

## ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES

#### **OVER HALFWAY THERE**

Time flies when you're having fun. Or something. We're over halfway through to the end of Associated Student Bodies' intended storyline. As much fun as it's been, we'd be lying if we said we weren't looking forward to a break.

And here we thought we knew what we were letting ourselves in for...

#### THE MORNING AFTER

In this issue, we have two parts to the main story. The first is a glimpse into the home life of Our Hero, Daniel. The second part is definitely silly, with a goodly dose of fantasy. Is it "realistic"? Could something like that actually happen? (Go read it, you'll understand.)

Yes, but... things are never as simple as they seem.

It's a type of magic. It can't be manufactured at will, and like all things magical, there is always subtle peril waiting. Standard disclaimer: don't try this at home, unless you've really thought it through... and even then, don't think you've thought of every possible consequence.

As writers of fiction, we get to bend the rules a little. Indulge us, and realize the difference between comic book and fact. After all, there

aren't any super-heroes in Associated Student Bodies. Just don't tell Timmy or David that.

#### OOOH, FORESHADOWING

Issue six will be a serious challenge. One big story, one major problem. Wraparound cover by Baron Engel, all interior art by Chris McKinley. Don't miss it. 'Nuff said.

IF WE HAD A DOT-COM, WOULD OUR STOCK BE WORTH \$300 A SHARE?

Can't wait for issue 6? There's stuff to be had at:

http://www.arclight.net/asb

See you in 90!

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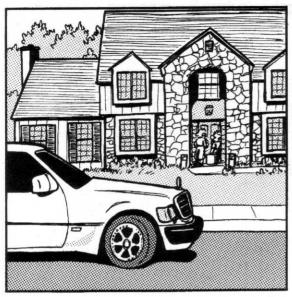










































