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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN[®]

YOU'VE HAD IT,
WEB-SLINGER!
YOU CAN NEVER
BEAT **BOTH**
OF US!!

THE GOBLIN'S
RIGHT!
BETWEEN HIM AND
SILVERMANE-- I'M
HELPLESS!



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OF FURY!**



While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee
Presents:

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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C-687

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I'M ALMOST **SORRY** ABOUT THIS IN A WAY, PARKER-- I REALLY HAVE NOTHING **AGAINST** YOUR AUNT!

BUT YOU ARE THE ONLY THING **STANDING** BETWEEN ME AND MY **ULTIMATE GOAL**--

--SO I'M **AFRAID** YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO **CONSIDER** HER A **CASUALTY** OF **WAR**!



NOTHING CAN STOP ME **NOW**, WEB-SLINGER-- **NOTHING**!

NOW, ERNIE-- NOW!!

FVHOOOSH!



IF I COULD JUST GET **OUT** OF THIS **NET**, I'D SHOW YOU **REAL** WAR, YOU **LUNATIC**--

--BUT THE **POLYMER PLASTIC** IT'S MADE OF IS **STRONGER** THAN **STEEL**!



EH? SOME SORT OF **BAZOOKA** SHELLS-- **BURSTING** ALL AROUND ME--!?



...AND THE **GREEN GOBLIN** WILL BECOME **CRIME-BOSS** OF ALL **NEW YORK**!!



NO!!

OBOY.



I--I LOST MY GRIP ON SPIDER-MAN... AND WITH-
OUT HIM, MY PLANS
ARE FINISHED!

BUT IF I TRY
TO RECOVER
HIM-- WITH MY
GLIDER DAM-
AGED THIS WAY--
I'M FINISHED!



I'VE NO CHOICE!
I'VE GOT TO
ESCAPE WHILE
I STILL CAN!

FORTUNATELY,
THOSE EXPLOSIONS
ALSO DAMAGED
THE GOBLIN'S
NETTING!

I'VE FINALLY BROKEN
FREE OF IT!



AND IF I CAN JUST
MANAGE TO SWAG
A NEARBY BUILDING
WITH MY TRUSTY
WEBBING, I CAN...



HUH? MY
SPIDER-SENSE
TINGLING--
SOMETHING
BELOW ME--!

CRIPES! I'M
FALLING TOO FAST--
GONNA LAND IN
THAT...



WHOOOM!

THE NAME FOR IT
THESE DAYS IS
WASTE DISPOSAL
UNIT--

--WHICH IS PROBABLY
QUITE APPROPRIATE,
SINCE THE HAPLESS
WALL-CRAWLER HITS
IT LIKE A SACK OF
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#6

FOR A MOMENT, ALL IS SILENCE--THEN THERE COMES THE HARSH SQUEAL OF HARD-PRESSED BRAKES...

...AND THE HARSHER SNARL OF ANGRY VOICES!

HE'S HERE! I DIDN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND!

HE LANDED SMACK IN THIS STINKIN' DUMPSTER!

EASY, FELLAS! HE MIGHT BE PLAYIN' POSSUM!

YA BETTER COME OUT NOW, SPIDER-MAN--WE GOT YA COVERED!

COME OUT--OR I'M COMIN' IN AFTER YA!

I MEAN IT, MISTER! DON'T EVEN FLINCH OR...

HUH?

SWEET HOLY JEEZ! H--HE AIN'T MOVIN'!

I--I THINK MAYBE HE'S DEAD!

NO-- WAIT! HE'S BREATHIN'-- AN' I CAN HEAR A HEARTBEAT!

HE'S ALIVE, FELLAS--

--AN' HE'S OURS!!

BETTER SNAP THESE MANDUCIFFS ON 'IM BEFORE HE WAKES UP!

NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS BRING HIM TO THE BOSS!

MAN, IS SILVERMANE GONNA BE GLAD TO SEE HIM!



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THANK YOU FOR COMING, MR. ROBERTSON.

YOU COULDN'T HAVE KEPT ME AWAY, MARY JANE.



