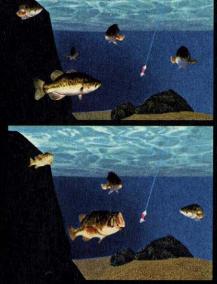






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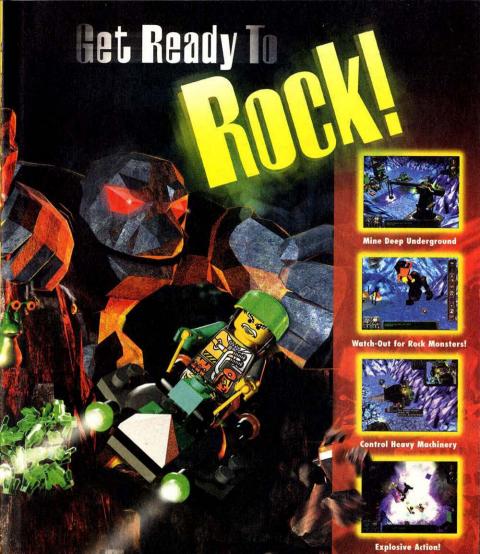
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Things aren't looking too good for Captain America! Not only is he chained #26 up and near drowning, but his partner the Falcon is strapped to a missile to an ineal drowing, but in spaties like factor is stagged to a linishing containing enough anthrax to decimate half the world's population. Well, at least Cap has new writer Dan Jurgens and penciler Andy Kubert in his corner! By DAN JURGENS and ANDY KUBERT!

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Virtually every heavyweight hero stars in this planet-shattering conclusion! The Avengers, the Starjammers, the Imperial Guard, the Fantastic Four and #6 of the Silver Surfer make their last stand to save the Shi'ar homeworld! If they succeed in destroying Galactus, the universe will be saved... or will it?! By LOUISE SIMONSON and JOHN BUSCEMA!

HULK

Deprived of the power of the Hulk, and held in the custody of S.H.I.E.L.D., Bruce Banner stands trial for the crimes committed in his stead by *11 Tyrannus! But salvation may come from an unexpected source in the form of... a hundred Hulks?! By JERRY ORDWAY and RON GARNEY!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

Look out! It's an official stop on the Hulk Smash World Tour! Emotions seek *14 strange release, sometimes in misdirected anger, And in the case of Peter Parker, the object of his misdirected anger is none other than the rampaging monstrosity that was born in the heart of a gamma bomb explosion! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

THUNDERBOLTS

The Thunderbolts grapple with the devastating loss they suffered last issue—even as the architect of their misery targets his next victim! Has Mach-1 reverted to his former identity, or is something even stranger afoot? By FABIAN NICIEZA and MARK BAGLEY!

UNCANNY X-MEN

In the wake of the war to stop Apocalypse, what is the fate of Genosha? The X-Men have been forced into an alliance with their most deadly enemy and when the smoke clears, one of their own will join the ranks of Magneto! By ALAN DAVIS & BEN RAAB and BRETT BOOTH!

X - 51

The Sentinels usually reserve their robotic wrath for mutants such as the X-Men. But now, the X is on another target when the Hellfire Cli Sebastian Shaw sends the cybernetic sentries on the trail of X-51! By KARL BOLLERS and JOE BENNETT!

Trapped and poisoned by the Horseman known as Pestilence, Nate Grey *60 awakens in a Marvel Universe where he never existed! Would it have bee a wonderful life if he had never journeyed to our world?! By TERRY KAVANAGH and MIKE MILLER!

It's the final showdown between the Children of the Atom and humanity's *97 greatest threat! Enemies will become allies... destinies will be fulfilled... and, for one, the ultimate sacrifice will be made! By ALAN DAVIS!

99

Hi, Heroes! Let's move fast 'cause our brand-new No-Prizes are burning a hole in my pocket! Besides, I know how eager you all must be to meet our first lucky recipient, whose name is Siddhanth De of New South Wales. Australia. Wow! I ought'a award myself a No-Prize for spelling his name right! Anyway, here's what of Sid wants to know.

"Did you once sign your stories 'Eel Nats' as your pseudonym in comicbooks?"

