



MARVEL®
COMICS THE DAUGHTER OF THE TRUE SPIDER-MAN!®

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SPIDER-MAN!

#21

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DEFALCO
OLLIFFE
WILLIAMSON

STEPPIN' INTO THE RING WITH EARTHSHAKER!

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THE DAUGHTER OF THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN, MAY "MAYDAY" PARKER HAS INHERITED HER FATHER'S AMAZING POWERS. POSSESSING THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH, SPEED AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, AS WELL AS THE ABILITY TO CLING TO WALLS, SHE NOW FOLLOWS IN HIS WEBLINES! STAN LEE PRESENTS THE STUNNING...

SPIDER-GIRL!

EARTHSHAKER!



WHETHER THE MAN BENEATH THE MASK WAS NORMAN, HARRY OR NORMIE OSBORN (OR EVEN BART HAMILTON FOR THAT MATTER)--

--THE GREEN GOBLIN WAS IS/WILL ALWAYS BE SPIDER-MAN'S GREATEST ENEMY.

YOU'RE TRAPPED, SPIDER-GIRL! I'VE GOT YOU CORNERED!

IN YOUR DREAMS, GOLDIE!

OF COURSE, THERE'S AN EXCEPTION TO EVERY RULE.

FOR AN OH-SO-BRIEF TIME, THE GOBLIN WAS A HERO. A MAN NAMED PHIL URGICH.

FOR REASONS THAT NO LONGER MATTER, PHIL EVENTUALLY GAVE UP HIS COSTUMED IDENTITY.

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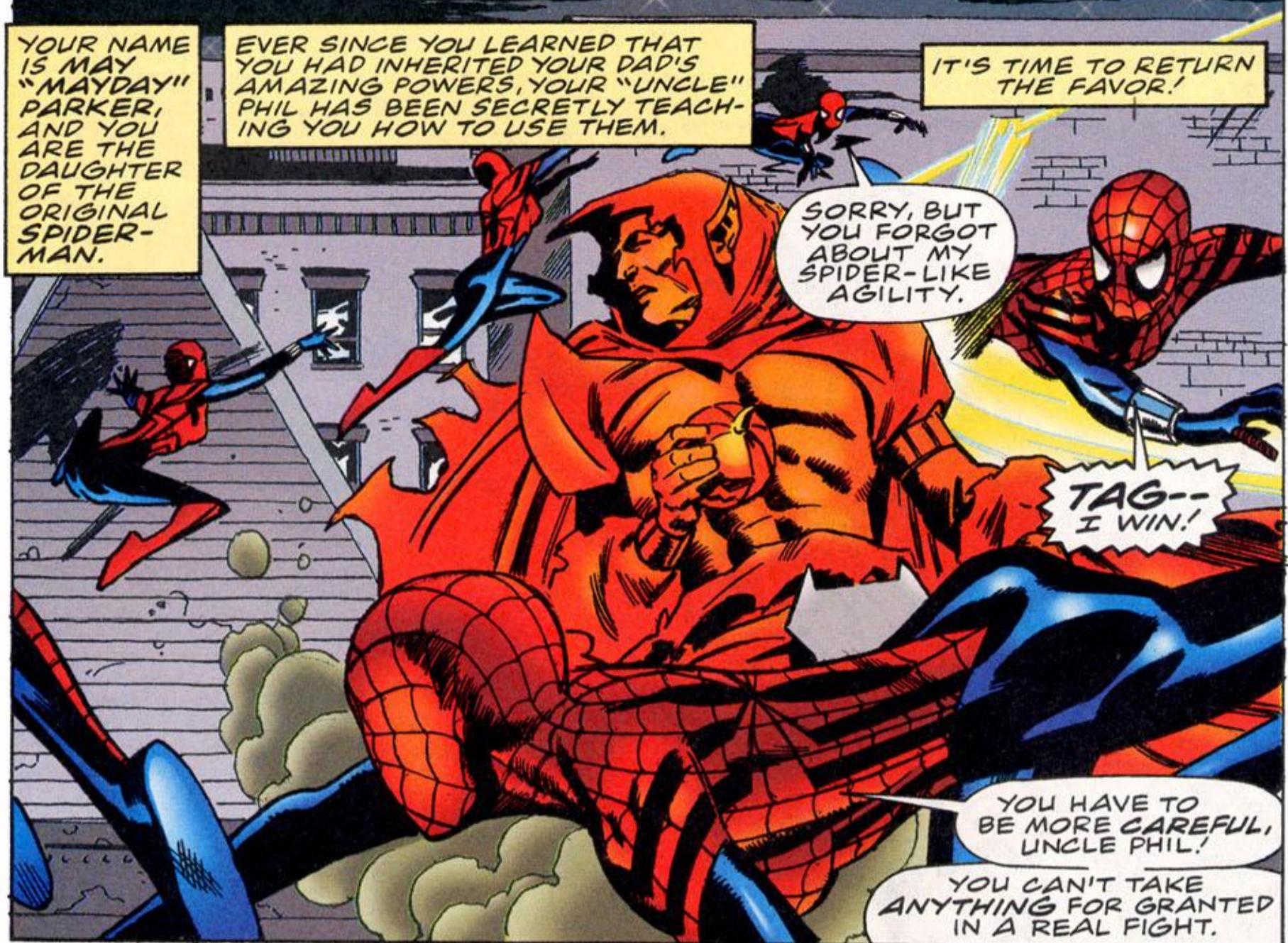
IT'S A DECISION HE'S ALWAYS REGRETTED--

--AND NOW WANTS TO RECTIFY!

YOUR NAME IS MAY "MAYDAY" PARKER, AND YOU ARE THE DAUGHTER OF THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN.

EVER SINCE YOU LEARNED THAT YOU HAD INHERITED YOUR DAD'S AMAZING POWERS, YOUR "UNCLE" PHIL HAS BEEN SECRETLY TEACHING YOU HOW TO USE THEM.

IT'S TIME TO RETURN THE FAVOR!



OKAY! OKAY! I GET THE MESSAGE. IT'S ONE I'VE OFTEN GIVEN YOU...

...OVERCONFIDENCE ONLY LEADS TO DEFEAT!

WHOA! LET'S NOT RUSH THINGS, UNCLE PHIL! IT'S ALREADY LATE.

I SAY WE CALL IT A NIGHT.

I'M TIRED OF ALL THIS PRACTICE. ANY CHANCE WE CAN START PATROLLING THE CITY?

I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET MY FIRST SUPER-VILLAIN!

I HAVE SCHOOL TOMORROW, AND YOU HAVE TO GET UP FOR WORK.

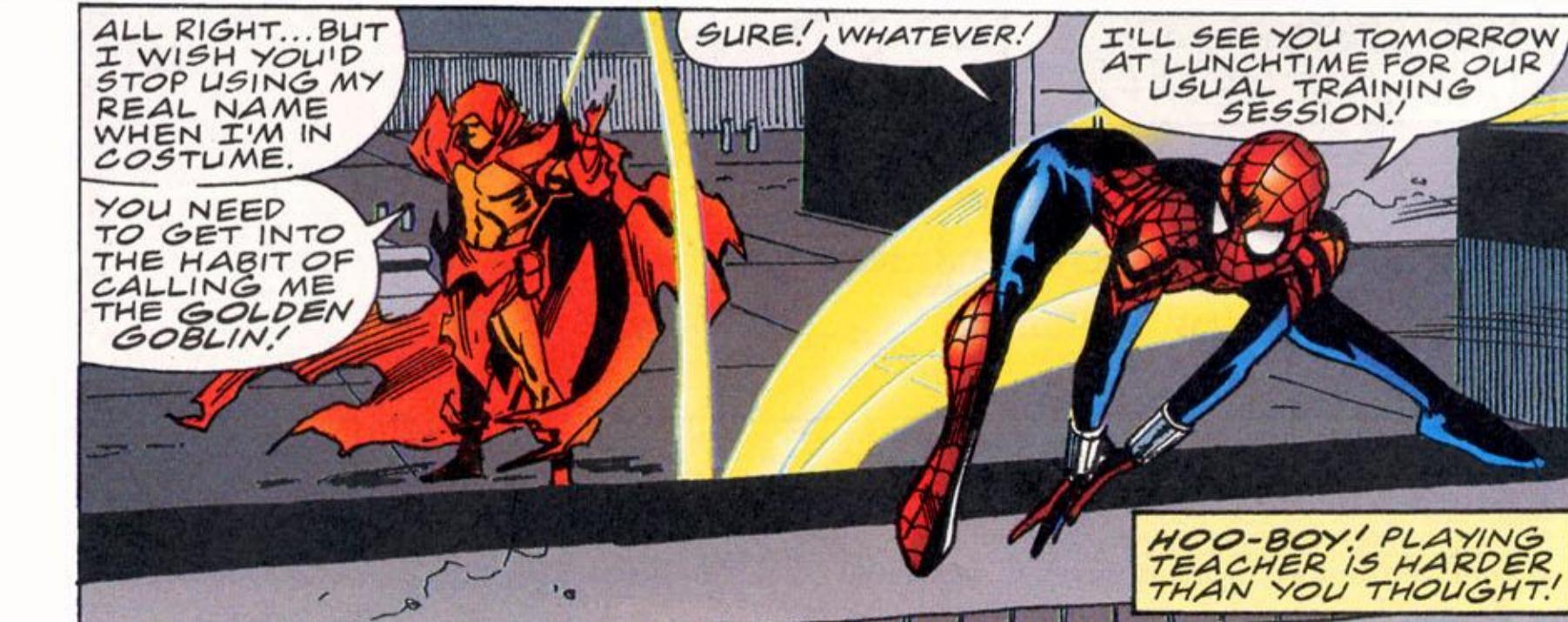
ALL RIGHT...BUT I WISH YOU'D STOP USING MY REAL NAME WHEN I'M IN COSTUME.

