

**MIKETARO**

**BY ANTONIO O'BRIAN**

# **THIS OL' HOUSE OF MINE**

Preface;

The creation of "MIKETARO; THIS OL' HOUSE OF MINE" is inspired by many arts and artists. The following is an incomplete list: Takamori Asao (Kajiwara Ikki) who electrified Japanese manga world, Tsuji Naoki, Mel Brooks (the laughter kept me from falling into the darkside), Marx Brothers, Kamokawa Tsubame, Naomi Hirahara, Amy Tan, and Maxine Hong Kingston.

(I have no personal acquaintance with anyone listed above.)

Miketaro is a character created for my son's bedtime story. Miketaro is an inaction hero. Strange people and events surrounding him push and shove the titular.

My son is growing up fast, while my time is dwindling down. I hope I can leave some stories to him.

Some of the expressions used in the story may be inappropriate and even offensive from today's point of view. They reflect the points of view of 1970s' socio-cultural structure with which I am familiar. So I beg your pardon and broad-minded tolerance to the story.



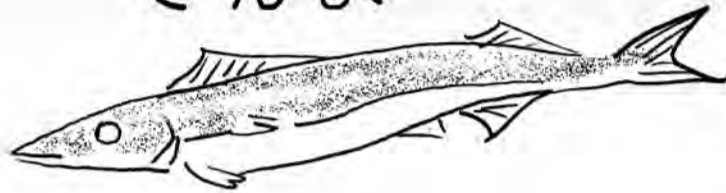
MIKETARO

BY ANTONIO O'BRIAN

# THIS OL' HOUSE OF MINE

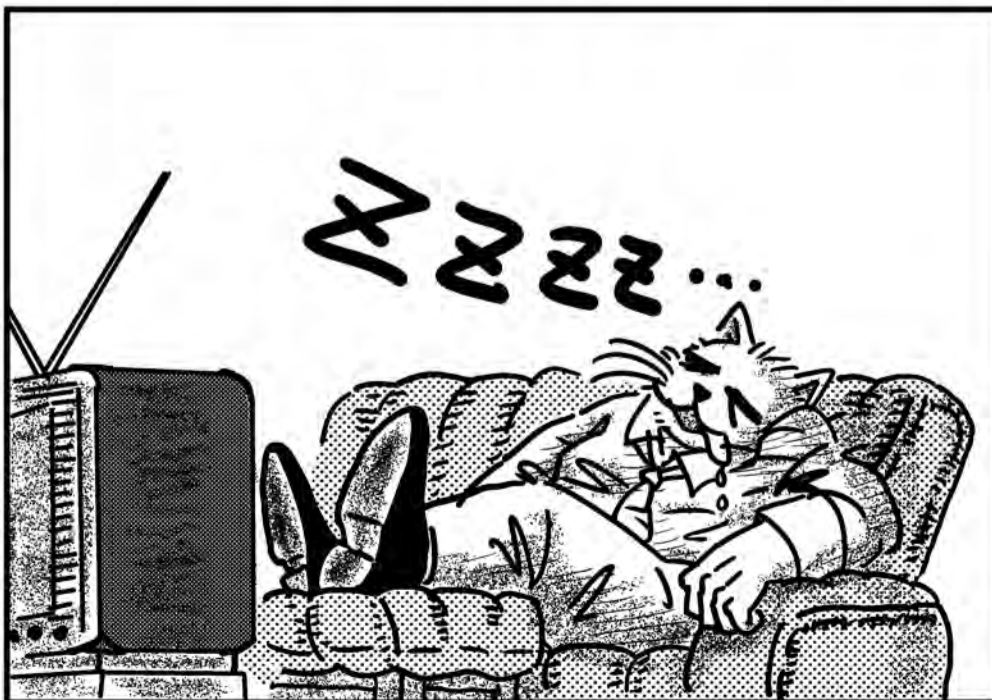
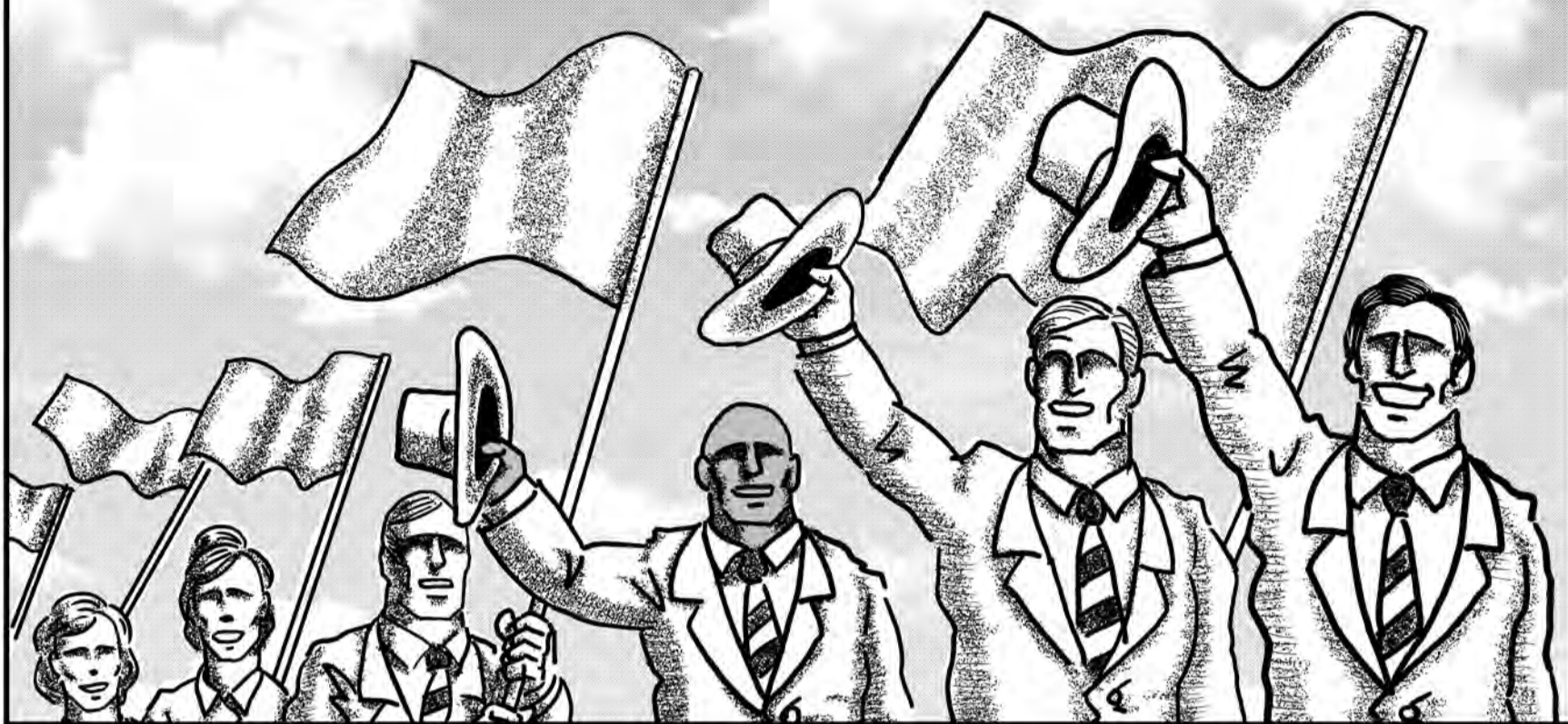


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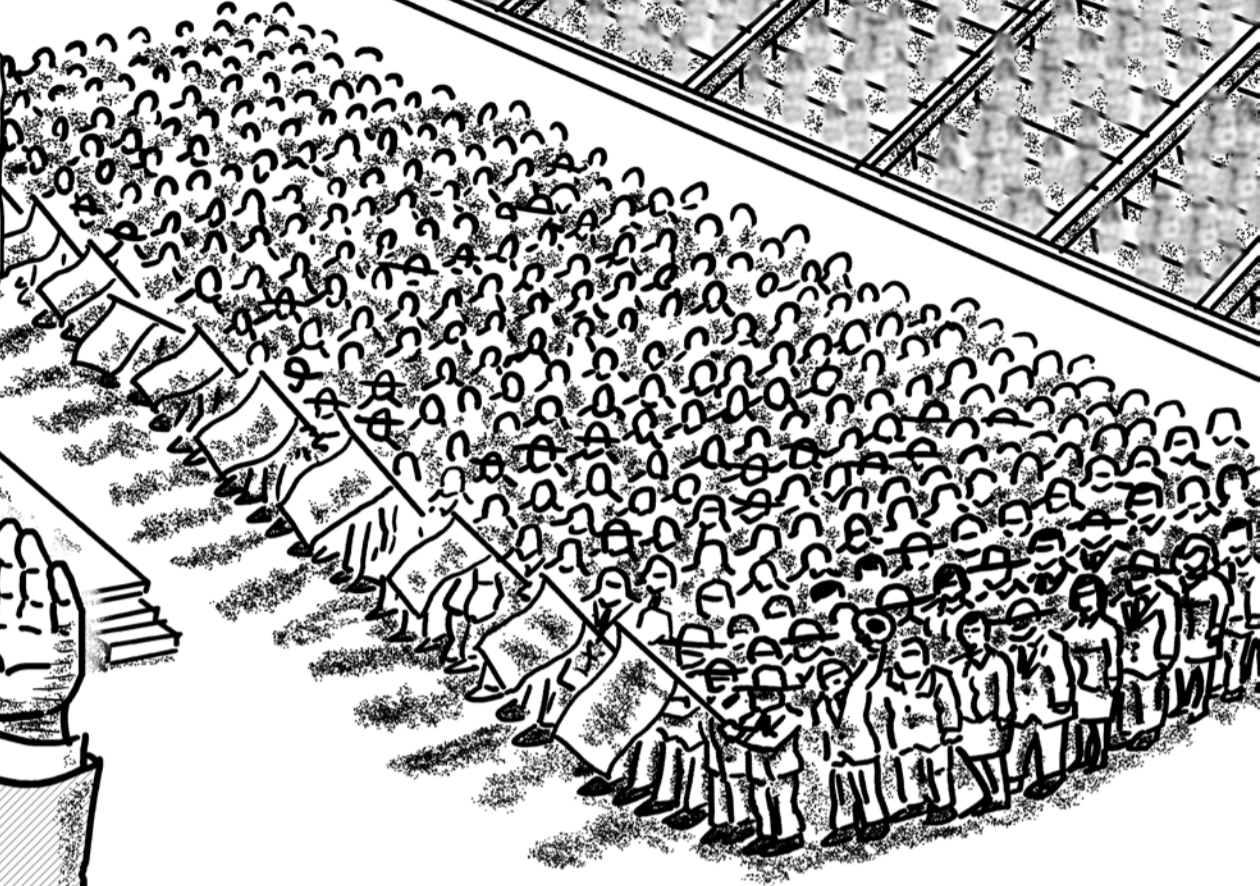
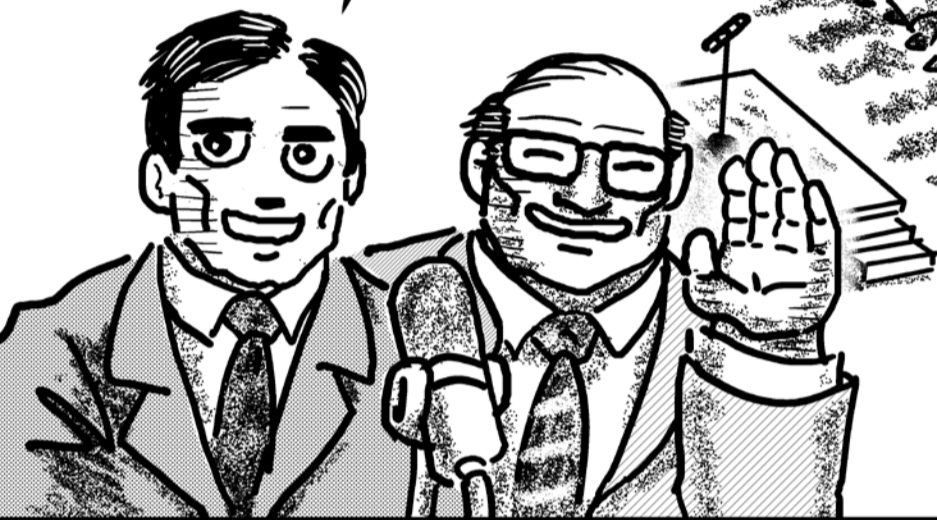
IN A WORLD NOT UNLIKE OURS ...

OLYMPICS, AGAIN.

