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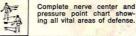
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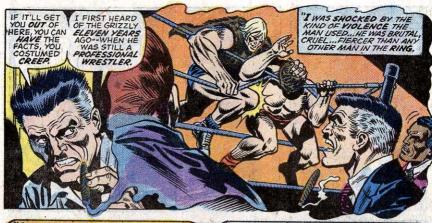






































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The problem with SPIDEY, as I see it, is that there are too many loose ends left dangling that should be tied up. But then, I'm what you might call a completist freak in that respect. Also, it would be a pleasure to see some of the older, less-exposed villains from bygone days return to hassle Spider-man. Is that too much to ask?

Boogie!

Harold Aberdeen Harvey 333 Sorsar Circle Cartholl, MN 55444

"Is that too much to ask," the man asks, and we can only answer with unequivocal honesty: No. Why-in the very next issue-you will see the long-awaited return of the mildly-menacing Mysterio, and as if that isn't enough. Gerry admonishes you to watch upcoming issues very carefully for one of the biggest events ever to grace these amazing pages. We guarantee it'll be the A-1 first-class surprise story of the year!

Sisters & brothers.

In the lettercol of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #137. Charles Hoffman raises the question of Peter Parker's continued presence in college. I would support his graduating in the near future.

It is true that part of the special appeal of Spider-man has been his youth, first as a high-school student and now as a college student. He remains fairly unique in the Marvel universe, and I think that you could expand on the idea of youthfulness, in your creation of new characters.

However, an even more important part of Spdiey's characterization is the concept of continuity, a concept which is central to the whole Marvel universe. There is a limit to how much slower it can proceed than time does for us. I think Spider-man has reached that limit.

> Denvs Howard 3087 SE Ankeny #6 Portland, OR. 97214

Even though Peter Parker has been in college for nine years, it's not too late to save him from being a twentyvear-old for the rest of time. Basically, Peter has grown up in the sixties, and thus is a product of those years, making him different from people who are products of the fifties or forties or thirties or seventies. People of different generations, by virtue of having basically different atmospheres in which to grow up, and varied experiences, will tend to see things in different ways. This is what leads to generation gaps. The influence of the particular years that Peter Parker

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spent in high school and college are an important part of ty-two, so please stop referring to him as a "teenager." his character and will be reflected in the ways he will act and the attitudes that he will hold for the rest of his life,

If you allow Peter to remain the same age forever, he will be forced to become a product of all generations, a conglomeration of experiences and feelings that belong to several different ages, a college student in the year 2000 who remembers doing the Twist in high school.

Let Spider-man age.



Dear Bullpen.

A few months back, in the FANTASTIC FOUR, you showed Wyatt Wingfoot graduating from college. Longtime Marvel readers will remember that Johnny Storm and Wyatt were roommates together during Johnny's one-and-only year of college.

What's all this got to do with Spider-man? Well, Johnny Storm and Peter Parker graduated from high school at the same time, and entered college the same year. Since Peter Parker and Wyatt Wingfoot both started college the same year, they should both graduate at the same time, right? And since Wyatt has graduated, Peter should be graduating too, right?

Incidentally, if Pete is a junior or senior in college, he should be about twenty-one be about twenty-one or twen-

Richard E. Robinson, B.S.

35 MMS - PSC Box 3036 George AFB, CA 92392.

Dear Spidey People:

To age or not to age. That is the question. Here is my answer: Let Parker stay in college a few more years.

He should, however-sooner or later-die.

The Lawgiver Ape City, CA

Dear Friends

Let Peter Parker graduate. Then you'll have a ball trying to decide what he can do-I mean, if it takes him nine years to graduate, it'll be 2001 before he gets a regular job!

> Edward Rigdon 605 Florence Street Dothan, AL 36301

Do we detect the tiniest trace of facetiousness in some of these letters, or is our widely-acclaimed imagination finally getting the best of us? Seriously, though, folks-while opinions are still pouring in-it looks as if the vast majority of you seem to prefer giving Petey a few more months in college, and then moving him on to graduate school or out into the stream of adult life. Of course, all the votes aren't in yet, so you still have time to join the debate.

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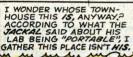
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Even as I sagaciously scribble these imperishable words, this summer's much-publicized Comic Art Convention is slowly drawing to a close here in New York. Boy, how I wish you could have all been here to toast our own Roy Thomas as he was co-guest of honor at a special, luminarycould have heard and applauded Johnny Romita, Marie Severin, Gil Kane, and a host of other Bullpen big-timers who lent their time and talents to some of the zinglest panel discussions and demonstrations in the place! Those of you who com-prise the riotous ranks of Foomdom, be sure to watch for your next ish of Foom which will clue you in on most of the fun and frivolity of the biggest Comic Art Con of all. As for the rest of the lustrous legions of Marveldom -Onward!