YOU NEED TO GET INTO THE HABIT OF CALLING ME THE GOLDEN GOBLIN!

SURE! WHATEVER!

I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW AT LUNCHTIME FOR OUR USUAL TRAINING SESSION!

HOO-BOY! PLAYING TEACHER IS HARDER THAN YOU THOUGHT!



SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL, KIDD.

I KNOW HOW PHIL FEELS...

...HE LOOKS BACK AT HIS DAYS AS THE GREEN GOBLIN AS THE MOST EXCITING TIME OF HIS LIFE... BUT HE SHOULD REALIZE HE'S TOO OLD TO BE PLAYING HERO THESE DAYS.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

HMM! SEEMS I RECALL ANOTHER OLD-TIMER WHO RECENTLY SQUIRMED BACK INTO COSTUME...

EAHEM! WE'RE TALKING ABOUT PHIL, REMEMBER?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE HIM, DAD. UNCLE PHIL HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN MY CORNER.

I KIND'A FEEL I SHOULD SUPPORT HIM.

THE SITUATIONS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. YOU WERE BORN WITH THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH, SPEED AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER!

HE'S TRUSTING HIS LIFE TO A STUPID BAT GLIDER AND A HANDFUL OF GOOFY-LOOKING GIMMICKS!

I WONDER HOW PHIL'S POOR WIFE FEELS ABOUT ALL THIS...

...OR IF SHE EVEN KNOWS.

I DOUBT HE'S TOLD AUNT MEREDITH.

UNCLE PHIL IS ACTING LIKE A KID WITH A BRAND NEW TOY--

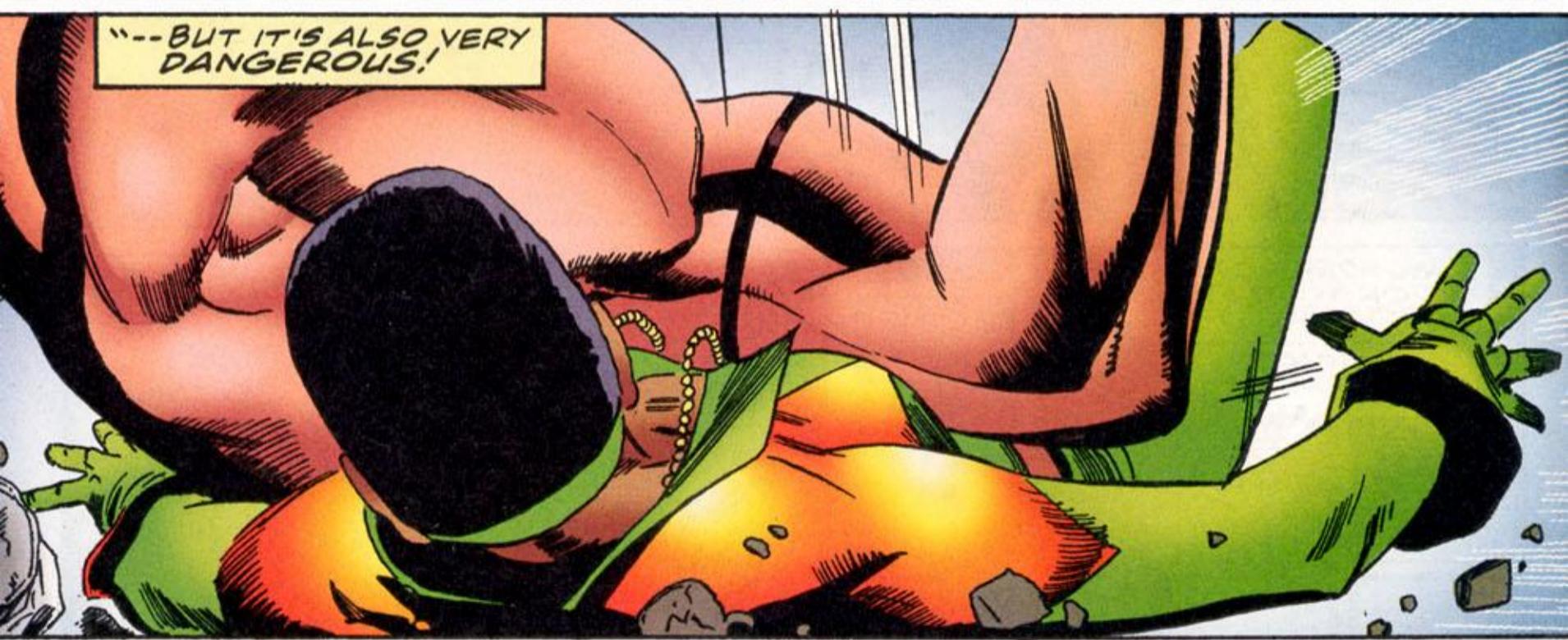
"---AND HE'S TREATING THE WHOLE HERO BIZ AS IF IT WERE A BIG GAME!"



"SURE, IT CAN BE A REAL HOOT AT TIMES--"



"---BUT IT'S ALSO VERY DANGEROUS!"



"PEOPLE CAN BE SERIOUSLY HURT... OR WORSE!"



HE REMEMBERS THIS FEELING
OF ABSOLUTE FREEDOM!

OF TOTAL
JOY!

THE NIGHT WIND
SPLASHES OVER
HIM, AND HE
LAUGHS--

--AND
LAUGHS!

PHIL URICH
HAS TRULY
BEEN REBORN--

--AND HE KNOWS THAT HE WAS
ALWAYS DESTINED TO BE THE
GOLDEN GOBLIN!

HEY, MERRY!
SOMETHING
WONDERFUL
HAPPENED
AND I CAN'T
WAIT TO
SHARE IT
WITH--

G-GIVE ME
A MINUTE,
PHIL.

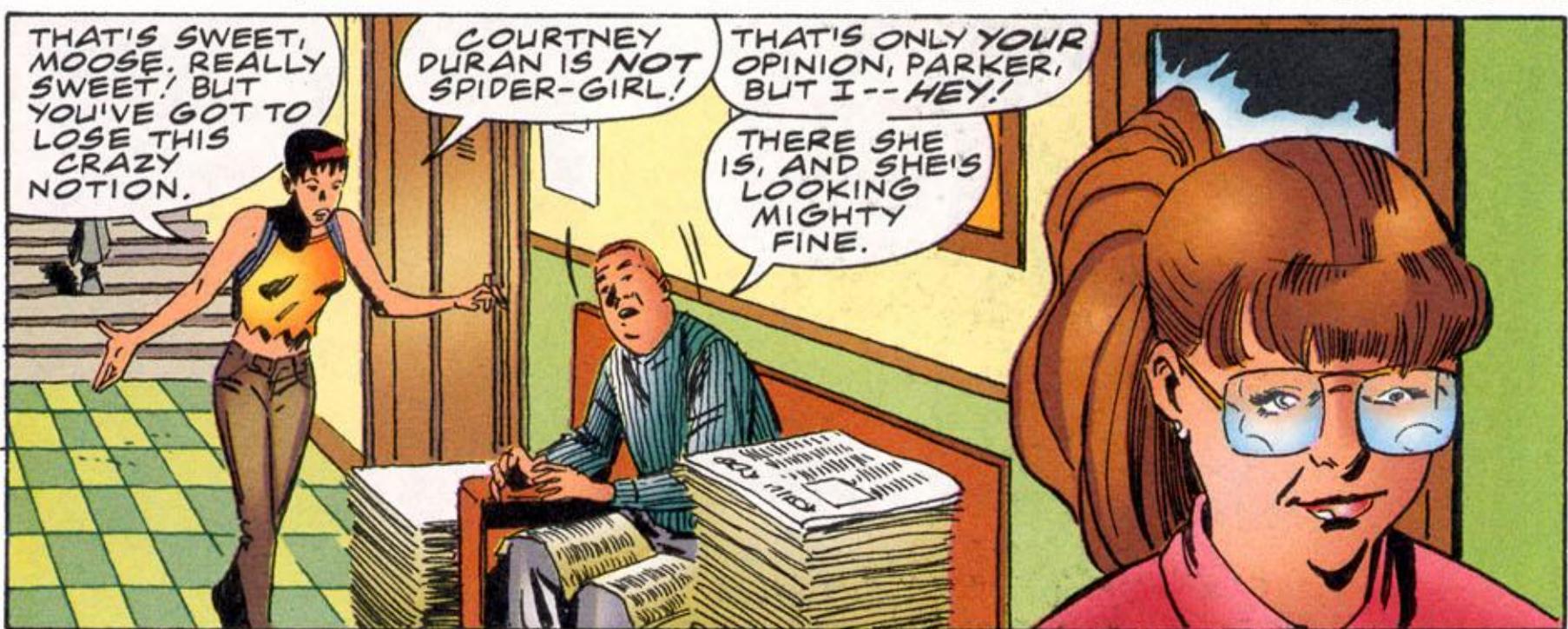
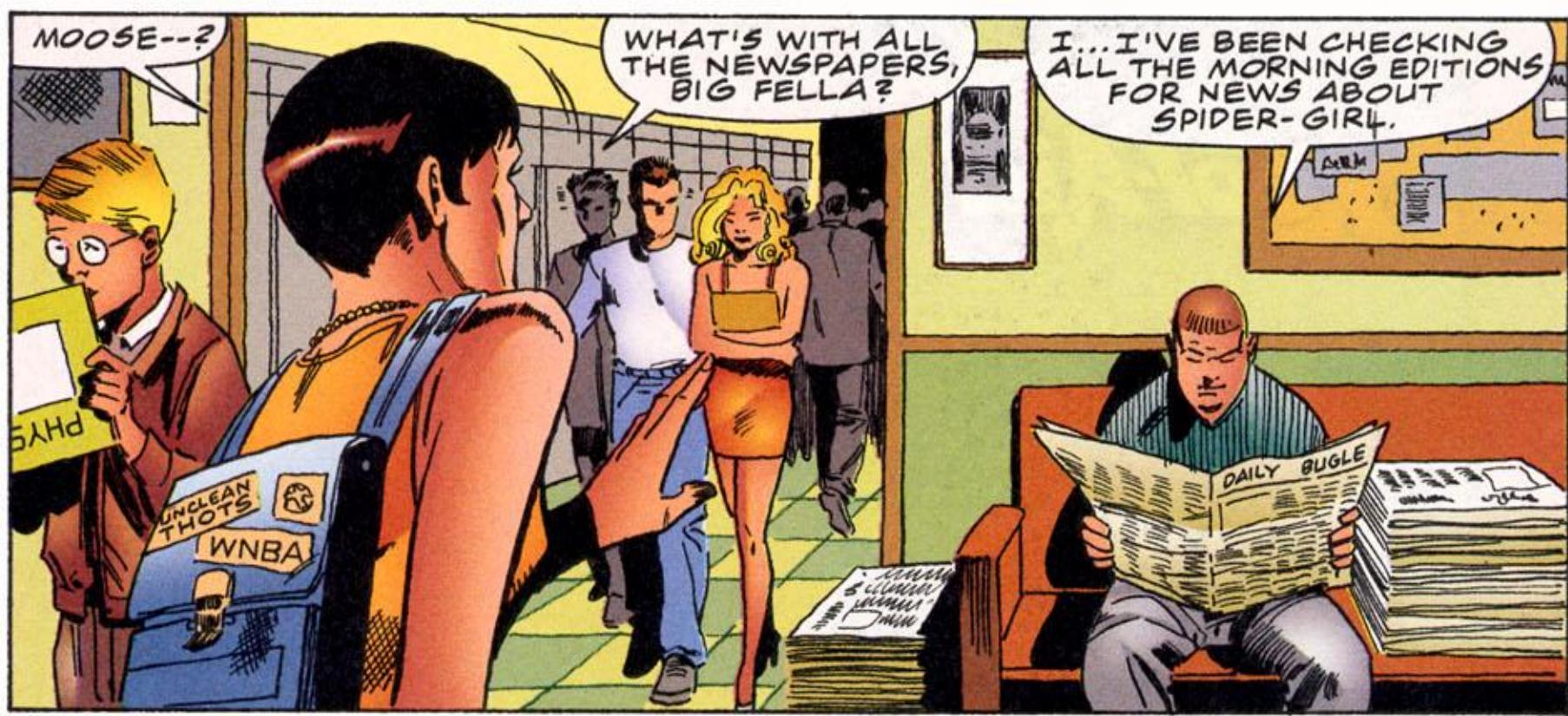
I JUST GOT
SOME BAD
NEWS.

