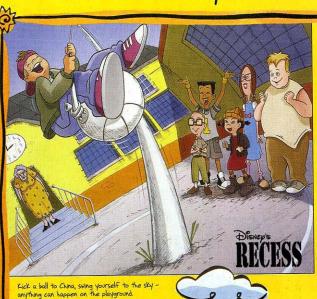


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eet Peter Parker, once a brilliant, though meek, high school student, orphaned as a child and reared by his doting Uncle Ben and Aunt May. At a science fair, Peter was bitten by an irradiated spider and gained the proportionate strength, speed, agility and early warning "spider-sense" of that arachnid. He used these powers for personal fame and fortune as a masked Spider-Man. But when Peter failed to stop a criminal who later killed his beloved Uncle Ben, the youth's costumed identity took on a far deeper significance.

He realized that with great power there must also come great responsibility. So Peter Parker became the wall-crawling nemesis of the criminal element; a young man determined to atone for the tragic death of his uncle — The Amazing Spider-Man!

A criminal mastermind whose face is hidden behind a mask, thus, his identity is a secret from all. The Rose's chief goal is the consolidation of New York's underworld behind him and the elimination of Spider-Man as a threat to his power.



#### PREVIOUSLY...

orman Osborn, the ruthless industrialist gained a controlling interest in the Daily Bugle newspaper after returning to the U.S. from a long stay in Europe.



pider-Man was goaded into an assault by Osborn, who videotaped the webspinner's attack on himself and then sent the tape to the media, with ruinous effects on Spidey's reputation.

#### BLACK TARANTULA

A shadowy South American crimelord who has apparently lived for centuries. The Tarantula has come to New York to personally try and take control of the city's criminal element



#### MARY-JANE WATSON-PARKER

The wife of Peter Parker/Spider-Man, and his closest confidant. She has currently returned to Empire State University as a student majoring in psychology.



The sweet attractive cousin of Peter Parker's late girlfriend, Gwen Stacy.

STACY

As does her brother, Paul, Jill also attends E.S.U.. She has recently struck up a friendship with both Peter and Mary Jane.





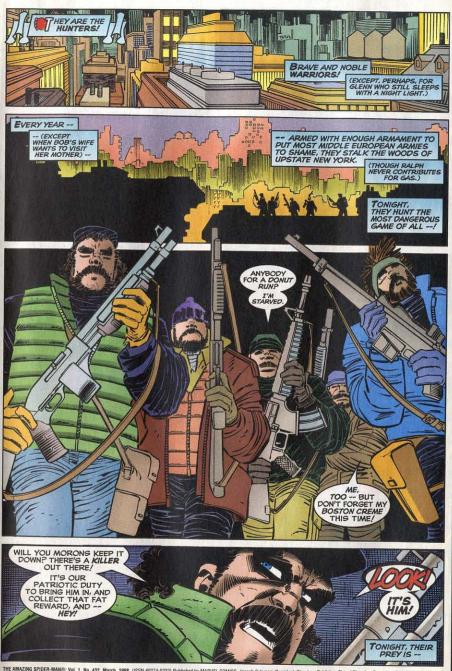
hen, the nephew of the industrialist was kidnapped, and a beseiged Peter Parker had to decide whether to risk the bounty on his head to rescue the nephew of his most dangerous adversary--

Norman Osborn.

hortly thereafter, a thug named Joey Z was found murdered in Manhattan, suffocated by web fluid. As a consequence, the Daily Bugle issued a one million dollar bounty on Spidey-Man's head that later increased to five million.



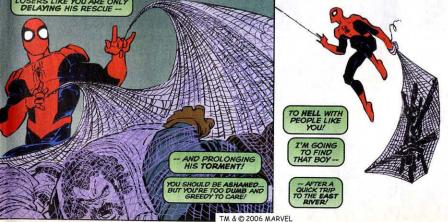
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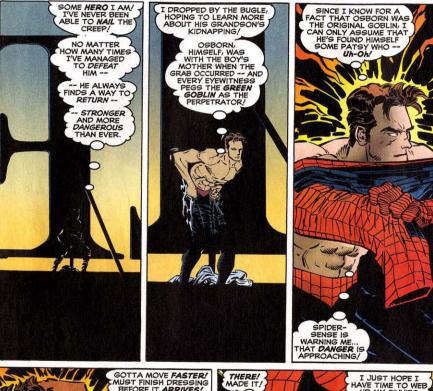






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KAVANAGH and CHRIS CROSS X - MEN

MARROW returns to the sewers to visit CALLISTO and finds that someone else has been aiding her mentor! And as MAGGOTT's training begins, a mysterious death in Salem Center is uncovered - with grisly details! Plus: Where has PROFESSOR X disappeared to? By JOE KELLY and CARLOS PACHECO!

