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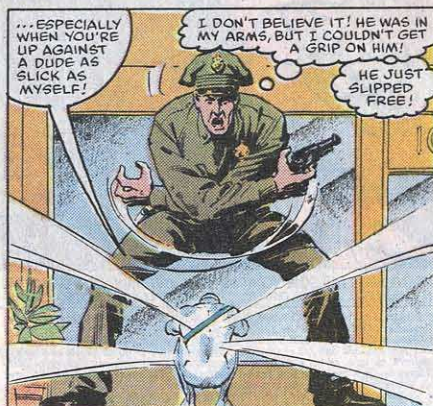
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MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...

FWOPP!

THIS REALLY ISN'T NECESSARY, BOYS!

YOU CAN SAVE YOURSELVES A WORLD FULL OF HURT IF YOU JUST TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!

AN OLD MAN WAS SEVERELY BEATEN IN THE ALLEY BEHIND THIS PLACE LAST NIGHT!

IT HAD ALL THE MARKINGS OF A PROFESSIONAL JOB!

WHO DID IT, AND WHY?!

W-WE DON'T KNOW, MAN!

W-WE WERE OUT BOOSTING A LIQUOR STORE IN THE BRONX WHEN IT ALL WENT DOWN!

WHAT--?!

OF ALL THE LUCK! I OVERHEARD THESE CLOWNS BRAGGING ABOUT THE JOB THEY'D SCORED LAST NIGHT, AND I JUST ASSUMED--!

UH-OH! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS WARNING ME OF DANGER!

WOW! IF THAT POOL CUE HAD CONNECTED--!

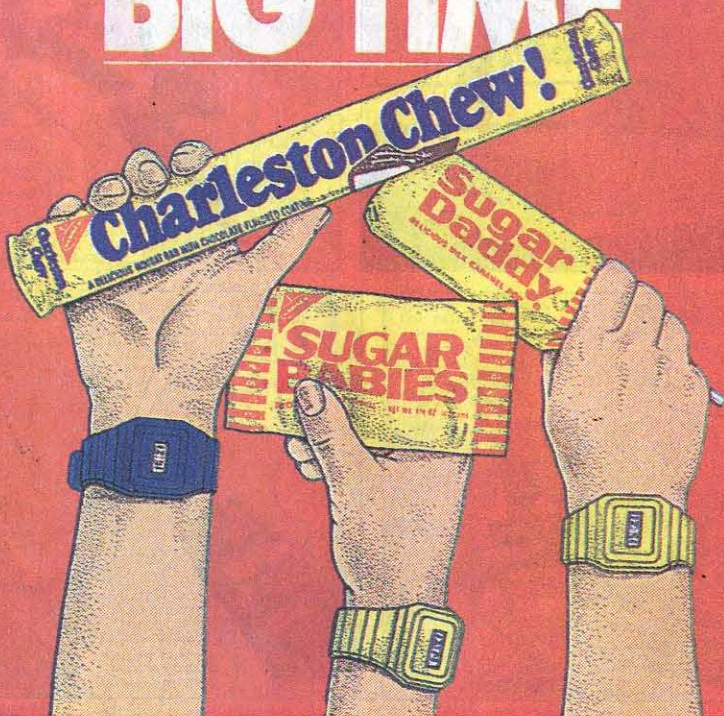
I DON'T KNOW WHO'S AT THE OTHER END OF IT, BUT I'M NOT IN A FORGIVING MOOD TODAY!

GET OUTTA MY PLACE, YA WALL-CRAWLING CREEP! I RUN A CLASSY JOINT HERE!

SHEESH! SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK THIS SORT OF THING EVER HAPPENS TO A GUY LIKE DAREDEVIL!



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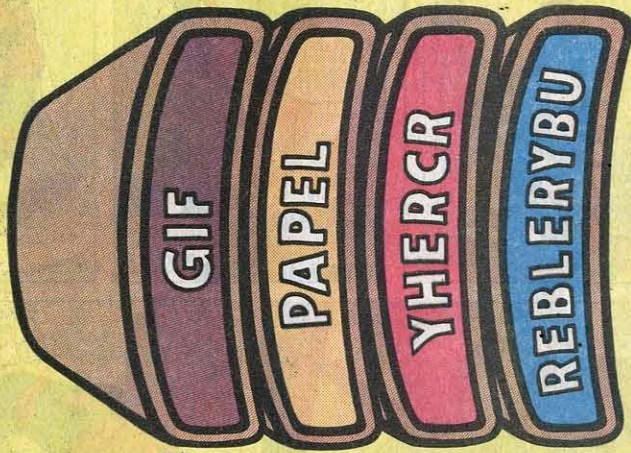




Newton's Fruit Chewy Mix-Up!

