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APPROVED
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CODE
AUTHORITY

ROUND ROBIN: THE SIDEKICK'S REVENGE!

**PART FIVE
OF SIX**

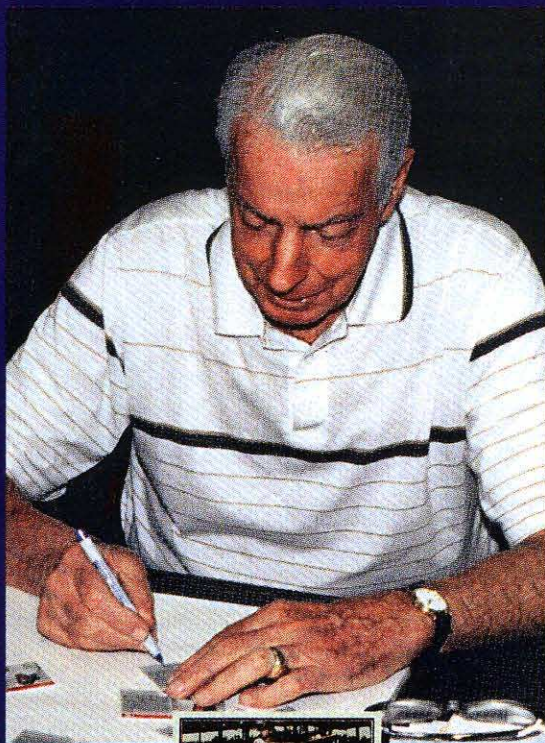
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

**SPIDER-MAN!
THE PUNISHER!
NOVA!**

**PLUS:
DARKHAWK!
AND
MOON KNIGHT!**



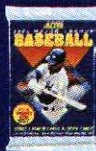
AMERICA'S LIVING LEGEND *Joe DiMaggio*



Personally autographed Joe DiMaggio cards

This spectacular five-card limited edition captures the historic highlights of the Yankee Clipper's legendary career. Its release during the 50th anniversary of Joe's unparalleled 56-game hitting streak in 1941 ensures that each card will be an invaluable collectible. There are 2,500 personally autographed cards. There are also 150,000 unsigned cards. You'll find them randomly inserted in SCORE's 1992 Baseball Series I, which

includes 442 regular cards. The cards will feature the exciting action photography and informative text that you've come to expect from SCORE. While only some Series I packs will have a DiMaggio card, every pack will have one trivia and 16 regular cards. They'll be available in your area in late 1991. Watch for our newly designed wrappers. In card collecting, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



SCORE

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BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®**



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN® Vol. 1, No. 357, Early January, 1992. (ISSN # 0274-5232) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly except semi-monthly November, December, and January. Copyright © 1991 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.00 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$12.00 U.S., \$24.00 foreign; Canadian subscribers must add \$5.00 per postage and GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in the U.S.A.

WHERE INDEED? IF WE BUT SHIFT OUR ATTENTION TO THE SOARING SECRET EMPIRE ESCAPE CRAFT...

WE CAN FIND THE VIGILANTE IN QUESTION HIDING IN A CRAMPED COMPARTMENT, COLLECTING HIMSELF.

--EVER SINCE I WAS ATTACKED BY THAT ENERGY-SIPHONING LEECH THAT SONIC SLOTTED ON ME!*

*SONIC WAS ONE OF THE SEEKERS--ARMORED MERCENARIES HIRED BY THE SECRET EMPIRE TO BATTLE OUR HEROES BACK IN ISSUE #355.--DANNY



MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA. I'M STILL WOOLY--



"THRASHER GOT THE THING OFF ME, BUT I WAS TOO WASTED TO JOIN THE OTHERS IN THEIR ASSAULT ON THE EMPIRE'S HIDDEN HQ.

"BUT ONCE I GOT TO FEELING A LITTLE STRONGER, I SNUCK OUT OF THE MOON COPTER--



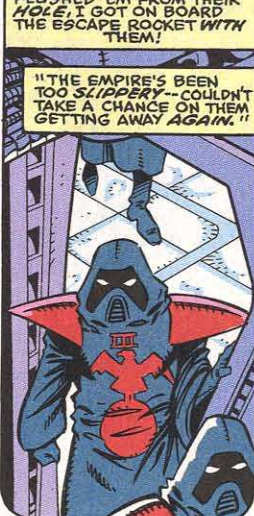
"--TOOK OUT ONE OF THE EMPIRE'S MEN--PUT ON HIS DUDS--

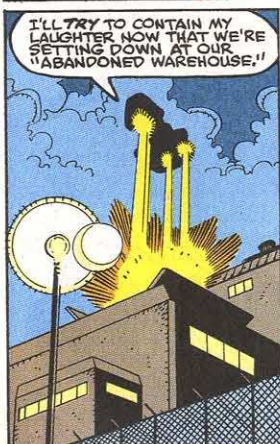
"--AND WHEN SPIDER-MAN AND THE OTHERS FLUSHED 'EM FROM THEIR HOLE, I GOT ON BOARD THE ESCAPE ROCKET WITH THEM!

"THE EMPIRE'S BEEN TOO SLIPPERY--COULDN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON THEM GETTING AWAY AGAIN."

AND I GUESS I PLAYED IT RIGHT--JUST HOPE I CAN FIND A WAY TO CONTACT THE GOOD GUYS BEFORE I GET CAUGHT.

BETTER GET BACK TO THE OTHERS BEFORE THEY WONDER WHERE I'VE GOT TO.





INSIDE THE BUILDING...

I'VE GOT A **ROUGH FIX** ON MY LOCATION. GOTTA FIGURE A WAY TO GET A MESSAGE OFF TO SPIDER-MAN AND THE OTHERS.

BUT I'M STILL **GROGGER** THAN I THOUGHT. EVERY LITTLE EXERTION REALLY TAKES IT OUT OF ME...

G-GOTTA GET THAT MESSAGE OUT, BUT FIRST I THINK I'D BETTER FIND SOME P-PLACE TO PASS...

...OUT...

WHILE BACK AT THE MOON COPTER...

I KNEW I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TAKEN MIDNIGHT ON AS A PARTNER! FROM THE DAY I MET HIM, I WAS **AFRAID** HE WAS GOING TO BE TROUBLE--AND I'VE SELDOM BEEN MORE RIGHT!

Y'KNOW, MOON KNIGHT, I'M GETTING PRETTY SICK AND TIRED OF HEARING THIS--!

