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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

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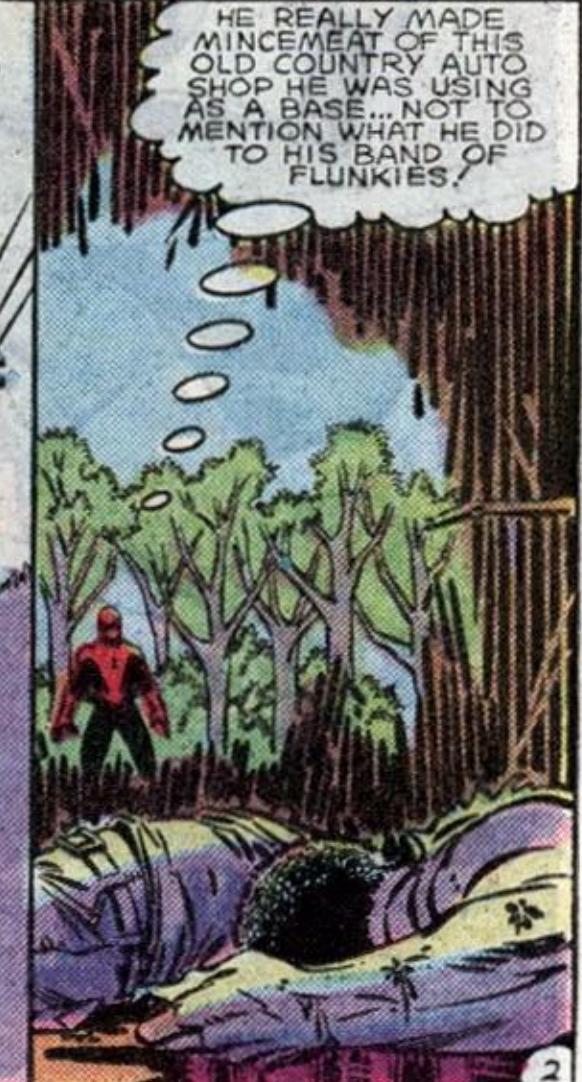
IN THIS ISSUE MEET:
"THE KID WHO COLLECTS SPIDER-MAN"

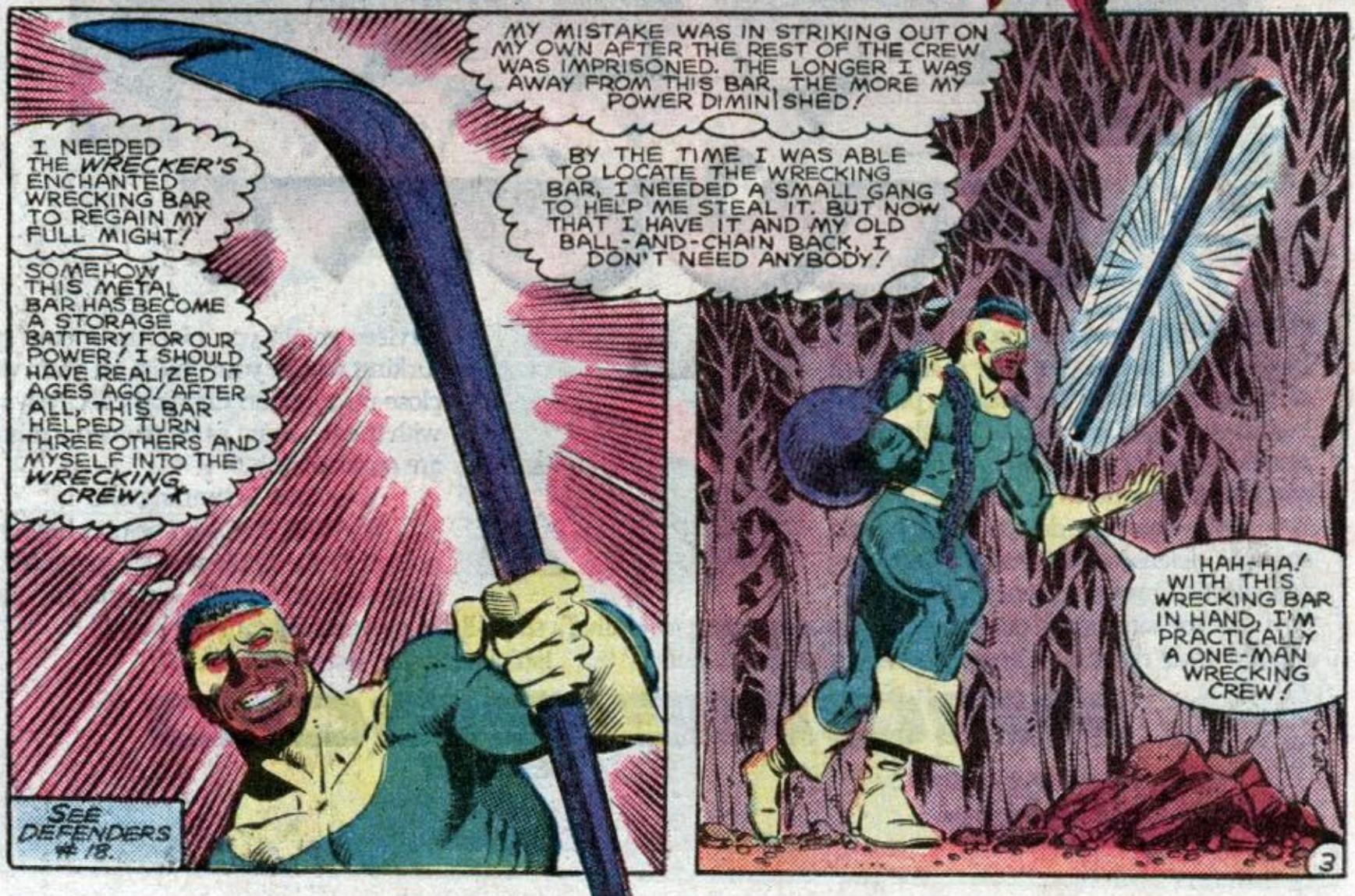
STAN LEE PRESENTS
AND HE STRIKES LIKE A
THUNDERBALL



WHEN A MAN LIKE THUNDERBALL
TALKS, PEOPLE LISTEN--AND MOVE...

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN® Vol. 1, No. 248, January, 1984. (ISSN 0274-5232) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Second Class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. Copyright © 1983 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.







YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING, DOC -- THIS BAR DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL A BIT STRONGER!

THWAK

STILL MAKES A HECKUVA STICK, THOUGH!

WHUNG

GEEZ, HE MUST BE MADE OUT OF THE SAME STUFF AS THE WRECKING BAR! I MANAGED TO KNOCK HIM TO HIS KNEES, BUT ONLY BECAUSE I GOT HIM OFF-BALANCE!

