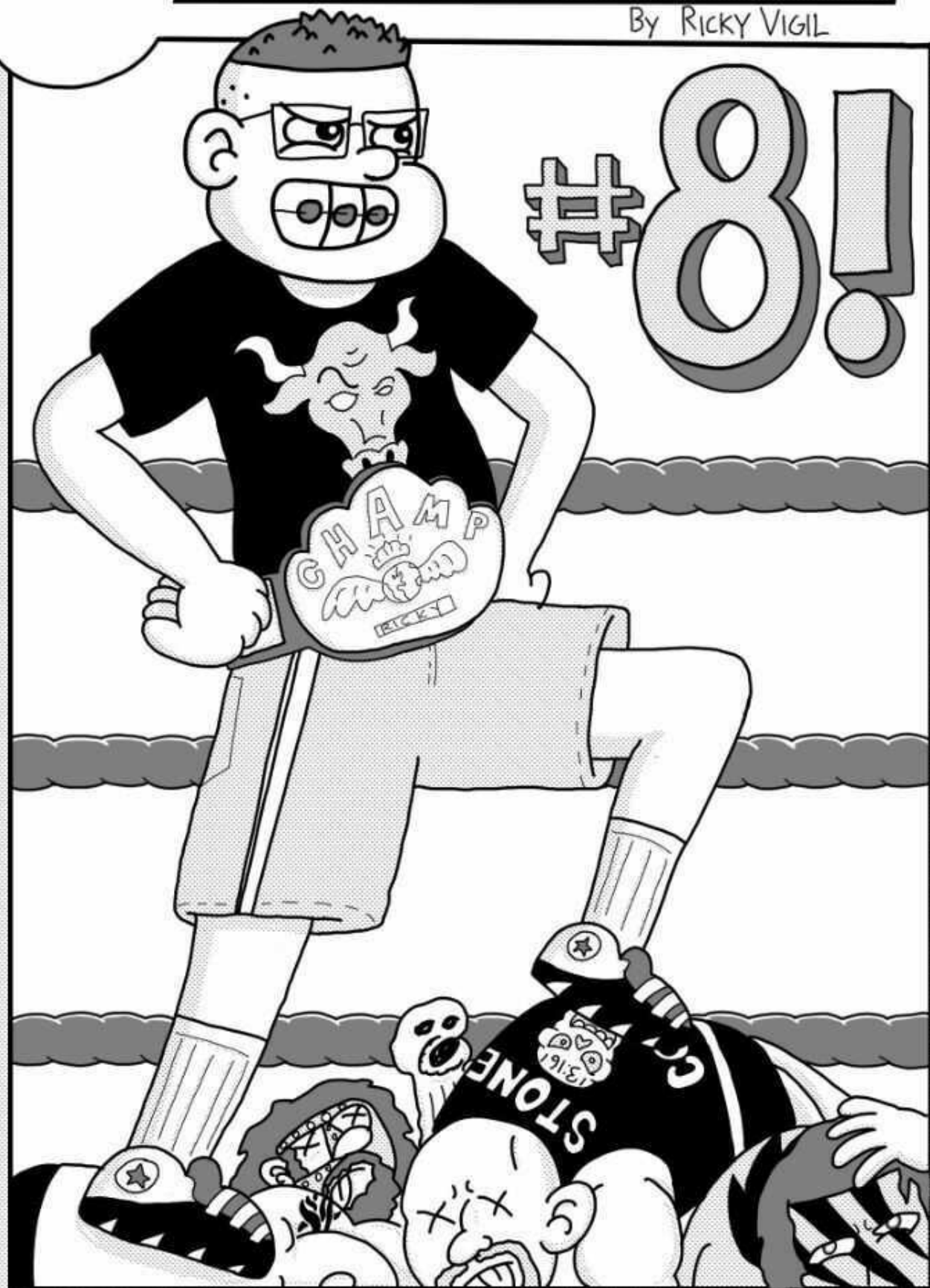
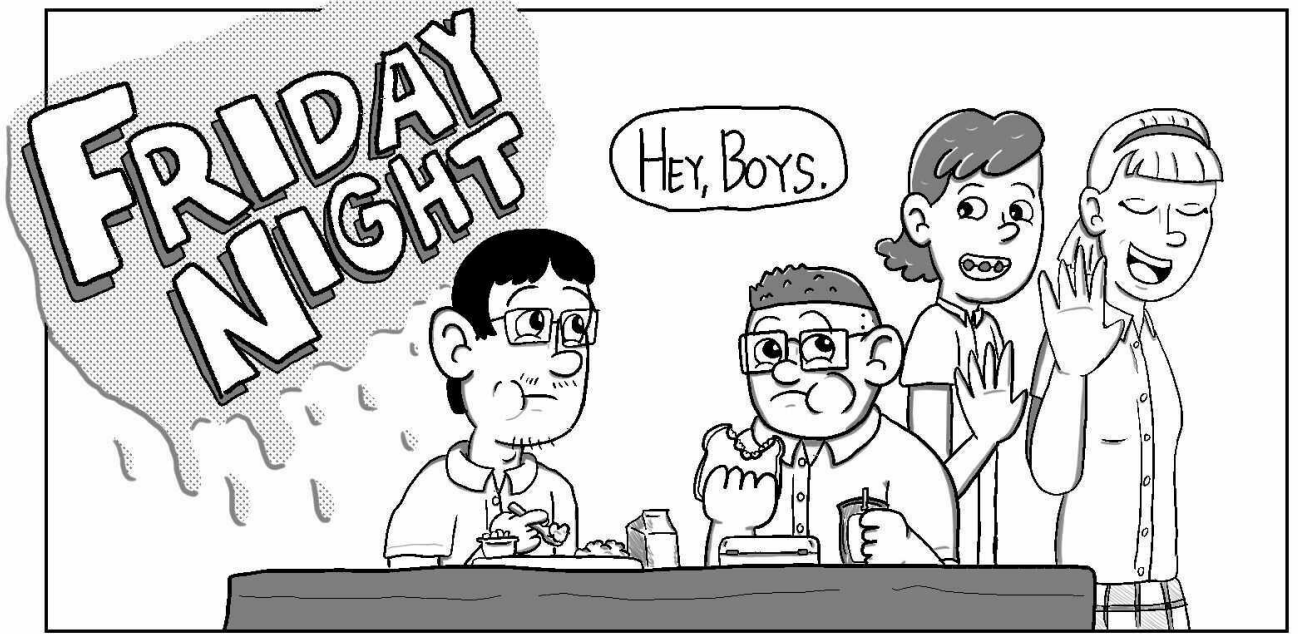


