



1981

\$1.00

FAN SPECTACULAR



EDITORIAL

by Matt Bucher

Well, I can finally say that FAN SPECTACULAR 1981 has finally arrived. I admit it took a little longer than originally expected (after all, the original title was FAN SPECTACULAR 1980), but I think it was well worth the wait, and I hope you all feel the same way.

Without exception, this has to be the longest stripzine I've published thus far, a whopping 44 pages!! When's the last time you read a story that long? Probably a while, I know it has been for me. That's one of the reasons I purposely made the story so long...I wanted a long story that you could really get into it, really deep into it. The fact is that I love epics, and this was my first.

So what about the finished product? Well, of course I like it, but more importantly, what do you think of it? I plan on producing a FAN SPECTACULAR every year (hence the 1981 in the title) on an annual basis, but it is also a possibility that Joey Manley and I may incorporate these characters into a sort of fandom "Justice League" or "Avengers". If this happens, the stripzine will probably be published three or four times a year and will probably consist of Willie Peppers doing the art. More on that thought later. But if we don't do that book, there will be a FAN SPECTACULAR 1982, but who will produce it, I don't know. I'd like to get different people doing the book each year (I've asked a couple people if they want to do 1982), but if I can't find anybody to do it next year, I probably will.

Now about the people involved. 1, Matt Bucher, have written about 20 or so strips to date, mainly featuring my two prime characters, Omniman and Argon, the space warrior.

Willie Peppers, the penciller of this entire book, is the most professional fan artist I have ever had the pleasure to work with--bar none. In most cases he is prompt with the best material whose quality cannot be matched. One interesting factor about this book is the fact that it should appeal to both DC and Marvel fans. After all, I'm primarily a DC fan and wrote this in DC style and form, but Willie Peppers is definitely a Marvel type artist. An interesting mix.

Bill Anderson inked more pages than anybody else, and has overall been the most involved person besides Willie and myself in this project. Bill's an excellent inker, and it probably won't be long before he goes pro.

Mark Heike is another fantastic inker. Even though he's been tremendously busy lately, he still took the time out to ink a couple pages for me.

Rick McCollum is also a great artist. Mostly known for his HORDE work, Rick has built himself up a reputation of being one of fandom's finest artists.

And last, but not least, is Ken Meyer, a semi-new inker with a lot of raw talent. This is the first time Ken's ever inked anybody besides himself, and I think he did a great job.

I guess now is as good a time as any to talk about whose characters are whose. Here we go:

- 1) City-God: Filthy McNasty. City-God has appeared in his own fanzine put out by Nasty.
- 2) Xenogama & Intruder: Troy Waters. I believe this is their first appearance in a comic fanzine.
- 3) Omniman, Rage, Space Warrior, Velocity: Myself. Omniman has appeared in many zines as has Space Warrior. Rage and Velocity both will be appearing in team-ups with Omniman in the near future.
- 4) Wizard Warrior, Renegade, Dynamic Dynamo: Bart Chumet. Their first time in a fanzine.
- 5) Captain Cosmos: Easton Davy Jr. Captain Cosmos has appeared in various issues of No Sex.
- 6) Phazor: Eric Scalzi. Phazor had his own strip in some early Dynazine issues. (can't)





EDITORIAL (con't)

- 7) Sky-Lark & Blue Streak: Steve Hahn. Blue Streak's first appearance here Sky-Lark has appeared in his own zine from Steve.
- 8) Nightshadow: Jerry Foley. Nightshadow has appeared in his own fanzine by Jerry.
- 9) Starflame: Mat & Jim Kramer. Starflame has also appeared in his own zine courtesy of Mat and Jim.
- 10) Seeker: John Zupkow. Seeker appeared in some prose stories in FANTASIA but this is his first time drawn.
- 11) Shotgun: Bill Anderson. This is Shotgun's premiere appearance, although he will appearing in a team up with Omniman soon by Bill Anderson.
- 12) The Ankh & Black Mercy: Ken Meyer. I think this may be their first appearance, but I'm not positive.
- 13) Slaughter: Rick McCollum. This is Slaughter's first appearance, although Rick McCollum will be putting out a zine with him in it very soon.
- 14) Power Pack: Joey Manley. Power Pack has appeared in Joey's own Comic* Strips zine (which is now cancelled).
- 15) Captain Gizmo: Dave Patterson. Captain Gizmo has appeared in various zines as a humorous character, although this is his first serious appearance.