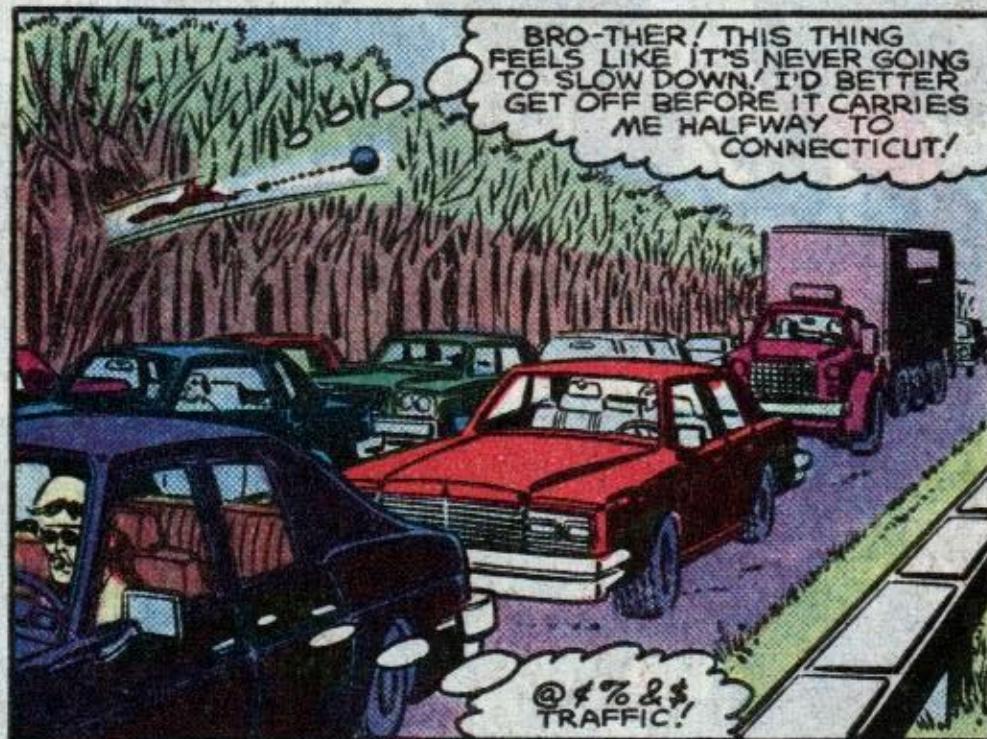
MAYBE HE WAS SERIOUS ABOUT THAT ASGARDIAN HOOEY!

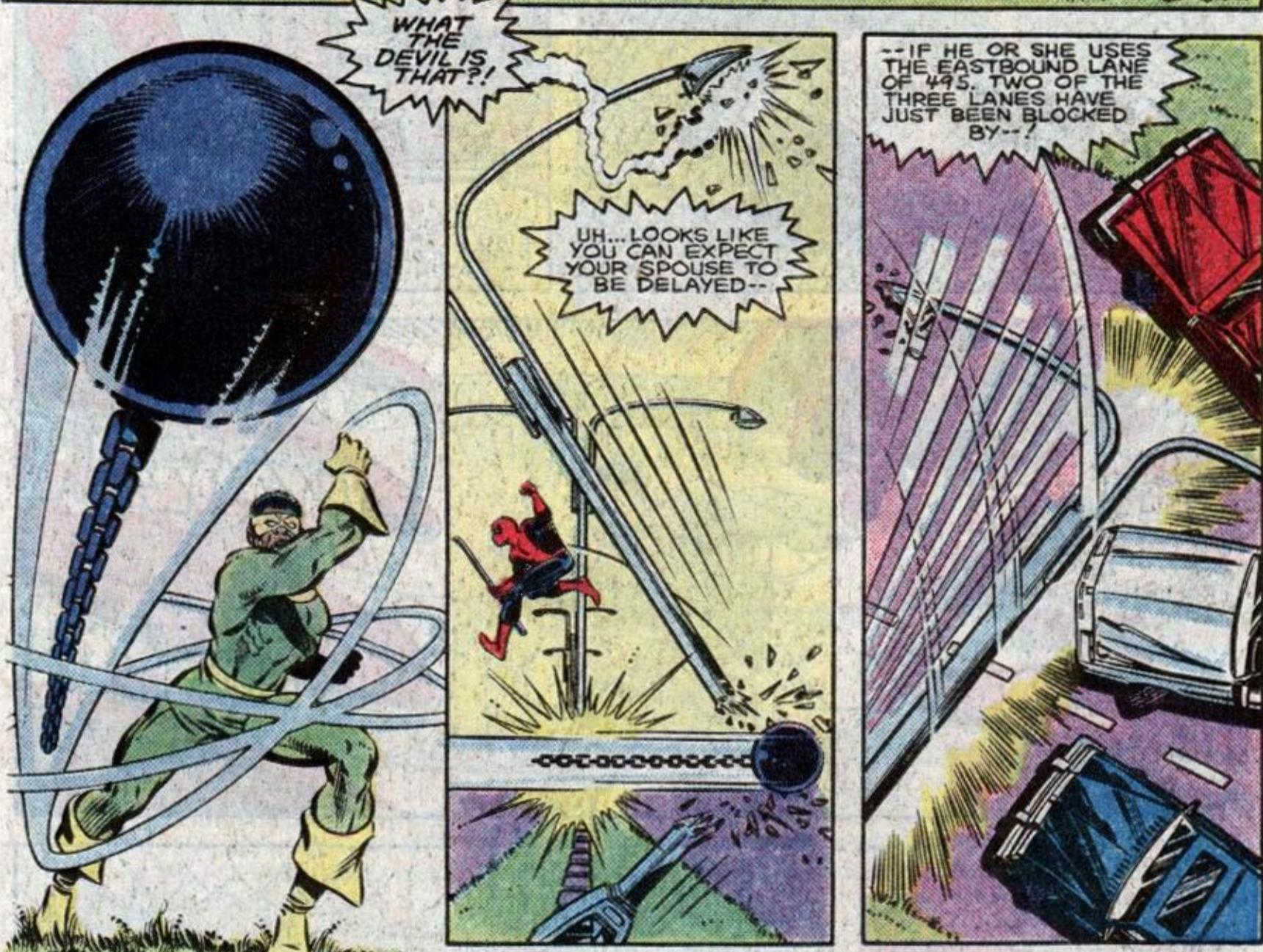
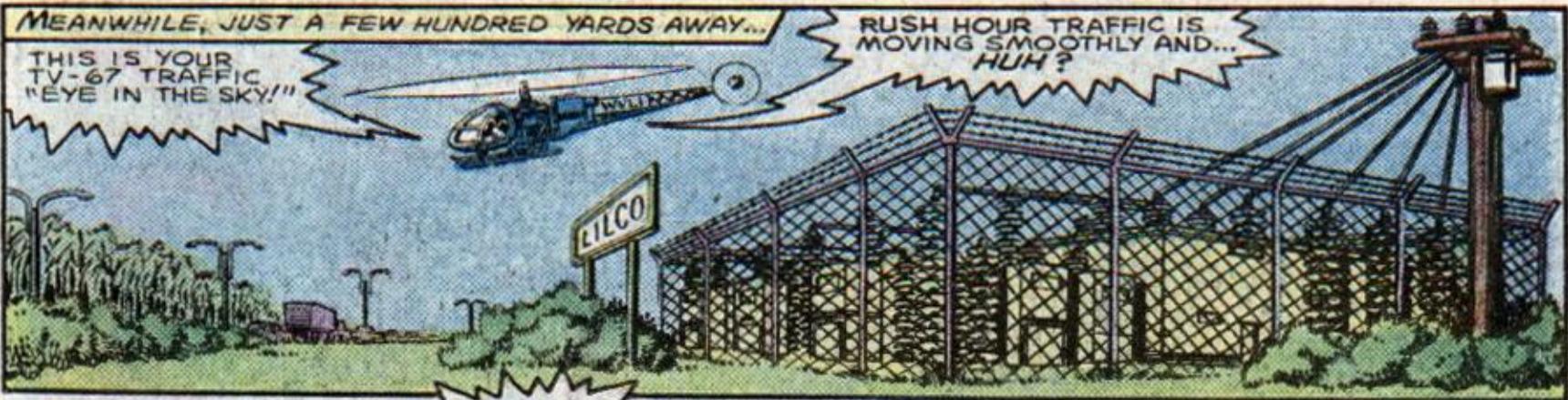
YOU HAVE MADE A MOST GRIEVOUS ERROR IN ANNOYING ME! NOW YOU SHALL HAVE TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES!