I'VE GOT A TEAMMATE MISSING RIGHT NOW AND ALL YOU CAN DO IS COMPLAIN ABOUT THE FACT THAT YOU COULDN'T GET ALONG WITH YOURS!

MIDNIGHT SAID SOMETHING ABOUT YOU **KILLING** HIS FATHER--AND SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT YOU LEAVING MIDNIGHT HIMSELF TO THE MERCIES OF THE SECRET EMPIRE.

BUT YOU STAND THERE TALKING LIKE YOU MISPLAYED A HAND OF BRIDGE! I THOUGHT THE PUNISHER WAS COLD-BLOODED--

-- BUT YOU'RE THE ORIGINAL LIZARD KING! I OUGHTTA...

BACK OFF, THRASHER! THE ORIGINAL MIDNIGHT DIED OF **CANCER**-- DUE TO SOME **CHEMICALS** HE CAME IN CONTACT WITH!

AND AS I'VE SAID, JEFF WILDE-- THIS MIDNIGHT-- WHO I DON'T EVEN KNOW FOR SURE IS THE ORIGINAL'S SON--

I... LOST MY FOLKS, MYSELF... KNOW HOW TOUGH IT CAN BE ON A PERSON. HOW IT MIGHT **TWIST** THEM.

-- LOOKED LIKE HE'D BEEN KILLED BY THE EMPIRE AGENTS WE CAPTURED SAID THE SAME THING!

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Gangway, man! It's Bartmania three ways for your  and ! Looking for some wild ? Then help

save Springfield from the  in **THE SIMPSONS BART VS. THE SPACE MUTANTS™** for your NES™. For Simpsons™ antics on the go, join

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LISTEN-- WE'RE TIRED, FRUSTRATED, BUT WE'VE GOT TO KEEP IT TOGETHER FOR NOVA'S SAKE... AND THE PUNISHER'S!



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Grab these four power-packed games by Konami and find out just how much gripping adventure you can handle!

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WHEN--IT SURE IS PEACEFUL
TO BE ON MY OWN AGAIN,
EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR
A LITTLE WHILE.

WORKING WITH OTHER HERO TYPES CAN
BE AWFULLY STRESSFUL. MAYBE I
OUGHTTA RECONSIDER MY RESERVE
AVENGER STATUS!

Thwipp

MARY JANE AND I HAVEN'T BEEN MARRIED
ALL THAT LONG AND SHE MUST **ALREADY**
FEEL LIKE A SUPER HERO WIDOW!

AND-- GEEZ--
SPEAKING OF
MJ, I RAN OUT
ON HER IN THE
MIDDLE OF
DINNER! HOPE
SHE'S NOT--

--MAD! NOPE, ASLEEP IN FRONT
OF THE TUBE DOESN'T QUITE
QUALIFY.

MJ...

HMMMM?

EXPECTING
SOMEONE
ELSE?

PETEY...
TIGER...
IS THAT
YOU?

OOH, YOU RAT!
RUNNING OFF
LIKE THAT JUST AS
I'M SERVING YOU
SUPPER! YOU
OKAY?

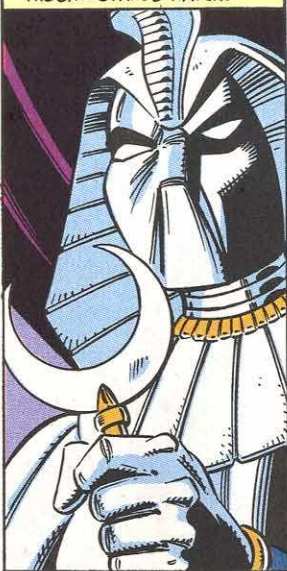
I'M
FINE.

FOOD'S IN THE FRIDGE.
IT'S COLD, BUT...

RIGHT NOW, I'M
IN THE MOOD
FOR SOMETHING
WARM.

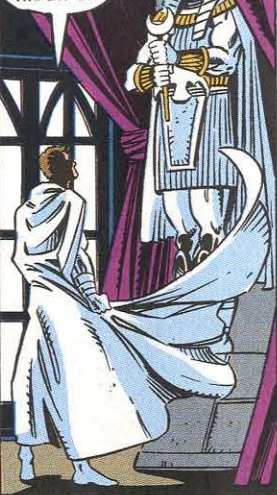
HMMMM.

IN THE HALLWAY OF A LONG ISLAND MANSION, THE STATUE OF AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN DEITY-- KHONSHU, THE GOD OF THE MOON-- STANDS WATCH.



WELL, OLD BUDDY, TIME FOR MOON KNIGHT TO TAKE A BREAK-- TIME FOR THE FIST OF KHONSHU TO UNCLENCH...

AND FOR MARC SPECTOR TO RECLAIM HIS LIFE.



DOES THAT MEAN YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME FOR ME?



MARLENE...

I--I'M AFRAID I NEVER HAVE ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU, BUT...

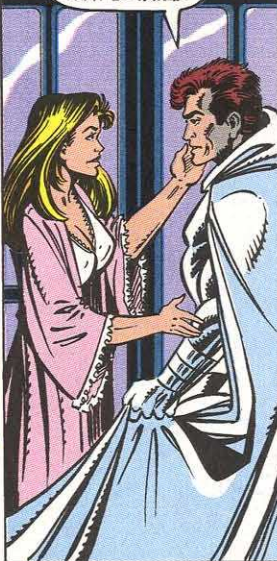
HUSH! IT'S A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT AND A FULL MOON. COME OUT ON THE BALCONY AND SEE...



NO... I'VE HAD QUITE ENOUGH OF THE MOON, ITS GOD AND ITS KNIGHT FOR ONE EVENING, THANK YOU.

TIME FOR ME TO BE A "MERE" MORTAL--

--WITH ALL THE FAILINGS AND FOIBLES THAT ENTAILS.



AS WELL AS ALL THE PERKS THAT COME WITH BEING JUST A MAN... IN THE COMPANY OF JUST A WOMAN...



AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS A GODDESS...

MEANWHILE...



...NIGHT THRASHER...



...WHOSE TRUE
NAME IS DWAYNE
TAYLOR...



...TRIES TO VENT
HIS ANGER...



AND FRUSTRATION...



IN MORE AGGRESSIVE
FASHION!



DWAYNE...

