



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 arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

STOP LOSS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

LEONARDI DAVE DE FALCO SHAREN COLORS STRNAD CHIANG SHOOTER WRITER PENCILS INKS LETTERS EDITOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF D A STRANGE FEELING OF UNEAGINESS HAS HAUNTED PETER PARKER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THIS EVENING A PISQUIETING SENSATION, GENTLE, BUT INSISTENT, UNSHAKEABLE. IT IS THIS FEELING, AND NOT THE RAIN, THAT MAKES HIM SHIVER ... I PON'T GET IT! THIS IS THE THIRD FELT MYSELF DRAWN TO THIS SAME OLD HOUSE ... BUT WHY? I THINK I'LL TAKE A CLOSER LOOK! 導

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN* Vol. 1, No. 228, May, 1982. (U.S.P.S. 540-030) Published by MAPUEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 575 MADISON AVENUE. NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022 Controlled Circulation postage pead at where York X, and additional mailing office. Published monthly, Coppyright 1 1982by Marc Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved, Price 80p per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate 57.20 for 12 issues. Canada, 59.20, Foreign, 59.20, Printed in the U.S. A. No smilarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and ori institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person rustion in sitemation and any such similarity which may exist is purely concidental. This periodical may not be soid except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that is thail not be sold or districtive with energy serioused, nor in a multitate condition. THE AMAZING SPIDER-THAN (including all prominent characters selatured in the issue), and the districtive kinenesses thereof. are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022







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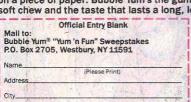


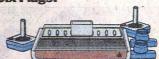
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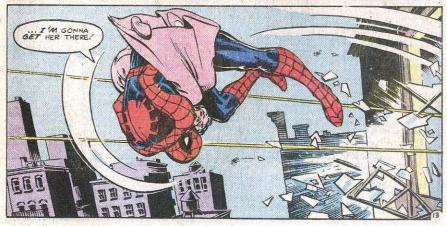


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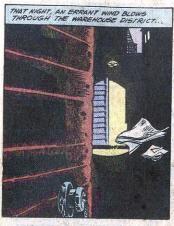
















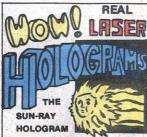












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TOM DeFALCO MARK GRUENWALD ASSISTANT EDITOR

Gentlemen

Thank you for a truly marvelous piece of work

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224 featuring the Vulture was without a doubt one of the best comics I have read within the past months. Just when I was about to lose faith you came out with an outstanding story. And you brought back an old villain who relies solely on brains and strength!

You have again made me a true believer. I want to thank everyone who worked on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224 for a truly outstanding job. It was excellent. The art was fantastic, the story superb, and the coloring left nothing to be desired. Keep up the good work.

Dave Heckathorn 3921 West 118th Street Hawthome, CA 90250

Thanks, Dave... but the lettering! What about the lettering? Poor Joe Rosen is sitting over there at his work table staring off into spece, wondering why you didn't mention the lettering! (You know how insecure we creative types arel)

Dear Tom

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224 was. unusual. I would not have guessed that the inking was handled by Pablo Marcos, at least not in light of Pablo's strong artistic styling. John Romita Jr.'s pencils were very evident under Pablo's inks - and that's good, because J.R. is probably one of the best SPIDER-MAN artists around. John manages to capture the one key element which any SPIDER-MAN book needs: FUN! His visuals are fast and free-flowing, and have an appropriately light-hearted feel. In John Romita Jr., we finally have a regular artist for the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN who knows how to make the book fun again!

And speaking of fun, Roger Stern's no slouch either! His characterizations of Peter Parker are perfect! And I can't tell you how much I enjoyed the concept of the Vulture in a retirement home. To my knowledge, that makes the Vulture a unique super-villain in comics today. I don't think I ever really appreciated the Vulture before "Let Fly These Aged Wings!" Now, I can't wait to see him again! J.R.'s visual interpretation of Adrian Toomes more than complemented the character developed by Stern. There were moments when Toomes looked very old and tired... contrasted with scenes in which the Vulture was very ominous and menacing! Not bad!

I should also mention how much I like the addition of Nathan Lubensky to the book's supporting cast. I don't mind the subplots involving Aunt May, now that Nate is here.

All in all, I feel good about having bought AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224... even if I don't win a ten-speed bike!

Mike Christiansen 704 South Third Street Rockford, IL 61108

Dear Tom.

