

When Richard Rider, teenager, was blasted by a lightbolt from beyond the stars, he suddenly found himself transformed into one of the most powerful men on Earth. Invulnerable, able to fly at Nova-Speed, stronger than any ten men, the young High School student donned the costume of his Alien benefactor to become a Champion of Justice!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE MAN CALLED NOVA!**™

ONLY... MARV WOLFGAN / SAL BUSCEMA & TOM PALMER / IRVING W. / MICHELE W.
WRITER / EDITOR / ARTISTS SUPREME / LETTERER / COLORIST

COULD PRODUCE
THIS INSTANT
CLASSIC!

BAH! I'M ALREADY
STRONGER THAN
THESE FOOLS!

I'M MORE
POWERFUL
THAN ANY-
ONE!!

AND VERY SOON
THE WORLD WILL
KNOW ME, AND
TREMBLE WHEN
THEY HEAR --

--THE DEADLY
DIAMONDHEAD
IS READY TO STRIKE!

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT ROCKHEAD JUST
MAY HAVE A POINT THERE, PILGRIM!

NOVA™ is published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 575 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Published monthly. Copyright ©1976 by Marvel Comics Group. A Division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 3, November, 1976 issue. Price 30¢ per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate \$4.00 for 12 issues. Canada, \$5.00. Foreign, \$6.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the United States of America. . .



THOSE ROBOT-DUPLICATES WERE CHILD'S PLAY TO DESTROY.

SURELY MY SPECIAL ATTACK ROOM WILL PROVE TO BE MORE FOR-MIDABLE THAN THAT!

SNIP!

AH! THE MACHINE GUNS PLIPPED INTO FIRING POSITION!



BAH! EVEN THESE SPECIAL TITANIUM BULLETS BOUNCE OFF MY DIAMOND HANDS!

BAM!

BIANG

SKEEN

PANG!



AND THIS TWO-FOOT THICK REIN-FORCED WALL SHATTERS LIKE SO MUCH GLASS WHEN I STRIKE IT!

I'M UNSTOPPABLE! UNDEFEATABLE!

YET, I STILL FEAR HIM-- THE DREADED ONE! *

WHY? BLAST IT -- WHY?

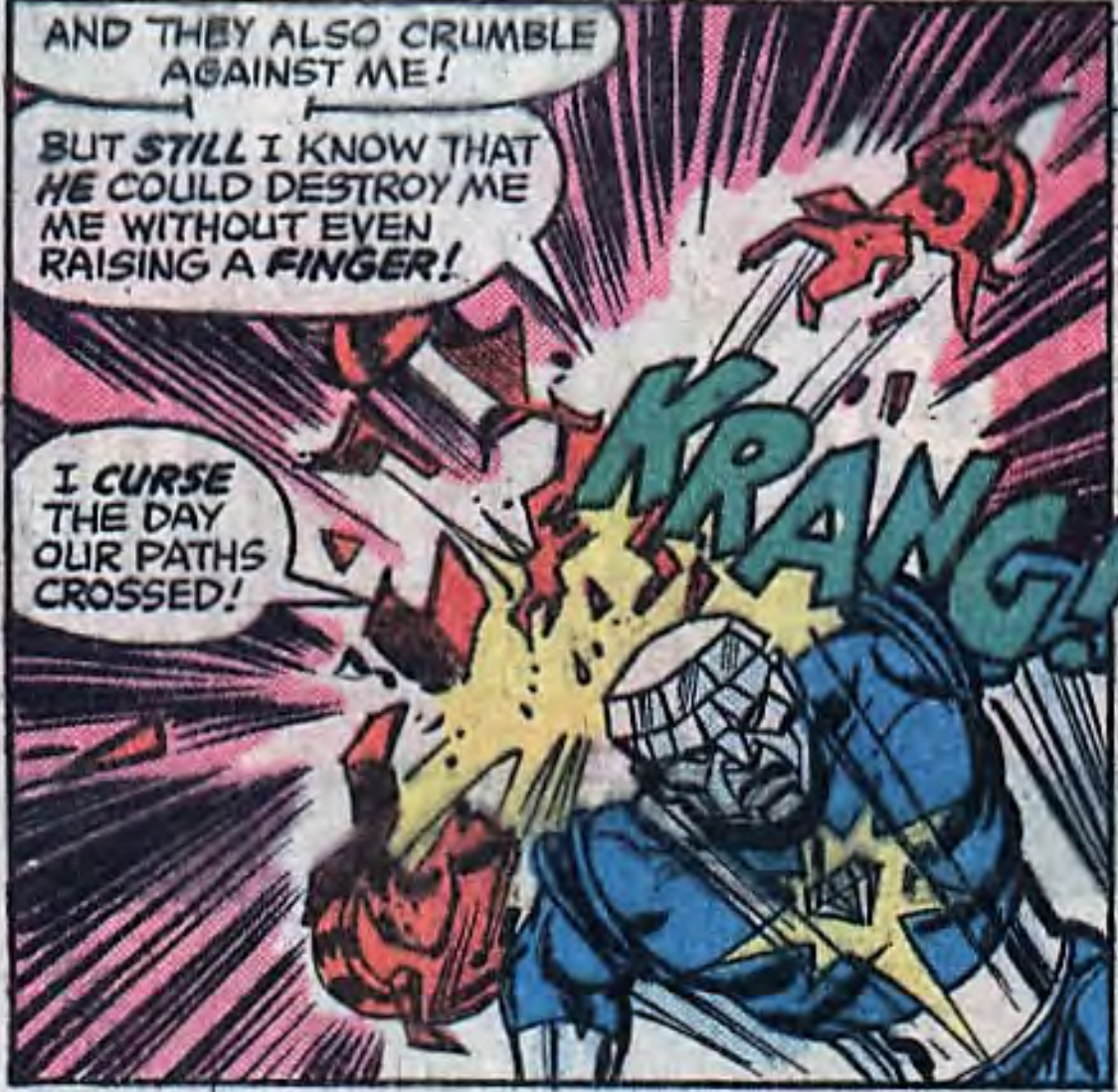
SKRUNCH

*WHO IS THIS DREADED ONE WHICH EVEN THE CONDOR AND POWER-HOUSE TREMBLED IN FEAR OF LAST ISSUE? KEEP READING, FRIENDS AND KEEP GUESSING!



NOTHING THAT MOVES CAN STOP ME. MY DIAMOND SKIN CAN'T BE HARMED!

LOOK! THOSE ROCKET MISSILES ARE PRIMED.



AND THEY ALSO CRUMBLE AGAINST ME!

BUT STILL I KNOW THAT HE COULD DESTROY ME ME WITHOUT EVEN RAISING A FINGER!

I CURSE THE DAY OUR PATHS CROSSED!

KRANG!



BECAUSE I KNOW ONE DAY I MUST BATTLE HIM.

AND THEN, EVEN I WILL-- WHAT?

THE DESTRUCTOID!

I FORGOT ABOUT IT!

ONCE ACTIVATED, IT WILL EXPLODE UNLESS I CAN STOP IT.

AND ITS TIMER IS SET FOR TEN SECONDS!



BUT THAT WILL PROVE NO TROUBLE!

NOT FOR MY STEEL-SMASHING POWERS!



WOULD THAT THE DREADED ONE BE SO SIMPLE TO CONQUER!

BLAST! I'VE WORKED TOO LONG FOR MY SCHEMES TO BE JEOPARDIZED BY HIM!

INDEED, MY ENTIRE LIFE HAS BEEN AIMED TOWARDS MY DEBUT AS THE MASTER CRIMELORD!



EVEN AS A MERE CHILD, WHILE OTHERS PREFERRED PLAYING THE ROLE OF HERO, I DELIGHTED IN PORTRAYING THE ARCH ENEMY!

I RELISHED SMASHING THE GOOD-GUYS TO THE GROUND!



I WORKED ON DEVELOPING MY STRENGTH! BY THE TIME I WAS A TEENAGER, I BECAME A GOLDEN GLOVES CHAMPION!

THERE WAS NO ONE FIERCER THAN ARCH DYKER!



BUT STILL THE DREAM OF BECOMING CRIMELORD ELUDED ME.

UNTIL FOUR MONTHS AGO, WHEN I BROKE INTO THE SOUTH HAMPTON SCIENCE INSTITUTE!



I KNEW THEY KEPT PRECIOUS GEMS THERE FOR THEIR SECRET PROJECTS.

AND, WHILE PROWLING ABOUT, I TRIPPED--



-- DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF A DIAMOND-POWERED LASER!

I SCREAMED AS MY ATOMS WERE BOMBARDED WITH ITS SHEER POWER!





BUT I DIDN'T DIE. RATHER, I WAS REBORN!

ARCH DYKER NO LONGER EXISTED! BUT IN HIS PLACE WAS--

--THE DEADLY DIAMONDHEAD!



AND NOW, LET'S MOVE ON TO THE HOME OF RICHARD RIDER...

ALL I WANT TO KNOW IS: WAS TRUE OR FALSE!



YOUR PRINCIPAL PHONED THAT YOU WERE HELD AFTER CLASS FOR DETENTION.

MY SON--FIGHTING! WELL, RICHARD...?

I WAS, DAD, BUT IT WASN'T MY FAULT. MIKE BURLEY STARTED IT.

THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.



I TAUGHT YOU NOT TO FIGHT, RICHARD. I WILL NOT HAVE A RUFFIAN IN THIS HOUSE.