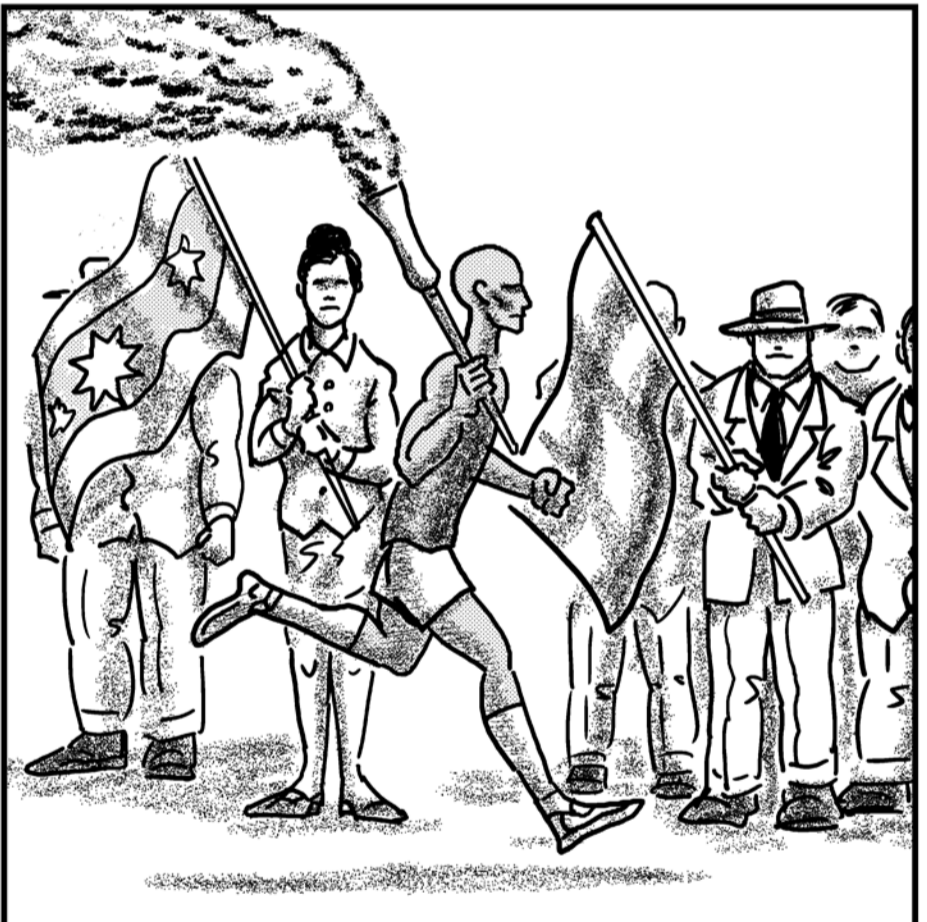


GOOD AFTERNOON,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.  
THIS IS JIM FROM  
THE OLYMPIC STADIUM.

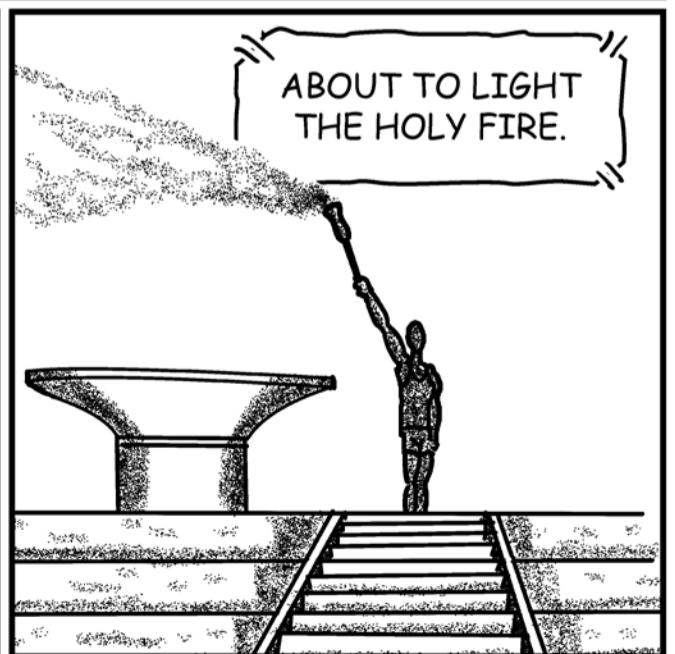
KOYB SPORTS ANALYST  
MR. HUAN  
IS WITH ME.



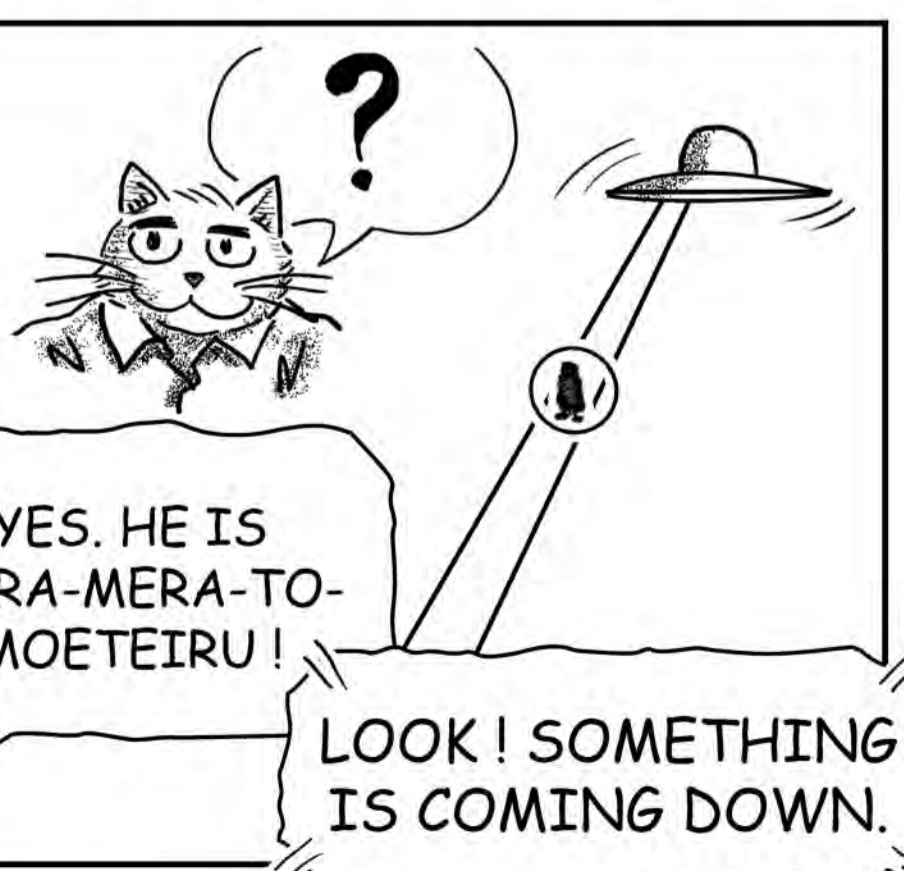
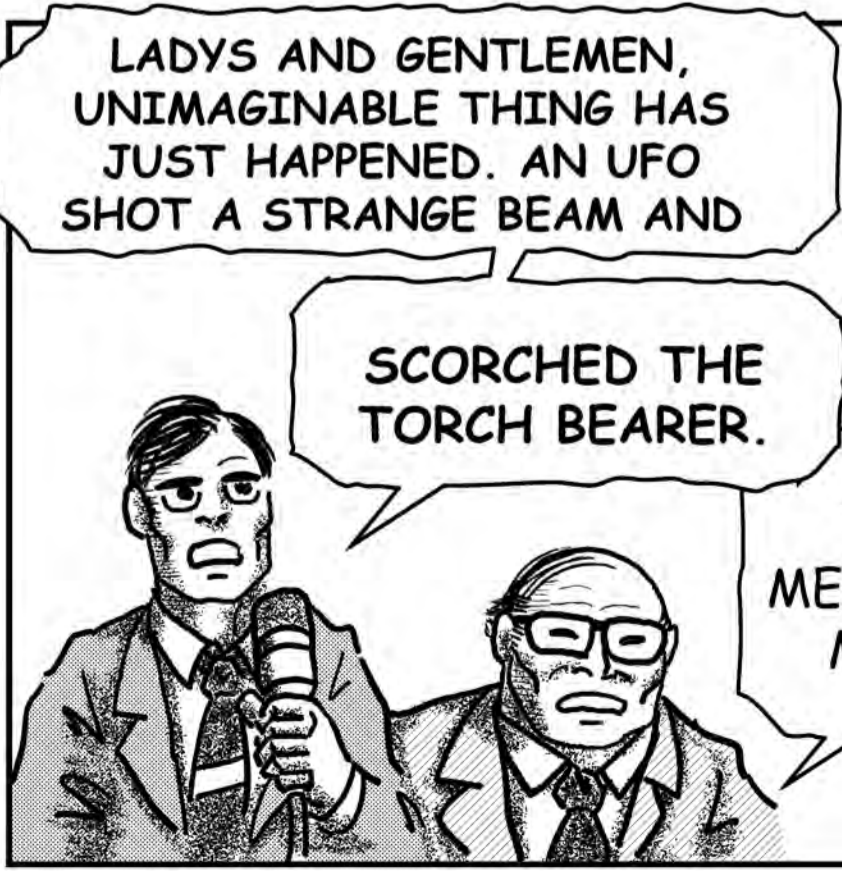
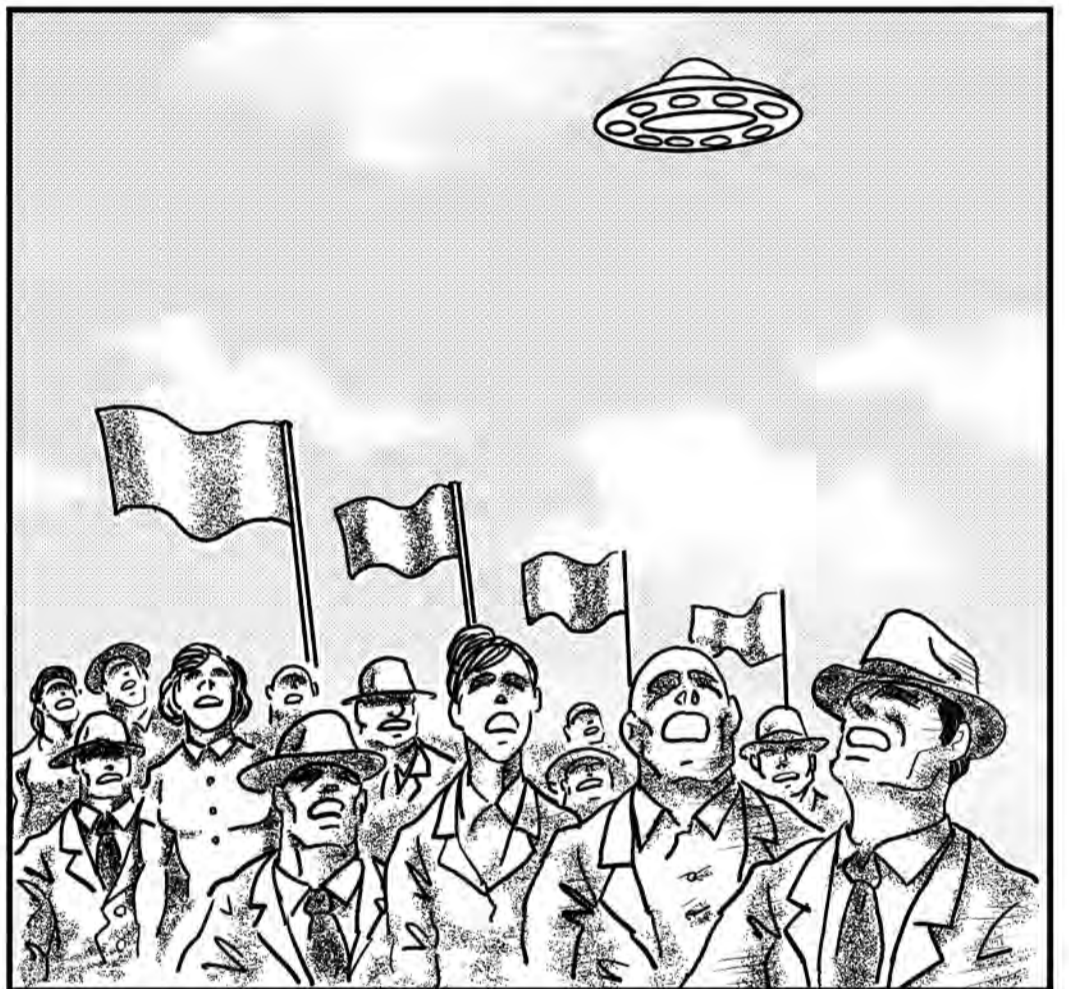
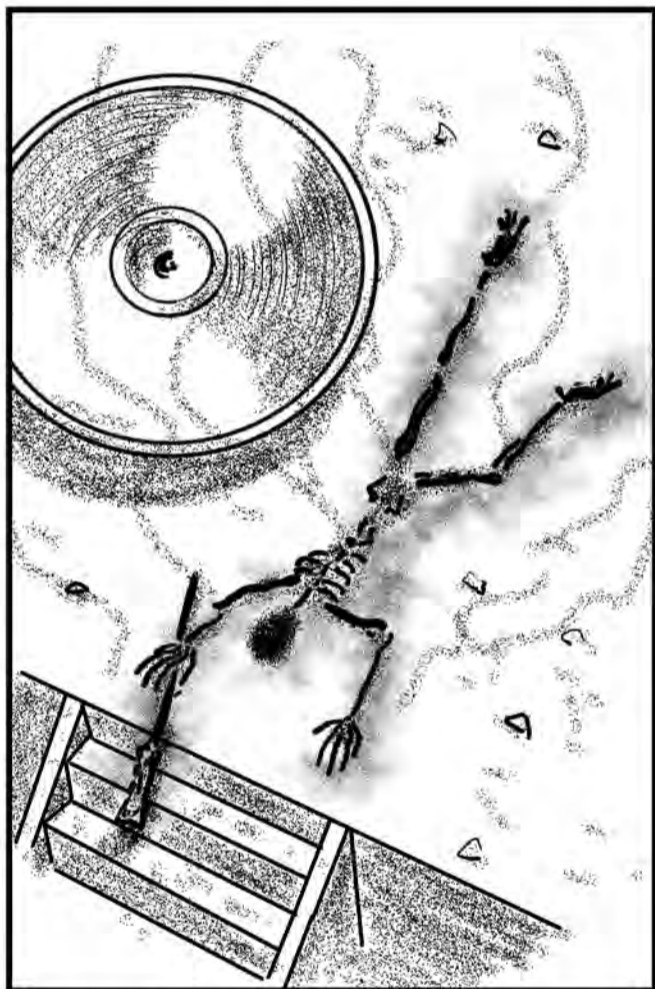
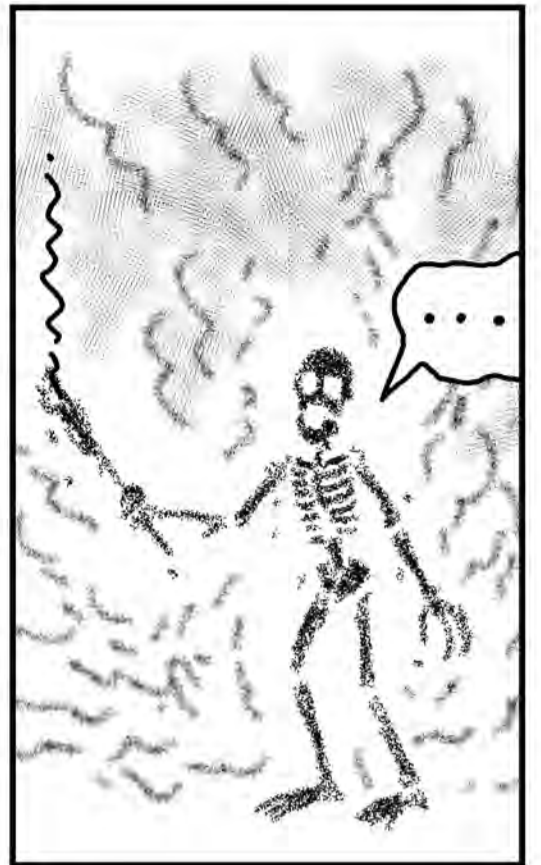
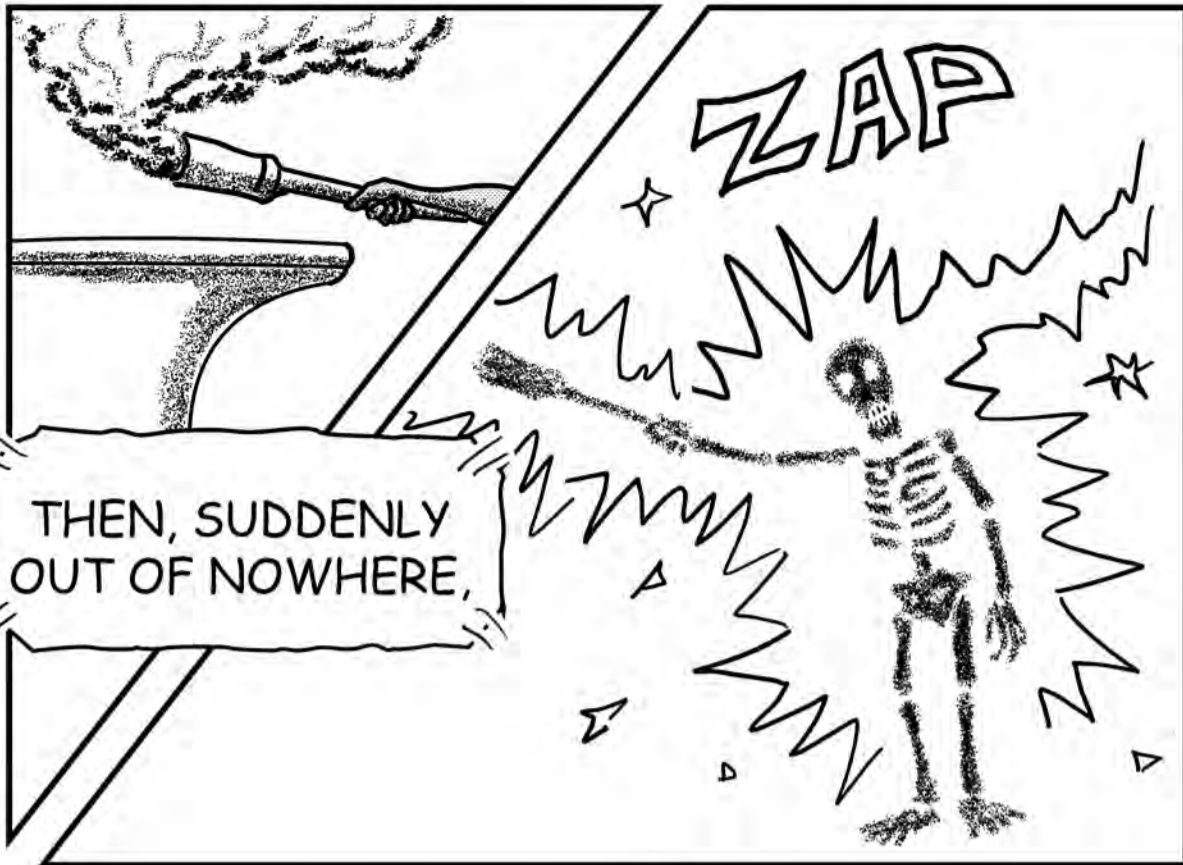
HERE COMES  
THE TORCH BEARER.



