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# THE AMAZING SPIDER PAISING

# "JUST A GUY" NAMED JOE!"

OUR MILDLY TERRIFIC TALE OPENS IN A CROWDED NEIGHBORHOOD GYM, WHERE WE FIND A NOT-OVERLY-BRIGHT HABITUE NAMED *TOE SMITH* INDULIGING HIMSELF IN ONE OF HIS EVER-PRESENT DAY-DREAMS-

YES SIREE! NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE THINKS OF ME NOW, I'M GONNA BE THE CHAMP SOME DAY! I'M GONNA REALLY BE SOMEBODY! I KNOW IT!

GOOD THING YOU KNOW IT, SMITH! GUY'S NOBODY ELSE DOES!

THAT READW! YOU WON'T SMITH! AREA TO ME AT THE ACM! YOU WON'T SMITH! AREA LAUGH LATER! DOES!

MR. TOMKINS, I'VE ASKED YOU TO MANAGE ME FOR MONTHS! AND I'M NEVER GONNA STOP ASKIN' UNTIL YOU SAY YOU WILL! NOW, HOW ABOUT





MEXT, JOE SMITH TRIES THE WRESTLING GAME--WITH YERY SIMILAR RESULTS--/

MEX! YOU WUZNIT SUPPOSEDTA FALL OUTTA THE RING FER ANUDDER TEN MINUTES!

WOTTA BUM!

WRITTEN AND EDITED

PLOTTED AND DRAWN
BY STEVE DITKO

LETTERED, UNFETTERED BY ARTIE SIMEK







THAT BLAMED

MONSTER IN HERE!

























NO SENSE

VEEDING IT FROM

YOU-- I ASKED







YOU HAVEN'T HEARD

THE LAST OF ME,

THEN, I HAD TO DASH TO CALIFORNIA

ON BUSINESS, BEFORE

OKAY, PUT ON

SHERLOCK









SO BETTY DIDN'T ELOPE WITH HIM!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

# MASTERPIECES MORE MARY

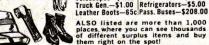






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· FIELDING RUNNING

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PAY HANDSOMELY





AND, TO PREVENT ANY DOUBLE-CROSSING, I'VE CUT THESE BILLS IN HALF,' YOU TAKE ONE HALF NOW--I'LL DELIVER THE OTHER HALF WHEN THE WEB-SLINGER HAS BEEN PUT OUT OF ACTION! TO INSURE THAT SPIDER-MAN NEVER INTERFERES WITH ME AGAIN! YOU KNOW I'LL PAY OFF, SINCE MY HALF IS WORTHLESS TO ME NOW, ANYWAY!







AND NOW, WHILE WE ALL CLEAR OUR HEADS AND TRY TO UNDER-STAND WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, LET'S QUICKLY VISIT THE CAMPUS

> LOOK, GWEN! IT'S FLASH THEMPSON AND HARRY T KNOW -- THE

DEAL!





GOWAN BACK TO

SQUARESVILLE,

YOU ROSY

REACTIONARY!

I'D BETTER

CUT OUT,

GIVE THEM

TO PROTEST

0

ABOUT

















AWRIGHT, YOU GUYS--PIPE DOWN! I WANNA TELL YA WHY I ASKED YOU ALL TO COME TO THIS MEETING!

WE SORTA SPEAK LOUDER! CAN'T BEEN THE BACK! OKAY! OKAY! NOW CLAM UP-ALL OF YOU!

A CERTAIN PARTY HAS OFFERED A REMARD TO THE MAN WHO FINALLY BEATS SPICER-MAN! A REWARD BIG ENOUGH TO PUT YOU ON EASY STREET-PERMANENTLY. WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT? SERVE MENT SPIDEY'S NO PUSH-OVER HOW BIG REWARD?



#### BEHIND THE IVY-COVERED, TIME-HALLOWED WALLS OF E. S. U ....

LOOK AT PARKER TRYING TO MAKE LIKE A
SCIENTIST! MY OLD MAN FORGOT MORE ABOUT SCIENCE
THAN HE'LL EVER KNOW!

SEEMS TO ME I READ ABOUT OSBORN'S FATHER SOMEWHERE! -BUT CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE!



#### THEN, THE MOMENT CLASSES ARE LET OUT--

I'VE GOT TO GET OFF BY MYSELF AND CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN! FEEL TOO COOPED-UP HERE!

