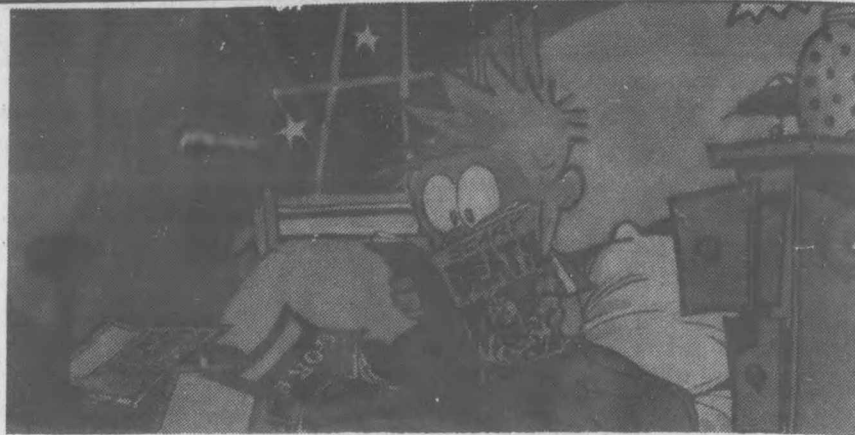
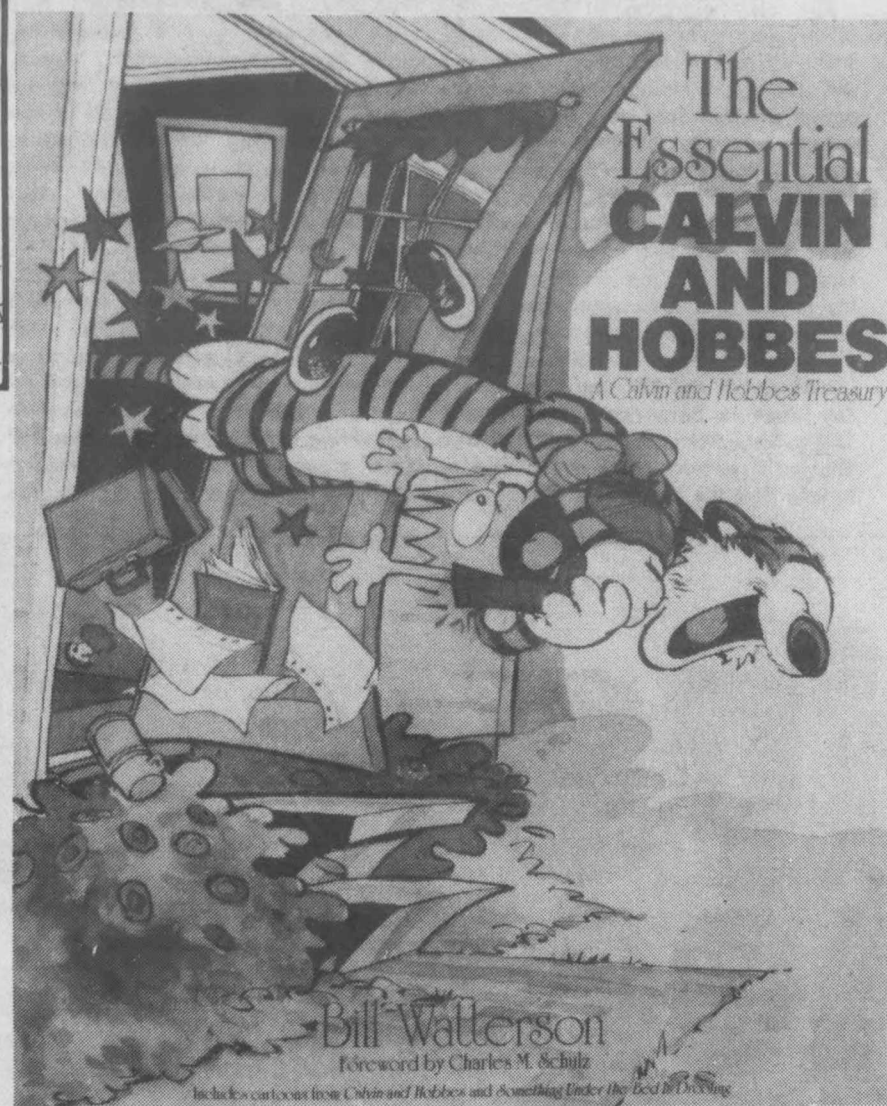


ENTERTAINMENT'S REGULAR FEATURE ON CONTEMPORARY GRAPHIC FICTION.



In short, "Rattle & Hum" is the seminal rock and roll album of the century. Buy it, listen to it, learn it. Oh ... this is "STRIP" isn't it? Sorry, wrong frequency, Kenneth. (Dan Rather pun. Most don't get it.)

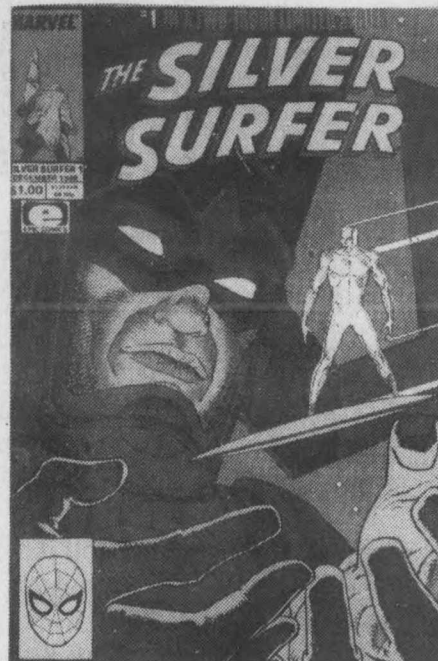
BANZAI!!!



