

35¢
#10

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C.C.
AUTHORITY

AT LAST! BEYOND THE MOVIE! BEYOND THE GALAXY!



STAR WARS

TM

KEEP FIRING,
CHEWIE-- OR THIS
WHOLE PLANET IS
DOOMED!

...NOT TO
MENTION
US!



THE BEHEMOTH
FROM BELOW!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **STAR WARS** THE GREATEST SPACE FANTASY OF ALL!

CONTINUING THE SAGA BEGUN IN THE FILM BY GEORGE LUCAS, RELEASED BY TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX.

BEHEMOTH FROM THE WORLD BELOW

HAN SOLO'S JOB SEEMED SIMPLE ENOUGH...

...GET TOGETHER A BAND OF ALIEN WARRIOR AND SAVE A VILLAGE FROM THE OUT-LAW SERJI-X ARROGANUS AND HIS MARAUDING CLOUD RIDERS!

DON GLUT
SCRIPT-WRITER & HOWARD CHAYKIN
ARTIST &
CO-PLOTTER

TOM PALMER
CO-ARTIST/EMBELLISHER
ALAN KUPPERBERG
LAYOUTS
F. MOULY
Colorist | J. COSTANZA
letterer

ROY THOMAS
EDITOR/CO-PLOTTER

BUT IN THE ORIGINAL DEAL, NO ONE SAID ANYTHING ABOUT A MONSTER!

C-726

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BUT THEN, EVERYONE
ASSUMED THE OLD
SHAMAN TO BE A
SENIILE FOOL--

--INCAPABLE OF ACTUALLY SUMMONING
FORTH A SCALY BEHEMOTH LOST IN THE
ROCK AND LEGEND OF ADUBA-3--*

* LAST ISSUE.
--ROY.

SHI-SPLAK!

--FOR THE SIMPLE PURPOSE OF
LASHING OUT AND DESTROYING
THIS BAND OF SURLY OUTLAWS...

...ESPECIALLY THEIR
LEADER, SERJI-X...
THE ARROGANT ONE!

I REMEMBER HEARING
STORIES ABOUT THIS
BEASTIE WHEN I WAS A
YOUTH!

AND ONE THING
ABOUT THOSE STORIES
STICKS OUT IN
MY MIND...

IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING,
IT JUST ISN'T GONNA GO
AWAY! AND YOU KNOW
WHAT THAT MEANS...

NO MORE TRIBUTE
FROM THIS VILLAGE...
NO MORE FEMALE
AMUSEMENTS!

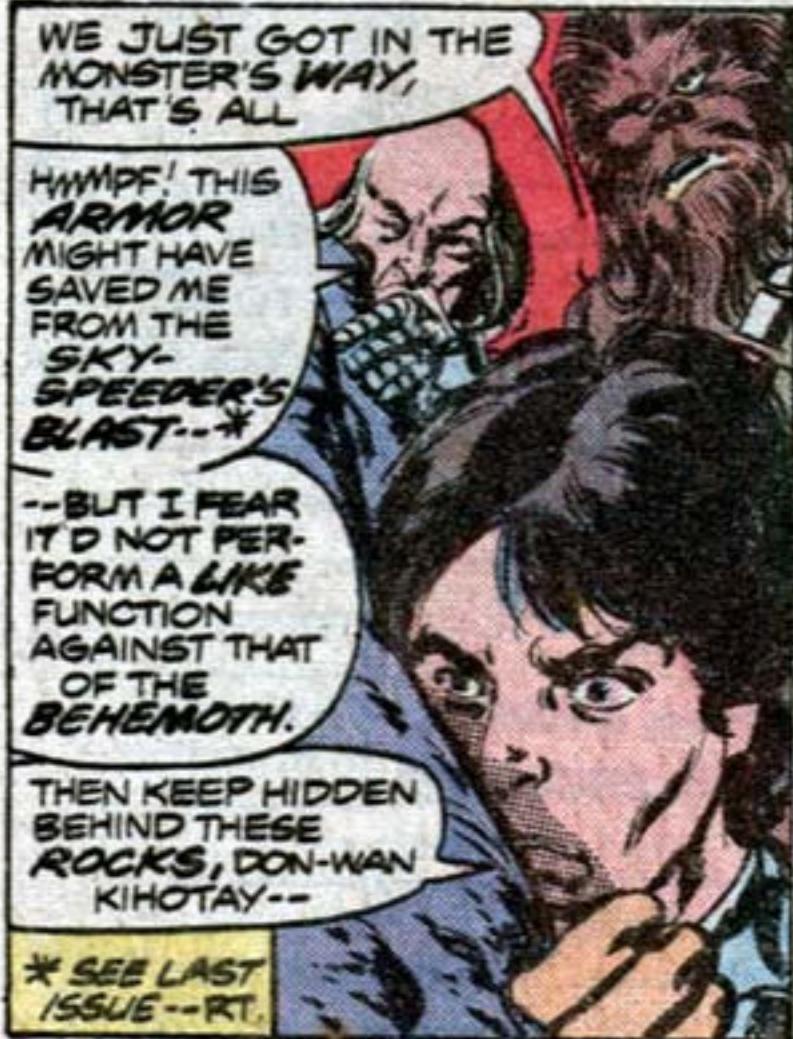
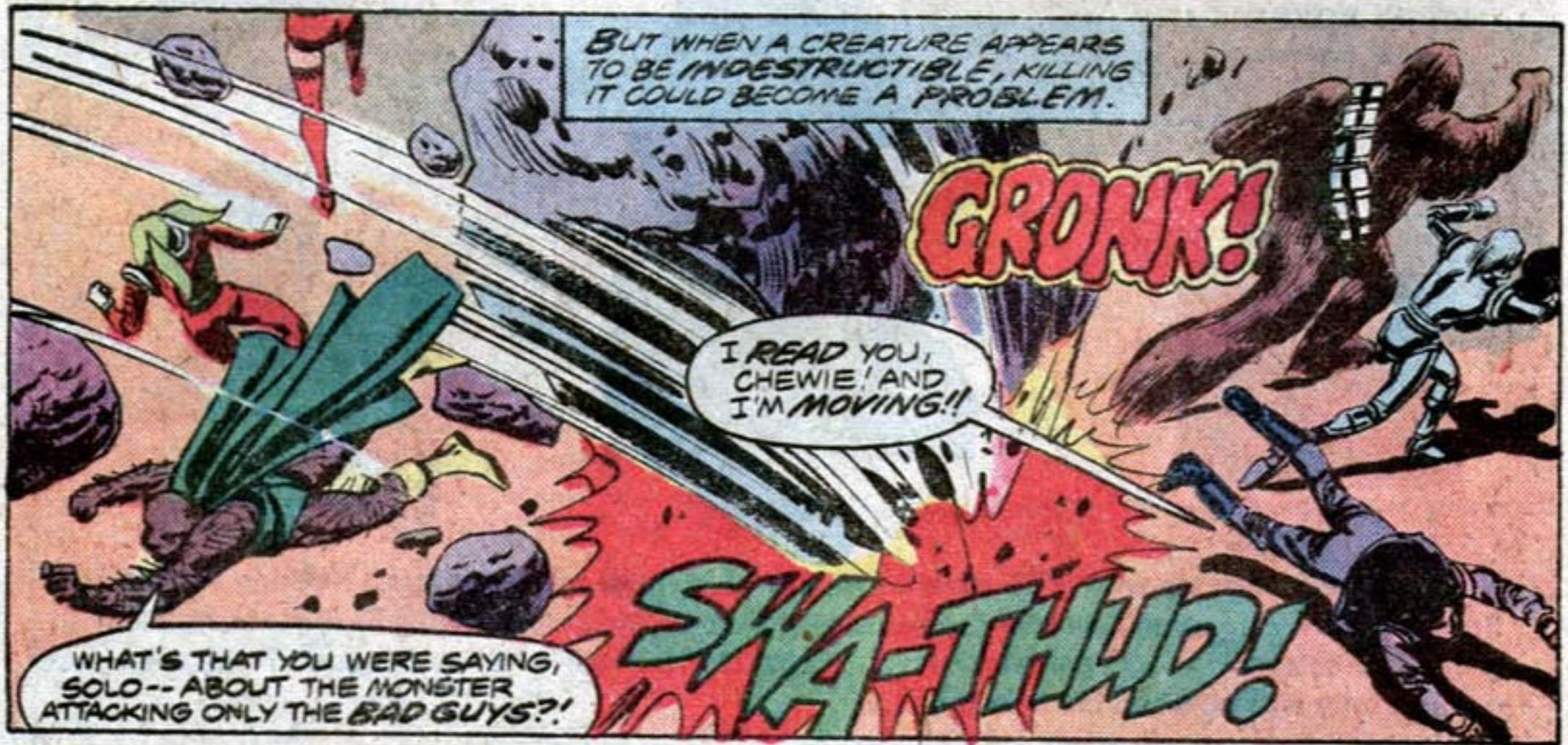
SO COME ON, MEN!
LET'S GET RID OF
THE BIG--

