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"AND SO IT
BEGINS."

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK



Huh?

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK



WHAT
THE --?

MR.
THOMPSON
WERE
NEEDED!

WHAT'S
WITH THE "MR.
THOMPSON" STUFF,
SPIDEY OL' BUDDY?
IT'S JUST ME...
FLASH!



I KNOW,
PAL, JUST TRYING
TO INJECT A LITTLE
HUMOR INTO WHAT LOOKS
LIKE IT'S GOING TO
BE A HECK OF
A DAY!

WHAT'S
UP?

THE
FANTASTIC
FOUR ARE IN
TROUBLE! THEY
NEED OUR
HELP!

GIVE ME A
MINUTE!



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A full-page illustration of Spider-Man in his red and blue suit, suspended in the air by thick metal chains. He is looking down with a determined expression. The background shows a cityscape with tall buildings and bright yellow energy bolts streaking across the sky.

IT'S
**DOCTOR
DOOM...** HE'S
BACK, TAKEN OVER
THE BAXTER BUILDING
AND THE FF HAVE
ALREADY
FALLEN.

STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE PERFECT WORLD PART 1

HEROES & VILLAINS

**HOWARD MACKIE/JOHN BYRNE STORY AND ART SCOTT HANNA INKS
GREGORY WRIGHT COLORS RS/COMICRAFT'S LIZ AGRAPHOTIS LETTERS
RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF**

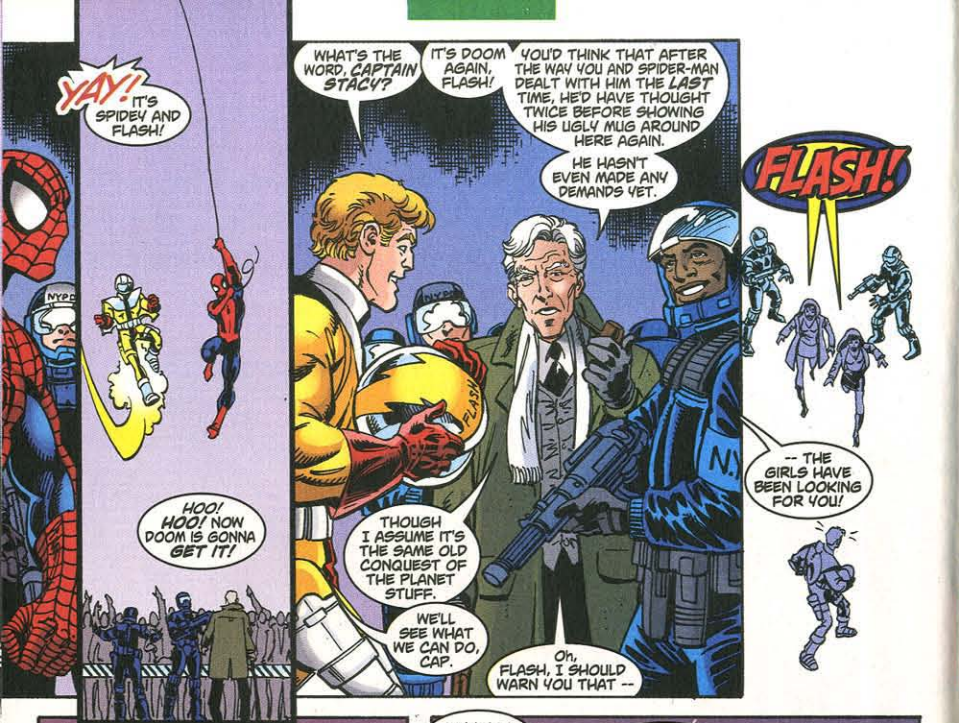


THEN
WE'D BETTER
SPEED IT UP,
SPIDEY!
I'VE GOT
A DATE LATER
TONIGHT AND WAS
HOPING TO GET
A HAIRCUT!

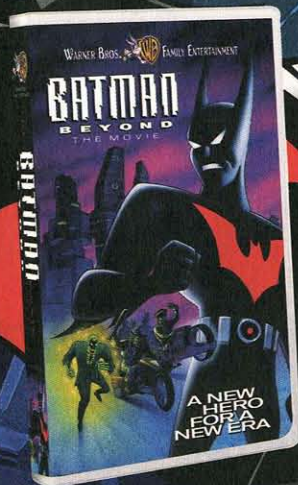
WHO
YOU SEEING
TONIGHT?

I
HAVEN'T
DECIDED
YET.

