

HEY, IT'S THE EVER-AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN!

A true hero at heart, Spider-Man has dedicated his life to preventing injustices against the innocent.



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 wallcrawling nemesis of the criminal element; a young man determined to atone for the tragic death of his uncle

- The Amazing Spider-Man!

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. Most recently, she has signed a modeling contract and thus came into a great deal of money. Her career is taking her all over the world.



A II N T A N N A

The aunt of *Peter Parker*'s wife, *Mary Jane Watson-Parker*. She recently came to live with Peter and Mary Jane in their house in Forest Hills, Queens.



AUNT MAY

Ben Parker's sweet, understanding wife, who is Peter's aunt and surrogate mother since the tragic death of the youth's parents.



DR. TWAKI

The head of the *Tri Corp Research Foundation* located in New York City where *Peter Parker* has been given a position. Tri Corp is a private brain trust with enormous resources for scientific discovery.



PREVIOUSLY IN...

Deter Parker had kept his promise not to become Spider-Man. He and his Aunt May are now quite well off, living in a Fifth Avenue penthouse, courtesy of the income from wife Mary Jane's modeling.





Manhattan, the new webspinner leaps into action.



And while being shown around, Peter was shocked to see the Scorpion burst into the complex--

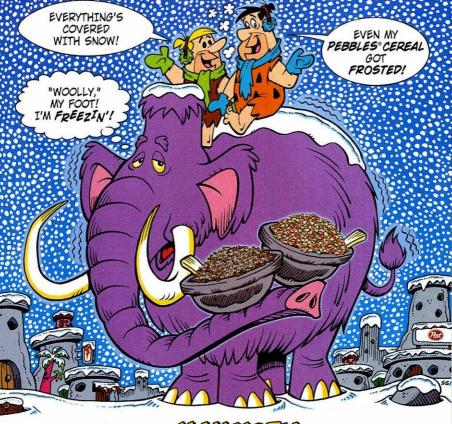


-- and scream out that Parker was the one he'd come for.



et's check in on the sudden appearance of the second Spidey on this cold winter's night...

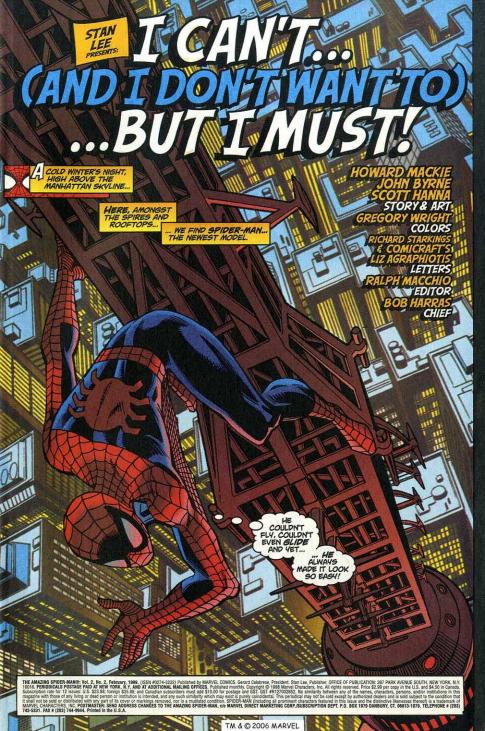
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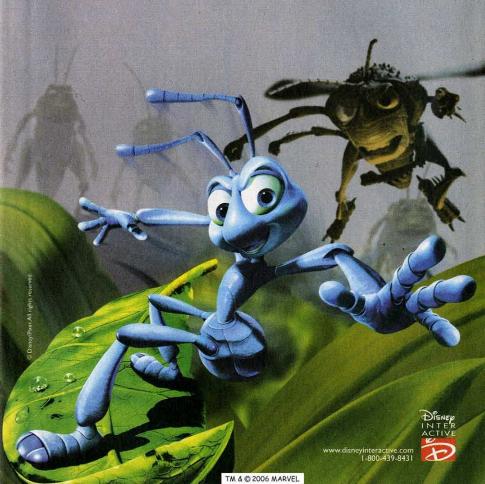
you do is strictly from a bug's point of view. Zap enemy grasshoppers with your berry shooter. Get pecked by a giant bird. Battle your way through 15 levels of non-stop fun where the action's always new. And teach

the evil Hopper the true meaning of pest control.

