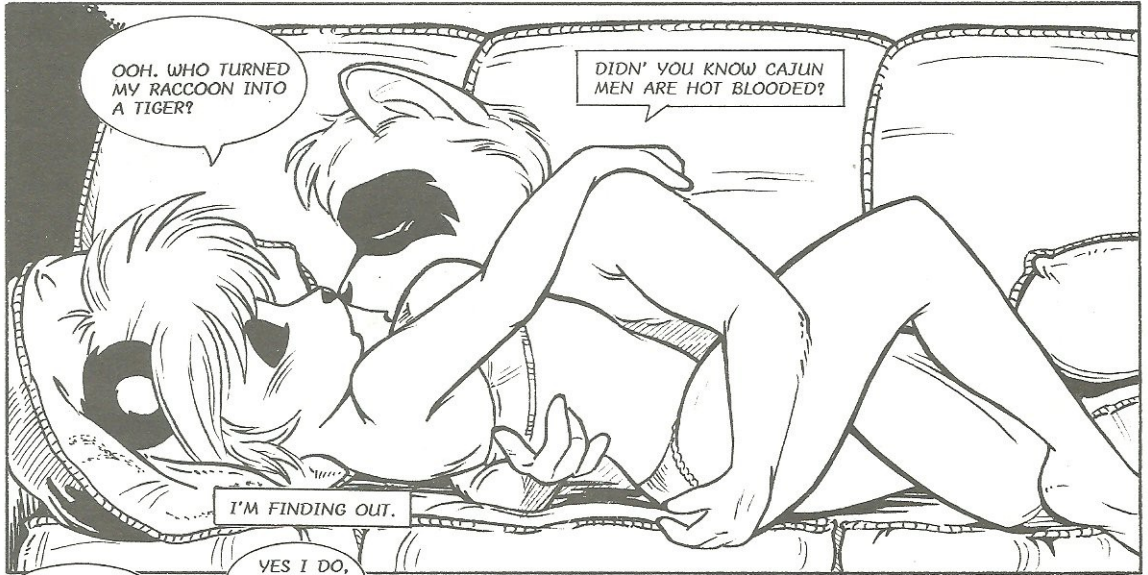
RICHARD, IT'S EARLY. LET'S GO TO YOUR HOUSE FOR A WHILE.

SURE, DARLIN'.









OOH. WHO TURNED MY RACCOON INTO A TIGER?

DIDN' YOU KNOW CAJUN MEN ARE HOT BLOODED?

I'M FINDING OUT.



DO YOU LOVE ME, RICHARD?

YES I DO, SHANDA. WHY?

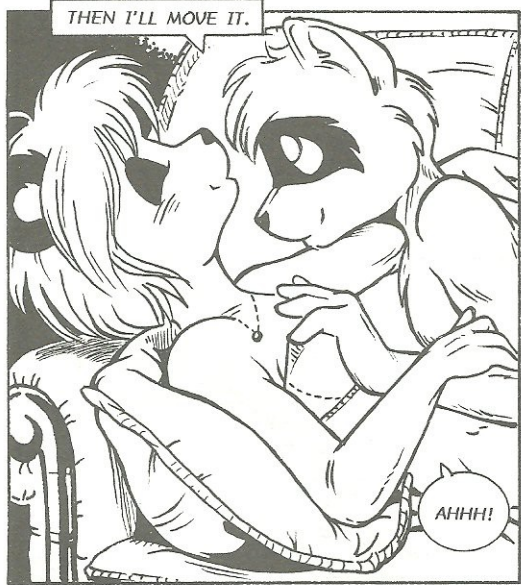


WELL, I CAN FEEL PART OF YOU DOES!

HA-HA!

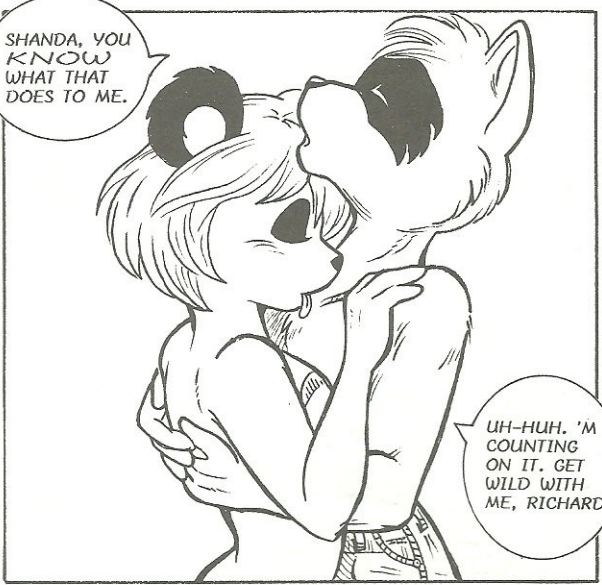


RICHARD, YOUR HAND IS TICKLING MY SIDE...



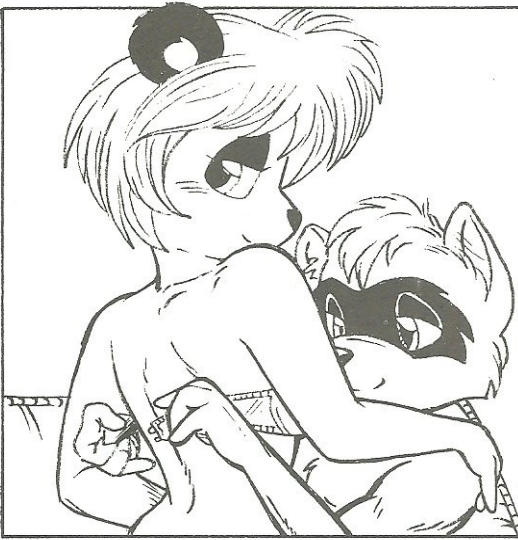
THEN I'LL MOVE IT.