"THIS IS AN
INTERESTING
DEVELOPMENT."



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is forced to hang up
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his place to become...

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FOR A
NEW ERA!**

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LOLITA RITOMANIS & MICHAEL MCCUSTION SHAWN McLAUGHLIN BATMAN BOB KANE ALAN BURNETT PAUL DINI GLEN MURAKAMI BRUCE TIMM
STAN BERKOVITZ ALAN BURNETT & PAUL DINI CURT GEDA
www.batmanbeyond.com



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FWAKOOM!

SPIDEY!
DOOM IS
UP TO NO
GOOD!

SEE
THAT THESE
PEOPLE ARE
EVACUATED
FROM THE
AREA...

...I'M
GOING
IN!

"FASCINATING."

SIGH



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FRANK MILLER, *Sin City*

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EXCELLENT!

THINGS
PROGRESS
APACE!

WHATTA
YA UP TO
THIS TIME,
DOOM?

MUCH
MORE THAN
YOUR SIMPLE MIND
COULD EVER HOPE
TO FATHOM,
THING!

ANSWER
BEN, DOOM! WHAT
ARE YOU TRYING TO
DO? AND WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE WITH
KEED?

CERTAINLY,
SUSAN, ANYTHING
FOR YOU.

I AM
USING YOUR
HUSBAND'S
LABORATORY
TO BRING FORTH
ALLIES I HAVE
MADE...

...WITHIN
THE NEGATIVE
ZONE.

TOGETHER
WE WILL CONQUER
THIS PLANET, I WILL
TAKE MY RIGHTFUL PLACE
AS KING, AND THEN WE
WILL SET OUR SIGHTS
TOWARD OTHER
WORLDS!

AS FOR
YOUR PITIABLE
HUSBAND...

HE
WAS THE
FIRST OF
YOU TO FALL.

DON'T...
DO IT.
DOOM.

YOU
SPEAK?

YOU
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING!

I KNOW
WHO YOUR "ALLIES"
ARE AND THEY CANNOT
BE TRUSTED. THEY WILL
NEVER ALLOW YOU
TO RULE THEM!
THEY --



SILENCE!

ARRRRGH!

YOUR HUSBAND HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SMALL-MINDED WEAKLING, SUSAN.

IT IS A TRUE SIN FOR ONE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU TO BE WASTED ON THE LIKES OF HIM.

BUT TIME DOES HAVE A WAY OF CORRECTING LIFE'S LITTLE IMBALANCES.

YOU WILL COME TO LOVE ME AS YOUR HUSBAND.

NEVER!

THEN YOU WILL SERVE ME AS YOUR KING!

SHEESH! TALK ABOUT YOUR DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR!

SPIDEY!

HEY, TORCH, YOU'RE LOOKING A BIT WET!

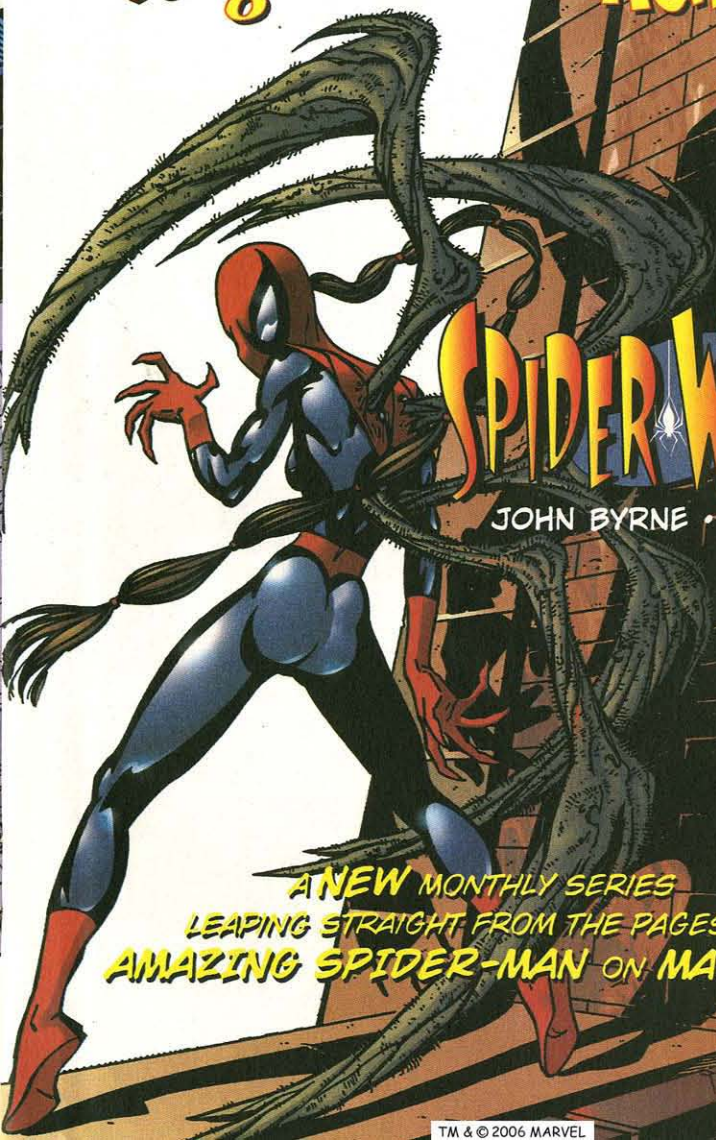
NO SWEAT! GIVE US A CHANCE TO PUT DOOM DOWN FOR THE COUNT AND I'LL GET YOU A TOWEL.

