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#333

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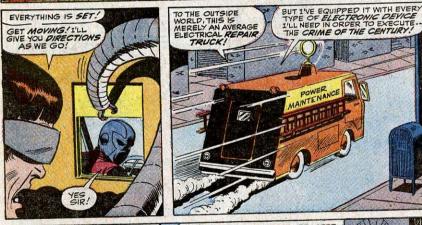
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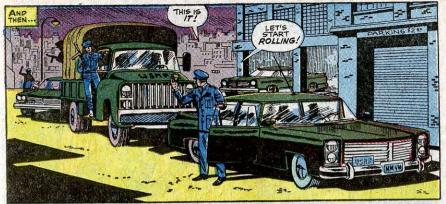
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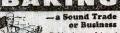
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1924

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decals to dress up your bike, models, luggage, etc. BIKE DECALS BOX 1225-MC . NEWARK I, N. J MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

# INSTANT INFO, INSANELY INSPIRED BY IRRELEVANT ITEMS OF INCREDIBLE INCONSEQUENCE!

ITEM! All of Marveldom assembled sends best wishes to Jolly JACK and ROZ KIRBY on their 25th wedding anniversary! We're beginnin' to suspect that these two have a good thing going!

ITEMI We still don't know the exact date, but as we write these wondrous words, the adorable ABC Network has scheduled a full hour of Marvelmania for Saturday mornings. It'll open with 30 minutes of FANTASTIC FOUR, followed by another 30 minutes of SPIDER-MANI (And as soon as Honest Ing gets his own show, then you'll know we've really taken over the world!) Anyway, whether it sends you or sinky you, be sure to drop a line to the President of ABC, at 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York City, and let him know that the eyes of all True Believers are upon him!





ITEM: How's this for a sensation? We've plumb run out of Tales of Asgard in THOR, natch!) so we're replacing that time-honored feature with another little doors that'll really rock the roost! Starting now we're highting a 5-page featurest starring – hold on, now – none other than the incomparable INHUMANS! If you make a single one, you'll shake our confidence in ourselves, so hang in there, buth?

ITEMI Dandy DAN ADKINS (Dr. Strange and Sub-Mariner) and Jaunty JIM STRR-ANKO (Nick Füry, Agent of Shield) have become the newest darlings of Marvel fandom! Together with our other two latest luminaries, Merry MARIE SEVERIN TOH Hulk and Not Brand Echh) and Big JOHN BUSCMA (The Avengers), they're getting almost as much rave mail as FABULOUS FLO and JOLLY SOLLY put together! That oughtta prove something! (And as soon as we figure out what it is, we'll clue you in!)

ITEMI Just as we promised, we're gonna give you various titles which all you Keepers of the Faith may use when signing your names, in order to allow you enough time to memorize them, we'll give you one per month, until the list is complete. And so, we hereby present the first, officially-approved Marvel monicker, to be used by any frenzied fan who buys at least three Marvel titles per month, with unfalling devotion — you, O hallowed hero, have now attained the first rung of the towering ladder of Marveldoml You are now — automatically, and irrevocably — an R.F.O. — a Real Frantic Onel And, like Abu Ben Adam, may your tribe increase!

# Let's meet 26 more St. Marys, Pa. M.M.M.S. members! John Moran Woodlynne, N. J.

Rudy McGee Santa Cruz, Calif. Hendrick Rojas Dearborn, Mich. St. Marys, Pa.

John Moran

Woodlynne, N. J.
Gary Mason
French Forest, Australia
Richard Randall

ITEM! We've another new feature premiering this month — in X-MEN! In answer to public demand (Bernard Public, our mailman!) we're presenting a 5-pager devoted to the hitherto secret Origins of the X-Men! No true mutant-lover will dare to miss it!

ITEM! We'll award a genuine, non-tarnish no-prize to the first dozen devotees who can guess the off-beat reason why we had to raise the membership price for joining the M.M.M.S. back to one dollar again Clue—It's not the obvious reason that you'd be apt to expect!