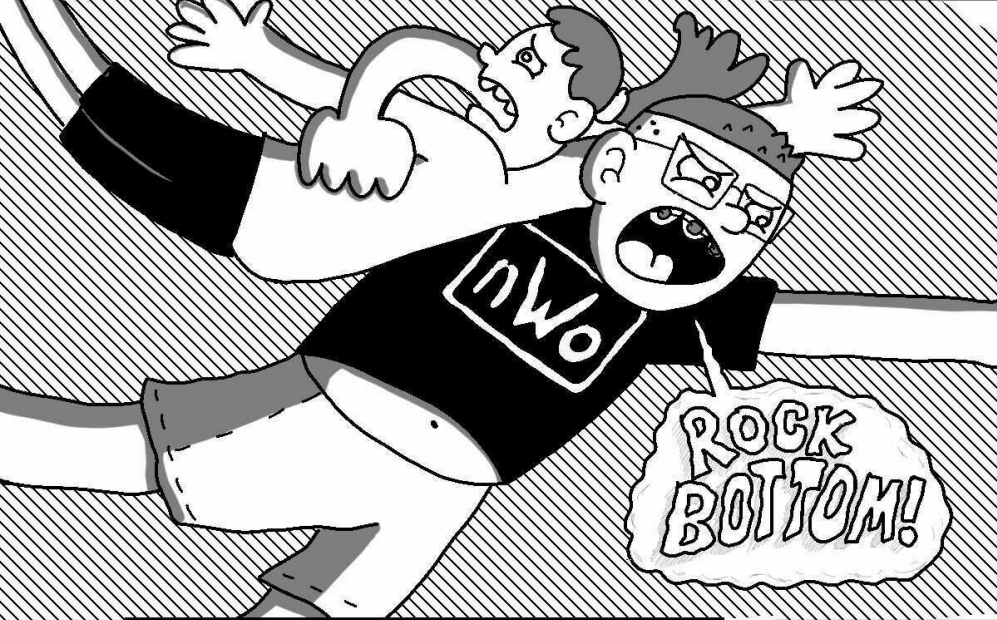
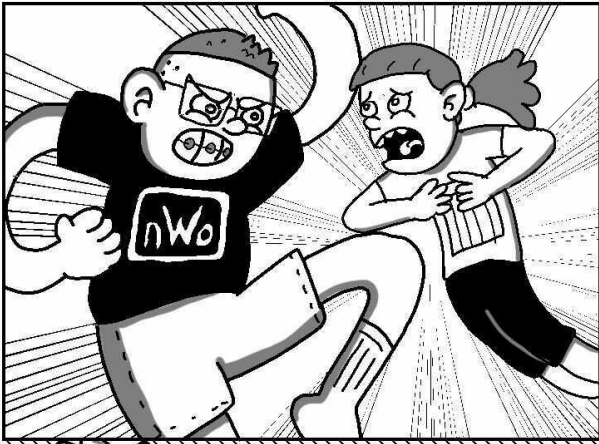
# SUPER COOL AND STUFF

By RICKY VIGIL

# #8!



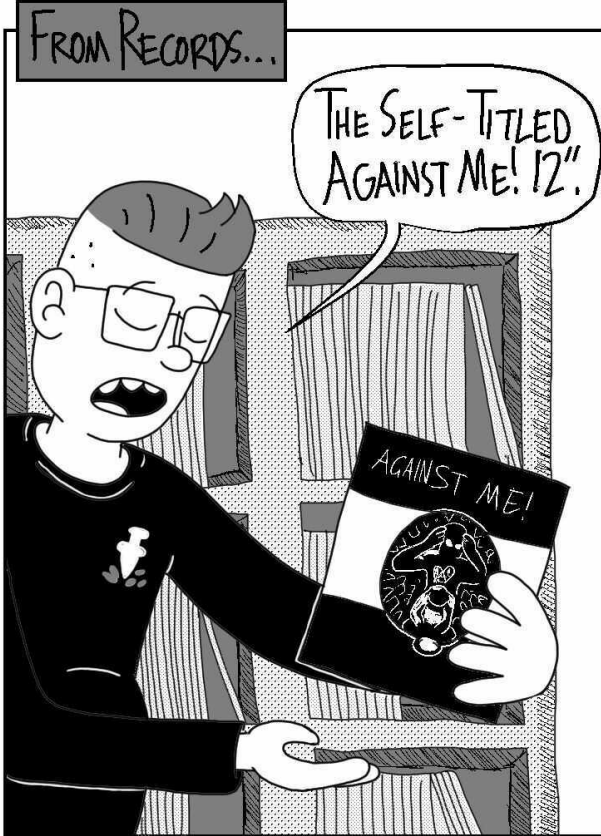




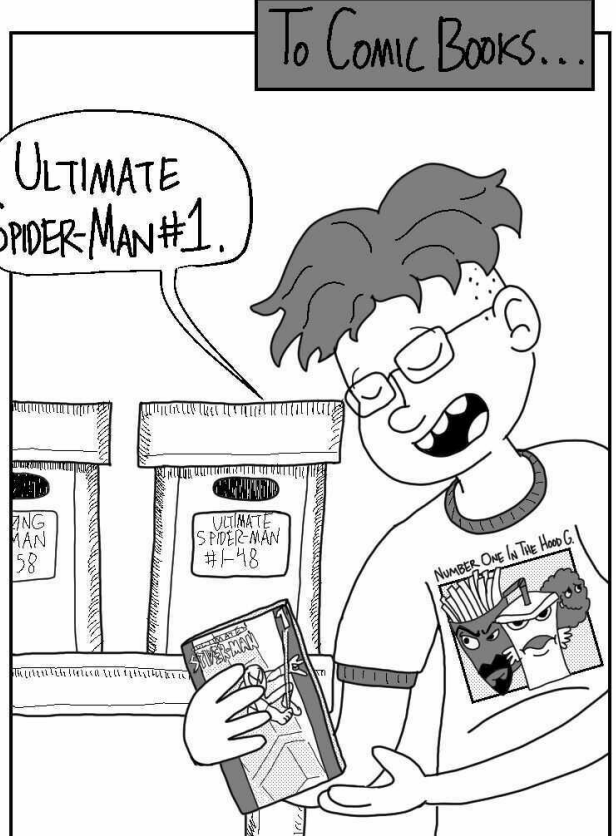
# GO FIGURE

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A COLLECTOR OF THINGS.