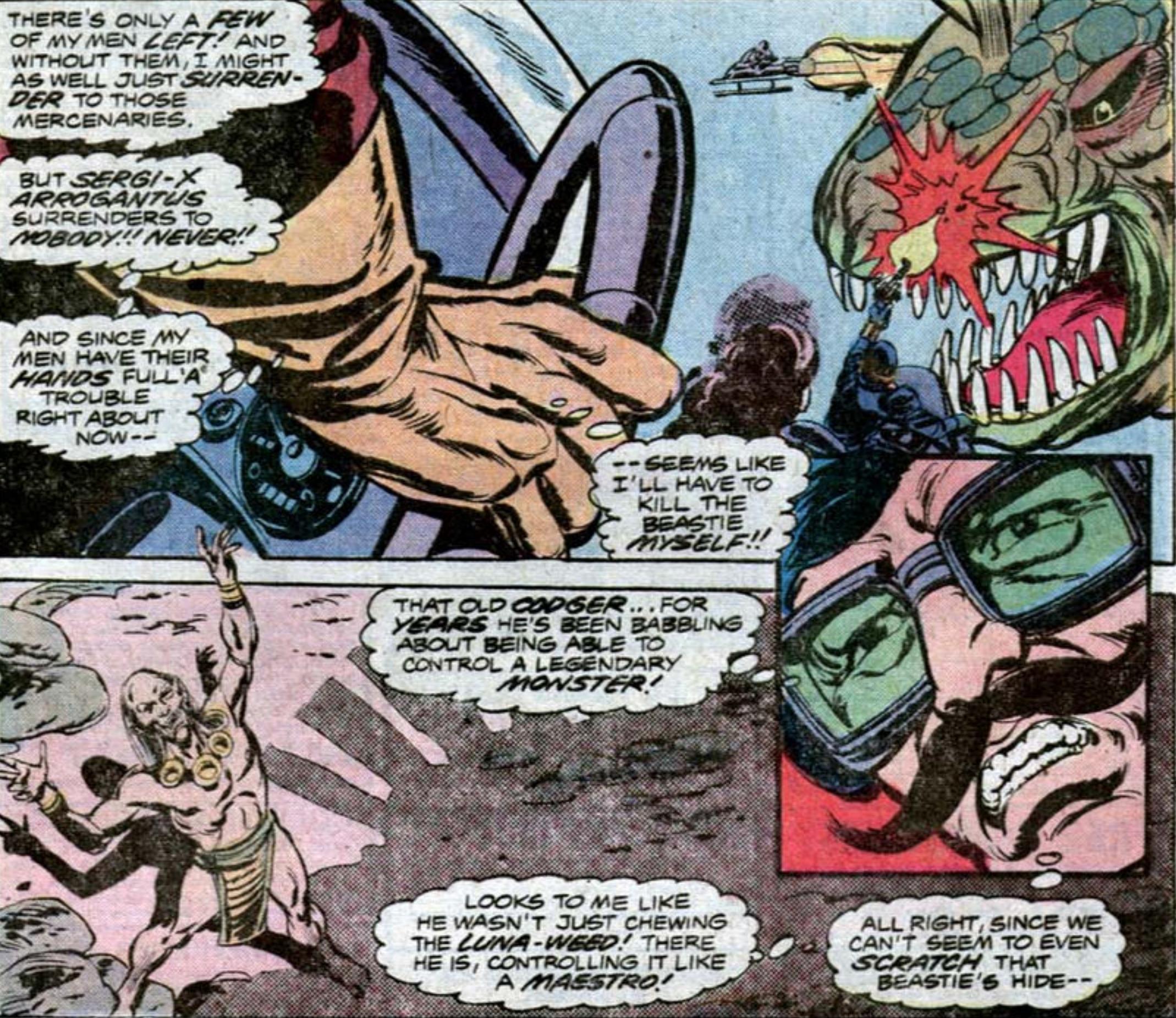
BUT SERJI-X BEGINS TO WONDER HOW
FEASIBLE THAT MIGHT BE, AS ONE-BY-
ONE HIS MEN FALL TO THE BEAST!