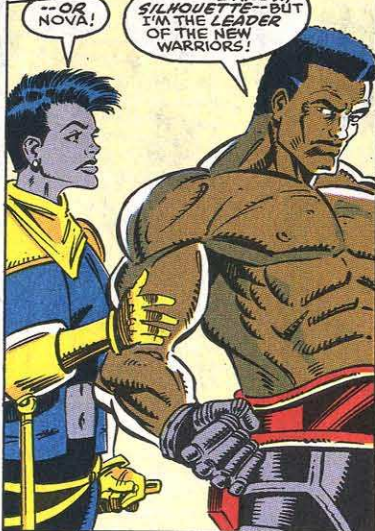
KA-THWACKT!

YOU MUST
NOT TORTURE YOUR-
SELF! DRIVING YOURSELF
TO THE POINT OF EX-
HAUSTION WON'T
HELP YOU--



--OR
NOVA!

I KNOW,
SILHOUETTE--BUT
I'M THE LEADER
OF THE NEW
WARRIORS!

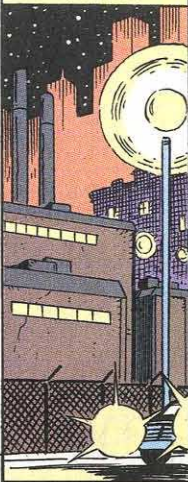


AND I
LET HIM DOWN!

WHAT KIND
OF A LEADER
DOES THAT?



WHILE IN THE SECRET
EMPIRE HIDEAWAY
IN QUEENS...



C'MON, DOC-- GET
THAT SUCKER HOOKED
UP! I DON'T LIKE
BEING CAUGHT
SHORT-HANDED!



ALMOST
FINISHED
NOW, MIDNIGHT!

GOOD! DID YOU
HOODED BOYS
CALL A MEETING
OF THE HIGH
COUNCIL LIKE
I TOLD YOU?

Y-YES, MIDNIGHT!
THE REMAINING
EIGHT HAVE GATHERED
IN THE CONFERENCE
ROOM AS YOU ORDERED
EXCEPT FOR
NUMBER THREE!



SK-KRUUNNNCH!



AH, THE NEW ARM WORKS
PERFECTLY!

AND WHERE
IS NUMBER
THREE?

W-WE DON'T
KNOW! WE'RE
LOOKING...

WE'LL SEE THAT YOU FIND HIM!
NOW THAT I'M IN CHARGE OF
THIS POPCISLE STAND WE'VE
GOT TO GET THINGS RUNNING
SMOOTHLY--

--LIKE A WELL-OILED
MACHINE! RIGHT,
DOC FRANKLIN?



ER... RIGHT,
MIDNIGHT!

LYNN, YOU COMING TO
THE MEETING WITH ME?

N-NO, JEFF.
I'VE GOT A
COUPLE OF
THINGS TO
FINISH UP
HERE.



YOU GO AHEAD, I'LL
CATCH UP TO YOU
WHEN I CAN.





Have a Monster of a Good Time.

Enter the DUNGEON!® game.

A romp' em, stomp' em, roaring good time of monster bashing, dungeon crawling and treasure collecting.

Explore the depths of the dungeon on your fantastic journey of mystery and suspense while you search for hidden treasure. Use your powers and skills to avoid secret traps and fearsome creatures. As a dwarf, elf, warrior, magician, cleric, or fighter on a perilous quest, you'll battle the forces of evil to find the treasure, win the game or . . . just survive.

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TSRTM
TSR, Inc.

UNNN! BACK TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING... BUT I STILL FEEL WEAK!



I'M IN NO SHAPE TO TAKE ON THE EMPIRE BY MYSELF! GOTTA FIND A TRANSMITTER AND CALL IN THE RESERVES!



BLAST! COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IS TOO WELL-GUARDED! GUESS THEY'RE TRYING TO PREVENT ANY MORE MESSAGES FROM GETTING OUT LIKE LAST TIME! *



*NOVA RADIOED HIS PARTNER WHEN THE BROADCAST INHIBITOR WAS MYSTERIOUSLY TURNED OFF LAST ISSUE.--DAPPER DAN.

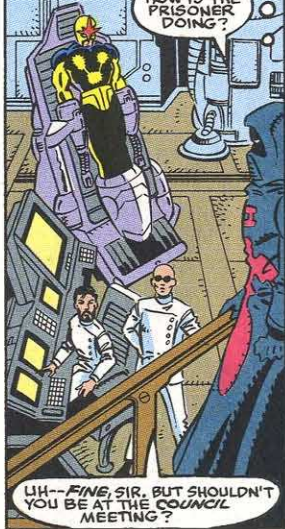
I GUESS I COULD TRY TO PULL RANK ON THEM-- BUT THAT MIGHT DRAW TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO ME NOW THAT MIDNIGHT'S USURPED COMMAND FROM THE COUNCIL!

WHAT I NEED IS A DISTRACTION--



--AND MAYBE NOVA CAN PROVIDE IT FOR ME!

HOW IS THE PRISONER DOING?



UH--FINE, SIR, BUT SHOULDN'T YOU BE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING?

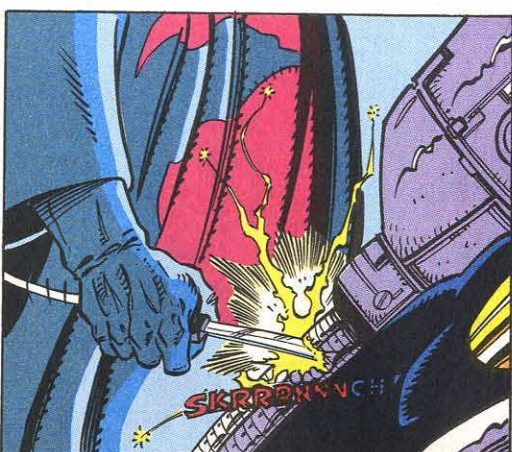
YES, OF COURSE-- JUST WANTED TO STOP IN ON THE WAY AND CHECK ON OUR SUPER HOSTAGE! MIDNIGHT EXPECTS MY REPORT!



NOVA, I'M A FRIEND! WE NEED A DISTRACTION SO ONE OF US CAN TRANSMIT A MESSAGE TO THRASHER!



D-DUNNO WHAT I CAN DO! EVERY TIME I STRUGGLE THESE POWER SHACKLES ZAP ME!



UNINGH! MY FRIEND
MANAGED TO DAMAGE
THE CIRCUITS ON THESE
CLAMPS-- BUT THEY'RE
STILL DRAWING A
LOT OF POWER!

