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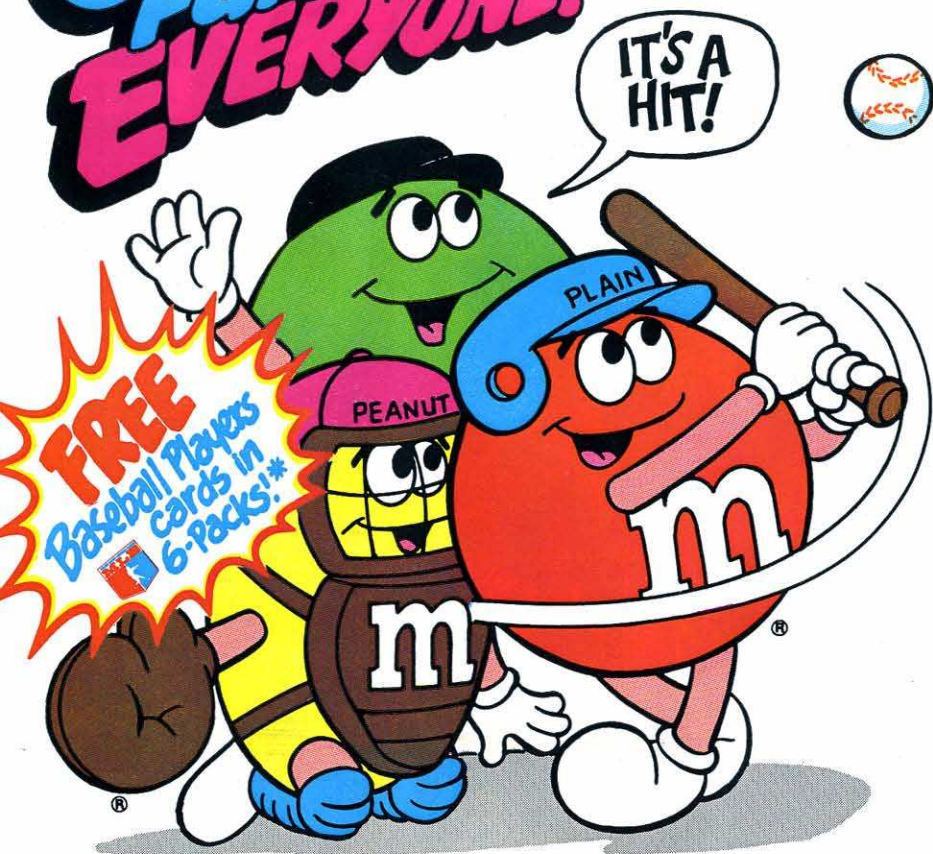
PART 5

"THUNDER"



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STAN LEE
PRES

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

KRA-KOOM
THUNDER

They said my mother
was insane.

J.M. DEMATTEIS / MIKE ZECK & BOB McLEOD / RICK PARKER / JANET JACKSON / JIM SALICRUP / TOM D'FALCO
WRITER ARTISTS LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

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A woman of rare breeding... true nobility... and a tender heart.

Driven out of Russia by the Trotskys and Lenins.

Driven to America where she was overwhelmed by the poverty. The filth. The utter mundanity of life here.

Finally locked away, like an animal: trapped. Abused. Terrified.

KRA-KOOOON



And my father, his spirit broken, allowed it.

And I, just a child, could only watch--as helpless as *she* was.

They said my mother was insane; that she took her own life: *They lied.*



And yet
within him
is something
more: some-
thing great.
Something
awful.

YOU'VE
GONE TOO FAR
THIS TIME, KRAVEN!

The essence of the demon
that brought Russia to ruin.

YOU ROBBED ME OF
TWO WEEKS OF MY
LIFE, YOU ANIMAL!

The demon that destroyed my
father; consumed my mother.