ITEM! Trust us. gang, you're gonna need a scorecard to keep track of all the new faces and positions in our batty Bullpen! First, major kudos to both Mirthful MARK "SUPER" POWERS and Magical MATT IDELSON, both of whom were recently promoted to full editors! Mark will be overseeing the bulk of the ever-excellent X-MEN line, including X-MEN, UNCANNY X-MEN, WOLVERINE, X-FORCE and CABLE! Matt will be editing the ultra-hot CAPTAIN AMERICA, DEADPOOL, KA-ZAR, and lots of upcoming stuff that's gonna blow your minds! Joining Mark as able assistant editor is Jaunty JASON LIEBIG, while Powerful PAUL TUTRONE will share an office - and his Star Wars action figures - with Matt!

Promoted to Associate Editor is none other than Gregarious GLENN GREENBERG. writer of our new STAR TREK. THE UNTOLD VOYAGES limited series! Glenn will be taking over SPIDER-MAN: THE MANGA and MARVEL TEAM-UP from his old boss, Tyrannical TOM BREVOORT (who's too busy these days with THE AVENGERS, THUNDERBOLTS, an upcoming new series starring an old favorite, and a terrific new title written by Rollickin' ROGER STERN)! Glenn will also launch X-MEN: THE MANGA - the first issue of which goes on sale next week - all by his lonesome. and he'll be alternating as editor of JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY with fellow Brooklyn Boy Joltin' JOE ANDREANI, with whom he now shares an office - and a new assistant editor, Peerless PETER FRANCO, who's already subjecting his new bosses to an endless stream of practical jokes!

Replacing Glenn as Tom Brevoort's assistant is Gallant GREGG SCHIGIEL, who moved all the way up from Florida to immerse himself in Marvel madness! Gregg has a "wish list" of all the top comics creators he wants to work with, and judging from the books he and Tom will be working on in the coming months, it looks like he'll be a very happy camper!

Finally, Kooky KELLY CORVESE has moved over to our burgeoning Marvel Kids line, so replacing him as editor of such titles as WHAT IF?, MAVERICK and X-FACTOR is Fearless FRANK PITTARESE, no stranger to the world of comics, having worked as an associate editor for our Distinguished Competition. Frank's right-hand-man is Kelly's former assistant, Jubilant JASON WHITE, who gets stuck with the task of bringing poor Frank up to date on X-Men continuity!

ITEM! Speaking of X-Men continuity, we've got some news about the man who's responsible for most of it! We're very pleased to announce that comics legend CHRIS CLAREMONT has joined the staff of Marvel Comics as Editorial Director! Chris will be working closely with Editor in Chief BOB (Slinky-Man) HARRAS, the entire editorial staff, and our fabulous creators, to continue our efforts to keep Marvel Comics ahead of the pack, take us to even greater heights, and to make each and every Marvel comic as great as it can possibly be! Welcome (back) to the Bullpen, Chris hope you survive the experience!

## STAN'S SOAPBOX!

I just thought of something! I get paid (not nearly enough, of course) to write, to kibitz. and to work on our movie, TV and animation projects. But I don't get paid to read fan mail. So guess what I spend most of my time doing every day? You got it! Reading fan mail! When I re-started the ol' Soapbox, I never dreamed so many of you had so many questions and comments to toss at me. But, y'know something? I love it! Just keep those letters pouring in; it's great to know that someone's actually reading the mixed-up masterpieces we keep churning out! And now, let's meet this issue's soon-to-be-famous No-Prize winners...

Bryan A. Leed of Dayton, OH, dares to ask: "Why all the writer and artist reassignments in so many Marvel titles? It gives the books a schizophrenic feel. Very bad. Can you straighten this out for us?"

