





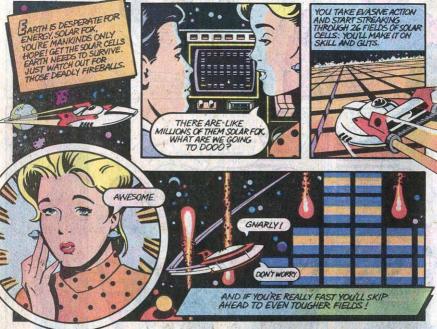
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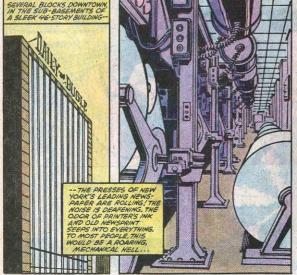






































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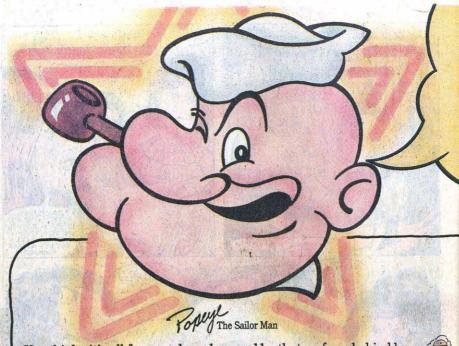












You thinks it's all fun

and games bein the woild's most famousk sailor? Then.

Yo gotsta I suggests you hearts Or else tries it yerself.

You try makin points with Olive Oyl, that fickle, damanding, stringbean of a dame. Likes you got nothin better to do than runnin around tryin to catch her hearts and notes. You try bein

chased around by that fat swab Brutusk, without hardly a chance to catch ver breath. And I'll tells

As soon as ya gets yer spinach, they all runs away.

slow or as dumb as he looks. You try doin all

that whilst ver gettin pelted with bottles

from behind by that discustipatin Sea Hag. She ain't no lady, that's fer sure.

And you try fightin off the vultures whilst Olive screams for H-E-L-P.

And you try to keep from gettin killed by them bouncin skulls.

Ya gotsta punch out these bottles before they punch you out (I hopes they're non-return).

va. that

blubber

ain't as

big

ball



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YA CAN'T BE WIMPY IF YA WANTS TA PLAY POPEYE.



Olive drops notes whilst you runs around tryin to make points.

I doesn't know where they comes from, but I doesn't like 'em one bit. And woist of all, whilst you're doing all this, they keeps movin the spinach around so's you can never find it when you needs it. Blow me down, it ain't hardly fair.

I'll tell ya, ya gotsta be some kinda sailor to play Popeye.® You gotsta be fast.

And ya
Here, boidie. I'll

blasticate ua

gotsta thrive under pressure. Cuz, me home video game is just like the hit arcade game by Nintendo... With three screens of non-stop action and incredulous graphics.

So's if it's a challenge yer lookin for, and ya thinks ya gots what it takes, why be messin around with them other silly games. Do what I does every day. Play Popeye from Parker Brothers.

Ya thinks itsk fun tanglin with Brutusk? You try it.

> Just one piece of advice. I doesn't suggest ya tries it if ya eats yer spinach in a

quiche.





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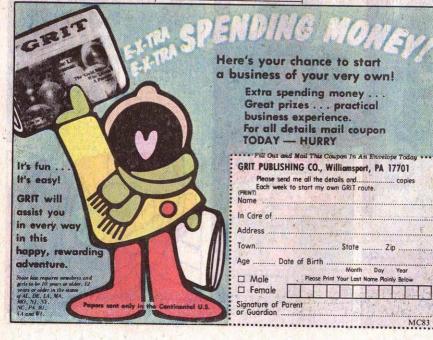
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Bullpen Bulletins

BUENOS DIAS!

nual Salon del Comic y la llustración. Barcelona. chie Goodwin. He would have pouted all day if I Spain's huge, international comics convention? Si. vo! Yes. me!

Hundreds of comics professionals and HOME AGAIN AGAIN! thousands upon thousands of fans turned out. For a whole couple What a show!