BUT DAD, I DIDN'T--

THAT WILL BE ENOUGH, YOUNG MAN. GO TO YOUR ROOM, WITHOUT SUPPER.

WHEN I ISSUE A COMMAND, I EXPECT TO BE OBEYED!



DID YOU HEAR ME, RICHARD?

YEAH, I'M GOING.

CAN I HAVE RICH'S STEAK, MOM?

HUSH, ROBBIE!



BLUE BLAZES! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO DAD LATELY.

IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS A MEMBER OF THAT BLUE HORNETS GANG!

BUT I JUST COULDN'T LET THAT BIG APE PUSH ME AROUND!



OOPS! FORGOT MY NOVA-STRENGTH! MY KICK SHOT THOSE WEIGHTS ACROSS THE ROOM WITH THE SPEED OF A RHINO!

IF THEY HIT THE WALL...

GOT IT!

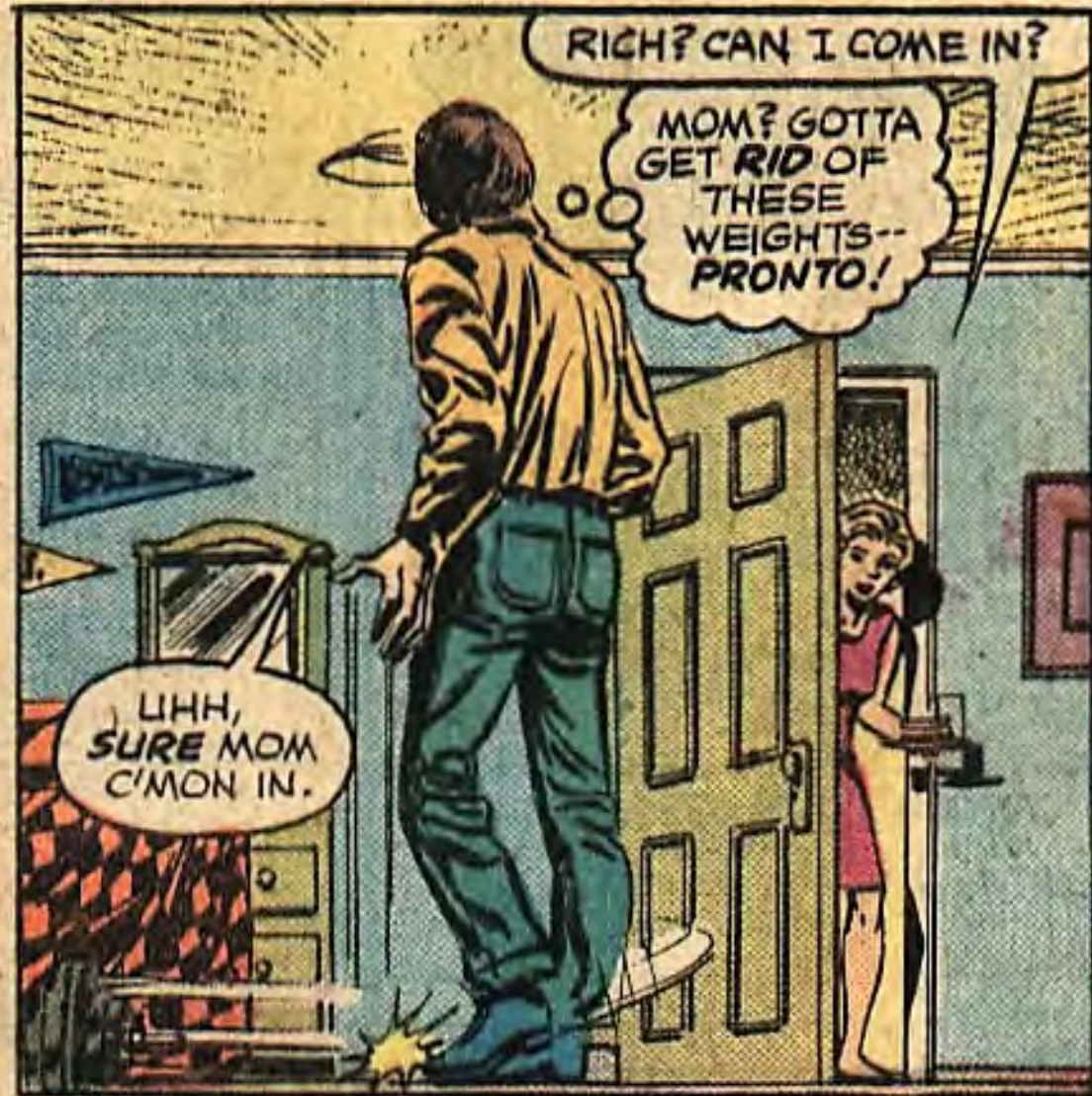
WHEW.



I ALMOST BLEW IT! IF I KNOCKED OUT THE SIDE OF MY ROOM, MY SECRET IDENTITY WOULD'VE BEEN BLOWN!

NOT TO MENTION DAD'S TEMPER!

C'MON, CHOWDER-HEAD! YOU GOTTA REMEMBER HOW STRONG YOU ARE THESE DAYS!



RICH? CAN I COME IN?

MOM? GOTTA GET RID OF THESE WEIGHTS-- PRONTO!

UHH, SURE MOM C'MON IN.



I BROUGHT YOU THIS STEAK SANDWICH, RICH, AND PLEASE DON'T THINK TOO HARSHLY OF YOUR FATHER.

THERE ARE CERTAIN PROBLEMS AT HIS SCHOOL THAT THE PARENTS WANT HIM, AS ITS PRINCIPAL, TO SOLVE--



-- AND HE'S HAVING A VERY HARD TIME OF IT.

I'M AFRAID IT'S MAKING HIM RATHER SHORT TEMPERED.

BUT PLEASE BE PATIENT, HE DOES LOVE YOU.

I-I KNOW, MOM.



AND THANKS FOR TELLING ME.

SO DO I, RICHARD. BUT FRANKLY, I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE BAD! VERY BAD!

I HOPE EVERYTHING WORKS OUT WELL.

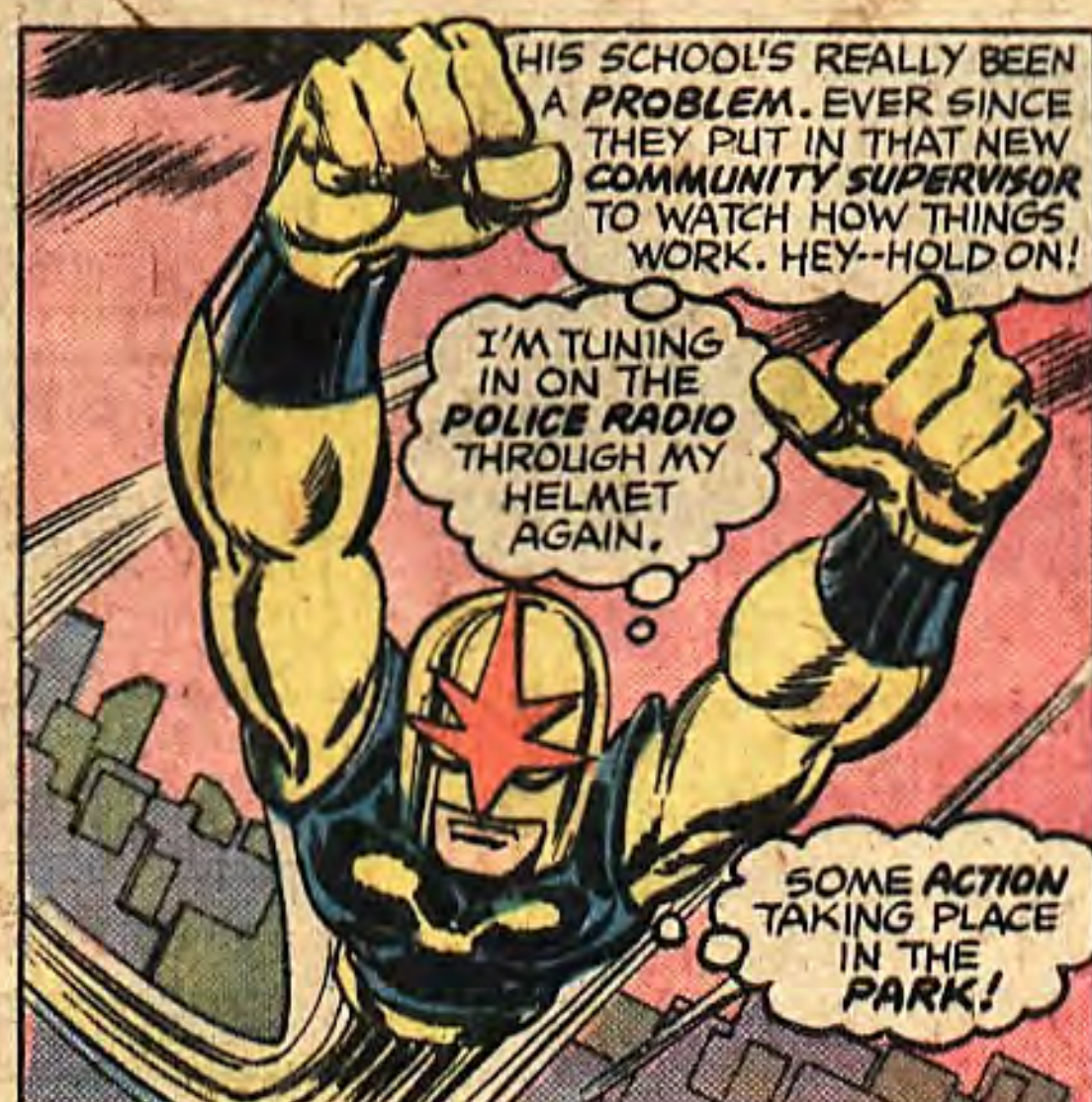


SHORTLY...