HOW IS IT GUYS LIKE YOU AND DOC OCK ARE ALWAYS SHOWING UP IN OUR BACKYARD...?

THONK

...I THOUGHT DOCTORS DIDN'T MAKE HOUSECALLS ANYMORE!

And You Thought
The Toughest Part About
Being A Teen Was Acne?



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HOW'S IT GOING OVER THERE, PAL O' MINE?

ANYTIME YOU FEEL LIKE JUMPING IN AND HELPING THE WORLD... I'D BE OKAY WITH IT!

YOU KNOW THIS GUY DID JUST TAKE OUT THE ENTIRE FF BY HIMSELF!

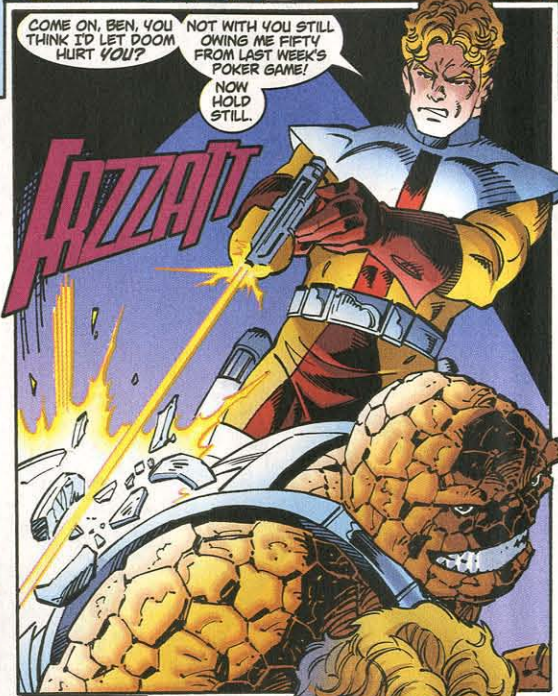
JUST KEEP HIM BUSH FOR A FEW MORE MINUTES, BUDDY...



...YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET MORE REINFORCEMENTS THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!

FLASH THOMPSON!

I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO GET AROUND TO MAKIN' AN APPEARANCE.



COME ON, BEN, YOU THINK I'D LET DOOM HURT YOU?

NOT WITH YOU STILL OWING ME FIFTY FROM LAST WEEK'S POKER GAME!

NOW HOLD STILL.

GRR! NOW I'M GONNA RIP OLD LEAD BUTT A NEW --

WAIT! WE'VE GOT TO FREE REED FIRST!





HOW DO YOU
DO IT, THOMPSON?
HOW DO YOU STAY
SO COOL UNDER
FIRE?

HEALTHY
LIVING AND
GOOD FRIENDS
WATCHING
MY BACK!

OKAY, REED,
TAKE IT EASY. NOW WE'LL
GET THE HUMAN TORCH
AND SUE AND --

NO!
THEY CAN
WAIT!

IF DOOM
HAS DONE WHAT I
FEAR HE'S DONE... THE
WHOLE UNIVERSE IS
AT RISK!



SPIDEY! I
NEED YOU TO
KEEP HIM BUSHY A
LITTLE WHILE
LONGER! YOU
UP TO IT?

IF YOU
THINK I AM,
FLASH!

GO
FOR
IT!



YOIKS!

WHAT
DID HE
DO?

EXACTLY
THAT WHICH I
FEARED...