C'MON-- BEAR DOWN! WHEN
YOU LOST YOUR POWERS--
WHEN YOU WERE PLAIN OL'
RICHARD RIDER-- YOU ONLY
WANTED A SHOT AT BEING
NOVA AGAIN!

NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT
THAT SHOT YOU'VE GOT TO
BE WORTHY OF THE
POWER-- YOU'VE
GOT TO...

AHHHHHHHHH--
ARGGH!

DID IT!
I'M FREE!

KKAA-RRANCH!

CRACKKLLLE

WHA-?! IT'S
NOT POSSIBLE...

CALL
SECURITY--
QUICK,
BEFORE--!

TOO SLOW, BOYS!

NOW, IF I
READ THIS
CONSOLE
CORRECTLY,
THIS CONTROLS
THE RADIO
JAMMER!
DON'T KNOW
HOW TO
SHUT THE
THING
OFF--

--SO I'LL
JUST TOTAL
THE SUCKER!

WHEE-OOP
WHEE OOP

OOPS! WRECK-
ING THAT PANEL
SET OFF AN
ALARM! NOW
I'VE STEPPED
IN IT!

GOTTA GET
A SIGNAL OFF
TO THRASH--

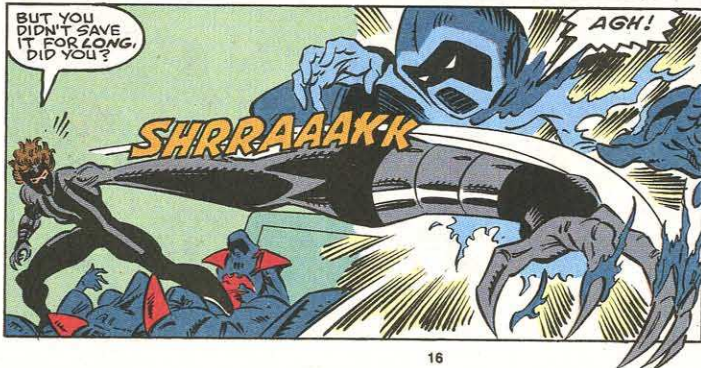
"--BEFORE MIDNIGHT
GETS HOLD OF ME!"

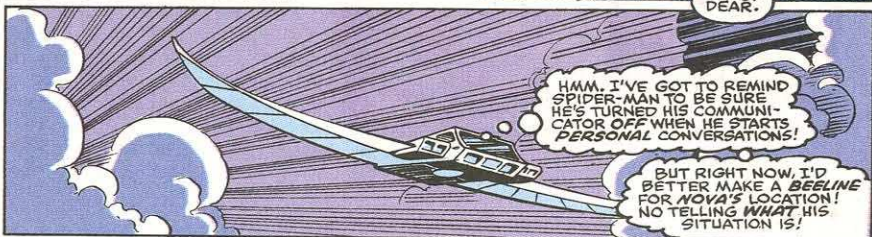
THE
ALARM!
SOME-
THING'S
GONE
WRONG
WITH THE
PRISONER!

THAT'S MY
CUE!

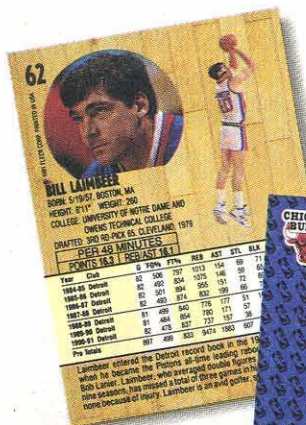
EVERYTHING'S
GONE WRONG SINCE
YOU TOOK CHARGE,
MIDNIGHT!

DON'T LET
THIS METAL
MOCKERY OF
A MAN USURP
OUR POWER--

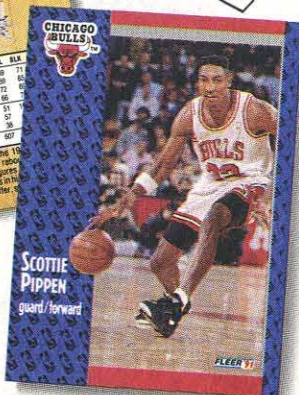




SLAM!



NBA Basketball's first
three-photo cards—with
full-color backs.



The '91 Fleer NBA Basketball Series puts you into the action like never before. We're bringing you a basketball first: three super-sharp color photos on each card. With full-color backs. And excitement so intense, you'll feel like you're skywalkin'!

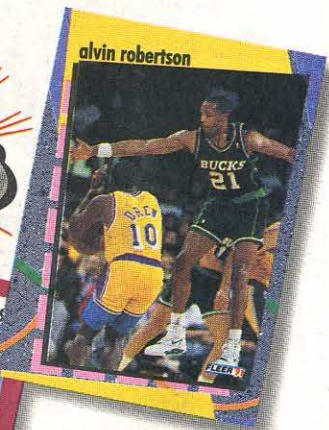
WHAM!



"Pro-Visions"
(Wax packs only)



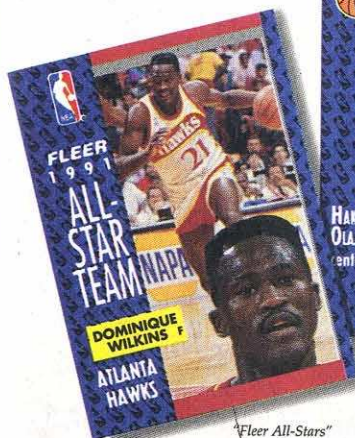
"Rookie Sensations"
(Pre-priced cello packs only)



"NBA Schoolyard Stars"
(Rack packs only)

This season, we're putting on the full-court press—with three hot limited-edition subsets! We're talking six "Pro-Visions"™ art cards by Terry Smith. Plus ten new "Rookie Sensations" cards, with all the greatest new talent. Plus six new "NBA Schoolyard Stars" cards, honoring players who went from their neighborhood playgrounds to the national spotlight.





"Fleer All-Stars"



"League Leaders"



"All-Star Game Highlights"



"Slam-Dunk Contestants"



"NBA Coaches"

And... we're scorching the nets with five more amazing subsets in all pack types! You get the popular "Fleer All-Stars" and "League Leaders", plus three radical new subsets: "All-Star Game Highlights", "Slam-Dunk Contestants" and "NBA Coaches".