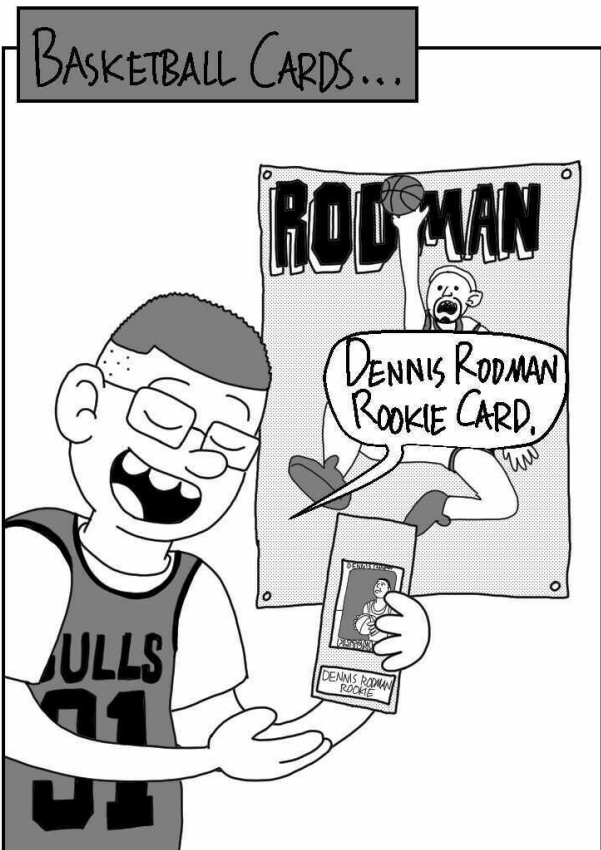
FROM RECORDS...



TO COMIC BOOKS...



BASKETBALL CARDS...

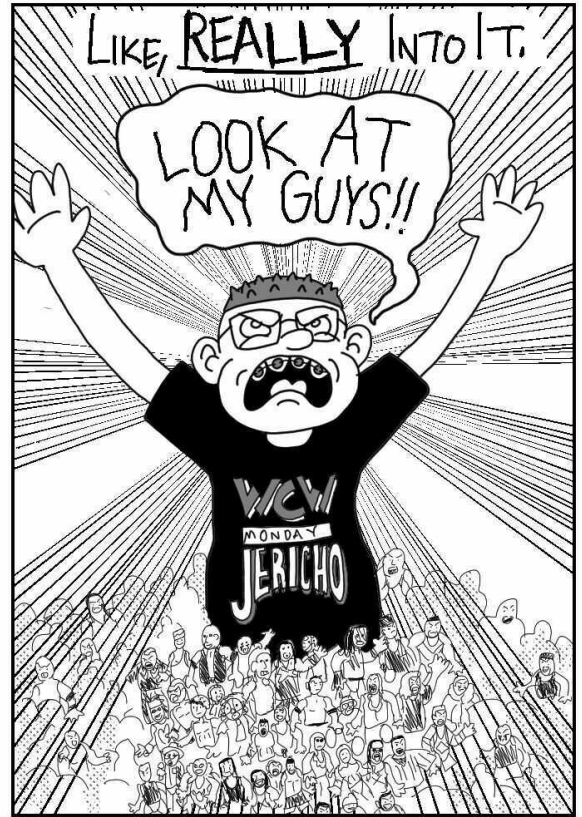
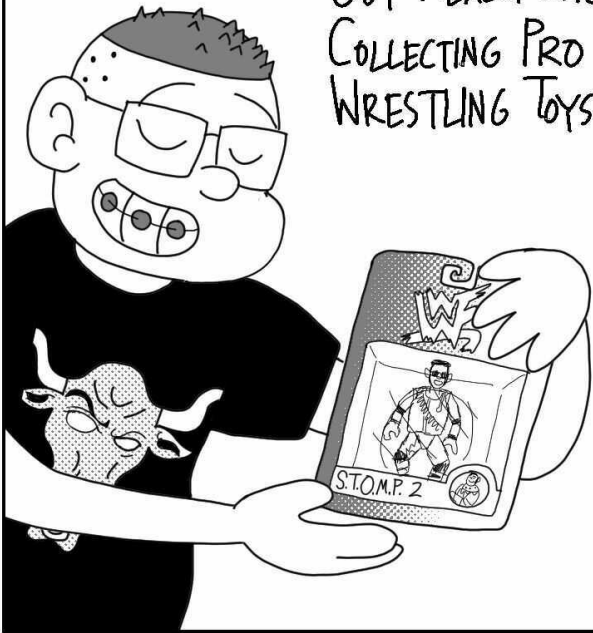


EVEN BEANIE BABIES!