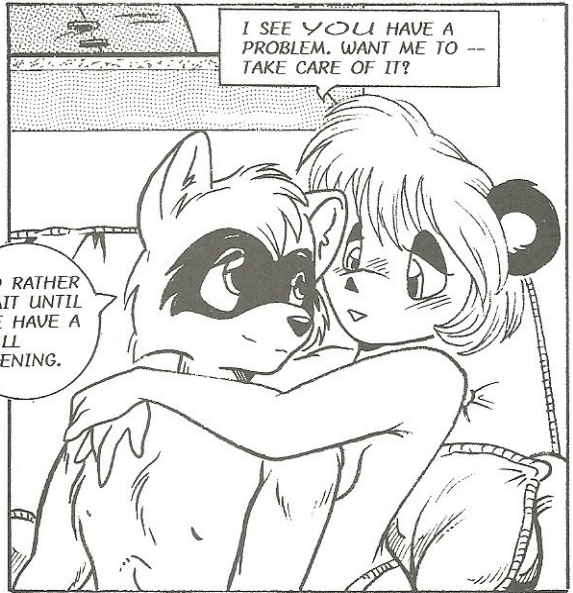
AHHH!

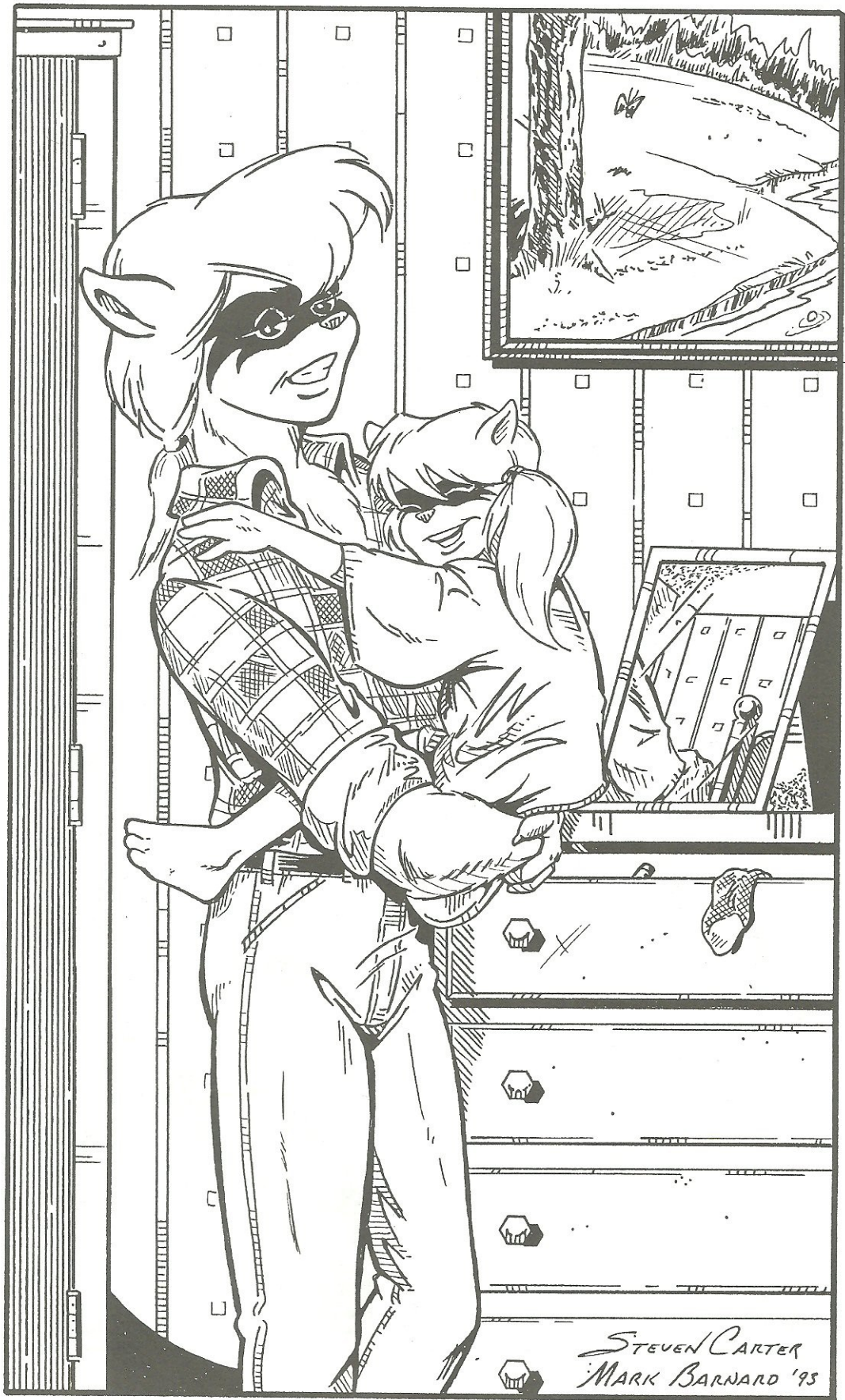


SHANDA, YOU KNOW WHAT THAT DOES TO ME.

