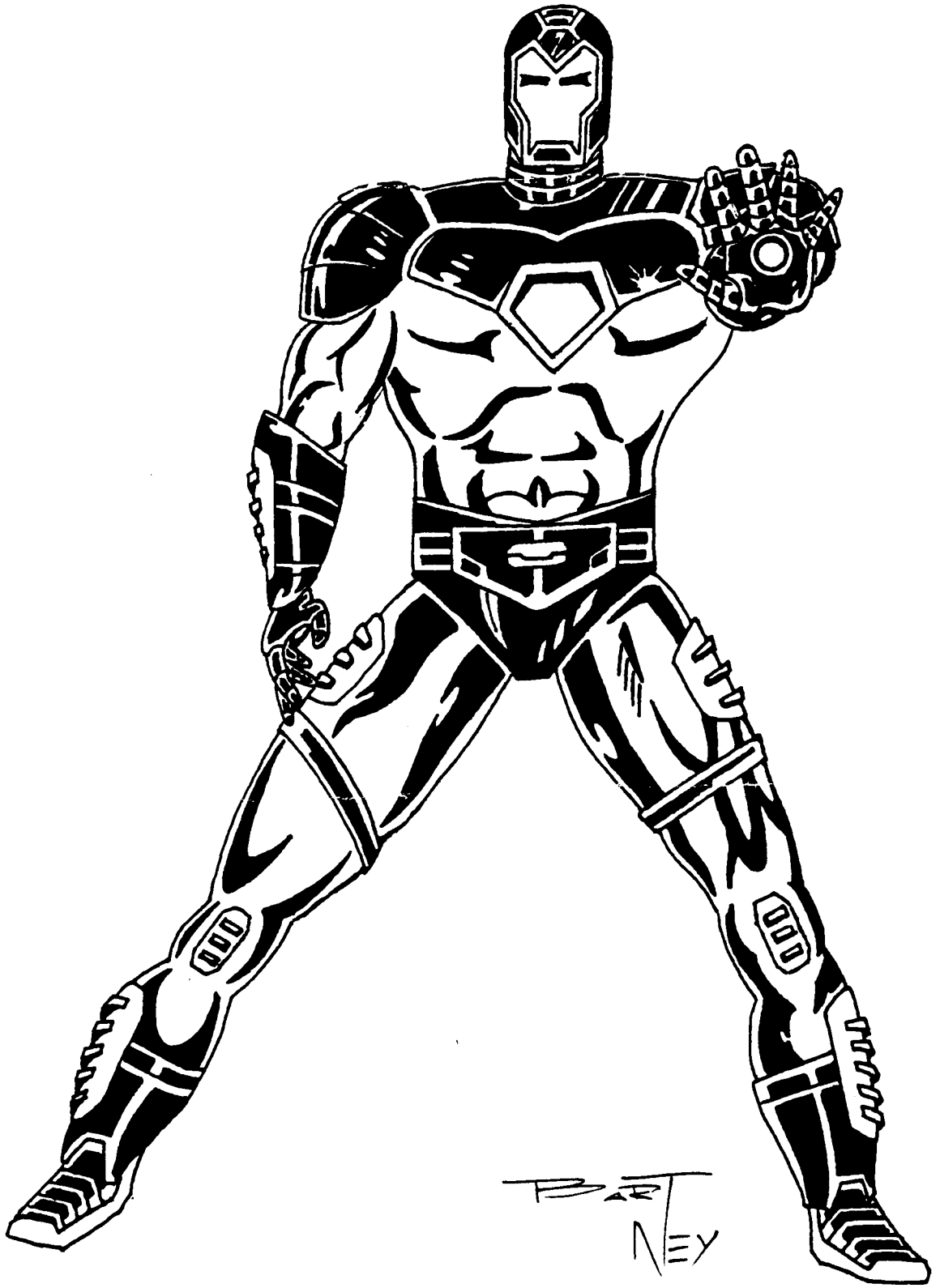


ADVANCED IRON





Advanced Iron #3 was published by Bill Egan for the fans of Iron Man. IRON MAN, WAR MACHINE, and all distinctive likenesses and/or related characters are ©1993 Marvel Entertainment Group. All likenesses of other Marvel characters are ©1993 by Marvel Entertainment Group. All written items are owned solely by the authors. You can contact any fan artist or writer by writing to:
Iron Fan, 10341 Leola Court #1, Cupertino, CA 95014.