Unscramble the letters on the left and fill in the Newton's Fruit Chewy flavors on the right!

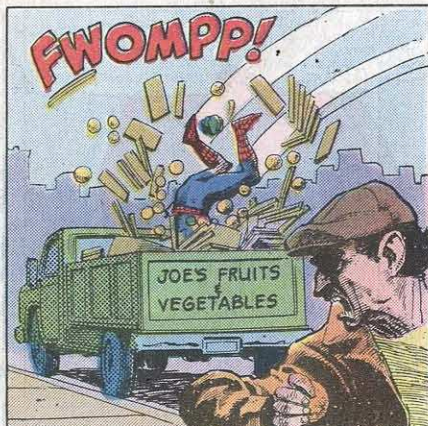
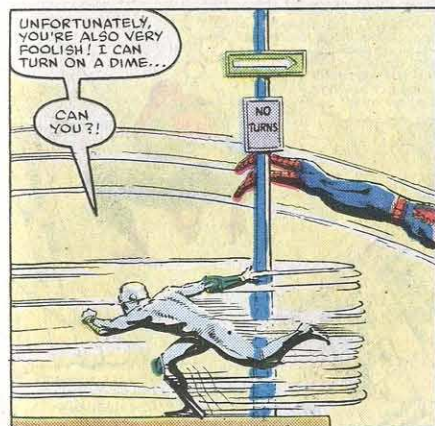
HINT: there are two new flavors!

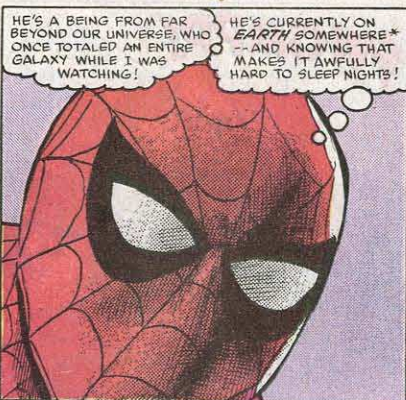


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"BUT THEN, EVEN BEFORE I COULD ANNOUNCE MY DEVELOPMENT, BEEMONT MANUFACTURING WAS ABSORBED BY A LARGER CORPORATION, AND GIVEN NEW MANAGEMENT..."

AFTERNOON, BEACHER! MY NAME'S ROCKWALL. YOU WORK FOR ME NOW.

THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME CHANGES MADE AROUND HERE!



"HE WASN'T KIDDING! WITHIN A FEW MONTHS, ROCKWALL HAD TURNED THE COMPANY COMPLETELY UPSIDE DOWN!"

"PROFITS WERE FALLING, OFFICE MORALE WAS IN THE TOILET, AND THEN..."

GOT SOME BAD NEWS, BEACHER. I'VE DECIDED TO DISBAND YOUR DEPARTMENT. YOU'RE FIRED!

WHAT--?!

HAVE A NICE DAY!



"I WAS FURIOUS, BUT I'D HAVE MY REVENGE! I'D TAKE MY NEW CHEMICAL COATING WITH ME, AND BUILD MY OWN COMPANY AROUND IT!"

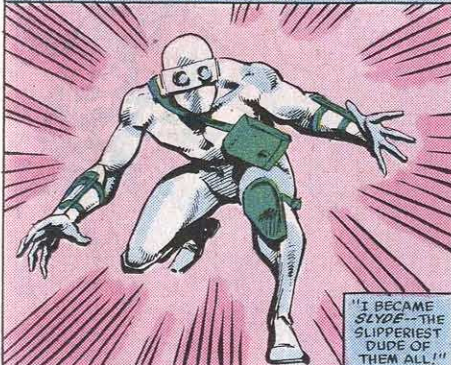
"BUT THE BANKS WOULDN'T LEND ME THE NECESSARY CAPITAL TO GET STARTED UNLESS I CAME UP WITH A SIZEABLE DOWNPAYMENT ON MY OWN! I WAS DESPERATE TO RAISE MONEY QUICKLY! AND THEN, I HIT ON AN IDEA..."