One of the most interesting letters that I've seen in a Marvel mag was the one from Lloy Wiese in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

#224, which stated that super heroes were virtually all "negative" in their work (ie., they react to threats rather than set out to solve problems on their own) and that they should pursue "larger goals" of positively aiding people

On one level, there is a simple explanation for the "negative" basis of super heroes; in concept they are essentially civilian extensions of the police (or, if you will, well-disciplined and benevolent vigilantes). Thus, their main purpose is simply to uphold the law of the land, which by the very nature of the task is one that involves mostly reacting

However, I believe that this "negative" stance goes beyond this basic premise and that indeed it might well be preferable to the "positive" position advocated by Wiese. In a just and free society (and America is one of the best approximations to that ideal) laws prescribe only what people cannot do; to say what people can do would be far more restrictive and would attempt to impose a standard of behavior far more uniform than is desireable. Thus, the "negative" stance of super heroes fits well into this tradition of freedom and democracy. They do not attempt to impose their own views on others since, in a free society, the system of law is generally agreed upon and relatively unrestrictive code of behavior. If super heroes were to occupy themselves principally with "positive" actions they would thrust themselves into the arena of politics, since that is the realm in which solutions to societal problems are determined. They would thus lose their universal appeal, since heaven knows that even the most innocuous-seeming solution is opposed, often vehemently, by certain segments of the law-abiding populace.

More than this, though, by abandoning their "vigilante" status they would almost cease to be super heroes as the term is commonly viewed. It is interesting to note that Wiese's two examples of "positive super heroes accomplish these actions in roles outside that of the normal super hero: Reed Richards as a scientist and inventor. Dr. Strange as a doctor and a mystic.

So it turns out, in my eyes at least, that the "negative" action is morally positive

T.M. Maple (No street address given) Toronto, Ontario



Dear Rog

In regards to AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224, page ten: when J. Jonah Jameson opens the darkroom door, certainly Peter's prints would have been fogged. But, unless I'm missing something, it would have been a relatively simple matter to reprint them from the necessarily-existing negatives. Some additional time would be required, but Parker acted as though the damage was irrevocable. I may be misreading the scene, though. Am 1?

Secondly, as I understand it, Parker's photographic work is respected among people in the industry... and Jameson's pay is relatively low. Even with his friendships among people at the Bugle. Parker's desire to move his aunt out of the nursing home should encourage him to try selling photos to other publishers.

Finally... I have been reading Marvel Comics for a long, long time, and I have watched as the quality of the art and the stories have improved. My compliments on a job well done

James F. Clements Jr. P.O. Box E Warner Robins, GA 31099

Jim, you're absolutely right about Pete being able to print up new positives from his negs. However, having his first pos-prints ruined was a major annovance, And, as Lance Bannon waltzed in with his own shots of the same robbery. Pete never got a chance to make new prints.

And that brings us to your second point. Pete has been lucky in times past. as far as peddling his pics are con-cerned. As Spider-Man, he's been able to get into places and take pictures that no one else can take. But... just how good is his photographic skill as compared to that of someone like Bannon? Perhaps we'll see in upcoming lasues!

Dear Roger, John, and Tom:

Yahoo! The Vulture's back! No. not the Vulture who wandered aimlessly through both AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and SPEC-TACULAR SPIDER-MAN a few years ago, but the real Vulture... the Vulture that Lee and Ditko introduced 'way back in AMAZ-ING SPIDER-MAN #2! Everything was perfect. And the best part was - he got away at the end!

As you can tell, I'm bouncing off the walls because this was the BEST Spiderstory in almost ten years... not just because of the Vulture's appearance, but because of the all the little touches. Spider-Man's opening exercises, his rooftop hopping, and his incessant joking were all just great.

I can't suggest anything more, except to plea for the return of the Green Goblin (with a new, less-complicated identity)

Anyway, thank you for a perfect issue! Mark Usher 22 Randlett Park West Newton, MA 02165

Gosh, thanks, Mark. But If you thought that was something, wait'll you see what Rog and John have up their sleeves for next issue. And, speaking of next Issue...

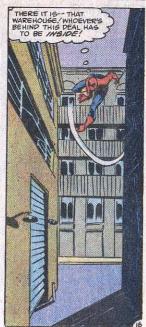
The Avengers are out of town... the Fantastic Four are off in darkest Africa. the Defenders are occupied... and heaven only knows where the X-Men are! So guess who has to face the JUGGER-NAUT all by his lonesome? That's right! The of Web-head has to go it alone against the most irresistible force on the face of the Earth! You won't want to miss "Nothing Can Stop the Juggernaut!" in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #229... on sale In just thirty days!





























































BULLPEN BULLETINS

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Hello, I'm Jim Shooter, and my line is Editorichlefing the Mighty Marvel Comics Group. It's a good job, but in order to support my four-hundred and sixteen pet Glia Monsters I moonlight as an aluminum siding salesman. Anyway, welcome, once again, to the Bullipen Page, where each and every month I do my best to entertain and enlighten you.