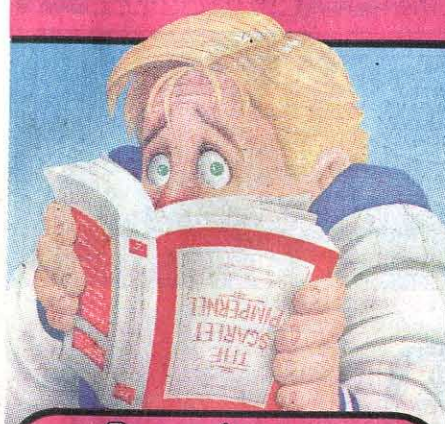
TWO WEEKS!

KRAKKK

The demon I have at long last--

--defeated.

Zittles:



Paperbacne:

The kind of acne you'd like to hide behind a book.



Oppozits:

Two matching pimples—one on each cheek.

"Zittles" are brand new words for the same old bums—acne pimples. What can you do about them? Launch a major Zitskrieg with the unbeatable medicine in Oxy 10[®], Oxy 10[®] Cover, Oxy 5[®] and Oxy 10[®] Wash. They all contain a potent measure of benzoyl peroxide, the very stuff that brought acne medicine out of the Dark Ages.

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So, if you're hiding your Paperbacne behind this magazine, get Oxy and get your face ready to face the world.



OXY Because zits are no laughing matter.



Yes, yes... I hear you. I understand.
It's almost time--

-- but not yet. Not yet.

Not till my victory is complete. And it will only be complete--

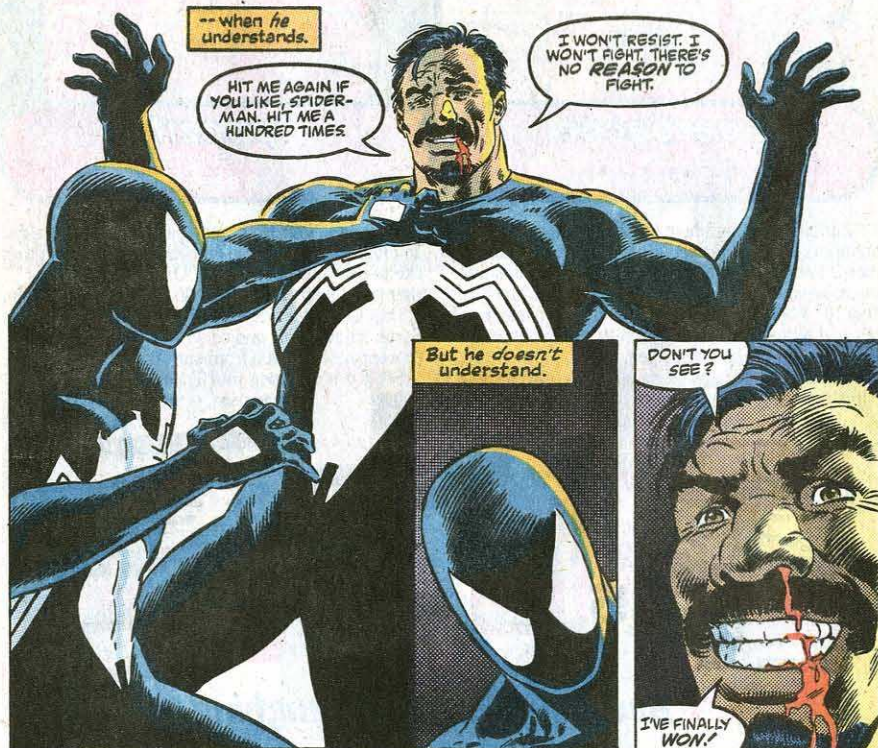


I'M GOING TO MAKE
YOU HURT! I'M GOING
TO MAKE YOU SUFFER!
I'M GOING TO--

-- when he
understands.

HIT ME AGAIN IF
YOU LIKE, SPIDER-
MAN. HIT ME A
HUNDRED TIMES

I WON'T RESIST. I
WON'T FIGHT. THERE'S
NO REASON TO
FIGHT.