Hey, Bryan, you're asking a lot of a guy who can barely spell schizophrenic! But here's the real skinny. Artists and/or writers often tell us they think they're getting in a rut working on a certain title and they'd like a change. Since we're not super-villains who'd force them to work on something they've tired of, we make a switch. It keeps our Bullpenners happy and y'know what? Each time a new team tackles a mag, they bring a fresh approach and new ideas - and we figure that helps to keep us from getting stale.

ere's an easier one from John Bonavita, of Huntington, NY:

"Did you ever make a 'guest-starring' appearance on the Hulk TV show?"

I sure did, Johnny. Sorry if you missed it, although the TV Academy must have missed it too, because they carelessly forgot to award me an Emmy! I played the foreman of a jury that was trying the Hulk in court, and I didn't miss a single line - mainly because those cowards didn't give me a line to say! Lucky I also have a day job!

nd John Warren, of Auburn, AL, has been staying up nights wondering:

"Why did you stop writing comics in the early 1970s?"

Because they appointed me publisher. They figured it was the only way to get me away from the typewriter to give some other guys a chance! But hey, I still write the Spider-Man newspaper strip and I sneak in some comic book scripts when you least expect it!

nd now, till that next, glorious, senses-shat-A tering moment when we meet again, always remember - teach your younger brothers and sisters the facts of life so they won't make the grievous mistake of dating someone who has never won a No-Prize!

> Excelsior! Stan Lee

Here it is, the award-winning address that makes your heart beat faster! "Stan's Soapbo. c/o BULLPEN BULLETINS, Marvel Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016! Just reading those words gets me all choked up!

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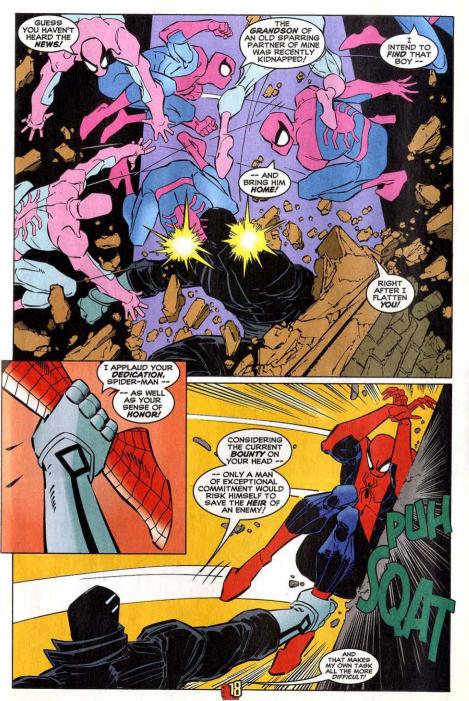
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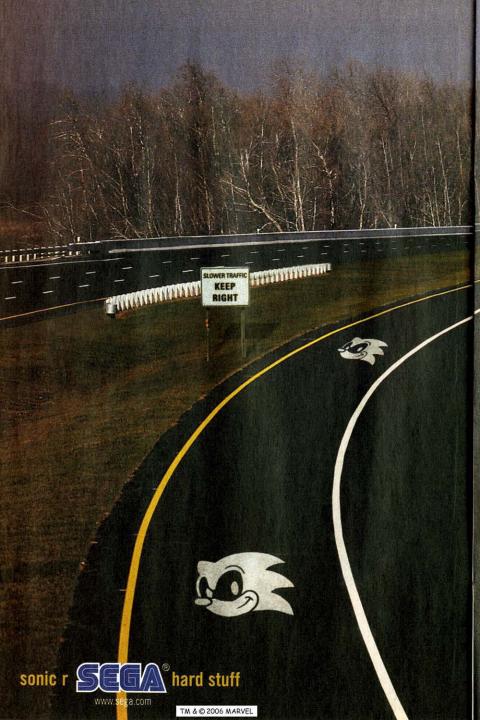