Now about who did what. I (Matt Bucher) wrote the entire story, and Willie Peppers pencilled the entire thing. Inks were diverse, so here's a rundown:

- Cover and backcover: Pencilled and inked by Willie Peppers.
- Pages 1-8: Inked by Bill Anderson
- Pages 9-12: Inked by Rick McCollum
- Pages 13-14: Inked by Mark Heike (lettered by Bill Anderson)
- Pages 15-18: Inked by Bill Anderson
- Pages 19-26: Inked by Rick McCollum
- Pages 27-29: Inked by Mark Heike (lettered by Bill Anderson)
- Pages 30-33: Inked by Bill Anderson
- Pages 34-44: Inked by Ken Meyer Jr.

And there you go, a total list of who did what. As of this date (3/8/81) I still need four pages from Rick McCollum and eleven from Ken Meyer. As soon as those are in, the book will be published.

Now for some news on some of my other projects:

SOUTHLAND DISTRIBUTORS will be carrying some of my fanzines, beginning with this issue, UZ SPECIAL #6, and STARSLAYERS #1. I really want to recommend this system to anybody who collects comics. You get fast, personal service at great discounts. For more information, write: SDI/4966 Byron Ave./Baton Rouge, La. 70805.

ULTRAZINE SPECIAL #6 is out now for 50¢ ppd. It contains an Omniman story by Roberts/Brooks/Anderson, a Johnny Comet story by Sager/Hahn/Anderson, and a Nimrod story by Manley/Nasty.

STARSLAYERS #1 will be out in June. It will be published every three weeks at 25¢ an issue. A pre-subscription rate of \$3.00 for the entire 15 issue epic is now available. It will be by Bucher/Brooks/Propst and is bound to be a hit!

UZ Special #6,

40 pages... 50¢

#7 (out late April)
60¢

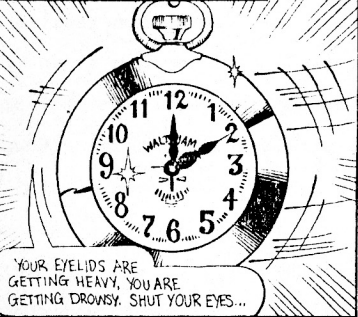
#8 (out in May)
60¢



2550 Windgate Road
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania 15102

FAN SPECTACULAR 1981, 1981 issue, is published annually. No parts of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the editor, Matt Bucher/2550 Windgate Rd./Bethel Park, PA. 15102 City-God copyright Nasty 1981. Xenogama and Intruder copyright Troy Waters 1981. Omniman, Rage, Space Warrior, Velocity, Wizard Warrior, Renegade, Dynamic Dynamo all copyright Matt Bucher 1981. Captain Cosmos copyright EastDavy 1981. Phazor copyright Eric Scalzi 1981. Sky-Lark and Blue Streak copyright Steve Hahn 1981. Nightshadow copyright Jerry Foley 1981. Starflame copyright Mat & Jim Kramer 1981. Seeker copyright John Zupkow 1981. Shotgun copyright Bill Anderson 1981. The Ankh and Black Mercy and the rest copyright their creators.

PROLOGUE



YOUR EYELIDS ARE GETTING HEAVY, YOU ARE GETTING DROWSY. SHUT YOUR EYES...



YES.



MARK, TELL ME, ARE YOU AWARE OF WHY YOU ARE HERE?

YES.



YES, MARK, IT WAS. YOU MAY LEAVE NOW.

GREAT! THANKS DOC!

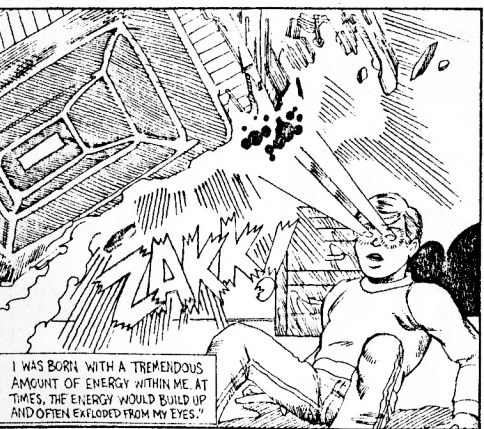


NOT SURE WHY HE FEELS SO GOOD, MARK WALKS DOWN A LOS ANGELES STREET TOWARDS HOME WHEN...