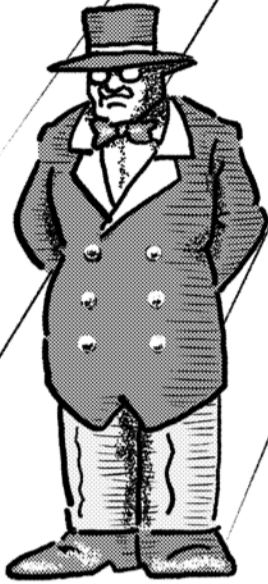
HE CLIMBS  
THE STEPS TO  
THE DISH,  
AND ...



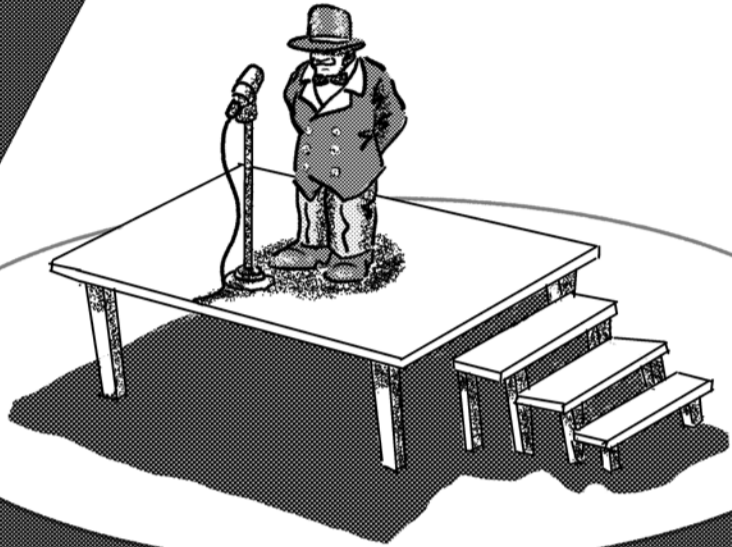
ABOUT TO LIGHT  
THE HOLY FIRE.



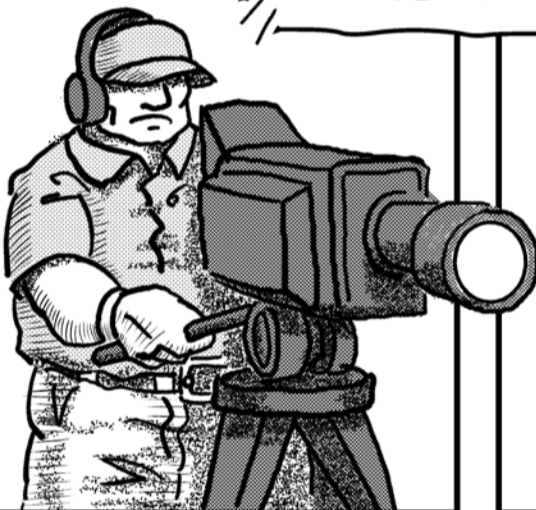
IT'S A GENTLEMAN  
IN A FROCK COAT.



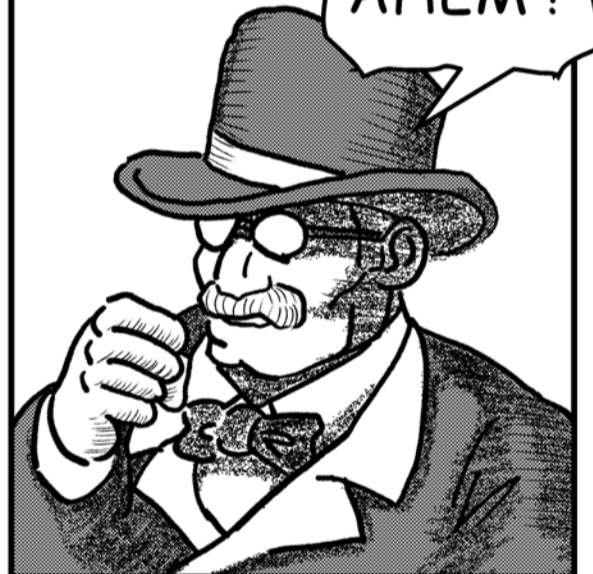
HE LANDS ON THE  
PLATFORM, AND



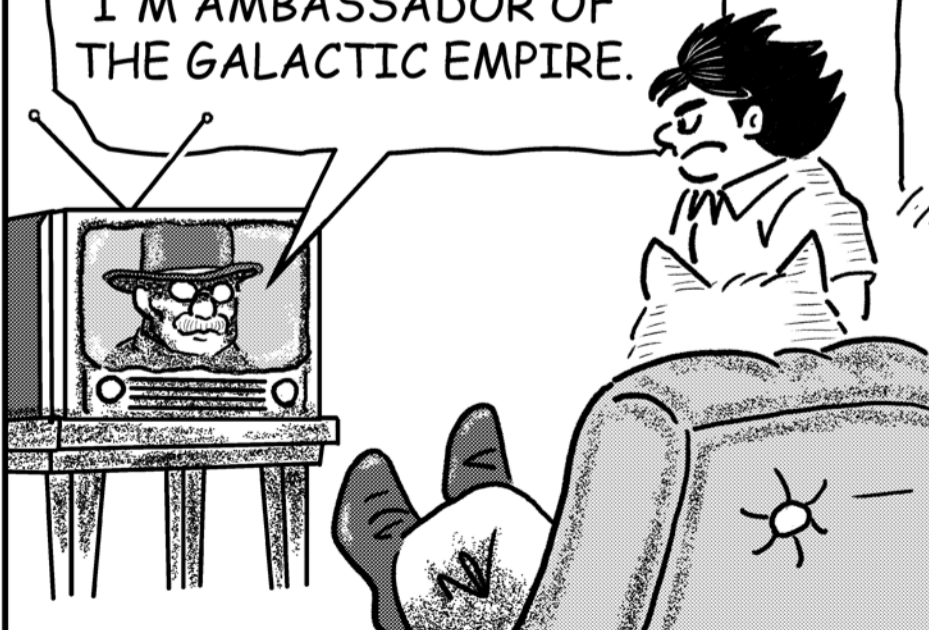
BRINGS OUT  
SOMETHING.