Representatives of dozens of comics publishers from around the world showed up there too Because many of them publish translated editions of Marvel Comics, our work is known almost everywhere, and I was pleased to discover that Marvel and the Marvel creative crew are held in very high regard overseas. As Editor in Chief of Marvel 1 was very warmly received and treated with a great deal of respect at the fair. I felt very proud and extremely honored!

In Spain, many Marvel titles are published by Editorial Forum. a very prestigious publishing house – and they do a terrific job with our stuff (as well as their own). My counterpart at Forum, their Editor in Chief, is a very knowledgeable, skilled and professional gentleman named Antonio Martin, with whom I spoke several times. I'd like to take this opportunity to publically declare Antonio and his crew Honorary Bullpenners!

HOME AGAIN

for about thirty seconds, then it was off to Tulsa. Oklahoma to appear at Tulsa Con 83. hosted by the Tulsa Believers in Comics Fandom.

That, my friends, is one terrific group of people. and they throw an outstanding convention. If you're interested in joining a great, active, down-right fun comics club, or if you'd like into on their next event, write to the club president at this address:

Larry Thomas 3836 East 21st Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Oh, and by the way. Tulsa is the hometown-of Guess who was a guest of honor at the 3rd An- EPIC Illustrated Magazine Editorial Director, Arhadn't mentioned that.

For a whole couple of weeks this time. You know there's something funny going on around this place. As you may have heard, me and all of the Marvel editors are going away to conventions during the month of August. That means that all of the comics which go on sale in September, bearing a January cover date, will be handled entirely by the seconds-in-command - the assistant editors. So, around here, the month of the September-onsale-January-cover-date issues has become known as Assistant Editors Month.

Now, those guys could, and probably should just caretake the books for that one month, but rumor has it that they've planned a whole bunch of. say unusual stuff. They're trying to, in one month, revolutionize comice

Apparently they've enlisted the cooperation of the artists and writers because there are a lot of very secret, closed-door meetings going on around here lately, and, nobody, but nobody is letting on to the editors - or me - what's planned for those January cover-date issues

I'm not kidding. Assistant Editors Month was an musing notion, and we've all had some laughs talking about it, but I think it may be getting a little out of hand. I'm genuinely concerned about this and I may have to put my foot down and put a stop to it. What do you think? What would you do? Just for your info, here's a list of the people I'm

talking about

th s assistant **BOB DeNATALE** Amazing Spider-Man Peter Parker Marvel Team-Un

Bob Budiansky sassistant MIKEHIGGINS Fantastic Four Daredevi Return of the Jeas

Mark Gruenwald's assistant MIKECARLIN Avengers

Iron Man Thor. Captain America

Raiph Macchio's assistant BOBHARRAS Dazzier 1151

Micronauts WhatIf ROM

Denny O Neil's assistant LINDA GRANT Alpha Flight Power Man Iron Fist G1 Joe Moon Knight

Cari Pott's assistant ANNINOCENTI Hulk Detenders Doctor Strange Fantare. The Thing

Larry Hama's assistant MOWSLEY Conan King Conar Savage Sword

Louise Jones as ELIOT BROWN Y-Mon Now Mutante Star Wars ndiana lones

Those are the potential perpetrators - some of them you may know a little about from seeing a bit of their published writing, art, lettering, etc. others are strictly unknown quantities to you, since all their work has been behind the scenes. Tell me. would you haul the lot of them up short and squeich neir plans? Or trust them, and see what comes out in September? It may be too late already to do anything else

Those January cover date issues may be some real one-of-a-kind collectors items...

Anyway, stay well

roote Jim Shooter

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X-MEN #175 - Is Madelyne Pryor really Jean Grey? Is she Dark Phoenix? Are you crazy enough to even consider missing this issue? It's double-sized, double excitement, and PAUL SMITH's final issue of the mag before JOHN ROMITA, JR. comes aboard. Written by CHRIS CLAREMONT. Inked by BOB WIACEI

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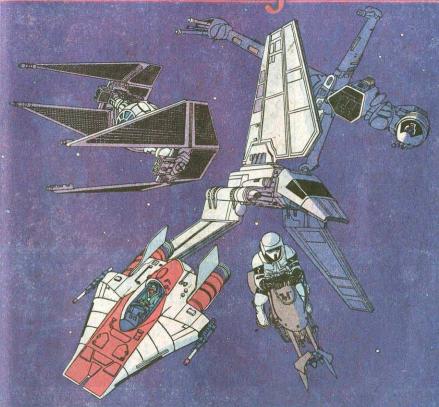
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WESPIDER'S WEE