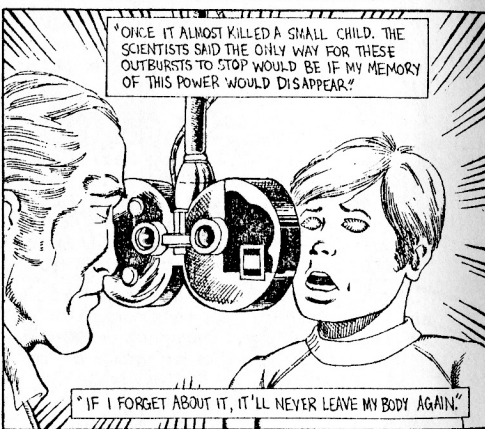
HEY!!



ARRGGHH!

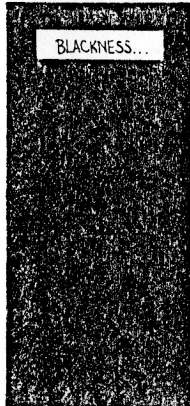


I WAS BORN WITH A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ENERGY WITHIN ME. AT TIMES, THE ENERGY WOULD BUILD UP AND OFTEN EXPLODED FROM MY EYES.

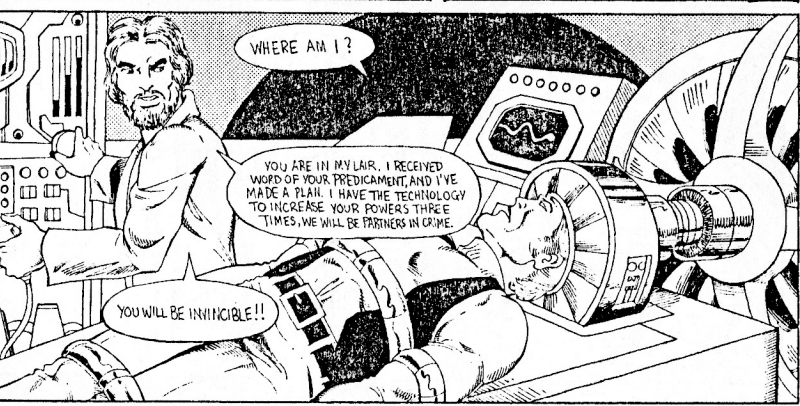


ONCE IT ALMOST KILLED A SMALL CHILD. THE SCIENTISTS SAID THE ONLY WAY FOR THESE OUTBURSTS TO STOP WOULD BE IF MY MEMORY OF THIS POWER WOULD DISAPPEAR.

IF I FORGET ABOUT IT, IT'LL NEVER LEAVE MY BODY AGAIN.



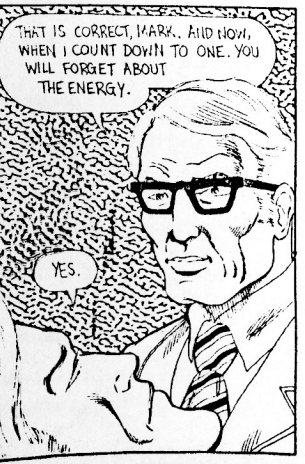
BLACKNESS...



WHERE AM I?

YOU ARE IN MY LAIR. I RECEIVED WORD OF YOUR PREDICAMENT AND I'VE MADE A PLAN. I HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE YOUR POWERS THREE TIMES, WE WILL BE PARTNERS IN CRIME.

YOU WILL BE INVINCIBLE!!



THAT IS CORRECT, MARK. AND NOW, WHEN I COUNT DOWN TO ONE, YOU WILL FORGET ABOUT THE ENERGY.

YES.



FIVE - FOUR - THREE - TWO --



ONE! WAKE UP, MARK.

DOC... WAS IT A SUCCESS? I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT I MUST KNOW!



POWERS? WHAT THE...?

YOU CANNOT TRICK ME. PREPARE YOURSELF...



AHHHH! NOOOO!!



THE PAIN, LORD, THE PAIN!!



THE STAGE IS SET. THE VILLIAN HAS BEEN INTRODUCED, NOW READ:

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

-- WITH A CAST OF DOZENS! --



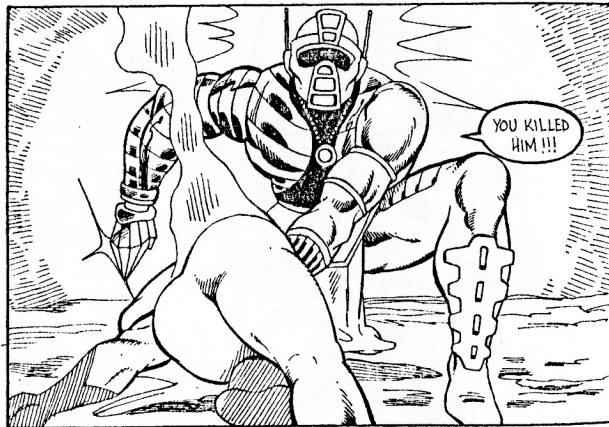
THE COMING OF ULTRON!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