...DOOM IS
TEARING A HOLE
IN THE SPACE-TIME
CONTINUUM IN AN
EFFORT TO BREACH
THE NEGATIVE
ZONE.

THIS PORTAL
IS FAR TOO
UNSTABLE FOR
SUCH A MASSIVE
OUTPUT OF
ENERGIES.

WE'VE
GOT TO
SHUT IT DOWN
BEFORE--

LET'S NOT
GO INTO THE
WHOLE "BEFORE"
THING, OKAY?

I'D RATHER
NOT KNOW
EXACTLY WHAT
IS AT RISK
HERE.

POINT ME
IN A DIRECTION.
TELL ME WHAT
TO DO...

...AND
LET'S CLOSE
THIS THING
DOWN!

I HATE
TO ASK THIS
OF YOU,
FLASH,
BUT...

...IF YOU CAN JUST
GET CLOSE ENOUGH
TO THE PORTAL
WITHOUT BEING
PULLED IN... THEN I
CAN GET A DIRECT
BEARING ON
YOU WITH THE
TRAN --

WHOA!

LET'S BACK UP
TO THE "WITHOUT
BEING PULLED
IN" PART!

FOOLISH,
HUMAN!

I HAVE
NO INTEREST
IN PULLING
YOU IN!

YOU ARE
SIMPLY
BEING USED
AS AN ANCHOR
TO BRING...

BLASTAAR

INTO YOUR WORLD
FROM THE DEPTHS OF
SUB-SPACE!

WHAT'S
THIS? FLASH
THOMPSON?

DOOM
SAID NOTHING
ABOUT YOU TO US!
HE SAID WE WOULD
ONLY BE FACING
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR!

WELCOME TO THE
REAL
WORLD, BLASTII!
SO WHAT'S
WITH THE
US?

ANNIHILUS!
TO ME! IT IS THE
ACCURSED FLASH
THOMPSON!

WHAT?

DOOM!

WHEN I GET MY
HANDS ON YOU FOR THIS
BETRAYAL I WILL TEAR THE
BEATING HEART FROM YOUR
WARM-BLOODED
MAMMALIAN
BODY!

THE
PORTAL IS OUT
OF CONTROL! OUR
ARMIES HAVE
BEEN LEFT
BEHIND!

WHERE
ARE YOU,
DOOM?

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Steve Meyers

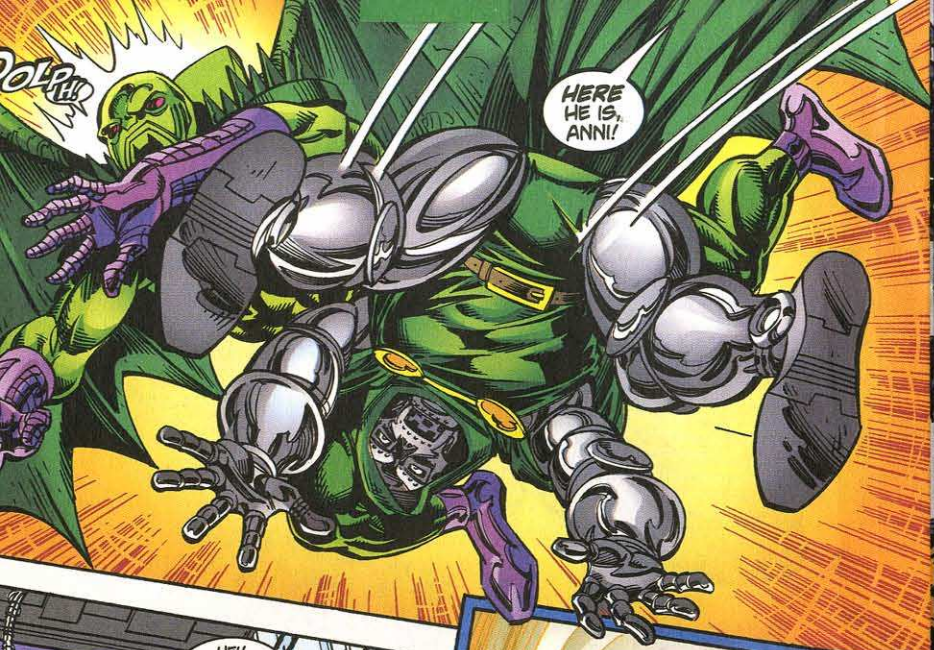
**SPIDER-SENSE
TINGLING!**

WHY? BECAUSE
NOT GETTING ENOUGH **CALCIUM**
CAN BE DANGEROUS! THAT'S WHY
I DRINK **THREE GLASSES** OF MILK A
DAY FOR STRONG BONES. HEY, WHEN
YOU'RE TRADING PUNCHES WITH
DOC OCK, **CALCIUM** IS YOUR
BEST FRIEND.

got milk?