THAT WAS A STUPID THING TO DO, T-BALL! NOW I HAVE BOTH OF YOUR--

WHIZZZ

THWIP

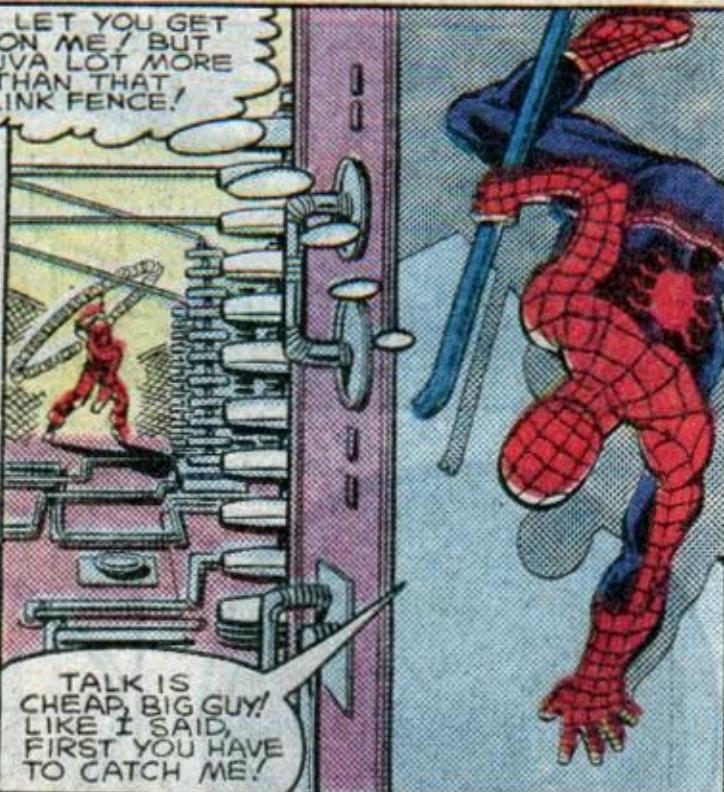




HIDING IS FUTILE,
SPIDER-MAN! EACH
MOMENT THAT PASSES
ONLY MAKES THINGS
WORSE FOR YOU!

UH-HUH! IF I LET YOU GET
YOUR HANDS ON ME, BUT
I'M A HECKUVA LOT MORE
EVASIVE THAN THAT
CHAIN-LINK FENCE!

TALK IS
CHEAP, BIG GUY!
LIKE I SAID,
FIRST YOU HAVE
TO CATCH ME!



VERY
WELL, I'LL
JUST DRIVE
YOU OUT
OF HIDING!



BUT THEN... THAT TV
REPORT
WAS ON THE LEVEL!
HE'S RIPPIN' UP THE
SUBSTATION!

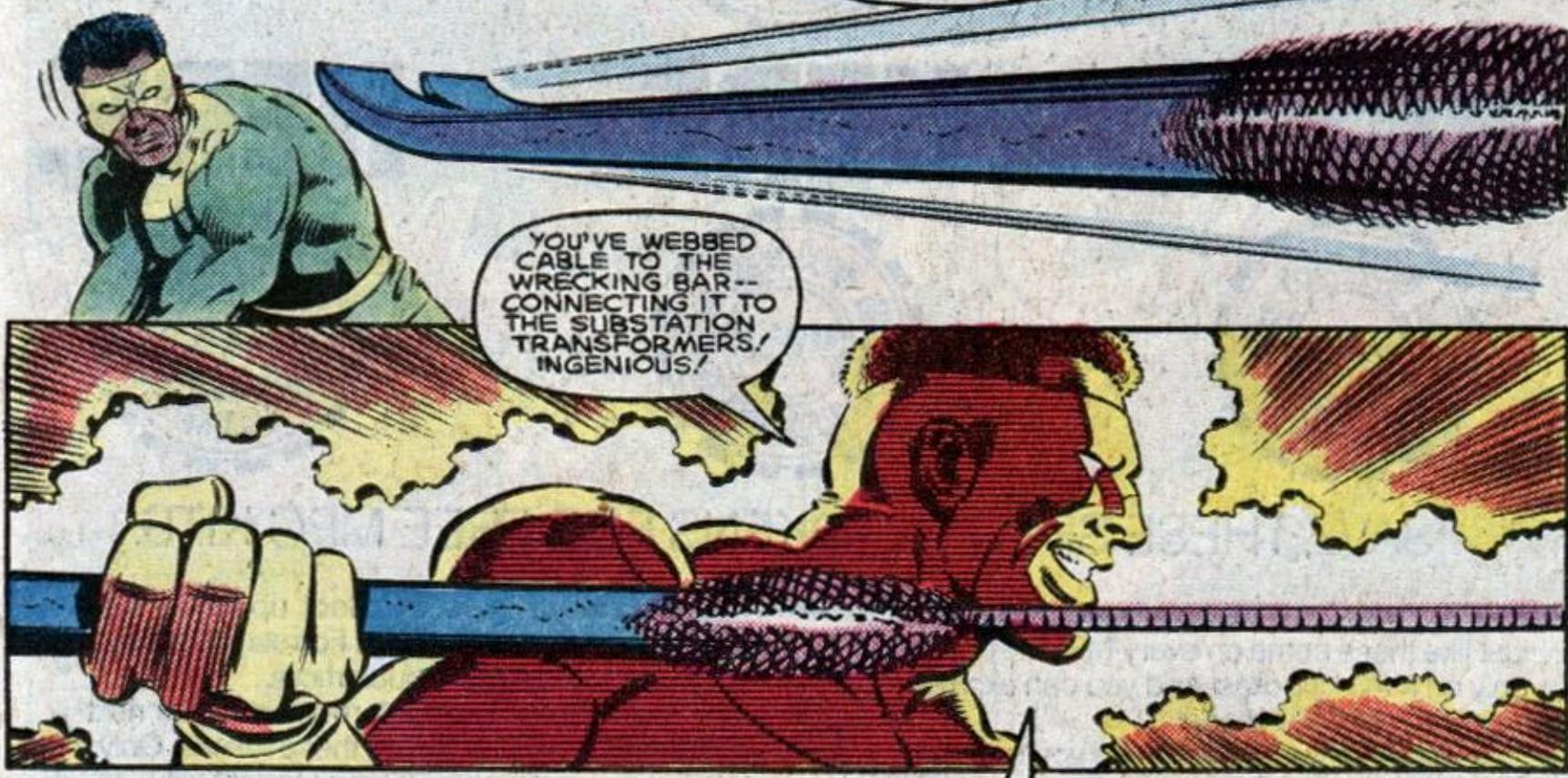


THUNDERBALL DOES
NOT EVEN BOTHER
TO ANSWER THE
OFFICERS. HE MERELY
SWINGS HIS GREAT
BALL-AND-CHAIN
ABOUT... DEFLECTING
EVERYTHING FIRED
AT HIM!





WELL, YOU CAN HAVE IT!



NOT AS LONG
AS I'M STILL
FAST ENOUGH
TO DUCK,
I'M NOT!