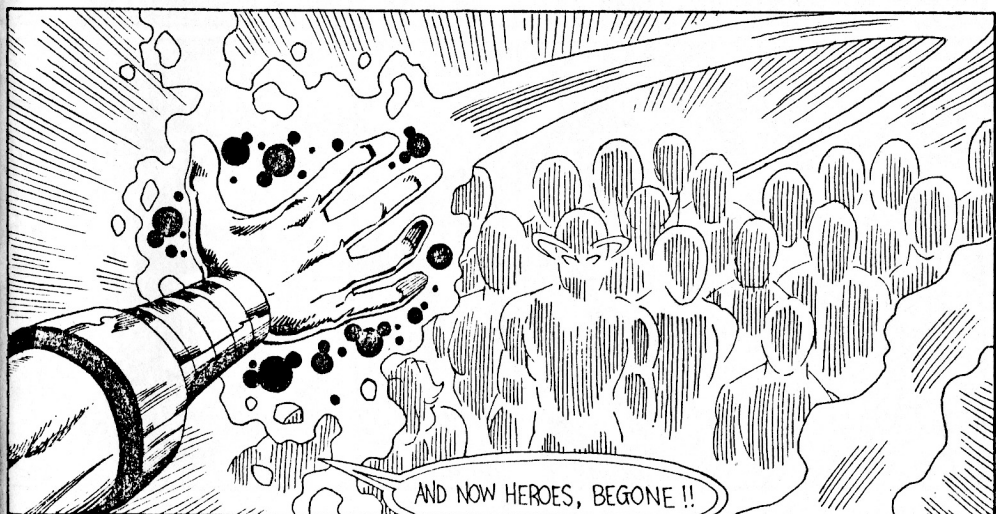
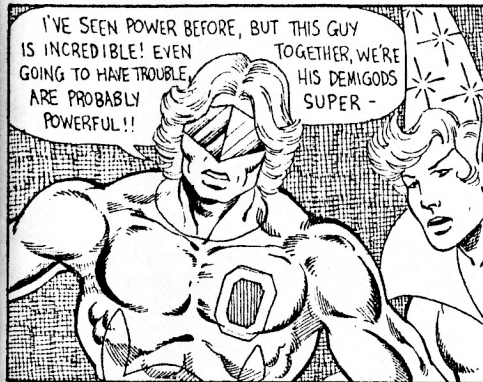
CHAPTER ONE!



THE COMING OF ULTRON!