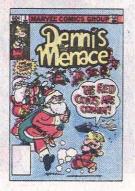
THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

is to fulfill a promise I made last month, namely to explain exactly what the word "Builden," as in "Marvel Bullpen," means. It seems that a lot of folks don't know! Well-II, in the old days, you see, virtually every comics company had a big room where all the artists and writers sat together, creating their works of four-color wonder. Creative folks generally being the garrulous sort, typically, quite a bit of 'bull' got tossed around those legendary rooms, so the nickname "bullpen" was a natural, it was borrowed from baseball, of course, from the area where relief pitchers wait to be called into the game. Where baseball got the name, I don't know - maybe from builfighting arenas, from the place they keep the buils until it's their turn. Who knows? Noah Webster I'm not. At any rate, these days, most comics artists and writers prefer to work in their own studios, but, still, here at Marvel, we have a big room, a production bullpen, where all of our art production people work doing our paste-ups, lettering corrections, art corrections and such - and even though the editorial folks are bunched in small offices off to the sides we still refer to the whole shebang as the Marvel Bullpen. It's a tradition dating back to the days when we actually were a one-room operation!

FAMOUS VISITORS DEP'T:

As everyone knows, the world's favorite mini-master of mayhem. Dennis the Menace has been wreaking havoc in his own Marvel Comic since last summer - therefore, it was inevitable that Dennis's creator, a true giant in the funnies biz, the world famous Hank Ketcham would eventually visit the Bullpen. Hank talked for a while with me and Publish-Vice President Mike Hobson about our plans for the terrible tyke, and then met with Assistant Editor Ann Nocenti and Editor Tom DeFalco, who handle the editorial duties for the Dennis the Menace monthly comic and our new Dennis the Menace digests, respectively. Though Hank and the folks at his studio out in California produce all the Dennis mate rial we publish, there are still production chores. proofreading and other details to be handled at our end, so careful coordination of effort is essential. Thanks to Hank's visit, we're now more coordinated than ever

After the work was done, we spent a pleasant hour or so just shooting the breeze with Hank, who's a terrific person as well as a superstar carloonist. One thing puzzles me though — how can Dennis be such a monster when his "Dad" is such a nice guy?





WHAT? ANOTHER ONE?

Yes, yet another superstar world-class, all-pro cartoonist happened by this Crazy place late one afternoon recently. Sergio Aragones, most famous for the wonderful work he's done for MAD Magazine over the years, stopped in to say buenos tardes to all of us at Marvel while he was in town on other business. It just so happened that three of our own superstars, namely John Byrne, Frank Miller, and Roger Stern were also in the office just then, and sensing a rare opportunity. I quickly organized a dinner excursion. Off we went to D'Angelo's, a cozy, classy restaurant on West 56th Street where we were joined by John's beautiful wife Andrea and Frank's girffnend, lovely Laurie Sutton. Sergio had other plans and couldn't stay for dinner, unfortunately, but he sat with us for about an hour and a half, regaling us with tales of the early days of his career when he was just breaking into the business. After Sergio left, we proceeded to stuff ourselves with the best Italian food we'd ever eaten and talk about how true it is that, for us, these are the good old days - and the days on the horizon look better still. Is there anything better in life than feeling good about yourself, your work and having a wonderful evening with good friends? (Especially when the company's picking up the tabl)

AND ON THAT NOTE ...

ii. I'm afraid I've got to close for this month. After all, it's just about feeding time for my four-hundred and sixteen — whoops! Make that five-hundred and thirty seven pet Gila Monsters! Darn, but those things breed tast! And they get so irate when I'm late with their dinner!

Anybody want to buy some aluminum siding? How about some Gila Monsters?



Just before press time we were advised that Wally Wood, one of the all-time greats of our profession, had passed away. The following, written by Larry Hama, who probably knew Woody best of all of us here at Marvel, sums up our feelings.

The comics world lost one of it's greatest innovators last month with the untimely passing of Wally Wood. His work was hilanous and territying, action-packed but solidly planted, amazingly childike white maturely craffed. He brought us ply and wonder in four colors for a dime and the world will never see the likes of him again.

Woody had a youthful enthusiasm and genuinely generous nature — all trapped in a body that was aging too last for him and pursued by the demons that rip at the neele of all who dare to defy the strictures of Never-Never Land.

Hopefully, there is a sylvan glade somewhere where steek, silver spaceships glide siently overhead, tentacled aliens lurk behind boulders muttering spe-for, and a cute tittle pipsquesk froits with the fricest zelfig eivish ladies for an endless afternoon.

Larry Hama

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MARVEL FANFARE #2 — We overheard free oould ya missi rth action At. Mil. GROM having a it the other day over a failer corrected primare a smor on this map. He cares about 4. A jot. He, and the section is breat of the failer of











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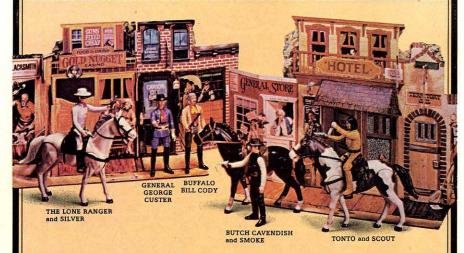


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