ACTUALLY, I'M RELIEVED I WAS SENT TO MY ROOM.

I WAS GETTING ITCHY WAITING TO FLY FREE AS NOVA!

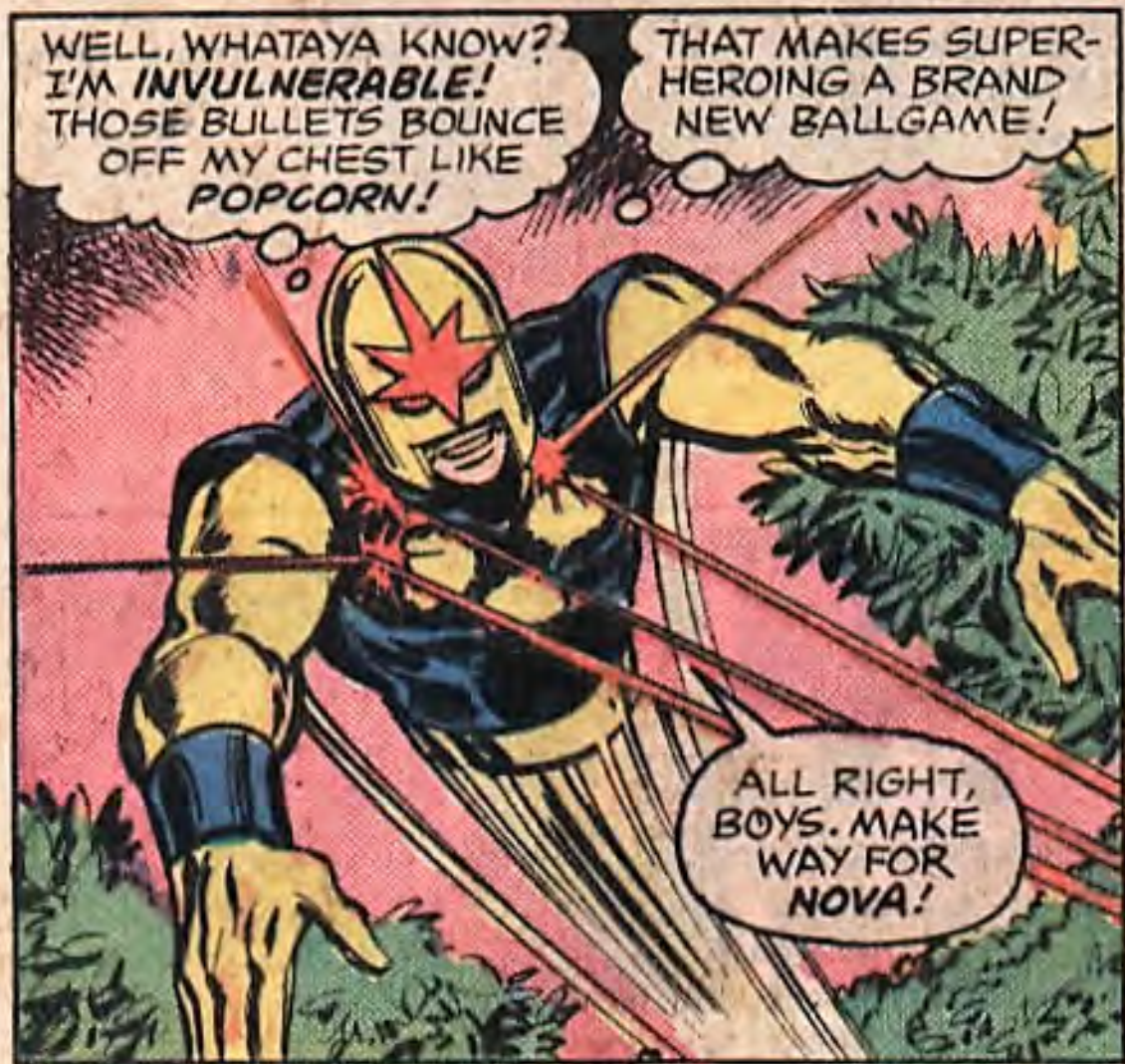
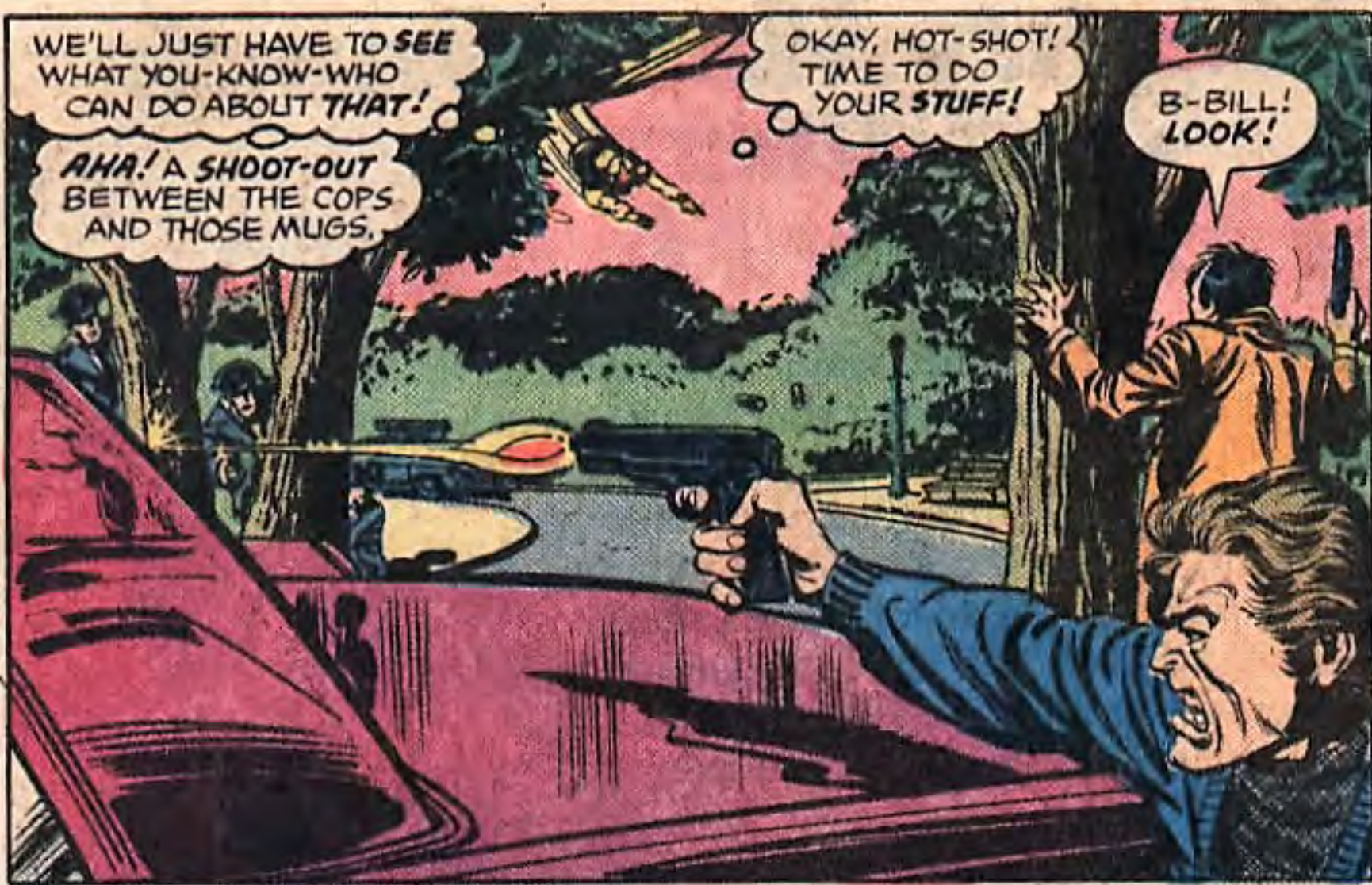
BUT, POOR DAD...



HIS SCHOOL'S REALLY BEEN A PROBLEM. EVER SINCE THEY PUT IN THAT NEW COMMUNITY SUPERVISOR TO WATCH HOW THINGS WORK. HEY--HOLD ON!

I'M TUNING IN ON THE POLICE RADIO THROUGH MY HELMET AGAIN.

SOME ACTION TAKING PLACE IN THE PARK!





HOLD ON, HANDSOME. YOU FORGOT YOUR PASSENGER!

YOU? BUT IT ISN'T POSSIBLE!

KRUNCH

YOU'RE RIGHT, CUDDLES! I'M JUST A FIGMENT OF YOUR IMAGINATION!

THE LITTLE HERO THAT ISN'T!



PARDON ME FOR BEING PRESUMPTUOUS, BUT I GATHER YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T THE WAY TO THE CITY JAIL!

HERE! GIVE ME THE WHEEL AND I'LL SHOW YOU THE WAY!