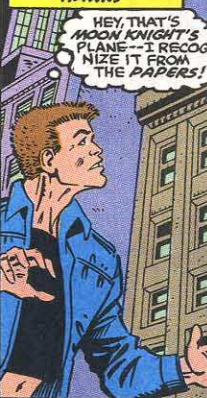
Don't stall. Start your own "fast break" and begin collecting the '91 Fleer NBA Basketball Series now.

FLEER
Better Than Ever.

BUT, AS THE MOON COPTER TRAVELS WESTWARD FROM THE PLUSH SUBURBS OF LONG ISLAND TOWARDS THE MORE URBAN SPRAWL OF QUEENS...



...IT IS SPOTTED BY NONE OTHER THAN CHRIS DOWELL, WHOSE ALTERNATE IDENTITY IS THE MYSTERIOUS DARK-HAWK!



HEY, THAT'S MOON KNIGHT'S PLANE--I RECOGNIZE IT FROM THE PAPERS!

BOY, IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE BEEN RUNNING INTO MORE AND MORE SUPER-TYPES OUT HERE! MAYBE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE FROM QUEENS.



HE WAS FLYING PRETTY LOW--DESCENDING! MAYBE HE'S HUNTING DOWN THOSE KASTES WHO GOT AWAY FROM ME AND SPIDER-MAN!*



IT'S MY TURF--MAYBE I CAN LEND A HAND! I'LL JUST DUCK INTO THIS ALLEYWAY--

*ISSUE #323--DANNY

--GET A GRIP ON MY SPECIAL AMULET, AND BECOME--



DARKHAWK!

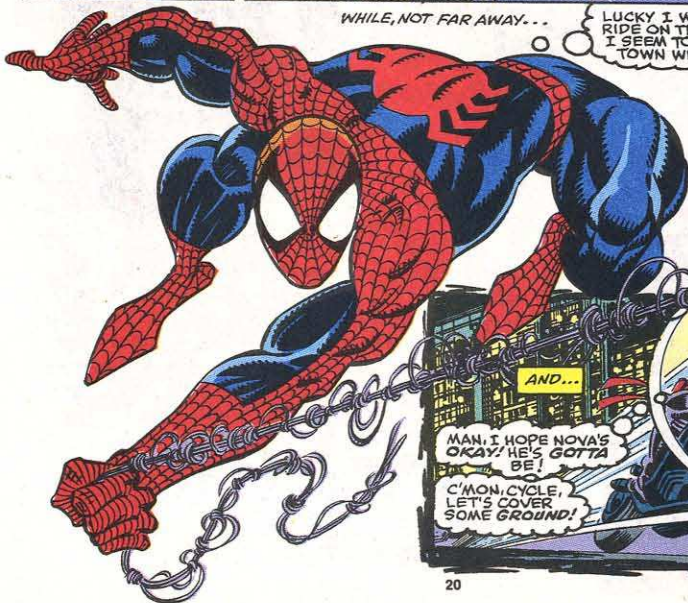


USED MY CABLE CLAW TO HAUL MYSELF UP TO THIS ROOFTOP--SO NOW I CAN LAUNCH MYSELF AND USE MY GLIDER WINGS TO GO AFTER THAT COPTER!

WHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...

LUCKY I WAS ABLE TO HITCH A RIDE ON THAT LIRR TRAIN--SINCE I SEEM TO BE THE ONLY HERO IN TOWN WITHOUT AN AIRCRAFT!

NOW I CAN USE MY FAITHFUL OL' WEBS TO TAKE ME THE REST OF THE WAY!



AND...

MAN, I HOPE NOVA'S OKAY! HE'S GOTTA BE!

C'MON, CYCLE, LET'S COVER SOME GROUND!



FOR heroic Adventures and Perilous Journeys ...



You're in for the time of your life with the new DUNGEONS & DRAGONS game!

Play the New DUNGEONS & DRAGONS® Game!

"Some people say chivalry is dead, but I think we just need a few more good men," insists the gold-haired princess.

"The kingdom has a problem and we need your help," she explains. But not just any man will do — we need strong, fearless men like you.

"You see, I've been kidnapped, and . . . locked in a castle tower, I need to be rescued! My chamber is guarded by two disgusting creatures, and I can't escape.

"So if you're brave enough, don't just sit there! Get the new DUNGEONS & DRAGONS® game, put on your armor, and get to work. The evil wizard is com-

ing soon! If you've already got the game, what are you waiting for? Help!"

Call some friends over, and get ready for the time of your life! The new DUNGEONS & DRAGONS® game is filled with heroic warriors, magic-wielding wizards, elves and fearless dragons.

Taking you on perilous journeys, it's a game all your friends can play. And unlike any other game, you just need your imagination and some teamwork to survive. Learning to play is easy, fast and fun, too.

So start your adventure today! Buy the new DUNGEONS & DRAGONS game. Look for it at toy, book and hobby stores everywhere!



WHILE, AT THE SECRET
EMPIRE'S CONCEALED
HIDEAWAY...

A MIGHTY BATTLE RAGES WITHIN!

GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE UP
AND ABOUT, NOVA! I CAN
HANDLE THESE GOONS --
BUT AGAINST MIDNIGHT...

...WELL,
A LITTLE
SUPER-
POWERED
HELP IS
MOST
WELCOME!

PUNISHER -- SO
IT WAS YOU UNDER
THOSE ROBES!
HAPPY TO RETURN
THE FAVOR, PAL!

COURSE
I'D FEEL A
LOT MORE
CONFIDENT
IF IT WASN'T
MIDNIGHT
WHO BLASTED
ME THE
FIRST TIME
WE MET! *

THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU WASTE!
I DID IT BEFORE
AND I CAN DO
IT AGAIN!

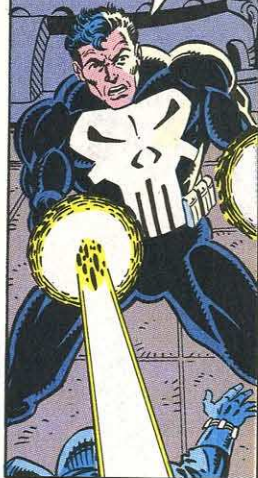
MAYBE, BUT LET'S NOT
FORGET: LAST TIME YOU
SURPRISED ME!

