EDITORIAL

Well, here we are again this time presenting STASLAYSERS #4. This issue really begins Arqon's quest and from here on in the going gets really fast, so be watching!

This issue features Arqon and Rondi's confrontations with the bounty hunter Lord Damien Blackstar. It is my own personal opinion that the up and coming stories will be much better than the first three (which I only felt so-so about, these I'm excited about).

You may notice a slight change in the credits this time as Willie Peppers fills in as penciler giving Steve Brooks time to catch up on his deadlines and also to work on a new "special" project I'll talk about later. Steve still had a lot of input this issue, though, doing the front and back covers and also helping out a bit on the plot. Steve's penciles will return next issue, you can look forward to that.

The story again was done by me and inked by Bill Anderson. Next issue's story will be inked by Rick McCallum (over Steve Brooks' pencils). Rick said he was interested in being worked into the rotation of inkers, so here he is. We will probably be inked by Ken Meyer Jr., who received numerous praise on last issue's inks. Those of you who are still looking for Mark Propst inks (who I mentioned way back in SS #1) will have to remain patient. Mark and I are having a few problems concerning a few matters that aren't straightened out yet. When and if they are, Mark will also be worked into the rotation.

FUTURE ISSUES:

#5: August 28
#6: September 18
#7: October 9
#8: October 30

Next issue features the ultimate fate of Damien Blackstar's sidekick Darzak, featuring one of the best drawn pages in fan history (when you see the story, you'll know which page I mean!). Farther into the future, issue six will introduce a brand new character that sets off a complicated plotline lasting until STASLAYSERS #15.

It looks as if we'll be able to keep our tri-weekly schedule after all (for now anyway). This alone makes us unique among other fan pubs.

Willie Peppers is the penciler/inker on a four page special feature (written by myself) featuring a special, very special, group of heroes composed of Ulysses, Savior, Blakstar, and Armstrong that will be a free insert to STASLAYSERS #8. Look forward to it!

The "special project" I spoke of earlier (and which I spoke about last issue) is STASLAYSERS SPECIAL #1, due out in September. A format change has been accepted as current plans call for SSS #1 to feature a very special story featuring Lord Damien Blackstar in a story before this issue takes place. The story is 16 pages and is possibly the best story I have written to date and definitely not to be missed by any STASLAYSERS fans. The story will be drawn by Steve Brooks (Willie Peppers' fill-in giving him time to start it) and will have inks by either Rick McCallum or Bill Anderson. Tentative price will be around 60c or so, but more info will appear next issue.

Well, our circulation is still rising. It looks as if our regular circ. will be somewhere around 100-150, making this one of the best selling fanzines I've ever published. Thanks.

Back issues still available at 25c each.

STASLAYSERS #4, Vol. 1 is published every three weeks as 25c an issue from Hall Bucher/Belgrade Rd/Bethal Park, PA. 15102 1981 I would appreciate any letters of comment and criticisms that you may have.

This issue dated August 7th.
Quickly approaching, the man called Rondal gazed upon the light with curiosity.

Lord Damien Blackstar! The bounty hunter is here, and to lay odds he's after Argon and the starship...

It looks familiar...

Under closer scrutiny, the starship is identified as that of--

Argon, the starship of Lord Damien Blackstar fast approaches. I believe they are about to--

And, inside the starship--

Take control, Darzak. I'm going out!

But, after I get Argon and Rondo...

That's treason, Lord Blackstar!

And, outside of the great cathedral--

It is Blackstar! Damn! I've got an idea--

As the duo touch, Argon activates his transport--

Quick, Rondo! Join hands so I can get us out of here!
ATTENTION, LORD BLACKSTAR! I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME! ATTACK AGAIN AND YOU'LL PAY!

I'M GOING, DARIK. YOU'VE GOT SOME THINGS TO THINK OVER.

A RESISTAR IN HIS HAND, THE SWIFTEST WEAPON IN THE UNIVERSE, ARACON PREPARES TO FIRE!

I NORMALLY WOULD NEVER REJECT SUCH CRUDE METHODS, BUT...

--TIME IS A MAJOR FACTOR!

SO LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH, FAST.

WITH A MIGHTY LEAP, LORD DAMIEN BLACKSTAR JUMPS ON TO THE SURFACE OF THE PLANET LISON.

WHAT DID KRAHN WANT WITH THOSE TWO ANYWAY?

AND HE MISSES!

AND NOW YOU ARGON! I'VE HEARD OF YOU!

AND YOU TAKE ME THE NEXT WHEN IT LOOKS LIKE A SCRUB COULD HANDLE THEM!

WELL, FIRST THINGS FIRST!

THIS COSMIC NET'LL HOLD RONDO, HE'LL LIVE AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T DISRUPT THE FLUX BY TOUCHING IT.

WHAT THE--?

AND NOW YOU ARGON! I'VE HEARD OF YOU!

BUT I DOUBT YOU CAN LIVE UP TO YOUR REPS!

IT WAS MY GREAT GRANDFATHER THAT INVENTED IT!

Yeah, well, your friend may have the only two, but I know its weaknesses.

YEAH, WELL, YOUR FRIEND MAY HAVE THE ONLY TWO, BUT I KNOW ITS WEAKNESSES.
Regardless, you can't keep dodging them forever!

Maybe not, but you'll soon learn that I don't have to!

my reputation is also earned!

Swiftly, the bounty hunter turns defense into offense!

The earned, my rep!

What the hell?...

Simple Blackstar; a game of cat and mouse!

Then, why the charade? What do you want?

I could've done this at any time!

First things first.

First, Rondo, you're free!

Now, Blackstar, who is he? -- is you!

You're done, pal!

It's true! This guy is fantastic!

I need him for the StarSlayers!
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING I SUSPECTED YOUR MOTIVES. A QUICK MINDSCAN AND I LEARNED ALL.

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU HATE KLARN AS MUCH AS I DO.

THE STARSLAYERS? WASN'T THAT THE NAME OF THE LEGENDARY TITANS OF WEBAH'S PAST?

YOU MEAN YOU WANT HIM IN?

YES.

YES, WE HAVE COINED THE NAME. THE THREE OF US WILL FORM A NUCLEUS.

THE FOUR OF US! I WANT MY PROTEGE, DARZAK IN!

BY THE WAY, YOU CAN DROP THIS FORCEFIELD I WOULDN'T TRY TO ESCAPE.

I MEANT TO INCLUDE DARZAK.

ARE YOU IN THEN?

I WANT KLARN!

AND, ON A STARSHIP APPROACHING DIMENSION OX:

DARZAK'S REPORTED THAT BLACKSTAR'S SWITCHED SIDES!

--- EARTH DIES!! ---

I SUSPECTED THIS AND, BECAUSE OF IT ---

NEXT ISSUE: "ATTACK!"
NEXT ISSUE

DARZAK STANDS ALONE!!

AND LORD KLARN PLANS TO ATTACK EARTH!!