IF THE BANKS WON'T GIVE ME THE MONEY I NEED, I'LL TAKE IT!



"I BOUGHT A SPEED SKATER'S COSTUME FROM A LOCAL SPORTING GOODS STORE, AND TREATED IT WITH MY MIRACLE COATING..."

"THEN, I DESIGNED A PAIR OF BOOTS WHICH COULD GLIDE OVER ANY SURFACE, AND ADDED SPECIAL PADS TO MY GLOVES SO THAT I COULD GRIP THINGS..."



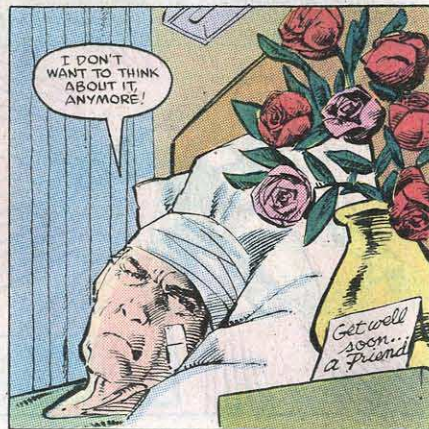
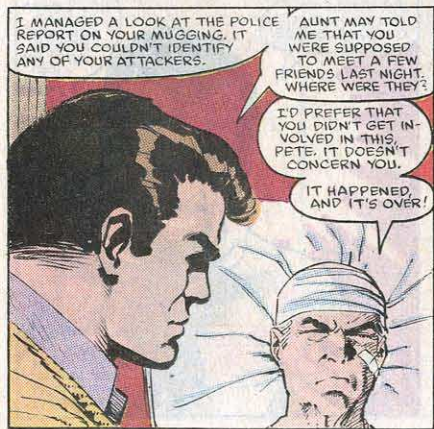
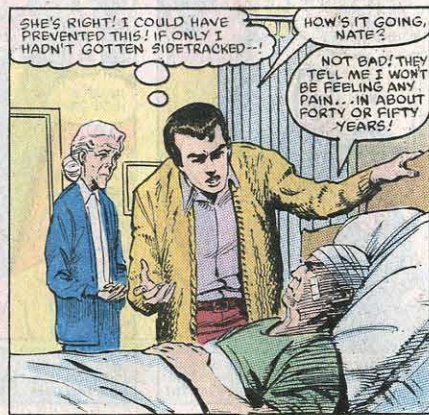
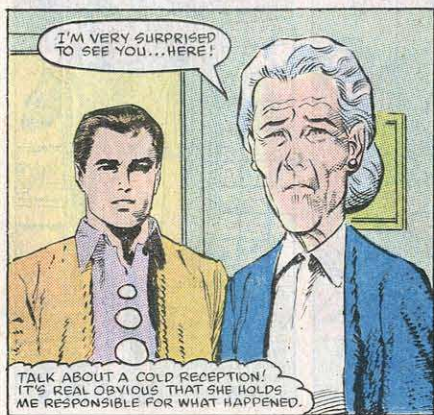
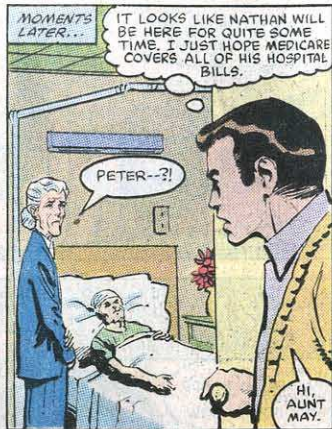
"I BECAME SLIDE--THE SLIPPERIEST DUDE OF THEM ALL!"

I'M GOING TO PUT ROCKWALL OUT OF BUSINESS!



HE'S GONNA PAY FOR SCREWING AROUND WITH MY LIFE!

IN FACT, I MIGHT EVEN PAY HIM A LITTLE VISIT TONIGHT...