THE ESSENTIAL CALVIN & HOBBS (\$18.95 - Andrews & McMeel)

This is terrific! Really terrific! Calvin's a 5 or 6 year old with a stuffed toy tiger named Hobbes. Weird thing, though; Hobbes becomes a real tiger when no one but Calvin is around. Drooling, wrestling, tobogganing, eating, going to school: all of it is here and more. The best way to illustrate the effec-

tiveness of Bill Watterson's drawings is by reading the couple of examples that should be printed above these very words. The essential Calvin & Hobbes is a treasury of the previous two books, "Calvin & Hobbes" and "Something Under the Bed is Not What You Think It Is." This is one of the most popular new strips around. The Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Holiday editions of the Dailly Gleaner would...



SILVER SURFER: PARABLE (\$1.25 - Epic Comics)

Another science fiction mag. This is a two issue mini-series by Stan Lee and Jean "Moebius" Giraud. Never before have these two respected comic creators collaborated. Moebius has produced reams of stories for Metal Murlant, the Lt. Blueberry series, Heavy Metal, and many other sci-fi magazines. In the "Parable", the Surfer has been an anonymous drifter

for many years. Set far in the future, the story begins with the return of Galactus, a planet devouring being of immense power, to Earth. Instead of just dining on our planet's innards, Galactus presents himself as the messiah and instructs the populace to "party till you drop." It's much more involved than I can get into here, but it is very good.

MARSHAL LAW (\$2.50 - Epic Comics)

Pat Mills and Kevin O'Neil are irreverent Brits who take a satirical look at American politics and super heroes, mangle it into a heaving mass, and then spit it back at you in the form of Marshal Law. A fully-painted story set

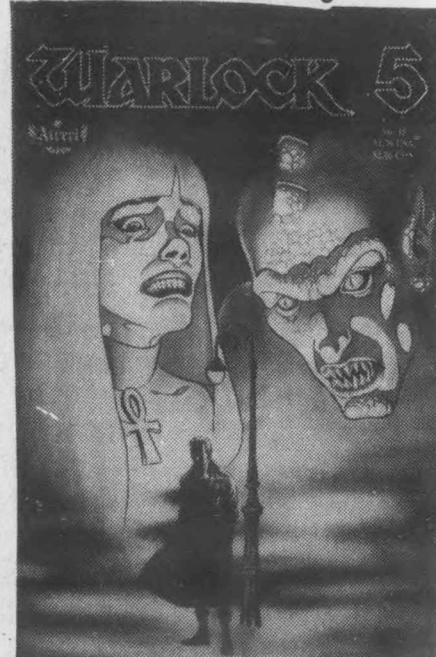
in the future revolving around a series of grisly rape murders committed by the "Sleepman." Marshal Law investigates and the prime suspect turns out to be the "Public Spirit," America's greatest super hero. The story runs six issues, the fifth having just been released. If apocalyptic sci-fi is your bag, grab some Marshal Law.

WARLOCK 5 (\$2.00 - Alrcel)

This used to be an excellent alternative comic. Five different magical beings, each a guardian for their own conduit to magical realms of power, vie for control of the grid, being the fabric of the universe. The characters were varied; a druid, a punkette warrior, a dragon, an ethereal beauty, and a robot. Lots of action; one warlock versus another; alliances being broken as quickly as they were made. Produced by Gordon Derry and Dennis Beauvais, Warlock 5 was Alrcel's best looking and best selling title. The creators took Warlock 5 to Matrix Comics in Montreal where the series is to begin again. Meanwhile, Alrcel has kept publicizing Warlock 5 with a different writer and artist. The focus of the original series is gone and we're left with a limp comic that's shot its wad and has no more to give. Get the Matrix version when it comes out, but keep clear of the Alrcel ones.

AMAZING SPIDERMAN (\$1.25 - Marvel Comics)

I've said this in a previous column, and I'll say it again. This is a great out to be the "Public Spirit," America's greatest super hero. The story runs six issues, the fifth having just been released. If apocalyptic sci-fi is your bag, grab some Marshal Law.



RATINGS:

- ****: Excellent or Rip-Roaring, take your pick.
- ***: Darn Close to Excellent.
- ** : Worth the coverprice, but just that.
- * : Not completely bad, but save money and read someone else's copy.
- † : Unbelievably bad dog droppings.

Now for some vital information as to where to buy comics; now adays, most comics are not available at the newsstand. A new industry known as 'direct

sales' has grown so that many new and smaller comic publishers can afford to distribute their books to direct sales outlets, or comic shops at a less expensive rate. You can find most comic shops listed in the yellow pages under Books - Used and Rare.

- To name a few:
- A Collector's Dream - Fredsville
 - Sorcerer's Store - St. John
 - Loyalist City Coins - "
 - Wilkie's Wonderful World - Halifax
 - Moncton, Dartmouth
 - Million Comics - Moncton
 - Odyssey 2000 - Halifax



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