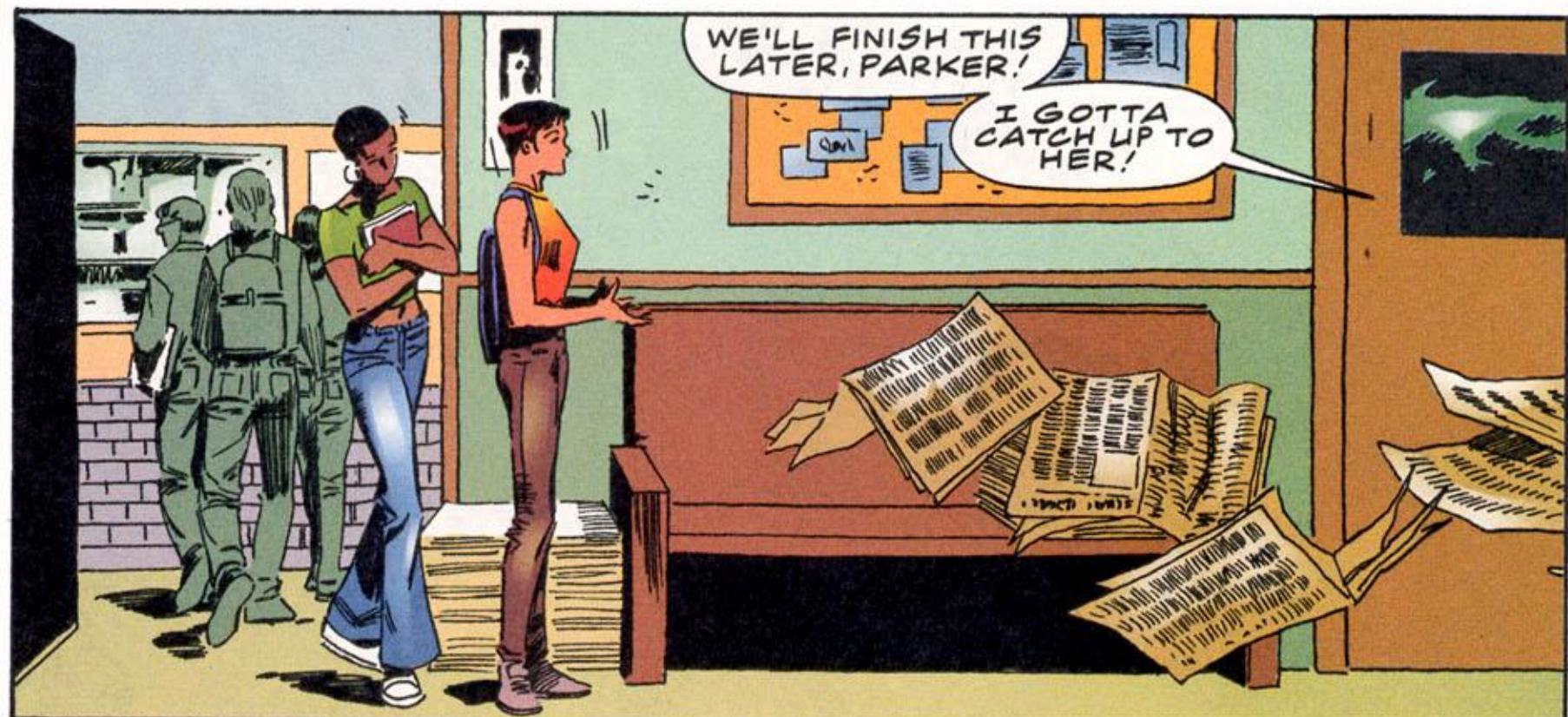
W-WHAT
IS IT, HON?

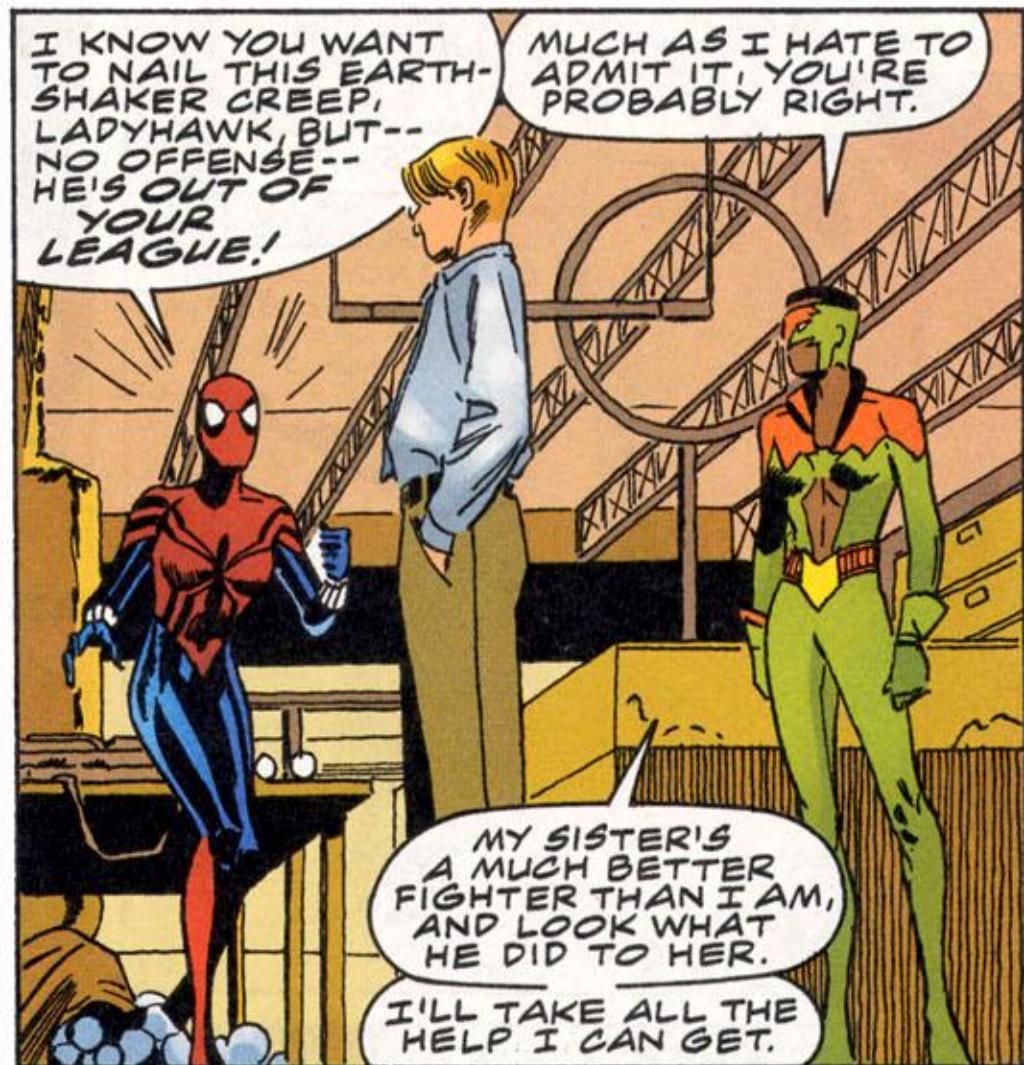
THAT
WAS THE
HOSPITAL.