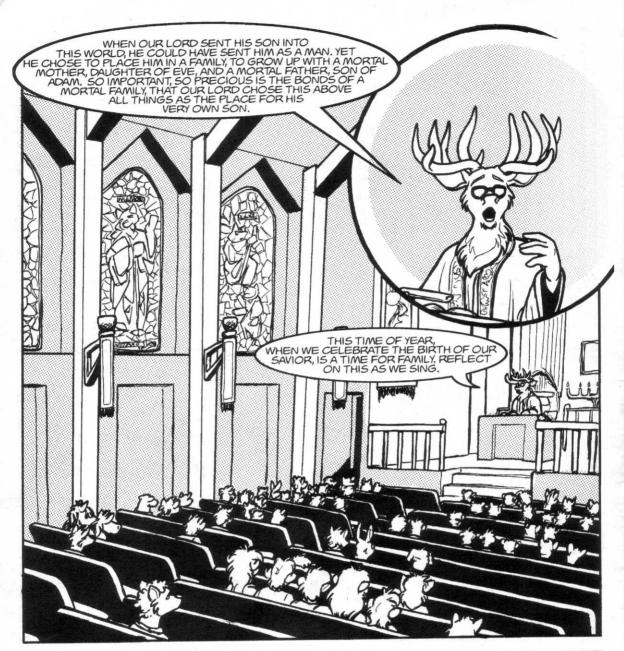


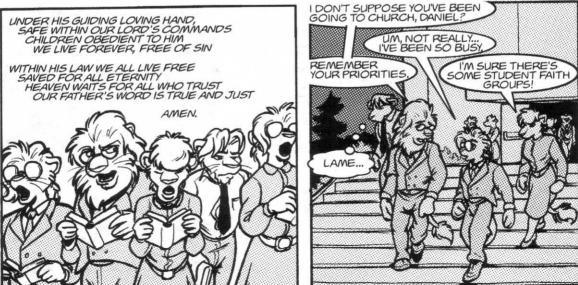


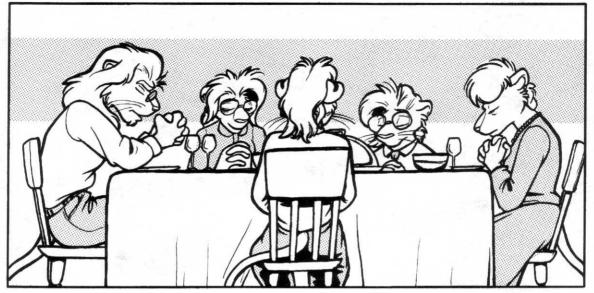
























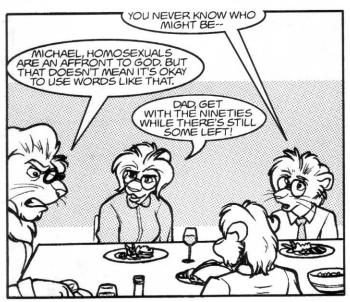














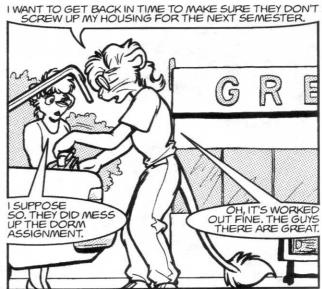












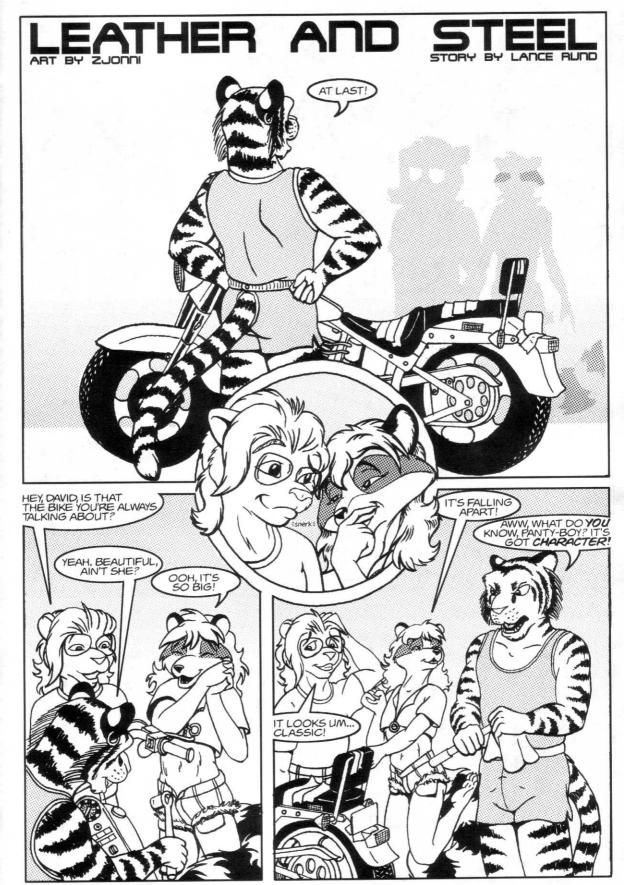




















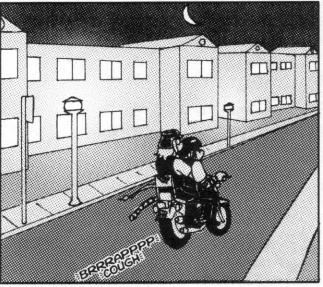


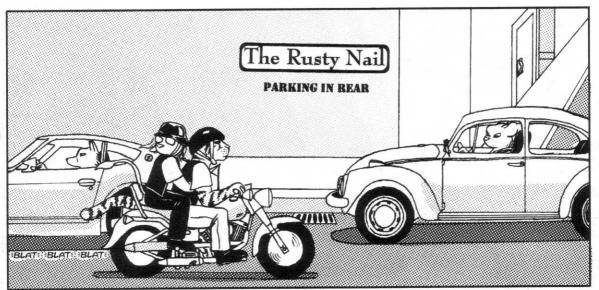




































































## CUESTARRING TIMOTHY MONTGOMERY STORY BY LANCE RUND - ART BY CHUCH DAVIES











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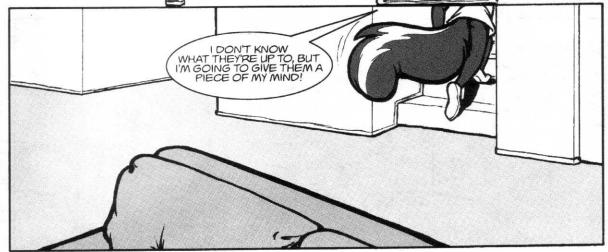
RICHTER SCALE MALES