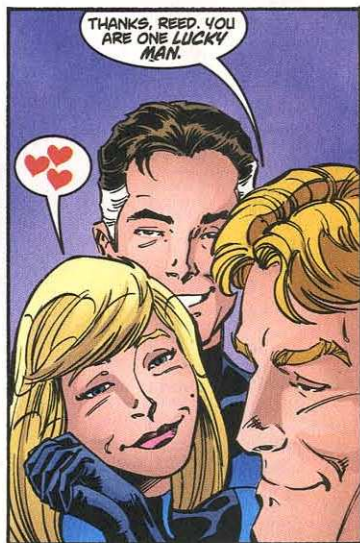
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LET'S GO TELL THE BLASTED WORLD THAT FLASH THOMPSON AND SPIDEY SAVED OUR BUTTS... AGAIN!



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GET OUT OF THE WAY!**





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IN YOUR WAY WITH...**



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Er... GUYS...
DON'T YOU THINK
THIS IS A LITTLE
MUCH?

I MEAN...
WE WERE ONLY
DOING WHAT
HAD TO BE
DONE!

ENOUGH
MODESTY,
SON...
... YOU
DESERVE
EVEN MORE THAN
THIS LITTLE
PARADE!

THAT'S
RIGHT, GUYS.
THE MAYOR HAS
A LITTLE SOMETHING
EXTRA COOKED UP
FOR YOU ON THE
STEPS OF CITY
HALL.



AVAILABLE MAY 19TH

A - NEXT

10 **AVENGERS** Finally uncovered the menace that broke the spirit of their predecessors, the next generation of the Earth's Mightiest Heroes travel into a twisted reality where they are forced to battle demented versions of the original AVENGERS! By TOM DEFALO and RON FRENZ!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

19 **CAPTAIN AMERICA** Following the world-shattering events of issues #17 and #18, CAP faces his intimate moment of redemption as he struggles to save the world of today and countless tomorrows! By MARK WAID and ANDY KUBERT!

DAREDEVIL

9 **DAREDEVIL** As MATT MURDOCK attempts to rebuild his life from the ashes of the 'Guardian Devil' story arc, old friends and foes arrive! And when a former employee of HILSON FISK contacts Matt, claiming to know the secret of the fat man's criminal empire, a new twist is added to the classic tiff between DAREDEVIL and his nemesis, THE KINGPIN! By DAVID MACK, JOE QUESADA and JIMMY PALMIOTTI!

THE HULK

4 **THE HULK** As a familiar foe makes a dramatic turn into BRUCE BANNER's life, the HULK rages further and further out of control until he snaps past the breaking point and does something so horrific, so defensible that we can't even mention it! By JOHN BYRNE and RON GARNEY!

THE INCREDIBLE HULK VS. SUPERMAN

99 **THE INCREDIBLE HULK VS. SUPERMAN** As the first-ever book-length battle that the fans demanded as the most powerful of comicdom take each other on in all-out war! By ROGER STERN and STEVE RUDE!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

7 **PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN** As a mysterious killer is stalking the dark depths of the Manhattan underworld, a hero whose M.O. is like none other! And when JIMMY SIX staggers to PETER PARKER's protection, SPIDER-MAN is pulled into an unholy which ultimately picks up on the social events of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN 999 ANNUAL! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

THUNDERBOLTS

28 **THUNDERBOLTS** With ARCHANGEL flying on their side, the T-BOLTS battle BRAVITRON! They couldn't beat him before, so what makes them think they have a chance now? Will the aid of Archangel turn the tide -- or will the faster of gravity pull the high flier from the sky? By KURT BUSIEK and MARK BAGLEY!

WOLVERINE/PUNISHER: REVELATION

29 **WOLVERINE/PUNISHER: REVELATION** As a mysterious illness has struck down New York's entire Upper West Side -- and the rest of the city is next! Among the fallen lays FRANK CASTLE's dear friend and she'll die unless an antidote is found! By CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN, TOM SNIEGOSKI and PAT LEE!

X - M A N

53 **X - M A N** After the startling events of the last issue, NATE finds himself face-to-face with his "parents," JEAN GREY and SCOTT SUMMERS! By TERRY KAVANNAH and LUKE ROSS!