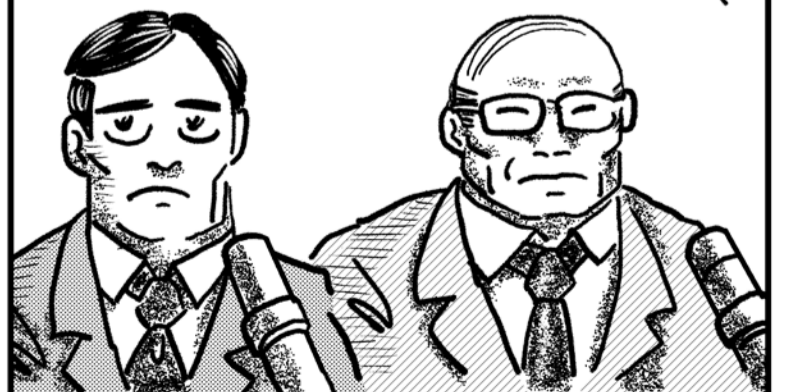
AHEM!



GOOD AFTERNOON,  
PEOPLE OF THE EARTH.  
I'M AMBASSADOR OF  
THE GALACTIC EMPIRE.



PLEASE ALLOW ME TO  
PRESENT A MESSAGE  
FROM KING ATTLA  
TO CONGRATULATE  
THE OPENING  
OF OLYMPIC GAMES.



DEAR MY FRIENDS OF THE EARTH. I'M ATTIRA, THE KING OF THE GALAXY.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE OPENING OF YET ANOTHER OLYMPIC GAMES.

SPORTS EVENTS ON EARTH ARE VERY POPULAR AMONG THE TV VIEWERS ACROSS THE GALAXY. THE OLYMPIC GAMES, ESPECIALLY,

RECORD THE HIGHEST RATINGS AMONG THE EARTH TV PROGRAMS.

LATELY, I CAME TO NOTICE THAT THE VIEWERS ARE NO LONGER SATISFIED WITH JUST WATCHING THE GAMES. IN FACT, THERE ARE QUITE A FEW GOOD GALACTIC ATHLETES

WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE. HENCE, I WILL SEND OUR DELEGATES TO COMPETE AGAINST EARTH PEOPLE IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS.  
1. GALACTIC DELEGATES WILL COMPETE IN EVERY GAMES.

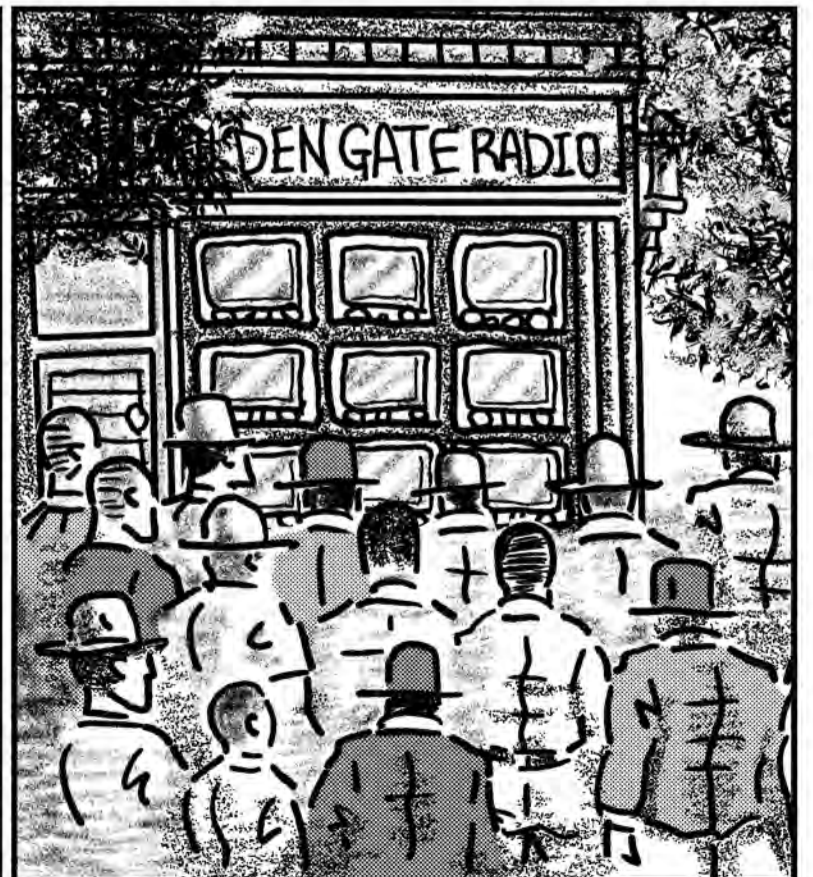
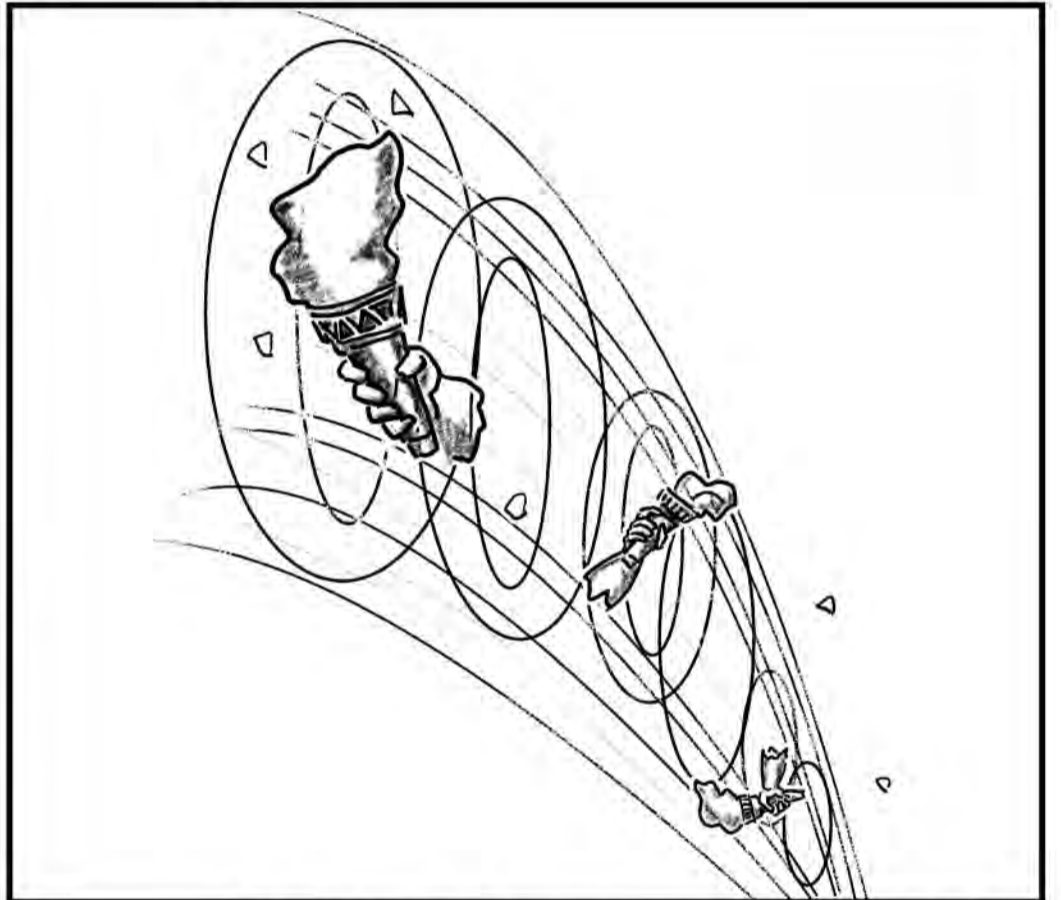
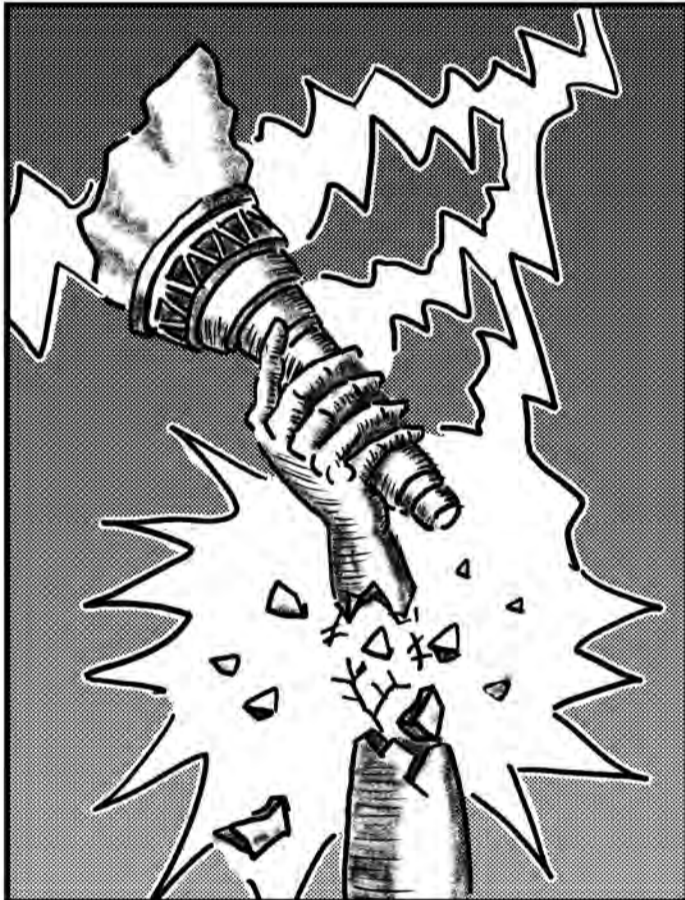
2. IF EARTH PEOPLE WIN ANY SINGLE MATCH, WE WILL WITHDRAW THE GALACTIC BATTLE FLEET AND LEAVE THE EARTH.

3. IF EARTH PEOPLE FAIL TO WIN ANY SINGLE MATCH, THEN, WE WILL KILL ALL THE HUMANS.

AH, MR. AMBASSADOR, IF WE LOSE EVERY GAME ... ?