MY HEAD IS SPINNING! I CAN'T FORGET BETTY BRANT--NED LEEDS--THAT COSTUMED MUSCLE-MAN I FOUGHT BEFORE-OR AUNT MAY,

I CAN'T HELP

FEELING SORRY FOR PETE! I WISH THEY'D ALL STOP RIDING HIM! WORK!

AND MY SCHOOL













THEN, WE'D BETTER GO DOWNTOWN AND FIGURE OUT WHAT DAMAGE YOU'VE DONE! THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP YOU OUTTA THE CLINK IS TO SETTLE UP, SOMEHOW!



I DO GOES

WRONG! I

WAS BORN A

DON'T SAY THAT, JOE! YOU'VE JUST HAD A LOTTA BAD BREAKS, THAT'S ALL! I SHOULDA BEEN CHAMP!! DO Y'HEAR -- JOE CHAMP! DO YHEAR - JOE SMITH, CHAMP! THAT'S THE WAY IT OUGHTTA BE! BUT















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WELL? HAD THE SPOTS! I DON'T SEE EM ANY-MORE! AND-IFELLA? FEEL JUST LIKE I ALWAYS USED TO--













































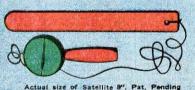
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# INCREDIBLE, INDUBITABLE, INTERMINABLE ITEMS TO STARTLE YOUR SENSES AND SOOTHE YOUR SOUL!

STEVE DITKO! SPIDER-MAN #38 and STRANGE TALES #146 (both now on sale) will mark his final appearances in any Marvel mags! (Except for the numerous reprints you'll find in our king-size issues.) Steve recently told us he was leaving, for personal reasons. After all these years, we're sorry to see him go, and we wish the talented guy success with his future en-deavors. As for his replacement, all we can say is-since someone else has to Spidey, thank Asgard that jazzy draw JOHNNY ROMITA has returned to the fold! Not only has he captured the spirit, the excitement, and the indefinable uniqueness that have made the ol' web-spinner one of literature's most sensational successes, but Johnny has actually managed to add a new dimension-the attribute of sheer artistic glamor which, we predict, will lift Spidey to still greater heights of Marvel magnificence! (And, needless to say, smilin' STAN will continue to turn out the type of stories which no one has vet been able to hold a candle to!) As for Strange, at the time of this writing, we still haven't chosen a new artist, but we've had a whole kaboodle of volunteers from among our loyal bullpeners, so just wait'n see, pussycat!

BULLETINI. We never realized the whole whacky, wonderful world was so hungry for our rapturous reprints! MARVEL COLLECTORS: ITEM CLASSICS are being gobbled up as fast as we can turn them out and the same goes for its new sister mag (or, brother mag, if you prefer), MARVEL TALES! But, here's the stop-the-presses part of our bulletin-we're making FAN-TASY MASTREPIECES a king-size mag, too—and, besides featuring our greatest and nuttiest monster tales, it will star hold your breath, now — the earliest tales of CAPTAIN AMERICA — from mighty Marvel's golden eral. The first one's on sale now — or, it was 10 net this notice appears in print, those nearly-priceless copies will last about as long as a Yancy Streets at the Thing's birthday party! And we kid thee not!

BUILLETIN! Is our collective face red! We printed an announcement recently about the fact that the famous college mag, the PELICAN, was doing a satire on us! But, we referred to it as the U.C.L.A. PELICAN, when anybody who is anybody (except US) would know that we SHOULD have said the University of California at Berkeley PELICANI (Or, is it the other way around? Hooo boy!) Anyway, forgive us, Berkeleyites, and many thanks for the kind things you had to say - things such as: "Seekyou had to say - timing such as: Seek-ers of wisdom and truth will accept noth-ing less than MARVEL COMICS - Marvel mags sell faster than Unguentine in a leper colony. They are viciously sought out, purchased, stolen, and hoarded by a rapidly-growing number of students-who have found Marvel to be the first real revolution in literature!-Sartre, Camus, Marx, and Dostoevsky [are] being crowded off intellectual bookshelves to make way for SPIDER-MAN and the HULK-" Etc. etc. etc. We're too modest (as everyone knows) to print any more! But, we promise you this, lads - we'll be sure to get the name of your ubiquitous University correct next. time - as soon as someone tells us what it really is BULLETINI: Here's one of our most sensational items yet! By the time your sparkling little eyes can devour these wondrous words. Lancer Books, one of America's top paperback book publishers, will be featuring two of our Marvel-ous characters in paperback book form! Whatever you do, don't miss "em! They're on sale now! One book features the FANTASTIC FOUR; and the other, SPIDER-MAN! How about THAT!