In this Christmas issue of AI we'll look at what's coming up for the shellheads including information about the next Iron Fan. Iron Fan #4 will be coming out this month. We've got lots of articles and info, but we still need more artwork. So lets see what you have. If you'd like to contribute, please send your artwork ASAP to me c/o Iron Fan (see address above). We also have the start of our Iron Wares merchandise section and our first Guardsman:

GUARDSMAN

GUARDSMAN DAVID DiPASQUALE
112 Beach Street
Jersey City, NJ 07307

He will provide a closer point of contact to all of you in the Eastern US. If you need to get Iron Fan info more quickly, contact Dave. He will also provide a speedier means of input to Iron Fan and Advanced Iron.



IRON MAN #301

Part 1 of the 6-part "Crash & Burn" storyline. We begin to see the impacts of Marcy Pearson's dirt-digging as Iron Man comes face to face with Venom.

Marvel Age #133

This issue sports a War Machine cover and contains a "sneak peak" at the forthcoming series (beginning in January).

Marvel Comics #148

This issue contains a MASTERS of SILENCE story by Len Kaminski!

Marvel Year in Review

Contains several Iron Man references, including: Environmental Impact of Iron Man and War Machine armor, a glance at a supposedly better Iron Man (called Terror Device), and a look at Iron Man's role in the "Original Avengers" (you know the group that was gathered together to "kick the butt" of Rust Lord, for damages inflicted on Ant Man's lime green 1962 Vega.

THINGS TO COME

A lot of my preview information comes from a book called Sales to Astonish which is provided to your local dealer by Marvel. If you want the latest news, I recommend asking your local dealer if you can have a look.

FORCE WORKS #1 (ships 4 January)

by Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning/ Tom Tenney/ Michael Avon Deming

War

FORCE WORKS ASHCAN (ships 4 January)

by Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning/ Tom Tenney/ Michael Avon Deming

War

FORCE WORKS #2 (ships 1 February)

by Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning/ Tom Tenney

War Machine stars in the first of a four part story entitled "The Circle Game" which picks up right after the events in Avengers West Coast #101.

MARVEL COMICS #151 (ships 1 February)

by Len Kaminski & Scott Benson/ John Czap/ Tim Dzon

War Machine stars in the first of a four part story entitled "The Circle Game" which picks up right after the events in Avengers West Coast #101.

WAR MACHINE ASHCAN (ships 1 February)

by Len Kaminski & Scott Benson/ Gabe Gecko/ Pam Ecklund

16 page preview of the War Machine series.

WAR MACHINE #1 (ships 8 February)

by Len Kaminski & Scott Benson/ Gabe Gecko/ Pam Ecklund

This is what you've been waiting for: 48 pages of all-out War Machine action. Rhodey teams up with an international organization called WAR () to tackle international political problems. Cable and Deathlok provide a little bit of a challenge to Rhodey's new job in this first issue. Marvel is kicking off this series by providing a cover with a silver-etched foil on a black background. But I'm sure you realize you can't judge a book by its cover. It's what's inside that counts. I'll be waiting to hear what you have to say about this new book.

MARVEL COMICS #152 (ships 15 February)

by Len Kaminski & Scott Benson/ John Czap/ Tim Dzon

War Machine stars in the second of a four part story entitled "The Circle Game." Marvel proclaims simply that "War Machine takes on war machines in this follow up to the events in AWC #1."

IRON MAN #303 (ships 22 February)

by Len Kaminski/ Kev Hopgood/ Steve Mitchell

Venom guest stars! The public demands an investigation into the alleged immoral activities of certain subsidiary companies of Stark Enterprises. Venom shows up to seek a more direct kind of justice against Stark for these "immoral activities" that have been stirred up by Marcy Pearson.

Stark Remarks

by Mike Kalibabky

Stuff I'd Like to Ask Len Kaminski

AH-HA! So, Len, your nickname is "Sparky"!?! How'd I find out? Well, it was on Page 2, Panel 1 of *The Sensational She-Hulk* #59. Oh, by the way, it sounds like Jen's mag is all done, with issue #60 being the final one. Too bad. #59 was a gas. WHY? 'Cause you and Scotty (Benson) wrote it. What happened there? And does it bother you that you were the last writer on a comic before it went ka-put?

Len: When, when, when is Phoebe Marrs coming back for REVENGE on Tony Stark? I'm still waiting. However, Marcy Pearson is an interesting criminal element, particularly if she effects revenge upon Stark Enterprises by using a technological approach.