THERE WAS NO WAY I'D LET PETER GO THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THIS ALONE!

THANKS, ROBBIE. I... I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT.

DON'T MENTION IT, SON. YOU KNOW HOW JONAH AND I BOTH FEEL ABOUT YOU.



YOU'RE MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER EMPLOYEE TO US, PETE.

YEAH, ROBBIE... I KNOW. MAYBE THAT'S PART OF WHAT'S BOTHERING ME!

WELL... TO ME, AT LEAST.

ALL MY LIFE, IT'S BEEN ONE EXTREME OR THE OTHER!



AT HOME, I WAS THE CENTER OF AUNT MAY AND UNCLE BEN'S LIFE-- SOMEONE SPECIAL! AT SCHOOL, IT WAS JUST THE OPPOSITE!

I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FORMULATE AN HONEST OPINION OF MYSELF!

I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT JUST WHO I REALLY AM!



AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE REST OF US, PETER?

ALL ANYONE TRULY WANTS IN THIS LIFE IS TO FIND A PLACE IN THE SUN!

BUT IT'S THE SEARCHING THAT MAKES THE FINDING SO SWEET!



UH... IS THERE A PETER PARKER HERE?

I'M PARKER.

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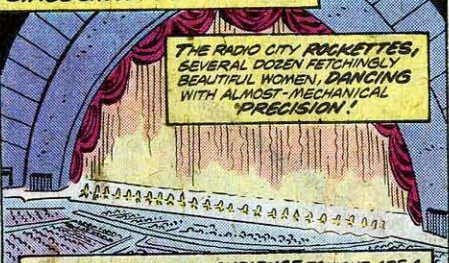


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OH, AND ONE OTHER!



HEY, WHAT'S THAT?

IT SOUNDS LIKE... LAUGHTER!

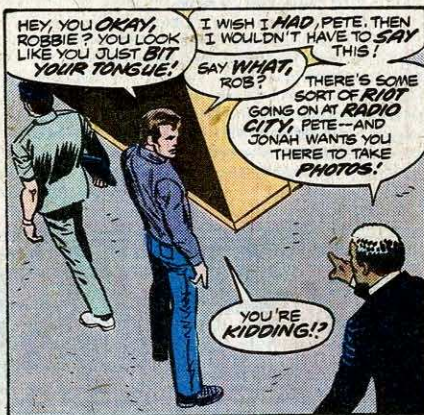
NO! IT COULDN'T BE! NOT HERE!



IT'S THE CURSED-- GREEN GOBLIN!!

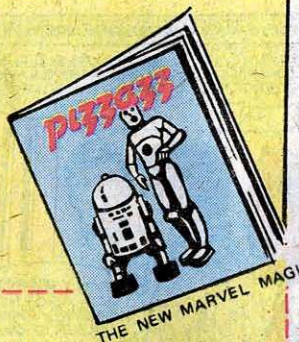
AND THIS TIME, SILVERMANE, I'M GOING TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED!

HA HA HA HA HA



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THE SPIDER'S WEB

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Dear Marvel,

With issue #174, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN improved 100%!

I always did like the Punisher, and when Hitman made his appearance in PETER PARKER, I hoped that the two would meet.

Len forgot all about melodrama in this issue and concentrated on fast-moving action with just the right amount of plot. It was great.

Now a few notes to Len:

It's about time that Pete and Mary Jane either got together or split. I'm sick and tired of "Pete runs off, MJ gets mad, Pete explains, MJ accepts, but stays mad." It's boring! MJ hasn't talked to Pete since #168. Are we through with her?

Maybe you should introduce a new girl to be Pete's new love? Not a Gwen and not a Betty and not a Liz and not an MJ. Somebody totally new.

Do you realize the entire supporting cast has dwindled to nothing. Let's get some new blood!

Final thought: Let's have some real continuity between MARVEL TEAM-UP, PETER PARKER and this book. Like a three-book cross-over?

Just keep up the good work Len!