things perking at Marvel, we don't know what to tell you first! Here are a choice items to wit - The fabulous FAN-TASTIC FOUR introduces a brand new character in ish #52 called the Black Panther! We expect the largest mail reaction of the year after you've met him!— DAREDEVIL #s 16 and 17 have been guest-starring Spidey-so don't miss your chance to get a sneak preview of how Ring-a-ding Romita can handle of Web-Head! - Everyone's talking about the reappearance of Giant-Man in the AVENand of his name (Goliath) and his new costume (like Wow!) - Stan and Jack are going batty trying to keep track of the Greek gods whom they've intro duced in the new THOR series, along with the Norse gods! For the most "celestial" saga around, don't dare miss it! - Have you seen Bill Everett's version of the Hulk yet? It's created a heap of talk in fandom, and you'll be reading the various com-ments in our letters pages starting next month. Big Bill is one of our old-time, alltime greats, and the master still hasn't lost his titanic touch!

BULLETIN! Have you seen those little "mini-books" on sale in vending machines thruout the country? They're about the size of a postage stamp, and more fun than Dr. Doom on a pogo stick! Anyway, early in April you'll be seeing over TEN MILLION new ones — called MARVEL MILLION new ones - called MARVEL MINI-BOOKS - featuring Spidey, Thor, Captain America, the Hulk, Sgt. Fury, and Millie the Model! Watch for them - they're millions more pieces of proof that mighty Marvel is taking over the world - and you're in on the coup right along with us! BULLETIN! We haven't had much time to mention it lately, but the of MERRY MAR-VEL MARCHING SOCIETY has so many thousands of members now that we're almost running out of numbers for the flood of new applications that keep pouring in! Remember, every Merry Marcher receives a special surprise bulletin in the mail a couple of times yearly, plus all sorts of other goodies too numerous (and too ridiculous) to mention here! And, before we forget, a mighty Marvel salute to amazin' ART ROBERTS, the sensational, swingin' Dee Jay of Chicago's wild and wondrous radio station WLS, for the great job he's been doing in recruiting Merry Marchers for us among his millions of listeners! (And, a personal aside to Art from Stan: Peter Fugitive is the coolest, man!)

THE WRAP-UP! We received a letter which we feel is of such general appeal to Marvelites everywhere, that we're printing a portion of it in this space rather than on a letters page, Here goes:

Dear Stan

Before you let yourself become entangled in a bitter and senseless tirade against your major competitor. I ask you to stop and consider all aspects of your competition. True, the both of you are marketing the same product – but your treatment of the stories and problems you choose to bring up is startlingly different—and you need not resort to needling and name-calling. To see you, who at times publish such superior material, accuse the other of using your old material is certainly a comedown from when you refused to acknowledge them so competition it is we, the start of the start of

Peabody, Mass. 01960

Actually, we've never tried to single out any one competitor for criticism. By BRAND ECHH, we really mean all of them! But, that's besides the point. What we want to know is — do most of you agree with Mike? If so, we wont' mention Brand Echh again, Personally, we get a kick out of the mutual letter-col needling that goes on — but, as always, our job is to please YOU! So, clue us in, frantic ones — and we'll announce your decision as soon as il the mail is in. Till next month then, FACE FRONT — you never know when Irving Forbush may drop in! 'Nuff said!

#### THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #52: The first appearance of the sensational, spectacular Black

AVENGERS #29: Wow! Look who's back! Power Man! The Black Widow! And the Swordsman!

X-MEN #21: The secret of Lucifer, revealed at last, as the X-Men face: Dominus! DAREDEVIL #17: The wrap-up of the season's greatest fight — D.D. vs. Spidey! It's a blast!

THOR #129: Hercules! Pluto! Zeus! Odin! Thor! The Netherworld! How can we do it all for 126?

STRANGE TALES #146: Fury tackles the mystery of "Them"! Dr. Strange meets Eternity again!