Yep, I did, Mr. De, way back in the forties. But I think I used "Neel" instead of "Eel." The reason for that shameless deception was was writing almost all the stories in our mags at the time and didn't want the same writer's name to appear on every yarn. So I signed some tales "Stan Lee," some "S.T.Anley," and some "Neel Nats" (which, of course, was Stan Lee spelled backwards, with an extra "N" tossed in just to confuse everyone!) In fact, that reminds me of the time I wrote most of our romance comics in the '50s. They were all supposed to have been written by the heroines themselves, so wasn't able to sign my name as the writer. mean, versatile as I may be, everyone knows I'm no heroine. So I took the craven way out and wrote: "As told to Stan Lee." hoping readers would think I was simply relaying incidents which girls confessed to me

Bernardo Berton of Porto Alegre/RS-Brazil really exposes my stupidity with this one...

"As every physicist knows, Gamma particles are oure destructive force and are the type of radiation that have the greatest penetration potential, but are lethal to humans. When you created the Hulk's background, did you know all that stuff or did you just decide to use Gamma radiation by pure chance?

Bernie, ol' pal, when I dreamed up the Hulk I never even knew there were such things as Gamma particles! I just used the

know it!

expression "Gamma radiation" because I liked the sound of it! But hey, maybe I was actually a scientific genius and didn't even

ere's one from the good of U.S. of A!
Paul Thiel of Crescent Springs, KY asks...

"I recently had the opportunity to see the Dr. Strange movie again on the Sci-Fi channel. Was it just a coincidence that the Ancient One looked a lot like you?"

Aw, c'mon, Paul, Just because I'm not exactly a teenager anymore, now you're comparing me to the Ancient One? Of course it was just a coincidence. Although, come to think of it, the A.O. was played by John Mills and he was a pretty classy-looking guy, wasn't he? Hmmm, I wonder how I'd look with an amulet around my neck?

et's wrap this issue's fun-fest with this sage query from James Clark of Lubbock, TX...

"How come J. Jonah Jameson doesn't realize that the reason Spider-Man wears a mask is to protect his family and friends from his deadly enemies?"

It's simple. Jimmy - poor culturechallenged Jonah just doesn't read Spider-Man

Now for the best part -- our address: Soapbox, Marvel, 387 Park Av S, NY, NY 10016 or stanzfanz@aol.com Till next ish, don'tcha dare forget -- it's time to take a toad to teal

Excelsion



Stan Lee

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COMICS LEGEND -- John Romita Sr.! 12/21 @ 9pm ET

The official MARVEL KNIGHTS chat with - Joe Quesada and Jimmy Palmiotti!

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MATT HICKS ASSISTANT EDITOR RALPH

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HARRAS CHIEF

Being a high school English teacher keeps me pretty busy, and I don't always get to stay current with my comics. But it's the three-day Labor Day weekend and I've pretty much used up this lazy Sunday afternoon for catching up with my favorite web-slinger—as well as a few other Marvel super heroes.

rapid-fire pace. Howard Mackie, John Byrne, and John Romita Jr. are really keeping these books moving! So many hero and his supporting cast that it's hard—but, nonetheless, fun—to keep

I enjoyed the mystery of "The List" in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #10, especially since it tied into Spidey's slightly revised origin from SPIDER-MAN: CHAPTER ONE, and I'm eager to see what happens with Mary Jane's stalker Of course, the machinations of Senator Ward are still to be dealt with, and then there's the inevitable brouhaha that will erupt when Mary Jane finds out that Peter's back in the

And what about Venom? And Jimmy-6? And Peter's job at Tricorp?
Man! Squeezing four monthly titles into two has really thrown things into overdrive!

In closing, thanks for returning Spider-Man to his hard luck roots. Spider-Man is Peter's escape and his rooftop to rooftop, but he should always feel burdened-and driven-by his overwhelming sense of responsibility for his loved ones and for the world. In many ways. I think readers should thank their lucky stars that they don't have either of Spider-Man's lives. For a long while, that element had been missing from the Spidey titles and I, for

Thomas Moudry Leitchfield, KY

Thanks for writing, Thomas. It's always good to hear from a member of the faculty who still enjoys his comics. Hope you don't have to hide them inside textbooks when you read them in the teachers' lounge!

that the whole "man-who-is-really-a-woman-who-wants-revenge" thing was

However, you did a good job of getting me into the whole Mary Jane/Stalker thing. Is this someone we've seen before, or some new menace to terrorize the lives of Peter and Mary Jane? I can't wait until the culmination of the current storyline, as well as the small matter of Venom's appearance in PETER PARKER:

So until the Kingpin goes on a diet, Make Mine Marvel!