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BOR DENATALE ASSESTUALT SPICTOR

Hi. I'm Danny Fingeroth and I've been introducing myself in all the other Spider-Man titles and, boy, am I tired of it! But I'm not tired of the of web-slinger, that's for sure. I'm going to be editing Spidey's titles (plus KA-ZAR THE SAV-AGE) now that Tom DeFalco's been pro-moted to Executive Editor, and I'm gonna do my best to make sure they stay as good as Tom and his grew made 'em. That's it. I'm gonne shut up now. You say something...

Dear Roger, John and Frank:

I really liked AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #241. The Cheshire Cat-like cover was great. How about more of the same from John Romita Jr. and Terry Austin? And the coloring really topped the whole thing off.

John and Frank's use of shadow on Soider-Man's costume was much appreciated. This issue there is often more black than blue in the costume, and I think it looks great! The June issues of SPEC-TACULAR SPIDER-MAN and MARVEL TEAM-UP also showed a darker costume. Is this the subtle change which Tom DeFalco mentioned in MARVEL AGE #2?

Roger Stern is both an excellent writer and - apparently - an Amazing Spider-Fan. The man who brought Spider-Man back to his old high school and the General Techtronics Labs, where it all began, now discloses the origin of the Vulture and returns us to almost-forgotten locales such as the Vulture's Staten Island farm. This attention to Spider-Man's past gives the reader something else to look for that is found in few other titles. This is a major reason why AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is on my must-buy list.

Doug Buseck Culver City, CA 902301

You did indeed pick up on the new change in Spider-Man's attire, Doug... or perhaps we should say, old change. Ya see, Spider-Man's costume started out as red and black with blue highlights ... but somehow, over the years, the black areas got smaller and smaller until the Spider-suit was red and blue. Well, with the issues you mentioned, we finally decided it was time to get back to basics. We think it's a bold, dramatic look, and it's nice to see that you agree. How do the rest of you like it?

And as long as we're soliciting opin-ions, howdja like this issue's story? Our creative crew had the time of their lives working on it. It was a gamble... but we think it paid off! After all, how else could you get to see of JJJ givin' Spidey's webbed feet a smooch? But we've got to know how you liked our off-beat offering. Tell us. Fast.

Dear Marvel.

After finishing AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #241. I realized that something was very, very wrong... not just in this issue, but in the past four or five. Peter Parker's life is just going too well. One of the first things that I liked about the of Wall-crawler was that he had problems, just like everybody else. What happened to his money problems, his hassles with J. Jonah Jameson, his aunt's sudden illnesses?

I know this sounds strange, but mess up

his life a little. Make an embarrassing situation, put JJJ on an anti-Spider-Man rampage, or have Pete's sweet Aunt May get kidnanned

Why don't you give away Spider-Man's identity? The whole world doesn't have to know... just one or two people.

By the way - you've probably heard this a million times, but let's make it a million-andone - the creative crew on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is great.

Dary Moyoffarian Mercer Island, WA 98040

Whew! We're glad you threw in the last sentence, Daryl For a minute there, you had us thinking you didn't like anything

wa've done! But as for Pete's life going too well... hey, are you pulling our legs? In the four or five issues prior to #241, Pete's had to face the Hobgoblin, a fellow he's at least partially responsible for... and a gent who might know his secret identity. He's had to face both the Owl and Dr. Octopus, and he's worried himself silly over whether or not the Black Cat would pull through. Since then, he's been caught up ingly in a lover's triangle with Lance Bandon and Amy Powell, and come to the hard decision that he had to quit school. If that's your idea of the good life, we hate to think of what you'd consider a bad day!

Sheesh! Give poor Pete a break, will va?

Dear Guys,
The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN has been my favorite comic since the first time I read it. but there's still a lot I'd like to know about Spider-Man. How much can he lift? How high can he jump? What's his endurance like? Alfred Lyon

San Jose, CA 95125

Hey, Al, if it's spider-data you want, then you need look no further than issue #10 of THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE, still on sale! Not only does said issue tell you all you'd ever want to know about May Parker's fa-vorite nephew, but it gives the low-down on everything from S.H.I.E.L.D. to the Sub-Mariner, Watch for it!