I know you'll find this hard to believe, but even yours truly can make a mistake! In the past few issues, no matter how many times I mentioned the great new ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS, the block-buster book which features the entire early history of your all-time favorites-no matter how many times I mentioned that you'll have the unedited origin stories, plus more recent yarns, plus page after page of straight-from-theshoulder secrets of who did what, and how we did it-I still forgot to mention one of the most important things of all-we're also reproducing the actual cover of each magazine in which the origin stories appeared, thus making THE ORIGINS OF MAR-VEL COMICS the most complete history of Marvel's golden age ever pubtished! Okay, now that I told you, the cosmos shall not crumble; the galaxy still stands!

Oops! One final word. I still can't give you all the details about our upcoming Spider-Man movie because everything was held up for a while due to the summer vacations. But, while you're breathlessly waiting, remember that the ol' wall-crawler can be seen, effective with their new series starting in October, on the world-farmous Electric Company TV show. How's that for an appetite-whetter, Charlie?

So, till next time, hang loose, face front, think Marvel, and hey-why not take a troll to dinner?

Excelsion!



ITEM! Remember how we promised you the latest scoop on our mighty Marvel softball team? Well, the other day the Marvel Comics (as some anonymous wag christened our Bullpen batters) took on the whole cockamamey staff of the Greenwich Village Voice, one of New York's best-known hewspapers. We won't exactly tell you who won—but let's just say that our new team motto is, "Wait'll next year!" 'Nuff said?

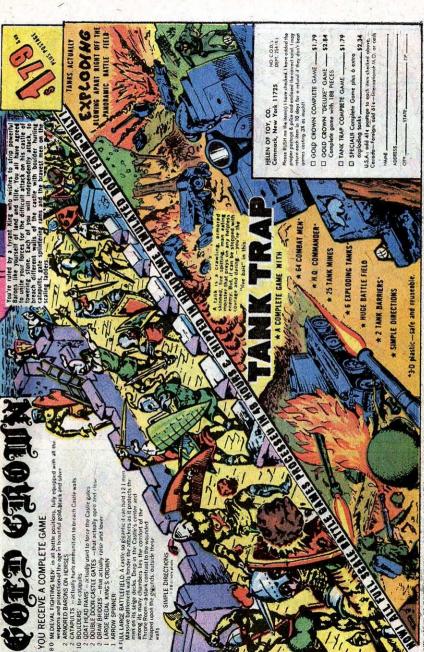
ITEM! Even as we speak, a couple of new Marvel goodies are going on sale. wherever magazines are displayed. One of the first full-size issue of our great new IRON FIST mag (not to be confused with the Living Weapon's appearances in MARVEL PREMIERE). We had to delay this one an entire month in order to do it just right-but we think you'll figure it was worth the wait! Our second smash is the first issue of MARVEL PREVIEWa one-dollar wonder which will showcase a fabulous new feature each and every ish! Our maiden voyage: MAN-GODS FROM BEYOND THE STARS! And if this stunning science-fiction tale of earth's first alien visitors doesn't knock Von Daiken and company right out of their chariots, then we're taking the first flying saucer out of here!

ITEM! Say hello to Live-It-Up LEN WEINF Huh? You say he's already been piped aboard the Marvel ark? Well, it's true you've been thrilling in recent months to his much-acclaimed scripting on THE HULK and other Marvel biggies, and that he's currently beginning a stint on no less than the FANTASTIC FOUR itself. But now, due to the press of editorial work, STAN and ROY have hired him to become Associate Editor of our whole color-comics line as well—because

Len's already known and respected as one of the foremost writers in the field —because he's a sterling fellow and a hard worker—and mainly because he's darn near the only guy this side of liv Forbush who knows the hectic history of all our far-out super-stars backward, forwards, and then some! Keep 'em flyin', Len—while Stan and Roy prepare to unleash still further wonderment upon a breathlessly waiting world!

MARVELOUS MARVEL MINI-ITEMS! A hurried round of thanks to Judo JIM STARLIN, who took time off from a topsecret new mag he's preparing in order to pencil the latest full-length tale in GIANT-SIZE DEFENDERS, just when we needed him the most! And he did it beautifully-so what else is new? . You know one of the hardest tasks around Maryel these days? It's finding just the right artist (with the right amount of time) to do MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE! Reason: Not everybody can draw the everlovin', blue-eyed Thing just the way that nature (and Stan Lee) intended! If you've any ideas on the subject-and who doesn't?-please pass 'em along to Ye Editor, huh? . A final word: For those of you who've told us you can't always find our 75¢ and \$1 mags on your newsstands, and thus have missed out on some of the gleeful goodies we've been offering for-sale-by-mail in recent months, we've tossed in a full-page mail-order section this issue, in lieu of the usual Bullpen Bonus Page. Let us know if you'd rather see more such shop-by-mail segments in the future, or if you'd prefer instead the latest notes and news on our way-out writers and artists instead, okay? Till next time-be good to each other, okay?