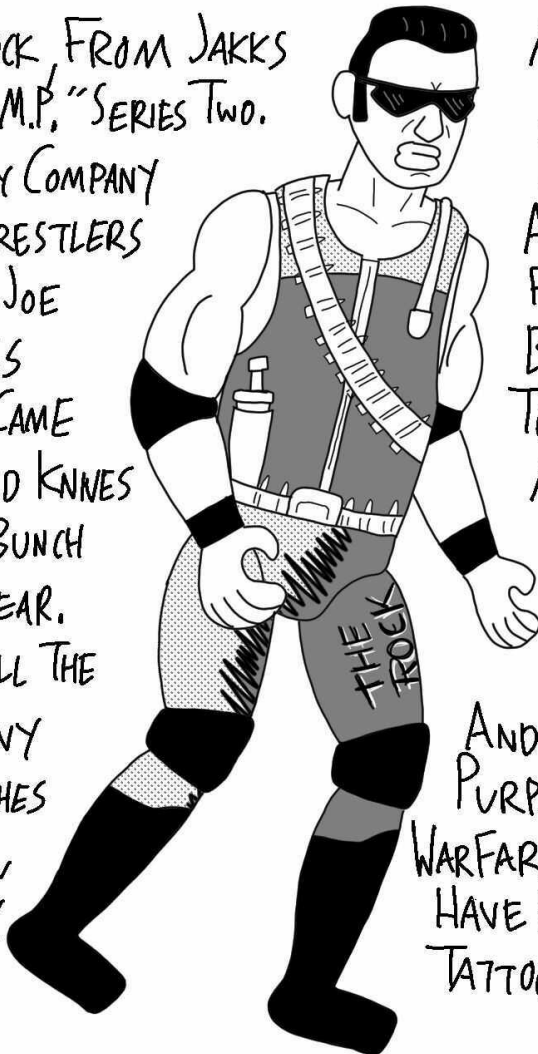
SO WHEN I GOT REALLY INTO PRO WRESTLING AS A 12-YEAR-OLD, I ALSO GOT REALLY INTO COLLECTING PRO WRESTLING TOYS.



**BUT THE FIRST WRESTLING FIGURE I BOUGHT SUCKED!**

IT WAS THE ROCK, FROM JAKKS PACIFIC'S "S.T.O.M.P.," SERIES TWO.

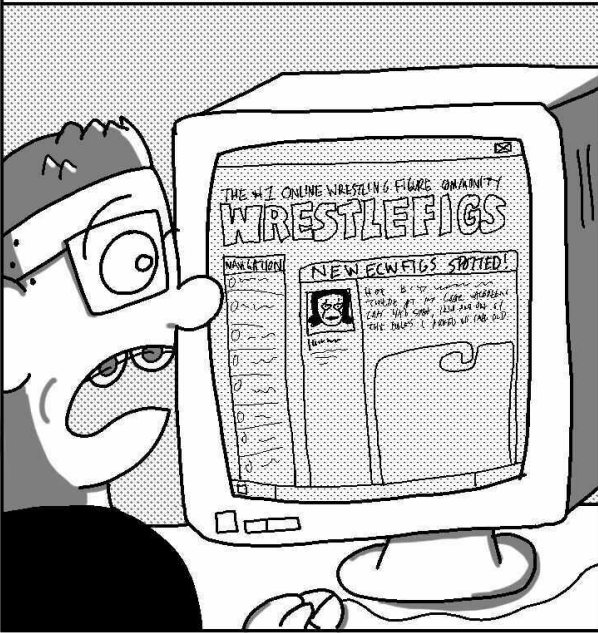
BASICALLY, THIS TOY COMPANY COMBINED PRO WRESTLERS WITH SOME G.I. JOE BULLSHIT, SO THIS WRESTLING TOY CAME WITH GUNS AND KNIVES AND EVEN A BUNCH OF SCUBA GEAR. I DON'T RECALL THE ROCK HAVING ANY WRESTLING MATCHES UNDER THE SEA, BUT HE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE.



ALSO, IT BARELY LOOKS LIKE THE ROCK! SURE, HE HAS SIDEBURNS AND SUNGLASSES (GREAT FOR DEEP SEA COMBAT!), BUT HIS SKIN IS WAAAYY TOO LIGHT. ALSO, AS FAR AS I KNOW, HE NEVER WORE LONG TIGHTS. AND WHY IS HE WEARING ELBOW PADS, KNEE PADS AND BOOTS IF HIS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS UNDERWATER WARFARE? HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE HIS SIGNATURE BULL TATTOO! BUT I DIGRESS.

# I DOVE HEAD-FIRST INTO THE WACKY WORLD OF PRO WRESTLING ACTION FIGURES.

I JOINED MULTIPLE PRIMITIVE INTERNET MESSAGE BOARDS DEDICATED TO DELIVERING THE LATEST WRESTLING ACTION FIGURE NEWS.



I FORMED CLOSE, PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH MULTIPLE TOYS 'R' US EMPLOYEES.



I TRADED HARD-TO-FIND TOYS WITH MY FELLOW NERDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



I EVEN FRANKENSTEINED TOGETHER MY OWN CUSTOM WRESTLING FIGURES.



BUT IT WAS NOT THE FIRST  
TIME THAT I HAD A TOY OBSESSION.







IT WAS NO SECRET THAT I WAS  
MY GRANDMA'S FAVORITE.



...ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE OFTEN SAID SO IN FRONT OF HER OTHER GRANDCHILDREN.



BUT COULD YOU BLAME HER?  
I WAS A FUNNY KID!



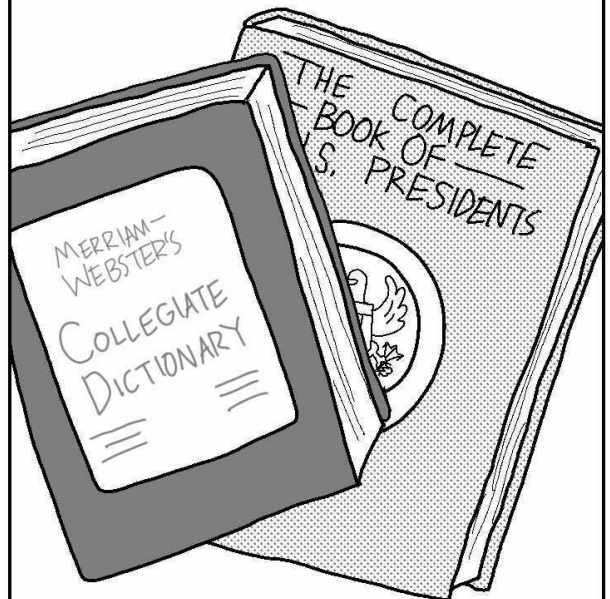
PLUS, MY CUTENESS LEVEL  
PEAKED PRETTY EARLY IN LIFE.