NOW, LET'S HOPE I
GOT MORE OUT OF MY OLD
ELECTRICAL SCIENCE COURSES
THAN JUST AN EASY "A"!

ONCE AGAIN, THE HUGE
METAL BALL TURNS ABOUT IN
MID-AIR. BUT THIS TIME IT
CARRIES MORE THAN JUST A LENGTH
OF CHAIN BACK TO ITS MASTER.

EEEEE

GET BACK! HE JUST COMPLETED
A CIRCUIT WITH THE MAIN LINES
FOR THE ENTIRE SUBSTATION.
ANY SECOND NOW, THERE'S
GOING TO BE A BIG...

**SKRA
BOOM**

THE GROUNDS OF THE SUBSTATION LIGHT UP LIKE THE SUN, AS THE POWER OF THUNDERBALL BECOMES PART OF THE LONG ISLAND ELECTRICAL GRID!

GEEZ.

AND THEN, ONCE THE CABLES MELT DOWN, THE CIRCUIT BREAKERS POP, AND THE ONLOOKERS' VISION RETURNS TO NORMAL...

HE'S STILL BREATHIN'! ALL THAT POWER... AN' ALL IT DID WAS KNOCK HIM COLD!

SPIDER-MAN! CAN I HAVE A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME? I'M FROM TV-67!

THUNDERBALL, SHMUNDERBALL! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE HELPED CAUSE THE WORST TRAFFIC JAM IN THE HISTORY OF EASTERN LONG ISLAND?

YEAH! COULDN'T YOU HAVE STOPPED THAT BIG GUY BEFORE HE BLOCKED THE EXPRESSWAY?

LOOK, I'M A LITTLE BEAT! IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW I DEFEATED THUNDERBALL--?

LET'S HOPE IT DID MORE THAN THAT! WHEN HE COMES TO, HE SHOULD BE NORMAL AGAIN! AND HE'LL STAY THAT WAY--

IF YOU CAN PUT HIS TOYS SOMEPLACE WHERE HE CAN'T GET AT THEM!

GRATITUDE... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT...

...ESPECIALLY AROUND HERE!

BOY, WHAT A DAY! I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND HOBGOBLIN... I DIDN'T TAKE ANY PICTURES TO SELL THE DAILY BUGLE... ALL I DID WAS SAVE THE WORLD AT LARGE FROM THUNDERBALL!

I GUESS THAT'S NOT TOO BAD FOR A DAY'S WORK!

HOME, JAMES!

ADMIT IT... WHO BUT SPIDER-MAN COULD SAVE THE DAY AND RIDE OFF INTO THE SUNSET IN A PICKUP TRUCK? WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR BOY? READ ON, AND YOU SHALL SEE!

THE KID WHO COLLECTS SPIDER-MAN!

CONOVER'S CORNER
by JACOB CONOVER



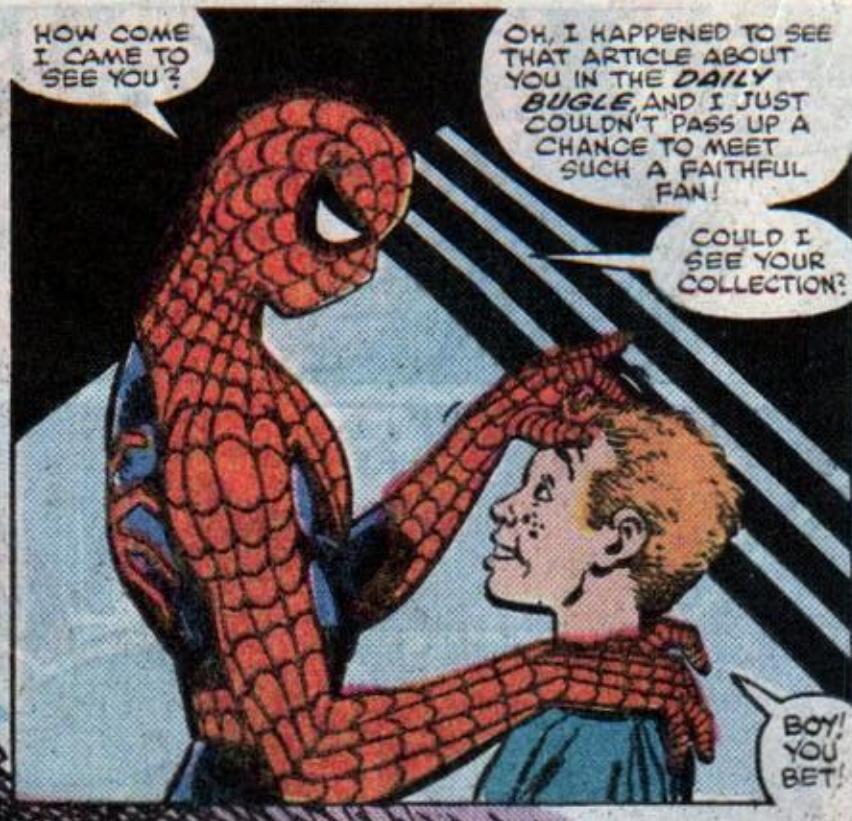
Timothy Harrison is one of those special young men. He's sharp, bright, likable, and nine years old... going on thirty-five. You know the kind I mean. You talk to him for five minutes, and you get the odd feeling that he's already been around the track a few times, despite his youthful appearance.

Tim (he prefers not to be called Timmy) is like a lot of other kids his age. He's seen all the Star Wars movies about a dozen times each. He's a big Mets fan, and he enjoys whatever noise that's passing for music these days. What makes Tim different from most of his classmates, though, is that he has a hobby of which J. Jonah Jameson, this paper's esteemed publisher, would certainly not approve.

Tim collects Spider-Man. He has a huge old trunk filled with Spider-Man memorabilia. There







Tim collects Spider-Man.

He has a huge old trunk filled with Spider-Man memorabilia. There are eight big scrapbooks overflowing with magazine and newspaper clippings, kinescopes of Spider-Man's rare television appearances, and a handful of souvenirs which can only be called unique. When I paid Tim a visit the other day, he eagerly opened his trunk to answer my typically nosy questions.