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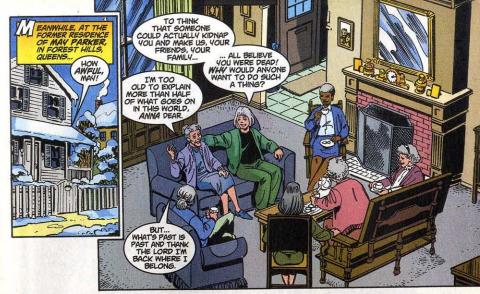
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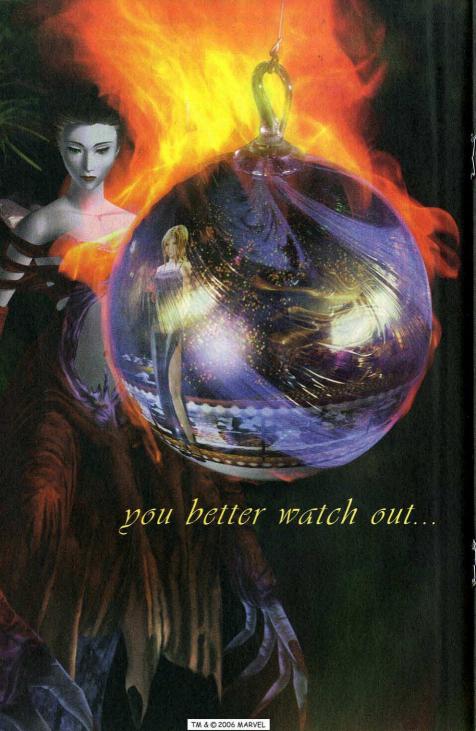
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JLLPEN BULLETIN

A-NEXT

DOCTOR DOOM appears in the MC2 Universe for the first time -- but is he the same man we remember? Find out as the A-NEXT team journeys to LATVERIA! By TOM DeFALCO and RON FRENZ!

CAPTAIN AMERICA Hide the children! Lock your doors and windows! The RED SKULL is back! And he's got a secret partner! Plus: more on the mystery of CAP's missing shield! By MARK WAID and ADAM KUBERT!

DOCTOR STRANGE

The magic is back! DOC's mystic might is useless against a serial killer! But not to worry this old sorcerer still has a few tricks up his sleeve! By TONY HARRIS and DAN JOLLEY!

GENERATION X HOLIDAY SPECIAL

NANNY and the ORPHAN-MAKER plan to kidnap a mutant boy from his home! GEN X to the rescue -- along with a jolly fat guy in a red suit! By JOSEPH HARRIS and ADAM POLLINA!

INCREDIBLE HULK Watch out, HULK! You and your old enemy, the XANTEREAN, have journeyed to the legendary homeworld of the WATCHERS! And they're watching you! By JOE CASEY and JAVIER PULIDO!

MARVEL COLLECTIB CLASSICS: X-MEN COLLECTIBL

Reprinting the best-selling comic book of all time, with an all-new cover by HUMBERTO RAMOS and JIMMY PALMIOTTI! By CHRIS CLAREMONT and JIM LEE!

MOON KNIGHT

MOON KNIGHT is reunited with a woman from his past, and faces a brutal death at the hands of one of the people closest to him in all the world! By DOUG MOENCH and MARK TEXEIRA!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

Continued from the pages of THOR #8! SPIDEY and the God of Thunder take on TROCKETTS, a mischievous, but unbelievably powerful dark god! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

PUNISHER

The final battle with OLIVIER is at hand, as Hell itself comes to Earth! It's time for FRANK CASTLE to punish some demons! By CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN, TOM SNIEGOSKI, and BERNIE WRIGHTSON! TEAM X 2000

BISHOP and DEATHBIRD return to Earth only to find themselves in a bizarre alternate world where the SHI'AR have conquered the

planet! By SEAN RUFFNER and KEVIN LAU! THUNDERBOLTS Who leaves the team? Who joins? Find out here as the U.S. AGENT returns to take down

the THUNDERBOLTS! Plus: the new CITIZEN V! By KURT BUSIEK and MARK BAGLEY!

WOLVERINE: NOT DEAD The Scottish assassin McLEISH has returned to kill WOLVERINE -- and he knows all of LOGAN's weaknesses! By WARREN

ELLIS and LEINEL FRANCIS YU! UNION JACK

The BARONESS and her horde of vampires want to string up UNION JACK and see if anyone salutes! But Jack's got BARON BLOOD on his hands! By BEN RAAB and JOHN CASSADAY!

X-MAN

NATE's past comes back to haunt him when a depressed girl asks him to cure her mental disorder - and the CRUSADER shows up to take the X-MAN down! By MARK BERNARDO and LUKE ROSS!