BUT MY GRANDMA WASN'T VAIN—SHE ALSO ENCOURAGED MY BRAIN!



I STILL HAVE THE DICTIONARY AND THE BOOK OF U.S. PRESIDENTS SHE GAVE TO ME AS A KID...



COMPLETE WITH LOVING, HAND-WRITTEN DEDICATIONS ON THE INSIDE COVERS.

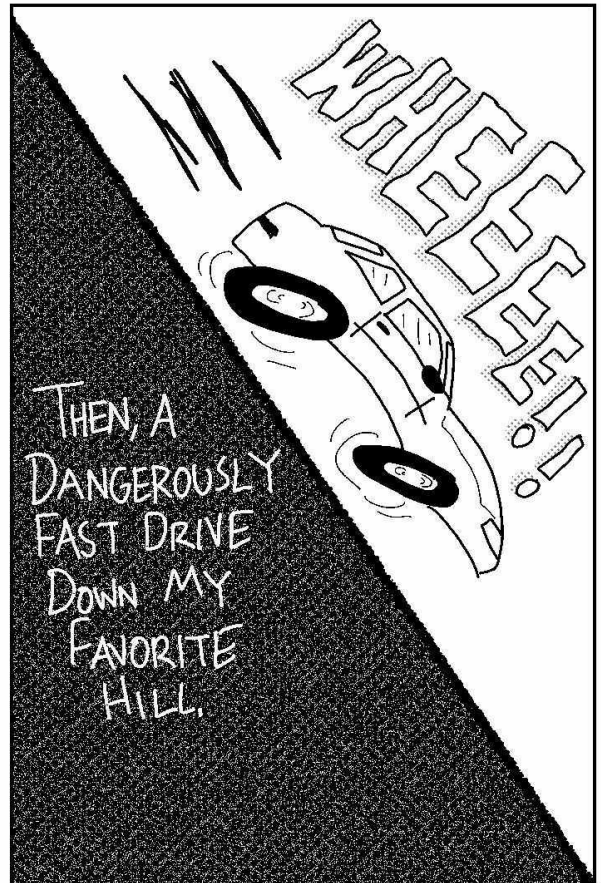
SHE WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO RECOGNIZE MY GENIUS...



WHICH IS STILL A POINT OF CONTENTION AMONG MY SIBLINGS.



# MY GRANDMA AND I HAD OUR OWN HANGOUT RITUAL,



FINALLY, IT WAS TIME  
TO HIT THE TOY STORE!



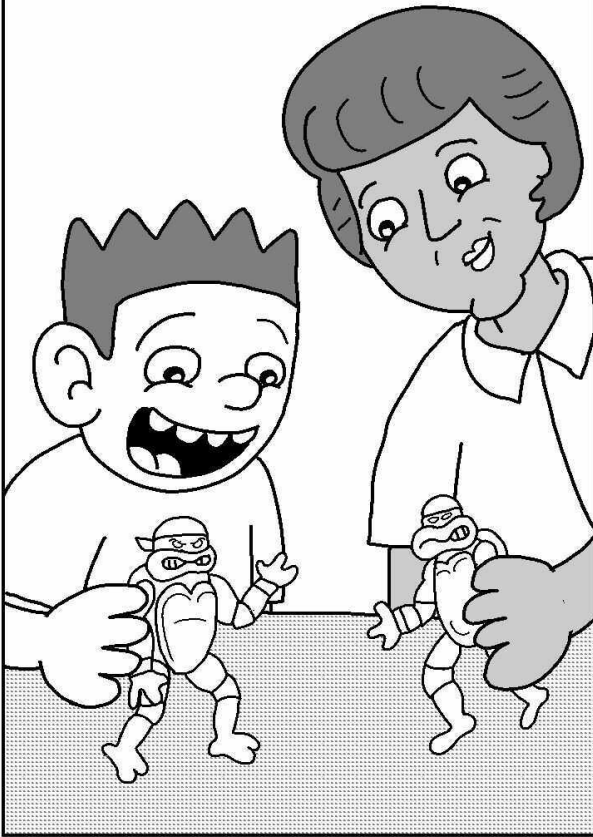
WHEN IT CAME TO ME, NO EXPENSE  
WAS TOO GREAT FOR MY GRANDMA.



TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY,  
I WAS SUPER SPOILED.



TIME PASSED.



MY INTERESTS  
SHIFTED.



I GOT  
OLDER.

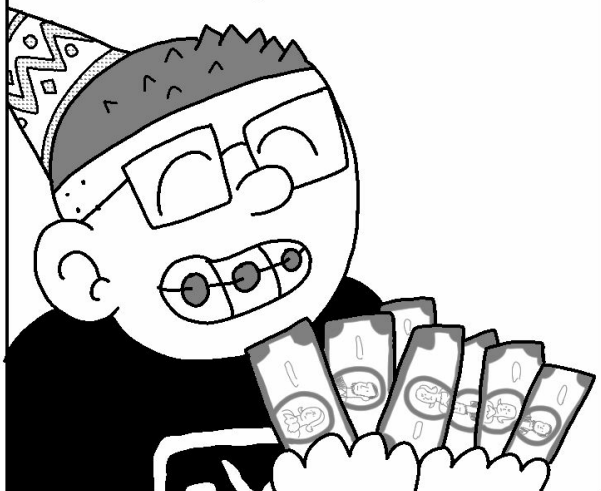


I SAW MY  
GRANDMA LESS.

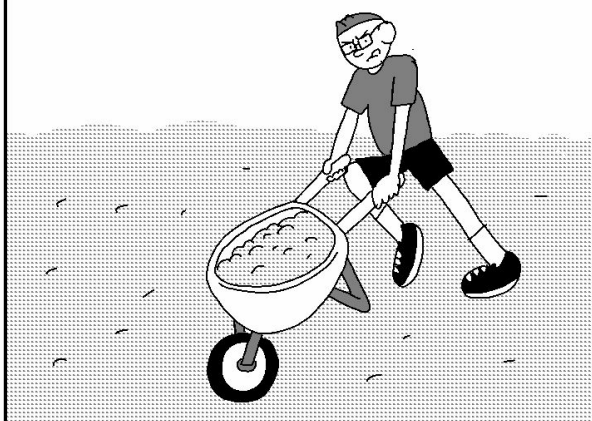


# I'VE NEVER BEEN ONE TO PLAN AHEAD.

SO WHEN I GOT SOME BIRTHDAY MONEY...