SUSPENSE #79: Iron Man faces disaster! Captain America takes the Red Skull! Hood

ASTONISH #81: Sub-Mariner goes mad! As for the Hulk, he's fighting everyone in sight!

SGT. FURY #31: Captain Sawyer gets into action at last! It's a bombshell!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #3: Now giantsized! Featuring Captain America from Marvel's Golden Age!

MARVEL TALES #3: How's this for a parlay — Spider-Man! Thor! Ant-Man! And the Human Torch!

COLLECTOR'S ITEM CLASSICS #3: Merely the greatest — Fantastic Four! The Hulk! Iron Man! Dr. Strange! And—The Watcher!



Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Bill Emrick Logan, Ohio John Montague Baltimore, Md. Richard Gawaldo Corapolis, Pa. Wayne Haymes, Jr. Conway, Mo. Chan Druff Thomasville, Ga. Richard Bagnoli Mechanicircie, N. Y. Ted Rice Palo Alto, Calif. John Aricevich New Haven, Conn. Paul Crosby New York, N. Y. Michael Chisholm Homewood, III. Ralph Erickson Chicago, III. Jerry Hoskowig Pittsburgh, Pa. Lester Payne Roxbury, Mass. James Gragg Kansas City, Mo. Curt Huckaby Salinās, Cal. Jim Gray Canal Zone, Panama Joseph Gawor Chicago, III. Daniel Grillo Hudson, Mass. Brian Caldwell Jennings, La. Chuck Ward Alexandria, Va. Michael Evans New York, N. Y. Charles Edwards Little Rock, Ark. Bruce James Marysville, Cal. Richard Gerson Atlanta, Ga. Leonard Coolldge Newark, N. J. McBlain Boyle Phoenix, Ariz.

#### WE TOLD YOU WE'D HAVE A NEW AD FOR THIS ISH! THE ONLY THING WE FORGOT TO MENTION WAS THAT IT WOULD FEATURE THE SAME OL' GOODIES! AND HERE'S THE MIGHTY MARVEL MASTER-PIECE THAT'S BECOME A NATION-WIDE SENSATION -- (MEANING: (UNTIL NEXT GROOVIEST, GINCHIEST ONE OF THE GREATEST, GROOVIEST, GINCHIEST OF THE GREATEST ORDER OF THE ONLY ONES WE'VE EVER OFFERE BECAUSE GIZMOS THE ONLY ONES WE'VE EVER OFFERED! INCREDIBLE SPIDER-MAN PIN-LIP SWEAT IN LIVING COLOR.A SHIRT 6 FT. HIGH PIN-LIP OF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGH & SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: MARVEL COMICS GROUP, DEPT. P 625 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK NY. 10022 508 POSTAGE DI FACE CENO PLEASE SEND\_\_\_\_\_SPIDER-MAN PIN-UPS AT \$1.99 EACH (ADD 15 & PER PIN-UP. ANG HANDLING FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.) I HAVE NAME ADDRESS CITY-TIP \_\_ STATE SUPER-HERO STATIONERY KIT! \$ 1.00 EA



SENSATIONAL!

HULK

THE M.M.M.S. STILL WANTS YOU WHO'S THE WISE-GUY THAT'S HOLDIN' Make out check or money order for \$1.00 to: M.M.M.S. MARVEL COMICS GROUP OUT? 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022 Hi Gang! Let's face it, I'm a Marvel Madman too! Here's my hard earned buck! Rush all your nutty gizmos to ... School. College or NAME Occupation: ADDRESS STATE CITY AGE

END YOUR LETTERS TO

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR, 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan, SPIDEY #34 was fantabulous (as usual), having 50 panels of fight scenes and 53 panels of Spidey (which is more than in most issues). I hope Peter can prove to Gwen that he's not so bad, because she's really some doll. Harry is a fink! Kraven was in peak form, so have him marry is a nink! Kraven was in peak form, so have him come back again some issue, stronger than ever. By the way, in your bullpen bulletins under "Strictly Personal," you called Johnny Hayes' Mustang a "2x2." A Mustang fastback is a 2+2, you dopes! Back to Spidey: Let's see more of Betty Brant's dreams, and let's have Peter solve his problems with her or else leave her alone with no hard feelings. He could go with Cwen instead since the hard feelings. He could go with Gwen instead, since she seems to like him and would probably understand him. Keep up the good work, but try to cut down on your famous mistakes. Remember, until Harry knocks Spider-

Man out, I will remain thoroughly a Marvel maniac. Randy Barron, 124 West Linwood Kansas City, Mo.