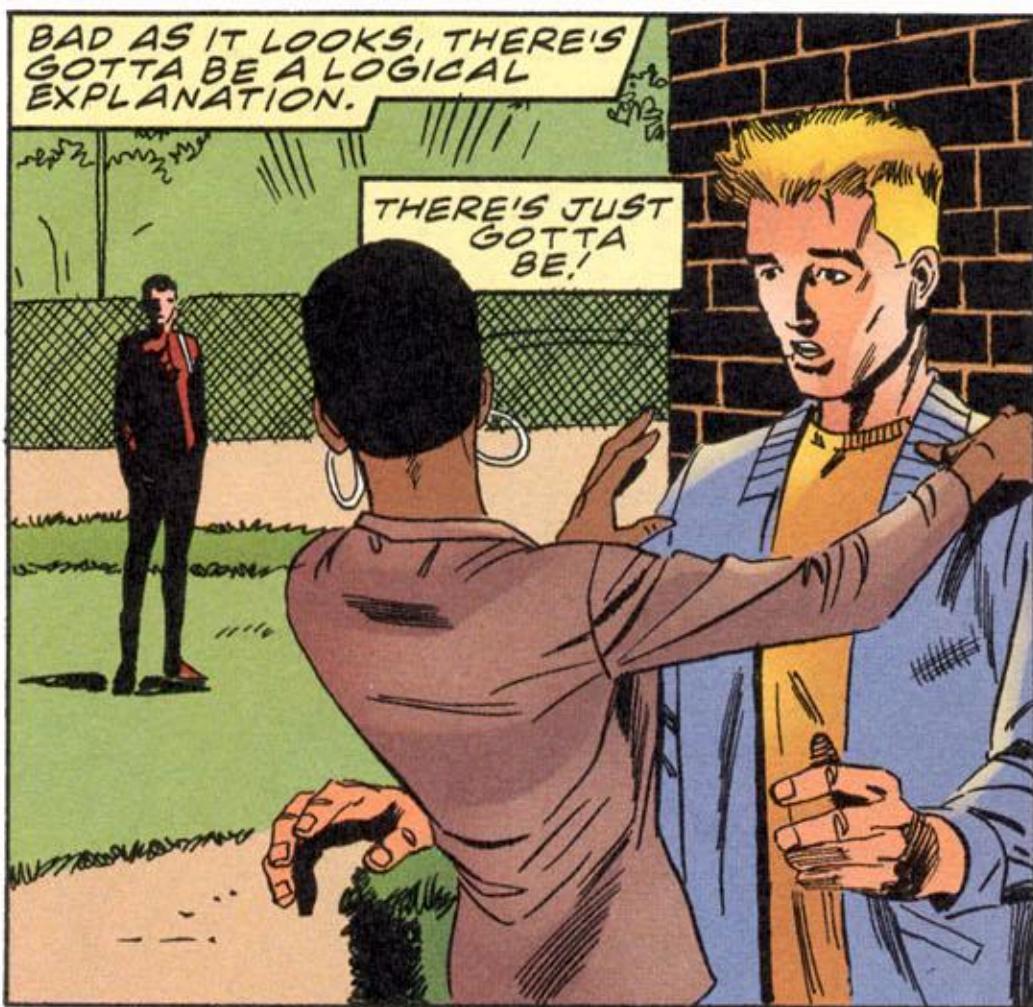
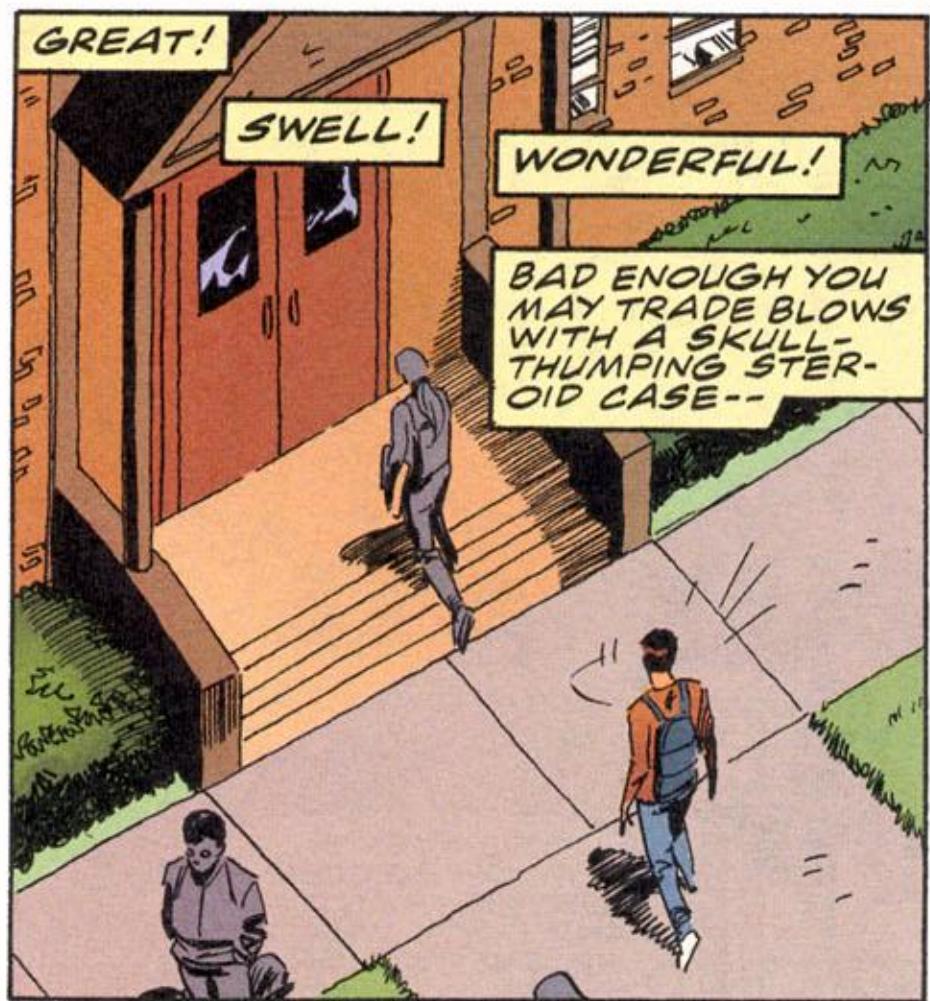
ONE OF THE
LADYHAWKS
WAS FOUND
UNCONSCIOUS...
AND SEVERELY
BEATEN.











A FEW HOURS LATER, AFTER THE LAST CLASS OF THE DAY, YOU SLIP BACK INTO COSTUME AND TAKE THE WEB EXPRESS TO A CERTAIN WORLD-FAMOUS MANSION...

EARTHSHAKER--?!

AND THEY SAY ALL THE GOOD NAMES HAVE BEEN TAKEN!

LISTEN, STINGER, I KNOW HE SOUNDS LAME, BUT THE GUY'S A LIVING POWER-HOUSE--

--AND HE HURT A FRIEND OF MINE!

I TAKE IT HE'S THE ONE WHO DID LADYHAWK. DON'T WORRY, SPIDEY! WE'LL KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HIM.

WHEN YOU SAY "POWERHOUSE"... YOU TALKING HULK-LEVEL?

DOES IT REALLY MATTER, JZ?

TO ME, IT COULD.

HAVING ALERTED THE AVENGERS, YOU AIM YOUR WEBS TOWARD FANTASTIC FIVE HEADQUARTERS.

HOO-HA! AN EXCUSE TO SEE FRANKLIN RICHARDS!

WHAT A HUNKSTER!

TOO BAD YOU CAN'T ASK HIM TO THE SCHOOL DANCE!

YOU KNOW UNCLE PHIL'S GONNA FREAK WHEN HE LEARNS YOU WENT BEHIND HIS BACK.

HE WAS SOOOOOO LOOKING FORWARD TO A ONE-ON-ONE WITH EARTHSHAKER.

TOUGH!

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED YOU'D RATHER PASS ON A NEW SET OF BRUISES, AND--

UH-OH! YOUR SPIDER-SENSE IS SUDDENLY TINGLING, WARNING YOU OF DANGER!



Y'KNOW, GIRL? THIS
REALLY ISN'T THE
BEST OF DAYS!

AH SURELY
WOULD ADVISE
Y'ALL T'RUN FOR
THE HILLS!

AIN'T NONE OF
Y'ALL POWERFUL
ENUFF T'TAKE ON
THE ALMIGHTY
EARTHSHAKER!



ALMIGHTY--?!