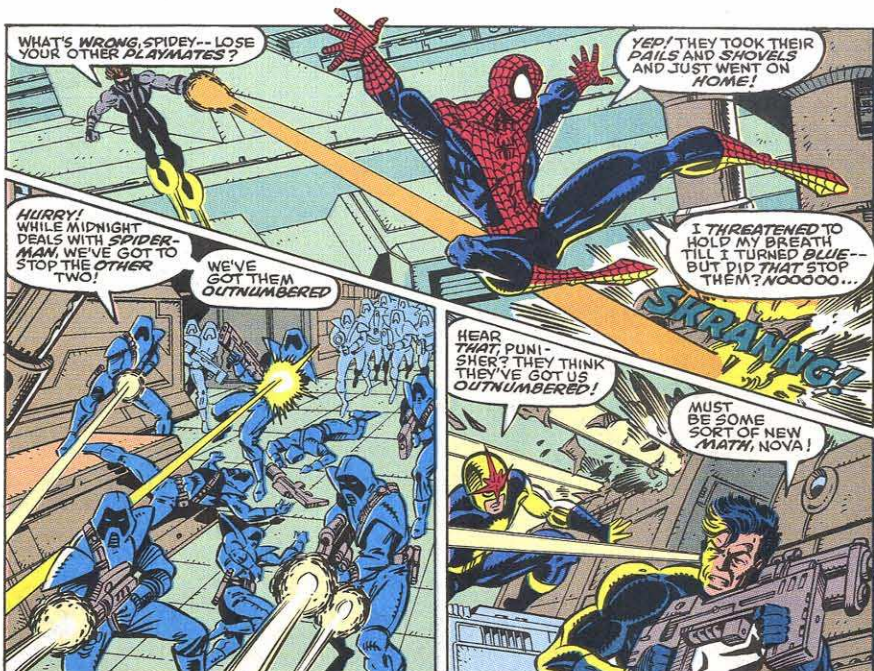
THIS TIME I'M READY
FOR YOU --

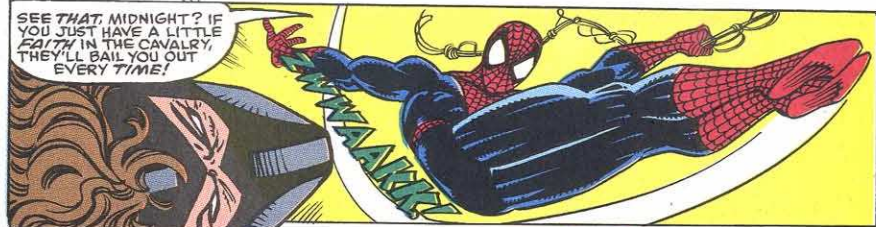
-- AND EAGER TO RETURN
YOUR FAVOR, TOO!

WHAM!

*BACK IN AMAZING S-M #354 -- DOUBLE-BAGGING DAN!







SEE THAT, MIDNIGHT? IF YOU JUST HAVE A LITTLE FAITH IN THE CAVALRY, THEY'LL BAIL YOU OUT EVERY TIME!



YOU BOYS SURE TOOK YOUR SWEET TIME GETTING HERE!

GEE, PUNISHER, WE FIGURED A MACHO GUY LIKE YOU WOULD RESENT US BUTTING IN!

THANKS FOR FREING MY TEAMMATE!

YOU OKAY, NOVA?



FINE, THRASHMAN! BETTER NOW THAT YOU GUYS HAVE TURNED UP!

EVEN WITH MIDNIGHT AGAINST US-- WE OUGHT TO BE ENOUGH TO BEAT HIM AND THESE FLUNKIES!



ARRGGH!

AND WATCH OUT WHO YOU'RE CALLING FLUNKIES!

IT MAY NOT MATCH THE POWER OF MY OLD MYSTICAL WEAPON--* BUT IT'LL DO!

ELIOT FRANKLIN DOESN'T TAKE KINDLY TO THE TERM-- ESPECIALLY ONCE HE'S HAD A CHANCE TO WHIP UP SOME BODY ARMOR...

...AND A BRAND NEW ENERGIZED WRECKING BALL!

GUESS AGAIN, KID!

*THE ONE HE USED WHEN HE WAS THUNDERBALL OF THE WRECKER'S WRECKING CREW! -- DESTRUCTION DAN



STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

His name was Vincent Colletta, but everyone called him Vinnie. He started working for Marvel more than thirty years ago, before we were even known as Marvel. I believe we were called Atlas Publishing then. But the company name doesn't matter. What does matter is telling you what a great guy Vinnie was.

Hardly anyone except me knows this, because hardly anyone else was around at that time, but the first stories that Vinnie drew for us were romance strips. When I say "drew," I mean he did both the penciling and the inking, and he did them superbly. Now, I'm not talking ordinary, run-of-the-mill comic book romance strips. I'm talking about

some of the most breathtakingly beautiful pen-and-ink illustrations you've ever seen! Vinnie treated each and every panel as if it were intended for The Louvre. I used to tell him he was putting too much work into each strip, that it wasn't necessary to make everything so lyrical, so pleasing to the eye, so incredibly perfect. After all, we were just printing 10-cent comic books. (10 cents! That'll give you an idea how long ago it was!)

But Vinnie couldn't help himself. He was a born perfectionist. If a drawing wasn't to his liking, he'd do it over and over again until he was satisfied. In the most literal sense of the word, Vincent Colletta was a truly dedicated artist.

Years later, after the romance fad had run its course, Vinnie offered to put his skill to use by inking our other strips,

mainly super hero thrillers. For the next few decades, his speed, his dependability, his total professionalism, saved our deadlines and our schedules more times than I can ever tell.

The bullpen and I recently learned of Vinnie's passing. We'll always regret that we never had the chance to bid him goodbye. But I want to take this opportunity to offer our most heartfelt condolences to his wife and family. Vinnie Colletta was a uniquely talented, charismatic artist who was always there when we needed him and who never gave less than his best. He was a credit to our industry. He was my friend. I miss ya, VC. So do we all.

Excelsior!

Stan Lee

Try to remember, the kind of November ... Oops, wrong month. Now we'll have to think up a new opening. Okay, so this is the month where we all chow down on turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and giblets (what the heck are giblets, anyway?), eating more food in one day than we do the whole rest of the year. Then we give thanks that we only have to eat cranberry sauce once a year, and Mom puts the whole thing in the freezer for a month so we can eat the same dinner again at Christmas.