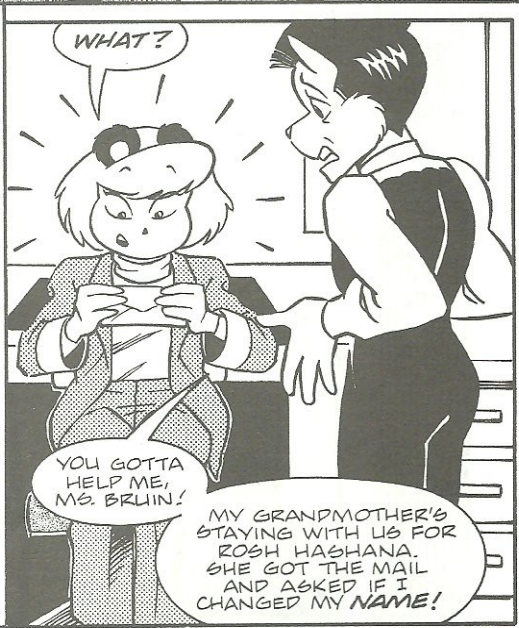
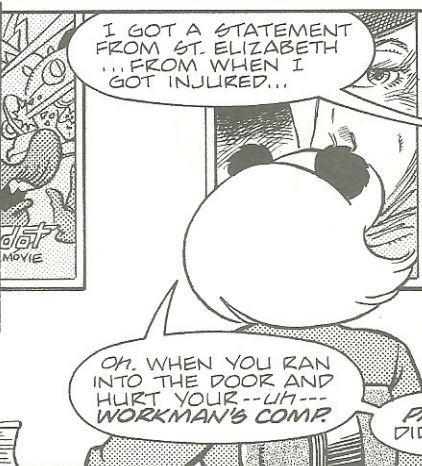
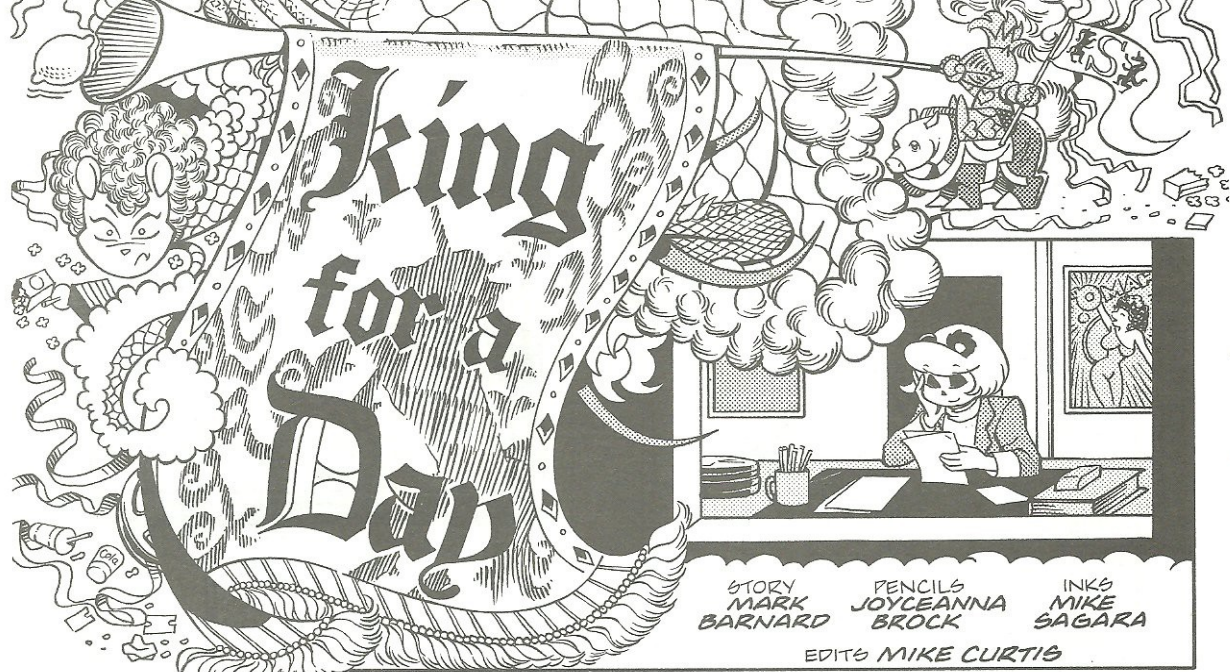
UH-HUH. 'M COUNTING ON IT. GET WILD WITH ME, RICHARD.







STEVEN CARTER
MARK BARNARD '95



LATER...

YES, YES, I UNDERSTAND, MR. BECKER. SOMETIMES THESE THINGS JUST HAPPEN.



OKAY, SPEEDO. I'LL CALL AND GET IT FIXED.



IT'S JUST THAT THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF WORD-OF-MOUTH THAT WE'D HAVE THE BIG DIZZY FILM FOR THANKSGIVING. EVERYTHING ELSE WE HAVE BOOKED IS PG-13 OR R.