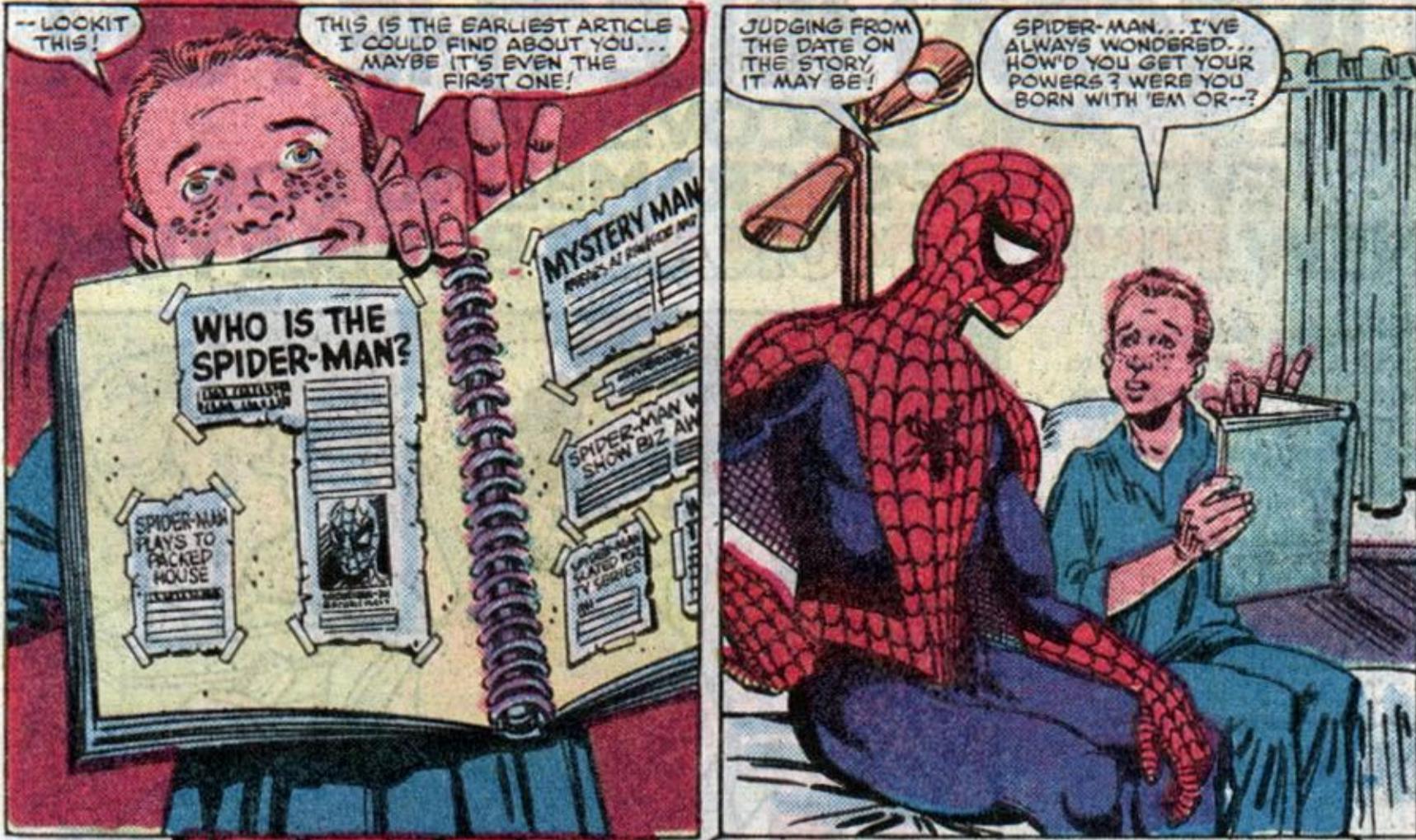
"I was real lucky to get some of these clippings," said Tim, flipping through the oldest scrapbook. "I was just a little kid when a lot of these stories were printed. But my grandfather knew a lady who saved old copies of the *Daily Bugle*, and a bunch of other papers, going back a long way. So I was able to get clippings of the earliest stories on Spider-Man that were ever run."

And the Kinescopes?

"They were harder to find," admitted Tim. "Heck, most folks at TV station had practically forgotten that Spider-Man ever ran."



SIZE OF DIAMONDS EXAGGERATED TO SHOW CLARITY.
1.03ct MARQUIS SHAPE
1/2 carat



I'D BECOME A KIND OF HUMAN SPIDER. ABOUT THE ONLY THING I COULDN'T DO WAS SPIN A WEB... BUT I EVEN FIGURED OUT HOW TO DO THAT, EVENTUALLY!

YOUR WEBBING... YEAH! HOW DO YOU MAKE IT?

WELL, I COULD SPEND WEEKS EXPLAINING THE FORMULA... LET'S JUST SAY THAT I MIX UP THIS SPECIAL FLUID--

--AND STORE IT UNDER PRESSURE IN METAL CARTRIDGES THAT GO INTO THIS WRIST GIZMO. SEE?



THE WHOLE SHEBANG IS ACTIVATED BY PRESSING ON THE SUPER-SENSITIVE BUTTON-- WHICH IS WORN AT A SPOT ON MY PALM WHERE I WON'T ACCIDENTALLY HIT IT WHEN I MAKE A FIST!

A DOUBLE-TAP OF THE PALM-BUTTON, AND I GET ALL THE WEBBING I NEED... AT LEAST UNTIL THE FLUID RUNS OUT...

...THEN I HAVE TO REPLACE THE CARTRIDGE. BY ADJUSTING THE NOZZLE I CAN GET A THICK GLOB OF ADHESIVE LIQUID, A THIN STRAND OF LINE--



--OR A FINE, QUICK-SPREADING WEB THAT'S STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD ABOUT ANYTHING! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?

I LIKE IT A LOT! IT MUST BE GREAT TO BE SPIDER-MAN!

SAY, I WAS WONDERING... WHEN YOU FIRST BECAME SPIDER-MAN, YOU USED TO BE ON TV AND STUFF. YOU GAVE IT UP TO CHASE CROOKS. HOW COME?

I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT ASK THAT.

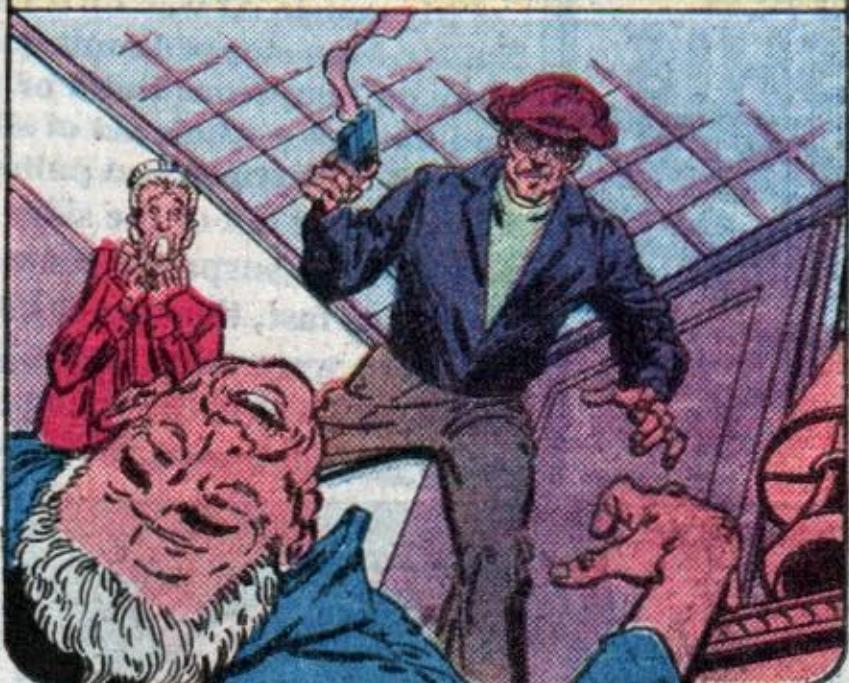
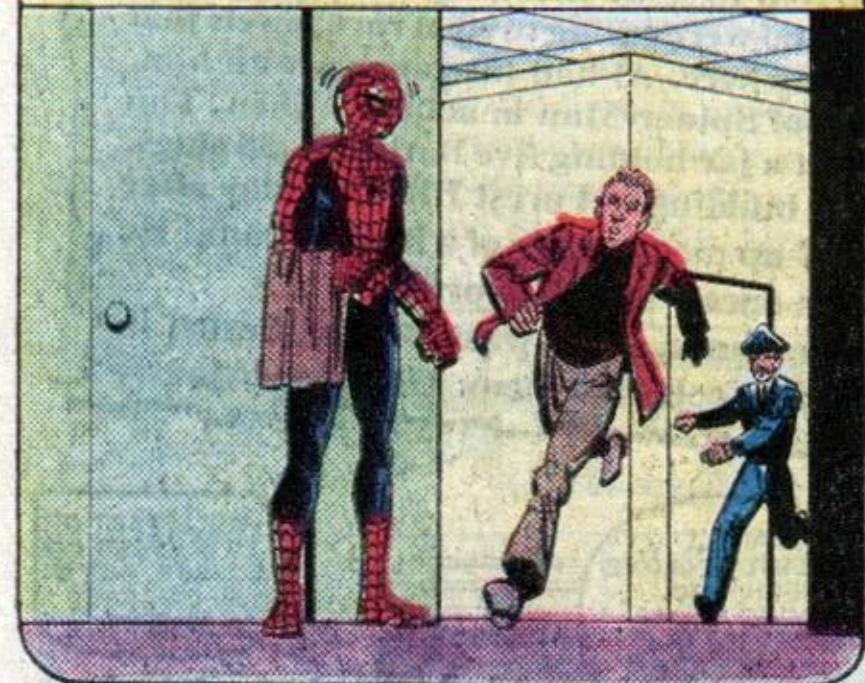