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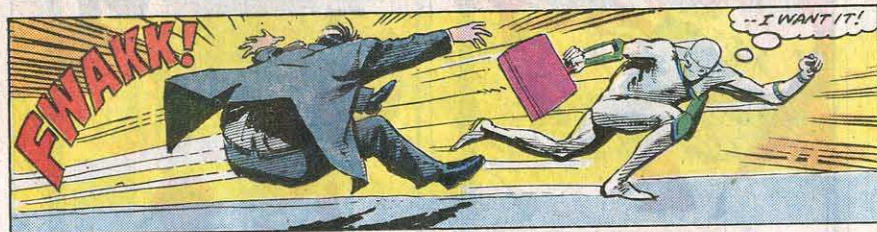
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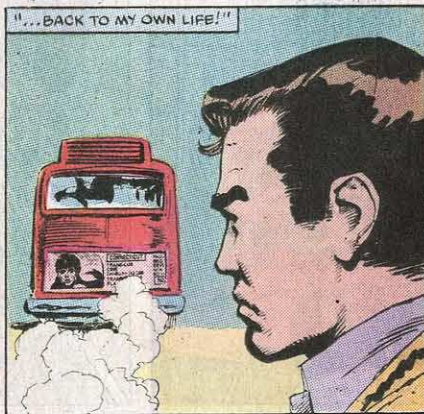
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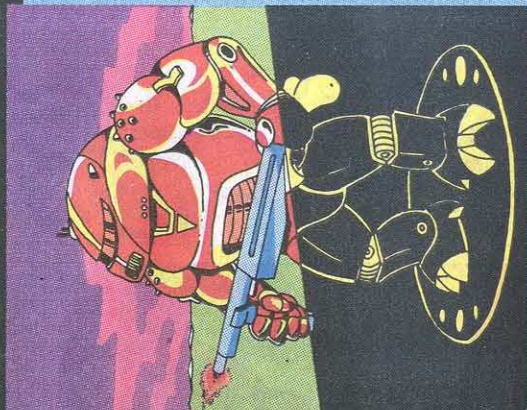
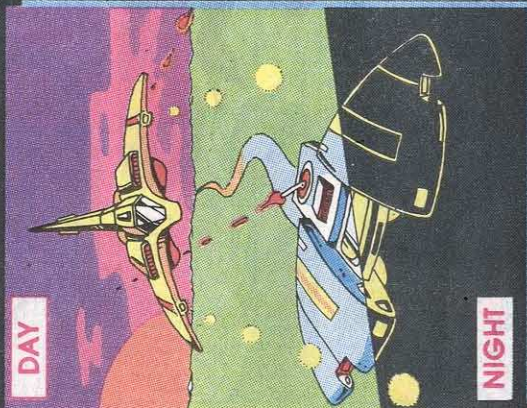
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AMAZING ADVENTURES