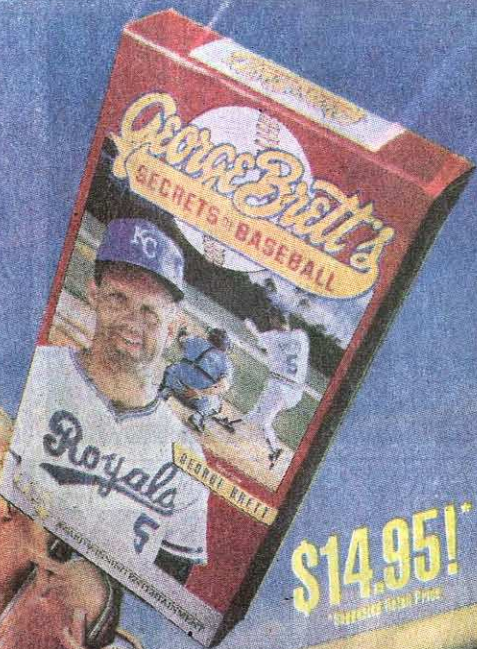
But he doesn't
understand.

DON'T YOU
SEE?

I'VE FINALLY
WON!

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The man is confused--but The Spider comprehends. I feel his awe...his reverence. His--

-- submission.

But it is part of the dance, part of the plan, for the man to comprehend as well.

So I'll show him the Truth. And, when we finally share it--

-- we'll both be free.

FOLLOW ME, SPIDER-MAN.

YOU EXPECT ME TO JUST--?!

YOU HAVE SPECIAL SENSES THAT WARN YOU OF DANGER--SO YOU KNOW THAT THERE'S NO TRAP WAITING BELOW.

COME WITH ME.

He hesitates.

He comes.

What else CAN he do?

How calm I feel; how peaceful. As if something inside me-- some knot, some tangle of fear and anger and so much more-- has been finally untied.

All these years: fleeing Russia, suffocating in America, finding release... finding honor... in the jungle. All these years-- and I've never known peace or calm or that elusive thing called happiness.

But I feel as if I can know it now. That it's nearby. Just outside, perhaps-- hidden in the patter of the rain, the drum-beat of the thunder.

Peace, calm, happiness.
An ending.

Soon.

VERMIN?!

YES, YOUR
OLD FOE
VERMIN.

THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE
BEEN CALLING HIM "THE
CANNIBAL KILLER."

BUT WE KNOW
WHAT HE REALLY
IS, DON'T WE? THE
PERFECT FUSION OF
MAN AND ANIMAL. A
VILE, TORMENTED,
BEAUTIFUL
BEAST--

SHAKKKKK





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IRON MAN

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Crawling upward:
The man filled
with compassion for
the cowering beast--

-- the Spider
delighting in
Vermin's
torment.

But, of course, all Vermin
knows is that Spider-Man
hunted... defeated...
captured... humiliated him--

--drives the
little mouse
wild.

-- and the
very sight
of that
black
costume...
those white
eyes--



So the man behind
the mask does what
he can to alleviate
the mouse's pain--

-- then skitters back
down the wall--

--turning his rage
upon me.



It was in the jungles that I first began to understand the ways of the spirits and demons... of the ravenous Spider.



And tonight I finally see that even the men inhabited the Spider--

-- is ignorant --

KRAVEN!



-- of its devious ways!

I HAVE HAD IT WITH YOU, DO YOU HEAR ME? YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST TURN MY LIFE INSIDE OUT--

-- AND THEN STAND THERE GRINNING LIKE SOME BRAIN-DAMAGED GORILLA? WELL, YOU CANT!



Poor man: possessed by the entity responsible for human suffering... world chaos... and he doesn't even know it!

I was as naïve once... before I left this corrupted excuse for civilization behind.