Dear Marvel.

You guys are without equal when it comes to original, out-of-the-ordinary, and yet believable origins for your heroes and villains. Even so, the Vulture's past had been left more or less a mystery... until issue #241. (That long-term mystery, in itself, was original and out-of-the-ordinary.)

"In the Beginning..." gave a very believa-ble account of how and why the origin of the Vulture had been so long shrouded in mystery. The animosity Vultch had for Bestman was his to settle, and his alone. He wasn't concerned with trying to broadcast his story to the world.

Another aspect of the story I found pleasing was the fact that the Vulture didn't attempt to alibi or excuse his behavior. He wanted revenge on Bestman for cheating him, but didn't blame Bestman for making him a criminal. That was his own decision. If looks like Bestman will finally see justice which I'm sure the Vulture will consider a victory of sorts - but the Vulture will continue to live, as he has, the life of a super-criminal.

Rod Wahowske Emmett, MI 48022

Dear John and Terry:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #241 - what a myerl

Ben Varkentine Mountain View, CA 94040

And now, once again, for the possible answers to the question that's on the lips of all America... "Who is the Hobgob-

Dear Spider-Men:

I've come up with a lot of possibilities for the secret identity of Hobgoblin:

1) Dr. Jonas Harrow

2) J. Jonah Jameson

3) Another clone of Prof. Warren (The lackal)

4) Mysterio

5) Danny Berkhart (the ersatz Mysterio from issue #s 141 and 142)

- 6) The fella with no name from issue #153
 - 7) The Tinkerer 8) Bart Hamilton
 - 9) The Chameleon
- 10) Jackson Weele
- 11) Mesmero

David Torsiello South Orange, NJ 07079

After reading and re-reading recent issues of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, I have come to the startling conclusion that Harry Osborn is the Hobgoblin,

Mike Udel Dallas, TX 75229

I have figured out who the Hobgoblin is. His name... Felipe Picaro (from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #16).

Mark Gangi Milltown, NJ 08850

Professor Stromm...

Jason Crom Northwood, IA 50459

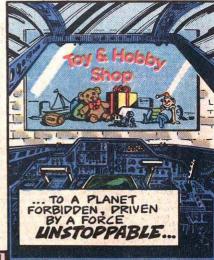
Hobaoblin is Steve Ditko.

Al Yuan San Francisco, CA

And the guesses just keep on coming Are any of them right? Only time and destiny will tell. (But, in all fairness, we can disqualify one of those guesses. We happen to have seen Steve Ditko talking with Al Milgrom in the Bullpen, the aist time the Hobgoblin went into action. So that eliminates Steve... If it was Steve and not a cleverly disguised double! Gee, you don't suppose - ?)

NEXT ISSUE: Spider-Man won't have any time for daydreaming next month as his search for the Hobgoblin continues, but all he finds are... "Interruptional" How so? Well, for one thing, our old buddy Nose Norton is finally out of the hospital and out on the streets... with a very mysterious trombone case! There's something bizarre bounding scross the rooftops of Brooklynt And, hey, what is it about Mary Jane Watson's past? Curious? Then check out AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #247, on sale in just thirty days. You'll be glad you did! Danny Fingeroth







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ZERO HOUR APPROACHING! SKILLED REBEL PILOT NEEDED DEATH STAR.

SITUATION DESPERATE POWERFUL NEW DEATH STAR REPORTED UNDER CONSTRUC-TION. MUST BE DESTROYED BEFORE ITS DEADLY COMPLETION OR ALL WILL BE LOST. MISSION INVOLVES SPLIT-SECOND

SKILL, MUST FLY MILLENNIUM FALCON THROUGH ENEMY FORCE FIELD ... PENE-TRATE DEATH STAR DEFENSES ... AND NEUTRALIZE CENTER CORE.



WARNING! EXPECT HEAVY RESISTANCE FROM EMPIRE'S TIE INTERCEPTORS. ALSO NOTE...BE ON ALERT FOR TRACK-ING DEATH RAY

TIME RUNNING OUT, ALL REBEL PILOTS REPORT IMMEDIATELY FOR RETURN OF THE JEDI DEATH STAR BATTLE. THE THRILLING HOME VIDEO GAME FROM PARKER BROTHERS.

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