(OLD) 2, 3, 21, 24

ASTONISHING TALES 2, 9

13, 16-19, 32

AVENGERS 193, 199, 201

204, 206, 210, 212, 228

240

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

1, 2

CAPT. AMERICA 191-193

142, 145, 151, 166-168

170, 176-183, 185-191

193, 194-197, 201-203

207, 210, 213, 215, 216

219, 223, 230-246

260-264, 280-279, 291

285, 286, 292, 296, 298

301, 302, 308

CAPT. MARVEL 37-44, 46

49, 51, 52, 54, 61, 62

CHAMBER OF DARKNESS

5, 8

CHAMPIONS 3

CONAN 47, 74, 77, 79

105, 107-111, 115-127, 130

132-135, 137, 138, 156

161, 162, 167, ANNUALS

4, 8, 9

CRASH RYAN 2, 3

CRYSTAL 2, 4, 8

DAREDEVIL 109, 112, 122

125, 126, 130, 141, 186

187, 188

DAZZLER 9, 11, 15, 17, 18

21, 22, 28

DEFENDERS 21-29, 33, 35

30, 41, 44, 46, 57, 67, 99

101, 102, 104, 107, 116

120, 121, 133

DENNIS THE MENACE 1-6

DEVIL Dinosaur

DR. STRANGE 40-47

55-59, 61, 67

ETERNALS 5, 7, 13-17

FALCON 2

FANTASTIC FOUR 228

230, 234, 236, 250, 252

259, 262, ANNUALS 14-17

HERCULES (OLD) 3

MULK 164, 168, 190

191-194, 196, 201, 203

208-209, 210, 219-219

227, 221

INVADERS 19, 36, 38

IRON MAN 75-77, 80, 82

53, 85, 92, 95-97, 99, 101

104, 105, 129, 130, 140

JACK OF HEARTS 1, 2

JOHN CARTER 1

JUNGLE ACTION 22

KAZAR (OLD) 7, 17

MACHINE MAN (NEW) 4

MARVEL FANFARE 9, 11-13

MARVEL PRESENTS 9

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT 23

26, 33

MARVEL TAILS 1

MARVEL TALES 47, 49, 85

97, 101-102

MARVEL TEAM-UP 93-99

101, 102, 104-108, 110-116

MICRONAUTS (NEW) 3, 9

146, 145, 149

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE 23

25, 26-36, 38, 46, 49, 49

56-62, 64, 65, ANNUAL 6

MOON KNIGHT 22-25, 27

28, 30

POWERMAN/IRON FIRST

15, 16, 18, 20-21, 23-32

34, 35, 38-47, 51, 55, 56

58-63

QUEST PROBE 2

RAT FURY 11, 19

SIX FROM SINUS 2, 4

SKULL 1

SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION 4

SPIDER WOMAN 1

STRANGE TALES 171-177

172-188

SUB-MARINER 22, 28, 29

31, 32, 34-72

SUPERVILLAIN CLASSICS 1

THING 9, 9

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THOR 216, 218, 222, 223

226, 227, 229-244

240-249, 253, 255-258

260, 261, 264, 266

261-266, 268-297, 299

301, 302, 304-307

TIME BANDITS 1

2010 1, 2

WIERD WONDER TALES 1, 2

2, 5, 13

DC COMICS

ACTION 430-436

438-442, 443-473

476-480, 482-484

486, 489, 491-499, 501

502

ADVENTURE 429, 431

437, 439-445, 447-450

ALL-STAR COMICS 59, 60

67, 68

ALL-STAR SQUADRON 2, 4

8, 12, 15, 17, 19, 21, 27, 29

31, 38

AMETHYST (MINI SERIES

OF 192) (ISS) 1, 2

AMETHYST (NEW) (1984) 1, 2

2

ATARI FORCE 2, 3, 7-15, 17

BATMAN 205-271, 285

291, 308, 309, 314-342

ISSUE 4-8

BEOWULF 1-15

BLACK LIGHTNING 10

BLACK MAGIC 7, 8

BOY COMMANDOS 1, 2

BRAVE AND BOLD 110, 111

119-124, 126-138, 143

150-167

CAMELOT 3000 10, 11

CHALLENGERS OF THE

UNKNOWN 61, 67, 87

CHAMPION STORIES 2, 3

CLAW 2, 9, 11

DC COMICS PRESENTS 2

DC SPECIAL 17, 23, 24, 27

DC SUPERSTARS 5-9, 12, 15

DETECTIVE 449, 451-457

459, 462-464, 467

FIRESTORM 10, 19

FLASH 233, 236, 238

239, 242-250, 259, 267

268, 270, 271, 279-281

285-288, 290-296, 298

FOREVER PEOPLE 11

G.I. COMBAT 107-109, 213

239

GREEN LANTERN 102, 113

HERCULES UNBOUND 1

HOUSE OF MYSTERY 219

220, 222, 223, 231-237

240, 241, 253

HOUSE OF SECRETS 112

113, 126, 130, 132-137

139, 145, 146, 149, 150

ISSUE 4-8

JEMMI 3-8

JUSTICE INC 2, 4

JLA 173-180

KARATE KID 7, 15

NATHANIEL BUSH (OLD) 3, 4

OUR ARMY AT WAR 264

268, 270

FLOP 4, 7, 11, 13, 14, 16-19

RAGMAN 1

RIOMA 2-5

SECRET SOCIETY OF

SUPERVILLAINS 2, 8, 9

SECRETS OF THE LEGION

1

SGT. ROCK 308, 330, 332

344-346, 349, 353, 364

SPANNERS GALAXY 1-3

STALKER 1, 3

STARFIRE 1, 5, 6

STAR-SPANGLED WAR

STORIES 176-179, 189

STAR TREK 10-12

SUN DEVILS 6, 7

SUPERMAN 177, 288-293

