

# NOVICE ... *A thorn in the side of every hero*

By James Satter

Neighbors Opposed to Violence, Indecency, and Criminal Endeavors is a grassroots citizen group with chapters in several major cities in the United States and Canada. Members of NOVICE commonly organize letter-writing campaigns or petitions to persuade public officials to pass new ordinances or influence law-enforcement activities. Each chapter sets its own agenda based on local concerns or the pet peeves of its most outspoken members. Most chapters do not have an official office but rather meet at coffee houses, public libraries, or the basements of churches and synagogues.

In areas where super-heroes are common, members of NOVICE pay close attention to the role of costumed crime-fighters. That being the case, their reactions to super-beings are notoriously fickle. One day NOVICE activists might complain that heroes aren't doing enough to help the environment. The next day they might criticize vigilantes for working outside the law. Or they might gripe that super-hero costumes are too scandalous to wear in public. No matter what, something the heroes do is likely to bother someone connected with the watchdog group.

Following a major disaster or an event that could shed negative light on the area heroes, disgruntled members of NOVICE might picket the heroes' headquarters (if publicly known), carrying signs with phrases like **HERO = ZERO** or **SUPER LOSERS!** Otherwise, they might organize a demonstration in a part of town that is likely to get attention ... perhaps on the footsteps of City Hall or outside the offices of a TV news station.

A chapter of NOVICE might very well fall under the influence of a super-villain intent on manipulating the well-intentioned women and men toward self-righteous criminal acts. Under most circumstances, however, it is unlikely that anyone affiliated with NOVICE would do anything more disruptive than throw rotten tomatoes at the heroes. In the event that an encounter turns violent, stats for twenty members of NOVICE appear below. They are all Level 1.

NO.	SEX	WT	ST	EN	AG	IN	CH	HITS	POW	ACC	DAM	HTH	MOV
01.	F	120	10	10	11	10	11	3	41	-	-	1d3	31"
02.	M	210	10	8	10	11	11	3	39	-	-	1d4	28"
03.	F	110	10	10	8	12	10	3	40	-2	-	1d3	28"
04.	M	190	13	13	8	9	10	5	43	-2	-	1d6	34"
05.	F	120	9	8	10	10	10	2	37	-	-	1d3	27"
06.	M	170	11	10	11	11	10	4	43	-	-	1d4	32"
07.	F	100	10	11	13	11	11	3	45	+1	+1	1d3	34"
08.	M	120	11	10	12	10	10	4	43	+1	+1	1d4	33"
09.	F	130	11	11	10	9	9	3	41	-	-	1d4	32"
10.	M	150	9	10	11	10	10	3	40	-	-	1d4	30"
11.	F	170	8	10	9	12	10	4	39	-	-	1d4	27"
12.	M	150	11	11	11	11	11	3	44	-	-	1d4	33"
13.	F	110	10	12	10	12	11	5	44	-	-	1d4	32"
14.	M	180	12	11	10	9	10	5	42	-	-	1d6	33"
15.	F	160	10	10	10	11	10	4	41	-	-	1d4	30"
16.	M	200	10	9	9	12	9	5	40	-	-	1d4	28"
17.	F	140	10	10	10	10	10	3	40	-	-	1d4	30"
18.	M	160	8	9	11	11	9	4	39	-	-	1d3	28"
19.	F	130	12	12	11	8	10	5	43	-	-1	1d4	35"
20.	M	140	10	7	14	8	9	3	39	+1	-	1d3	31"

**Tomato:** Range = Agility. Damage = HTH divided by 2 (round up).