WELL, IT DOES HAVE ITS MOMENTS!



"I STARTED OUT TO MAKE MONEY WITH MY POWERS... AND I WASN'T INTERESTED IN MUCH ELSE. ONE DAY, LEAVING A TV STUDIO, I SAW A GUARD CHASING A BURGLAR. I COULD HAVE STOPPED HIM, BUT I DIDN'T. HE GOT AWAY."

"A FEW WEEKS LATER, THE SAME BURGLAR BROKE INTO THE HOME OF... SOME PEOPLE WHO MEANT A LOT TO ME. THE PEOPLE SURPRISED THE BURGLAR, HE PULLED A GUN, AND AN INNOCENT MAN DIED."



IF I'D STOPPED THAT BURGLAR WHEN I FIRST HAD THE CHANCE--! BUT NO, ALL I CARED ABOUT THEN WAS MYSELF!

AND THAT'S WHY--?



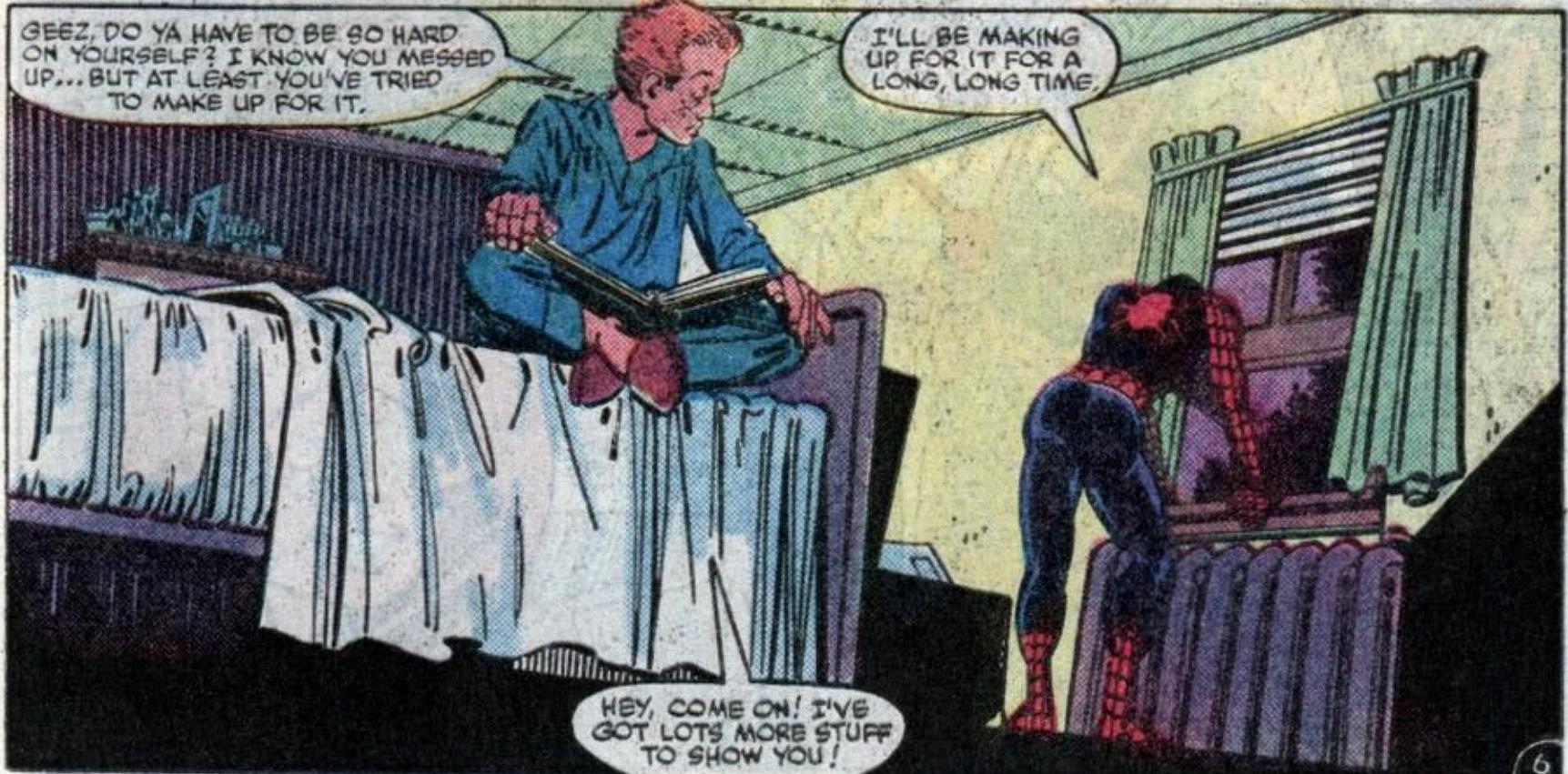
YEAH, THAT'S WHY I STARTED CHASING CROOKS. I CAUGHT THAT BURGLAR, AND I SWORE THAT NO ONE ELSE WAS GOING TO GET HURT IF I COULD HELP IT!

MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE PICKED SOMEONE ELSE TO START A SCRAPBOOK ABOUT, TIM.



GEEZ, DO YA HAVE TO BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF? I KNOW YOU MESSED UP... BUT AT LEAST YOU'VE TRIED TO MAKE UP FOR IT.

I'LL BE MAKING UP FOR IT FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.



HEY, COME ON! I'VE GOT LOTS MORE STUFF TO SHOW YOU!

ND NEW SHIS



A. 1st eng., 5-spd.
rem. control
top, 2-spd.

S-A-714

"... just like that!"

And, of course, there are those souvenirs.

"My cousin Al was on a field trip to some museum in the city, when Spider-Man stopped some guys who were trying to steal rare jewels that were on loan from India or somewhere. Al had his camera with him, and he shot a whole set of slides of Spider-Man in action!" Then, Tim dug into the trunk and pulled out a jar holding five flattened .38 slugs. "I dug these out of the sides of a building in Forest Hills, the day after Spider-Man surprised some hold-up men outside of a branch bank! He moved so fast, they never hit him once!" said Tim proudly.