X - M E N

90 **X - M E N** While MAGNETO plots his ascension in present-day Genosha, the X-MEN are added years in the past and far from home! By ALAN DAVIS!

ITEM! The people have spoken -- at least readers of Comics Buyer's Guide -- and voted our very own TOM BREVOORT as favorite editor! Always humble, Tom had this to say about his triumph: 'It's a win for the AVENGERS as much as it's a win for me...it's a testament to the entire creative team. The fans like them as much as they like me.' "But," he added with a smirk on his bearded face, "I'll take the statue!" Other Marvelite winners included writer KURT BUSIEK for his work on AVENGERS, IRON MAN and THUNDERBOLTS; MARK WAID of CAPTAIN AMERICA fame placed second in the same category. Favorite penciler honors went to a trio of Marvel Men: GEORGE PEREZ, JOHN BYRNE and ALAN DAVIS (in that order). Not surprisingly, your favorite inker was the AVENGERS' AL VEY and our very own Marvel Knight, JIMMY PALMIOTTI placed third. A slew of other Marvel contributors sprinkled the honor roll including: BOB HARRAS, RALPH MACCHIO JOE QUESADA & JIMMY PALMIOTTI, and BOBBIE CHASE in the editor category; KEVIN SMITH, DEVIN GRAYSON, JERRY ORDWAY and STEVEN T. SEAGLE got props for their scribe skills; pencillers JOHN ROMITA JR., PHIL JIMINEZ, JOSE LADRONE, JOE QUESADA and the KUBERT brothers got nods; as did inkers KLAUS JANSON, SCOTT HANNA, TIM TOWNSEND and BILL SEINKIEWICZ. A hearty congratulations to all the winners!

MARVEL.COM

CHOOSE YOUR CHAMPION!

This summer, the Marvel Universe will be rocking with Pulse-Pounding Pugilism, the likes of which should make the Watcher lose his hair! CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS II, the sequel to the fan favorite limited series of the early 1980s, is written by 'Crusher' Chris Claremont and drawn by Oscar 'De La Hoya' Jimenez! Fans will have the opportunity to vote on who should win four of the bombastic bouts! Your vote will completely determine the results of that fight! To check out some of the art, to read an exclusive interview with 'Crusher' Claremont, and to CHOOSE YOUR CHAMPION, hitch a ride to: www.Marvel.com/champions

This week's chat schedule!

May 25 8:00pmET. The official EARTH X chat with writer -- JIM KRUEGER!

May 26 7:00pmET. GENERATION X, MUTANT X editor -- JASON LIEBIG!

May 27 9:30pmET. EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with writer KURT BUSIEK & editor TOM BREVOORT!

AOL Keyword: Marvel

All Chat schedules subject to change/cancellation.

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

Hi, Heroes!

It's time for another journey into mystery and suspense as we breathlessly read on to see who will be this issue's newest No-Prize Laureates. So let's not prolong the agony any longer because the happy hordes of Marveldom Assembled must never be denied! Therefore, with no further ado (someday I've gotta look up that word "ado" and see what it really means!) let's fearlessly tackle our first indomitable interrogator...

Who happens to be LeBeau L. Underwood of Jacksonville, FL, who asks...

"Since the X-Men were created in the '60s and battle prejudice against mutants, were Professor X and Magneto based on Martin Luther King and Malcolm X? Their methods for achieving equality are somewhat similar."

A very perceptive observation, LBL. I don't think I consciously tried to base the X-Men on Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, but they were certainly on everyone's mind at the time and it's very possible that I may have subconsciously been influenced by their activities. Now that I think of it, the parallels are very striking.

I am Pedace of South Gate, CA raises an interesting point with this query...

"As a longtime Marvel fan, I've been wondering-- when some characters die they're resurrected, like Wonder Man or Jean Grey. Yet, other characters stay dead, like Gwen Stacy or Captain Marvel. (Mar-Vel). When your writers kill a character, do they dictate whether there is a 'resurrection potential?' Who decides whether they'll stay dead or not?"

Usually it's you, the readers, who make that decision. When our writers administer the last rites, we usually expect the poor character to remain deceased. But sometimes the flood of fan mail is so overwhelming that we feel we have to find a way to perform a miracle or two, provided we can think of a way to do it that won't turn you off. So you see, as ever it's our rollickin' readers who play the tune while we dance the jig!

And, from sunny Monterrey, Mexico, Juan Ricardo Sanchez Saenz is bustin' to know...

"Who is this Irving Forbush you always talk about?"