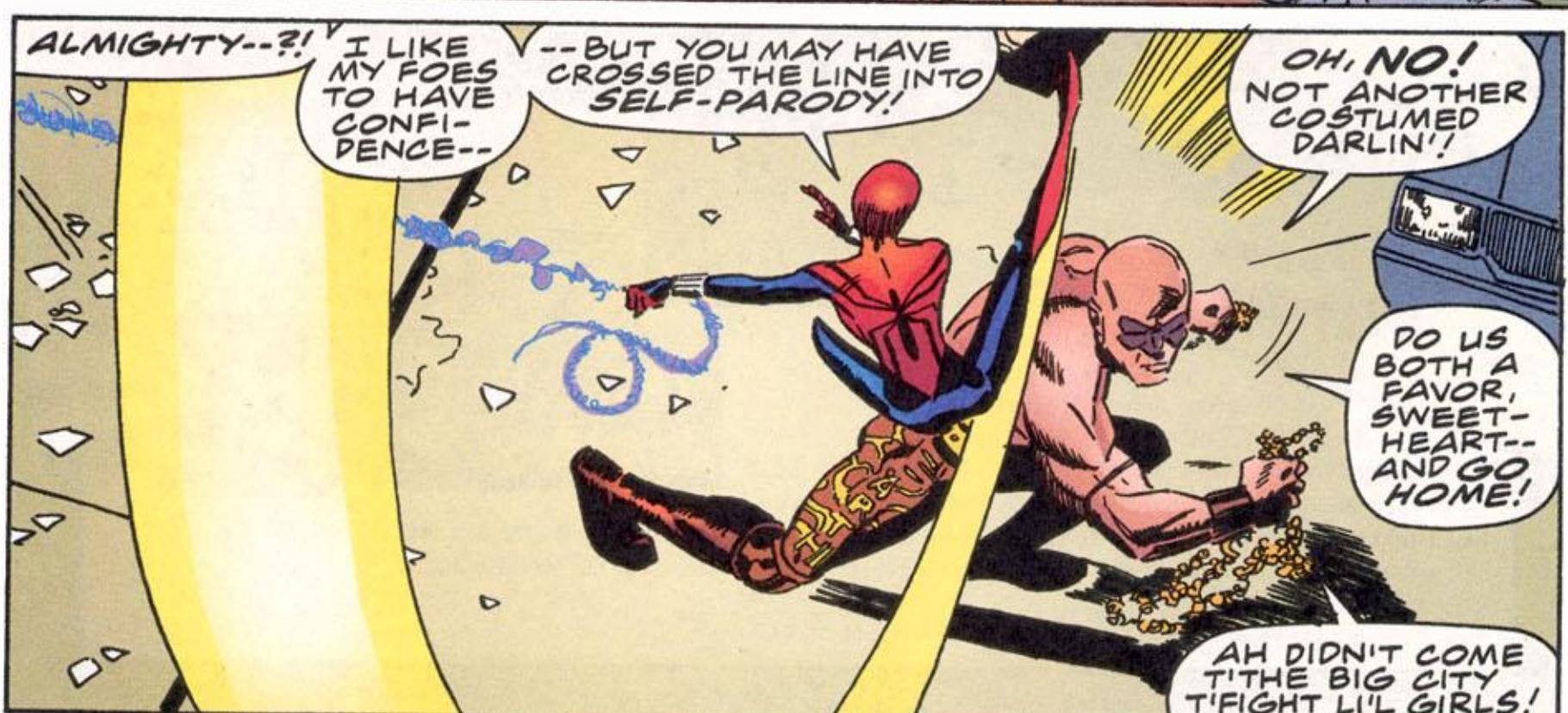
I LIKE
MY FOES
TO HAVE
CONFIDENCE--

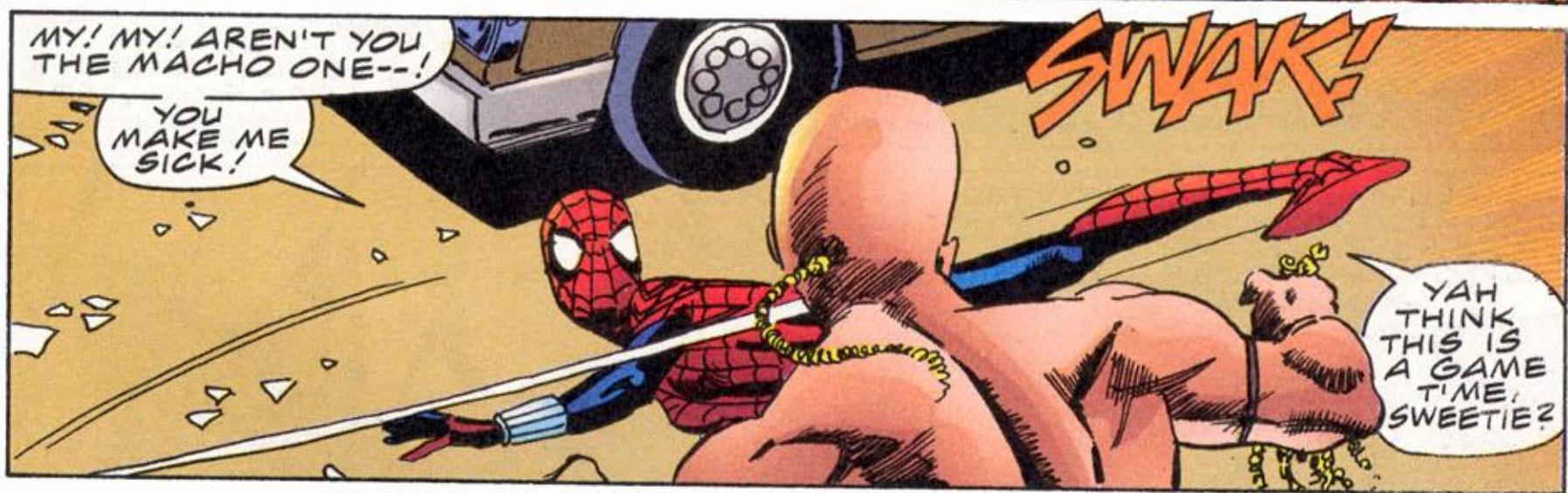
--BUT YOU MAY HAVE
CROSSED THE LINE INTO
SELF-PARODY!

OH, NO!
NOT ANOTHER
COSTUMED
DARLIN'!

DO US
BOTH A
FAVOR,
SWEET-
HEART--
AND GO
HOME!

AH DIDN'T COME
T'THE BIG CITY
T'FIGHT LI'L GIRLS!





SORRY, SWEETIE... YAH
JUST AIN'T IN MAH
POWER CLASS!

M-MY
WEBBING--!

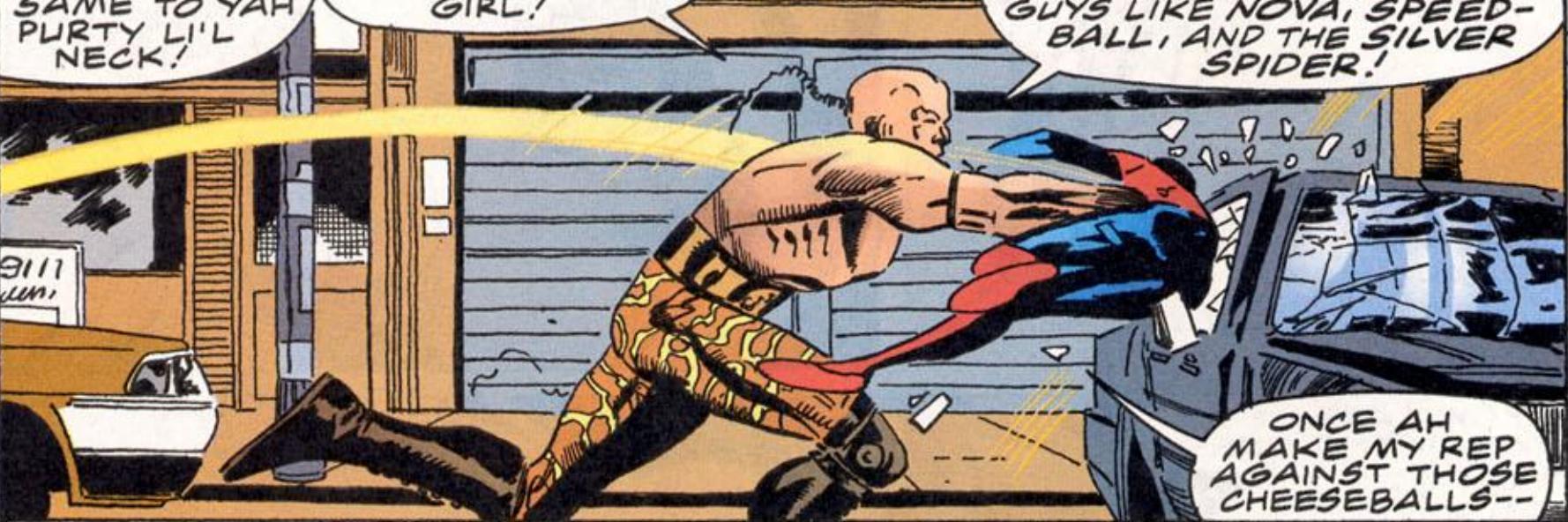
RIPPP!

JUST PRAY AH
DON'T DO THE
SAME TO YAH
PURTY LI'L
NECK!

YER ONLY A MINOR
INCONVENIENCE,
GIRL!

Y-YOU
ACTUALLY
MANAGED TO
SNAP MY
WEBBING!

AH CAME HERE T'FIGHT THE
REAL HEAVY HITTERS--THE
GUYS LIKE NOVA, SPEED-
BALL, AND THE SILVER
SPIDER!



--AH'LL SIGN ME A MULTIYEAR
CONTRACT WITH THE UNLIMITED
CLASS WRESTLING FEDER-
ATION THAT'LL BE WORTH
MILLIONS!

--BUT YOU ARE
FACING SOME
SERIOUS JAIL
TIME!