This is a good week for classic villains! You asked for him -- you got him! MAGNETO is back! And he's got big plans for the future of the world! By JOE KELLY and ALAN DAVIS! ITEM! DOCTOR STRANGE returns next week in an all-new four-issue limited series -- and he's got a whole new bag of tricks! TONY HARRIS is the writer/artist for this spellbinding saga, with DAN JOLLEY as co-writer, and RAY SNYDER adding his inking magic! The story finds the Sorcerer Supreme on the trail of a killer who masks his trail so well, even Doc's magic can't catch him! Doc had better pull something out of his hat fast! Plus, in an attempt to repair the damage done to his hands. Doc seeks out a brilliant young surgeon. But due to the recent accidental death of a patient, the surgeon lacks the confidence to operate! Can Doc restore the surgeon's confidence and heal his own unsteady hands? Check out the DOCTOR STRANGE Limited Series for the sorcerous saga of a lifetime! Not even the Dread Dormammu could keep this one off the stands!

ITEM! Is SANTA CLAUS a mutant? That's the question all X-Fans will be asking this Christmas after reading the GENERATION X HOLIDAY SPECIAL, on sale next week! It all starts when KRIS KRINGLE shows up at the school, and displays his remarkable powers; he can travel around the entire Earth in one night, he knows who's naughty and nice, he has control over eight flying reindeer... this certainly seems like the kind of thing which would set off CEREBRO This jolly fat man in a red suit wants to help the GEN-X kids save a mutant boy from being abducted by NANNY and the ORPHAN-MAKER! JUBILEE and Co. aren't sure if OI' St. Nick is the real deal...but they'd better make up their minds fast, or they'll wind up with coal in their stockings! JOSEPH HARRIS and ADAM POLLINA are the merry-makers bringing you this 48-page bundle of Yuletide cheer! The GENERATION X HOLIDAY SPECIAL - it's the perfect stocking stuffer!

ITEM! Every few months or so, we like to shake up the THUNDERBOLTS series in a big way! In seven short days, we'll be releasing THUNDERBOLTS #23. another issue with major repercussions for Marvel's Most Wanted Heroes! What happens? For starters, one member of the team goes to jail to atone for past crimes! The current leader of the T-Birds has a new candidate for membership -- one that doesn't sit well with the other members of the group! And there is a knock-down ,drag-out fight between the 'Bolts, the U.S. AGENT and the JURY! KURT BUSIEK is the writer with all the revelations, while MARK BAGLEY and SCOTT HANNA are the drawing duo who put the thunder in THUNDERBOLTS! Pick up ish 23 of this unpredictable mag, and prepare to be surprised!

ITEM! For months now, he's been planning and plotting ... biding his time until the moment was just right for his comeback! Now, at last, the X-MEN's greatest foe, MAGNETO, returns in X-MEN #85, on sale next week! To commemorate this mutant milestone. we've got one of the greatest artist's in comics, ALAN DAVIS, coming aboard as penciler with this issue! X-scribe JOE KELLY has cooked up a spectacular tale for this issue, as the X-Men once again confront the deadliest threat ever faced by mutant and mankind alike! We can't reveal what Magneto is up to -- but we will say he's got some nasty plans for JOSEPH! And that's just the beginning! Accompanying Alan's arrival is his long-time inking partner, MARK FARMER! You thought the X-MEN had outstanding art before -- wait till you see the breath-taking artwork in ish 85!

ITEM! If you've been wondering whatever happened to long-lost X-Man, BISHOP, wonder no more! That future warrior's fate will be revealed next week in TEAM X 2000, a 48-page one-shot which finds BISHOP and his companion, the interstellar assassin, DEATHBIRD, transported to a twisted alternate Earth! In this strange land, the SHI'AR have conquered the planet, led by a young empress who just may be the daughter of PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER! SEAN RUFFNER and KEVIN LAU have crafted a gritty tale of mutant rebellion, as Bishop leads a team of X-Men mutated into MORLOCKS against the oppressive AVIANS! It's sci-fi action, in the tradition of Star Wars!

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i, Heroes! Okay, it's finished! I finally got it out of my system! If you'll forgive me for my column last ish, I promise not to answer any more questions in verse-- at least for a while. So you can all come back and start reading the Soapbox again! And what better way to start than with a letter

that tackles a subject you can all vote for... r newest No-Prizer, Daniel St. John, of Minneapolis, MN, wants to make sure I'll never have any time to take a break as he asks...

"Stan, why don't you do a line of comics bringing back Marvel's great, old-time super heroes from the days when Marvel was called Timely Comics, and do them from today's perspective? All those wonderful characters-- Captain America's sidekick Bucky, the Torch's young pal Toro, Miss America, The Destroyer, The Thunderer, The Blazing Skull, Black Marvel, The Silver Scorpion. The Patriot, The Fin, Citizen V and others. Let us see those first glorious "Timely" heroes fighting for freedom and liberty and a better way of life with the values of decency that have almost been lost to the America of the late 20th Century. Think about it, Stan. You were there, remember? Give us the legends that pre-date Marvel!"