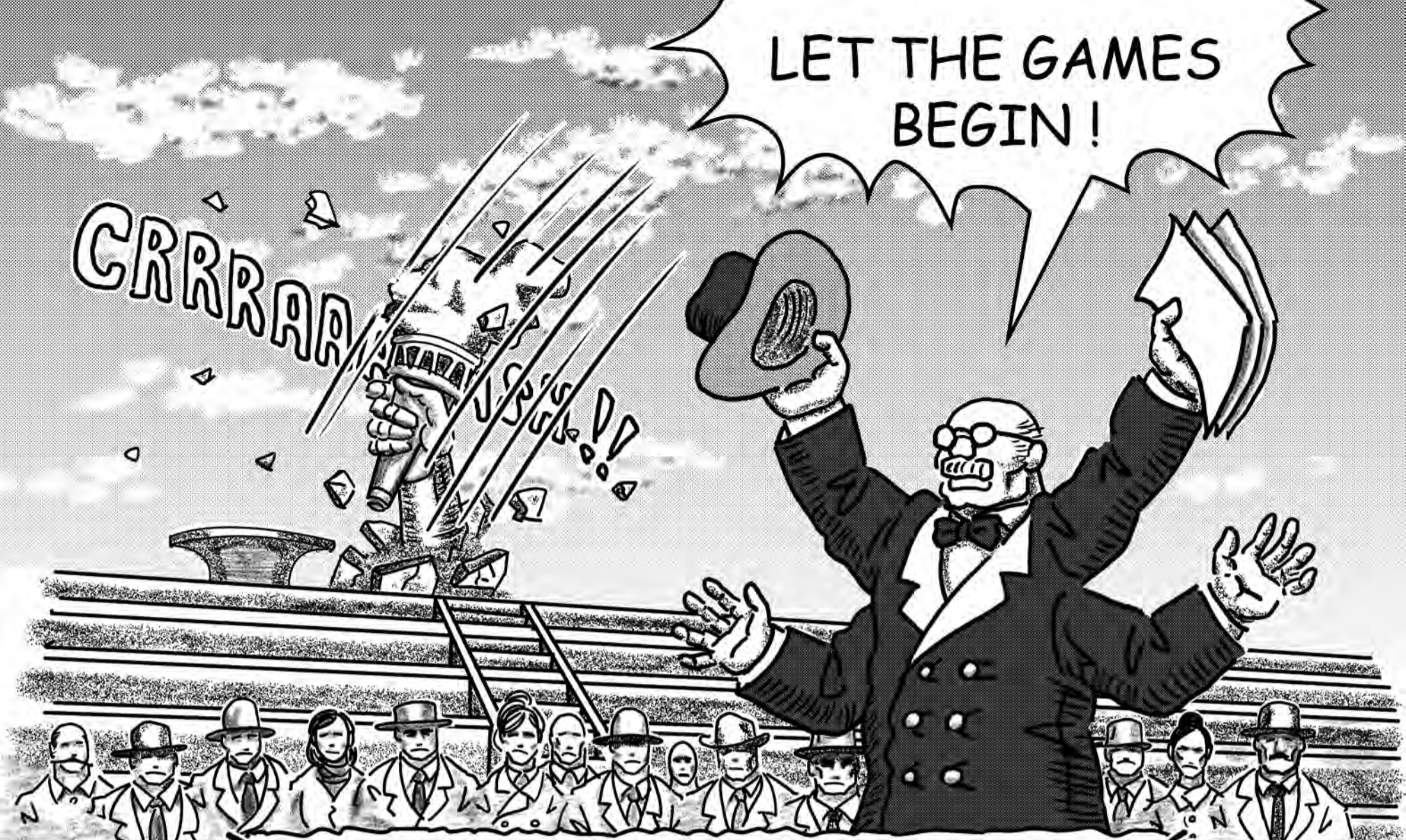






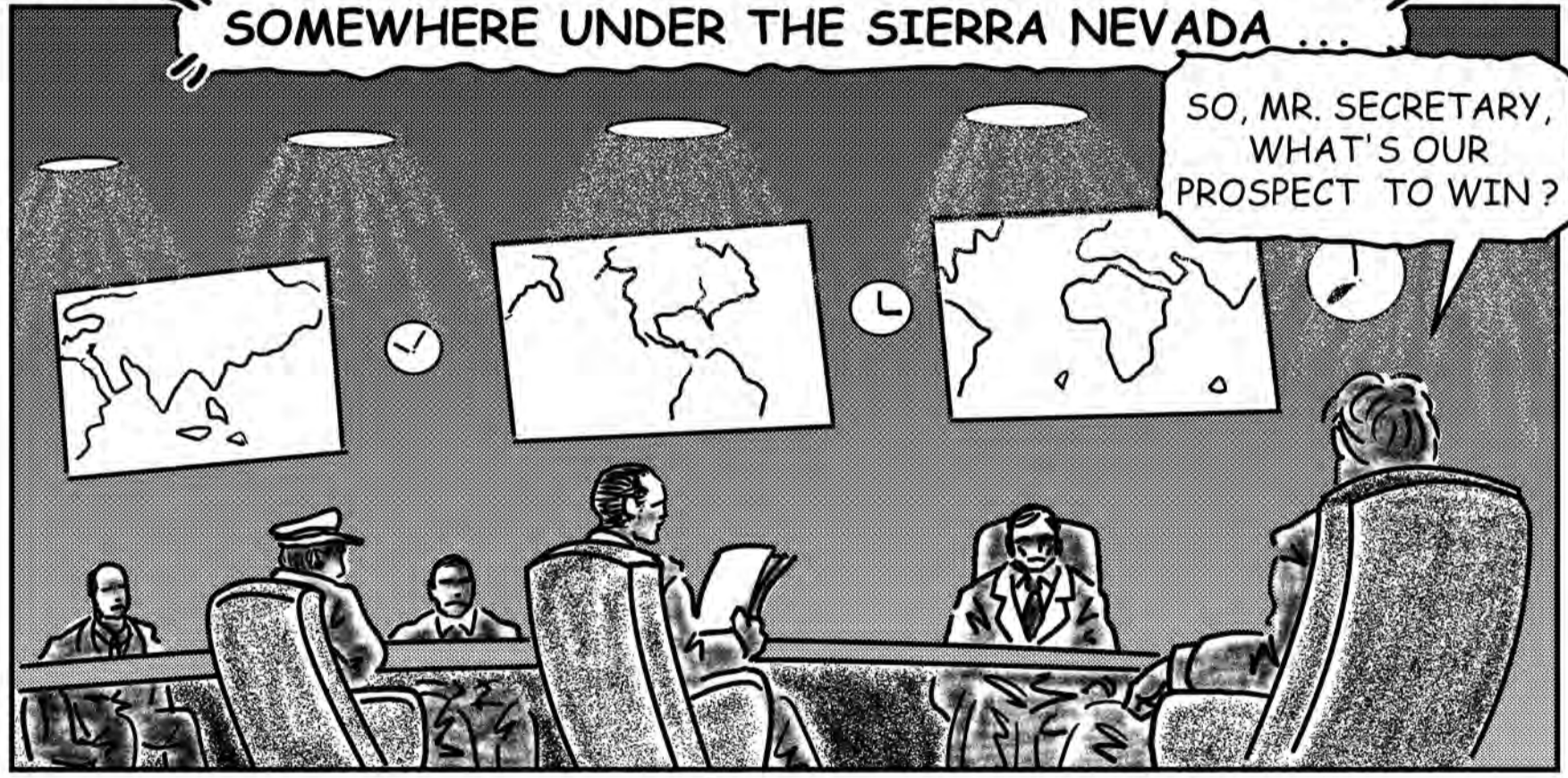
LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

CRRRAA



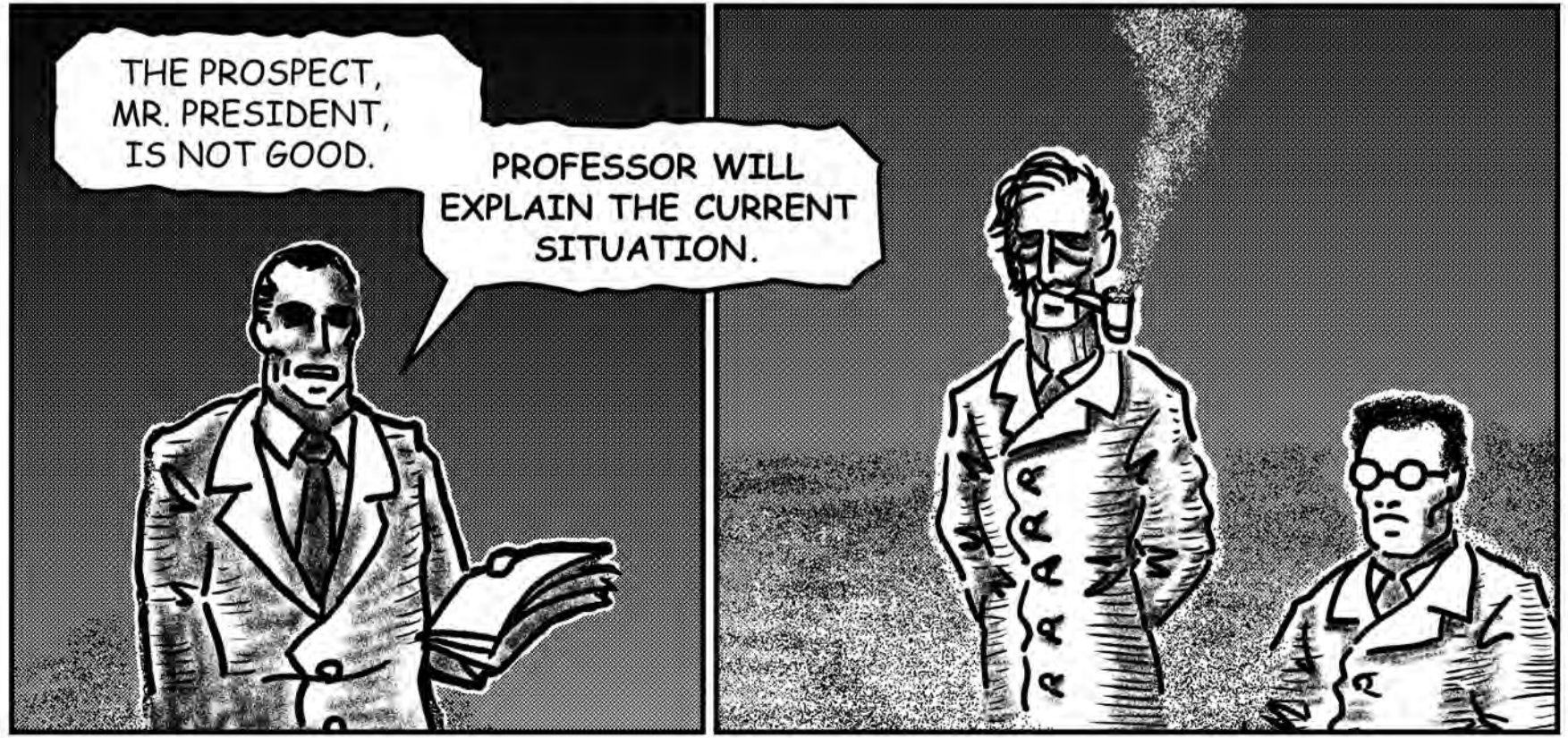
SOMEWHERE UNDER THE SIERRA NEVADA ...

SO, MR. SECRETARY, WHAT'S OUR PROSPECT TO WIN?



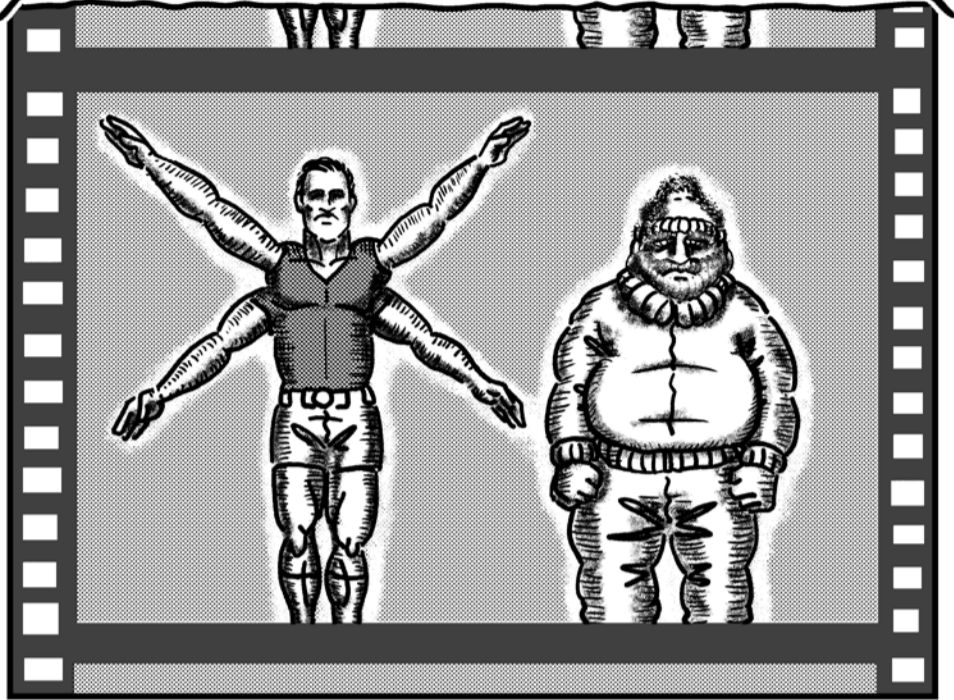
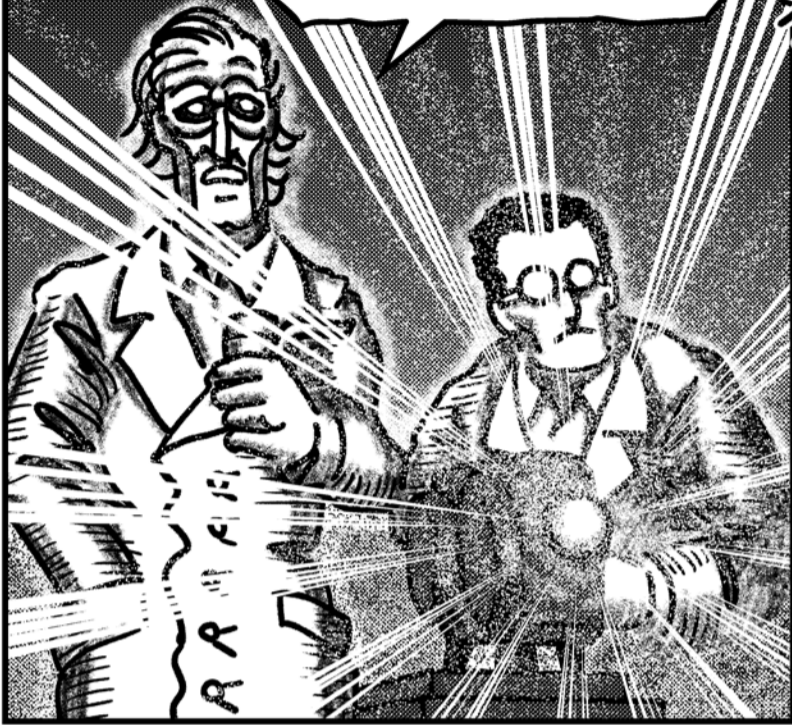
THE PROSPECT, MR. PRESIDENT, IS NOT GOOD.