ONCE AH
MAKE MY REP
AGAINST THOSE
CHEESEBALLS--

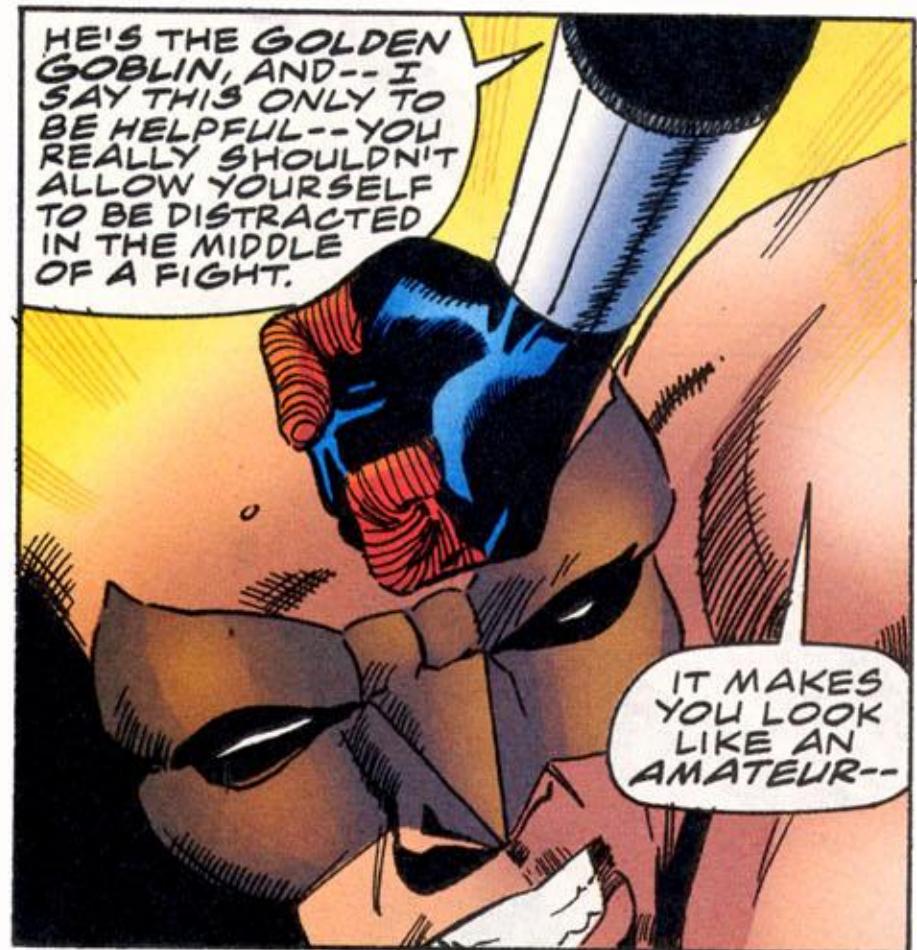
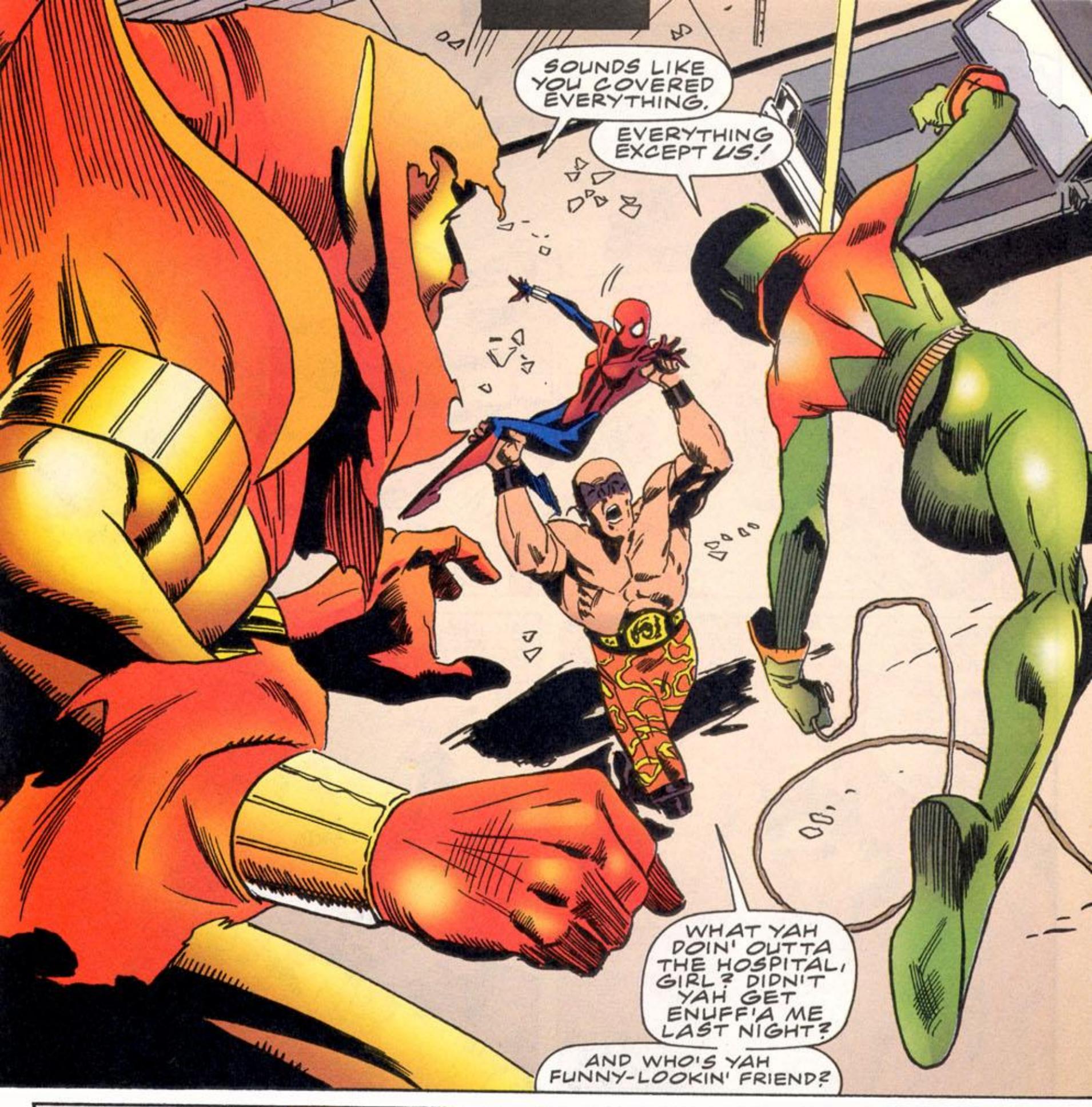


GET REAL,
SWEETIE! ONCE
THE LEAGUE SEES
MAH BOX OFFICE
POTENTIAL--

--THEY'LL MAKE
A DEAL WITH THE
POWERS-TAT-BE
TO GET ME OFF
WITH A SLAP ON
THE WRIST!

A PRO ATHLETE
ANSWERS TO
A HIGHER
AUTHORITY!





PUT YAH WORRIES T'REST,
HONEY CHILE...

...AH AIN'T THE
'SURRENDERIN'
TYPE.



I KNOW
THREE T'ONE
SOUNDS A
MIGHT UNFAIR.)

SPECIALLY WHEN
THE ONE IS LI'L
OL' ME!

AH CAN DEADLIFT
OVER TWENTY
TONS--

--AND GOT
MORE MOVES
THAN A
NESTIA
ANGRY
RATTLES!

Y'ALL ARE
HEADED FOR
A MAJOR
THRASHIN'!

AN' IF AH STOMP Y'ALL BAD
ENUFF, AH MIGHT EVEN
DRAW OUT A WHOLE
TEAM'A HEROES!

JUST THINK'A THE SIGNIN'
BONUS THE LEAGUE WOULD
PAY T'THE MAN WHO
TRASHED THE UNCANNY
X-PEOPLE OR THE--

HEY! WHAT
YAH THINK YAH
DOIN', GIRL?

AH FIGURE THREE SECOND-
RATERS OUGHT'A EQUAL
ONE MAJOR LEAGUER!



I'M CHANGING THE RULES
OF ENGAGEMENT--
--BY EMPLOYING MY
POWER TO REPEL
OBJECTS!

I'VE DECIDED TO PUT A
LITTLE DISTANCE BETWEEN
US BECAUSE I'VE JUST
REALIZED WHY YOU
WERE WINNING...

"...INSTEAD OF PLAYING TO
OUR STRENGTHS AND
JUST TAKING YOU OUT
LIKE THE LAME-O YOU
REALLY ARE--

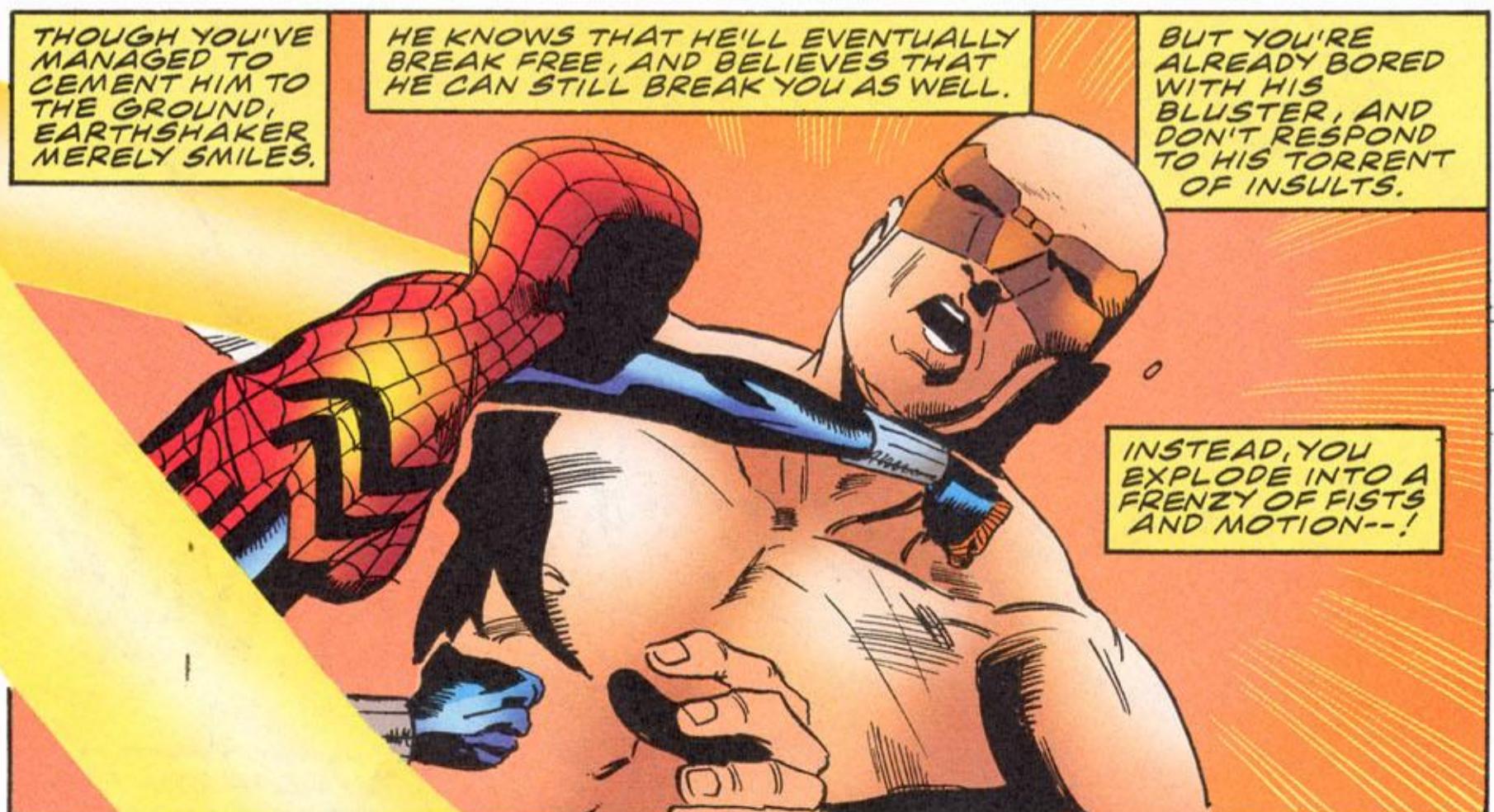
"--WE'VE ALLOWED YOU
TO DICTATE THE PACE
AND STYLE OF THIS
FIGHT!"