Wow! That's a pretty tall order, Danny. Yeah, I was there, alright... but I've all but forgotten many of those characters. And who were their enemies? It was so long ago they might have been fighting dinosaurs! But I tell va what-- as usual, we'll leave it to the maniacal minions of mighty Marvel to decide. To help all you riotous readers forget the agony of X-mas shopping, here's something of vital importance that you can all vote for. And any Marvelite can vote! Your age doesn't matter, and you don't even have to be an American citizen -- as long as you're a citizen of somewhere. Aliens, of course, are ineligible-- unless they have a visa. So, do you want a return to the almostforgotten past, or do you want us to stick with the pretty-much-remembered present, or hey, how about anything in-between? Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Lots'a Choices!

orry I was so long-winded. Just room for Sthis from Terry Allen of Modesto, CA...

"Did Jack Kirby and/or Don Heck help design and create Iron Man?"

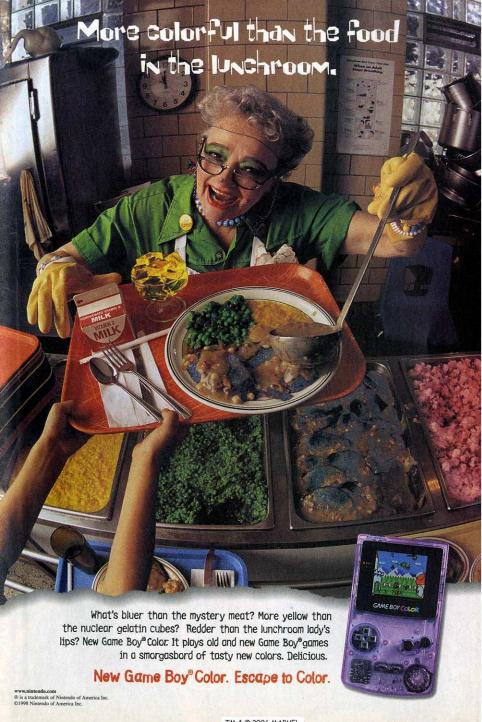
Yep! Just about every artist I ever worked with designed the look of our characters. Both Jack and Don each had a hand in creating of Shellhead's original suit of armor.

nd so we conclude another journey into Culture and erudition, another voyage into literature and the communicative arts- and y'know what? It was nice having you along for the ride. Remember, send your votes, letters, money (I always wanted to add that!) to "Soapbox" Marvel Comics, 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016 or zip your e-mail to stanzfanz@aol.com. Either your momentous missive be added to our proud and passionate pile of possible No-Prize

candidates- 'cause our generosity is boundless!

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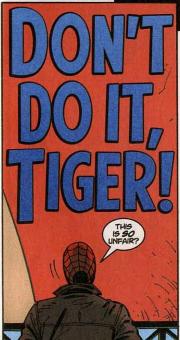
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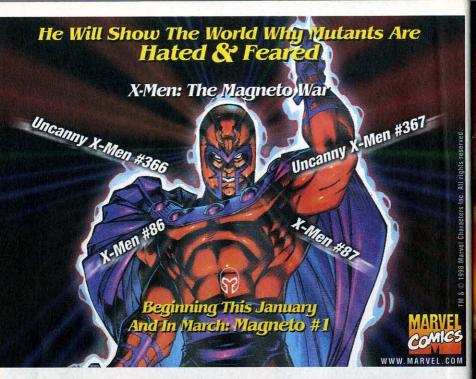














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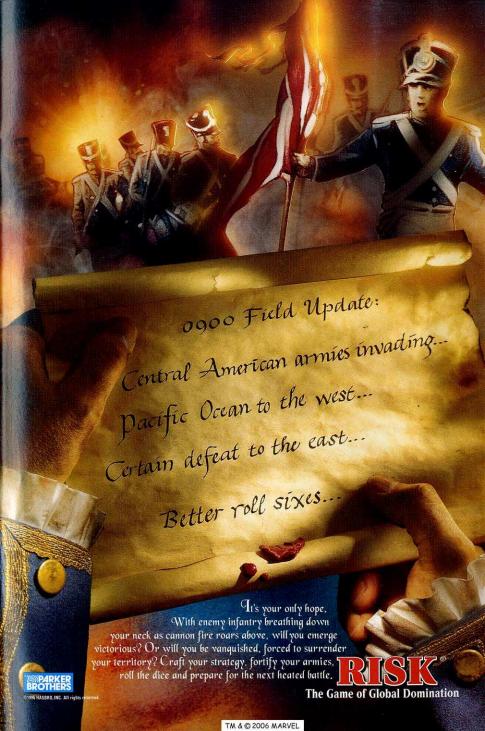
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