Before I found the honor and dignity I'd lost when my country... my parents... fell to The Spider--



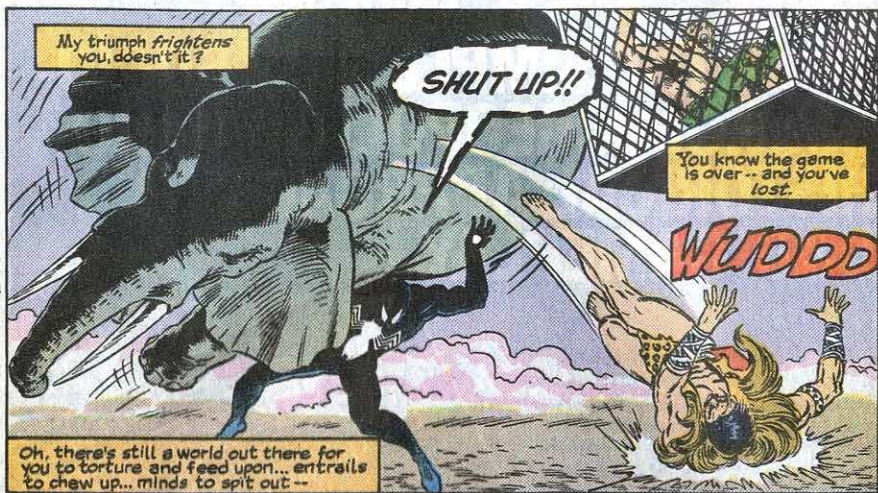
-- in the primitive wilds of Africa.

Hear me, Spider; hear me, man:

Hear the bellow of the elephant; the roar of the lion --



-- the triumph of Kraven.



-- but you know that you no longer have *KRAVEN* in your power-- and that not only scares you-- it saddens you.



And, in some strange, inexplicable way--



-- it saddens me, too.



You recoil. *Why?*



Does my affection embarrass you?

No. It's not that. It's just that the game *ISN'T* quite done.





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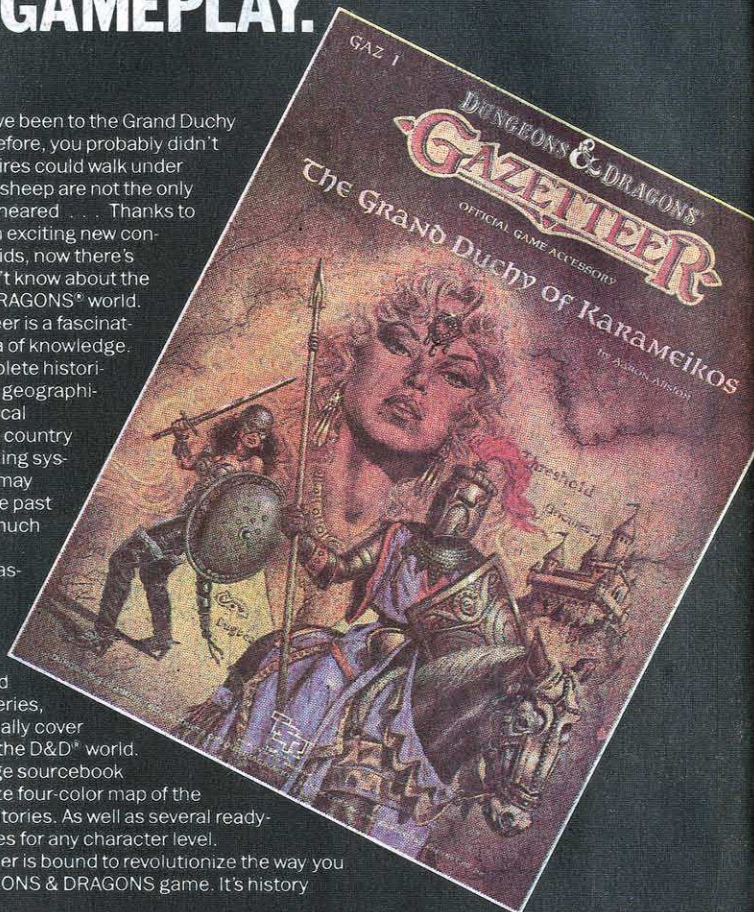
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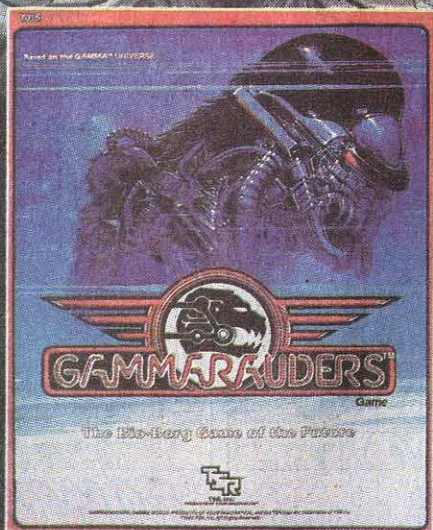
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NOOOOO!