FRONK!

DON'T ASK ME,
CHEWBACCA! THIS
WASN'T IN THE ORIGINAL
PROGRAM!

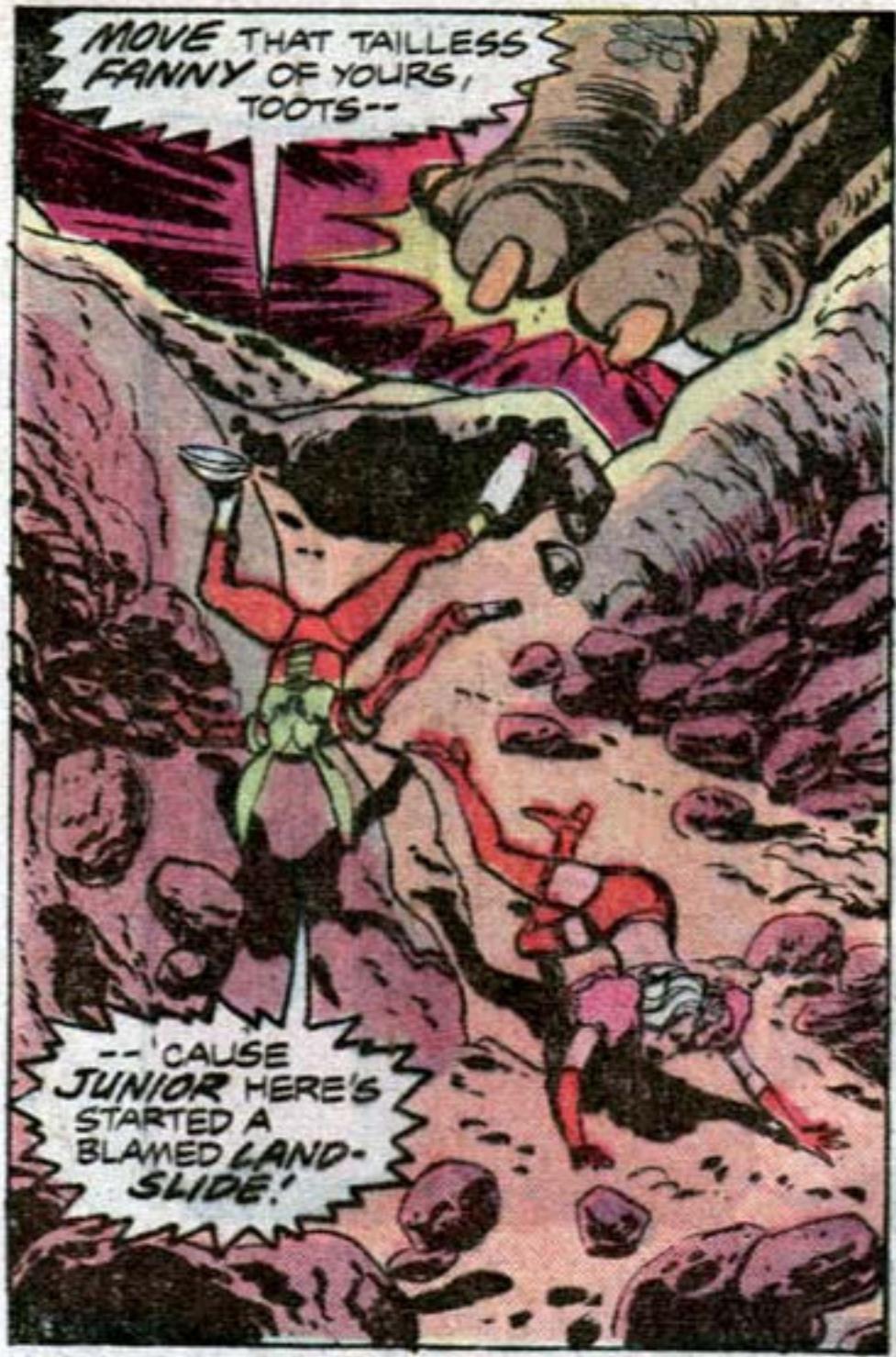














BUT WHAT HAN SOLO HAS
JUST SEEN MEANS NOTHING
TO THE PILOT OF A SMALL
SPACE CRUISER--

--WHICH NOW STREAKS
FROM THE DENSE
JUNGLE GROWTH OF
THE FOURTH SATEL-
LITE OF THE PLANET
YAVIN--

--TO BE
SWALLOWED
BY SILENT
SPACE...

I NEVER SHOULD
HAVE LISTENED
TO GENERAL
DODONNA AND THE
OTHERS! I SHOULD
HAVE DONE THIS
RIGHT AWAY!

THE PILOT: PRINCESS LEIA, A
MEMBER OF THE IMPERIAL SENATE...

HER
MISSION...?

SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED
TO LUKE
AND I'M
GOING TO
FIND
HIM--

--EVEN IF
I'VE GOT TO
DO IT
ALONE!

HE'D GONE OFF WITH
THE TWO ROBOTS TO
FIND A NEW PLANET
FOR THE REBELS...

AND THEN, JUST AS HE SAW
SOMETHING AND WAS ABOUT
TO TELL US WHAT IT WAS--

--WE LOST
ALL COM-
MUNICA-
TION
WITH HIM!*

AND THERE
WAS NO WAY
FOR US TO
MAKE CONTACT
WITH HIM
AGAIN!

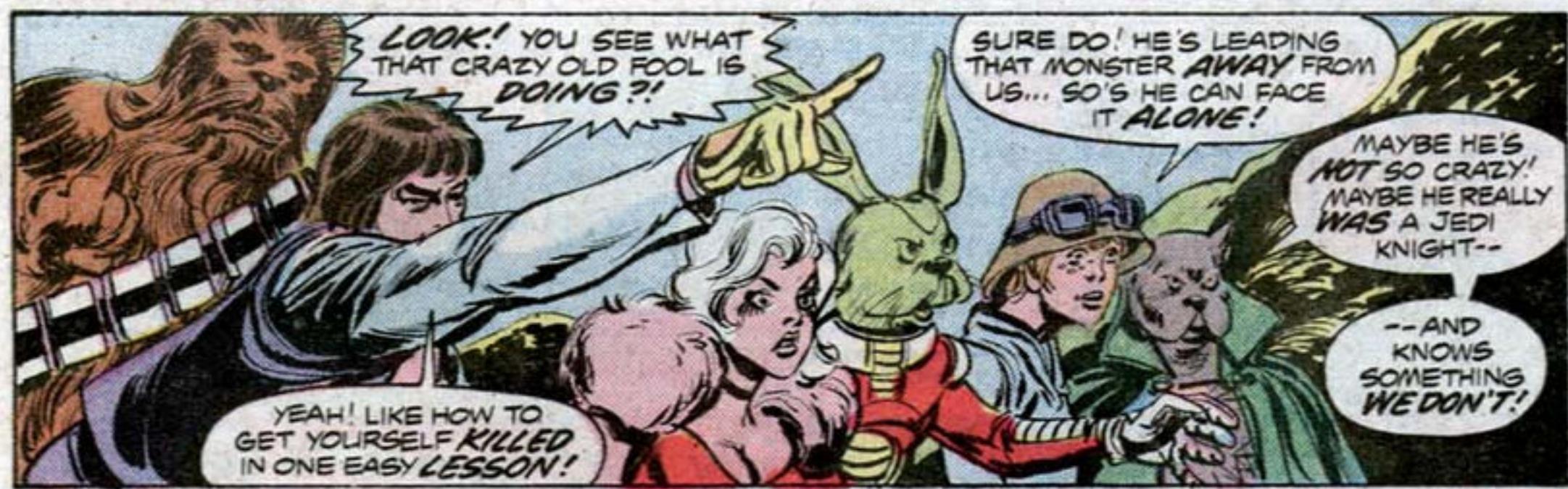
*LAST ISSUE
AGAIN. --ROY.

BUT IF I CAN FIND THE POINT
LUKE WAS AT WHEN WE LAST
HEARD FROM HIM, MAYBE
THERE'LL BE SOMETHING
I CAN DO!

I CAN'T JUST LET
HIM BE SWALLOWED
UP--ONE MORE CASUALTY
OF THE REBELLION AGAINST
THE EMPIRE!

IT'S TOO BAD HAN SOLO
HAD TO ROCKET OFF TO SPEND
HIS REWARD MONEY!*

I COULD
USE THAT
STAR-HOPPER'S
HELP RIGHT ABOUT
NOW!



STAR-WORDS

90 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE., N.Y.C. 10022

SPECIAL NOTE FROM EDITOR ROY THOMAS:

It's been a blast, people, but it's time to move on.

With this issue, artist Howard Chaykin and I have decided to leave the drawing-and-writing chores on Marvel's blockbuster STAR WARS comic-mag to other hands.

Each of us has his reasons. For Howie, it's a desire to do other types of art, including some painting; you'll be seeing one of his covers on an issue of our companion title THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN any day now.

For myself, it's a bit more complicated and personal. Suffice it to say that, after two or three post-movie issues of STAR WARS, I found that—much as I love space opera—I'd be doing myself and Marvel a lot more good by writing/editing others mags instead. (Said "others mags" to include a certain gold-tressed Thunder God, just a few short weeks from now—and a couple of truly spectacular projects which are likewise in the works.)

So, I thought I'd get off at the top, as it were—while STAR WARS the comic-book is a virtual phenomenon, easily the most-published four-color comic in at least twenty years and then some! (And nope, Howie and I are certainly not taking credit for that; it was George Lucas' film, of course, which spurred the success. My own contributions, primarily, were: (1) the fact that there was/is a STAR WARS comic-mag; (2) a certain sureness that the movie would be at least a fair-to-middling hit, and would be the type of thing that comics readers were ready for; (3) the choosing of Howard Chaykin, one of the finer new talents around, as artist.

And now, with fond farewells to Titanic Tom Palmer and the other inker/embellishers who've helped us launch the STAR WARS mag, Howie and I would like to fade gracefully into a Tatooine-type sunset, with best wishes for the talented team of Archie Goodwin and Carmine Infantino, who plan to pick up the Luke Skywalker sub-plot where Mr. C. and I left off.

Oh yes, and since I won't be handling future letters pages, I thought I'd best respond to a mountain of missives which pointed out that, in issue #7, Han Solo referred to a given planet as Dantooine in one planet, Tatooine in the next. 'Twas, alas, a typographical error Ye Writer/Editor made, typing "Dantooine" twice on page 2 when he meant "Tatooine" both times. He phoned in the correction later while the issue was in production in New York, but somehow only one of the offending references was corrected. That's the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but—so help me, Darth Vader!