You mean if Harry wins one single fight we'll lose you? Aw, how fickle is thy faithfulness, frantic one! As for our description of jovial Johnny's chariot, please forgive our extraordinarily inexcusable error! (Although we did spell "Mustang" correctly — and for us, that's a truly towering triumph!)

Dear Stan. Boy! Did you ever flub up in issue #34 of SPIDER-MAN! All that happens is that Spidey and Kraven hit each other a couple of times, and Spidey gets in the last blow, so he wins. Echl! You surely can do better than that. Why didn't Kraven dream up some diabolical trap for our hero, such as those magnetic handcuffs in trap for our nero, such as those magnetic maintenants in sh #151 Krayen is easily your best villain, but if you don't quit giving us stories with just a few hay-makers instead of a plot, you'll probably lose a few fans. (Not me, of course, because I couldn't breathe, eat, or sleep without Spidey.) So let's get out of this rut, huh? Spidey's sales marks may have reached their peak, but as far as I'm conversed Spidey's in the worst shump of his whole I'm concerned, Spidey's in the worst slump of his whole career. Hurry up and settle this big deal with Betty Brant, too. I'm tired of it, and I'm sure I'm not alone.

Cary Burkett, 1120 E. Pecan Angleton, Texas

Be of good cheer, brother Burkett! Just wait'll you see our brand-new, pulsatin' plot line which will start unfolding before your delightfully dazzled eyes next ish! You think our sales have hit their peak, Cary? Fie upon thee! This is only the beginning, mister! We've got gimmicks, gadgets, and guest stars coming up that'll make comic book history! (And, if we weren't reluctant to boast — hoo boy!)

Dear Stan In SPIDER-MAN #34, the cover wasn't so spectacular. In STIDER-MAN #34, the cover wash to Spectacular. But, from experience, I have learned that great stories often hide behind bad covers. And I was right again! The only fault with "The Thrill of the Hunt" was when Betty dreamed Peter was Spidey. No dreams! Only real stuff, please! I got the impression you just wanted to fill the

page. The rest was history for us Marvel readers. Give Peter one more power; let him be able to talk with spiders so he won't get so lonely after he has one of his many fights with Betty. And let's watch those nowhere old 1920's clothes on all the characters! Get cashmere sweaters on them — all except J.J.J., of course. On him you should put a straitjacket!

(No, we didn't forget the writer's name and address! Here's what happened -)

Another mighty Marvel first! Our panicky printer actually lost the signature section of the letter above, so now we don't know who wrote it! But, if the agonized author will drop us another line, identifying himself, we'll give him (or her) (— or it) full credit and a public apology a few ishes hence! However, the idea of Spidey talking to real, live spiders just doesn't send us! We're not even convinced that spiders talk to spiders!

Dear Stan.

I was looking through the San Francisco Chronicle the other day and you'll never guess what I saw! No, Russia isn't going to drop an atomic bomb on the U.S. No, Jolly Jack Kirby didn't defect to Brand Echh, and nobody else has burned up the capital since the British did! Actually, the kids at the University of California took time out from their protesting to do something worthwhile. This: "New their protesting to do something worthwhile. This: "New on campus is the Royal Order of Spider-Men, whose bible is the SPIDER-MAN comic book and whose leader, the IS the OFIDDAMAN COMIC DOOK and whose leader, the Imperial Black Widow, is Ron Gordon, a 20-year-old premed." [Wait'll Hawkeye hears about this Anyway, it goes on:] "Their slogan? Friend of all, regardless of race, cored, color, or number of legs." Since this group is in California, they just couldn't live without a demonstration so, plan was made to averaging 19 000 black without a demonstration. tion, so a plan was made to organize 12,000 black widow bon, so a pian was made to organize 12,000 back whose spiders for a crawl down Telegraph Avenue, followed by a web-in at Sproul Hall. The Spider-Men hope to get enough money together (by selling pickled webs) to send venom to anti-Communist Asian spiders. Maybe Spidey can help in that department? In the immortal words of the Chronicle's Herb Caen, "Let's all get behind these fine young people!" Irene Yono, 1692 Post St. San Francisco, Calif. 94115

A number of sharp-eyed fans also sent us a copy of that clipping from the Chronicle, Irene honey - and we got a real kick out of it. In fact, what with the popularity of expressions like "sit-in," "stand-in," "sleep-in," etc., the newie which those cavortin college kids have coined — "web-in" — may just take hold and become a part of our fast-growing, flip-type 'in' lingo! After all, "Nuff said" has become almost as famous these days as J. Jonah Jameson's sunshine smile!