Is Slapstick ever gonna poke his nose into the Marvel Universe again?

How long will you stay on as writer on *Hellstorm*? (By the way, the current artist on *Hellstorm*, Peter Gross, is from Duluth, Minnesota!)

I heard that you are the writer on the new *Ghost Rider 2099*. Any chance of an *Iron Man 2099* stopping by in the series?

What ever happened on *Morbius*? Why did you stop writing that book?

Who will be the new artist on *Iron Man* after Mr. Hopgood leaves upon completion of *IM* #306? Do you get a say in the selection of a new artist?

Will H.O.M.E.R., Stark's near-sentient computer, ever "grow legs" and go off on his (her?) own—and, NO, I don't know *exactly* how H.O.M.E.R. would modify the SE manufacturing computers and databases to pull it off! Or, maybe he could "possess" a suit of armor and cruise around that way! H.O.M.E.R. is cool. And *another* great

character in the Iron Man tradition.

The readers of *Iron Fan* have heard this idea before, but here it is again now that we have Len on the line... Tony Stark once more improves his thought controlled (cybernetic) helmet interface. The problem is that the new software is affected by Tony's unconscious thoughtstream, thereby generating a revenge program that is carried out by the armor to seek and destroy an enemy of Tony's! The software generation begins when Tony's hatred for a certain individual becomes an obsession. Stark's obsessive thoughts (daydreams?) of revenge are interpreted as a REAL PLAN by the interface and it directs the armor to carry out the plan according to the user's (Tony's) "wishes!" I always wondered how the interface in the armor could distinguish between an actual conscious thought command and an unintentional subconscious thought command. Anyway, Tony loses control of his armor. The villain: his own subconscious! Is there a possibility of something like this ever happening? (Somehow, suddenly, I like the H.O.M.E.R. idea better.)

Will you be talking to Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning, the writers on *Force Works*? I know that one of the reasons for dumping the WACOS was due to screwed up continuity with the *Avengers* book.

I truly enjoyed the *IM* story synopses published in *Iron Fan* and *Advanced Iron*! I thank you, Scott, and Marvel (and, of course, Bill Egan) for making it possible.

WHAT? "Sparky" isn't your real nickname? Uh-oh.

Here's a *really* unfair question to ask a writer: Is the current \$1.25 cover price of Marvel mags going up this year?

Bravo on the \$.75 *Force Works* Ashcan Edition. Did you, Len, have anything to do with

this idea? I like the concept. Through it, readers will be able to see the "raw" process of creating a comic book.

And Speaking of *Force Works*

It looks HOT—especially with the U.S. Agent now clad in a new Tony Stark-H.O.M.E.R. designed battlesuit, complete with a thought controlled photon energy shield!

I got this inside scoop thanks to my friends Sandy and Jerry Lonne, owners of The Dugout cards and comic shop in Virginia, MN. Sandy, bless her, gave me her copy of the Jan. 1994 *Marvel Sales to Astonish* marketing catalog which contained a promo ashcan edition of *Force Works* #1!

The U.S. Agent's new battlesuit reminds me of the early *Strange Tales*-days of S.H.I.E.L.D. which featured all of Nick Fury's gizmos and gadgets designed by Anthony Stark. Back then, Nick Fury's arsenal made James Bond's stuff look like a sack full of capguns!

It appears that H.O.M.E.R. will play a significant role in the development of *Force Works*.

I'll close this sections with comments from the creative team of *Force Works* ...

"An all-new never-before-seen member of the team is in the 'works'." - Nel Yomtov

"They are all incredibly talented people who have to live up to a certain image." - Andy Lanning

"Well, Nel won't let us blow up the world." - Dan Abnett

"These are characters that are tired of being treated like second-stringers." - Nel Yomtov

"These heroes will be getting their hands dirty saving the world." - Dan Abnett

WAR Machine Promo; T-Shirt

Also in the Jan. '94 *Sales to Astonish* was a

short article and photo of the new WAR Machine standup comic display that "fires" upon unsuspecting customers when it senses them with its onboard motion detector. Sandy Lonne quickly ordered one for me. I cannot wait to get my mitts on it! Man, I'm forty years old and I feel like I'm fourteen. But isn't that what our great hobby is all about!

Yep: The WAR Machine t-shirt is due out in February 1994. I saw an ad for it in the 11/26/93 *Comics Buyer's Guide*.