Here at Mighty Marvel, we have a lot to be thankful for this year. For starters, our head honcho (and head hipster) **Terry Stewart** initiated our first ever company picnic this past August. The picnic was a huge success, with plenty of food and drink for all, and fun and games galore (with fewer casualties than we would've expected). Among the activities were softball, football, and volleyball (Marveloids will play any sport that ends in the word "ball"), with the highlight of the day being an impromptu wet t-shirt contest! Everyone is looking forward to next year's picnic, especially Ant-Man, who said he plans on bringing lots of friends next time!

The Marvel softball team also had a lot to be thankful for this year. (Actually, there were TWO Marvel softball teams this year — so many people wanted to play that it was necessary to form two teams: the Punishers and the Hellraisers. But then the two teams merged about halfway through the season.) Both teams had largely unimpressive track records, but the season ended on a high note with a victory over arch-rival, the DC Bullets. DC had won the first two games against Marvel this year, so it was a particularly satisfying victory for our side as we crushed them in a devastating 8-0 shut out.

Team captains this year were neo-hipster **Paul Becton**, and hipster-wanna-be **Evan Skolnick**. Noted the easily-bruisable Evan, "This was the first game of the season in which I did not bleed." MVP's for the final DC game were **Fabian Nicieza** (who thinks it's square to be hip), ex-hipster **Craig Kunasch** of the direct sales department, who pounded out a three-run homer, and assistant editor **John Lewandowski**, who was a hipster when being a hipster wasn't considered hip.

After the game, assistant editor (and intercontinental-hipster) **Richard Ashford** and his lovely wife **Carol Baird** (who's so hip she's got a different last name from her husband's)

NOVEMBER
COOLMETER

- THE ADAMS FAMILY
- BORIS YELZEN
- SCORSESE/DENIRO MOVIES
- THE FANTASTIC FOUR
- COMEDY CENTRAL
- PETER BAGGE'S HATE
- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS
- MIKHAIL GORBACHEV
- CAPTAIN AMERICA: LA PELICULA
- IMAGE SEMINARS
- THE DISCONTINUATION OF FOAM PACKAGING BY McDONALDS
- SPIDER-MAN BALLOON IN MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE
- THE LETTER "L"
- TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION
- AMANDA PAYS
- AWARDS SHOWS
- SEMIPERMEABLE MEMBRANES
- NUTRASWEET
- ABC SITCOMS, ESPECIALLY "WHO'S THE BOSS"
- THE OCTOBER COOL-METER
- SELF-REFERENTIALISM
- NUISANCE SUITS
- MACAULEY CULKIN
- COMMUNISM
- THE NEW YORK SUBWAY SYSTEM

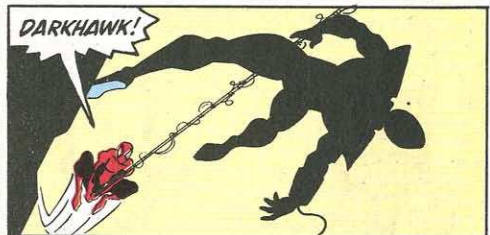
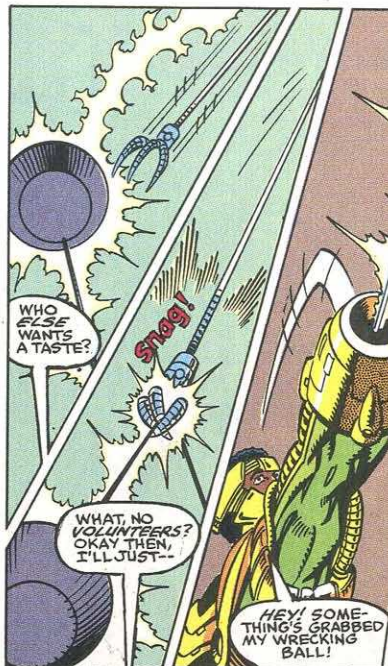
threw a party at their digs in New York's Upper West Side. Players from the Marvel and DC teams showed up, and a good time was had by all. Truly it can be said that everyone came away a winner on that day (of course, the Marvel team were the real winners, and the DC team went crying home to their mothers! So there!).

The kids of the St. Mary's recreational center in the South Bronx also have a lot to be thankful for this year — their building now sports a huge mural, filled with Marvel characters, painted by residents of the community. The mural was part of a project which takes kids off the streets and gives them a creative outlet. **Bob Budiansky**, who is a hipster from way back, helped the kids out on the project, ably assisted by demi-hipster (and everybody's sweetheart) **David Wohl**, whose return to staff was brutally ignored by this page several months back. Also assisting in this project was DEATHLOK artist and ultra-hipster **Dennis Cowan**.

There are some thankful new fathers in the Marvel family these days — suspected hipster, **GHOST RIDER** writer **Howard Mackie** with his lovely wife **Deborah Higley**, just brought forth into this world a baby girl named **Alexandra**. Triple-threat **SPIDER-MAN** hipster **Todd McFarlane** and his fabulous wife **Wanda Kolomyjek** just joined forces to produce a baby girl named **Cyan**. And mega-hipster slash inker **Mark McKenna** and his vivacious wife **Kathy** produced their latest creative endeavor — a little bundle of joy named **Erin Marie**. All of these babies arrived on schedule, which means they have absolutely no future in this business!

One guy who is not too thankful this year is **MARVEL AGE** assistant editor **Mike Lackey**, who wouldn't know a hipster if one came up and bit him on the nose. Mike is famous for having the smallest desk at Marvel. Well, recently Mike moved downstairs to the ninth floor when **MARVEL AGE** received a new editor, cowgirl/hipster **Renée Witterstaetter**. With the move came an even smaller desk for Mike! At this rate, we may just take Mike's desk away, and he can put a board on his lap and use that! Look at the bright side, Mike — at least you're not sitting on milk crates!

Be here next month for more hyper-hip pronouncements and foofarah. You know what they say, "When the going gets hip, the hip get hopping!"