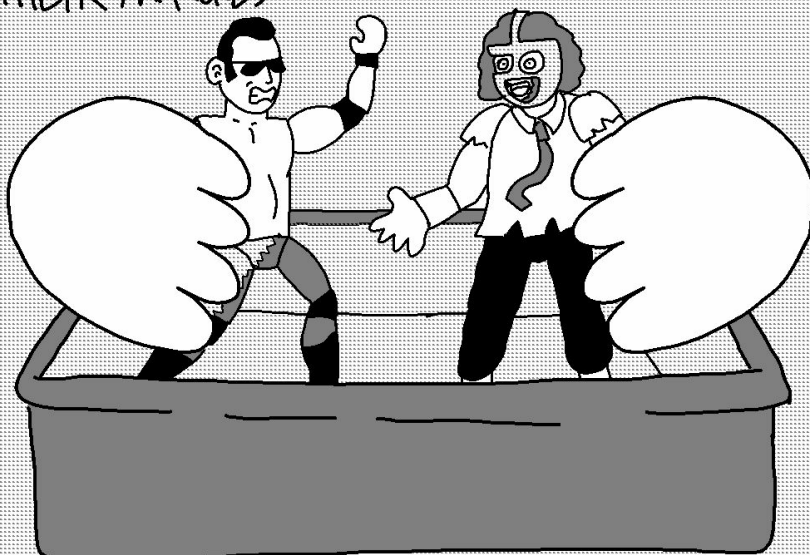
AND MADE A LITTLE BIT OF MONEY WORKING (BADLY) FOR MY DAD...

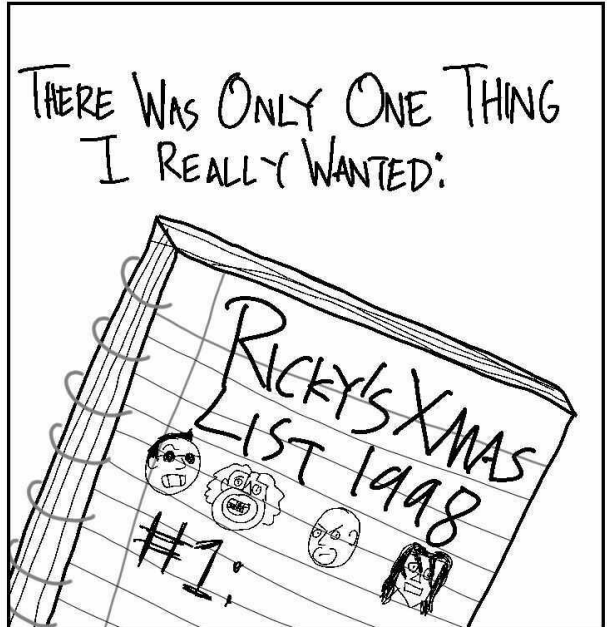


I SPENT IT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ON WRESTLING FIGURES.



SO MY GUYS WERE FORCED TO HOLD THEIR MATCHES IN AN OLD BAKING PAN.



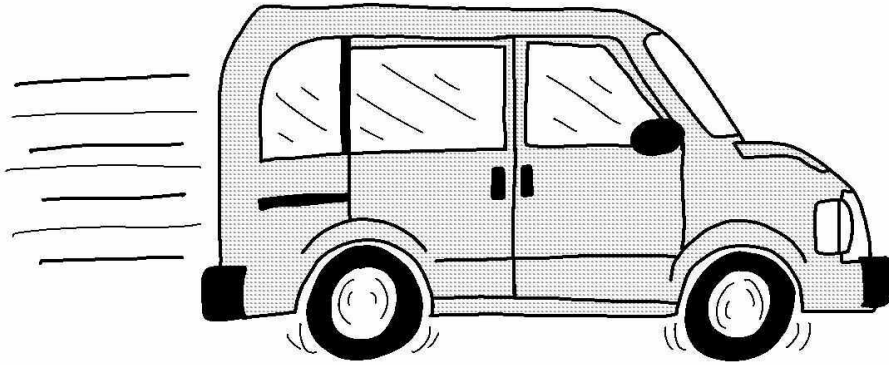


A JAKKS PACIFIC WWF ATTITUDE WRESTLING RING!!  
(WITH TWO CATAPULTS, CAGE ATTACHMENT, AND CARRYING CASE HANDLE) !!