Tony R. Rose
Box 14A Dooley Rt.
Boles, AR 72926

Whew! Until your last line, Tony, the Lively One wasn't sure whether to feel good or bad about his unstinting efforts on SPIDER-MAN. After all, you managed to pack an inordinate amount of casual criticism between your opening and closing remarks! But, take heart, Tony—we thrive on such fastidious feedback, and you can be sure Len's giving due consideration to all your points of contention.

As for a three-way crossover, it's merely a matter of logistics. The possibility is certainly quite probable that sometime in the not-too-distant future the scintillatin' scripters of all three SPIDER titles will be sufficiently fascinated by the idea to get together and make comics history.

Meanwhile, here's happy readin' to ya, Spidophile!

Dear Len,

My experiences yesterday have given me an idea for a new problem for Spider-Man. He's just at the right age for his wisdom teeth to need removing. It would be another touching human bit of frailty for the hero who once had an ulcer. Besides, think of how dramatic it would be if Spidey got socked in the jaw after the novocaine wore off! (Please excuse my sadism—I'm afraid I'm in a "misery loves company" mood tonight.)

Ann Nichols
4864 Sioux Avenue
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Not a bad idea, Ann! Knowing Petey's penchant for unforeseen problems, though, he'd no doubt need a couple of root canals, as well!

Dear Len,

Please bring Spider-Man back to his magazine. I am not kidding: he has slowly become an unrealistic figure with little or no personality. Lately, Spidey has seemed so remote and out of place, it is almost as if he is appearing simply because his name is on the cover!

I feel that this is due, in part, to the enormous popularity of Spidey. He has too many guest-shots and appearances in other magazines to be believable—and, as a result, has started to guest-star in his own magazine.

I think another factor involved is the separation of Spidey from Peter Parker. It is almost as if they are two different people. There is not enough of Peter and his problems to make the character of Spider-Man human.

Also, Spidey has been taking too many lumps in far-too-long fight sequences. SPIDER-MAN #174 and THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #10 are good examples of this. In these fights, he has relied too much on his webbing and not enough on his natural powers.

Please, Len, take this letter seriously and as constructive criticism. I feel that SPIDER-MAN can still be the great comic it used to be, if you correct this situation.

David Canale
304 27 St. NE

Rochester, MN 55901

We can take your letter seriously, Dave, and still be allowed to disagree—can't we? Lively Len understands your apparent state of saturation with Spider-Man, but asks you not to let the abundance of Spidey appearances interfere with your enjoyment of each and every one. A majority of our many readers are still hungry for more adventures of the amazing arachnid who walks like a man and crawls walls like a spider, and we here at the beleaguered Bullpen are attempting to strike a balance between too little and too much of ol' webhead. It ain't easy, but we're doing our ding-blasted best, and we hope you'll appreciate our efforts . . . for, after all, they're ultimately on your behalf. But we do appreciate the concern and the time you've taken to communicate, Dave—and hope we'll continue to deserve it in the dazzling decades to come!

Dear Spidey chroniclers—

The cover of this month's DRACULA proclaimed: "If you can only buy one mag this month, . . . don't dare miss . . . 'Resurrection.'" I didn't. However, I could afford more than one comic this month, and so I picked up SPIDER-MAN #174. And, frankly, I wouldn't have missed this issue if the price had been 70¢!

Opening the first three pages with the Punisher was unique. Mrs. Muggins' cameo made me realize I'd actually missed the old battle-axe! Harry's breakdown and subsequent visit to Dr. Hamilton's office for treatment helped build the situation's tension—as did even the rather blatant foreshadowing implied by the good doctor's goblin masks in the background. And thank you for pages 14 & 15—a classic serio-comic confrontation. The entire scene was a study in balance of moods. Jameson's nervous humor, the Hitman's deadly resolve, Marla Madison's calculated coolness, and the gallow's humor of the newsroom in general. Len, this was all especially realistic.

This issue was classic SPIDER-MAN at its best.

Great stuff, Len, accompanied by Ross Andru's usual dynamic artistry. I can't wait for #175.