Hey, Juan, I don't always talk about him, but I guess he really is one of my favorite non-existent people. He's just an off-beat name I made up to use whenever I need an expression like, "As Honest Irving Forbush would say..." or "In the immortal words of Irving Forbush..." But y'know something? After all these years I actually feel as if I know the guy!

And, after all these years, you'd better know our mailing address, Soapbox, Marvel, 387 Park Ave. South, NY NY 10016, plus our ever-so-exotic e-mail address, stanfanz@aol.com -- and remember to include your own address in your e-mail so we'll know where to send your No-Prize if the fickle finger of fate picks your letter out of our enchanted chalice.

Excelsior!

Stan
Stan Lee

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TALK ABOUT YOUR
"MENACES TO
SOCIETY."

THANKS
FOR HANDLING
THAT, SPIDER-MAN.
IT'S ABOUT TIME
SOMEONE PUT
THAT MAN IN HIS
PLACE!



FLASH, DO YOU THINK YOU
COULD SAY A FEW WORDS
TO YOUR ADORING PUBLIC?
YOU KNOW IT WOULD MEAN
THE WORLD TO
THEM.

OF
COURSE, YOUR
HONOR.



FELLOW
CITIZENS! TODAY
I FEEL LIKE THE
LUCKIEST MAN ON
THE FACE OF
THIS...



... THIS ...

FLASH! WHAT'S
UP? ARE YOU
OKAY?

Eh... YEAH... I THINK... IT'S
JUST THAT SUDDENLY
I FELT LIKE... NOT
QUITE RIGHT!
I'M
SURE IT WAS
NOTHING.



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- ☐ CAM Captain America
- ☐ DDV Daredevil
- ☐ FAN Fantastic Four
- ☐ INC The Hulk
- ☐ IRM Iron Man
- ☐ THO Thor
- ☐ BUT Thunderbolts

THE X-MEN

- ☐ CAB Cable
- ☐ DDP Deadpool
- ☐ GAM Gambit
- ☐ GEN Generation X
- ☐ XME Uncanny X-Men
- ☐ WOL Wolverine
- ☐ XFO X-Force
- ☐ MAN X-Man
- ☐ MEN X-Men

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NEXT ISSUE:
KINGPIN! THE RED SKULL!
VENOM! CARNAGE!
AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS AS
ALL TRUTHS ARE REVEALED!
IN "A PERFECT WORLD" PART 2.

THE SPIDER-MAN WEB

Dear Spider-People,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4 was a great issue! I especially liked the fight with Sandman—it looks like he'll be back to menace our hero in the near future. When will Aunt May stop worrying about her nephew so much? And will Peter ever have a normal male/female relationship?

Do you realize that the preceding paragraph could have been written about either the latest issue (Volume II, #4) or the classic September 1963 issue (Volume I, #4)? I remember the 1963 issue well—it was my very first Marvel comic and still one of my favorites! So it was a nice touch to have Sandman back in #4, even if his "heroic" period was just a sham. I liked the idea of him going straight, but some things are just not meant to be.

I really got a kick out of the Human Torch drooling over Mary Jane. Some readers may point out that Johnny should've known MJ was married, but the general public tends to forget these things, especially if the woman in question keeps using her maiden name in her professional life. Look at today's top models and actresses, for example.

Senator Ward's "deal" with the Wizard sounds intriguing—you can bet I won't miss the Annual! And I'll be counting the days until the new Spider-Woman appears! I've seen the advance artwork on the Internet, and I think she should look a bit more feminine. I am guessing that she won't be Martha "Maddie" Franklin, but someone totally new that we've never seen before, much like Julia Carpenter was when she debuted. But don't ignore Martha—I thought she was kind of cute!

Dennis Hamer
Omaha, NE

Thanks for all the kind words, Dennis! By the way, who squealed and said that Maddie wouldn't...or might not be...the gal behind the Spider-Woman mask? Why, we'll moider 'em!

We've gotten a lot of positive responses to Johnny having become smitten with MJ, however. Wonder why that struck such a nerve? Do you all like seeing the cocky Johnny flirt in vain, or is there a more significant reason?

Dear Spider-Folks,

I just wanted to send a few quick words to the *Spider's Web* in regards to AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4. I enjoyed the issue very much. The good ol' Fantastic Four are what originally got me inter-

ested in comics way back when, so a guest appearance in Spidey's mag is a great thing.

I must point out that I prefer John Byrne's pencils to be inked by himself, like the material I've been enjoying in the SPIDER-MAN: CHAPTER ONE limited series. This is strictly my opinion though, and this takes nothing away from Scott Hanna's obvious skill. I hope you can hold onto this particular creative team for a long time and not just a half-year to get the series started.