Dear Stan. Just thought I'd drop a line to let you guys know we're reading you loud and clear over here in Munich, Germany - home of the University of Maryland, European Division. The gal at the newsstand gets a big charge from seeing college sophs pickin' up comics, so keep up the

good work, and we'll keep the little old lady happy. If you ever get an urge to hold a popularity contest, the guys over here vote hands down for Spidey. Keep up the business he's giving to his gal; we lady-killers eat that stuff up. We're all psychology majors and we enjoy trying to figure out old Web-head. He's one character you guys have that really strikes home; eyeryone else is pushing their old-age benefits while Spidey carries the load for today's generation. His problems are, more or less, what we get today, and seeing how he overcomes them not only gives us an incentive, but allows the older generation as well to realize that the teenager of today has got a lot as wen to realize that the centagen today, and needs to be given an opportunity to show what he's really made of. Don't ever let Spidey go, for, as our martyred President once said, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

Richard K. von Fossen, Box 345B

University of Maryland, Munich, Germany, Campus APO New York 09407

We'll buy that, Dick! And don't worry, lad — we never intend to let ol' Spidey go! It would be like losing a member of the family! Of course, we'll admit that very few families have wall-climbers in 'em, but what the hey - we're not snobs!

Boy, do I have you guys over a barrel! As I eagerly studied through every word and panel of your marvel-ous SPIDER-MAN #34, I came across an interesting word: "Kraven." I thought and I pondered over it. Is this the "Kraven." I thought and I pondered over it. Is this the guy's first or last name? Or is it the name of some savage beast or bird? Favoring the latter, I took my trusty Webster's in hand and turned to the letter "k." I looked under words beginning with "kra." Kraal, kraft, kraken, krater, K-ration, and kraut. No "Kraven." So, I decided to look under "c," figuring you guys had changed the spelling of a real word. Lo and behold there it was: "craven — adj. (1) defeated: vanquished. (2) lacking courage: cowardly." (1) defeated; vanquished. (2) lacking courage; cowardly. This is the name you picked for a man who wrestles gorillas and lions with his bare hands? Sheesh! Besides that slight discrepancy, I thought that SPIDEY #34 was stu-pendous. I think you have a great character in Spider-Man. Would you believe it if I told you that this is only the second time I've ever written to a comic mag?
Eric Beringer, 3709 Brierwood Dr.

Erie, Pa.

We believe it, Eric, we believe it! But, you've posed a far greater problem for us now! Don't keep us in suspense for another minute, fella - tell us, before we have nervous prostration -- which mag did you



SPIDER-MAN #34 was great! The cover was fab! That white on it was certainly a switch. The story was excellent, and I was glad to see more of Kraven. Also, I'd-like to compliment everyone at the bullpen for the fine work on FANTASY MASTERPIECES. "I Became a Human Robot" was the best one, in my opinion, and "Those Who Change was very clever. The artwork on all of them was, as usual, magnificent. I just don't know how you do it, Stan. You're absolutely fantastic! Love ya!

Marilyn Morgan, 826 Central Ave. Johnstown, Pa.

It's mutual, pussyeat! But if you liked FANTASY MASTERPIECES before, wait'll you see it now starring the original tales of Captain America! (Have you noticed how we never resort to sneaky plugs in our liltin' letters pages?)

Dear Stan,
I'd like to congratulate you on the job you're doing with Spider-Man. I must admit this guy is a pretty tough nut to crack. I used to be a great lover of the Brand X

war comics, but lately I've found myself buying nothing war comes, our latery two found mysel buying norming but SPIDER-MAN. I've read a few earlier issues, but your issue #30, "Man on a Rampage," has our whole company in an uproar. All of us here in Korea, from privates like myself to our C.O., dig it. I know other people besides us army foes feel the same way. Other than that, you guys are great and you have the I Corps of the 8th Army backing you. Keep up the good work, troop! Pvt. R. Stewart RA 15735215

Co. D, 51st Sig. Bn. (C) APO San Francisco, Calif. 96358

We never disobey a direct command, soldier! So rest we never disoney a direct command, soldier: 30 rest assured that we'll not only keep up the good work, but we'll do our web-slingin' best to top it! And, if you think that we're great — there aren't enough words available to tell you just how great we think that you and all your buddies in all the services really are! If our feeble artistic efforts can help brighten just a few minutes of your day, we consider ouselves the luckiest guys around!