BUT YER OH-SO-
BRILLIANT INSIGHT
AIN'T GONNA
SAVE YAH!

NOPE!
SORRY!
AIN'T
GONNA
HAPPEN!

UNC--errr--GOLDIE, I
BELIEVE YOU ALSO HAVE
A POWER THAT CAN
STRIKE FROM A
DISTANCE.

NICE OF YOU TO
REMEMBER...



USING YOUR
SPIDER-
SENSE TO
GUIDE YOU--



--YOU EASILY
AVOID HIS
MONSTROUS
GRASP AS
YOU DART IN
AND AWAY--



--WITH A SPEED AND GRACE
THAT ALMOST MAKES IT SEEM
AS IF YOU'RE SIMULTANEOUSLY
ATTACKING HIM FROM A DOZEN
DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS!

AND THEN,
WHEN HE
FINALLY BEGINS
TO WAVER AND
WEAKEN--

--YOU BACK OFF, LEAVING THE
FINAL HONORS TO LADYHAWK!

THIS IS FOR
MY SISTER--

--AND I
REALLLLLLLY
HOPE IT'S
PAINFUL!

KAR-ZAKKKKK!

YEEARRGH!



BULLPEN BULLETINS

AVAILABLE APRIL 19TH

BISHOP: THE LAST X-MAN

Now that Bishop has a lock on Trevor Fitzroy's location, the war between the Last X-Man's forces and the Chronomancer's troops looms ever closer! But before the first shots are fired, the time-tossed warrior must get past Tull, a creature strangely similar to Bishop's giant friend, Nom! By JOSEPH HARRIS and GEORGES JEANTY!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Escape from the Savage Land! Caged like animals, Captain America and Sharon Carter must find a way to stop the horrible genetic atrocities running rampant in the prehistoric Savage Land! Last issue's battle through hordes of mutated dinosaur men will seem like a stroll through the park compared to the awesome ionic might of Count Nefaria! By DAN JURGENS and ANDY KUBERT!

CAPTAIN MARVEL

As if Rick Jones and Captain Marvel didn't have enough to worry about with Cosmic Awareness malfunctions, the overbearing Moondragon, and the poltergeist haunting Marlo, now enter Commander Rann, Marionette and Bug — the heroes of the Microverse! By PETER DAVID and CHRIS CROSS!

INCREDIBLE HULK

The return of Mr. Fixit! The mysterious new villain called Ryker closes in on a critically injured Bruce Banner! Now Bruce's only chance to escape lies in releasing the nasty gray part of his psyche — the Hulk known as Joe Fixit! But once Joe's been let out, can anything pull him back in? By PAUL JENKINS and RON GARNEY!

PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN

Who has found Spider-Man's lost costume and web-shooters?! In his time of greatest need, Peter Parker's friends are crawling out of the woodwork to console him — but will he push them all away while he attempts to both avoid the wrath of the Green Goblin and find his missing costume?! By HOWARD MACKIE and GRAHAM NOLAN!

THUNDERBOLTS

At last, the mysterious shooter who killed a Thunderbolt back in issue #34 stands revealed! And his next target is Baron Zemo! Now it's a supervillain battle to the death! Meanwhile, the T-Bolts grapple with another shocking twist concerning the true identity of Citizen V! Plus, following the innovative 100-Page Monster format, this behemoth of a book contains, in its entirety, the criminal career of Hawkeye! More than 30 years since they first saw print, the Iron Man stories from TALES OF SUSPENSE #57, #60 and #64 are collected here! Created by Stan Lee and Don Heck, these first three appearances of the Avenger archer feature the illegal exploits of the boastful bowman with his partner-in-crime, Black Widow! Plus, we're also including the battle between Luke Cage and Erik Josten for the code-name "Power Man" from POWER MAN #21! By FABIAN NICIEZA and MARK BAGLEY!

X-51

What do you do when a gang of outlaw bikers get their hands on advanced Celestial technology? You run the other way! But if you're X-51, you dig in and protect your town from this deadly new breed of killer cyborgs! By KARL BOLLERS and JOE BENNETT!

X-MAN

The new Nate Grey, changed and given fresh and powerful motivation by events unknown, steps into the fire! There is something from beyond the world we know loose on Earth, killing the members of a strange organization one by one. Nate knows where it comes from, knows why it's killing — but he wonders if he should stop it. Or even if he can! By WARREN ELLIS, STEVEN GRANT and ARIEL OLIVETTI!

X-MEN

As one group of X-Men desperately try to prevent a satellite from catastrophically falling to Earth, other mutants are pulled into the burgeoning war... whether they want to be or not! Now Dr. Cecelia Reyes must keep the Neo at bay while simultaneously attempting to save the life of a gravely injured X-Man! But which mutant has been struck down? Plus: When Archangel invades the villains' hidden lair, he finds far more than he bargained for — and need we say it's none too pleasant? By CHRIS CLAREMONT and LEINIL FRANCIS YU!

BULLPEN BITS

SO, YOU SEE, ICEMAN, ONE SIP OF MY SUPPLEMENTAL MULTIVITAMIN AMINO ACID PROTEIN SPORTS HEALTH NUTRITION DRINK, AND...



#48



BY CHRIS GIARRUSSO



Hi, Heroes!

Lots'a ground to cover, so let's lead off with Patrick Lee of Ft. Worth, TX who asks:

"Any plans for an adult-oriented animated series for Daredevil?"

Not at present, Pat, but here's something even more exciting. Even as your incredulous eyes read these wondrous words, know ye that Columbia Pictures is developing a big-budget feature film starring — hey, how'dja guess? — Daredevil!

Jonathan Wurth of Louisville, KY asks a question that's been asked, and answered, a few times before. But since there's so much interest in this, we'll tackle it again...

"Why was Dr. Bruce Banner's name changed to Dr. David Banner in the 1977-82 Incredible Hulk TV series?"

Believe or not, Jon, the network thought the name Bruce didn't sound macho enough! I guess they had never heard of Olympic decathlon gold-medal winner Bruce Jenner, or Bruce Willis. Well, at least the name Stan seems safe — for now!

Carter Page of Aberdeen, NC has a better memory than I. But hey, who doesn't!

"Will any of the former Malibu titles, now owned by Marvel, ever be given another shot at publication? ULTRAFORCE, PRIME, MANTRA, etc. were all great and deserve another chance. It seems odd that NIGHT MAN has been in syndication on TV for two years, but even that title has never been revived."

Y'know something, Carter? The gang in the bullpen has been so busy with the vast array of Marvel titles for the past few years (in fact, all the time!) that I think they just plain forgot about those other mags. But, since they greedily devour every scintillatin' sentence of each issue's Soapbox, your letter is sure to jog their memory, so don't be

STAN'S SOAPBOX

surprised if — when you least expect it — Malibu may rise again!

Wow! Here's a real tough one from Andrea Rogowski of Kenosha, WI. But just to prove how utterly fearless I am, I'll take a deep breath and go for it anyway!

"The FF, The Avengers and many of your other lead characters running around in spandex are generally considered to be heroes. Yet, the X-Men are generally thought of as mutant freaks and aberrations. Still, considering the powers of the FF and most of the other superheroes, they too could be considered mutants. So why are the X-Men considered freaks and your other characters heroes? Do the FF and Avengers just have better press agents?"

Actually, Andrea, it's probably the fault of Professor X. Instead of advertising the powers and deeds of the X-Men, he tried to conceal their identities, their unique abilities and their very existence. But, if you want the really straight scoop, the blame really rests with me! When I first dreamed up the X-Men, I thought it would be cooler to make them hated and feared by mankind, so that's how I wrote it. I hate to say it, but the fault usually lies with the poor, humble, struggling writer! And now, till that momentous moment when our paths shall cross again, I bid thee all a fond adieu as I remind thee — Marvel's hotter than ever, so forsake it never!

Excelsior!

Stan Lee

Stan's Soapbox
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NY, NY 10016
stanfanz@aol.com

This week's chat schedule!

04/20 @ 9:30pm ET
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with Writer, KURT BUSIEK and Editor, TOM BREVOORT!

