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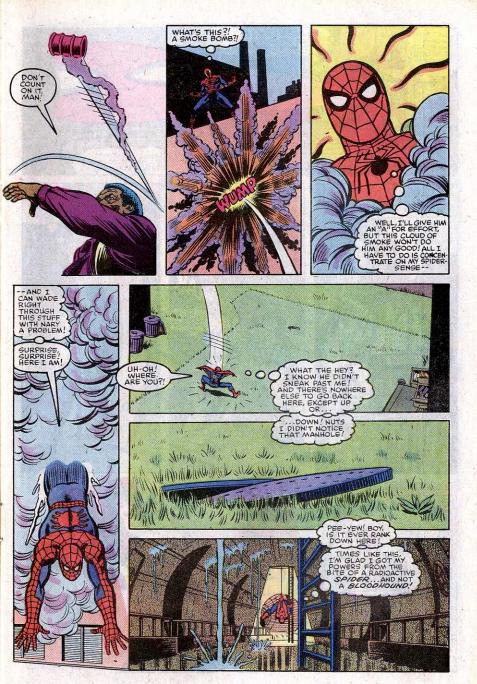


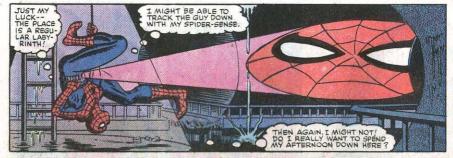
































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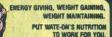
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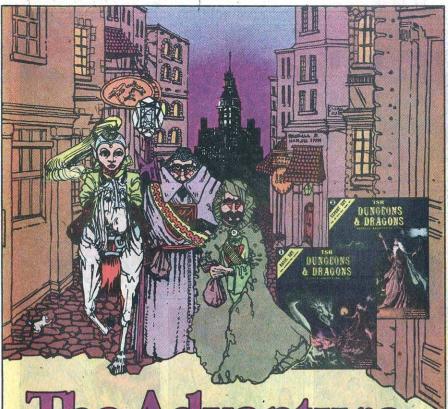
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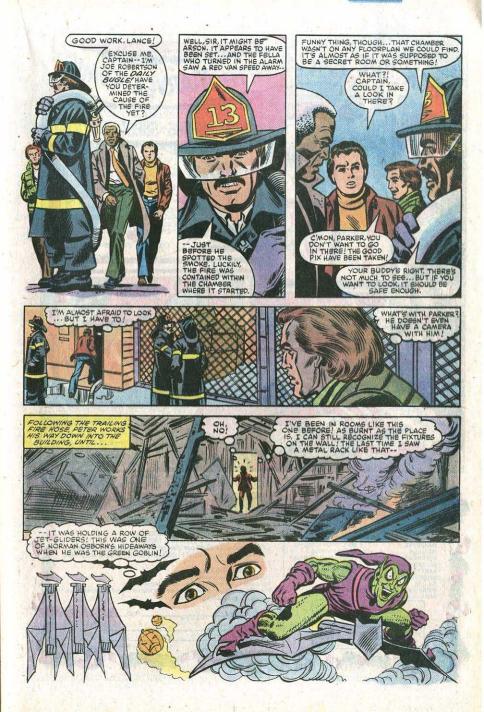
















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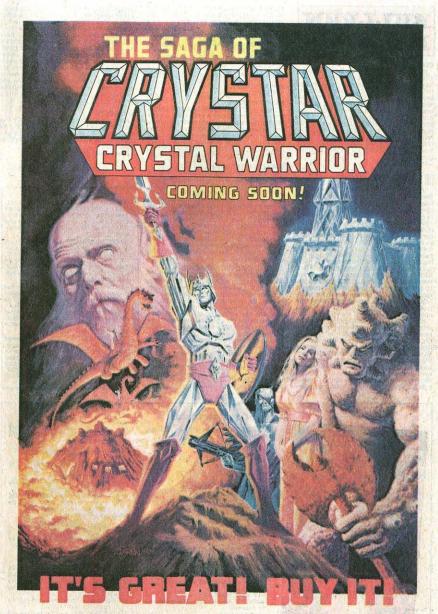












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BULLPEN BULLETIN

CLARIFICATIONS

Michelinie here, Jim. Look, I know you've got a tough job riding herd on the most creative bunch of loonies in the funnybook business, and I understand how the ol' gray matter can start to fray a bit at the edges. But what's all this about wanting me to guest-write a segment of "Ball-peen Bulletins"? I mean, come on! What're you running, a comic book company or a hardware store?!? Since when did Thor become a majority stockholder? And hey, what's next? Roto-tiller reviews? The Amazing Spider-Wrench? Texas Chainsaw Cornics And Sto--eh? What's that? You say, "Bullpen Bulletins"? Oh. Well, that's dif-

Never mind

HE AIN'T HEAVY—
HE'S MY SMITH-CORONA.