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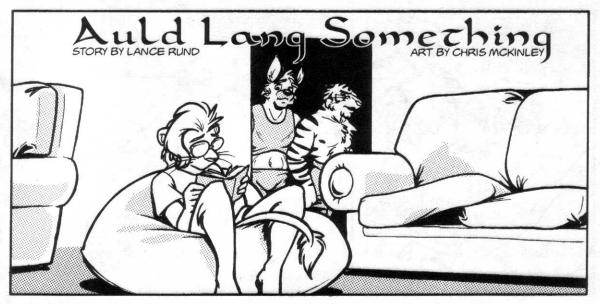
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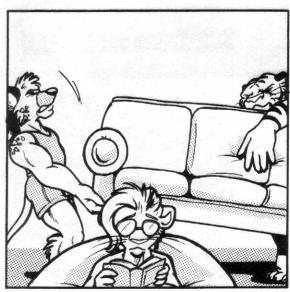














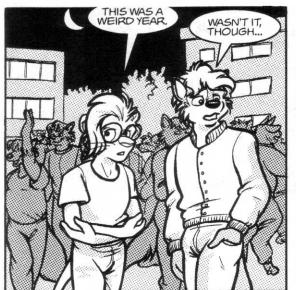
















# 5. 4. 3. 2. I. HAPPY NEW YEAR!



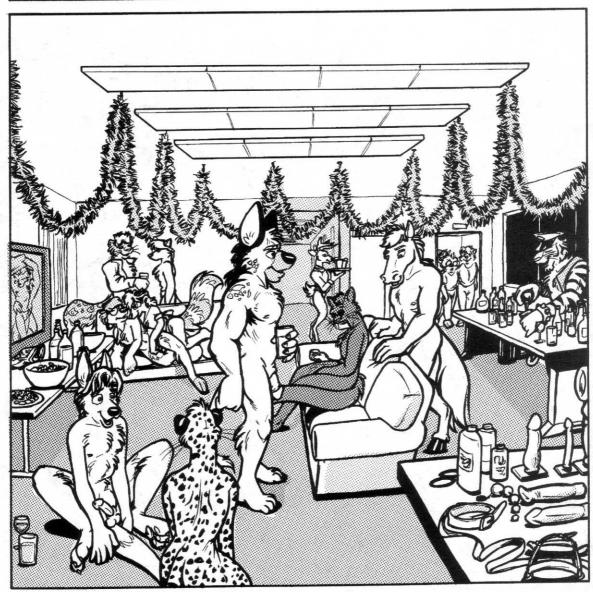


































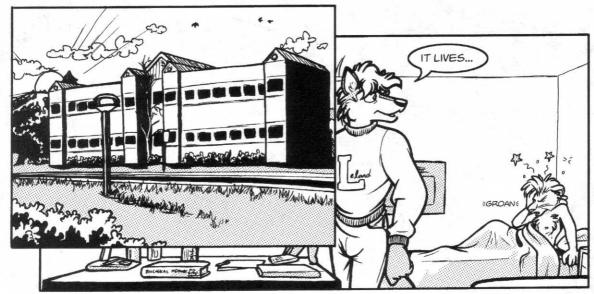




















## LETTERS FROM HOME

Dear Mom, College is great! My roommate is weird. Could you send me some money?

And now, the small print.

Steven, our distressingly straight collie, has been the subject of quite a bit of speculation. Is be, or isn't be? Will be, or won't be? Why does be swish almost as much as bis dearest admirer, Ricky? Let's take a look at one such speculation, written by Robert "Four-Eyes" Parish, taken from the Associated Student Bodies mailing list (info for this is on our website at http://www.arclight.net/asb). Edited for brevity; our comments in [brackets]...

I think Steven is straight, and not a closeted gay man. Most straight guys I have met though seem to have a sense of hating their bodies; paying attention to such things as clothes and the way they look is considered by them unmanly. [Ever notice bow mainstream male fashion, at least for the club scene, follows "queer" fashion?]

Steven doesn't have this self-hatred. I think that this self hatred isn't about being straight, it's about a fear of being gay. ["Scaredy-dog"! – Ricky] I don't think every straight guy should be fashion conscious, let alone dress in skimpy garb like Steven does. But I think the straight men would be happier if they didn't have this fear of gay men, and this fear of being gay or bi. I think they would be happier if being straight wasn't the "default" choice, but was instead something that they embraced as a positive choice, a celebration of who they are. I think it would be great if there were "Straight Pride" marches. If more straight people viewed their sexuality as a celebration of who they are, I can't help but think that they would view the sexuality of others in the same positive light. But then again, I can be incredibly naive sometimes, so I may be wrong. [Like many things of this sort, different places can have different answers. A "straight pride" parade would be received differently in San Francisco versus Des Moines, for instance.]