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EVERY PAGE A GIANT-SIZED 10" X 14"

ABLOCK-BUSTING 100 PAGES OF THE RE'S MOST

SPECTACULAR ADVENTURES!

SOUL-SEARING STORIES BY STAN LEE! ACTION-PACKED ART BY JACK KIRBY!

FEATURING THE FAMILIES MOST FEARSOME FOES:

DOCTOR DOOMS JUD-MARINERS GALACTICA!

NOT TO MENTION THE
IRREPRESSIBLY
INCREDIBLE

ALL THIS AND MORE WILL BE YOURS, FAITHFUL ONES, WHEN YOU GRAB THIS CATACLYSMIC ISSUE— WHEREVER MAGAZINES ARE DISPLAYED!

ON SALE SEPT. 17TH

2DEC A DELUXE LIMITED EDITION OF WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER-TEAM

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my the kind of living I wanted for my wife and I ive to as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence... and that's what I had been wanting. I was a little skeptical, but I said to work of the work o

I'll guide you step by step into your own thriving business

• While keeping your present job, would you like to gross \$14 or \$21 profit per hour?

a true story by Bob Ferrel

many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

This is not a business for a lazy man. But if a man is ambitious and will work to deserve those nice things in life we all want, this business is made to order for such a man.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealer-family that, whenever a man opened a dealer-

and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealer-ship near me, I helped him get a quick start. The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and morfits.

sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then
I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings. But much

ventions and dealer group megatings. But much of the time I am right here at my desk in touch with our dealers by letter and telephone. Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Dealers sell their Duraclean businesses for up to ten times their cost. After 30 months, Leo Lubel sold for \$7,116 above his cost. If for

any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain as service to locate buyers and help him sell. Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, I'll be as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

It's Easier than You Think To Build Your Own Business

To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS...
to become financially independent and have a
fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And
you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your
time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do.
One job a day brings a good starting income.
If you hire two servicemen (full or part time)
while you keep your job, the national price
guide provides you a gross profit of \$14 an
hour on their work and this is much easier to
do than you think. We show you how ...
step by step. That \$496 for a 55 hour week.

you will not be a some the stay of your your your you go you
gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus
\$12 an hour on any service they themselves
render. The 24 page illustrated booklet we'll
mail you (with no obligation), explains how
most of your gross profit becomes clear net
profit. Your income is limited only by the
number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your
home. Equipment is light and portable.

home Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service
yourself ... or you can start with full or part
time servicemen. This business is easy to learn
... easy to start ... so easy to service that
women dealers do it. We prefer you have no
experience ... not have to 'unlearn' old ways.
We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses.
If you are reliable, honest and willing to work
to become financially independent, we invite
When you receive our illustrated booklet,
you will see the way we show you step by step
how to quickly get customers ... and still
more customers from their, recommendations.
You have 7 superior services that are ren-

You have 7 superior services that are ren-dered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have

the prestige and endorsement of leading furni-ture makers and carpet mills, of Parents' Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Test-ing Laboratories.

Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Test-ing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains su-perior merits of your services, builds your cus-tomer confidence and brings job leads to you.

We and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. Hell reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested news-

paper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program,

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjustors, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

Start Small, Grow Big in this Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing ... a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

security and a better living for my family. That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan . . . and those same men are now emjoying a Duraclean dealership in many comercial to the sense of the s

You can start small and grow big. A third century ago Duraclean was an idea . . . but it caught fire and spread to a world wide service. Why did.tt spread? (1) superior processes.

Why did-it spread? (1) superior processes, (2) proven customer-getting methods (3) Day to day guidance from Headquarters. Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivers the fiber . . revives dull colors. Pile rises with new life. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soak-ing, Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Furnishings are used again in a few hours. Government figures show service businesses are growing faster than industries and stores are growing faster than industries and stores and furniture cleaning. Your 6 other services are explained in the free booklet well mail you. Less than \$1500 establishes YOUR OWN business. A day's profit more than pays the monthly payments we finance for you. Men frequently take in partners. Men frequently take in partners.

Men frequently take in partners. We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials to return your TOTAL investment. If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the throughout the control of th

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership before someone takes your location. It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in your life. It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with no obligation whatever, mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.

Mail this coupon TODAY

in may per yee in besiness
Duraclean International
4-Z10 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, III. 6001
With no obligation mail 24 page illustrated books

	elling now and why I can quickly increase my Inco and family security while still employed, how you elp finance me. No salesman will call:
	Address
ш	14.

State & Zip.

see stores and continuous and the superior services. I was now friends about the superior services. I was now friends about the superior services. As the business grey, I added servicemen. I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step hid been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful. It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yee, 5 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing following of customers. I quit my job to getful time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary. Each day, we realized what a serious mistake not mailing that coupon would have been ... and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives. ial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us

few ads...sent some mailings...contacted a few stores and told my friends about the supe-