04/24 @ 8pm ET
SPIDER-MAN and THOR Penciler — JOHN ROMITA, JR.!

AOL Keyword: Marvel

All Chat schedules subject to change/cancellation.

Refer to Keyword: Marvel > Astral Plane > Chat Schedule for latest schedule.

SOMETIME LATER, AFTER THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERS HAVE CARTED OFF THE REFUSE...

YOU OKAY, GIRL?

I GUESS.

REVENGE IS NEVER AS SATISFYING AS IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE.



WHEN THE HERO BIZ IS A LOT MORE EXHAUSTING THAN I REMEMBER.

MAN! I AM SOOOOO OUT OF SHAPE!

I... I NEED A FEW MINUTES.

I AM SUCH A DISHRAZ!



I GOTTA TELL YOU, MAY-- I REALLY THOUGHT I WAS A GONER WHEN THAT PSYCHO GRABBED MY FACE!

AND I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS ALL ABOUT A WRESTLING CONTRACT.

I... I MEAN... WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?!

EVERYONE HAS A DREAM.

SOME JUST CHOOSE THE WRONG WAY TO ACHIEVE IT.

UNCLE PHIL...

...WE NEED TO TALK!

OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS PHIL EXPLAINS HIS REASONS FOR RETURNING TO SUPER HERO STATUS.

YOU LEARN OF HIS HOPES, AND HE HEARS OF YOUR GOALS... AND YOU BOTH SHARE YOUR FEARS AND INSECURITIES.

IT'S THE KIND OF CONVERSATION YOU WISH YOU COULD HAVE WITH YOUR DAD.



PHIL FINALLY AGREES TO SHELF THE GOLDEN GOBLIN--AT LEAST UNTIL HE CAN BUILD UP HIS ENDURANCE--AND YOU AGREE TO KEEP WORKING WITH HIM.

IT IS A RESOLUTION THAT ACTUALLY BRINGS A SMILE TO YOUR FACE AS YOU HEAD INTO MIDTOWN HIGH EARLY THE NEXT MORNING.

YO, MAYDAY! WAIT UP!

I KEPT TRYING TO CALL YOU LAST NIGHT, BUT THE LINE WAS BUSY. I WANTED TO EXPLAIN WHAT YOU SAW YESTERDAY.

RELAX, DAVIDA! YOU DON'T OWE ME AN EXPLANATION!

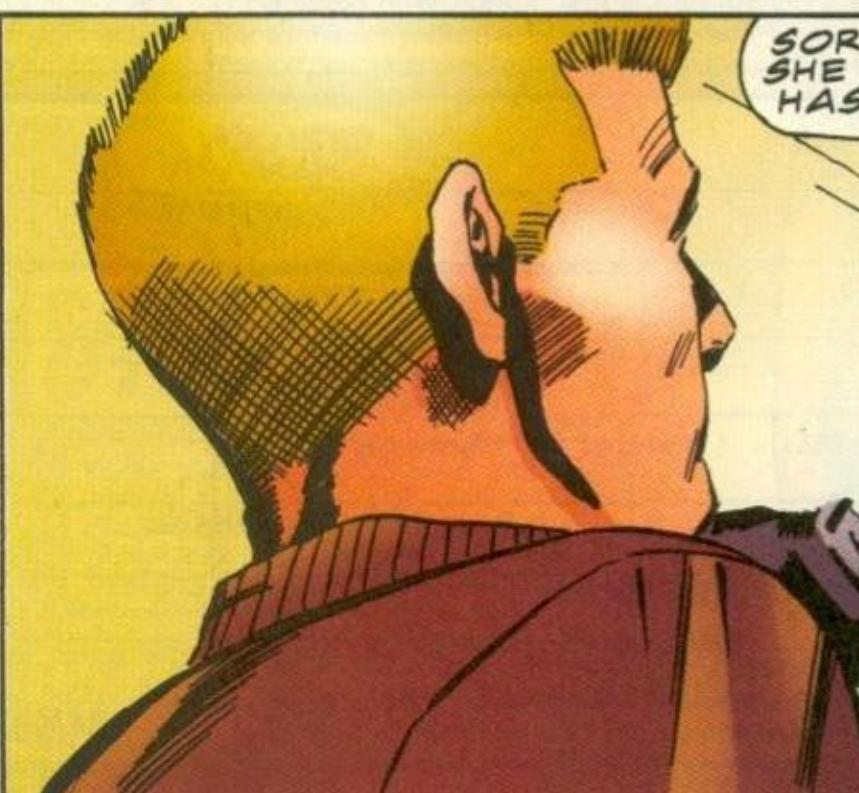
BUT I PROBABLY DO---!

LISTEN, MAYDAY, I KNOW WHAT YOU THINK YOU SAW... BUT THE TRUTH IS DAVIDA WAS JUST GIVING ME A LITTLE PEP TALK, ENCOURAGING ME TO ASK YOU TO THE DANCE.

YOU NEEDED TO BE CONVINCED---?

YES... errrrr... NO!

I JUST... WELLL... WHAT DO YOU SAY, MAYDAY? WILL YOU GO WITH ME?



SORRY, BRAD! SHE ALREADY HAS A DATE.

SHE CALLED ME LAST NIGHT.





SPIDER-GIRL

Hi!

It's not my habit to write to a comic book, but in the case of SPIDER-GIRL I just love what you're doing so much that I had to tell you. I try to pick up every issue, but since series like SPIDER-GIRL, FANTASTIC FIVE and THUNDERBOLTS are very hard to find in Belgium, I frequently miss an issue. However, I'm already looking forward to the next SPIDER-GIRL issue which contains the end of the Kaine saga. I loved seeing the return of Kaine, and I can't wait to see Peter Parker and Ben Reilly (which is the true identity of Darkdevil I think!) together in action again. Keep up the good work!

Until Darkdevil turns out to be Harry Osborn, MAKE MINE MARVEL!

Christophe Van Hoeij
Belgium

PS: Excuse me if my English isn't very good, I'm not used to writing in English.

Your English is terrific, Christophe! And so are you! Kaine looks to be a popular villain ... in Belgium, at least! What do the rest of you out there think? Who's the best villain Spider-Girl's faced so far?

Dear SPIDER-GIRL,

The final fight between Spider-Girl and Kaine in issue #17 bothered me. Either Kaine got a lot weaker or Spider-Girl got a lot stronger. What's up?

Gus Karalis
Astoria, NY

Hmmmm ... guess you'll just have to stay tuned, Gus!

Dear SPIDER-GIRL,

Am I reading too much into SPIDER-GIRL #17, or did Kaine deliberately throw his final fight against the web-stunner? Did her final speech get to him? Did he "stay down ... for everyone's sake"?

Peter Cunningham
Albany, NY

Hmmmm ... Kaine seems to have piqued the interest of the SPIDER-GIRL community. What really happened in that fateful fight? Only time will tell.

Dear SPIDER-GIRL,

I was a bit saddened to see the MC-2 universe fade away, but I am glad that SPIDER-GIRL survived the purge. Out of the MC-2 collective, the adventures of May Parker were the ones I followed the most religiously. The story is filled with so much possibility that I can't put the book down. Issue #17 finally prompted me to drop by and say good job on producing a quality book that will easily stand out amongst the rest of the nonsense being produced by the Spider-Guys. May finally came into her own and basically told her father to stay out of her way. That girl's got spunk! We also get a few little tidbits about Darkdevil's identity, which I'm dying to know by the way!

Brandon Thomas
(Address withheld by request)

Don't give up hope on MC-2, Brandon! We have a new three-issue SPIDER-GIRL PRESENTS THE BUZZ limited series scheduled for May, plus some other surprises later in the year! Another fan of Darkdevil?! The mystery escalates!

Dear SPIDER-GIRL Editors,
So far May doesn't seem to have inherited daddy's love of denial. Maybe that's why she seems to cope with things better than he did.

Wendy Doucette
San Jose, CA

Maybe she also inherited a dash of pragmatism from Mary Jane!

Dear SPIDER-GIRL,
I guess in SPIDER-GIRL

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IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR NAME AND
ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW.
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"OKAY TO PRINT"

fronts ol' Petey about his "ideal" career paths for her and I couldn't think of a better way for her to do it!

Van Su Mei
Singapore

Sometimes, Van, parents just don't understand!

Dear Tom and Crew:

I remember one of the first Spider-Man magazines I bought. The story was entitled "Just a Guy Named Joe". The story line was different, the art was quirky, and I was hooked. I was about 14 years old, and I could identify with Peter Parker's problems. But I took hope, too, in the fact that even Peter Parker could rise above himself. A couple of issues later, in a story entitled "The Final Chapter" (arguably one of the finest comic mags of all time), I learned that the quintessential loser could even elevate himself to moments of sheer, glorious greatness. I continued to read SPIDER-MAN for quite a few years, but real life caught up with me, and the quality of the magazines declined sufficiently enough that Peter and I sort of drifted apart (though I checked in once or twice a year to see how he was doing). During one of those spot-checks, I discovered Spider-Girl. As usual, I was annoyed at yet another "cash in on the brand" title, but took a look anyway. The storyline is different. The art is quirky. Their sum evokes a strong sensation of "Just a Guy Named Joe", ably combining an individual's entry into self-realization with that same individual's growth toward potential greatness. All with a wholly contemporary flair, too.

Folks, you have something here — no mean feat! My compliments and best wishes as you speak to a new generation.

Bill Pulver
Havertown, PA

Our goal is to speak to all generations, Bill!



NEXT ISSUE:

SPIDER-GIRL GOES TO THE HIGH SCHOOL DANCE AND YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHO MEETS HER THERE! DARKDEVIL, THE BUZZ AND THE NEWEST MC-2 VILLAIN... FUNNY FACE! BUT WHO'S FIGHTING WHO?! FIND OUT IN THIRTY!