Dear Stan.

Being neither a left-wing liberal, a right-wing reactionary, or even a maudlin middle-of-the-road moderate (though I have sympathies with all three), I feel as qualified as anyone to reply to Art Raveson. Mr. Raveson wants Spidey to become allied with the forces of the left. This idea would not be wholly without merit for Mr. Raveson, but not for Peter Parker. It is not the purpose of a superhere to attempt to indoctrinate readers with any specific political credo. If you succeed in presenting democracy as superior to tyranny, courage to cowardice, and brother-hood to bigotry, then you will have accomplished all that can be expected in the political and social realms. Any other literary merit to be found in Marvel mags (and there's an abundance of it) must be psychological and anthropological. I could offer many examples of the latter two points (such as Captain America's search for identity, the unreasoning fear exhibited toward the Hulk, etc.), but I think this letter is long enough already. So, till next time, may the will of Asgard ever be like with thine.

H. Doyle Abernathy, 1035 Merriwether St. Cape Girardeau, Mo. 63701

Thanks, H.!We kinda agree with you. We try to keep the moral tone and the entertainment value of our mags as high as possible. But, when it come to political philosophies, we figure that's best left to those who specialize in that area. (Like honest Irving Forbush!) Dear Stan,

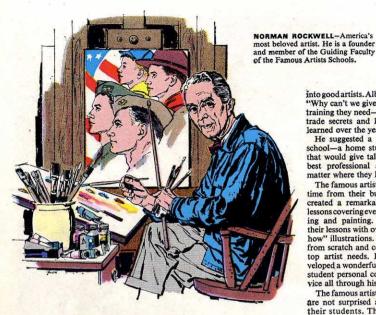
Last night I was looking through some of my old Marvel masterpieces, including SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #2. I turned on my radio and got settled to re-read it for the 33rd time. Suddenly, just as Spidey ducked under the blast from Dr. Doom's finger gun, I heard a dedication being made to all the Merry Marvel Marchers of the U.S.A. This dedication was made by a fellow Marcher over station WDRC in Hartford. So I say, 3% cheers for WDRC, the MMMS, and Spidey! I would also like to compliment you on your last few issues of SPIDER-MAN; they were just grrreat, as usual. I liked the way Peter Parker became a little rougher toward J.J.J. In closing, I'd just like to say, "Keep your web dry!" Bob Peltz, 301 Barbara Rd. Middletown, Conn.

Not us, Bobby! We have the latest model — it's a pleatless, no-press, wash-and-wear web-suit. And, as soon as we can get away from those determined-looking guys in the white jackets who've been chasing us, we'll tell you more about it!

NEXT ISH: The most eagerly-awaited event in a spider's age! The return of the Green Goblin! But, even more than that - the start of a new era in Spiderdom! Don't dare miss this landmark issue which features a new hand at the artistic tiller, as jazzy Johnny Romita takes over the illustrating chores, while our loyable leader. smilin' Stan, prepares to write the greatest yarns of his award-winning career! Be sure to tie a web around your claw so you won't forget - SPIDEY #39 - the start of another magnificent Marvel march to greatness — and we want you with us all the way! -- Someone's gotta carry the banner!







#### "We're looking for people who like to draw"

says NORMAN ROCKWELL

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

#### Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone-has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist -last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artistwith a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

#### A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists-men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos-met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned

#### FOUNDING FACULTY OF FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOLS

NORMAN ROCKWELL FRED LUDEKENS JON WHITCOMB BEN STAHL AL PARKER ROBERT FAWCETT STEVAN DOHANDS AUSTIN BRIGGS GEORGE GIUSTI HAROLD VON SCHMIDT PETER HELCK ALBERT DORNE

into good artists. Albert Dorne asked. "Why can't we give these people the training they need-including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school-a home study art schoolthat would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here'show" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students-not geniuses-who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

#### **Famous Artists Talent Test**

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test -or offer other evidence of art talent -may enroll in the School, But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

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