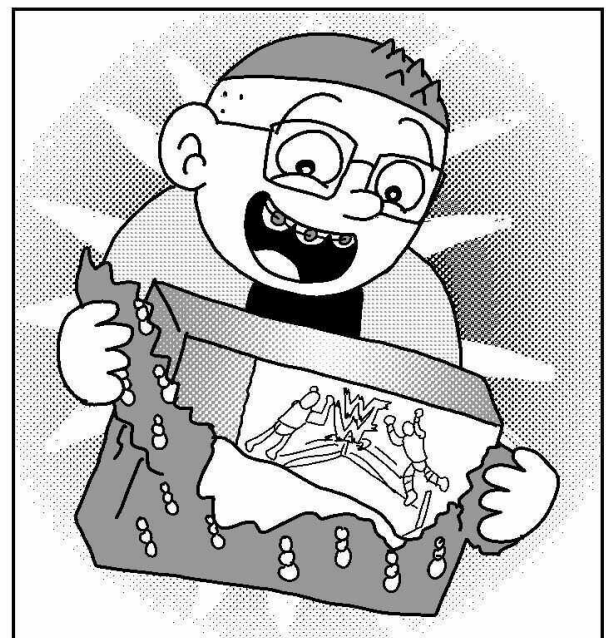
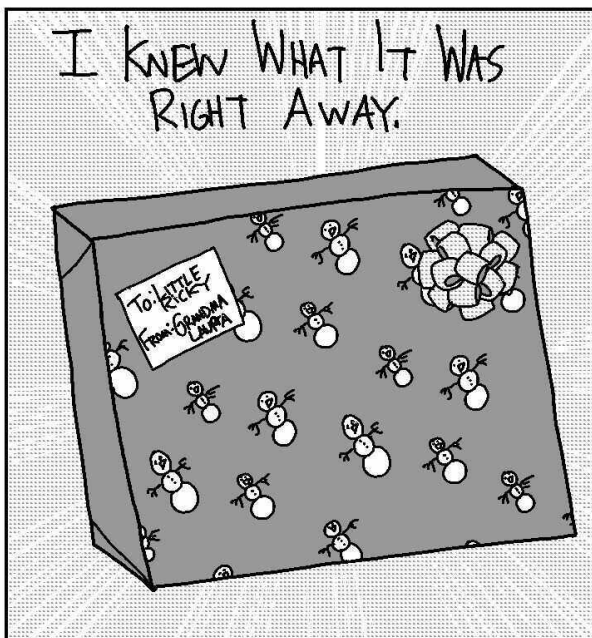
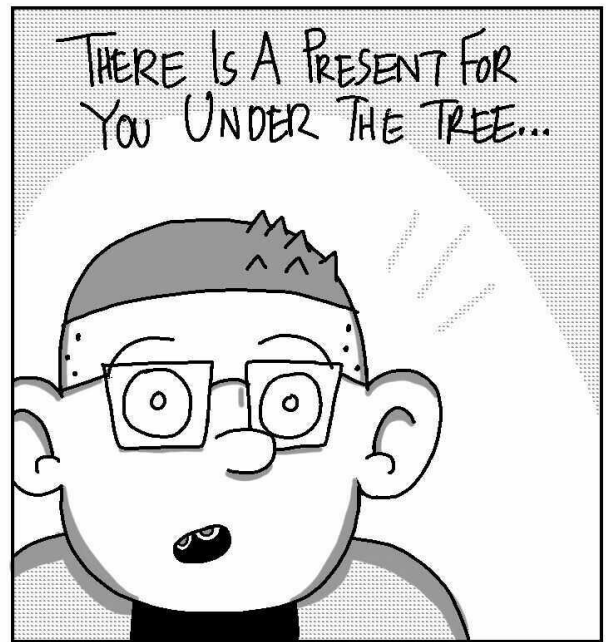




EVERY CHRISTMAS, WE WENT TO MY GRANDMA'S HOUSE IN THE AFTERNOON.



I REALLY WASN'T EXPECTING HER TO HAVE GIFTS FOR US. SHE HAD A STROKE EARLIER IN THE YEAR AND WAS STILL RECOVERING FROM IT.







MY GRANDMA HAD ANOTHER STROKE A FEW MONTHS LATER. SHE LIVED FOR EIGHT MORE YEARS, BUT SHE RARELY RECOGNIZED PEOPLE. I FEEL BAD THAT I DIDN'T SPEND MORE TIME WITH HER WHEN SHE WAS SICK, BUT SHE LEFT ME WITH SOME AMAZING MEMORIES—  
AND A WHOLE LOT OF ACTION FIGURES.

# PHOTO GALLERY!



DRESSED AS KONNAN FROM  
nWo Wolfpac, HALLOWEEN '08.



MEETING MICK FOLEY (AKA MANKIND)  
BEFORE A STANDUP SET, JANUARY 2016



MEETING REY MYSTERIO! FEB. 2017



SERENA DRESSED AS MICK FOLEY  
FOR OUR WRESTLEMANIA 2018 PARTY



MEETING L.A. PARK  
AND HUO DE L.A. PARK,  
NOVEMBER 2017.  
L.A. PARK WOULDN'T SIGN  
MY MASK. RUDD MOVE.

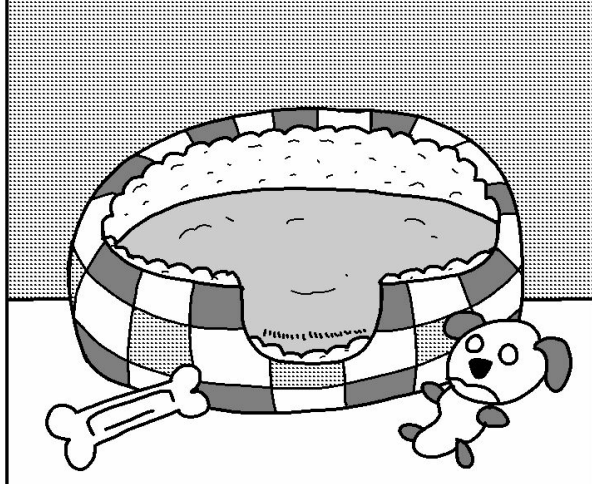


# I DIDN'T CRY...

WHEN MY GRANDPA DIED.



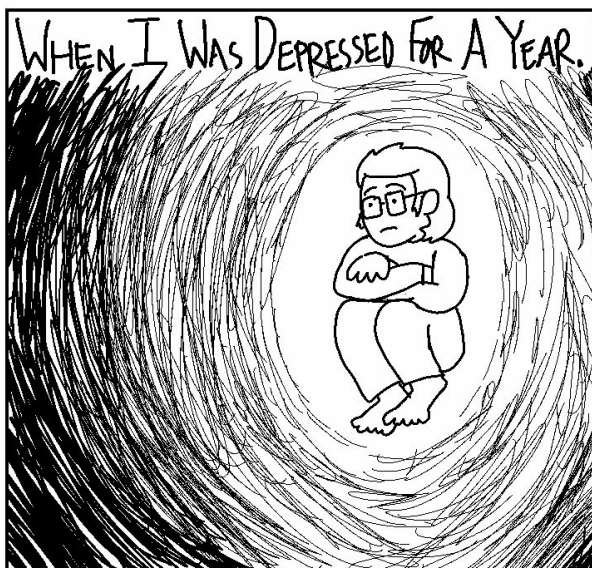
WHEN WE PUT OUR DOG TO SLEEP.



WHEN I GOT DUMPED.



WHEN I WAS DEPRESSED FOR A YEAR.