THIS... THIS IS THE FINALE, SPIDER-MAN!

YOU EXPECT ME TO FIGHT WITH HIM, DON'T YOU? FIGHT-FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT!

NO. FOR MY EMANCIPATION.

WELL, I WON'T DO IT!

PLEASSSSSE--
DON'T HITMEHURTMETHEHITME!

You won't have to.



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DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY WITH IT! DON'T LET HIM THINK HE'S BETTER... STRONGER THAN YOU ARE!



HURT HIM BACK, VERMIN! YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF... TO ALL OF US!



HURT HIM BACK!



ROWWRRR



How old I suddenly feel.

How unutterably tired.

The game was a good one; man to spider... Spider to man--

-- but it was so very, very long.

ALL RIGHT, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT--

-- THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GONNA BE!

KRAKK!



THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GONNA BE!!

KRA-

HE SHOT ME... HE BURIED ME! BURIED ME!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S LIKE, YOU STUPID, DISGUSTING ANIMAL!

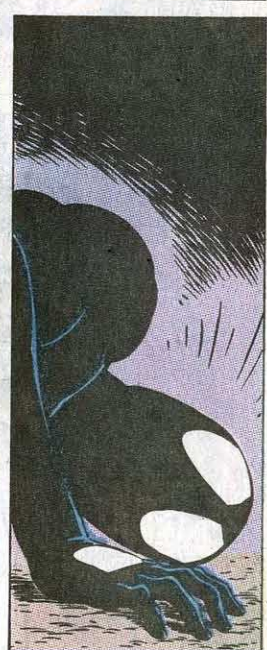
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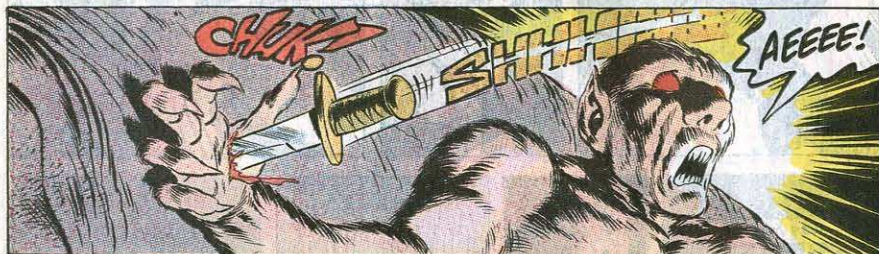
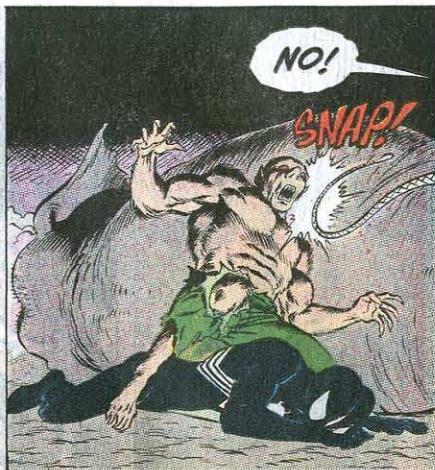
KOOH

They said my mother was--

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S LIKE?!