Rich Arnold
Marine Post Office
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

This whole letter column, it seems, has been a study in balance, Rich—and we thank you, in turn, for the cataclysmic kudos! We'll be looking forward to your frantic comments on #175. . . and that goes for all the rest of you Spidophiles, as well!

See you soon! And be kind to one another, okay?

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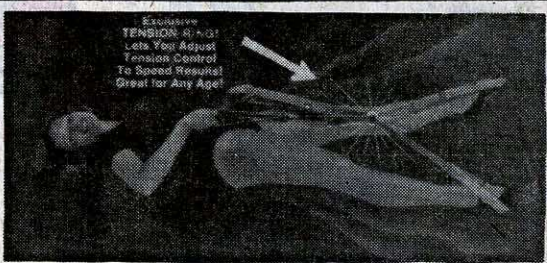
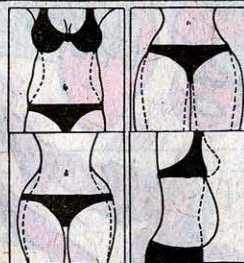
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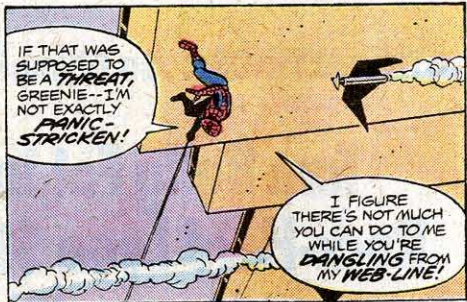
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Stan Lee
PRESENTS

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STAN'S SOAPBOX THIS IS IT!

The world-shaking announcement you've been waiting for!



If you've ever wanted to draw your own comic strip, or even if you just wanted to learn the inside story of how it's done, here's where you get your wish! Even as you read these wondrous words with your senses reeling, "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" is going on sale throughout the nation! It's the only book of its kind which specializes exclusively in showing you how to draw superhero comics—and it shows you how to do it Marvel style! Designed and illustrated by Big John Buscema, it's a visual delight which will dazzle your eyes while it answers virtually any question you could ever dream up about drawing your own comic strip! As for the text, it's written by yours truly—but don't let that turn you off—you'll be so busy drooling over the illustrations that not even my little literary lunacy will bother you! And now here's the best part! You can get your happy little hands on "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" for only \$8.95 a copy! But please, don't embarrass us with your tearful expressions of undying gratitude! Just promise one thing—after you've read the book (published by good ol' Simon & Schuster, and on sale at better book stores everywhere), and after you've learned our secrets and become the artist you've always longed to be, promise you won't go to work for our competition! And now, as you prepare for the mad dash to your neighborhood book store, I'll head for the hills before you get the idea that I'm trying to sell you something! Or, as the noble Romans might have put it: In hoc signo vinces!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! When you stroll down the hallowed halls here at mighty Marvel, there's a better than average chance you'll see something out of the ordinary. It could be a writer and artist throwing punches and kicks as they discuss how they're going to handle one of the quieter moments in the latest POWER

MAN; it could be a shouting match between two stalwarts of the editorial department over whether Magneto is pronounced with a long or short "e"; or it could even be our exemplary editor-in-chief ARCHIE GOODWIN doing one of his famous pratfalls which have earned him applause and more than a few odd stares at various insignificant social gatherings. Let's face it, it takes quite a bit to surprise the average amble down the corridors of Marvel. But there are some things that stop even our jaded armadillos in their tracks... like rounding a corner in the office and suddenly coming face-to-face with Howard the Duck! Or Spider-Woman. Or Captain America. In the flesh. It *actually* happens, although for a few moments you always wonder if you've been working too late or too long. How does this come about? Well, mostly through the hard work and effort of our publicist, Nifty NANCY ALLEN and her assistant, Ravishing RONNI POLLOCK. They're the folks in charge of jining up actors and models to impersonate our coveting characters at a multitude of varied functions, all the way from shopping center openings to state fairs. And just to make certain that their players are correctly costumed, Nancy or Roni usually rush them over to us comic book types for a final opinion on how they look. Hence, sometimes when we least expect it, we suddenly find ourselves eyeball-to-eyeball with a personality right off our printed pages! It's sort of neat... once you get over the shock. But find out for yourselves. Keep an eye and an ear on local advertising. There's no telling when your favorite Marvel superstar may be making a personal appearance. Nancy and Roni are working full-time to bring them your way!