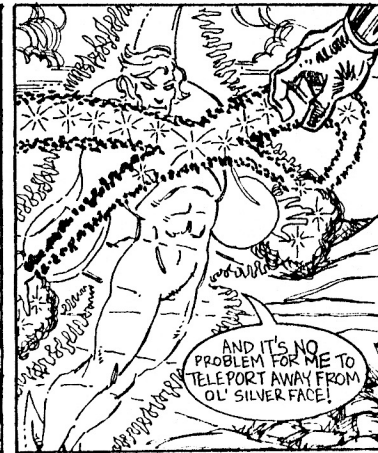
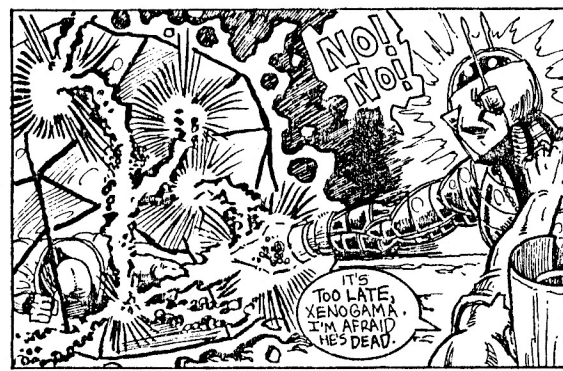
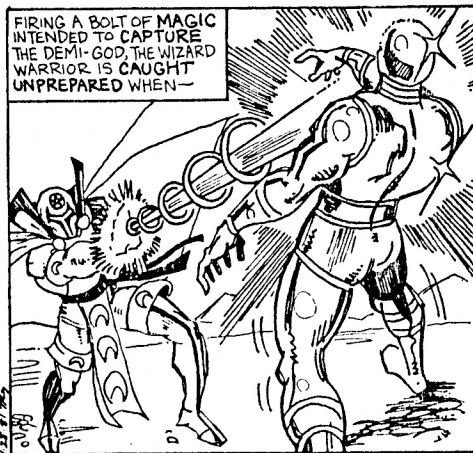
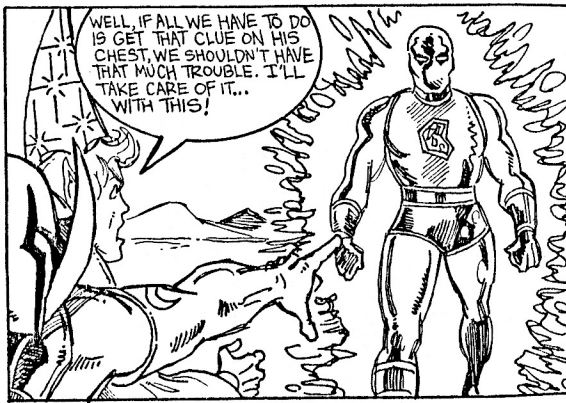
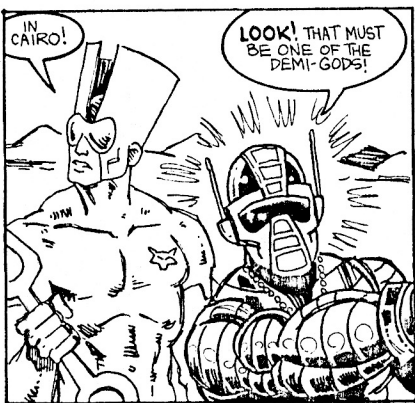
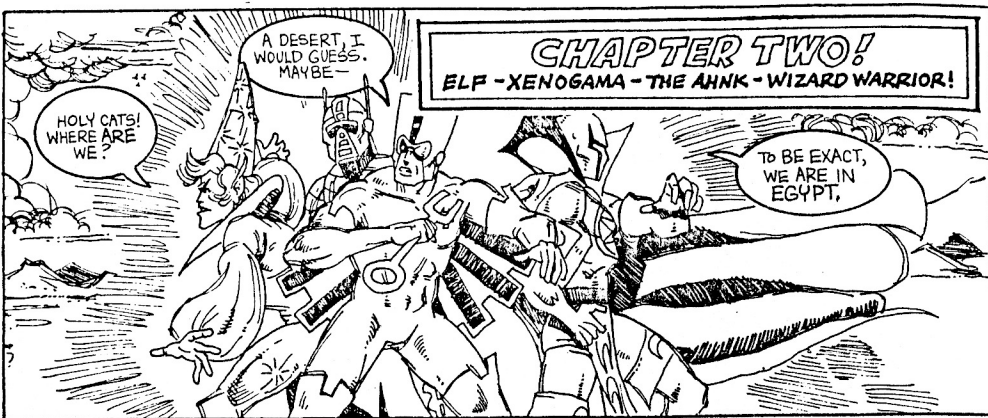


THE COMING OF ULTRON!



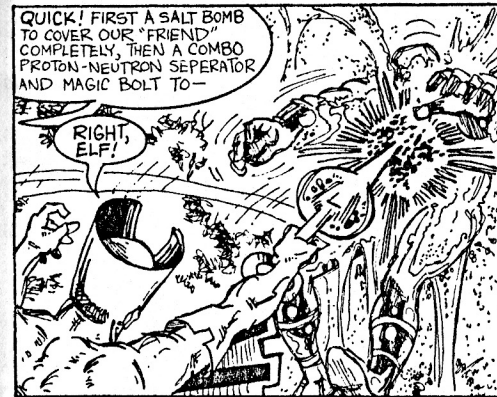
THE COMING OF ULTRON!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!



THE COMING OF ULTRON!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!



THE COMING OF ULTRON!

INTERLUDE I:

IN THE FAMED GREAT CATHEDRAL HOME OF ARGON, THE SPACE WARRIOR...

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE HEROES THAT HAVE GATHERED TOGETHER ARE POWERFUL, INDEED, BUT DO EVEN THEY HAVE THE STRENGTH TO OVERCOME ULTRON? HIS POWER IS ALMOST ABSOLUTE, AND IF HE SURVIVES THIS CLASH OF HEROES HE WILL SURELY BE REBORN AS A GOD.

ONCE THIS HAS HAPPENED, NO ONE, NOT THE HEROES, NOT I, NOR ALL THAT IS HOLY WILL STAND IN HIS PATH. IF HE GETS THIS FAR, THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS AT HIS WILL.