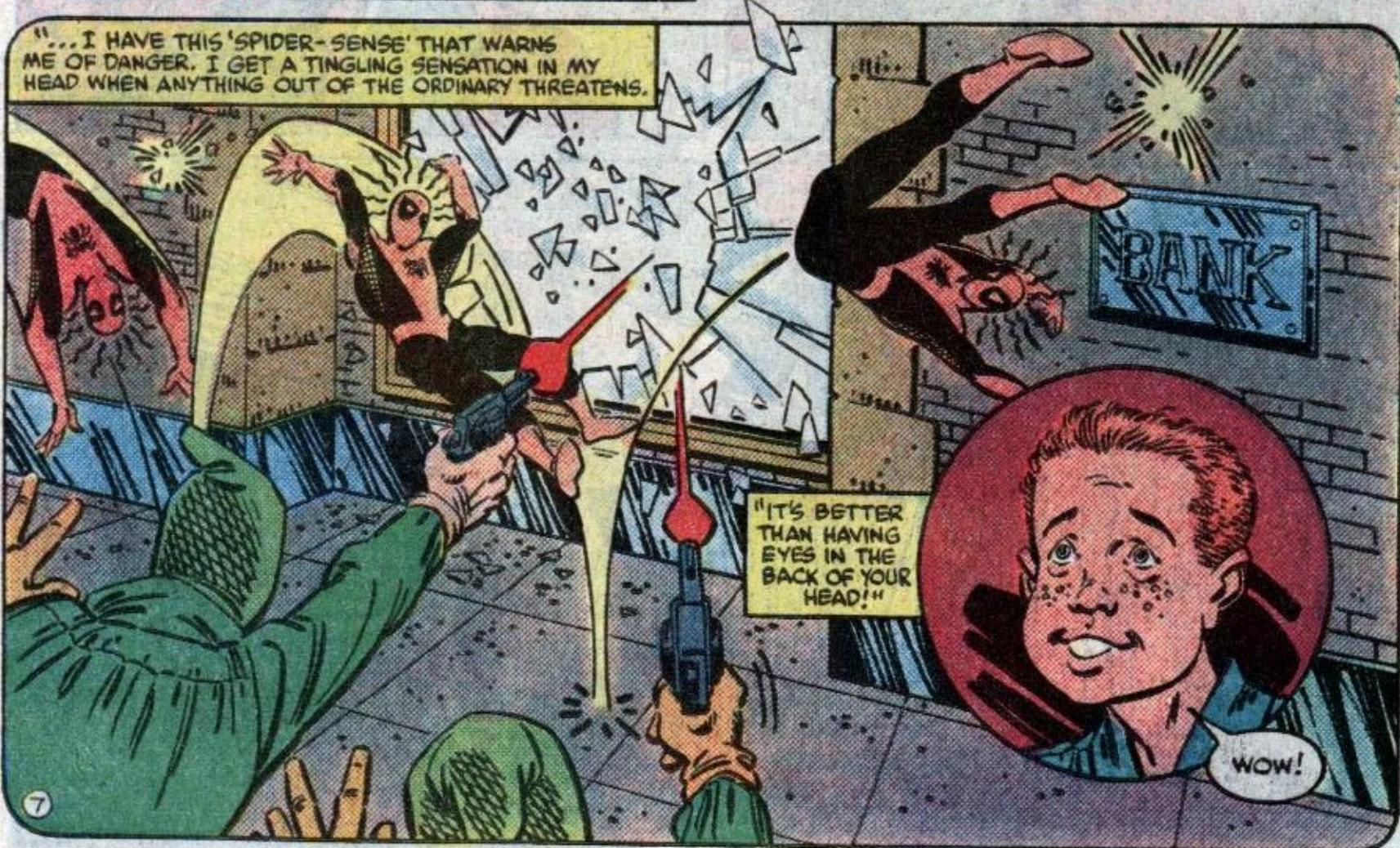
There were other items in the trunk, but I wasn't as interested in them, as I was in the young man who collected them. Tim was obviously quite an admirer of the superhero.



"I'LL BE--! YOU ACTUALLY DUG THESE OUT OF THE WALL OF THAT BANK WITH YOUR POCKET KNIFE?"

YEAH! I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN YOU DODGE THOSE BULLETS! I'LL NEVER FIGURE OUT HOW YOU DO THAT!

WELL, PART OF IT IS SPEED, OF COURSE. BUT, IF YOU CAN KEEP A SECRET...



"Man surprised some hold-up men outside a branch bank. He fled so fast, they never hit him once!" said Tim proudly. There were other items in the trunk, but I wasn't as interested in them, as I was in the young man who collected them. Tim was obviously quite an admirer of the anonymous, masked man whom our publisher often refers to (under his breath, of course) in terms not suitable for the pages of a family newspaper. Didn't it bother Tim that his hero so seldom received favorable headlines?

"A little," admitted Tim, "but it's given me material for a whole new scrapbook."

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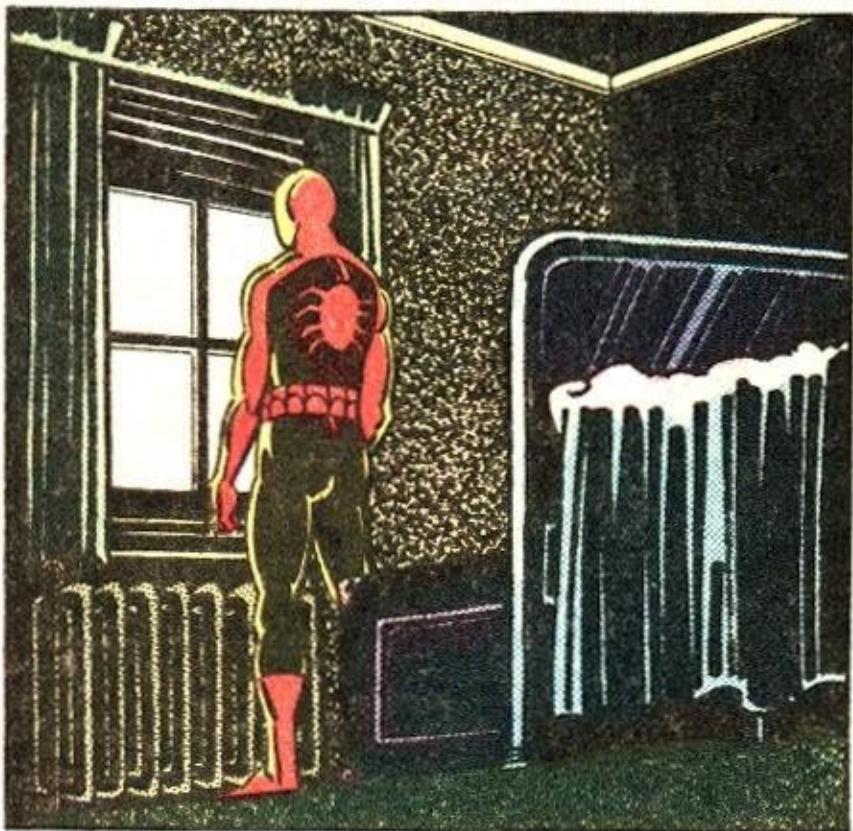
KLIK



NOW, TIM, YOU KNOW THAT'S MY GREATEST SECRET. IF PEOPLE KNEW WHO I WAS UNDER THIS MASK, I'D NEVER KNOW A MOMENT'S PEACE... ALL OF MY FRIENDS WOULD LIVE IN CONSTANT DANGER.

...BUT I'D NEVER TELL ANOTHER SOUL THAT I KNEW... LONG AS I LIVED... HONEST!

I BELIEVE YOU, TIM, BUT I CAN'T--!
I...



YOU MEAN, ALL THESE YEARS, OL' MAN JAMESON HAS BEEN PAYING YOU TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOURSELF?