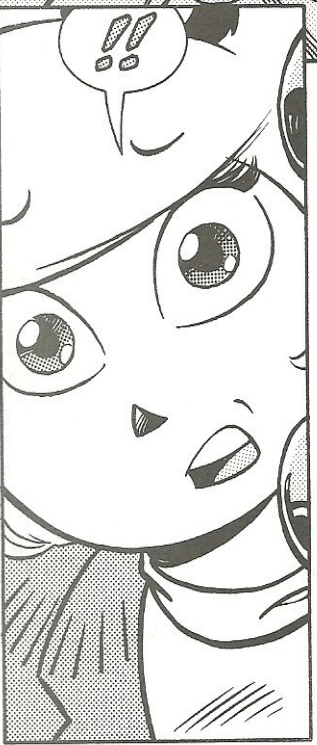


A COSTUME PROMOTION TO HELP THE FILM YOU DID GET? WELL, OF COURSE WE CAN MANAGE THAT.

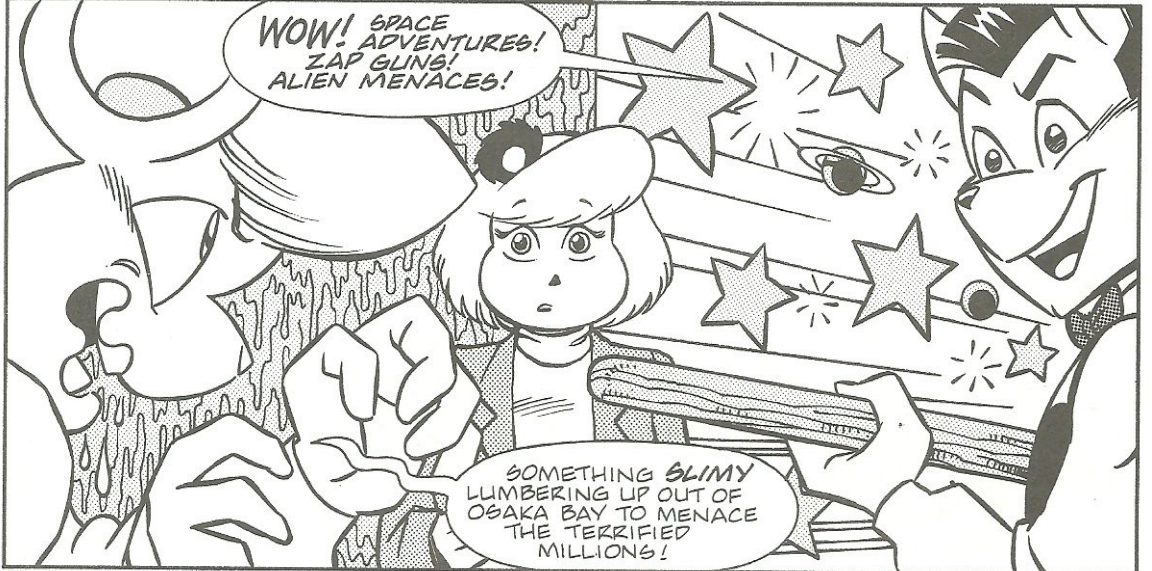
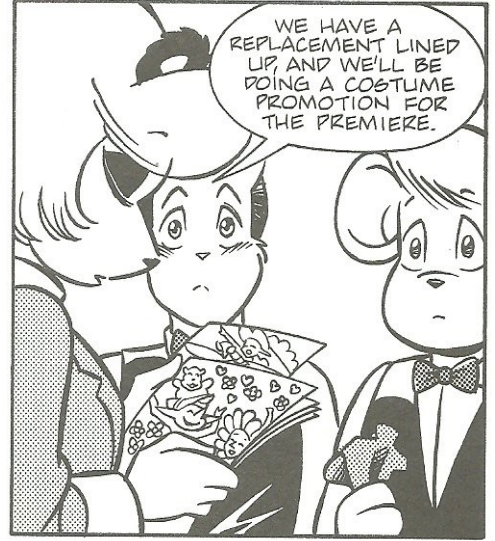
WHAT'S THE TITLE?