(Ahem) Hi. This is David Michelinie, scripter of
Marvel's space-spanning saga, and I'd like to
thank my buddy. Jim "Straight" Shooter, for al-lowing me this opportunity to hammer out a few
of my gripes. To strike a blow, as it were, for
equal time and to really hit the nail on the head
south a few of the more consent opports that about a few of the more cogent concerns that are rattling around in what I honestly believe to are ratining around in what into result believe to be my brain. First topic: the place of the writer in comics today. Quite simply, I'm fed-up with being treated like a second-class citizen in this biz. Just go to any major comics convention and look around - how many times do you see fans asking writers to do a paragraph for them? How many times do you see a script bringing top dol-lar at an auction? How many times do you see a nubile young comics groupie blowing into a writer's ear? You'd think that us hard-working type jockeys would get our fair share of adulation, but nnnooooool

It all goes to those furshlugginer pretty-boy artist! And why? What did they do to deserve the Heaven's Gift superstar treatment? Nothing! Oh, sure, some of them went to art school, and most had to learn anatomy and perspective and brush control and composition and dumb stuff like that. But look what we overlooked and over-taxed scribes have had to learn: words! And even beyond that, we're supposed to make sense with them! Sheesh! I guess what I'rn really trying to say is that it's easy to be an artist, especially a comics artist. And as proof, I've worked up the accompanying sketches to show that anyone can draw comics. I trust they speak for mselves. 'Nuff said.



Hulk angry Hulk sad Hulk dead APPLE PIE DEPT.

MICHELINIE DIES

That's right, I did try touching up the prema-ture gray at my temples a while back, but I've since let my bruin-brown locks revert to their nat-ural salt-and-chocolate splendor. I figure the ural salt-and-chocolate spiendor. I figure the touch of gray makes me look intellectual, and that should impress all of the groupies who'll look me up after seeing my Hulk sketches. (Betcha an artist wouldn't have thought of that!)

Another gripe I'd like to get off my chest is the indiscriminate use of deceptive copy just to get the reader's attention. I mean, how cheap can you get? What's a reader to think when he or she sees "Bornb Hits Avengers Mansion!" plastered all over an Avengers cover, only to find that the story inside is about Simon Williams trying out his new night-club act on his hapless friends? This misleading and deseifful use of words (see? I told you they were important) is both reprehensible and an insult to our loyal readers. Only a microscopic mind would think to use such base trickery, and I say we should keep this kind of foolishness out of Marvel comics! Hear, hear!

DELIBERATE DAVE'S SOAPBOX

Hrmm, let's see; I'm not attending any conventions this month, I haven't been invited to any Italian Book Fairs, I haven't gotten married lately and I'm reasonably sure that I don't have any children. So, I guess I'll just have to fill up the rest of this page with news about my upcoming projects. The most exciting project (well, I find it exciting) is the pair of mini-series I'm working on for publication in 1983. The first is a quartet of Wonder Man solo adventures, in which Simon Williams becomes an ace trouble-shooter for the newly-formed Cordco, Inc. — an experimental diary of Stark International that explores territory where no man, woman, gnome, mutant or certified public accountant has gone before. This one's already plotted, and is currently wait-ing for Jubilant John Romita, Jr. to take time from pencilling that spider-person to lend Wondy his magic touch. The second mini-series is in its earlier stages, but will star none other than everyone's favorite electronics tinkerer and movie buff, The Astonishing Ant-Man! I can't say much about this one, except that it will have Scott' Lang setting up his own business and will feature the first appearance of Mrs. Scott Lang!

Other than that, I will be pencilling a fill-in issue of X-Men soon, and am slated to take over issue of X-men son, and am stated to take over the inking on Fantastic Four next month. My latest book, "Drawing Comics The Michelinie Way", should be in the stores by the time you read thi-eh? Jim! What's wrong? No! Put that sledge hammer down! This is my typewriter! It's my ¢#RY*#SGUOPJE#\$&))¢#%¢!!

AFTERMATH

Hello. This is Jim Shooter. We're sorry that David was unable to finish this column, but his typewriter... uh... broke. We do apologize and hope that you'll be back for Bullpen Bulletins next month

I know I will



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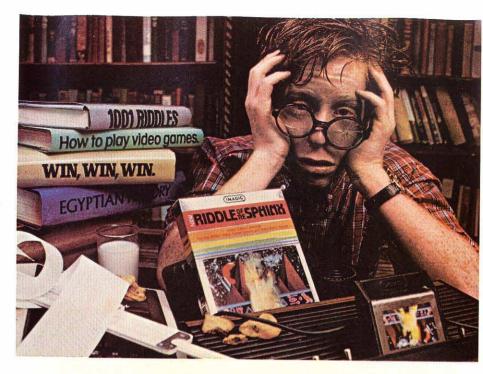
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