Now for a few letters on STAR WARS #6, which concluded Marvel's adaptation of the monumental movie itself—!

Without a doubt, the sixth issue of STAR WARS was one of the best Marvel Comics I have ever read. ("The Year's Best Comic"?) I thought I had witnessed high points in comics history with the appearance of the Silver Surfer or the coming of Conan or the more recent Fu Manchu epic in MASTER OF KUNG FU. But against your awesome adaptation of George Lucas' fantastic film, they all vanish into nothingness. And the art—fantabulous! At first I was a bit wary of Howard Chaykin's illustrations, but he has improved a hundredfold since #1. Indeed, the last few pages were simply beyond any form of earthly description. I'm glad to see that Han and his furry friend will be going on some solo (chuckle) adventures. In

fact, the Corellian is far too restless to remain beside Luke forever. Why don't you give him his own mag? May the Force be with you!

Mike Heisler

118 Lexington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15215

STAR WARS is success supreme! When's the Annual gonna come?

Burton Glass
Milford, OH 45150

As Leia said to Han Solo: "You're braver than I thought"—for going on past the end of the movie. Keep on trekkin' and make mine Marvel!

Rod Richards

USS Kansas City AOR-3
FPO San Francisco, CA 96601

This is a sincere thank-you for your wonderful adaptation of "Star Wars." I have avidly read issues #1-6 and have come to the conclusion that no one could have done better. The art was lovely and the writing of first-class quality. After standing in long lines and paying a bundle to see the movie six times, it was refreshing to enjoy this enchanting story in my home. May the Force be with you always!

Pammi Bowen
Bridgeport, CT

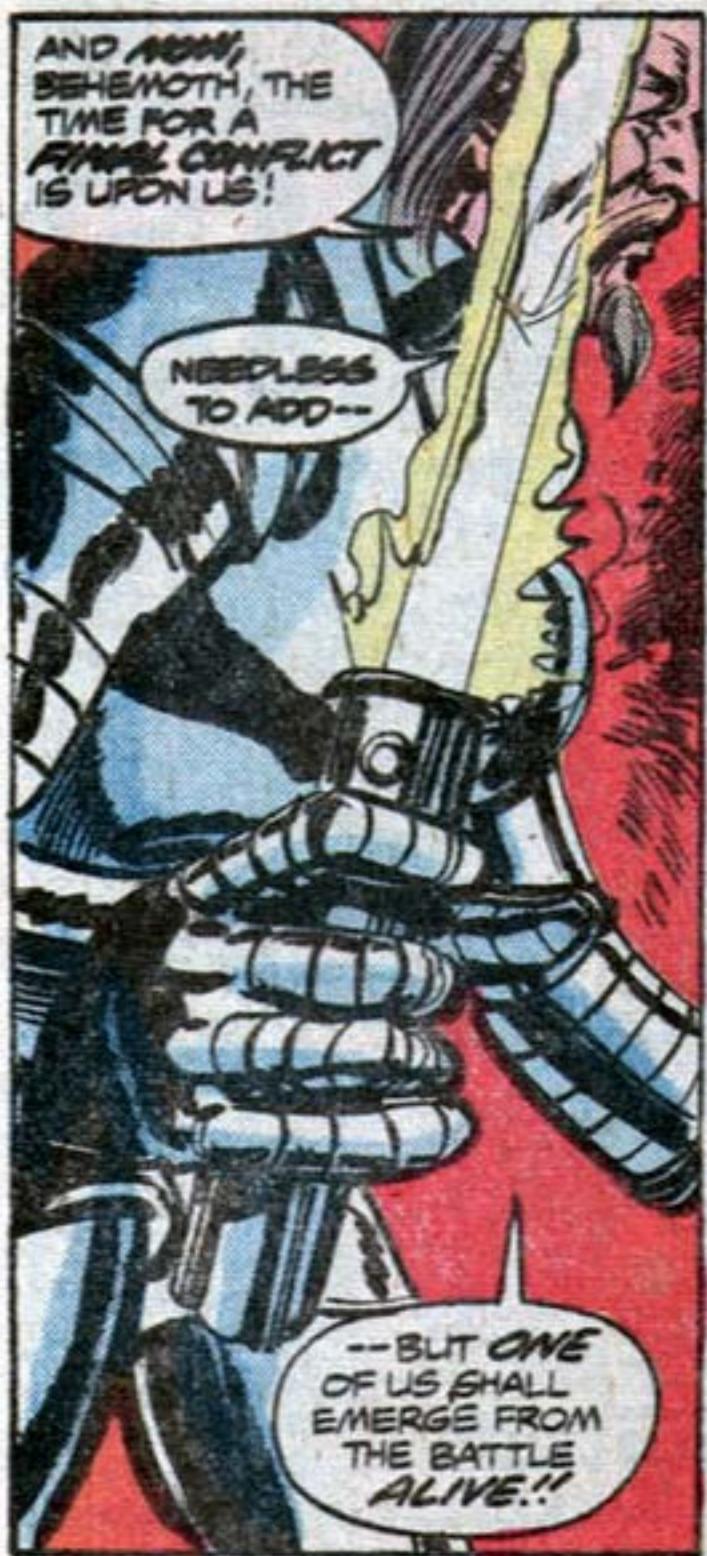
I have only one thing to say about STAR WARS #6: YES!!
Doby Dunn
(No Address Given)

I recently purchased the December issue of your STAR WARS comic. I would like to say you've done an excellent job of it. My only regret—being a big "Star Wars" fan—is that I wasn't aware of the existence of such a comic before today. Naturally, I'm interested greatly in all Star Wars material. Is there any way I could acquire the previous issues of this comic-book? I'm sure many other late-comers would also be interested in knowing.