Can't say too much about the stalker "thing," Andrew, especially

since it appears that individual has been reduced to a pile of ashes. Sorry you didn't care for the whole "manwho is-really-a-woman-who-wants-revenge" angle. Would you have preferred a "woman-who-is-really-a-man-who-wants-revenge"? Or perhaps "man-who-is-really-a-woman-who--just-wants-to-be-held"? Let us know: we've always maintained that the readers are the true editors here.

As I've come to expect from a Howard Mackie mag, there were some plus points and a few too many bad things present in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #10, Good stuff included John Byrne's arbord bits Alba, 10-24 by the satisfaction of the my favorite interpretation, but his Doc Ock and Spidey in action shots work well). Ock's presence itself was a good enough reason to pay the admission price; and there was a genuine element of mystery about the identity and agenda of Captain Power.

Right. And now the criticism:

supposedly "allowed" himself to be captured by Power in the first place. He stated. "Twaki deserves death for what he did. It is exactly why I orchestrated this charade." But why didn't Ock simply take Doc Twaki out by himself? and get strung up like a Christmas bauble this ish-neither of which

ing, er acquaintanceship with Pete is at long last threatening to make her interesting, but brother Paul remains at far as I can see pointlessly at our harassed hero whenever he steps into the spotlight. It must be taking a real

 Christina Carr—Captain Power—is a tragic and tormented figure. If this tragedy and torment had been emphasized by exploiting the deeper emotions and experiences of her, then she too would have risked doing a "Jill Stacy" and become a unique and strong character. As it is. long line of experiments gone wrong, and when the experiment in question spawned both the Spider and the Octopus, Carr simply had to impress

one of the first Spider-Man stories I virtually killed the Black Cat, maimed the Owl, and had Spidey fearing that their next battle could well be their last! Even the Kingpin admitted he was scared of Octopus! But on too many occasions he has been treated with disrespect by creators, and been heroes, but also by the likes of Kaine and Hammerhead). He needs a major storyline in the Spider-books, and he I'm hopeful of better things to

come. Make Mine Marvel

Leeds. West Yorkshire

Thanks, Kev, for yet another of your well-thought-out missives. Even when your comments run primarily toward the critical, as with your comments on ASM #10, you never fail to generate more light than heat. Your points are well taken

We can't wait to see what you thought of our Sinister Six epic that ran through our one year anniversary issues. Was Ock's credibility reestablished enough for you? Also on that note, we're happy to announce that next year we'll be releasing a SPIDER-MAN VS. DOCTOR OCTOPUS trade paperback collection, featuring the most memorable battles between these two titans. Respectful enough.

And now for a completely different take on Otto Octavius...

Adding to what Tony Ingram said on the letters page of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #10 in regards to Doctor Octopus costume: More important than his new/old (and very Kirbyesque) green jumpsuit (are those flared trousers he has on?) are his hair and his glasses. What's happened to those funky cheese wedge shades? They were best characters have bowl cuts! Just Green Lantern. What I'm trying to say here is, mess about with Spider-Man's with long established hairstyles, you run the risk of alienating a lot of your audience. Beware.

Reading, Berkshire ENGLAND

A couple of years ago, it was the consistency of MJ's hair. Now it's Ock's bowl cut. Anyone want to place bets on what will rise forth as the hair controversy of 2000?



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11, 51,70° 22, 13, 52; 14-15, 51,70°, Ar. 92, 52; 17-17, Ar. 92, 52; 17-17, Ar. 92, 52; 17-17, Ar. 92, 52; 18-12, 53; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 23, 30, 55; 10, 27, 24, 50; 17,

Vol. 1: 1, \$3; 2, \$2; 3, \$1; 4-7, \$1.50; 8, \$4; 9, 11, 65¢; 10, \$1.50; 12, \$1.70; Vol. 2: 1-8, 65¢;

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THUNDERBOLTS ("97 Series)
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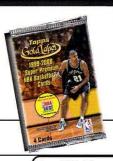




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