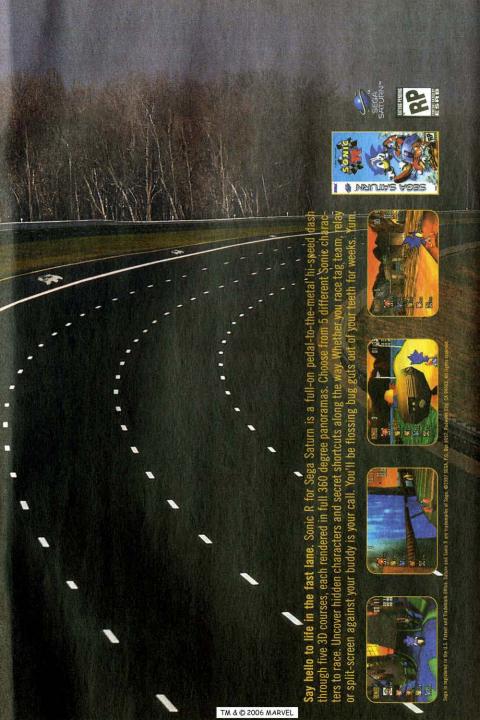






















Dear Spider's Web.

All right, I can't hold it in any longer (nooo, nature is not calling). Page 2. AMAZING SPIDER-MAM #426. When Peter wakes up, he says, "XLT-PXYXM,"...Mxyzptlk backwards!! The little imp (that's imp, not chimp) or whatever the heck he is from Superman. Am I not right?

Anyhoo. ASM #426 was awesome. (I wonder how many people have said that—it's so generic. Best I could do.) Though I'm not a big fan of Steve Skroce, I do like the way he draws Spidey. It's so...awesome.

This Stunner thing—how is she fat, then lean and muscular (that doesn't make sense does it?) Did I miss something? Please explain. And this reviving Doc Ock thing, couldn't there be a better way than using voodoo or whatever the True Believers are going to do? It's too weird. Of course, coming back from the dead is weird, too, but we should be used to that by now (Green Goblin, Spider-clone, Kraven, Discomusic).

Any chance of Mark Bagley doing some issues? I know he has the Thunderbolts thing now, but c'mon, doesn't he miss drawing Spidey? (Please?)

Another question (and I'm either stupid or ignorant for asking): Does the MARVEL TEAM-UP title always feature Spidey and some other hero(es), or is it different heroes every time?

So, until Spidey meets up with Mr. Mxyzptlk, Make Mine Marvel!

Matthew Holm 919 7th Avenue North Clinton, AZ 52732

Relax, Matl! You're not stupid or ignorant...you're both! Just kidding—really! Actually, the answer to your question about the newly revived MARVEL TEAM-UP is: both! The title currently stars Spider-Man and a guest star(s) up until issue #8, after which the lineup will revolve on a fairly regular basis. First up—Namor the Sub-Mariner and Dr. Strange! It should have hit the stores last week, so hurry to your local comic shop and "Defend" your copy today! (Get it? Dr. Strange and the Sub-Mariner were both in the Defenders...? Aw, nuts, just go to the next paragraph.)

As for Stunner, here's the...um... skinny: In real life, Stunner is indeed quite rotund. However, she assumes her super-powered alter ego by hooking up to some complicated wires and such, which connect her to a body which is really a Virtual Reality Construct! That is the body you see when she's running around hitting people. Got it?

Dear Web-Tale Spinners.

Three things:

MATT

HICKS

ASSISTANT

EDITOR

RALPH

MACCHIO

EDITOR

BOB

CHIEF

ARRAS

1. In 1969, having just turned 11 (you do the math), I laid my eyes on my first Spidey mag: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #76. The Spidey stories and art back in that "Silver Age of Comics" were the best around. But with all due respect (tons of it!) to Stan Lee and John Romita, Sr., I don't think the mag has ever been better than it is now! Tom DeFalco's got me dying to know what

happened to baby May, and how this whole Doc Ook thing is going to be sorted out. And Steve Skroce! Wow, what a number he did on Electro! Max Dillon has often been drawn as a sort of forgettable, face-in-the-crowd kind of guy. But Steve manages to use his "cartoony" style to give each member of the Spider-cast a more human look, with more individuality and character.

with more individuality and character.

2. I have never thanked you guys for bringing back Norman Osborn. To me, that incredible act of long-term continuity, reviving him after he was killed in 1973's legendary ish #122, showed true dedication to your "less recent" readers, because the return of Norman Osborn would have the greatest impact on those of us readers who witnessed his death 24 years ago! You can't imagine how much his reappearance in ASM #418 rejuvenated my excitement for the Spidey titles. Thank you!