My complaint with issue #4 is the giant splash page on pages two and three. Spidey's narrative leads one to believe that this scene will be taking place later in the comic, but all we really see later is the Thing punching out the Sandman and the Trapster getting stuck to him. Also, the battle on those pages seems to take place on the street whereas the short scuffle later on clearly takes place on a rooftop.

Am I being too picky? Maybe. It's just that little things like this tend to bother me, even though they may have no direct effect on the direction of the story or the quality of the art.

Andrew Vogt
Ft. Collins, CO

Don't be too concerned about the length of time this current team plans to contribute to this title, Andrew! Howard Mackie has proven his dedication to this line of titles by his constant involvement over the past five years. And John Byrne, in addition to being one of the most sought after creative individuals in the biz, has also built quite a reputation for being one of the most reliable, as well. So fret not, fearless one! We've got these guys on board for the foreseeable future!

Dear *Spider's Web*,

I have been a Spidey fan since the mid-'70s and have seen him through a few changes. My collecting slacked off here and there throughout the years, due to focus on family, life, etc. But awhile back (during the clone saga), I got hooked again. It was like looking up an old school buddy. I've been faithful ever since, and by filling in some of the gaps of past adventures, I've realized what a truly great mag this is.

The new beginning for the Spider-Man titles is a great idea, and I even like the M2 title SPIDER-GIRL, although she is about due for a heavy, three- or four-part cliffhanger right about now.

Anyway, what I'm really writ-

ing about is AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4. Excellent! I was kind of disappointed when I read SPIDER-MAN: CHAPTER ONE #5 and found you had skipped over Sandman (being that AMAZING SPIDER-MAN Vol. I #4 is the pride of my collection). But when I picked up AMAZING #4, all I could say was, "Right on!" Thanks! Classic Marvel action, as well as getting to see Spidey with some of his old friends. Over the years, Spidey and the Fantastic Four have been "there and back" together.

One more thing: What's this about Peter not being on the level with Mary Jane? This is not going to cut it. Lying is not Peter's style. They've been through too much together for her not to get over this latest disappointment.

James Stowe
Marysville, WA

Thanks for the letter, James! We hope you've gotten your fill of Sandy by now, especially since you've no doubt also scarfed up your very own copy of SPIDER-MAN: CHAPTER ONE #0, which contained the updated origin of the granular one!

And to round things out this month, we present the first ever "Thrifty Reader" of the month award. Take it away, Lloyde!

Dear Rascally Ralf and Crew,
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #4 was just...sandy.

And, yeah, I wrote my letter on notebook paper. If I bought more expensive paper, I'd have less money for comics, and I just think it works out better this way.

Lloyde Allen Grant
(Address withheld by request)

So do we, Lloyde. So do we.

NEXT ISSUE:
FLASH THOMPSON IS APPARENTLY IN THE WORLD HE ALWAYS DREAMED OF. BUT WILL HE BE ABLE TO MAKE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE TO RETURN EVERYONE HE KNOWS TO THE "REAL WORLD"? COULD THE SIDEKICK OF SPIDER-MAN DO ANY LESS? FIND OUT IN FOUR SHORT WEEKS, COURTESY OF MACKIE, BYRNE AND HANNA, AS WELL AS RALF, WHO'S NEVER SHOWN COURTESY TO ANYONE.

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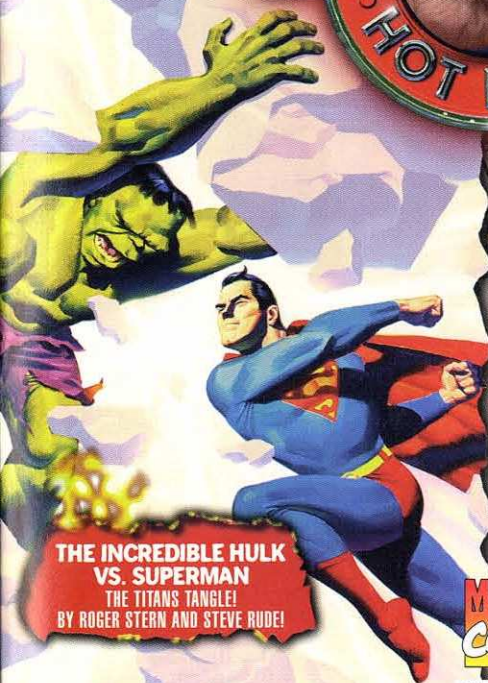
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