Y-YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU RIPPED OUT THE STEERING WHEEL!

TSK. TSK. THE SHABBY WAY THEY MAKE CARS TODAY. A SHAME.



YOU'D HAVE TO BE INSANE DRIVING WITHOUT A WHEEL.

I CAN'T REMAIN INSIDE THAT DISASTER!

NEXT YOU'LL BE DRIVING WITHOUT AN ENGINE!



SEE? I TOLD YOU!

SKA

UNCH!



NOW THEN, CHUCKLES. ARE YOU STILL PLANNING ON ESCAPING?

ALL RIGHT, YOU MANIAC! TAKE ME IN!

EVEN JAIL'S BETTER'N BEING HERE WITH YOU!

SOMEHOW I THOUGHT YOU'D SEE THE ERROR OF YOUR WAYS.

THE NEXT DAY AT HARRY S. TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL...

YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT TROUBLES, RICH?

ME! BERNIE DILLON! I'M FLUNKING HEBREW!

MR. WEINBERG SAYS I'M TOO MUCH A SHMEGEGGE!

A WHAT?

UH-OH--IT'S MIKE BURLEY!

IF I KNEW, I WOULDN'T BE FLUNKING, BOYCHIK.

RIDER!

LISTEN, PUNK! YOU'VE BEEN HIDING EVER SINCE YOU DUMPED THAT SPAGHETTI OVER ME.*

BUT NOW I'VE GOT YOU.

BUT--

*LAST ISH.--MARV.

BUT NOTHING, SQUIRT!

I'M PUTTING YOUR FACE THROUGH THE SIDEWALK!

NOW!

HUNH?

OH, NO YOU'RE NOT, MIKE!

YOU'RE NOT PUSHING ME AROUND ANYMORE!

POW!

WHAT?

YOU SEE THAT, CAPS?

I COULDN'T'VE. COULD I?

I'VE BEEN WAITING TO DO THAT, EVER SINCE I GOT MY POWERS!

THAT WAS A LUCKY PUNCH, YOU CREEP!

I'LL GET YOU FOR THAT!

OOPS. I WAS A FOOL.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE SHOWED HIM HOW STRONG I AM.

THIS IS IT, RIDER!

ALL I NEED IS SOME CLOWN PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER AND COMING UP WITH ME BEING NOVA!

BETTER MAKE MYSELF SCARCE!

GOOD GRAY! A DEAD END!

NO PROBLEM FOR V'I OLE BULLETHEAD, THOUGH.

FORTUNATELY I'VE GOT MY POWERS WITH OR WITHOUT MY COSTUME.

SEEYA, MIKEY!

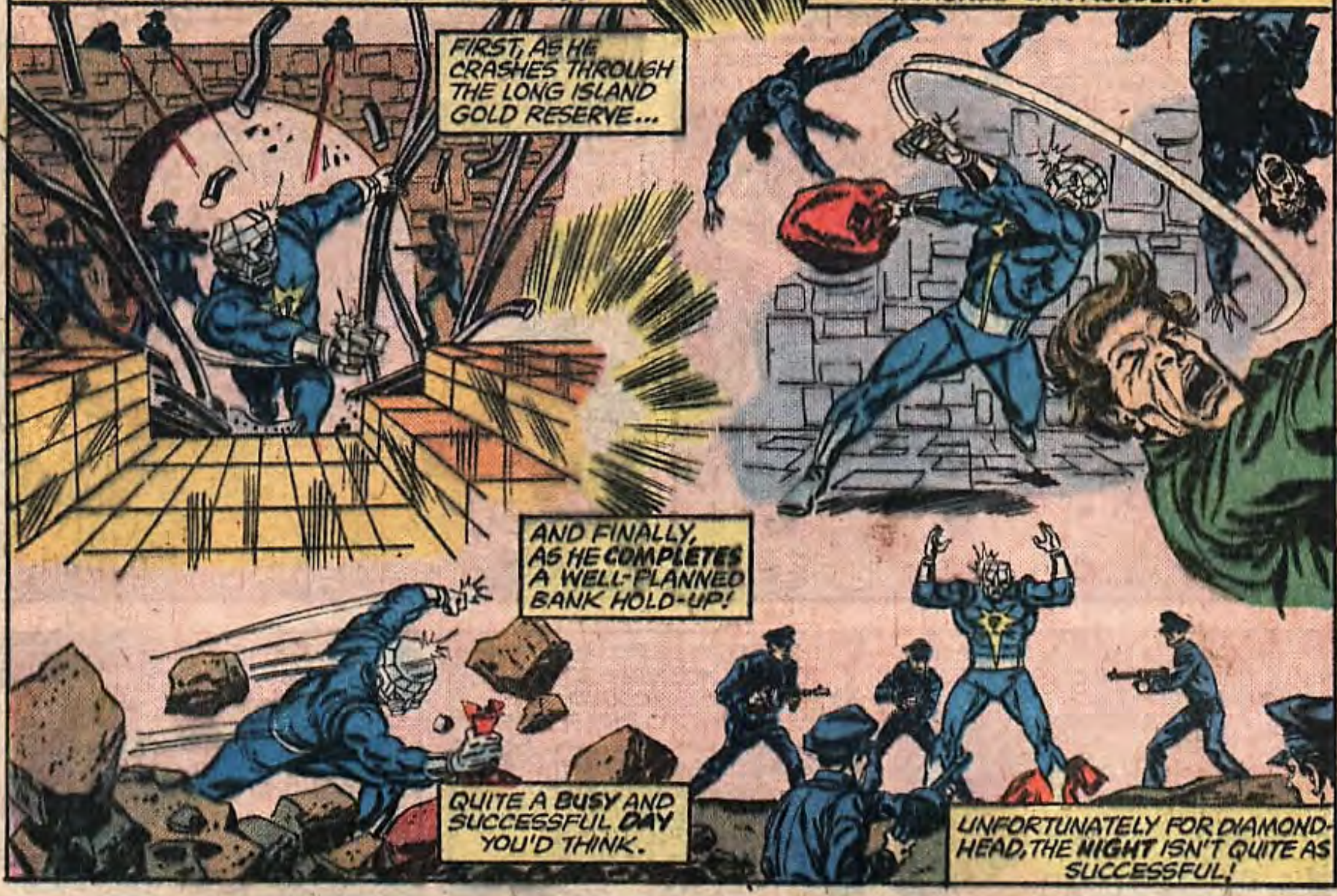
HUNH? HE'S GONE! BUT THERE'S NO PLACE FOR HIM TO GO?

WHERE IN BLAZES IS THAT PUNK?

THOUGH, AFTER THAT PUNCH OF HIS, DO I REALLY WANT TO FIND OUT?

LET'S LEAVE RICH RIDER AND FRIENDS FOR AWHILE AS WE CHECK BACK WITH THIS MONTH'S BAD-GUY!

THEN, AS HE PULLS OFF A SUCCESSFUL ARMORED CAR ROBBERY!



FIRST, AS HE CRASHES THROUGH THE LONG ISLAND GOLD RESERVE...

AND FINALLY, AS HE COMPLETES A WELL-PLANNED BANK HOLD-UP!

QUITE A BUSY AND SUCCESSFUL DAY YOU'D THINK.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR DIAMOND-HEAD, THE NIGHT ISN'T QUITE AS SUCCESSFUL!



OR IS IT?

FOOLS! I WANTED TO BE PLIT BEHIND THESE PRISON BARS!

TO GET WHAT I CAME AFTER! THAT BOX THEY FOUND ON THE ONE CALLED POWERHOUSE!

*LAST ISH! THOUGHT WE FORGOT ABOUT OUR ENERGY-MAN, DIDN'T YOU. - MARV.



THOSE DOLTS DON'T KNOW ITS TRUE VALUE BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T KNOW HE WAS ALSO DEFYING THE DREADED ONE!

I MUST FIND WHAT HE HAD IN THAT BOX

WARDEN



TAKE IT FOR MY OWN!

SKRUNCH!



AND THEN-- ESCAPE!

SHOOT ALL YOU WANT TO, CRETINS! YOUR PUNY BULLETS WILL NEVER STOP DIAMONDHEAD!

BAM BAM

WE'LL GET BACK TO DIAMONDHEAD IN A PAGE OR TWO, BUT LET'S NOW SHIFT OUR ATTENTIONS TO HEMPSTEAD, LONG ISLAND, AND TO RICHARD AND ROBERT RIDER...

YOUR PROBLEM WITH MONOPOLY, MY DEAR BROTHER, IS THAT YOU FAIL TO USE A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH WITH YOUR GAME-PLAYING.

BUNK! WINNING'S PURE LUCK! ALL IN THE ROLL OF THE DICE!