295, 301, 309-313, 315

317, 318, 320, 321, 324

325, ANNUALS 9, 10

SUPERMAN FAMILY 178

180

SUPERTEAM FAMILY 2, 7

9, 10, 12, 13

SWAMP THING (OLD) 11

12, 14, 17-19, 21, 23

SWORD OF THE ATOM 1, 2

4

THRILLER 5-12

TOR 1-5

UNTOLD LEGEND OF BAT

MAN 2

VIGILANTE 3, 4

WONDERWOMAN 218

219, 223, 226, 228, 229

230, 233, 244

WORLD'S FINEST 222

231-235, 243

AMERICOMICS

AMERICOMICS PRESENTS

1, 2

BLACK DIAMOND 1, 2, 4, 5

ARCHIE

BLUE RIDGE 6, 7, 9

FLY 6, 7

MIGHTY CRUSADERS 6-8

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MEMESIS 4, 5

ROBOSCHUTER 3

ECLIPSE

ECLIPSE MONTHLY 3

MS. TREE 2-4

FIRST

E-MAN 5-12, 17, 18

MARS 1, 3, 5

STARSLAYER 12, 13

WARP 1, 7, 9, 11

JO COMICS

T.H.U.D.E.R. AGENTS

(OLD) (HALL OF FAME) 2, 3

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

BY REQUEST...

I've been asked by a couple of comics dealers to reprint an item I ran a few years ago explaining what the different markings on Marvel covers mean. Okay...

SEEN YOU SEE 'EM BOTH DEPT...

Many collectors have inquired about the two different types of covers they've seen on Marvel Comics. One type has the price, date, issue number, and some strange numbers and symbols in little boxes, like this:



Another has the price, date, and issue number in an "M" shape like so:



The reason for the two different covers is that our comics are circulated two different ways. Some reach the public via the Curtis Circulation Company and a network of Independent Distributor Wholesalers who service newsstands, drugstores, 7-11's, and other magazine outlets across the country. These comics whose covers have the little boxes. They carry the Curtis seal

and, presumably, the strange numbers mean something to wholesaler-type people.

A substantial number of our comics are not distributed by Curtis, however. These comics go directly to comics specialty shops and other locations not serviced by I.D. Wholesalers. Since these comics aren't handled by Curtis, they don't need the funny little numbers and carry the Curtis seal—hence the Curtis M design, which so beautifully sets off the remaining info. Clever, huh? That's the scoop.

Apparently, some collectors were worried that the one type might be less valuable as collectibles than the other type, or that the little boxes covers were "reprint" or vice versa. Well, how much our comics are worth as collectors' items really is up to you guys. Only in the marketplace can the value of a collectible be determined. We can tell you that the comics with both types of covers are printed at the same time, on the same presses, that neither type is a "reprint" of the other, and that except for the cover markings, the comics are identical in every way. All clear?

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

Chuck Hoy, one of our friendly International Licensing folks informs me that a huge comics convention is coming up soon in Australia. Here are the facts:

Convention Name: The Australian Comic Convention

Dates: January 17, 18, 19, 1986

Place: Sidney Opera House

Guests: Stan Lee, Will Eisner, Jim Steranko, Frantz Kantor (An Australian Comics person)

Sponsors: Comic Empire Pty. Ltd. and Federal Publishing (Marvel's Australian licensed publisher)

For information: Richard Ryan, 25 Coward Street, Mascot NSW 2020 AUSTRALIA, Telex: AA22922

I hear it's going to be a very well organized affair with over ten thousand fans expected to attend. Wow. Sounds like a blast.

I don't imagine too many of you North American readers will be able to hop over to Australia and check it out, but isn't it a totally outrageous idea? Tell you what—if you do make it to the Con, drop me a line and tell me all about it. I'll print the best Con Report on this page!

NEXT MONTH...