Nancy E. Porter
244-22 136 Ave.
Rosedale, NY 11422

At present, Nancy—as we've mentioned before in recent issues—there are some two million copies or thereabouts of Marvel's version of "Star Wars" in print, counting two or more printings of the comics themselves (all but the first edition saying "reprint" clearly on the cover but otherwise identical to the first editions); the two Marvel Treasury editions which, between them, re-presented the whole epic and a few new drawings besides; and a just-out paperback which includes the entire 100 pages between two covers. Our companion-mag PIZZAZZ, which also includes three pages of "Star Wars" madness each and every month (by the same Thomas/Chaykin team which brought you #1-10), has featured our own ads for the Treasuries—and we're sure that ads for the other editions will pop up in our mags and elsewhere, to boot. Good hunting, Nance!

P.S.: —Oh yes, and Rascally Roy Thomas would like to thank his good buddy Don Glut for stepping in to dialogue this tenth issue after he and Howie had plotted it out. May you find a Rocket Rabbit in your own briar-patch, Don!



I TRIED TO REASON WITH YOU,
KIHOTAY--BUT YOU WOULDN'T
LISTEN! ALL RIGHT THEN,
DON'T--

ZIK
ZIK

YOU'RE
GETTING
MY HELP
WHETHER YOU
WANT IT OR
NOT!

BUT THOSE THAT DO REMAIN
CAN FIRE THEIR BODY-QUILLS
WITH ASTOUNDING ACCUR-
ACY...

FTT!

FTT!
FTT!

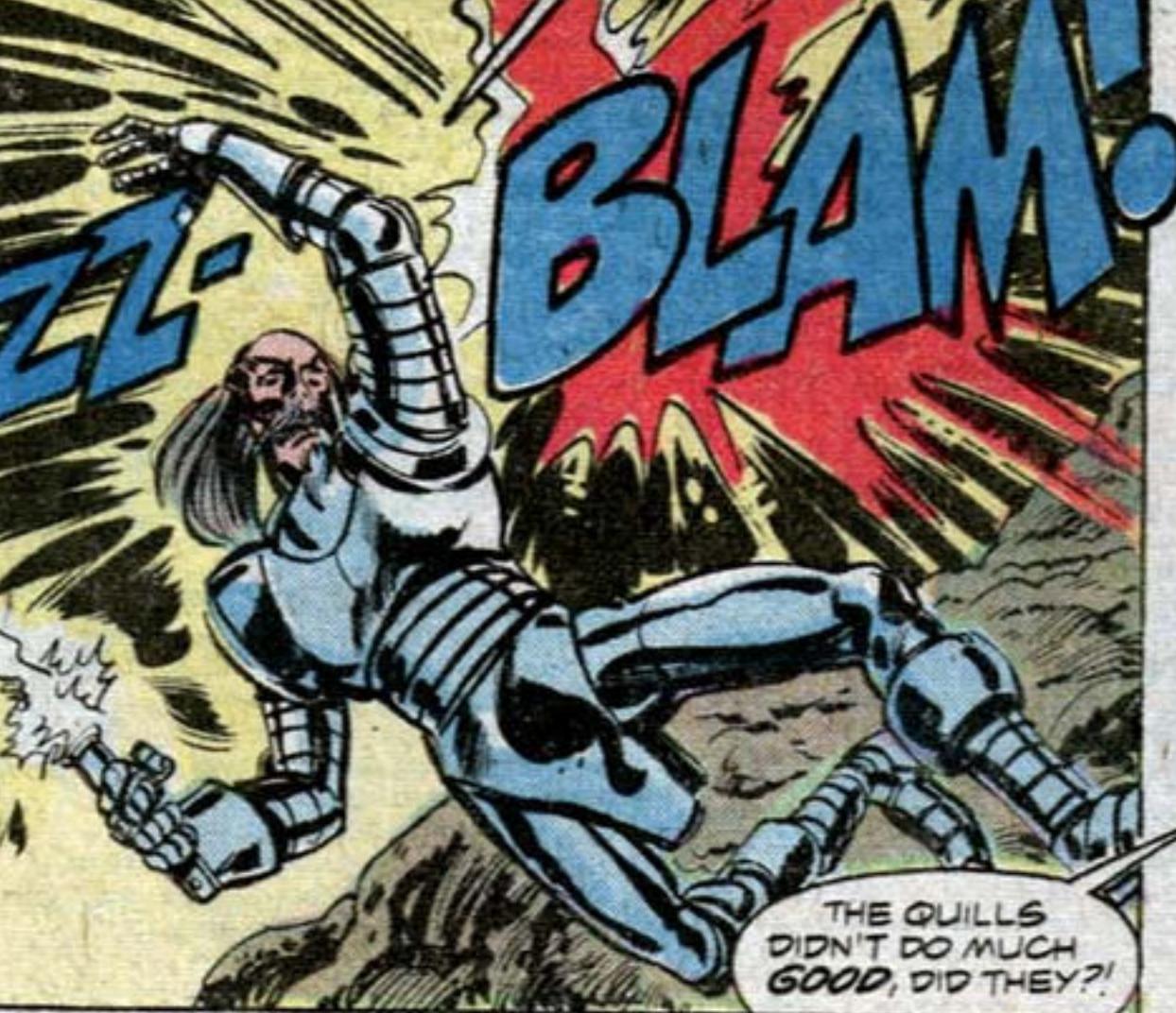
THERE ARE BUT
FEW SPINERS
REMAINING IN
THE GALAXY.

USUALLY, ANY ONE OF THESE
QUILLS WOULD BRING INSTANT
DEATH TO ITS VICTIM...



--A WHOLE
BARRAGE OF
THE NEEDLE-
LIKE WEAPONS
ONLY FURTHER
ANGER THE
BEHEMOTH!

=WHUUUUUU!!!=



HANG THE QUILLS! IT'S THAT
LIGHTSABRE THAT'S GETTING
THAT MONSTER ALL RILED UP!

DON'T YOU
ALL SEE WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

THE SWORD'S
ACTING LIKE
AN OLD-
FASHIONED
LIGHTNING
ROD--

--INTERFER-
ING WITH THAT
ENERGY BEAM THE
CREATURE SHOOTS
FROM ITS FIN!

"EVEN A DUMB BRUTE LIKE THAT CAN SENSE THAT THE LIGHTSABRE'S A THREAT TO ITS LIFE," SHOUTS SOLO.