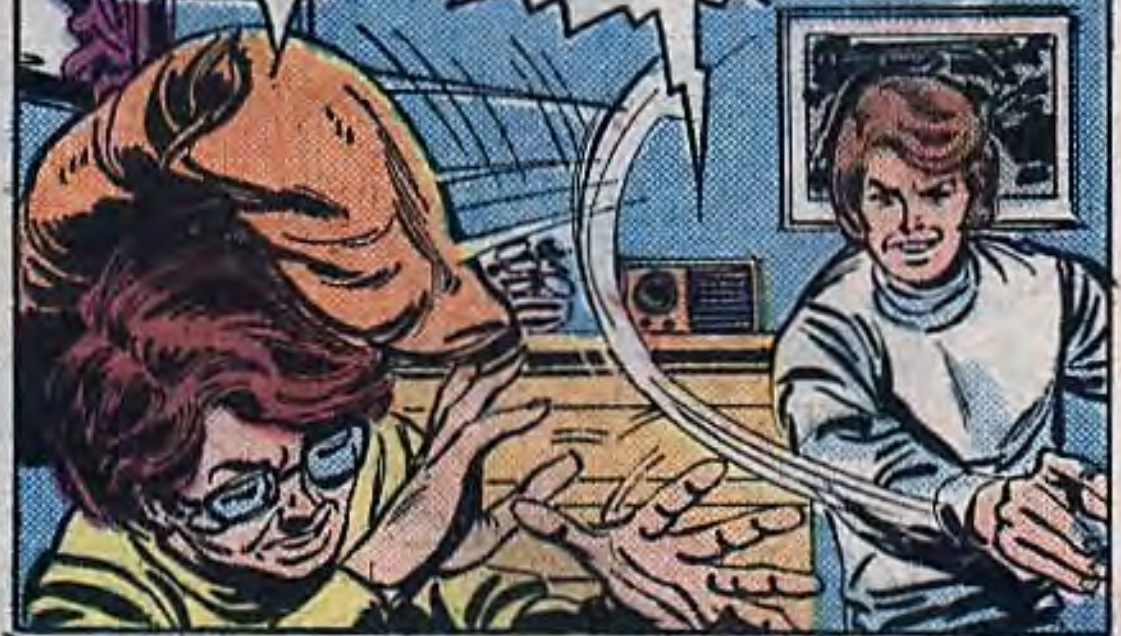


THEN EXPLAIN WHY I'VE WON THE LAST 176 GAMES?

SEE? THAT PROVES IT. IT'S GOT TO BE DUMB LUCK!

THEN YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN THE ONE TO WIN, RICH. NOT ROBERT (166 IQ) RIDER.

...AND NOW A REPORT JUST HANDED ME...



THE CRIMINAL KNOWN AS DIAMOND-HEAD HAS PULLED OFF AN INCREDIBLE ESCAPE FROM ROCK ISLAND PRISON TODAY--

--TAKING WITH HIM A SEALED, STEEL BOX WHICH THE POLICE FOUND ON ANOTHER CRIMINAL NAMED POWERHOUSE!

POWERHOUSE? THAT'S THE GUY I FOUGHT IN THE MUSEUM THE OTHER DAY.



THE STRANGE BOX HAS PROVEN TO BE A MYSTERY FOR THE POLICE, WHO COULD NOT FIND A WAY TO PRY IT OPEN.

MORE DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY ARE LEARNED BY THE WMVC NEWSROOM.



HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING IMPORTANT I'VE GOT TO DO.

WHAT ABOUT THE GAME?

SO YOU'VE WON 177 GAMES ON DUMB LUCK!



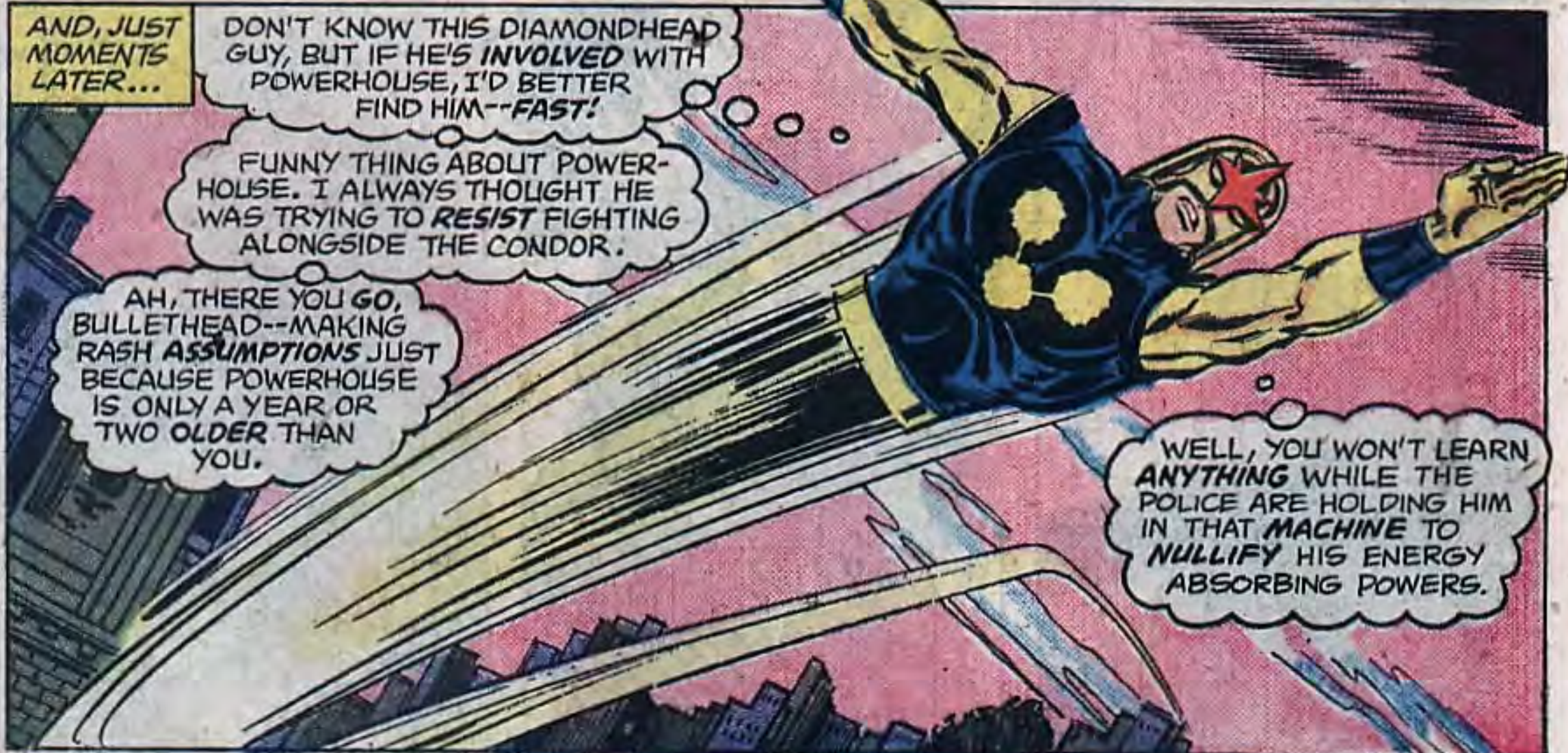
AND, JUST MOMENTS LATER...

DON'T KNOW THIS DIAMONDHEAD GUY, BUT IF HE'S INVOLVED WITH POWERHOUSE, I'D BETTER FIND HIM--FAST!

FUNNY THING ABOUT POWERHOUSE. I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE WAS TRYING TO RESIST FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE CONDOR.

AH, THERE YOU GO, BULLETHEAD--MAKING RASH ASSUMPTIONS JUST BECAUSE POWERHOUSE IS ONLY A YEAR OR TWO OLDER THAN YOU.

WELL, YOU WON'T LEARN ANYTHING WHILE THE POLICE ARE HOLDING HIM IN THAT MACHINE TO NULLIFY HIS ENERGY ABSORBING POWERS.