ITEM Have you seen the swingin' surprise awaiting you in the current issue of NOT BRAND ECHH? Nothing sensational — merely the one little feature that the whole human race has been holding its breath for! At long last, for the first time anywhere, we're peerlessly presenting the agonizin' adventures of — FORBUSH-MAN! Need we say more?

ITEMI And how's this for the most exciting combo of the sesson—? Darlin' DICK AY-ERS is back at the pencilling end of SGT. FURY — with none other than JOHNNY (Set'em-up) SEVERIN handling the inking chores! We have a hunch that you'll call our team-up of these two towering talents the smartest move since Aunt Petunia ducked out of Alcatraz!

#### STAN'S SOAPBOXI

The mail hasn't stopped pouring in, asking for our comments about the ever-continuing Marvel-Brand Echh rivalry! It seems that some of our less-than-redoubtable rivals are still taking pot-shots at us on the pages of their mags, and our loyal legion of letter-writers has been demanding to know what action we're gonna take. we're sorry to disappoint the hawks among you, but we really don't feel any action is warranted. Actually, they're not competition! You see, they obvi-ously aim for a totally different type of reader than we do. We don't cater to any special age group, but we do cater a special intellectual level. Our rollickin' readers, no matter what their age, have proven to be bright, imaginative, informal, and sophisticated! So we don't mind when some of our roguish rivals claim to outsell us. (Although they never bother to mention that they PUBLISH more mags than wel) After all, everyone knows there's less of OUR type of people than of theirs! So, them continue catering to the bubblegum brigade - and more power to 'em.
The public needs SOME sort of pablum till it's grown up to Marvell 'Nuff said?



Mark Ramion
Michigan City, Ind.
Bill Nix
Sacramento, Calif.
Eric Meyer
New York, N. Y.
Tommy Robinson
Alta. Can.

Barbi Rosenel Brooklyn, N. Y. Robert Meek Forest Park, III. Mike Manire Memphis, Tenn. Jimmy Manire Memphis. Tenn.

David Laughlin Wilmington, Del. Carl Riccardi Brooklyn, N. Y. James Meek Forest Park, III. Stephen Matters Bronx, N. Y.

Sheldon Oppenheim
Bronx, N. Y.
Robert Mestor
Norwalk, Conn.
Charles Riley
Porte, Ind.
Michael Roderick
Dartmouth, Mass.

Mike Meubauer Minot, N. D. John Richard Russelville, Ky. Nick Moore Portland, Ore. Renton McEvoy Sydney, Australia

#### THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now! INOT BRAND ECHH #5: The greatest isyet Featuring the epic battles of the Bulk vs. the Thung, the Revengers vs. Charlie America, and — the sensation of the season—introducing: the frantic Forbush-Man!

FANTASTIC FOUR #69: Never has the super-strong Thing been so powerful; so destructive; so completely, murderously out of controll Spurred on by our manlacal mystery villain, he attempts to crush the FF itself IV's dynamite!

AVENGERS #46: Inside the Anthill Waits
Death! And a shrunken Goliath and
Wasp are the pair of ever-lovin' assemblers
that it's waiting for — while Cap and Pietro
take on a malevolent menace known only
as ... the Whirlwind! It's a blast!

X-MEN #38: The world's most unusual fighting team have only seconds left in which to save the earth from the horrors of World War III — and the clutches of the Mutant-Master! Also, don't miss the start of a sensational new series — "The Origins of the X-Men!"

DAREDEVIL #34: The action takes place at Expo '67, as DD tears into the biudgeoning Beetle in one of the most block-busting battles yet! It's of Hornhead at his fighting best — and wait'll you see the breathtaking finale!

THOR #146: This is the one you've been demanding! It's Thor, as you've rarely seen him, surrounded by the most crafty, colorful, conniving crowd of craven crooks—gets ting himself into a deadly dilemma which is more than his super-strength can handle! SUSPENSE #96: How can Iron Man defeat a foe whose slightest touch can turn him to helpless stone? You'll never expect the startling finish! As for Captain America—he learns what it's like to be reborn!