"THAT'S WHY THE CLOSER DON-WAN GETS THE CRAZIER THE BEHEMOTH ACTS!"

"BUT THE OLD GUY'S TOO SLOW! IF I COULD RUN FAST ENOUGH, MAYBE I COULD --"

WHICH THE TOWERING WOOKIEE DOES... WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED...

HEEEY, YOU STUFFED--

OH, I GET YOU!

SURE! WITH THOSE STOVE-PIPE LEGS OF YOURS AND THE SPEED THAT COMES WITH 'EM--

EVEN I READ THAT ONE, CHEWBACCA! DO IT!!

GREA- ARRG!

--WE JUST MIGHT SAVE THE OLD MADMAN YET!!

A FEW MORE STRIDES OF THOSE GREAT SHAGGY LEGS, AND...

OKAY, PAL! SET ME DOWN!

LISTEN, DON-WAN, I APPRECIATE THE HEROICS! BUT EVEN THOUGH YOUR INTENTIONS ARE GOOD--

--YOU'RE JUST NOT MAKING IT!

HAN SOLO!! BUT WHY ARE YOU INTERRUPTING MY HOLY TASK?!!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

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• IRVING FORBUSH, Teacher's Pet

STAN'S SOAPBOX

THIS IS IT!

The world-shaking announcement you've been waiting for!



If you've ever wanted to draw your own comic strip, or even if you just wanted to learn the inside story of how it's done, here's where you get your wish! Even as you read these wondrous words with your senses reeling, "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" is going on sale throughout the nation! It's the only book of its kind which specializes exclusively in showing you how to draw superhero comics—and it shows you how to do it Marvel style! Designed and illustrated by Big John Buscema, it's a visual delight which will dazzle your eyes while it answers virtually any question you could ever dream up about drawing your own comic strip! As for the text, it's written by yours truly—but don't let that turn you off—you'll be so busy drooling over the illustrations that not even my little literary lunacy will bother you! And now here's the best part! You can get your happy little hands on "How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way" for only \$8.95 a copy! But please, don't embarrass us with your tearful expressions of undying gratitude! Just promise one thing—after you've read the book (published by good ol' Simon & Schuster, and on sale at better book stores everywhere), and after you've learned our secrets and become the artist you've always longed to be, promise you won't go to work for our competition! And now, as you prepare for the mad dash to your neighborhood book store, I'll head for the hills before you get the idea that I'm trying to sell you something! Or, as the noble Romans might have put it: In hoc signo vinces!

Excelsior!

Stan

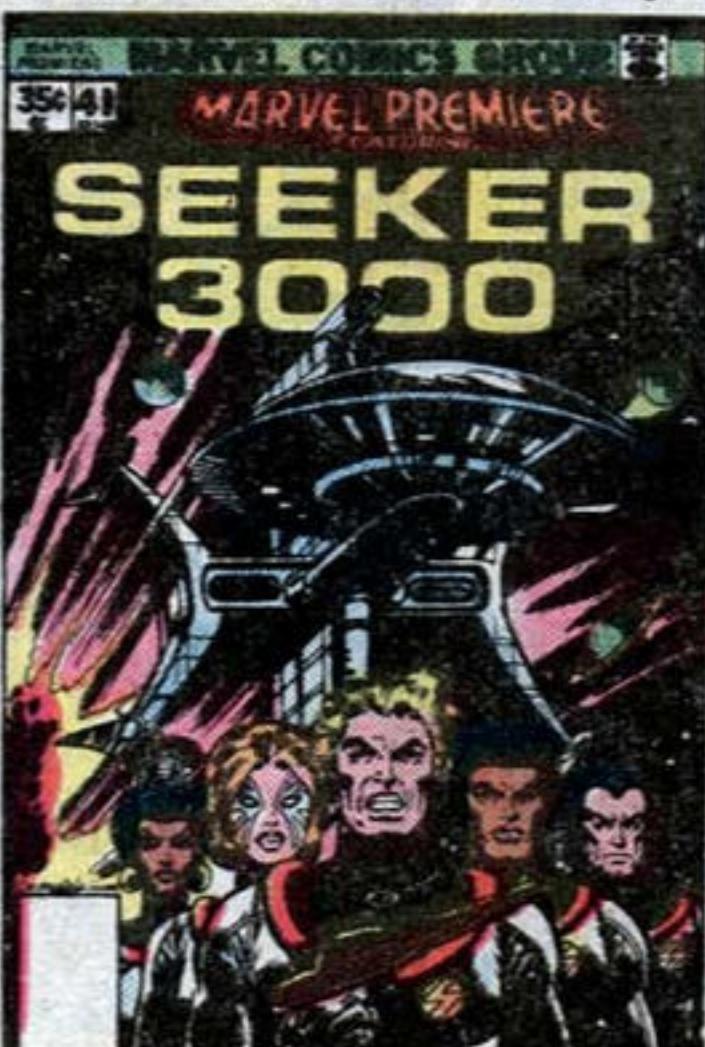
MAN; it could be a shouting match between two stalwarts of the editorial department over whether Magneto is pronounced with a long or short "e"; or it could even be our exemplary editor-in-chief ARCHIE GOODWIN doing one of his famous pratfalls which have earned him applause and more than a few odd stares at various insignificant social gatherings. Let's face it, it takes quite a bit to surprise the average ambler down the corridors of Marvel. But there are some things that stop even our jaded armadillos in their tracks... like rounding a corner in the office and suddenly coming face-to-face with Howard the Duck! Or Spider-Woman. Or Captain America. In the flesh. It actually happens, although for a few moments you always wonder if you've been working too late or too long. How does this come about? Well, mostly through the hard work and effort of our publicist, Nifty NANCY ALLEN and her assistant, Ravishing RONI POLLOCK. They're the folks in charge of lining up actors and models to impersonate our cavorting characters at a multitude of varied functions, all the way from shopping center openings to state fairs. And just to make certain that their players are correctly costumed, Nancy or Roni usually rush them over to us comic book types for a final opinion on how they look. Hence, sometimes when we least expect it, we suddenly find ourselves eyeball-to-eyeball with a personality right off our printed pages! It's sort of neat... once you get over the shock. But find out for yourselves. Keep an eye and an ear on local advertising. There's no telling when your favorite Marvel superstar may be making a personal appearance; Nancy and Roni are working full-time to bring them your way!