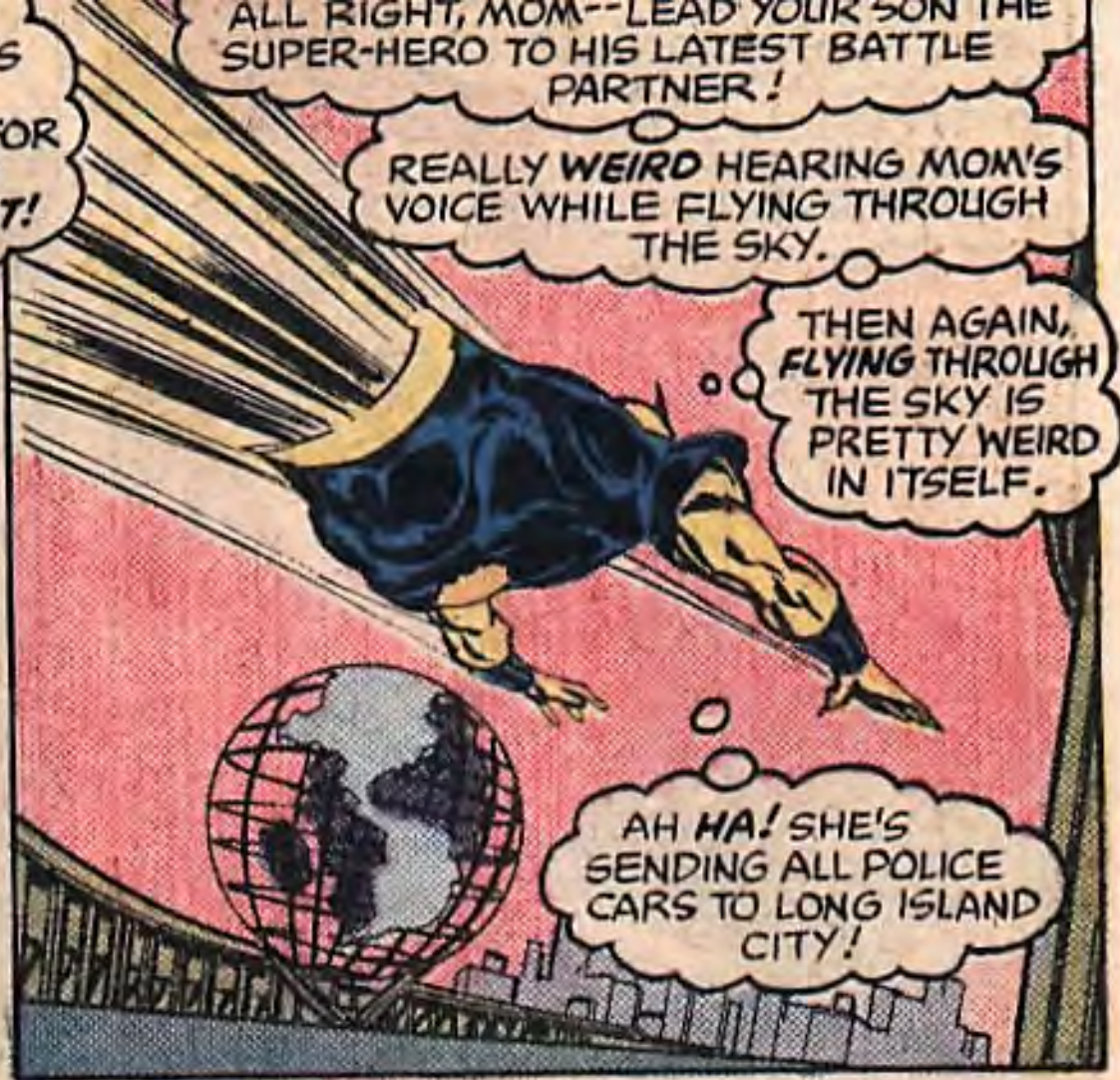




BLUE BLAZES! MY MOTHER'S VOICE COMING OVER MY HELMET RADIO RECEIVER!

I ALMOST FORGOT SHE'S A CIVILIAN DISPATCHER FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

EH? SHE'S ON THE LINE TALKING ABOUT DIAMONDHEAD!



ALL RIGHT, MOM--LEAD YOUR SON TO HIS LATEST BATTLE PARTNER!

REALLY WEIRD HEARING MOM'S VOICE WHILE FLYING THROUGH THE SKY.

THEN AGAIN, FLYING THROUGH THE SKY IS PRETTY WEIRD IN ITSELF.

AH HA! SHE'S SENDING ALL POLICE CARS TO LONG ISLAND CITY!



AND THAT'S WHERE YOURS TRULY IS STREAKING TO RIGHT NOW!

OBOY! PROBLEM NUMBER ONE!



BUT NOTHING MR. WONDERFUL CAN'T HANDLE.

HEY! BETTER CALM DOWN, RICHIE, OR YOU'LL GIVE YOURSELF A SWELLED HEAD!

PRETTY SOON YOUR HELMET WILL JUST BE A SKULL CAP!

HOLD TIGHT, MISTER--I'VE GOT YOU!



H-HE THREW ME OUT OF THE WINDOW!

HE'S ABSOLUTELY CRAZY!



AH HA! SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE DIAMONDHEAD!

EITHER THAT OR YOU'VE BEEN POLISHING YOUR FACE TOO MUCH!

YOU? YOU'RE NOVA!

RIGHT ON, SPARKLES! YOU'VE WON THE BOOBY PRIZE. AND HERE'S DON PARDO TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT!



GET AWAY FROM ME, CLOWN!

BLUE BLAZES!

SKRAGG!



SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY!

THAT CREEP'S PUNCH COULD FLATTEN A STEAMROLLER!

I FELT HIS FIST CLEAR THROUGH TO MY SUPER SKIN.



GUESS I'M NOT AS INVULNERABLE AS I THOUGHT!

SO I'M NOT MR. WONDERFUL!



MAYBE KNOWING THAT'LL KEEP ME A BIT MORE LEVEL-HEADED!

AND SPEAKING OF FLAT-TOPS, SPARKLE'S GONE!



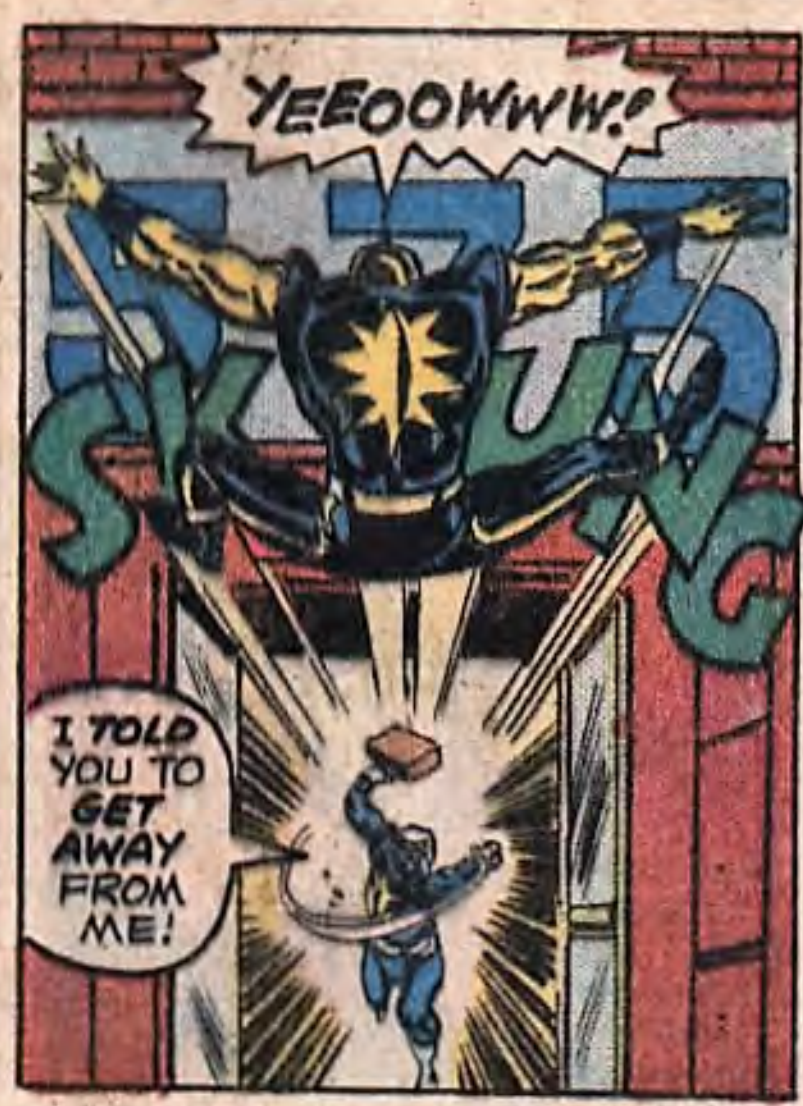
BUT HE COULDN'T'VE GOTTEN FAR!

PROBABLY JUST RAN DOWN THE STAIRS!



AT NOVA-SPEED I CAN MEET HIM BEFORE HE LEAVES THE BUILDING!

SCORE ONE, SMILEY! I THINK I SEE HIM COM--



YEEOWWW!

I TOLD YOU TO GET AWAY FROM ME!



SHEESH! GOTTA LEARN HOW TO DEFEND MYSELF ONE OF THESE DAYS!

OTHERWISE, HAVING ALL THESE SUPER-POWERS MEANS BEANS!

YOU'VE STILL GOT A HECKUVA LOT OF TRAINING BEFORE YOU HIT THE BIG-TIME, RICHIE.

SHINEY'S HEADING FOR THE ELEVATED TRAIN TRACKS!



SORRY, HANDSOME, BUT YOU CAN'T BOARD A TRAIN WITHOUT A TOKEN!

AND SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK YOU'RE KEEPING ANY HIDDEN IN YOUR VILLIAN GET-UP.

YOU AGAIN?



THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S L'IL OLE ME--SMASHING MY WAY BACK INTO YOUR HEART AND FACE!

BLANG!



BLUE BLAZES! HIS HEAD REALLY IS MADE OF DIAMOND!

I THINK I BROKE MY HAND TRYING TO SMASH IT!

YOU LITTLE FOOL, YOU'RE HARDLY WORTH BOTHERING WITH!

I CAN'T WASTE TIME ON ONE SUCH AS YOU-- NOT NOW!



NOT WHILE I MUST STILL CHALLENGE THE DREADED ONE!

NOT UNTIL I'VE WALKED AWAY FROM HIM--ALIVE!

SKUNG!



AND WITH THE INFORMATION IN THIS CASE, I CAN MOUNT AN ATTACK ON HIS FORTRESS-- AND WIN!

THEN NO ONE WILL DARE CHALLENGE MY SWIFT ASCENT TO CRIMELORD OF NEW YORK.



DON'T KNOW WHO THIS "DREADED ONE" IS HE KEEPS MUMBLING ABOUT, BUT I REMEMBER EVEN THE CONDOR FEARED THAT SAME GUY!

ONLY I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT HIM--WHOEVER HE IS.

I'VE GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS PLAYING WITH GLITTER-PUSS.



WHICH REALLY MAKES ME LESS THAT 100% ANXIOUS TO MEET THE GUY HE HAS TO WORRY OVER.

OH, WELL, ONE DAY AT A TIME, RICHIE! TAKE 'EM AS THEY COME!

HI, HANDSOME! FORGET YOUR SPARRING PARTNER?