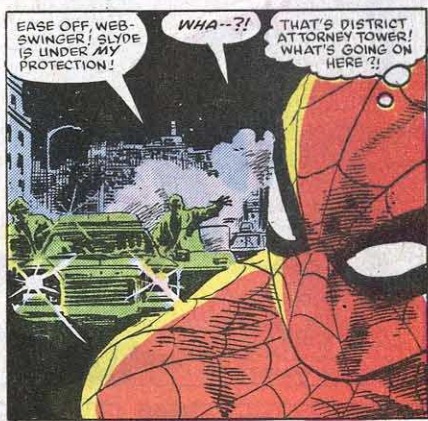
The winners of the Marvel Try-Out Contest will be announced. A bit late, but... if you had to judge over five thousand submissions you'd understand why it took so long! Anyway...

Hang in there,

Jim Shooter
Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECK LIST

- ☐ THE THING #31
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #226
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #35
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #10
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #4
- ☐ CLOAK AND DAGGER #4—A Secret Wars II cross-over!
- ☐ SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #5
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #32
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #2—Featuring everyone from Beast to Cleal
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #272—Introducing a major, new Spider-foe... SLYDE!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #313
- ☐ POWER PACK #18—Kurse arrives in this Secret Wars II cross-over!
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #30
- ☐ INDIANA JONES #33
- ☐ DAZZLER #41
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- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #315
- ☐ AVENGERS #263—The Sub-Mariner joins up in this preview X-Factor cross-over!
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #178
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #183
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NEXT ISSUE: SPIDEY AND PUMA JOIN FORCES...
"TO CHALLENGE THE **BEYONDER!**"



THE SPIDER'S WEB

JIM OWSLEY
EDITOR
KEITH WILLIAMS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

VIEW FROM THE TENTH FLOOR

Jim Shooter has left for a convention on the west coast. Tom DeFalco has been left in charge of Marvel until Jim returns. Within 24 hours of Jim's departure, Tom has earned for himself the highly coveted title of "Mr. Warmth." Easily. Hands down.

As Executive Editor, Tom's position is, essentially, to lord it over the editors and handle day to day emergencies for Jim while Jim is conquering worlds, slashing red tape, and pushing everyone to make Marvel four times as good as the next guy (instead of our usual three). With Jim's warm, friendly buffering influence away in California, we're left with pure, unbridled DeFalco. Let me give you an example of what I mean.

Imagine Ghengis Khan having a bad day. Imagine J.R. Ewing or Alexis Carrington Coby Dexter... only really nasty.

Imagine Santa Claus as a schizophrenic sadist... and you've been bad.

Well, you get the idea. But, heck, this is supposed to be a positive-approach editorial column. I'm supposed to say something nice about people here. Tom is, after all, one of the best writers and editors in comics today. Surely there's something nice I can say about him. Let me think.

Umm...

Ahh...

Uhh...

Tom's got a great moustache.

Jim Owsley

SEND ALL LETTERS TO:
Marvel Comics Group,
387 Park Avenue South,
New York, N.Y. 10016. Please include your name
and address. We will, however, withhold them
upon request.

Dear Spidey-Writers,
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #268 was just "Marvelous." The team of DeFalco, Frenz, Rubinstein, Sharon, Owsley, and Jim Shooter was the "ultimate" team. Issue #268 had a perfect plot (from SECRET WARS II), perfect art, editing, coloring, and penciling.

I think a good comic such as ASM and WEB OF SPIDER-MAN should have a permanent art-writing team, such as the X-MEN have. The team mentioned in paragraph one of this letter should be the one for ASM.

On the sidelines, the "new" Spidey comic, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, features only big-time villains, eg. Vulture, Doc Ock, Beyonder, and the Black Spidey Costume. In the future, I hope to see Misterio, Hobgoblin, and possibly, Dr. Doom.

Matin Uhlir
84 Larkfield, Don Mills
Ontario, Canada

Hi, Web-Slingers,

I read WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #6, and ASM #268. I'm mad. Spidey, a thief!! Yeah!! Too bad.

Well, hear me, and do it right. I want to see Spider-Man giving back that golden note-book to Anderson and say he's sorry about what he said to him the night he took the note-book. Do you hear me?? O.K.!!

J.F. Soto
C. Ronda #57
Res. Sultana
Mayaguez, PR 00708

We hear ya, J.F.!