UH-HUH.

BOY, THAT'S GREAT! I WISH WE COULD TELL HIM!

I KNOW, I DO, TOO... BUT WE CAN'T! YOU MUSTN'T EVEN TELL ANYONE THAT I WAS HERE!

DON'T WORRY, PETE. I UNDERSTAND.

IT'S OUR SECRET! FOREVER AND EVER... I PROMISE.

YEAH.

I GUESS THAT MAKES US BUDDIES, THEN!

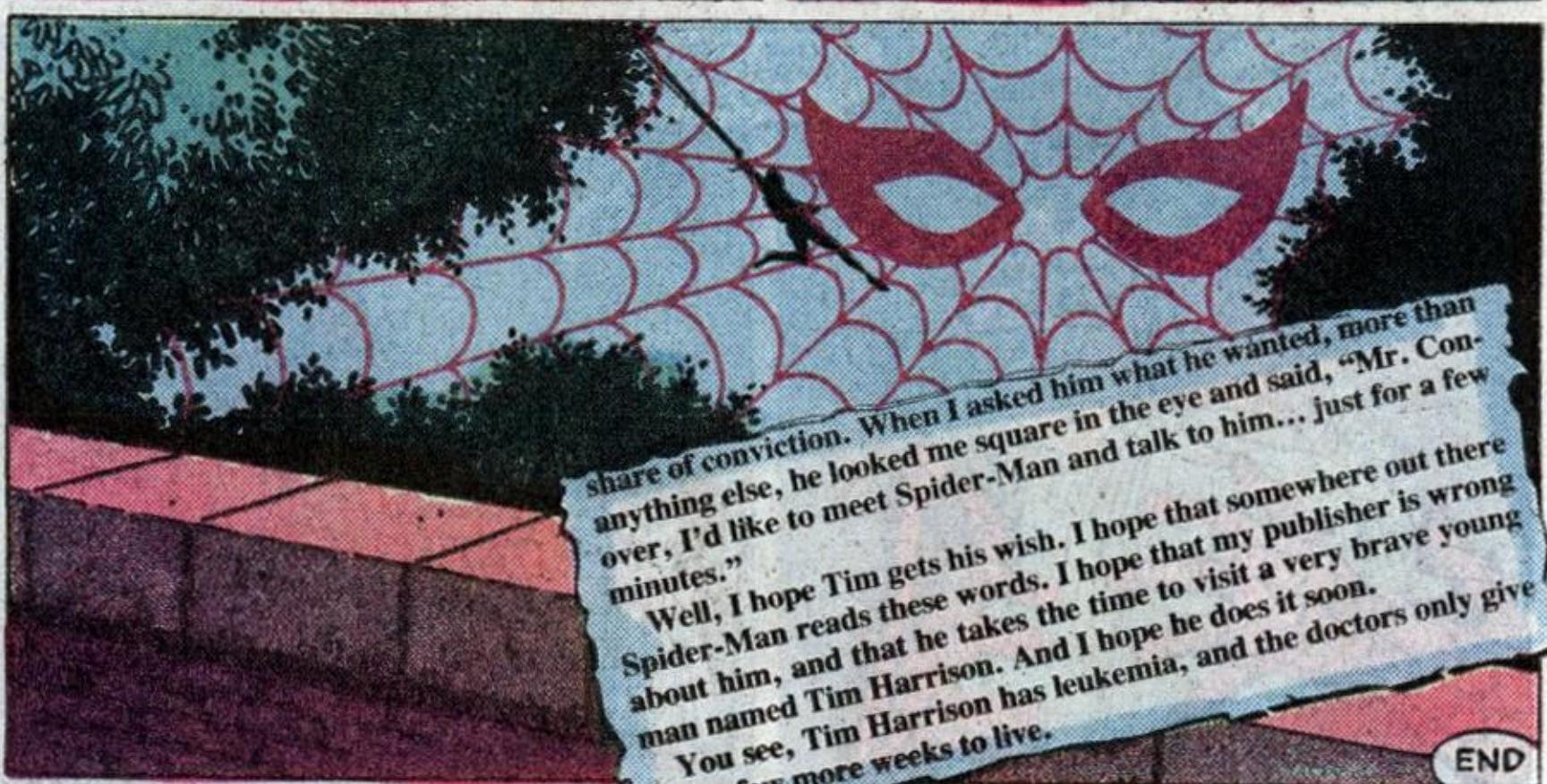
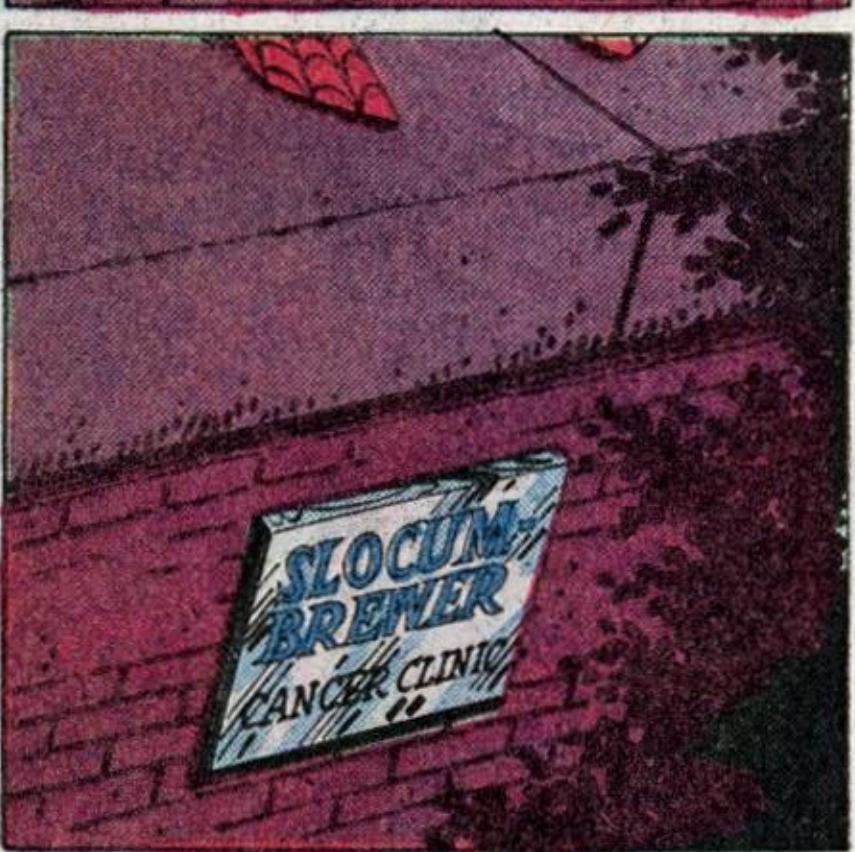
YOU BET, PETE! BUDDIES TO THE END!

HEY... IT'S REALLY... GETTING LATE NOW!

I HAVE TO GET MOVING, AND YOU HAVE TO GET TO SLEEP!

OKAY, G'NIGHT, PETE!

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, TIM.



share of conviction. When I asked him what he wanted, more than anything else, he looked me square in the eye and said, "Mr. Conover, I'd like to meet Spider-Man and talk to him... just for a few minutes."

Well, I hope Tim gets his wish. I hope that somewhere out there Spider-Man reads these words. I hope that my publisher is wrong about him, and that he takes the time to visit a very brave young man named Tim Harrison. And I hope he does it soon.

You see, Tim Harrison has leukemia, and the doctors only give him a few more weeks to live.

END