YOU'RE TRYING MY PATIENCE, NOVA!



GO BACK TO YOUR SANDBOX, KID! YOU DON'T BELONG HERE WITH THE **ADULTS!**

YOU SHOULD BE IN **SCHOOL**-- MAKING OUT WITH THE **GIRLS!**

ANYWHERE BUT INTERFERING WITH **ME!**



HEY! YOU REALLY **INSULT** ME, SPARKLES!

WHEN I ANSWERED THAT AD ON HOW TO "BE A SUPERHERO IN TEN EASY LESSONS" THEY DISTINCTLY SAID THERE WOULDN'T BE DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF **AGE!**

HAVE YOU **NO RESPECT** FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS?

SHEESH!



OBOY! TALK ABOUT **HARD-HEADS!**

ONLY **MINE** NOW FEELS LIKE **OATMEAL.**

C'MON, GET IT **TOGETHER,** ROCKET-FACE!



AREN'T YOU TIRED OF TAKING **ALL THE LUMPS?** SINCE YOU'VE BECOME A SUPER-HERO, ALL YOU'VE DONE IS LAND ON YOUR **BACKSIDE** DURING EVERY FIGHT!

GOTTA **PSYCHE** MYSELF INTO BEING A **WINNER** NOW AND THEN!



LEARN TO PLAY THE GAME LIKE **IRON MAN** OR **DAREDEVIL!**

ALL RIGHT, WORLD-- MAKE WAY FOR **NOVA, THE HUMAN ROCKET!**

YEAH! I REALLY LIKE THE **LILT** THAT HAS!

HOWEVER, BEFORE WE RETURN TO THE FIGHTS, LET'S TAKE A LOOKSEE AT TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR GROWING CAST--BERNIE DILLON AND ROGER (CAPS) COOPER...



THAT WAS A GREAT MEETING, BERNIE!

THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE OUR FEET DON'T GO ALL THE WAY TO THE FLOOR, BOYCHIK.

I THINK THE VIDEO RANGERS IS FINALLY GETTING OFF THE GROUND.

SHALOM.

YEAH! BYE!



BERNIE'S A GREAT GUY. HE BROUGHT OUR CLUB TOGETHER ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY.

I DON'T THINK ANYONE ELSE COULD'VE DONE--

GOOD EVENING, ROGER.

HUNH?



YOU!?

SURPRISED TO SEE ME, ROGER?

SURPRISED TO SEE THE MAN YOU THOUGHT YOU MURDERED?

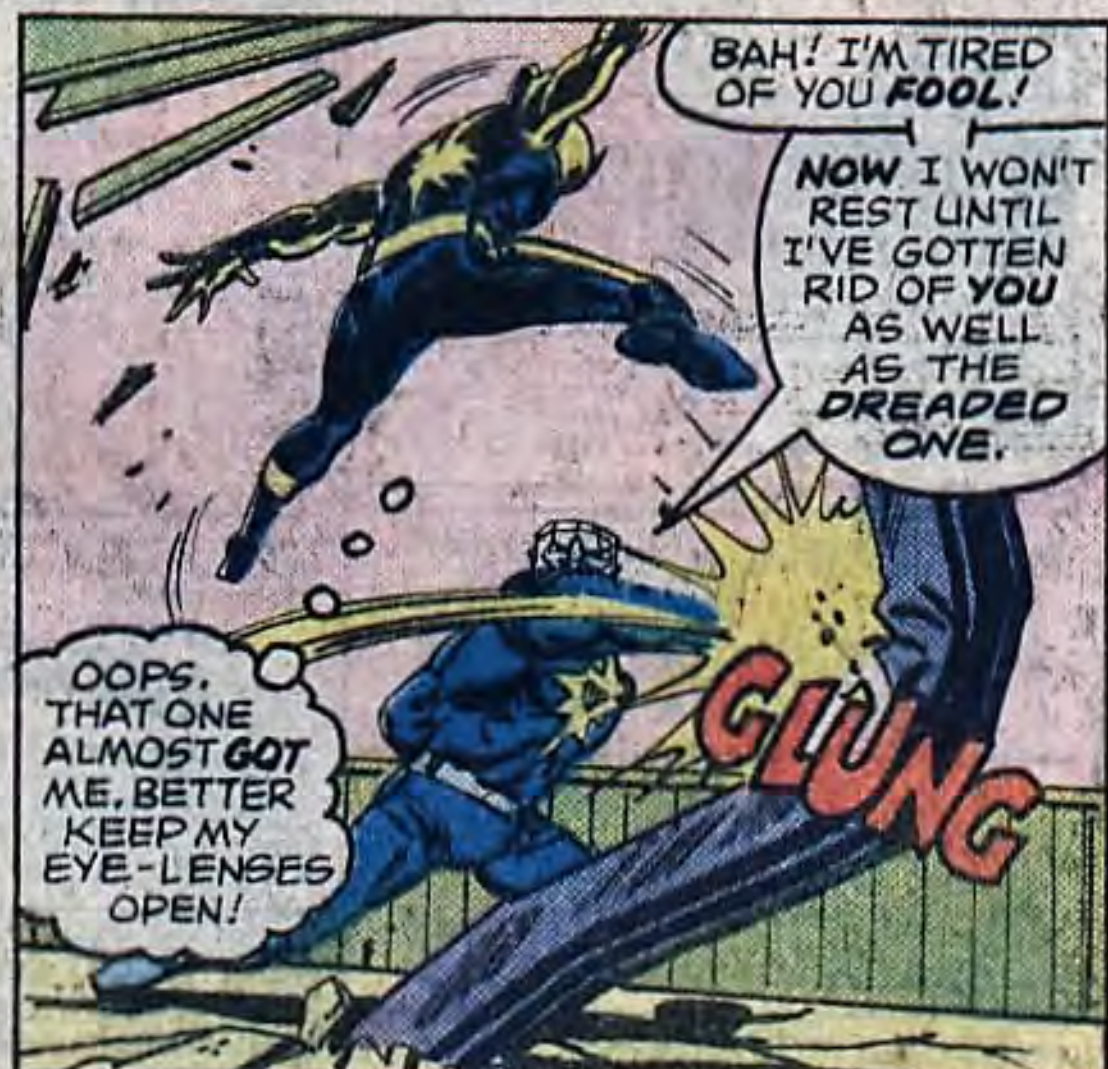


WHILE WE LEAVE THAT DANGLING FOR A MONTH, LET'S RETURN TO OUR BATTLE, ALREADY FOR PROGRESS...

MISS ME, GLITTER-PUSS?

KINDERGARTEN WAS JUST LET OUT AND I KNEW YOU'D WANT TO TRADE INSULTS WITH ME AGAIN.

SKUNG



BAH! I'M TIRED OF YOU FOOL!

NOW I WON'T REST UNTIL I'VE GOTTEN RID OF YOU AS WELL AS THE DREADED ONE.

OOPS. THAT ONE ALMOST GOT ME, BETTER KEEP MY EYE-LENSES OPEN!

GIUNG



ESPECIALLY TILL I GET THE KNACK FOR THESE FREE-FOR-ALLS!

CHUCKLES, SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT YOU AND I AREN'T DESTINED FOR A LONG-TIME FRIENDSHIP!

SMACK!

KNOW WHAT I MEAN. HEY! SAY SOMETHING! YOU KNOW HOW PARANOID I AM.



THERE'S NO NEED FOR WORDS, CREEP.

AND DOES YOUR MOUTH WEAR MITTENS IN THE WINTERTIME?

MY FISTS DO MY TALKING FOR ME.

THAT WAS A JOKE, HANDSOME!

I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO CHUCKLE.

LAST TIME I STEAL A LINE FROM BERNIE!