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And there's one final thing I see; something I don't think I was capable of seeing 'till now: every man has his Spider. And perhaps I--



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AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE, DO YOU THINK I'M REALLY GONNA--

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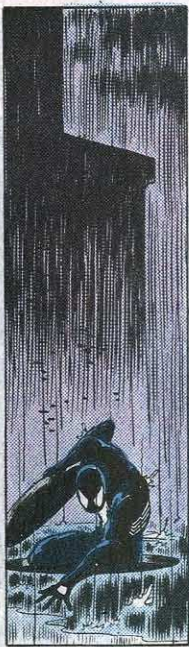
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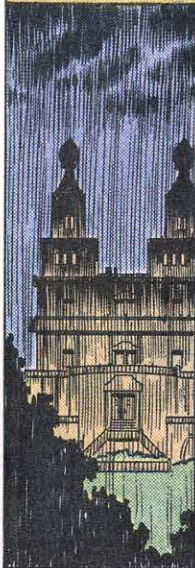
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BULLPEN BULLETINS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Petey, Pig 'o My Heart! Marry me! Hug me! Squeeze me the way a fashion-conscious water buffalo should be squeezed!"

—MARY JANE WATER BUFFALO
MARVEL TALES #208

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH!

After guiding Marvel Comics to dazzling new creative heights for the past nine and a half years, **Jim Shooter** has stepped down from his position as the Editor in Chief. Unquestionably one of the most talented creative people in the entire comic book industry, Jim was always spearheading the development of new formats, new concepts and exciting new comic book series! (Like *The 'Nam*! *X-Factor*! *Power Pack*! *The Punisher*! *New Mutants*! And others!)

Marvel produced its very first Graphic Novels, Limited Series and "Direct-Only" comics under his superb editorial leadership. His accomplishments are too numerous to list here. Suffice it to say that he will be missed.



Pro File on: MARK GRUENWALD

Editor on: AVENGERS, WEST COAST AVENGERS, SOLO AVENGERS, IRON MAN, OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE Deluxe and Trade Paperback Editions

Marvel freelance credits (past): Scripts: SPIDER-WOMAN, MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, THOR, BIZARRE ADVENTURES, HAWKEYE Limited Series, SQUADRON SUPREME Limited Series

Marvel freelance credits (present): Scripts: CAPTAIN AMERICA, D.P. 7

My place of birth is: Oshkosh, Wisconsin

My hobbies are: Playing with my daughter Sara's toys, amassing a videotape library, and doing "butt-dives" into inner tubes at Ralph Macchio's pool

If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: Edward James Olmos

The single work which I am most proud of is: SQUADRON SUPREME #2

My oddest habit is: I'm a neat freak and I constantly force the people who work with me to clean up their clutter.

The reason I got into comics was: So I could write stories as good as the ones that got me hooked on the medium when I was a kid.

People who knew me in High School thought I was: Going to go far, preferably as far away from them as possible.

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Winning the Cresskill, New Jersey Butt-Diving Championship for the past two years

My favorite performers are: Talking Heads, the Three Stooges, and Shintaro Katsu

The last good book I read was: THE DISCOVERERS by Daniel J. Boorstin

The last good movie I saw was: RAISING ARIZONA

The biggest influences on my work include: Stan Lee, Gardner Fox, and Philip K. Dick

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: To write CAPTAIN AMERICA forever.

The worst part of my job is: Saying goodbye to my daughter every morning.

When nobody's looking I like to: Rearrange my office.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: I'm the hardest working editor in the business today.

CHECKLIST

- ☐ DAREDEVIL #248 — Turning point!
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #57
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #32 — Continuing the six-part epic that runs through all three Spider-Man! Plan Four begins here, courtesy of J.M. DUMATTE, MIKE ZECK and BOB McLEOD!
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #26
- ☐ STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #102 — The citizens of earth believe that the Sinisterforce has turned traitor!
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #43
- ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #11 — Guest-starring Captain Britain, focusing on Wolverine, and featuring the menace of the Horrid! Face it, true believer, this one has it all! Written by CHRIS CLEMENT with art by ALAN DAVIS and PAUL NEARY!
- ☐ THE HOUSE — It's the official Marvel adaptation of the hit horror movie! Written by RALPH MACCHIO! Art by ALAN KUPPERBERG!
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #294 — The penultimate chapter of Spider's battle with Kraven the Hunter!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #335 — The new Captain America and Bucky go on their first mission!
- ☐ FALLEN ANGELS (Limited Series) #8
- ☐ STRANGE TALES #9 — Featuring Cloak & Dagger and the dark side of Dr. Strange!
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #52 — With Wolverine!
- ☐ HEADMASTERS (Limited Series) #3 — The Deceptions themselves become Headmasters!
- ☐ SPIDER-MAN DIGEST #4 — Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #66-70, by STAN LEE and JOHN ROMITA, SR.
- ☐ AVENGERS #285
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #337 — Guest-starring X-Factor!
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #205 — Reprinting Marvel Team-Up #59, by CHRIS CLEMENT and JOHN BYRNE.
- ☐ PUNISHER #4 — The Punisher gets shot!

