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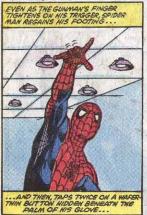




























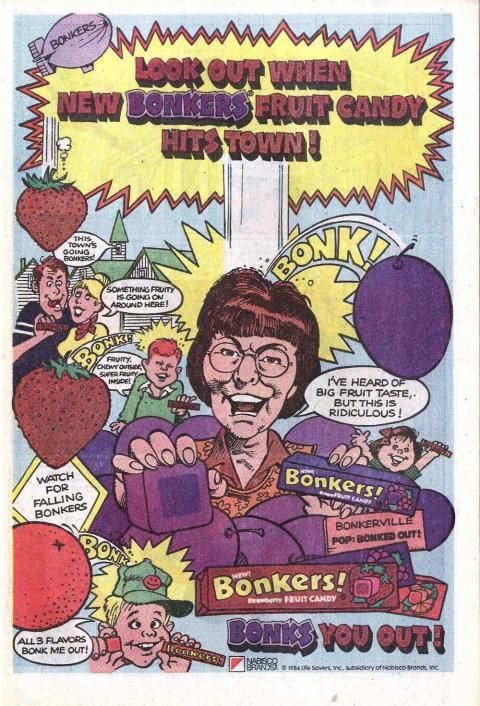


























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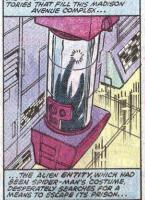
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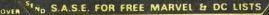
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Bullpen Bulletins

I'M STILL STANDIN' . .

Better than I ever did! And that's surprising, considering that I'm just back from the summer convention circuit, which is fun, but, nonetheless, will wear down even a large economy-size Editor in Chief, like myself. After three weeks on the road, the Wretched Mess Of Bullpen looks pretty good.

GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE

At the splendiferous CHICAGO COMICON, I met Colleen Doran, the beautiful, talented and diabolically clever artist who illustrates A Distant Soil, published by Warp Graphics, the same charming people who bring you Elfquest. Noticing the rather large number of good-looking guys on the Marvel creative staff, she suggested that on this page we run a Marvel Hunk of the Month feature. She suggested John Romita, Jr. (the X-Men penciler), Bill Sien-kiewicz (the New Mutants artist). Carl Potts (Editor of Doctor | It seems crazy to me, but . . .

Strange, and other stuff), and a few others for openers. Well, I'm game, if you ladies out there de-mand it. Whattaya say?



I'll be waiting to hear from you female readers about this idea.

One thing though — I drew the line at Colleen's other suggestion. I absolutely refuse to run a Win a Dream Date With Bob Layton (radio-active mutant writer / artist) Contest. Bob's a handsome guy, a terrific human being, and a close friend — but think how embarrassing it would be when he took the "lucky" winner to the movies and she found out that he glows in the dark.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN!

Ever have to make a phone call - a really urgent one - race to a pay phone, and discover that you don't have any change? It happened to me in Chicago. Fortunately, DC Comics Editor Julius Schwartz happened by and contributed two quarters to solve my problem. Now he refuses to let me pay him back so he can tell everyone that I'm "forever in his debt." Having worked for Julie briefly back in the early 1970's, and having learned much from his legendary self at that time, I already was forever in his debt. Talk about overkill.

POWER PACK #6 — The smash sensation of the comics world breaks into the Marvel Universel Join Energizer, Gee, Lightspeed and Mass Master as they run headlong into Dragon Man, Clook and Dagger, and your intendly neighborhood Spider-Man! Vour in for a front row seat, countesy of LOUISE SIMONSON, JUNE BRIGMAN, and SOB WIACEK!

DAREDEVIL #214 — It's the end of the Mican Synn saga, and possibly of Daredevil himself! And what will be the startling effect upon those close to Matt Murdoch? You must read "The Crumbling!"

Story by DENNY O'NEIL. Art by DAVID MAZZUCCHELLI.

THING #19 - John Byrne wrote a story THING #19 — John Byrre whole a subject that was just too big to appear all in this single issue, so if! I be continued this same month in FANTASTIC FOUR #274! That's right! You'll see the Thing appear in the pages of the FF for the first time since be-fore the SECRET WARS began! "Monster Mash" is drawn by RON WILSON and JOE SINNOTT in THE THING, followed with art by JOHN BYRNE and AL GORDON in FANTASTIC FOUR! The Marvel Magic goes on!

WHEN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?