Hey, Look, Guys!

I got the ASM #268 today. Great story. Good art.

On the cover, I noticed Spidey swinging down that building (that the Beyonder turned to gold), and I remembered that the cover to the WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #6 had him swinging down the building also. Well, I put them both together, the WEB on the left and ASM on the right, and they fit together!

That was really neat! One side with the new and the other with the old suit. I was so surprised!

Well, anyway, the three together (ASM #268, WEB #6, and SECRET WARS II #2) was a great story. I hope Spidey keeps some money from that notepad!

Keep the new costume!

Kevin Sheller
390 Allen Drive
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Our "double cover" by FANTASTIC FOUR and INCREDIBLE HULK writer/artist extraordinaire John Byrne was one of the industries' best kept secrets, Kevin! Now you've told everyone!

Dear Jim,

SPIDER-MAN #268, "This Gold is Mine," was excellent. It was really great to get Ron Frenz back. I really missed his art in issue #267. Also, I think that you guys did a good job following up WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #6, which was also a good issue.

Now that I have got all the praising out of the way, I can get back to the serious stuff. I have been waiting patiently for you to reveal who the Hobgoblin is. My personal opinion is that the Hobgoblin is Ned Leeds. And on the topic of the Hobgoblin, what have him and the Rose been up to lately? For my final question, is Spidey going to keep switching costumes? It is really quite irritating since it's obvious that the red and blue is far superior.

In closing, I would like to say that ASM is the

best of the Spider-Man titles, and better than all the other Marvel titles.

Scott Traverse
10115 Hillview Dr.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

For those of you who've been waiting with baited breath to find out what devious new scheme the Hobgoblin has up his sleeve and what he's been doing for the past several months, be sure not to miss ish 275!! Yup, that's right, ish 275 will feature the return of the Hobgoblin, with a vengeance!!!

Dear Marvel,

Oh... come now. This time you guys really did it in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #268, you show Spider-Man recalling the past occurrences. It shows that the Beyonder (by the way, what a cool dude the Beyonder is!) turning an entire skyscraper, and every inorganic object within it, into solid gold. But it shows Spidey helping some people out of it wearing normal clothes! Well, as far as my understanding of biology goes, clothing (except for fig leaves) is inorganic. So, wouldn't their clothes have been turned into solid gold, too? Well... I get that beloved No-Prize... By the way, keep up the good work.

Jake Loomis
Rt. 4, Box 16A
Oakley, CA 94561

Sorry, Jake, cotton, wool, and leather are all organic. Good thing that all the people working in that building had good taste in clothes. Can you imagine if they'd been wearing polyester...

Dear Webbed Ones,

I am a Spider-Man freak, like millions of other readers out there. I sincerely think you should make a Spider-Man graphic novel; you would certainly make a sale on me, as well as those millions out there craving for a Spidey graphic novel. Please think hard about your decision.

Jeff Rand
37346 Fairview Lane
Lake Villa, IL 60046

Good news, Jeff, even as we speak, a Spider-Man Graphic novel drawn by none other than the legendary Berni Wrightson is nearing completion. Wake the kids, phone the neighbors, you don't want to miss this one!! In the meantime, don't miss the Webbed One's guest appearance in our blockbuster graphic novel, REVENGE OF THE LIVING MONOLITH! On sale now!

Dear Marvel,

"Where is Puma?"

In issues 256 and 257, we were introduced to a new and deadly Spider-Man villain.

Puma is one of the best enemies I've seen in a long time (next to Hobgoblin).

Puma is a cross between Kraven and Wolverine. His superhuman powers and transformations are awesome.

I would like to see another confrontation between Spider-Man and Puma in the future, maybe even a special section with the origin of Puma.

I hate to say it, but if anyone is capable of killing Spider-Man, it's PUMA!!

Chris Dodd
BOX 206
Creemore, Ont.,
Canada L0M1G0

Hang on to your hat, Chris! Next issue kicks off a three-part Spidey tale featuring the Puma himself! Don't miss SECRET WARS II #7 (on sale now), then meet us back here for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #273. Then the story continues in PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #111, then continues again in SECRET WARS II #8 and concludes here finally in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #274! Whew!

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