- ☐ SILVER SURFER #5 — Obliteration!
- ☐ X-MEN #223 — Featuring the Freedom Force!
- ☐ G.I. JOE #55 — The Joes get their own Space Shuttle!
- ☐ MARVEL SAGA #24
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #200 — It's a special double-sized anniversary issue, guest-starring Red Sonja!
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #308
- ☐ IRON MAN #224
- ☐ THE 'NAM #12 — Marks writes a letter home to his folks.
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #132 — At last! The incredible conclusion!
- ☐ THOR #385
- ☐ X-FACTOR #22 — There's an enemy in X-Factor's midst! Who is it?
- ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #15 — Reprinting X-Men #108 by CHRIS CLEMENT and JOHN BYRNE! Plus, the origin of the Starjammers!
- ☐ POWER PACK #33 — Featuring a pair of Fallen Angels!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #34
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #34 — Peter and Mary Jane are honeymooning in the south of France! Let's join them!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS DIGEST #6 — Reprinting issues #11-12 of their comic.
- ☐ X-MEN IDEAS #4 — With all the answers to all your questions about issues #67-93, with a couple of surprises!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ MARVEL AGE #56 — Special issue about G.I. Joe! Also, more info about everything you see here!

THE NEW ORDER BEGINS...

Our new Editor in Chief is none other than **Two-Fisted Tom DeFalco**... A man who needs no introduction to Marvelandom Assembled! (But who will be real mild if he doesn't get one!)

The subject of one of our Bullpen Pro Files a few months back, Tom is a fifteen-year veteran in the comics biz. Since he joined Marvel in 1980, he served as the editor of our *Spider-Man* line of comics and later as the writer of such popular series as *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *Machine Man* and *Firestar*. As our Executive Editor, he also helped establish Marvel's *Star Comics* line.

We're sure you join with us in wishing Tom the best of luck in his new job!

- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #35 — Featuring Part Two of "The Warriors Three" by ALAN ZELENYZ and CHARLES VESS!
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #141
- ☐ CONAN SAGA #6 — Reprinting more of those great adventures from early issues of Conan's comic book! Stories by ROY THOMAS. Art by BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH.
- ☐ ROBOPOP #1 — He's half-man, half-machine... but he's all cop! Don't miss the official Marvel adaptation of this action-packed thriller!
- MARVEL BOOKSHELF**
- ☐ G.I. JOE ORDER OF BATTLE PAPERBACK — At last! All four issues of the Order of Battle in one handy volume! With special updates and new material!
- ☐ MARVEL UNIVERSE TRADE PAPERBACK #6 — Here's the latest volume of the Deluxe Edition of The Handbook of the Marvel Universe, all ready for your library! This edition covers everyone from Radioactive Man to Siltman!
- ☐ THE BIG CHANGE: THE THING AND THE HULK — This is the Graphic Novel you have to see to believe! It's a totally off-beat adventure featuring Marvel's two heaviest hitters — the Thing and the Hulk! And it was written and drawn by two of the heaviest hitters on the creative end of comics — JIM STARLIN and BERNI WRIGHTSON! Hey, this Graphic Novel is so intense, that we can't tell you any more about it! You have to see it for yourself, and you won't be disappointed!
- ☐ MOEBIUS: ARZACH AND OTHER FANTASY STORIES — The second volume of the deluxe Moebius series from Epic Comics featuring the world-famous adventures of Arzach, the Pterodactyl-wielding warrior. As a special bonus, five pages of never-before-seen Arzach art are included! Other stories include the autobiographical fantasy, "The Detour," a fine addition to your library of mature fantasy literature.

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