ITEM! You know, one of our favorite TV shows was STAR TREK, and one of our biggest disappointments was that the rights

to do the show as a comicbook series have always been tied up. Still, we've had the itch to do a non-superhero oriented s-f strip, and even our sensational STAR WARS book hasn't totally satisfied it. In fact, judging from the cards and letters we're getting, STAR WARS' success has sparked a demand for more. So, we've set Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH and Titanic TOM SUTTON to work on a science-fiction special for MARVEL PREMIERE #41. It's called SEEKER 3000, and introduces a set of characters forced to depart a doomed earth and find new salvation for humankind in the stars. We think it's out of the ordinary comics fare, and we're more than just a bit excited about it. So set aside the necessary thirty-five cents; it's due your way this January. We're betting you'll find it money well spent!

ITEM! Most of this month's comings and goings seem to be in Vice President of Operations, Jolly SALLY BRODSKY's department. Sol's got a new assistant, Bouncing BOB MARCZAK, to help keep our torrent of special merchandising projects (you know, all those books, records, cups, and other products that feature our characters) flowing smoothly. But the Jolly One spent a few misty-eyed moments what with his secretary, Liting LINDA TAXEL, abandoning him for a special project of her own, namely the imminent arrival of her first child. Fortunately, Fetching FLORENCE TUMMINELLO has stepped neatly into the ranks to fill the vacancy. So, a big "welcome" to you, Florence, and to Bob, plus an equally big "we'll miss you and best wishes on the new addition to the family" to Linda!

ITEM! If a lot of large "oooooooooos and aaaaahs" have been echoing out onto Madison Avenue from 575, it may just be because the boisterous Bullpen has started getting a look at some of the original art done by Big JOHN BUSCEMA for the up and coming CONAN THE BARBARIAN comic strip. We don't want to say too much about it here, because Rascally ROY THOMAS, who just happens to be the writer of the strip as well as editor, scribe, and guiding light of all our Conan material, has prepared a special article on the subject for issue #27 of SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, which also just happens to be going on sale about this time. The strip, which will run both daily and Sunday, should be appearing sometime in early Spring. Like SPIDER-MAN and HOWARD THE DUCK, it's being distributed by the nice folks of the Register and Tribune Syndicate. We don't have any way of knowing yet which newspapers will carry it, but it might not hurt to ask your local paper if they are considering it. If they're not, your inquiry might just sway them into doing so. Crom will thank you for it!



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YOU DON'T NEED SUPERPOWERS TO KNOW ALL THESE PROBLEMS ARE THE WORK OF ONE MAN. BUT WHO?



FOOTSTEPS... RUNNING. AND THE RADAR IMAGE OF LOTS OF MONEY, BUT HIS PULSEBEAT, HIS BRAIN PATTERN IS ABNORMAL. HE'S UNDER SOME-ONE ELSE'S CONTROL.



WOW!!! A POWERFUL FORCE FIELD. I CAN'T SEE IT BUT I CAN FEEL IT.

HEH-HEH-HEH. I'VE DEVELOPED MY BRAIN AND POWERS OF CONCENTRATION SO I CAN FORCE OTHERS TO DO MY WILL... AND PROTECT MYSELF AGAINST ANYONE WHO DARES INTERFERE. NOT EVEN DAREDEVIL HAS THE BRAINS OR THE MUSCLES TO GET TO ME.



I CAN'T GET THROUGH. BUT HOSTESS® TWINKIES® SNACK CAKES CAN. AND WHAT HUMAN MIND CAN IGNORE SUCH GREAT CAKES?