3. Although I disagree with Francis Lord, who had his letter printed in ASM #426, on his suggestion to have Roger Stem write SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (J.M. DeMattels is on a roll), I do want to thank you guys for printing a letter from someone from Saskatoon. That hardly ever happens. Okay, never. By the way, to find Saskatoon on the map, just look seven miles north of Warman.

/arman. Well, until Aunt May rises from the

Great Beyond and beats Thor in an Olympic hammer-throw competition, Make Mine Marvel!

Murray Tempel P.O. Box 66 Warman, SASK CANADA SOK 420

Thanks for the kind words, Murray. Obviously, we've both accepted glowing praise and endured vicious insults over the return of Norman Osborn to these pages. (For the uninitiated, the arguments go like this: 1) Norman Osborn/Green Goblin was one of, if not the, best Spidey villains ever-thanks for bringing him back! Or: 2) The death of Norman Osborn/Green Goblin was one of the classic stories in all of comics—how dare you bring him back!) Interesting to hear the former opinion expressed by someone who was around when Norman first bought it, as much criticism has come from long-time readers like yourself.

Dear Spider's Web.

Re: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #426

This is the first letter I have ever written to any comic book, and as soon as I got #426, I had to write about it. It was amazing! You had Stunner, the Rose, Delilah, Lady Octopus and the True Believers for Spidey to fight!

On page 12, you said that Mary Jane wanted a cigarette. Don't let her go back to that "filthy habit." On the next page, you showed Alison Mongrain pulling a cat out of a baby's playene (hint, hint). Then, she was talking about selling Osborn's little secrets to people, and the first name she thought of was the Parkers. So, I conclude that little May is still alive.

When the Rose was asking Master Zei if he could revive Ock's body, he said he could. You were making it sound like he died of a bullet wound or something. Face it! You guys made Kaine break his neck. So, technically, when Doc Ock returns, he shouldn't be able to walk!

After Spidey rolled up the two ninjas

in a rug, another ninja came after him with a sword. It was smart of him to stop the sword between the two rolled-up ninja heads! During the fight, you should have had Stunner and Delilah team up against Spidey. The whole fight, all they did was pull out the support beams for the building.

Before I go, I have a few questions for you to answer:

 How did Carolyn Trainer get Otto's metallic arms and in what issue is

her complete origin?

2. Was Doc Ock buried with his arms on his body, or did someone take them off to make him look more presentable? On the last page, I didn't see his arms hanging off the table, so

I guess someone did.

3. What happened to Stunner and in what issue did you change her back into Angelina Brancale? The last time I remember her was back in SPIDER-MAN #60, fighting Kaine and Spider-Man.

Until Venom and Carnage become fast friends, Make Mine Marvel!

Josh Savitski 103 Eddy Street Throop, PA 18447

Thanks for the letter, Josh! We're touched by your concern for Mary Jane, and while she may not light up anytime soon, it's important to remember that, for an addiction like cigarettes, the urge to do so may never go away.

As for your questions:

1. Carolyn Trainer did not have

1. Carolyn Trainer did not have
tashioned for herself using knowledge
she gained as Otto's assistant before
his "death." We've never presented
an origin story for her per se, but if
you're interested in her background,
check out SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED
#18 (If you haven't already!).

2. Well, since the arms were bonded to his body, they were most likely not removed. As for why you couldn't see them on that page, our guess is that it was just a bad angle to see them from!

 Stunner has been lying low for a while, ever since the death of her beloved Otto. She only resurfaced to help revive him.

NEXT ISSUE

HE TENSION HAS BEEN SUILDING FOR MONTHS, BUT NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR ONE OF PETER'S CLOSEST FRIENDS TO BOW OUT OF THE PICTURE. THAT'S RIGHTS IN GUITS! MEANWHILE, AN INJURED SPIDEY GOES TOE-TO-TOE WITH THE DIABOLICAL MR. HYDE! LUS, WHO IS THE MYSTERIOUS GREEN HOOP: GREEN, EH? HMMM... BE HERE IN 28 AND REPEARE TO BE DAZZLED BY THE LIKES OF DEFALCO, LYLE AND LAROSA. THERE WILL, HOWEVER, BE NO DAZZLING FROM RALF

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