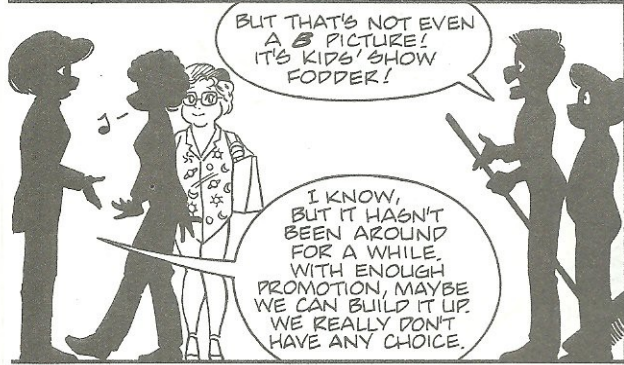
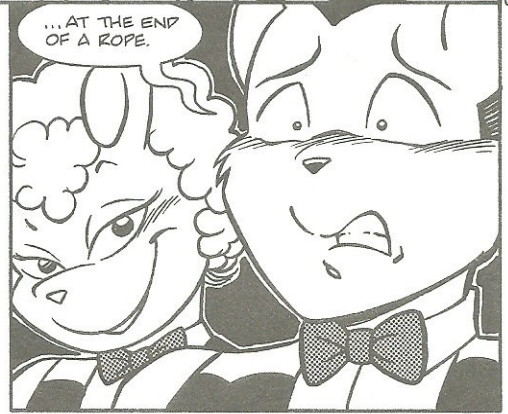
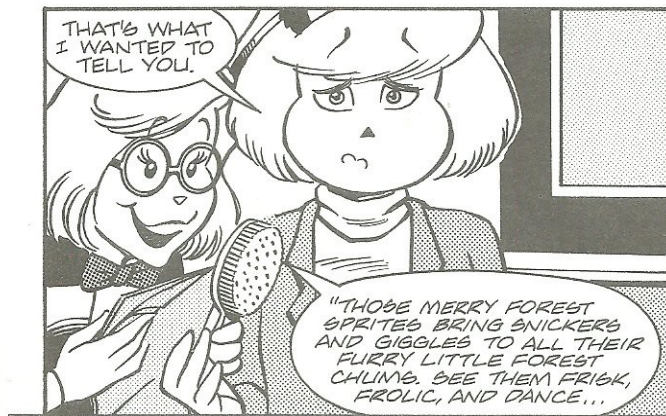
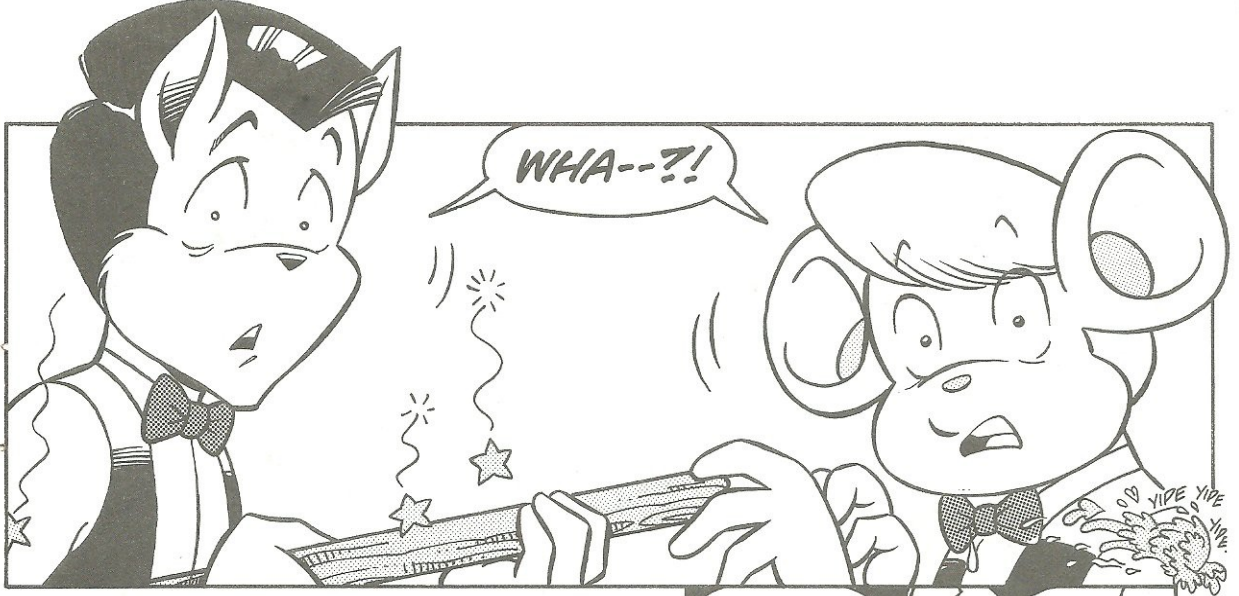
SPEEDO! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

HEY, CHILL, SIBBY! IT'LL MOP UP! BROOM'S IN THE CLOSET.

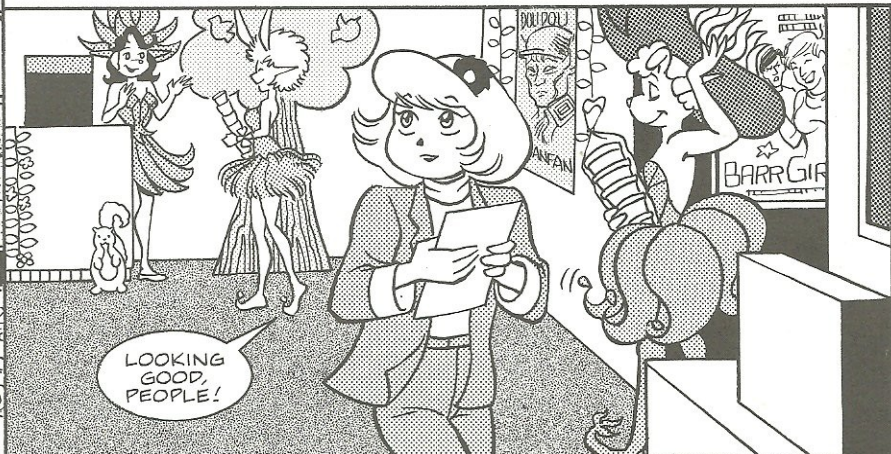


YES, MR. BECKER. WE'LL GET RIGHT ON IT.





SMIFFS PT. 9
D. PEACH
BUFFALO WINGS



LOOKING GOOD, PEOPLE!



OH MY GOD!
IT'S A SELL-OUT
CROWD OUT
THERE!

