

PANELOLOGY



This Week: Image's *Spawn* Issues 32 Through 36

by Lorne Caborn

Sorry about the long lay-off, *Spawn* fans, I've fallen a little behind in my reviews. I figured I'd start the new year off right with a complete issue by issue up-date, hope I didn't leave anything out.

ISSUE#32: After getting his ass kicked in the previous issue by Redeemer, *Spawn*'s back with a vengeance and we get to take a look at his new costume. More or less it's a really big boot and an even moodier cape that loves to shred everything in sight, almost as much as it likes to let *Spawn* get shredded. It proves useful when he faces Redeemer for the second time, saving himself as well as one of his friends from the alley. This issue also offers a six page prelude to the *Blood Feud* mini-series.

ISSUE#33: Those who weren't distracted by the *Blood Feud* mini-series will find the main story continued without much interruption (although Twitch is down and out in the hospital).

Terry Fitzgerald has transferred to Jason Whynn's office hoping to find a connection to *Spawn* who has problems of his own. Violator wants a piece of him in a big way and the two get in a battle reminding the reader that *Spawn* still has some human traits and that Violator is a worthy adversary.

ISSUE#34: Opening with some fool saving Violator, this issue reminds the reader of *Spawn*'s darker side when he uses a not-so-subtle approach in his encounter with a crack dealer. Meanwhile, Violator has enlisted the help of Jason Whynn for his battle with *Spawn*, ordering him to befriend Terry

Fitzgerald, which he knows will annoy *Spawn*. The issue closes with Cog reminding the *Hellspawn* to keep control of his dark side (*Star Wars?*), and Terry meeting his new "friend", leaving us to wonder what Violator's up to.

ISSUE#35: Welcome back, Twitch! Burke's sharp shooting sidekick returns in this issue as the duo continue to piece together some files given to them by *Spawn* (issue#5). Meanwhile, Cog is still trying to get *Spawn* to control himself by reminding him that the true enemy is Jason Whynn. Despite a minor set back from dealing with chief Burke, *Spawn* goes after Whynn and the issue ends with Terry protecting Whynn.

ISSUE#36: Continuing from where the previous issue left off, a rarity among Image comics, *Spawn* is being held at gun point by a man he considered a friend. During the ensuing battle which takes place, *Spawn* almost manages to kill Whynn but in the end barely escapes himself. After a break from the story we learn Twitch and Burke still haven't managed to piece together the chief's connection to the files. Whynn gets another visit from the Violator, once more in clown form, and Wanda Fitzgerald gets one from *Spawn*. He tries to tell her that Terry is a traitor but instead just frightens her and ends up questioning his own twisted existence.

Yet again, a Music Review

DC Talk *Jesus Freak* (Forefront)

Well, it ain't subtle. DC Talk has never been a group to get their message across quietly, and this CD is no different. These three guys are as talented and eclectic as ever. Although clever and meaningful lyrics are still at the core of this trio, they have changed their sound considerably. Just as their previous disc, *Free at Last*, contained less rap than their previous two efforts, so this CD is better described as rock than rap. However, putting this CD in any category is difficult. The group jumps between styles without warning. The title track is loud grunge, there is some rap, but many of the songs are rather soft. One thing that is consistent in almost all the tracks is a clear and meaningful Christian message.

The diversity of the sound is a bit of a two-edged sword. Those with wide tastes will enjoy the entire disc, but the loud tracks might scare off some listeners. On the other hand, those who like their music loud and hard-driving might be bored by some of the slow and quiet tracks. Overall, though, there's something on this disc for almost everyone.

(4)

— Marko Peric

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Official Top 25
January 12, 1996

1	The Monoxides	Out of the Marsh
2	Grace Babies	Lure
3	Ashley MacIssac	Hi (TM). How are you today?
4	Pure	Extra-Purestrial
5	Smashing Pumpkins	Melloncollie and the Infinite Sadness
6	Rusty	Fluke
7	Plaid-Tongued Devils	Tongue & Groove
8	Various Artists	Eat This
9	Various Artists	Seven Soundtrack
10	Radioblaster	Sugar Shock
11	Atomic Folk	Begin
12	Foo Fighters	Foo Fighters
13	Mystery Machine	10 Speed
14	Thrush Hermit	The Great Pacific Ocean
15	Pursuit of Happiness	Where's the Bone
16	Strawberry	Beached EP
17	Junkhouse	Birthday Boy
18	Crash 13	Hitchiker's Gide to Glengarry
19	Blue Shadows	Lucky to Me
20	Ash	Trailer
21	Hemingway Corner	Watch Over You
22	Punchbuggy	All nite Chistian Rollerskate
23	Hayden	Everything I Long For
24	Parade of Losers	Parade of Losers
25	The Rentals	Return of the Rentals