ASTONISH #98: Namor's fabled Atlantis is besleged by the forces of the pernicious Plunderer — while the hoodwinked Hulk is about to make the greatest mistake of his life, in the service of the Lord of the Living Lightning!

STRANGE TALES #163: Everybody's favorite Director of SHEDL closes in on the cataclysmic climax to his death-struggle with the Yellow Claw — while Doc Strange is forced to team up with the nefarious Nebulos to save earth from the Living Tribunal! This one's a real mind-snapper! SGT. FURY #48: The blockbustin Bitz Squad returns to make a devastating attack on the Howlers' home base in Britain! Yours said.

MARYEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #12: The FF, the Hulk, Iron Man and Doc Strange in some of their most agonizing adventures of all—In this, the Marvel Age of Comics! Color this one groovesville!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #11: The best of three dynamic decades! Cap and Torchy from the 40's—Subby and a truly different super-hero from the 50's— and a far-out fantasy tale for good measure!

MARVEL TALES #11: The first classic team-up (or was it a bettle royal?) of Spidey and DD — plus Thor, Wasple, and the ever-torpid Torch! More majestic milestones on the Marvel March to Greatness!

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*





CITY.



# ERS W

ZIP

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO THE MARYEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR, 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10622

Dear Stan and John,

Whatever happened to buttons? In issue #52 both good ol' J.J.J. and Fred Foswell are seen without buttons on their shirts. How do they keep them closed? At first I figured that Jonah had flexed his muscles, but that was a little hard to believe. Then I finally figured it out, J.J. and Foswell must have the same forgetful tailor, You know, the one who forgets to buy buttons and has to use transparent tape to hold the shirts together. Besides this, the story was great. Please send my no-prize C.O.D. Charles Vogel, 180 Aubuchon

Florissant, Mo. 63031

It's on the way by parcel no-post, Charlie. We're grateful to thee for bringing so monumental an oversight to our attention, tiger - or, at least Stan is grateful. We're not so sure about Jazzy Johnny. We've got him drawing inside a tailor shop this week - to clue him in on buttons!

Dear Stan and John,

In response to one fan's letter in issue #52, I would like to say a few words. I agree that Spider-Man's old format was good, but in my opinion the new one is better. After all, everybody's got to get out of a slump sometimes. Taking out Flash and increasing Jameson's hatred wasn't such a good idea. All Flash did was tease and insult, but Jameson, being a man with a lot of influence, can do greater damage to Spidey's career. Everyone, even dull, drab Peter Parker, has to make some friends eventually. The motorcycle is an advantage as he can keep his costume there. Extra web fluid, cameras, and such can be kept handily. Don't give him nothing but worries . . . yet don't make him the life of the party. Those who are interested in preserving their mags can do this – if you have two or more, put glue on the back edge of one, then place the other under it, wait a few more minutes, and then glue the two or more in a folder. Number and name it and place Stanley Harrington, Rt. #1 it on your book shelf. Bowden, Ga.

Place it in a book shelf?? Stan ol' man, you're talking about a Marvel mag! You mean you don't keep yours in a vault? Cheee! Some of our frantic ones sure live dangerously! Anyhow, thanks for the info, lad - all of Marveldom is ever in thy debt!

Dear Stan and John,

Since I'm renewing my subscription to Spidey, I decided to make a comment on a statement you made in issue #52. You said that the reason Spidey's web didn't shoot out when he made a fist was because he had to touch it twice. Well, as usual, you're wrong. (Beats me how you can know so little about your own mags.) If you will look back to issue #2, you will see that his web-shooter has a safety catch which remains off until his hand gets into the correct position for the shot – an unnatural position making it almost impossible to do accidentally. How about a no-prize for saving your skins?

Grady Richardson, 780 Manor St. Houston, Tex. 77015

Saving 'em? It sounds to us as though you just pelted them, Grady boy! Anyway, if we can find a spare no-prize floating around, and if we can raise the price of the postage, we'll take a vote on it during our next meeting of the Bullpen Security Council, Although, in our own dizzy defense, may we say that we did remember Spidey's original web-shooter set-up, but the ol' wall-crawler himself changed it when it misfired once or twice! (That's the best part of being in our shoes -how can you argue these facts with us when we're the ones who make 'em up?)