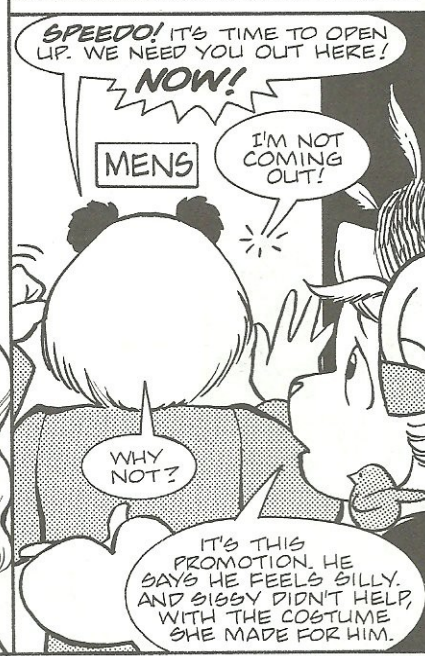
LOOKS LIKE MORE
PEOPLE WERE IN
THE MOOD FOR A
FAMILY FILM THAN
WE'D REALIZED.



EVERYBODY GET
READY... WHERE'S
SPEEDO?

HE'S IN THE JOHN,
MS. BRUIN.
HE WON'T
COME OUT!

WHAT?!



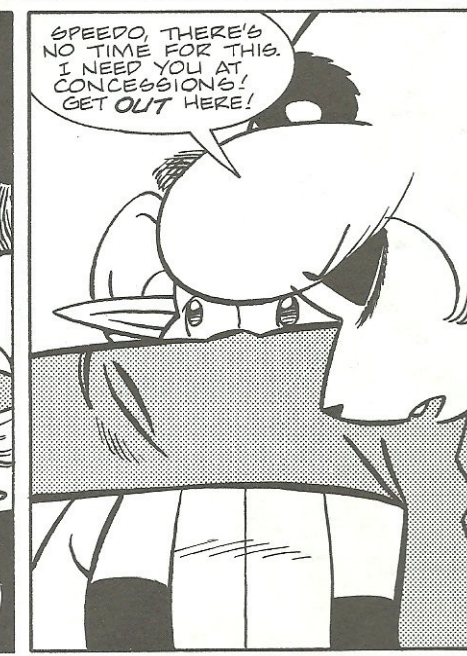
SPEEDO! IT'S TIME TO OPEN
UP. WE NEED YOU OUT HERE!
NOW!

MENS

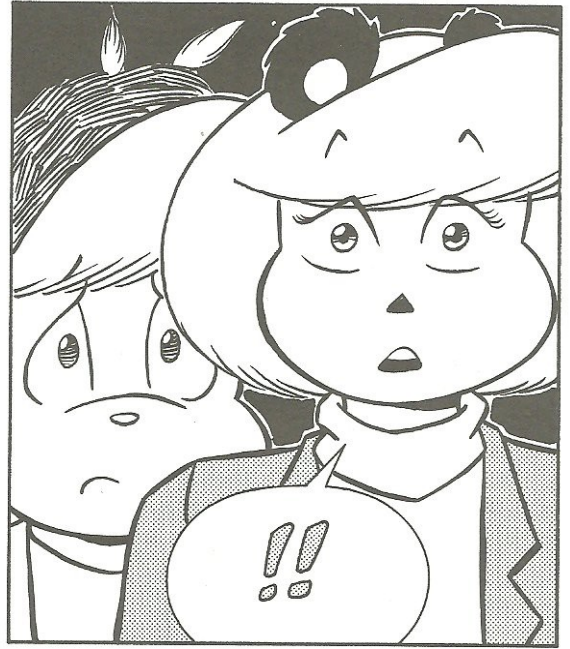
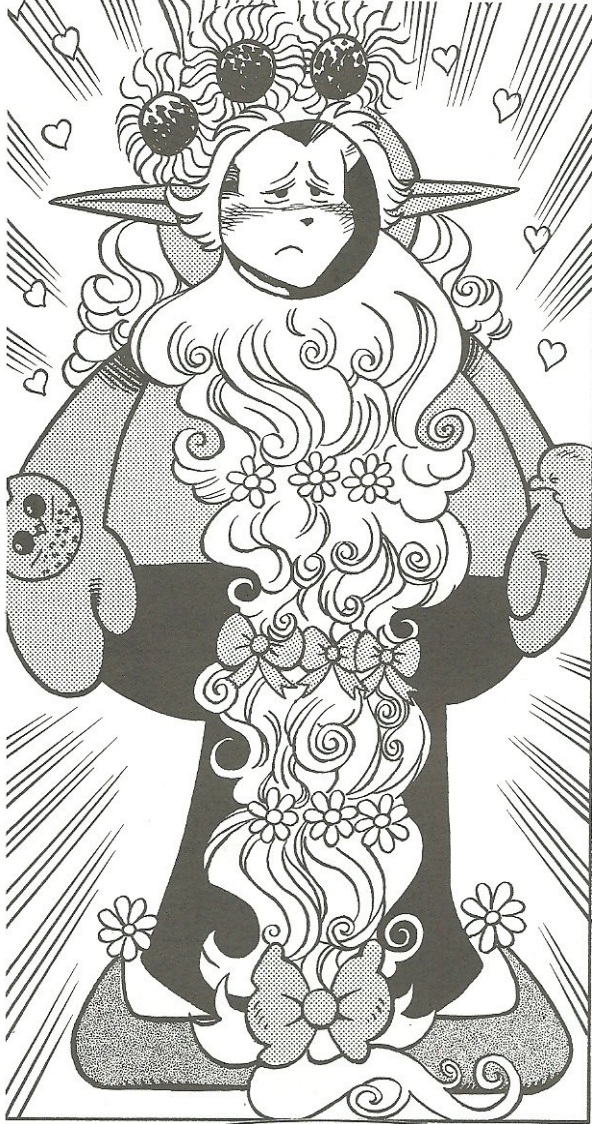
I'M NOT
COMING
OUT!