NOT EVEN I CAN SEE INTO THE FUTURE, BUT I KNOW IN MY HEART WHAT ULTRON HAS PLANNED. IT WOULD NOT HELP TO ASSIST THE HEROES IN THEIR EFFORTS.

ALL I CAN DO IS TRY TO PREPARE A COUNTER-OFFENSE AGAINST ULTRON AND HOPE IT DOES SOME GOOD.

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

TO DO THAT, I WILL NEED THE AID OF TWO OF THE MOST POWERFUL MEN IN THE COSMOS, THE SEEKER AND BLACK MERCY.

IDENT: SEEKER... IDENT: BLACK M...

THE SEEKER IS RESIDING IN HYDRENDO NOW, BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET MY MESSAGE OF AID THROUGH TO HIM.

71234... ADL...
896/AREA.. 13574

IDENT: SEEKER
CURRENT LOCALE: HYDRENDO

BLACK MERCY IS IN THE OUTER DIMENSION KNOWN AS STARIXIS. A TELEPATHIC PLEA FOR ASSISTANCE SHOULD REACH HIM.

...A.. 47115

IDENT: BLACK MERCY
CURRENT LOCALE: STARIXIS

MAYBE THE THREE OF US CAN WORK TOGETHER TO COME UP WITH A PLAN IF NOT...

... MAY GOD SAVE US ALL...

AMEN.



WHAT? ONE MINUTE WE'RE WITH ULTRON, AND THE NEXT WE'RE IN NEW YORK. GREEN ISLAND, IF MY BEARINGS ARE CORRECT.

THAT'S RIGHT, OMNIMAN USED TO LIVE AROUND HERE.

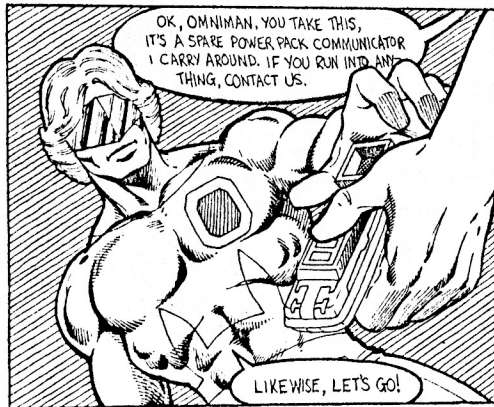


I DON'T MEAN TO INTRUDE, NO PUN INTENDED, BUT I SUGGEST WE FIND OUR PART OF THE CLUE.

RIGHT. I DON'T SEE ANYTHING NEARBY THAT LOOKS LIKE A DEMIGOD, SO I SUGGEST WE SPLIT UP AND LOOK FOR IT.



WELL, THAT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME I CAN GIVE INTRUDER A LIFT WITH MY MAGNETIC POWERS, YOU TWO CAN FLY.



OK, OMNIMAN, YOU TAKE THIS, IT'S A SPARE POWER PACK COMMUNICATOR I CARRY AROUND. IF YOU RUN INTO ANYTHING, CONTACT US.

LIKEWISE, LET'S GO!

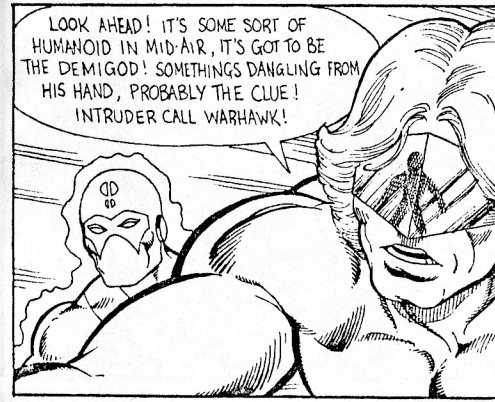


WARHAWK IS A NATURAL BORN LEADER, BUT THIS HAS HIM RILED, ESPECIALLY SINCE ULTRON KIDNAPPED SOME OF THE POWER PACK MEMBERS. HOPE WE FIND THAT CLUE SOON.

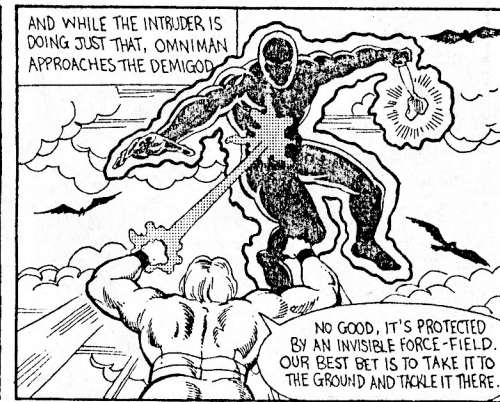


FLYING IS A KICK, OMNIMAN, BUT I PREFER TO KEEP MY FEET ON THE GROUND.