HOSTESS TWINKIES SNACK CAKES. MMM. DELICIOUS. I LOVE THAT LUSCIOUS SPONGE CAKE THAT RICH CREAMED FILLING.

I KNEW IT. HE'S CONCENTRATING MORE AND MORE ON THE TWINKIES SNACK CAKES. AND LESS AND LESS ON HIS FORCE FIELD. NOW I CAN GET THROUGH.



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YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS TWINKIES SNACK CAKES





HANG ON, SILVERMANE--
I'LL GET YOU OUT
OF THIS MESS!

GET OFF,
WEB-SLINGER--
GET OFF!!

THOUGH, FOR
THE LIFE
OF ME, I
DON'T KNOW
WHY!

MY GLIDER
ISN'T **POWERFUL**
ENOUGH TO SUPPORT
THE **THREE**
OF US!

NOW YOU'VE REALLY
DONE IT, YOU FOOL!!
WE'RE **FALLING!!**

WHICH MAKES IT A
REALLY **LOUSY** TIME
FOR MY **WEBBING**
TO SNAP UNDER
THE **STRAIN!**

AND FROM **THIS**
HEIGHT, NOT **ONE** OF
US IS LIKELY TO
SURVIVE!!

IT WAS THE **ONLY**
THING THAT STOOD
BETWEEN US AND
OBLIVION-- AND
NOW IT'S **GONE!!**

IT HAS BEEN A LONG, HARD **STRUGGLE**, CROSSING THE DUSTY WAREHOUSE FLOOR--



--TWISTING HIS NUMBED BODY AROUND UNTIL HE COULD FINALLY **TOUCH** THE FALLEN **BAT-GLIDER**--

--THEN RUBBING HIS ROPE-BURNED **WRISTS** BACK AND FORTH ALONG THE METAL'S ROUGHENED **EDGE**, AGAIN AND YET AGAIN...



...BUT, ALL IN ALL, IT HAS BEEN **WORTH IT!**

HIS HEAD FAIRLY **SWIMS** AS HE UNTIES THE CON-
STRICTING **ROPE**--



--AND FEELS HIS **BLOOD** BEGIN TO **CIRCULATE** ONCE MORE--

--FOR IT IS **BLOOD** THAT ALL BUT **BOILS** IN **FRUSTRATED FURY!**



LEAVE US **FACE** IT, FOLKS: AFTER ALL THIS TIME IN **HELPLESS CAP-TIVITY**...

...**HARRY OSBORN** IS **FURIOUS!!**



AND HE INTENDS TO DO SOMETHING **ABOUT IT!**

NEXT ISSUE:

IF HARRY OSBORN WAS THE **CAPTIVE**, THEN **WHO...?** BE WITH US **NEXT TIME** FOR...

WHO WAS THAT GOBLIN I SAW YOU WITH?

...AND PERHAPS WE'LL ALL **FIND OUT!**

Super

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J. Johnson.

"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1 1/2" on my arms and 4" on my chest. I have also lost 4" off my waist. Your course is just great!"
D. Roberts

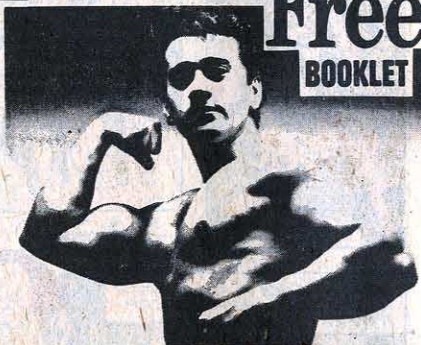
"I was a skinny weakling when I enrolled, now I've gained 30 pounds in just 45 days. I am truly amazed, I'm going to be dynamite on the beach."
B. Abbott

"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock-hard muscle. It's amazing - I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day."
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."
B. Daniels

"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!"
M. Robinson

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STAR WARS

1

2



3



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5

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_____	_____	_____	_____
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75 Postage & handling / Orders under \$2.50 _____			
1.50 Postage & handling / Orders over \$2.50 _____			
TOTAL ENCLOSED			_____
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