Next month. And by the way, thanks for making Marvel Super Heroes Secret Wars the most popular comics series in the last quarter century.

Sincerely.

Jim Shooter

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#13: STARSTRUCK - The Off-Broadway science fiction smash by ELAINE LEE becomes Marvel's 13th Graphic Novel, with art by MIKE-KALUTA!



































NEXT ISSUE: SPIDER-MAN BATTLES TO SAVE THE LIVES OF HIS FRIENDS -- AS HARRY OSBORN CONFRONTS THE GHOSTS OF HIS PAST! DON'T MISS--

THE GUOSTS OF MY FATHER!

THE SPIDER'S WEB

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016

DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR
BOB DONATALE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

We like to get your letters. But if you don't want your full address published, please tell us.

Dear Mr. Fingeroth:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #253 was a good issue, all around, though you better bring back the Rose. He's too good a villain to just be given a one-shot outing

I do have one complaint though. I thought the editing this issue was some of the worst I've ever seen. Yes, that's right — you heard me. I didn't like the editing! I think Danny Fingeroth did a really sloppy job editing this issue.

I tell ya, Fingeroth could really learn a thing to two about editing from that Mark Gruenwald — now there's a real editor. Gruenwald brings that special level of professionalism to all his books. The man obviously cares enough to do the very best.

Fingeroth still has a ways to go. Listen to me, Danny: take lessons from Mark. Hell show you how it's done. Gruenwald is what they call an editor's editor — a consummate professional. I can always tell when a comic has been edited by Gruenwald, since it is of such amazingly high quality. Any comic which Mark Gruenwald edits is one I would be proud to add to my collection.

As for you, Danny ... well, keep trying. Maybe you'll get the hang of it eventually. After all, we can't all be Mark Gruenwalds. (By the way, Al Milgrom's cover drawing of the Blob was great! I've never seen anyone

so repulsive!)

Barry Dutter 2283 Old Farm Road Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Well, Barry, I... I don't know what to say, I guess I'll have to reconsider all the nasty things I've been saying about meety-mouthed Mark in our letters column feud, if a guy can elloit as much praise from you as Mark ... well, what can I say? Markie, if you're willing to make up, tell me so right away. The lettercol in CAPTAIN AMERICA #301 would be the perfect place, beginning a new era for Cap as it does. I'll try to learn all I can from you — provided we don't have to ait in the same room! (Opps. Sorry, I'll never do it again. Friends? Friends.)

Dear Spider-crew,

SPIDER-MAN #253 was a gem! Tom DeFalco was masterful, Rick Leonardi was true to form, and both performed superbly.

Tom, I do fike your style. The dialogue was tight, not at all detached or wandering. Possibly the nicest touch was Wendy Thorton's comment to Pete at the story's end. She unknowingly alluded to his biggest personal problem. I should hope he picked up on this.

Any relationship with Felicia Hardy, the Black Cat, is a mistake. She doesn't love peter, she loves the web-slinging, living myth. She's far too careless with all the secrets Peter has shown her, and was really insensitive and even cruel when he showed his face. In short, she's trouble, and Peter belongs in school for now.

C'mon, Tom — wake up Mary Jane Watson and make her realize it's only Peter for her. You'd have no trouble convincing Peter. Kevin Lee Routon

1930 Almaden Rd., #76 San Jose, CA 95125

No trouble convincing Peter? Obviously, Kevin, you wrote this letter before M.J. spilled her heart to Peter a few issues back; there's no telling what will happen between them next. I can guarantee, though, that you'll be seeing some major changes — and I do mean major — in Peter's relationshiup with Felicia. Stay tuned to all three Spidey books.

By the way, we're tickled pink you like Rick Leonard's pencils — so tickled, in fact, that we felt we ought to tell you about the new CLOAK & DAGGER comic that Rick is penciling, even as we speak. It's gonna be a regular, bi-monthly book, written by Bill Mantlo, inked by Terry Austin and edited by Carl Potts — and if you don't buy umpteen copies of the first issue you'll never forgive yourself! Look for it in a few months.

Dear Folks

Just wanted to let you know my opinion of the occurences in Spider-Man's life dur-

ing the past few issues.

First, congratulations on the new coetume — what a knockoult It would be an understatement to say that Spidey's new look is a sleek and sophisticated step into the '80s. Spider-Man does indeed look more "spidery" than ever leaner, more athletic, all arms and legs. I'm sure the mysterious qualities the suit possesses will offer some interesting storylines in the months ahead, as well.