PROFESSOR WILL EXPLAIN THE CURRENT SITUATION.



MR. PRESIDENT,  
FOR MANY YEARS,  
WE HAVE BEEN  
CONDUCTING

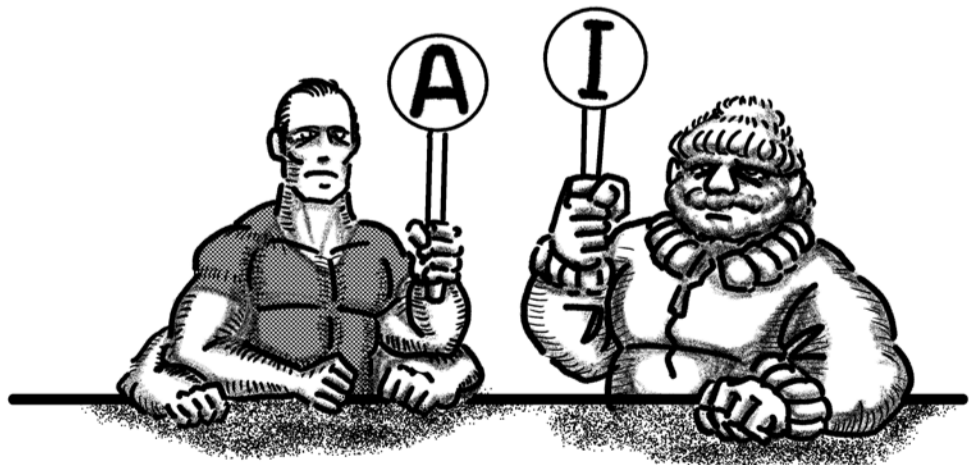
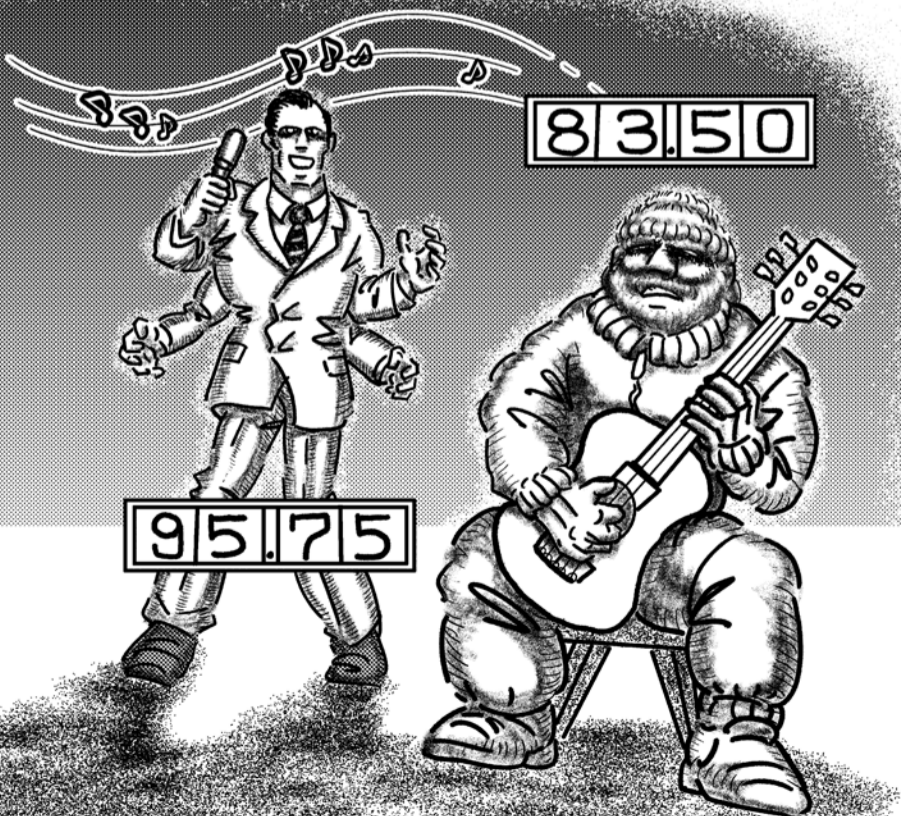
EXTENSIVE RESEARCHES ON  
THE ABILITIES OF GALAXIANS.  
IN SO DOING, WE COMPARED  
AN AVERAGE GALAXIAN INDIVIDUAL  
WITH AN AVERAGE HUMAN INDIVIDUAL.



THE OUTCOME IS  
ASTOUNDING.  
IN EVERY CATEGORY,



C ? T



THE AVERAGE GALAXIAN  
IS SUPERIOR TO THE HUMAN  
COUNTERPART BY 5 PERCENT !!

HMMM ...  
5 PERCENT.

THEN, WE MAY  
HAVE A CHANCE  
IF WE SEND  
OUR BEST.

AHH, MR. PRESIDENT,  
GALAXIANS WILL  
ALSO SEND THEIR BEST.

IN THAT CACE,  
WE WILL SEND OUR  
BEST OF THE BEST.

MR. BERG,  
I WILL TALK.

MR. PRESIDENT,  
I THINK YOU ARE  
RIGHT ABOUT OUR  
CURRENT SITUATION.

THIS IS "DO OR DIE".  
IF WE DON'T FIGHT,  
GALAXIANS WILL KILL  
US ALL. SO, "FIGHT" IS  
THE ONLY OPTION FOR US.

THEN, THEY  
WILL COUNTER  
BY ...

VERY WELL, PROFESSOR.  
SO "FIGHT" WE WILL.

BY THE WAY, WHY DO  
THEY LOOK SO MUCH  
LIKE US, EXCEPT 4 ARMS?

CONVERGENCE?

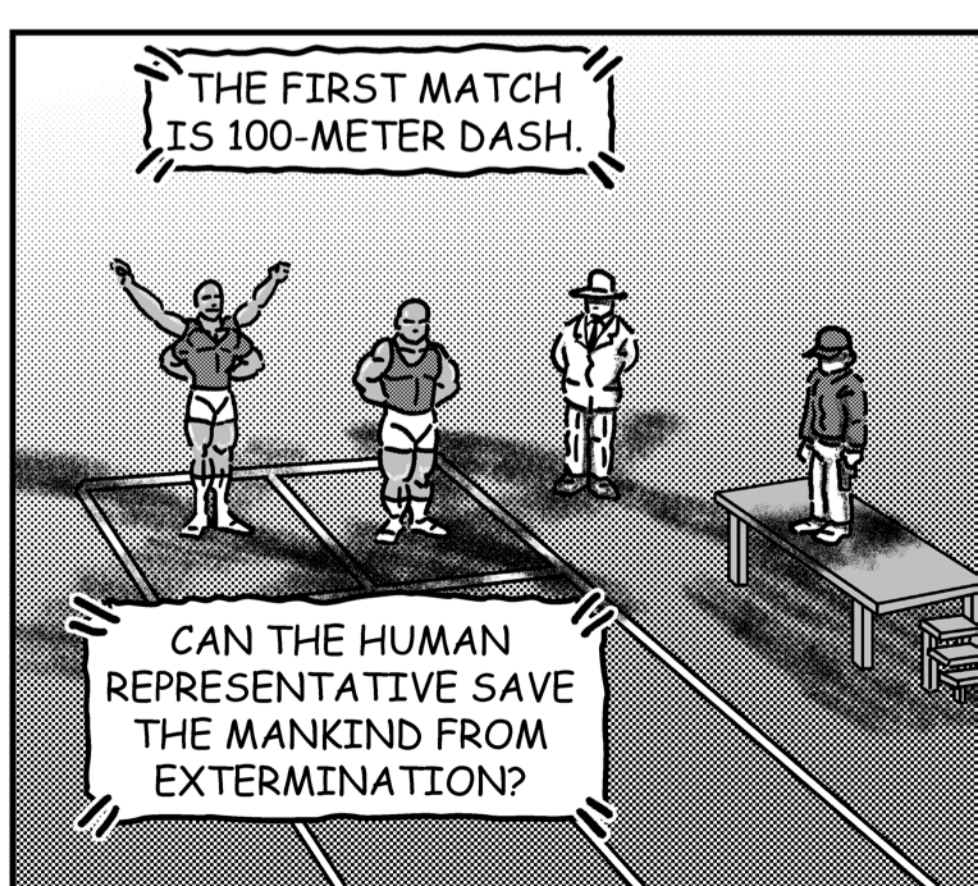
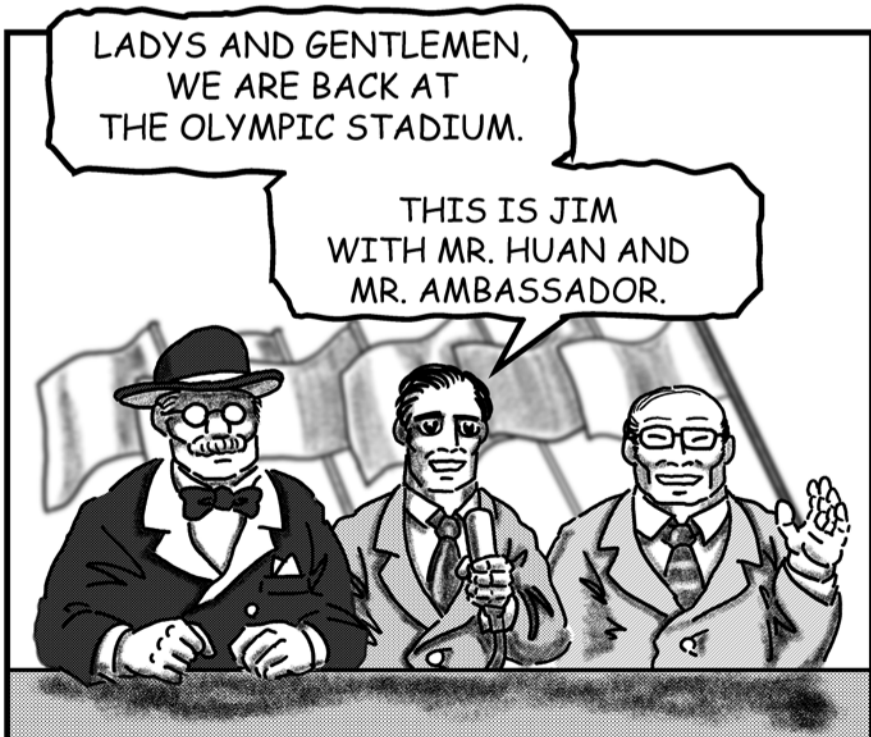
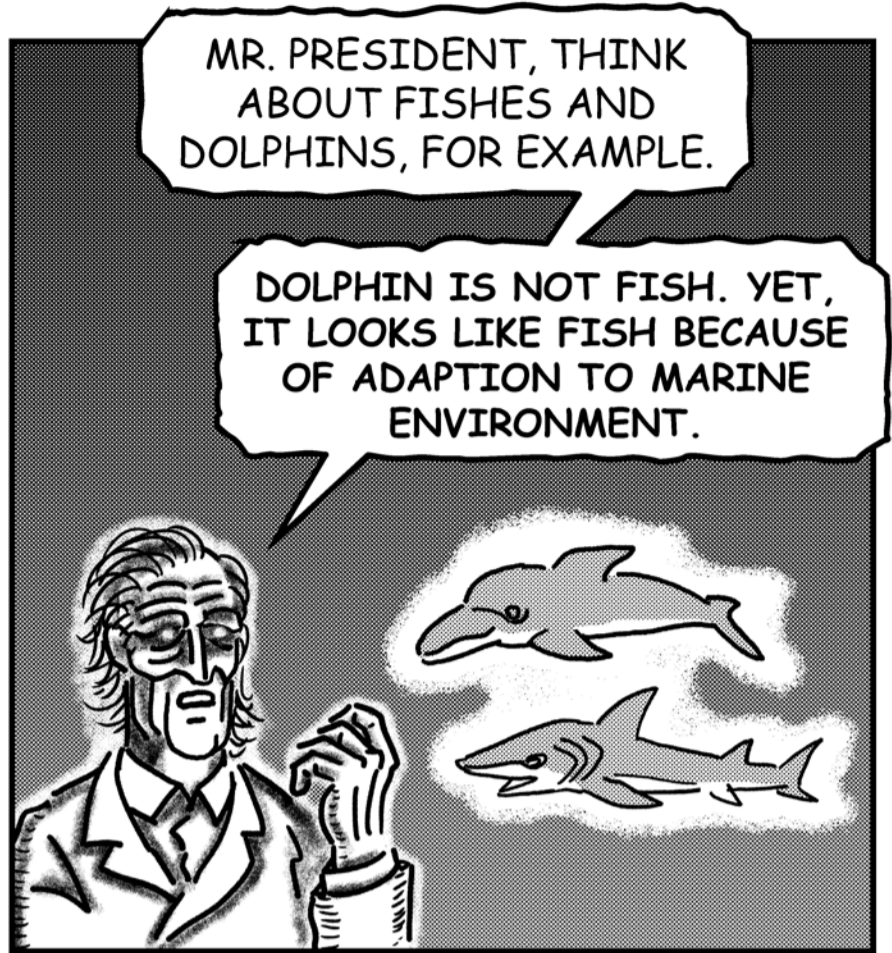
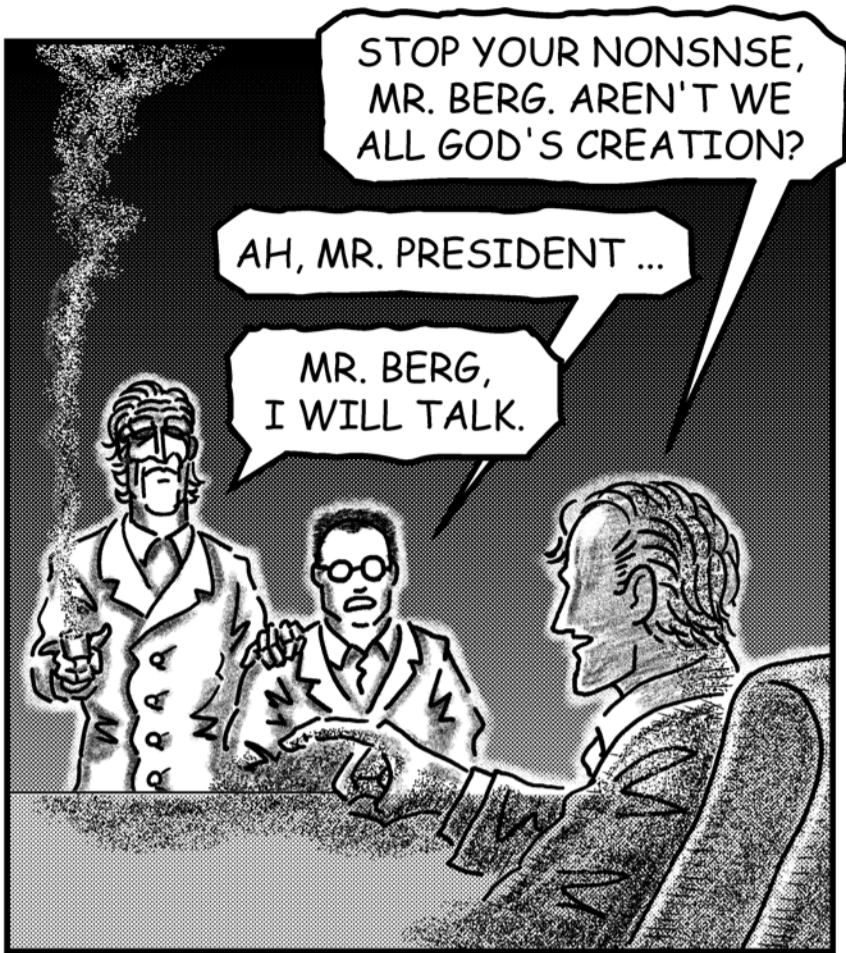
EVOLUTION?