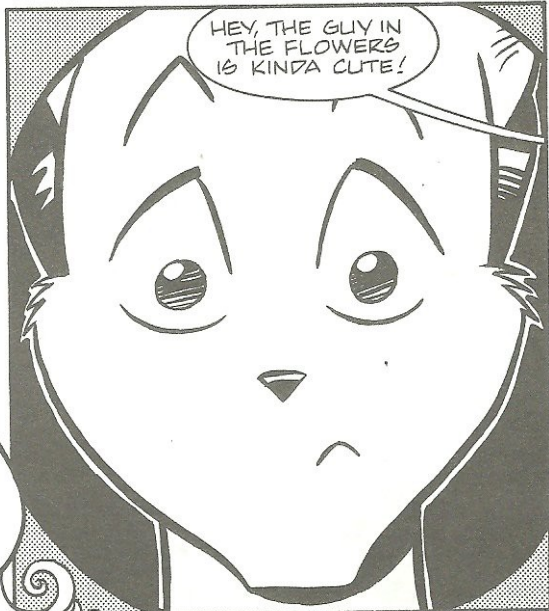
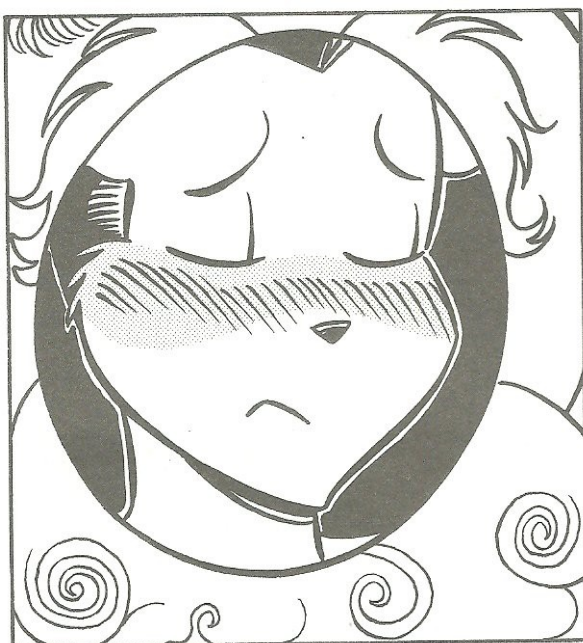
WHY
NOT?

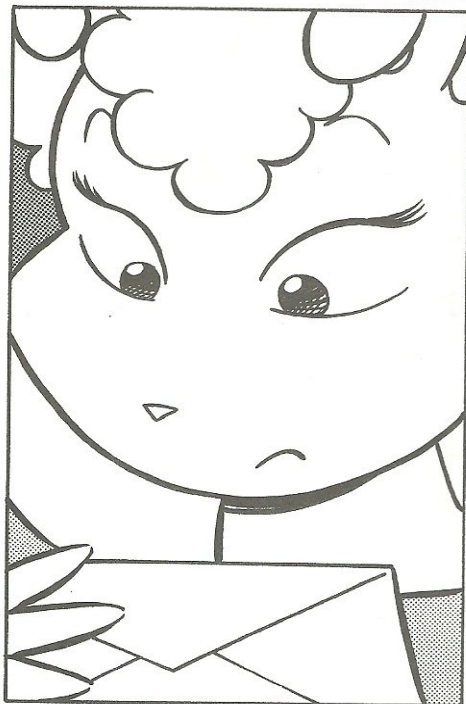
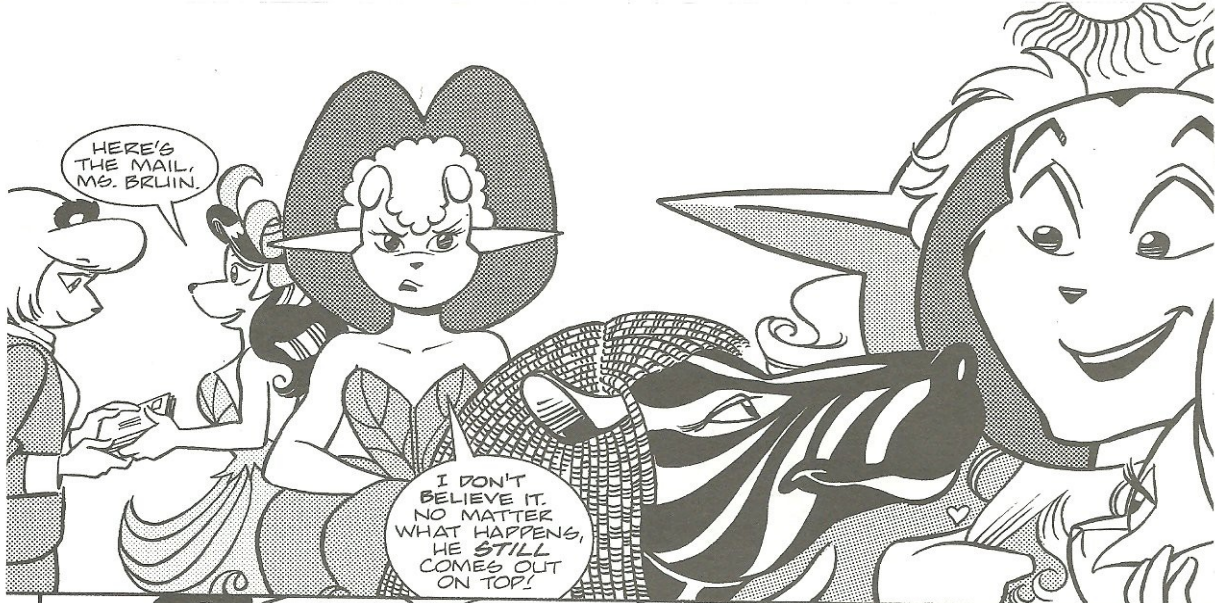
IT'S THIS
PROMOTION. HE
SAYS HE FEELS SILLY.
AND SIBBY DIDN'T HELP,
WITH THE COSTUME
SHE MADE FOR HIM.