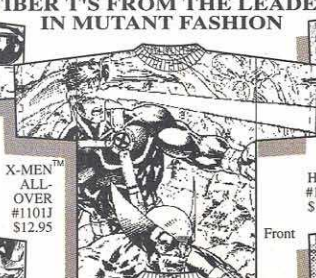
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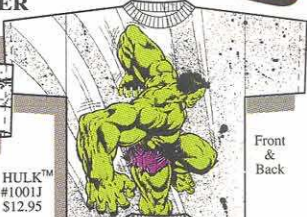
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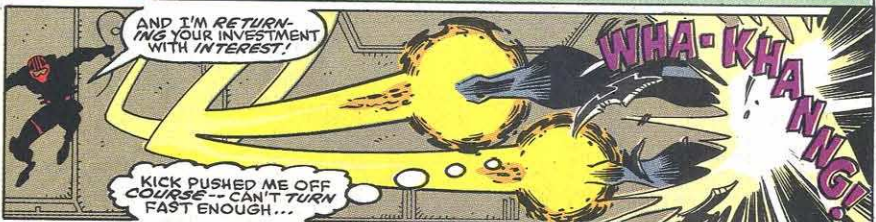
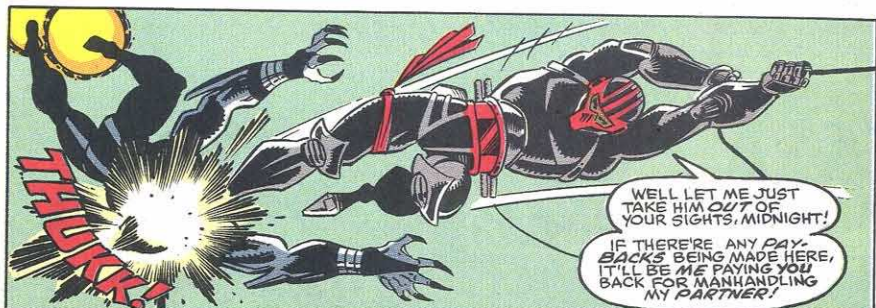
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WHOOOPS! JUST WHEN IT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS OVER--IT ISN'T! BE HERE IN FOURTEEN SHORT DAYS FOR THE FINAL CHAPTER, WHEN SPIDEY AND HIS COHORTS FACE DOUBLE CYBORG DANGER IN:

CYBORG SERENADE

THE SPIDER'S WEB

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

DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR
ERIC FEIN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

Dear Web-slingers,

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Thanks for bringing back Venom! He is one of my all time favorite characters, and I'm not sure why. Maybe it is his warped sense of humor or maybe it's just his utter evilness. By the way, I've been meaning to write in and ask you, what is this thing Venom has with eating Spider-Man's brain? Is he after extra protein or what? Don't get me wrong, I like it! Is it safe to assume that you are setting up a major rumble between these two? Also, my friend and I have a dispute going about how strong Spidey's web is. He is convinced that it can hold Thor. Is this true? Speaking about Goldilocks, any ideas in the works for a guest appearance by him? (He's another favorite). Thanks for taking time to read my letter. So until Venom becomes a gourmet, Make Mine Marvel.

Scott Dinning
26 Holland Ave.
Chatham, Ont., Canada
N7M 2C7

If you checked out Spider-Man's entry in the OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE DELUXE EDITION, Scott, you would discover that the tensile strength of Spidey's webs is 120 pounds per square millimeter of cross section. What that means in layman's terms is that, yes, Spidey's webs can hold Thor if he uses enough webbing -- but for how long is anybody's guess.

Dear Darryl the Web-weaver,

Did you realize that this is the eighth straight issue of ASM to top the one before it? Such a glorious procession is rarely seen anymore, in these days of up-and-down quality.

Take ASM #346 for example. The cover was beautiful -- to say the least. The art all throughout the comic defied description. Expressions of fright, anger, rage, and satisfaction were all unbelievable! Never has any pencil been able to depict emotions as well as Erik Larsen.

'Nuff about the art. David Michelinie has done it once again! "Elliptical Pursuit" was 99-44/100% pure ecstasy. He has gone from merely good to near-perfect in one month!

In most comics the last page usually resolves loose ends or has everybody smile and live happily ever after. ASM #346 gave me massive multiple heart attacks. That was one of the most painful cliffhangers that I have ever read.

Micah Arnold
Binghamton, NY 13903

You weren't the only one who found our cliffhanger a trifle gut-wrenching, Micah. Witness the next brief but succinct missive...

Dear Spider-Crew,

I just got through reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #346. It was getting good at the end and then I saw "To be continued." ARE YOU TRYING TO DRIVE ME

NUTS??!! Couldn't you have just made it a special double-sized issue?

Trent Smith
1210 Elberta
Houston, TX 77051

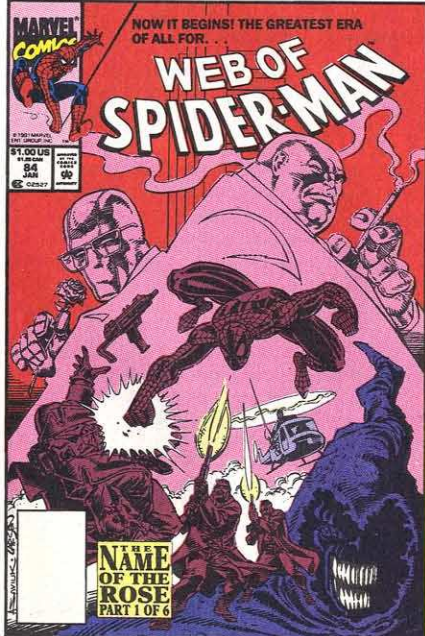
Dear Web-heads,

After a couple of years in which I did not buy any comics, a few months ago I decided to start collecting again. I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #346 and felt the need to write. This is my first look at Venom and I must say, he is awesome! How Spidey beat him before and how he will win again is beyond me! I'm sure Michelinie and Larsen will bring us another great classic.

One last thing, I'd just like to say welcome back to Danny Fingeroth. It's good to see his name in these pages again. So until Venom visits the dentist for root canal, Make Mine Marvel!

Randy Farrow
220 Cherokee Ct. #125
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

NEXT ISSUE: In two weeks, "Round Robin" concludes! With Spidey, Punisher, Moon Knight, Night Thrasher, Nova, and Darkhawk! And don't miss the three page gatefold wraparound cover! It's Spider greatness at its height. Don't miss it! (Like we had to tell you.)



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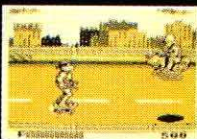
GAME BOY
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- Righteous reporter April is missing serious air time, dude. So get slicing and maybe Shredder will choke 'n croak for good. Not!

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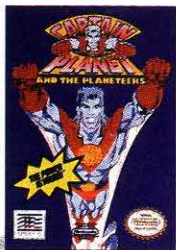
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