I think Steven lives with gay guys not to tease them, but because living there he's not teased like he may have been in another dorm. I experienced plenty of homophobia back when I dated only women, so I know how awful that can be for straight guy. I think Steven is sexy, and adorable. I think it's great he's straight, and I hope he finds happiness with a woman. I hope that he and her raise many children together. I think that his sensitivity and self acceptance would enable him to be an excellent father, who could love and nurture his children and raise them to be strong and healthy people. [I agree. Steven will bave a lot of bigb-quality love to give... when be gets over bis fear of commitment!] This is something sadly lacking in many straight men, because to nurture is considered to be weak. I'm curious if we'll get to see more of Daniel's father... he strikes me from what I can tell as rather cold and aloof. I guess we shall have to wait and see! [I guess you bave your answer now! - Lance]

Ever read any of the sayings of Jack Handy? One of the ones that comes to mind is "It takes a strong man to cry... It takes an even stronger man to laugh at that man." Well, I think it takes the strongest man of all to kick that laughing man in the ass for being a callous jerk. I don't condone violence, but when Marcus did the body check of Nigel in number three for lashing out at Steven, I think that that was just as appropriate as him attacking those jocks to keep them from hurting Daniel. Heterophobia is just as wrong as homophobia. We gay folk should not tolerate the bashing of straight or bisexual people. [I've always found it interesting... and distressing... bow bisexuals find no more acceptance among gays than among straights. "Tolerance" means nothing if it isn't practiced both ways.]

I have a crush on Steven. I am also crazy about Ricky. I cried while reading issue number three when I saw Steven crying. [I cried when I wrote it. Shbb. Don't tell anyone. My manly image and all... - Lance] OTOH, I loved the final story of #4! It was like a dream come true! But I say this... if a future issue had Steven and Ricky fool around, I would have trouble with that, because that would go against everything I know so far about Steven. I would be the same issues if Allison and Tina fooled around sexually with each other.

#### --Robert "Four-Eyes" Parish

Though we baven't seen Steven for a couple of issues (pre-med takes a lot of time!), be isn't forgotten. Steven's story isn't over yet. He bas complex motives as to wby be is the way be is, many of which be basn't figured out for himself yet. There's quite a bit to come yet with our favorite collie. As for Allison and Tina... aside from both baving a frustrated interest in Marcus (one "before" and one "after"), they don't bave too much in common. We'll be seeing Allison again, though, and Tina's inseparable from the guys at Hillard East. She loves 'em al.!

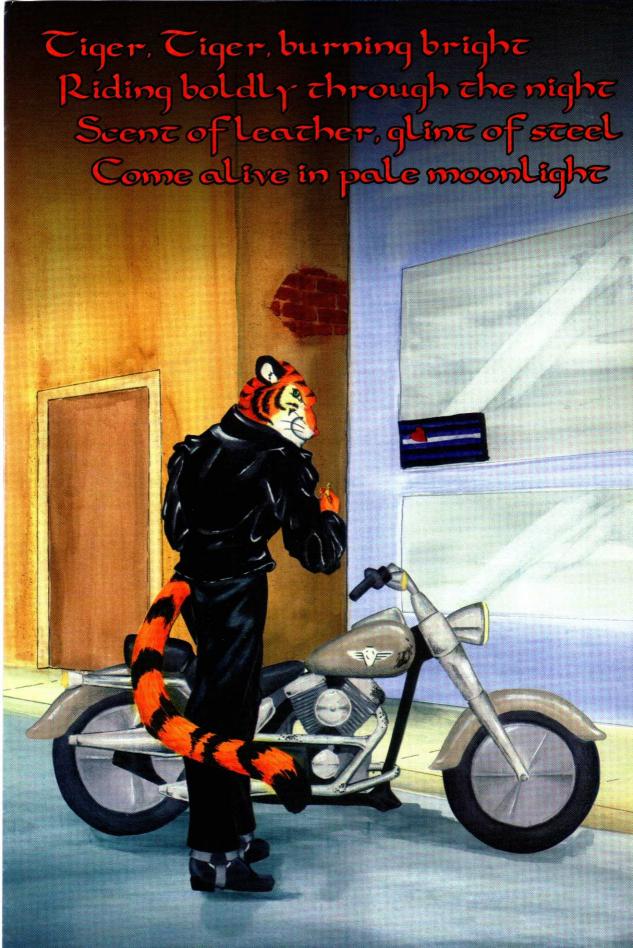
By the way, Steven and Ricky are our two favorites, too! - Lance and Chris



"THIRTY-SIX... THIRTY-SEVEN ... THIRTY-EIGHT ... FOURTEEN ... FIFTEEN ... "

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