So let me get this straight... "War Machine" is Jim Rhodes in his War Machine armor, but "WAR Machine" is the company run by War Machine (Jim Rhodes). Sure. Okay. Easy enough.

Last Stop

Somewhere or other in this issue of *AI* is a cover shot of Marvel's 1993 *Third Quarter Report*. Interestingly enough, the original—in color—verifies that the new Iron Man armor does indeed have solid red "pants." The cover in general illustrates both the old and present new looks of old, established Marvel heroes and also shows Thunderstrike as a spin-off character from the Thor mythos.

That's it; that's all. Done.

KAMINSKI'S KORNER

Len Kaminski has graciously agreed to answer your questions about his Iron Man universe. I've started things off with a few of my own questions:

IF: I've heard that you are going to write the new War Machine series. Will you be staying with Iron Man as well?

Len: Yes, I fully plan to stay on IRON MAN for the foreseeable future, for as long as Nel Yomtov will have me, or until I reach a point where I've told all the IRON MAN stories in me and no longer feel I can do justice to the book. This was one of the main reasons I decided to get myself a co-writer on WAR MACHINE, so that I could do both books without the quality on either of them suffering.

IF: Clytemnestra Erwin is scheduled as one of the recurring characters in the War Machine series. The last I saw of her she was quite insane and was responsible for the deaths of several people. Has something happened to change her or is Rhodey just a darker character?

Len: When Scott and I wrote the original proposal for WAR MACHINE, I goofed, plain and simple. I misremembered the last several stories in which Clytemnestra Irwin appeared; the fact is, not only had she become insane, the last time we saw her, she got dead. Needless to say, she won't be a part of the WAR MACHINE cast after all.

IF: Although Rhodey has used the armor effectively, there is nothing in his background that would indicate that he could repair or modify the armor. Who will take on the task of maintaining Rhodey's armor? If the armor is severely damaged, I assume that a new version would look quite different than Stark's and presumably be less advanced (technologically speaking).

Len: Archie Cramer (who'll probably get a race and name change by the time we actually see him, since it's been pointed out that for a global agency, Worldwatch has an overabundance of Caucasians) is going to be a brilliant engineer, though probably not quite in Stark's class. We're considering some design modifications to the War Machine armor, to make him more distinct from Iron Man, but whether that happens remains to be seen; it depends on licensing arrangements and other things that may be beyond the control of the creative team. We have every intention of dealing with the whole question of maintaining and repairing the armor without Stark, and have a two-part story guest-starring Stark and Iron Man planned for sometime in the year that'll resolve that particular question.

IF: Will Marcy Pearson be involved with Jim Rhodes in his new series?

Len: I haven't decided yet what I'll be doing with Marcy Pearson after her next set of appearances in IRON MAN, or whether she'll continue to be an IRON MAN character, or if she'll move over to WAR MACHINE. Another run-in with Rhodes seems inevitable doesn't it?

IRON WARES

Communication with Marvel's publicity rep have broken down, but my local comic shop owner and PREVIEWS have the following Iron Man merchandise to offer:

TRADE PAPERBACKS

Power of Iron Man..... INQUIRE
Armor Wars..... INQUIRE

SIGNED ISSUES

War Machine #1 \$30.00

T-SHIRTS

War Machine \$14.95

OTHER

War Machine Cut-Out Pin \$6.95
Marvel Comics Screen Posters (screen saver from Berkeley Systems) INQUIRE
Iron Man Model (HORIZON vinyl kit)..... INQUIRE
Back Issues (send in your requests and I'll tell you where to get 'em)

If you are interested in any of these items, please contact me or Guardsman DiPasquale and we'll tell you how to get them.

The store owner is reluctant to contact Previews directly, but if you have a request for a specific item, please send it in and we'll see what we can do. Also, if any of you out there know where to get a hold of Iron Man merchandise or are willing to sell some of your own, please write in.

IRON FAN #4

Iron Fan #4 should be out soon. It will contain the following:

Plot synopsis of Iron Man #300
Artwork by John Romita Jr.
Stark Remarks by Mike Kalibabky
Iron File (2 entries!) by Allen Bujak
"Stark's Conscience" & "Menace Within" by Steve Nottingham
Fan demographics & mini-biographies
Fan plot ideas
Fan reviews, comments and criticisms
Fan "What Ifs"
New Pen Pal List
Expanded "Iron Wares" listing

If you want to make contributions, please send them in ASAP.



Season's Greetings

*From Stark's
Small Winter
Retreat*