MR. PRESIDENT,  
THEY ARE INCECTS.

HAVE YOU EVER  
HEARD OF  
"CONVERGENT  
EVOLUTION"?

"CONVERGENT  
EVOLUTION" IMPLIES  
THAT DIFFERENT  
SPECIES COME  
TO TAKE

A SIMILAR FORM  
AS A RESULT OF  
ADAPTION TO  
THE SAME GIVEN  
ENVIRONMENT.



REPRESENTING THE EARTH IS FREDDY "THE FLASH" FOSTER, WHO HAS NOT LOST A RACE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS. YET,

HE LOOKS NERVOUS TODAY, AS IF BEARING A 800 BILLION LB GORILLA.

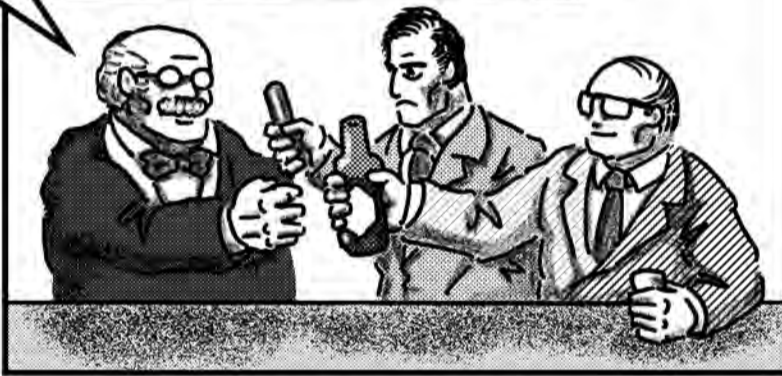


MR. H. H. OSMAN, WHO IS UNKNOWN TO US, REPRESENTS THE GALACTIC EMPIRE.

MR. AMBASSADOR, COULD YOU TELL US YOUR PREDICTION ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THE RACE?



MR. OSMAN HOLDS THE GALACTIC 100-METER DASH RECORD.



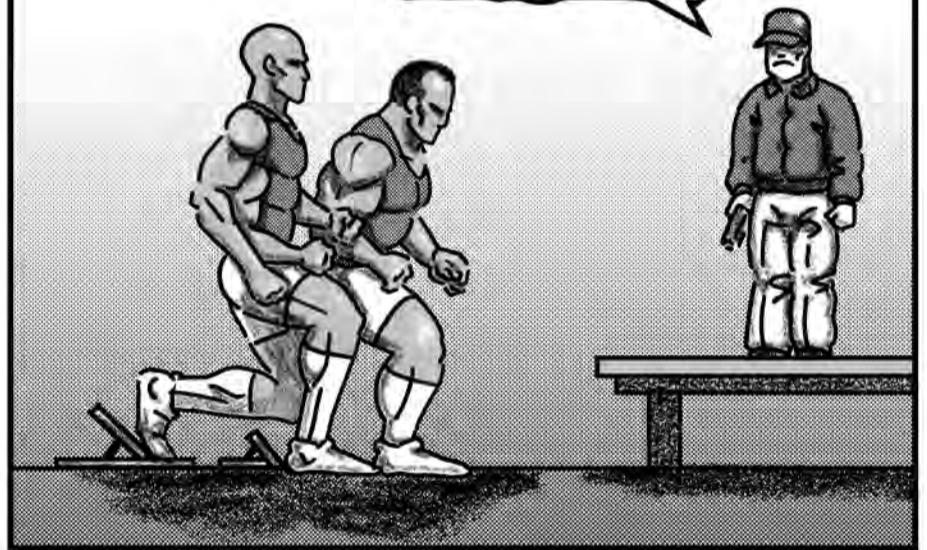
IF HE CAN REPLICATE HIS USUAL PERFORMANCE,



OSMAN WILL HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF WINNING THE RACE.



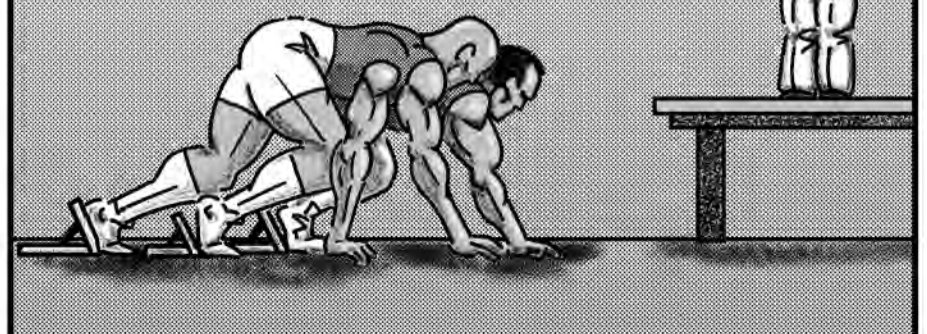
ON YOUR MARK.

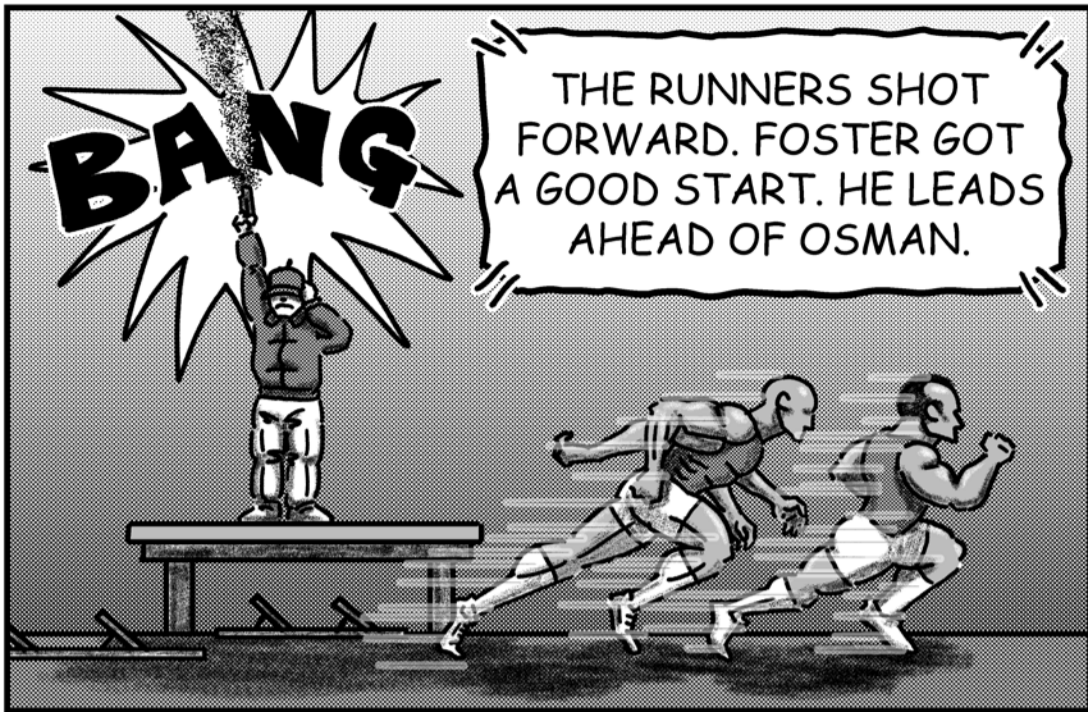


GET SET.

IN ANY CASE, WE CAN EXPECT AN INTERESTING RACE.

THE RUNNERS ARE ABOUT TO GO.

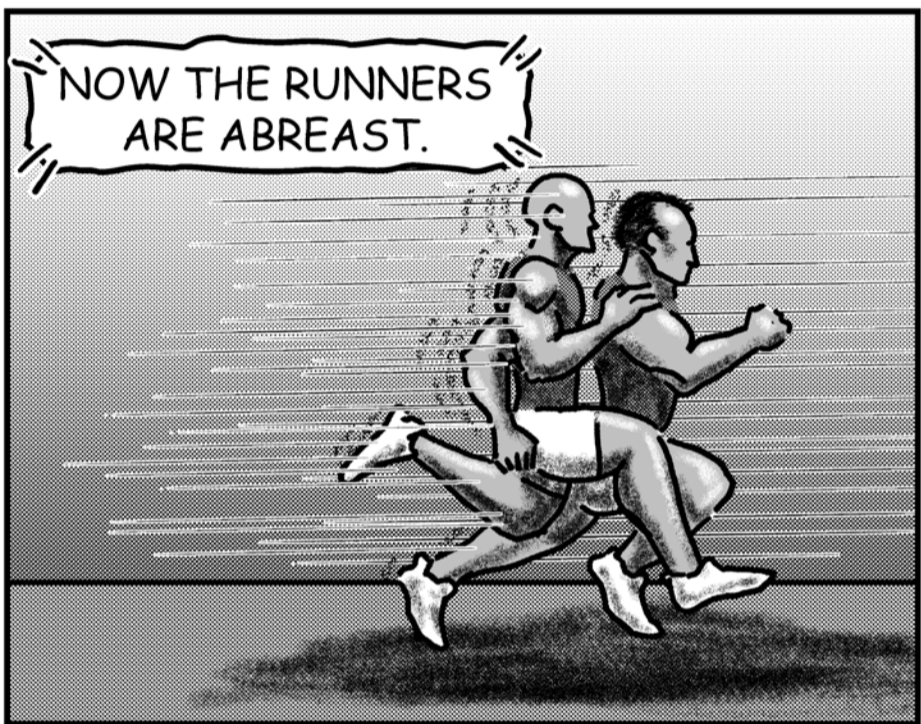




THE RUNNERS SHOT FORWARD. FOSTER GOT A GOOD START. HE LEADS AHEAD OF OSMAN.