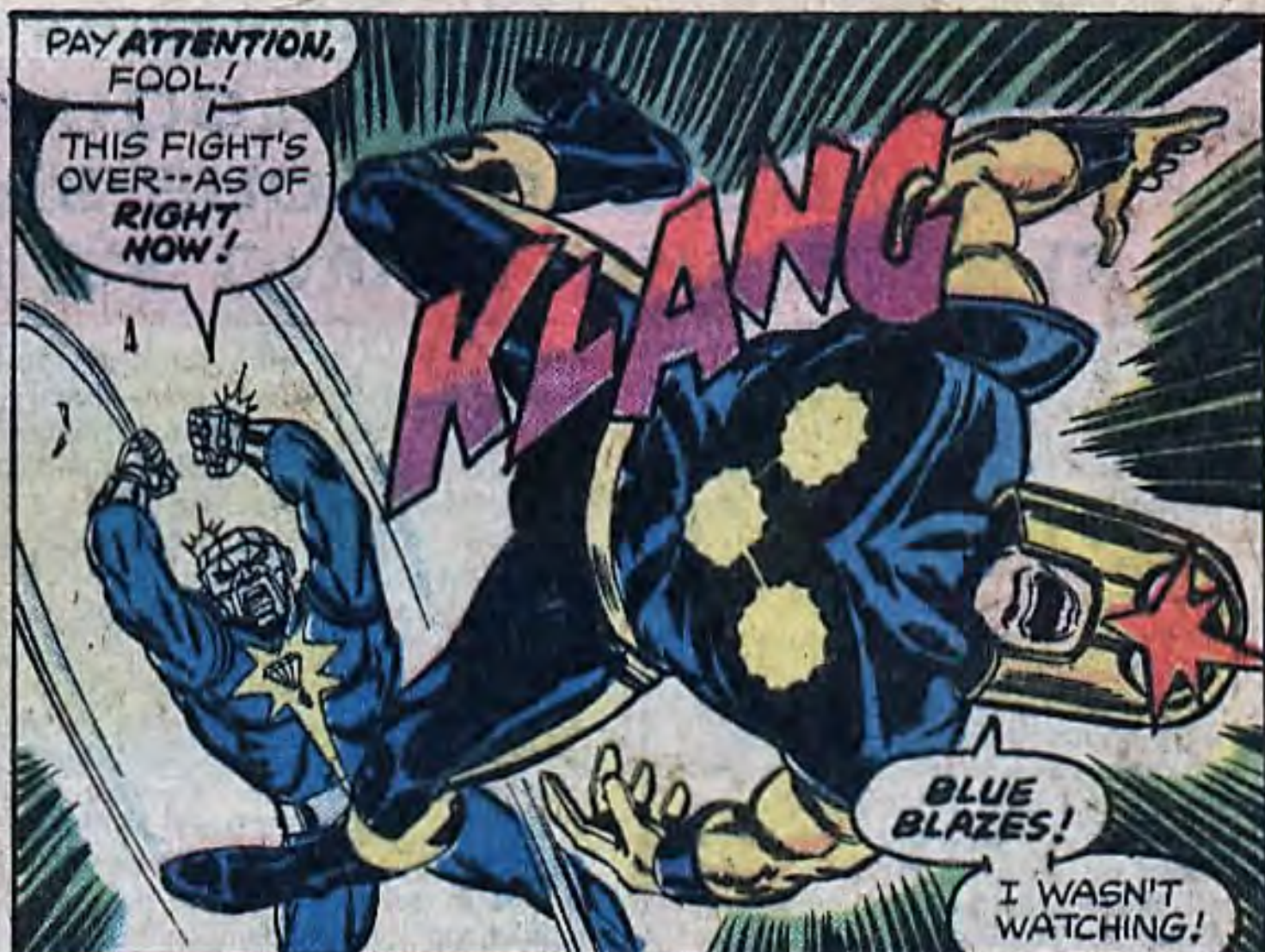


THEN...

...ALL CARS TO ASTORIA STATION...

WHA? MOM'S VOICE!

I WASN'T EXPECTING T--



PAY ATTENTION, FOOL!

THIS FIGHT'S OVER--AS OF RIGHT NOW!

KWANG

BLUE BLAZES!

I WASN'T WATCHING!



CAN'T RIGHT MYSELF-- STILL TOO MUCH MOMENTUM FROM THAT BLOW!

TEACH ME TO KEEP MY MIND ON MY FIGHTING, HOWEVER!

PROVIDING I LIVE THROUGH THIS ONE TO EVER HAVE ANOTHER!



OOOPS, STILL CAN'T SLOW DOWN!

IT'S LIKE A PILE-DRIVER HIT ME!

SORRY WALL, BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT! BLAME DIAMONDHEAD!



MEANTIME, BACK ON THE TRACKS...

WHAT? THERE'S A MAN OUT THERE! B-BUT I CAN'T STOP IN TIME!

I'LL RUN HIM OVER!

DOLT!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO STOP THIS SUBWAY FOR ONE WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO LEAP OVER IT, EVEN AS IT SPEEDS AT ME.

NOW! TAKE ME AWAY AWAY FROM THAT TEENAGE CLOWN!



WHEW! FINALLY PULLED OUT OF THAT FLIGHT PATTERN-- JUST IN TIME, TOO!

I'M SURE I SPOTTED AN OLD SPUTNIK SATELLITE SPINNING JUST ABOVE ME!



AH, I SEE SPARKLES HASN'T GOTTEN TOO FAR.

IT SHOULD ONLY TAKE ANOTHER SECOND OR THREE AT NOVA-SPEED TO CATCH UP TO HIM.

BACK AGAIN, CRETIN?

HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSON YET?

UH-UH, GLITTERS! I FLUNKED "SURRENDERING BATTLES" IN SCHOOL.

I GUESS I'M JUST ONE OF THOSE BACKWARDS KIDS YOU ALWAYS READ ABOUT.

YOU KNOW, IN ARTICLES LIKE "WHY JOHNNY CAN'T TURN CHICKEN!" AND SUCH!



SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU'D BETTER TURN! YOU'RE ABOUT TO COLLIDE WITH THAT TUNNEL!

DON'T PLAY YOUR CHILDISH GAMES WITH ME, MORON!

YOU WILL NOT MAKE A FOOL OUT OF DIAMONDHE--



SMASSHHH!

ARGGHHH!!



LIGGGHH! CAN'T LOOK!

IT'S HORRIBLE!



ONLY I'D BETTER FIND WHAT'S LEFT OF DIAMONDHEAD AND CLEAR HIM OUT OF THE TUNNEL.

WHO KNOWS? HE JUST MAY SOMEHOW BE ALIVE AFTER THAT COLLISION.



THOUGH TRUTHFULLY I DOUBT IT.

HE TOOK HALF THE CONCRETE WALL ALONG WITH HIM WHEN HE HIT IT!



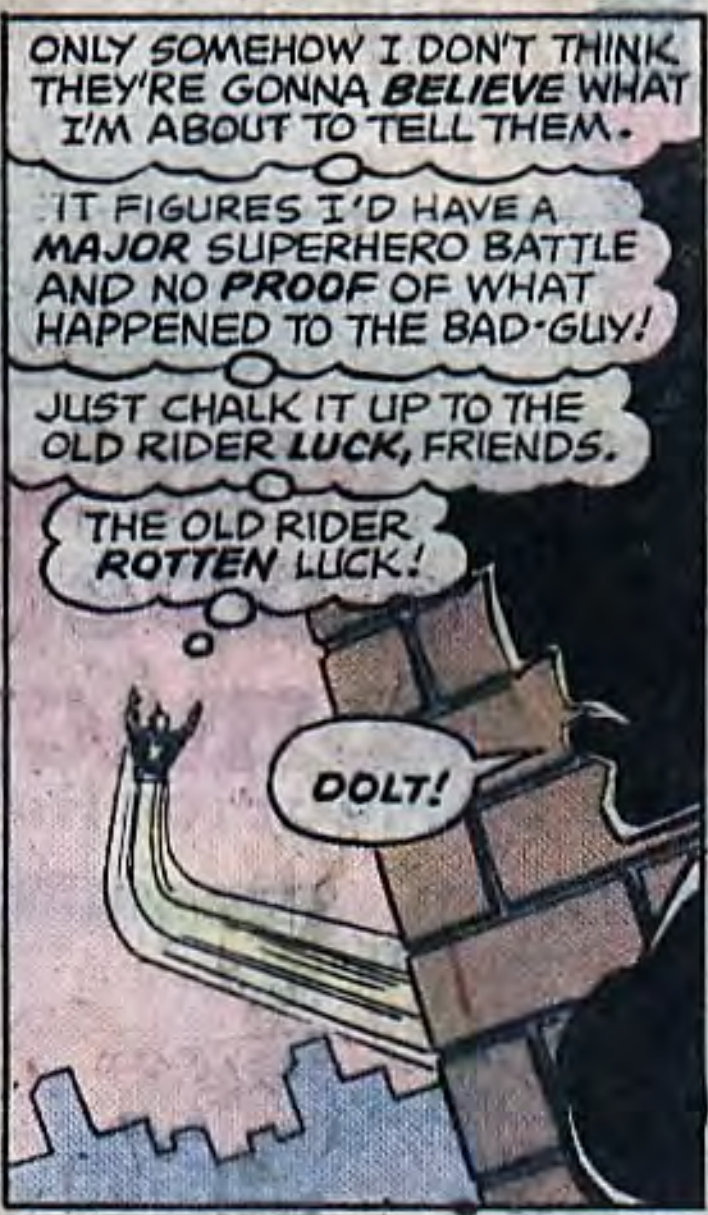
WHAT?? NOTHING-- NO SIGN OF HIM!

BUT HE COULDN'T'VE BEEN REDUCED TO DIAMOND-DUST?

COULD HE?



OH, WELL, BETTER GET OUT OF HERE AND GIVE A REPORT TO THE POLICE.



ONLY SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK THEY'RE GONNA BELIEVE WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL THEM.

IT FIGURES I'D HAVE A MAJOR SUPERHERO BATTLE AND NO PROOF OF WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BAD-GUY!

JUST CHALK IT UP TO THE OLD RIDER LUCK, FRIENDS.

THE OLD RIDER ROTTEN LUCK!

DOLT!



YOU DIDN'T DESTROY ME--

--THAT BLOW DIDN'T EVEN FAZE DIAMONDHEAD!

BUT, BEWARE, KID--ONE DAY WE'LL MEET AGAIN. ONE DAY WE'LL--

DIAMOND-HEAD--?



WHAT?

WHO THE BLAZES ARE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

RELAX, FRIEND --THE NAME'S THE CONDOR--



AND I THINK I HAVE A BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT THAT JUST MAY BENEFIT THE TWO OF US.

ONE WHICH WILL RID US OF THAT TEENAGE NUISANCE--

--AND ALLOW US TO DESTROY THE OREADED ONE--FOREVER!

SHAKE?

YEAH--SHAKE... PARTNER!

NEXT ISSUE:

NOVA THE HUMAN ROCKET

IN DEADLY COMBAT WITH

THOR! GOD OF THUNDER