Rick Leonardi's pencils in #255 gave this book a style unique to the Amazing Spider-Man, and his rendition of the Rose caught me by surprise. I was expecting something quite different when I first learned of this new villain through the "Coming Attractions" column of MARVEL AGE. "The Rose" brought to mind images of some outlandish super-villainess, a"la Poison livy—well, when I'm wrong, I'm really wrong! This elegant evilcloer is a classic representation of the masked crime lords from the pulp liction of the "40s. I. find something vaguely Nero Wolfe-fish about him, and being a true-blue Rex Stout fan, I mean that as a compliment

Aunt May's reaction to the news of Peter having left school was realistic and welf-handled. That one line — "you've dropped out," in that tiny voice — said it all. Her subsequent refusal to even speak with Peter, as depicted in PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #91, shows how deeply he has inadvertantly hurt her. It would seem that an important development in their relationship is on the horizon.

John Garner 5147 Denny, #1 N. Hollywood, CA 91601

Dear Marvel Comics,

I want to congratulate you on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #253. I loved it Rick Leonardi's art was fabulous and the story by Tom DeFalco was great. I especially liked Aunt May's reaction to Peter quitting school. The Rose is awesome, even though he didn't do much. I think he is

going to make a great villain. Keep up the

"Madd John" (No address give) New York, NY

Dear Danny and Bob.

The Rose is excellent! It's better to have Spidey flighting down-to-earth organized crime than the usual super villains. It adds some realism to the book. Reading about the Rose in #253 immediately brought to mind another criminal: the Grimenaster. But, please, don't kill off the Rose in two issues like you did to the Crimenaster. Make him last!

Victor Marchetti 7885 15th St. Bby. B.C. V3N 3A3 Cenada

Dear Spider-Guys,

Wow! AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #253 was perfect in every way! The story, the art — even the coloring seemed special! Who is this new guy! Bill Anderson? He's terrific! He has a unique style which fits Leonard's pencils even better than Terry Austin's. And it hought that Michael Golden was the ultimate Spitter-Man artist! I think! I like Leonard even better. Soon Ron Frenz with be returning, drawing in full pencils! It will be very hard to choose which artist! would rather have.

Tom, the story was great. You obviously spent a lot of time developing it, and the Rose looks like he will be a good returning villain. The story was a good portrayal of modern sports — the things that go on that the thinks the story that the sto

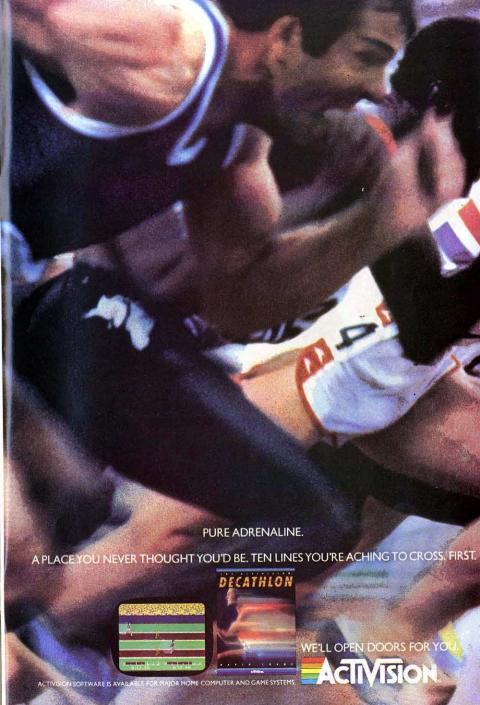
the public doesn't always know about. A few last things: Wendy seems like she could be a nice person, but she has to lighten up a bit! Someone as insensitive as her needs to learn to have a little compassion. Also, Spidey's new costume is getting even better and better. It filters unhealthy air, too! But would it be able to survive Los Angeles smog? Great idea bout the uniform not titting around Peter's fingertips when he was holding onto the ramp.

J.M.R.N. 688 E. 7th St. Brooklyn, NY 11218

NEXT: Spider-Man's showdown with the Rose and the Hobgoblin ... and a turning point of monumental stature for Mary Jane, Ltz ... and especially for Harry Osborn! Everything comes to a head in "The Sins of My Father!" in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #281. You don't wanna miss it.

Danny Fingeroth
P.S. Fans of Spidey's bitck suit especially won't want to miss next issue —
or FANTASTIC FOUR #274, either.
You've been notified.







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