BUT, OSMAN FOLLOWS CLOSE BEHIND FOSTER. OSMAN ACCELERATES TO CATCH UP WITH.



NOW THE RUNNERS ARE ABREAST.



IT SEEMS OSMAN GOT A LEAD AHEAD OF FOSTER.



OSMAN FINISHES FIRST. FOSTER FALLS BEHIND, AND



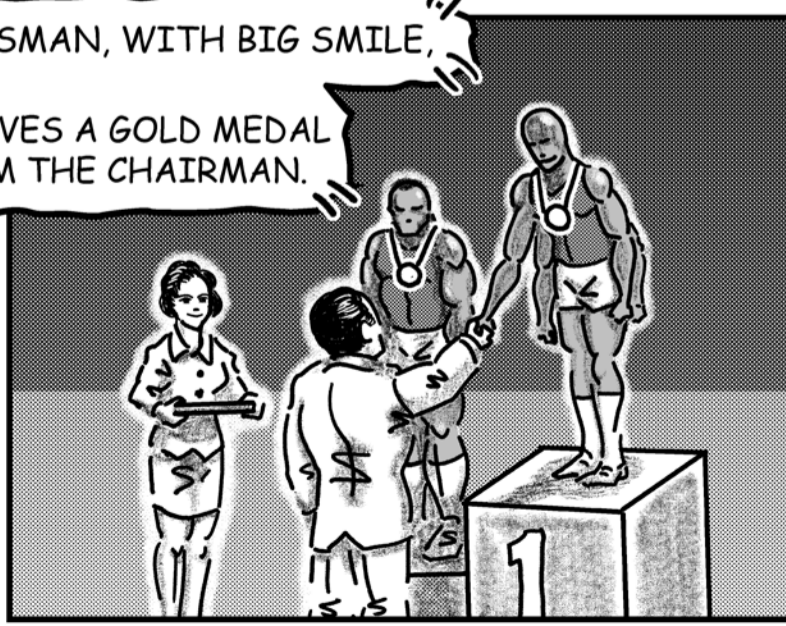
FAILS TO SAVE HUMAN RACE FROM EXTERMINATION.

MR. OSMAN ESTABLISHED THE NEW OLYMPIC RECORD.



MR. FOSTER SEEMS DEVASTATED.

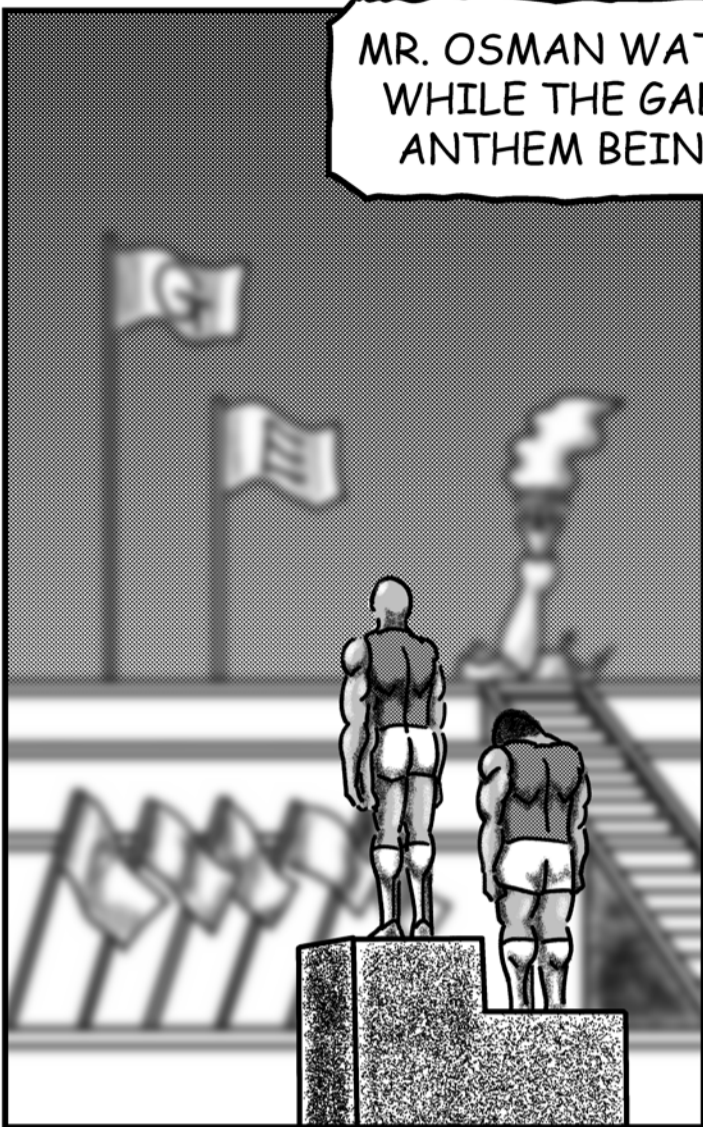
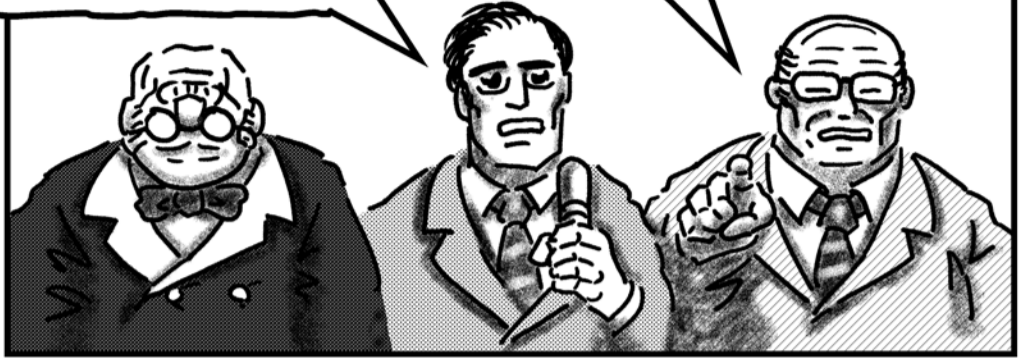
YEAH, THIS IS HIS FIRST LOSS IN 5 YEARS.



MR. OSMAN, WITH BIG SMILE, RECEIVES A GOLD MEDAL FROM THE CHAIRMAN.

MR. OSMAN WATCHES HIS FLAG WHILE THE GALACTIC EMPIRE ANTHEM BEING PERFORMED.

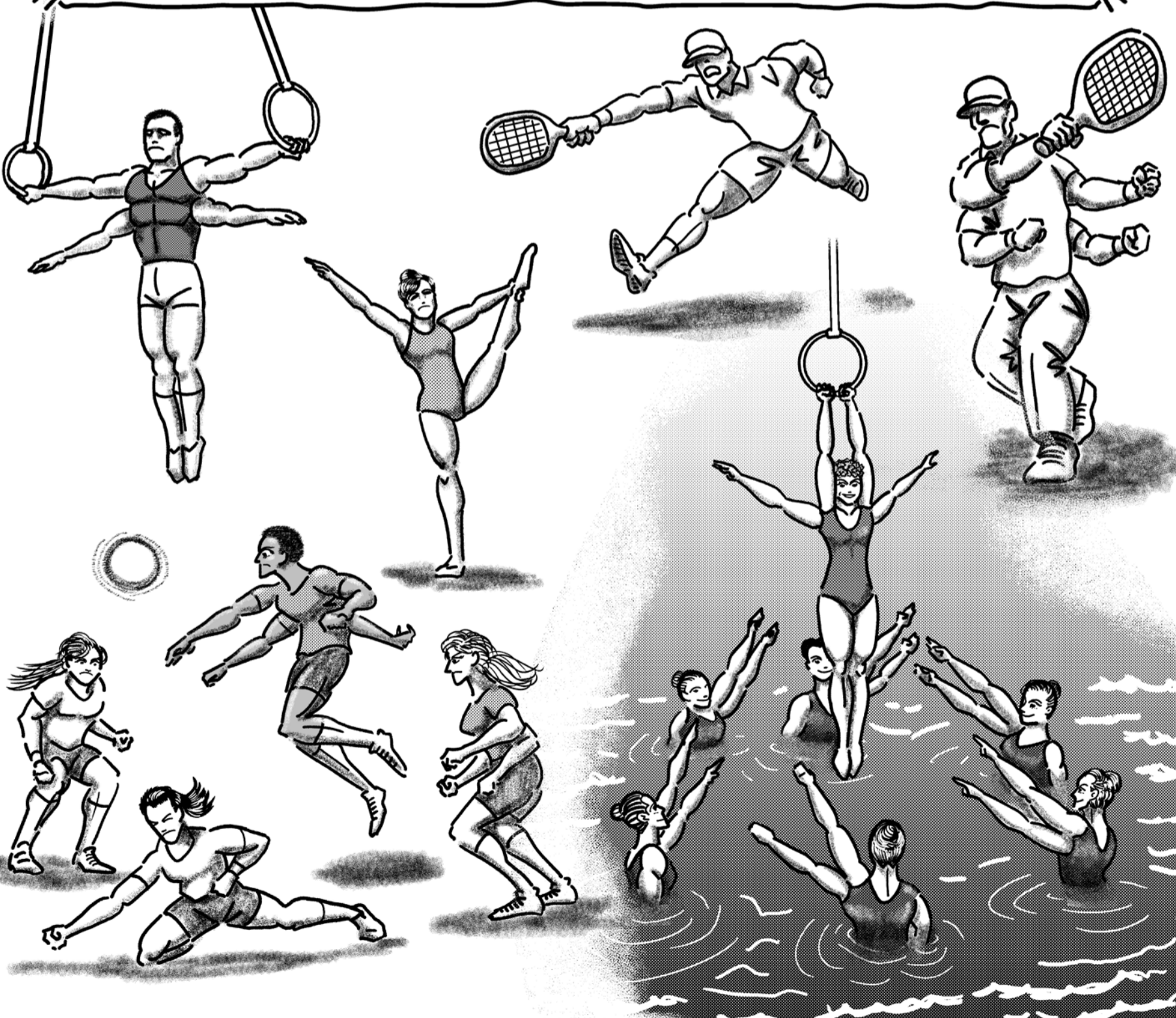
STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT EVENT.



MR. PRESIDENT, THE GAMES ARE NOT OVER YET.



AFTER THE 100-METER DASH, HOWEVER, HUMAN ATHLETES ARE UNABLE TO WIN ANY SINGLE MATCH DESPITE THE HARDEST EFFORT.





SO FAR, OUR REPRESENTATIVES  
HAVE FAILED TO WIN A MATCH,  
BY 5 PERCENT MARGINE,  
JUST AS PREDICTED  
BY THE SCIENTISTS.



AND ONLY ONE EVENT IS LEFT  
FOR HUMAN SALVATION;  
PRO-WRESTLING!



THE RULE IS SIMPLE,  
MR PRESIDENT.



IF A HUMAN WRESTLER CAN  
BEAT THE CHAMPION OF  
GALACTIC FEDERATION, WE WILL  
LEAVE THE EARTH.

WE WILL ALLOW THREE CHANCES,  
SO PLEASE CHOOSE THREE BEST MEN.



RULES: 3 ROUNDS IN 60 MINUTES.  
THE WINNER MUST TAKE 2 OUT OF 3 ROUNDS.

**STANISLAV "THE EMPEROR" RYBCZNSKY**

**GALACTIC FEDERATION  
HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**



**THE FIRST CHALLENGER  
AFRICAN CONTINENTAL  
HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**

**THE SECOND CHALLENGER  
ASIA-PACIFIC  
HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**



**MÖKELE-MBEMBE  
"THE MISSISSIPPI NIGHTMARE"**



**SAMSON O'HARA  
"THE APPALACHIAN BIG DADDY"**

**THE THIRD CHALLENGER**

**AMERICAN CONTINENTAL  
HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION**



**EL LOCO "THE NEUROTIC"**