ITEM! You know, one of our favorite TV shows was STAR TREK, and one of our biggest disappointments was that the rights

to do the show as a comicbook series have always been tied up. Still, we've had the itch to do a non-superhero oriented s-f strip, and even our sensational STAR WARS book hasn't totally satisfied it. In fact, judging from the cards and letters we're getting, STAR WARS' success has sparked a demand for more. So, we've set Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH and Titanic TOM SUTTON to work on a science-fiction special for MARVEL PREMIERE #41. It's called SEEKER 3000, and introduces a set of characters forced to depart a doomed earth and find new salvation for humankind in the stars. We think it's out of the ordinary comics fare, and we're more than just a bit excited about it. So set aside the necessary thirty-five cents; it's due your way this January. We're betting you'll find it money well spent!

ITEM! Most of this month's comings and goings seem to be in Vice President of Operations, Jolly SALLY BRODSKY's department. Sol's got a new assistant, Bouncing BOB MARCZAK, to help keep our torrent of special merchandising projects (you know, all those books, records, cups, and other products that feature our characters) flowing smoothly. But the Jolly One spent a few misty-eyed moments what with his secretary, Liltting LINDA TAXEL, abandoning him for a special project of her own, namely the imminent arrival of her first child. Fortunately, Fetching FLORENCE TUMMINELLO has stepped neatly into the ranks to fill the vacancy. So, a big "welcome" to you, Florence, and to Bob, plus an equally big "we'll miss you and best wishes on the new addition to the family" to Linda!

ITEM! If a lot of large "ooooohs and aaaaahs" have been echoing out onto Madison Avenue from 575, it may just be because the boisterous Bullpen has started getting a look at some of the original art done by Big JOHN BUSCEMA for the up and coming CONAN THE BARBARIAN comic strip. We don't want to say too much about it here, because Rascally ROY THOMAS, who just happens to be the writer of the strip as well as editor, scribe, and guiding light of all our Conan material, has prepared a special article on the subject for issue #27 of SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, which also just happens to be going on sale about this time. The strip, which will run both daily and Sunday, should be appearing sometime in early Spring. Like SPIDER-MAN and HOWARD THE DUCK, it's being distributed by the nice folks of the Register and Tribune Syndicate. We don't have any way of knowing yet which newspapers will carry it, but it might not hurt to ask your local paper if they are considering it. If they're not, your inquiry might just sway them into doing so. Crom will thank you for it!



ITEM! When you stroll down the hallowed halls here at mighty Marvel, there's a better than average chance you'll see something out of the ordinary. It could be a writer and artist throwing punches and kicks as they discuss how they're going to handle one of the quieter moments in the latest POWER

**MAKE MINE
MARVEL!**

BUT SURPRISINGLY, THE BEHEMOTH SUDDENLY HALTS ITS HAPHAZARD ATTACK... ITS MASSIVE HULK NOW TWISTING IN CONVULSIONS...

THEN, THE LIGHT-SABRE FLASHING IN THE MONSTER'S HEAVING CHEST, THERE COMES A STRANGE CRACKLING FROM WITHIN THE CREATURE AND...

AARR' RAW!

THE FORCE IS WITH US, HAN SOLO! THE LIGHTSABRE IS DESTROYING THE BEHEMOTH! THE DEMON IS BEGINNING TO DISINTEGRATE!

YOU HEAR THE MAN, CHEWIE? LOOKS LIKE YOUR SMUGGLER PAL CAME THROUGH AFTER ALL!

CRONK!!

WHEN THE LAST FADING IMAGE OF THE BEHEMOTH
IS SWEEP AWAY BY THE WINDS OF ADUBA-3...

GUESS IT'S ALL
OVER,
HEROES!

NOT QUITE,
LEADER-MAN!
MY POCKETS
ARE STILL
EMPTY!

THEY WON'T
BE, SOON AS THE
PEASANTS PAY
US!

SPEAKING
OF WHICH...
HERE THEY
COME!

GREAT! THEN AFTER I GET
MY SHARE, I CAN FINALLY
GET OFF THIS CRUMMY
PLANET--

--BEFORE
I TOTALLY
CRACK...
UP?

HELLO, JIMM!
I SAW WHAT
YOU DID TODAY!
YOU WERE VERY
BRAVE!

B-BUT, YOU NEVER
EVEN LOOKED
AT ME BEFORE!
THAT'S ONE'A THE
REASONS I...

AND PERHAPS I CAN
SOMEHOW CHANGE
YOUR MIND ABOUT
LEAVING OUR LITTLE
VILLAGE!

BUT
FIRST...

--THANK
YOU, HAN
SOLO...

I'M
LOOKING
NOW, JIMM!

...FOR SAVING OUR VILLAGE...
AND ALSO BRINGING OUT
THE MAN IN THE STAR-
KILLER "KID"!

AFTER THE MEAGER
PAYMENTS HAVE
BEEN MADE...

...AND
FIVE
WEARY
HEROES
RETURN
TO THEIR
BANTHA
MOUNTS...

SO I DON'T GET THE
GIRL! WHO CARES?!

AT LEAST NOW I
CAN AFFORD TO GET
THE MILLENNIUM
FALCON OUT OF
HOCK!

AND IF ONLY FOR A
MINUTE, I GOT A LITTLE
FEELING OF WHAT IT'S
LIKE--

--TO BE A
JEDI
KNIGHT!

SEE YOU
AROUND, SOLO!
DROP BY THE
VILLAGE SOME-
TIME! HEAR?

NEXT ISSUE: STAR WARS CONTINUES
WITH THE SEARCH FOR
LUKE SKYWALKER!