SPEEDO, THERE'S
NO TIME FOR THIS.
I NEED YOU AT
CONCESSIONS!
GET OUT HERE!







SHANDA'S MAIL ROOM

Mike Curtis
4455 Galveston Ave.
Beaumont
Texas 77703



It's been a looooooong time since issue #4.

(Yes, I know it's out of date) I had a WONDERFUL time at CONFERENCE. Hello to everyone I met there (ESPECIALLY the fellow who asked "Are you related to Carole Curtis who does KATMANDU?") Carole and I both plan to attend this next year.

SHANDA'S back at last, and now has regular artists - sort of. Michele Light and Joyceanna Brock will alternate pencilling chore - inked by Mark Barnard and others. Guest artists continue on backups. Talented folk like Eddie Perkins, Susan Mills, Ed Garcia, G. Raymond Eddy, and Charlie Wise have signed up for short stories.

Then there's Carl Gafford. He contributed the excellent letter column above AND will do a guest shot on the main story in issue #9 "RINGS AND THINGS."

Remember our letter column contest in MU #1? Well, it's on again. My personal favorite "Menagerie a Trois" we can't use (since its submitter, Mark Barnard works on Shanda now). We still have all the previous entries.

The prize for the best letter col. name is different too.

The winner gets to be in a story. We'll have a scene at the theater ("Hi there, I'm Mike Sagora and I work at Saga Graphics. I'm here to pick up some passes.") with the winner as the beastie of their choice and give them the original art to that page.

On other matters, I spent a lot of time in Wichita this year with inker and best friends Mark and Terrie Barnard. When in Wichita, be sure to visit VISIONS AND DREAMS at 3143 West Maple for all your SHANDA and KATMANDU needs. Raye Ann and Renee are the owners and through them I got to volunteer slave labor at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center and meet the official Terri Snow advisor, Donna Stranger. Donna will be doing "reality checks" on Terrie for me (although NOT be screaming "Shanda needs to dump Double R and move in with Terrie!")

Upcoming projects include a second issue of SHANDA: THE XXX FILES (Featuring YoYo); a SHANDA: PERFECT MEMORY BOOK; a possible T-Shirt; and the science fiction series NAUTILUS with Terrie Smith & Mark Barnard. Carol, Terrie, and Mark are busy right now with issues 4, 5, & 6 of KATMANDU.

SHANDA: THE XXX FILES is still available for \$5 + \$1 shipping and handling plus an age statement to the address below. Please send all correspondence to on SHANDA to: MIKE CURTIS, 4455 GALVESTON AVE., BEAUMONT, TEXAS, 77703. Yes, we do answer our mail!

Now on to the letters!

Congratulations on an amazingly good first issue. Mike, I love your fresh and original art style.

I particularly like the range of animals you've caricatured in your cast of thousands (or so), including every "extra" in the crowded scene.

One thing I suppose I can't come to terms with is the fact that Terrie, supposedly a cricket, looks just like a cartoon human with antennae.

The believable dialogue made it almost more realistic. "10 for morons" - I could almost imagine that happened too. "RR - The Lone Ranger" - there's a slightly off-beam sense of humor there, too.

*Craig Hilton
Collie
Western Australia*



I've been with Shanda since her first Antarctic issue.

It has a moral dimension showing how lesbians and gays are just people. Like everyone else, Terrie is struggling with often confusing relationships (witness her feelings for Shanda, who's apparently feeling some confusion of her own) and trying to get through life as best she can, searching for someone to share it with her.

Finally, a question-- is Antarctic Press ever going to offer SHANDA by subscription like it does several of its other titles?

Keep up the good work, and this panda will never become endangered.

*Brock Hoagland
Hazen N.D.*

As far as modern adult anthropomorphic series go, I think it compares well with "Omaha." In particular I like the character of Rick Sabatier. Good male characters who are not complete slimeballs or totally neurotic are hard to find in the comic world, particularly among serious adult comics. I hope you continue to work him into the story line. I also like his daughter, who is at that cute little girl stage (like my own). She certainly deserves a better home than she has. Maybe Rick should get a decent lawyer...

*David Kleiner
Rockville, M.D.*