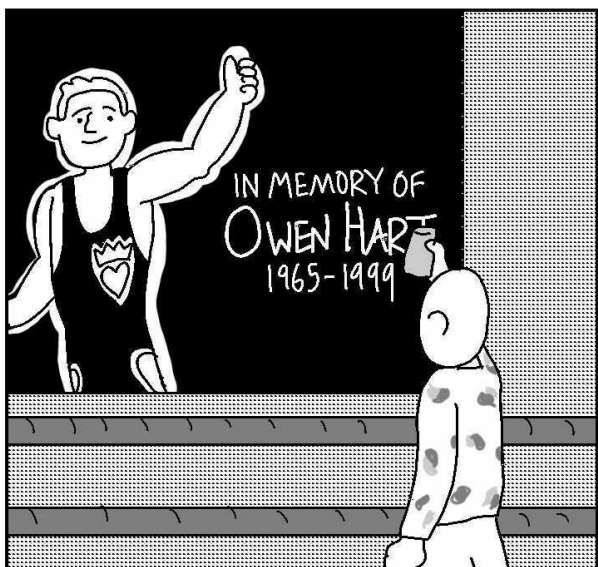
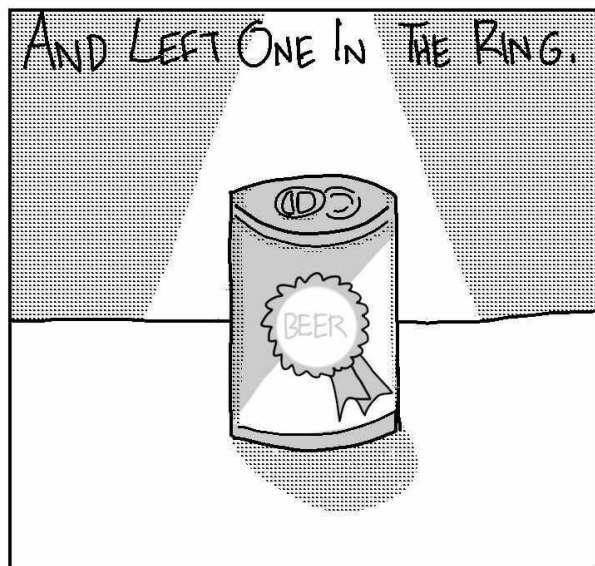
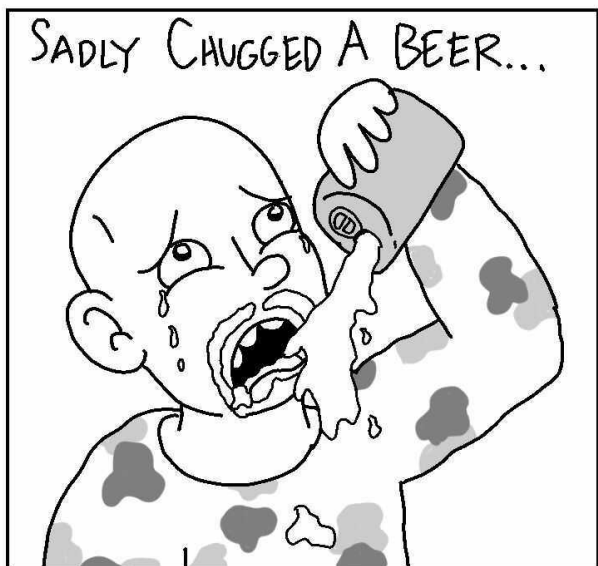
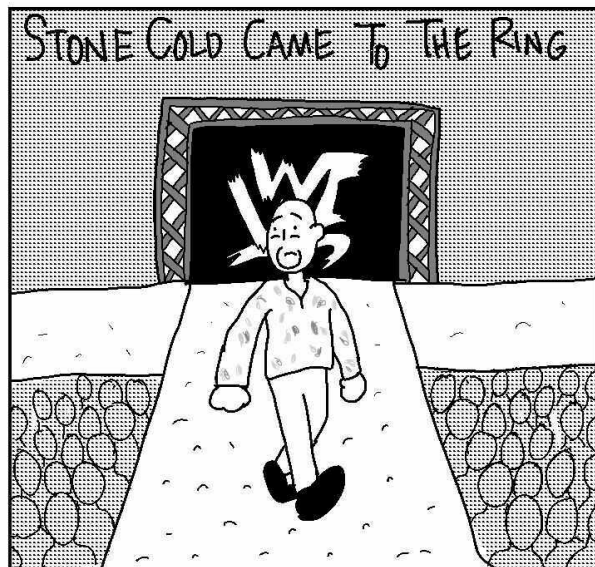
WHEN I GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE.



THE DAY I GOT MARRIED.



# BUT WHEN OWEN HART DIED...



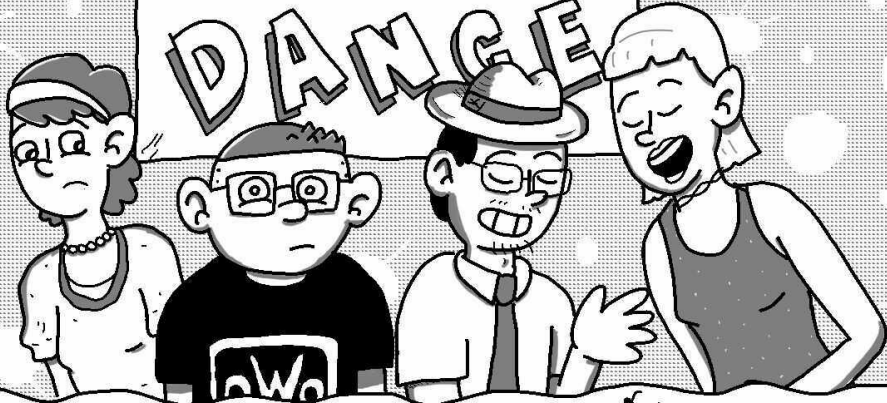






# ANOTHER FRIDAY NIGHT

"DANCE"  
DANCE



♪ I WILL NEVER FIND ANOTHER LOVER SWEETER THAN YOU ♪

I LOVE THIS SONG!  
CAN WE DANCE?



SURE.



HEY! THAT nWo SHIRT  
IS TOO SWEET!!