FEW PEOPLE WILL AGREE WITH YOU, INTRUDER, BUT EVEN FEWER HAVE YOUR AGILITY, I GUESS.

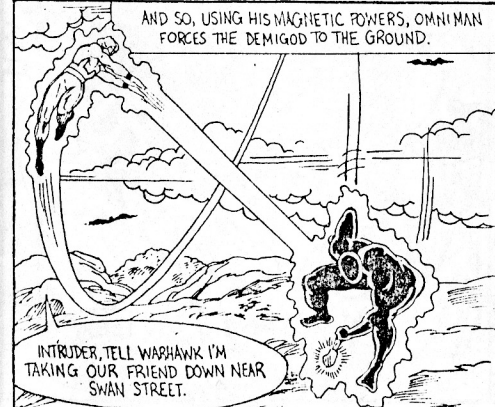


LOOK AHEAD! IT'S SOME SORT OF HUMANOID IN MID-AIR, IT'S GOT TO BE THE DEMIGOD! SOMETHING'S DANGLING FROM HIS HAND, PROBABLY THE CLUE! INTRUDER CALL WARHAWK!



AND WHILE THE INTRUDER IS DOING JUST THAT, OMNIMAN APPROACHES THE DEMIGOD.

NO GOOD, IT'S PROTECTED BY AN INVISIBLE FORCE-FIELD. OUR BEST BET IS TO TAKE IT TO THE GROUND AND TACKLE IT THERE.



AND SO, USING HIS MAGNETIC POWERS, OMNIMAN FORCES THE DEMIGOD TO THE GROUND.

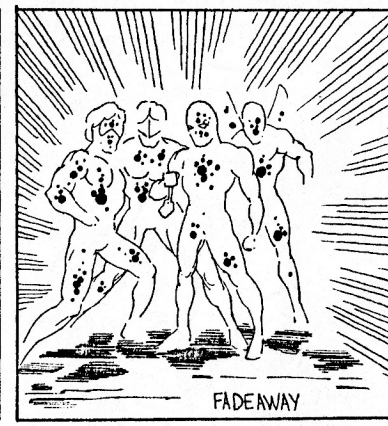
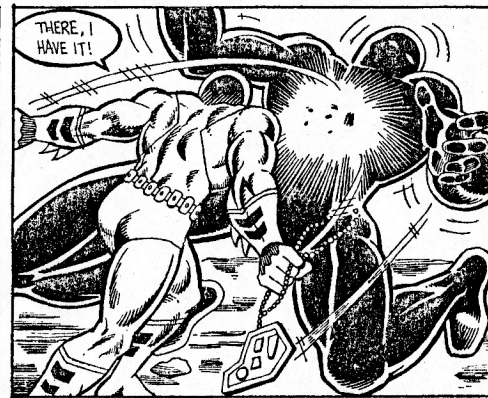
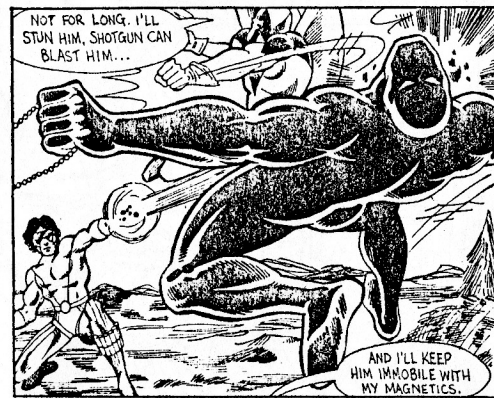
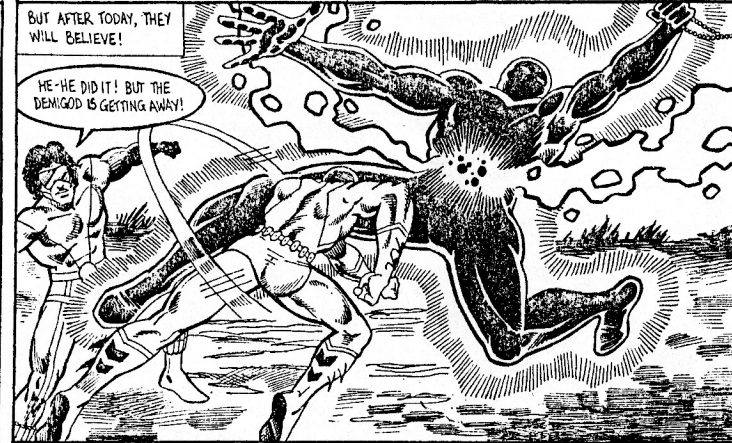
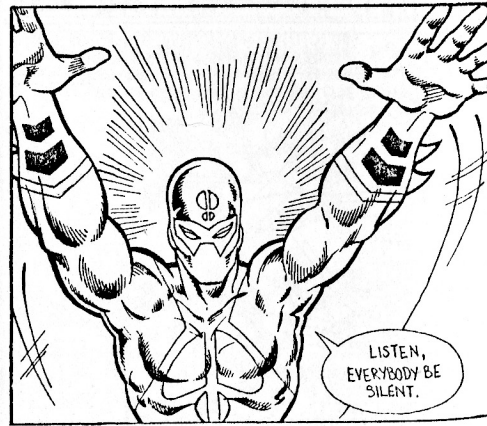
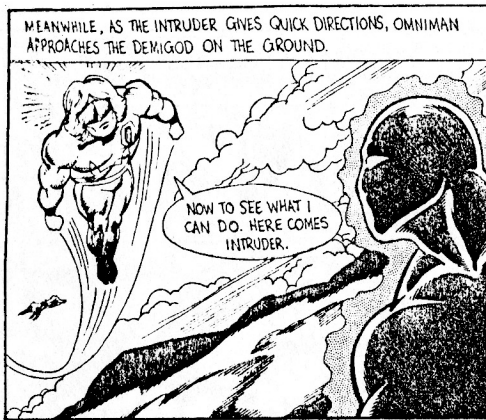
INTRUDER, TELL WARHAWK I'M TAKING OUR FRIEND DOWN NEAR SWAN STREET.