Dear Stan and John,
I agree completely with another fan's letter in issue #52
— I think Peter Parker definitely should go back to being the tragically lonely, studious, worried person he used to be. It is ridiculous to see what used to be a shy, quiet young man riding around New York on a motorcycle! I think it would have been wiser to leave him with his Aunt May since this was an excellent source of problems and worries for him. And it's these problems and worries that make Spider-Man the unique character that he is. This "apartment of his own" bit is not at all right for Pete's personality. Neither are these flip slang remarks. Let's face if — basically, Peter is a square. But you're trying to make him so hip and so popular that it's laughable. When he has so many friends and dates, it gives the reader a feeling of euphoria which is all wrong for the magazine. It was the werry and cliff-hanger sort of thing that made Spidey enjoyable. Please plague him by personal and public prob-lems again! Bring back the high standards, honor, and dignity which made him great – please! F. S.: Issue #52 –
"To Die A Hero" was one of the best efforts you've made
yet!!
Kristi Turnquist, 1633 S.E. 55th
Portland, Ore.

Thanks, Kris — we needed that — especially after the way you put us down all through your letter. But the one thing we really can't understand is why we're so often urged to give Petey as many problems as he used to have. We kinda thought the poor guy has more than ever now! Yknow, just the fact that he owns a motorcycle doesn't mean he hasn't a worry in the world! (Or does it? Maybe, a set of wheels is the universal fix-it-all and we never even knew it!)

Dear Stan and John,

As a recent but avid follower of your magazines, in par-ticular SPIDER-MAN and F.F., I've never written before but feel moved to do so by the excellence of your recent efforts. If some of my stateside friends and ex-college buddies knew that I was writing a fan letter, they'd probably think that I had suffered combat fatigue, I first started glancing over your comics after reading about them in "Esquire" By the time my unit left for Viet Nam I was hooked, and since the P.X. supply is undependable, I now have my sister supply me with monthly packages of my favorites. I've formed some pretty strong opinions about the way you do things. First, it's great! Kirby's and Romita's art-work is marvel-ous. I especially liked Jack's efforts in THOR #142. The artwork seems to have improved immensely since 1984 – maybe it's just more attention to detail. From what I've seen, the Spider-Man and Peter Parker of today far outdo the "old" pair. I like Petey just the way he is. As for M.J. and Gwen, I hope Petey never decides on either of them, because that way, they'll both be around for us to feast our eyes on! Now for the main point in this letter — a suggestion, or more of a request. You seem to be sensitive to the problems of our world and are trying to help solve them, at times, in your mags. In view of this, why don't you show Negro policemen? Your books are always full of cops doing their best, but they're always white. Surely you're aware that the presence of more Negro policemen would go a long way toward solv-ing some of the unrest in our cities today. So how about helping the public get used to the idea? It would also add to the realism of your stories. (I'm not colored myself, by the way.) Keep up the good work. I'll be a fan till Peter Parker and Johnny Storm are drafted

SP/4 Martin Rudow, US 56421927, H.H. Co. 3/47, 9th Inf. Div.

APO, San Francisco, Cal. 96372

Glad to hear it, Marty! We need all the fans we can beg, borrow, or inherit! But we have shown Negro policemen in the past, soldier—although we can't remember in which issues they appeared. So, how about a no-prize or two for the first True Believers who can help remind us in which mags we've presented Negro officers? Like we always say, one of the best things about Marvel Madmen is that they usually end up doing our work for us. bless 'em'.

Dear Stan and John, SPIDER-MAN #52 was truly a Marvel Masterwork, as you predicted it would be in issue #51. Everything was perfect - except . . . ! On page 5 Spidey surrounded J.J.J. and himself with a large amount of webbing. This webbing was shaped in such a way that no water could seep through it. Since Jameson was fastened to the floor, there must have been some water in the web-bubble, for the water was up to his chin. Yet, on page 6, panel 4, Spidey breaks through the webbing and no water is shown coming out of the web-bubble. Now you may say that the water seeped out through the webbing, but if this was so, the bubble couldn't have kept the water out while the chamber was being flooded! Enough for the story. Peter Parker is a representation of the modern teenager of this age, not of some past age. If Peter had remained the same friendless foul-up of old, he wouldn't fit in with his time. We can easily see ourselves through Pete, acting the way he does now. One more note - as I was browsing through my old Spidey mags, I came across #44 where the gang at the Silver Spoon discusses who will take Flash's place on the football team while he is drafted. I think it would be interesting to see Pete go out for some sport, not necessarily football. Thanks for the great reading you provide and keep up the good work.

Robert Pavliga, 1645 E. 50th St. Chicago, Ill. 60615

We'll try, Bob! But tell us one thing, huh?When is poor, pooped-out Petey ever gonna find time to go out for any sport? Due to the over-abundance of supervillains in Marveldom these days, the only sport Spidey seems likely to indulge in is — the fifty-yard pante?

Dear Monsieur.

I'm a reader of the Marvel Comics Group. But I cannot follow completely their stories, because I can't get all their numbers. I live in Viet Nam at Saigon. You must know that your books are in great demand in our town, especially this kind of story. I get them from Americans who are my parents' friends. Those Americans are civil men, and my father a doctor/dentist. Sometines they can get for me only one. But I want to follow continually the adventures. My favorite is Spidey. I like him very much. He's the personnage of my ideal. I like where he fights against the Lizard man and where he is defeated. I don't know how this dynamic duel ends. I want to possess all his stories. I think you can help me resolve this problem. I thank you first and wait for your answer.

Pham Thai Thu, 151/7 Tu-Do Street

Pham Thai Thu, 151/7 Tu-Do Street Saigon, Sud-Vietnam (South Viet Nam)

We'll try to answer you in the best way possible, Pham — by sending you some of the issues you've missed. We're sorry our mags are so hard to obtain in Saigon, faithful one — but we're guessing the citizenry might just have a few other, even more important matters on their minds! At any rate, it was great hearing from you, pal — and we'll all be hangin' loose till you write again!

Dear Stan and John,

A friend of mine informed me that he was going to speak out against the webbing that Spidey leaves around after a fight. This guy claims that Spidey's webbing destreys birds, and my friend threatens to picket you unless a change occurs. But I hasten to leap to your defensel What kind of birds live in cities? Pigeons, Right? According to "U. S. News & World Report", the city of New York has spent thousands of dollars trying to eradicate some of these trouble-making "feathered friends". Spidey, by leaving his webbing around, exposes a trap for these birds, During the time the pigeons are entangled, they have the opportunity to ponder city life, and as such, no doubt will become disillusioned with the city and will leave for the country to remain there forever. So, by leaving his webbing around, Spidey helps both the city and the birds, thus proving himself a public servant once again. Even Jolly Jonah couldn't deny that! Don't you think I deserve a ne-prize for refuting this argument promptly, thereby sparing you untold stress and mental strain?

Kevin Hancer, 8907 Beard Ave. Bloomington, Minn. 55431

Bey! We give away these no-prizes just like they're nothing, eh Kev? However, yours is on its way, hero! And, since it behooves us to make some sort of comment on your sagacious soliloquy, we think we may safely say it was for the birds!

#### हिल्ला वर्ग विवास है।

NEXT ISH: Here it comes — the yarn you never expected to see! A bewildered, battered Spidey, fighting on the side of demoniac Dac Ock! If you think our web-spinnin' wonder has had his share of troubles before, forget it! His previous problems have been a vertrable pictic compared to the disastrous dilemma awaiting him in SPI-DER-MAN#36! So be here, buttercup — Spidey needs all the help he can get!



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# "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 artist with 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 DOHANOS AUSTIN BRIGGS
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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 school—that 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 ant 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

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