WILL DO!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!



THE COMING OF ULTRON!

MEANWHILE, IN A GALAXY NOT ALL THAT FAR AWAY...

CHAPTER FOUR! WINDSPRITE! SLAUGHTER! CAPTAIN GIZMO! BLUE STREAK! SABRETOOTH! WITCH DOCTOR!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! IT'S ALL TOO MUCH!

QUIET. I'M GETTING WORD FROM WARHAWK!

WARHAWK SAYS THAT HE AND OMNI MAN AND SOME OTHERS GOT 1/4 OF THE CLUE FROM A DEMIGOD.

WAIT A MINUTE! HOW DID THAT RECEIVER REACH US WAY OUT HERE IN NOWHERE?

I DON'T KNOW, IT JUST CLICKED ON.

WITH WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AROUND HERE LATELY, I'M NOT TOO SURPRISED WITH ANYTHING. HERE WE ARE --

WHO KNOWS WHERE, TRAPPED UNDER THIS DOME... AND RIGHT NOW WE'RE COUNTING ON SOME PEOPLE WE'VE NEVER HEARD OF TO SAVE OUR ASSES. HOW CAN ANYTHING BE LOGICAL? THIS ULTRON IS TRYING TO TAKE OVER EVERYTHING THERE IS TO TAKE OVER, AND WE'RE UP HERE LIKE SITTING DUCKS! IF ULTRON STARTS THAT GALAXIAN WAR, TRILLIONS UPON TRILLIONS WILL DIE! JESUS CHRIST!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

CAPTAIN GIZMO'S WORDS CUT DEEP INTO THE HEART AND SOUL OF EVERYONE THERE: THE DESPAIR IS OVERWHELMING.

HEY, TAKE IT EASY! DON'T YOU KNOW THE GOOD-GUYS ALWAYS WIN?

IF ONLY WE COULD BE SO SURE. WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON IS SO TOPSY-TURVY THAT IT'S HARD TO HAVE HOPE.

AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN A POWER-PACK MEMBER, WE'VE RUN INTO SOME ODD CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT NONE CAN EQUAL WHAT HAS HAPPENED RECENTLY.

IF ONLY THERE WAS SOME WAY WE COULD DO SOMETHING!

I FEEL SO DAMNNED USELESS!

WHEREAS I DO NOT HAVE A SOLUTION, I DO SUGGEST THAT WE ALL KEEP FAITH IN THE OTHER HEROES AND PRAY THEY HAVE A SOLUTION.

HE'S RIGHT! THE GAMES NOT OVER YET!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

THE COMING OF ULTRON!

