

MARVEL MADNESS

Fans reflect on evolution of Spider-Man

aarushi BUTE

Blasting music through the speakers on the way to school, Edward Ter-Hovhannisyian, freshman, has listened to one song every school day since pre-school: the Spider-Man theme song.

Inspired by nostalgic memories and his love for the Marvel Cinematic Universe's (MCU) movies, Ter-Hovhannisyian decided to start the Marvel fan club.

"I'm excited because I get to share my common interest with other people," Ter-Hovhannisyian said.

Students in the Marvel fan club select a movie to watch each week and then discuss their reflections at the end of the meeting, Ter-Hovhannisyian said.

Mike Wagner, sponsor, said he has been a fan of the MCU and started collecting comics during the early to mid 1980s.

"I like the sense of adventure, the writing, and I was a big fan of the different artists that would draw the comics," Wagner said.

Wagner said he is looking forward to seeing "Spider-Man: No Way Home," which released Friday, Dec. 17.

"Like a lot of fans, my hope is high," Wagner said. "I worry that it will buckle under the weight of all the expectations because of all the different storylines feeding into it. This is a culmination of 20 years of

Spider-Man movies that will come together in two hours and a half."

As for the evolution of Spider-Man, Wagner said it has been natural. The first trilogy, featuring Tobey Maguire, was extremely successful with about \$821.7 million earned in box office, because there was a hunger for well-done movies at that time, Wagner said. The movies also depicted real iconic scenes from the comics.

In the past Spider-Man movies, Peter Parker/Spider-Man has been played by Tobey Maguire, Andrew Garfield and currently is Tom Holland.

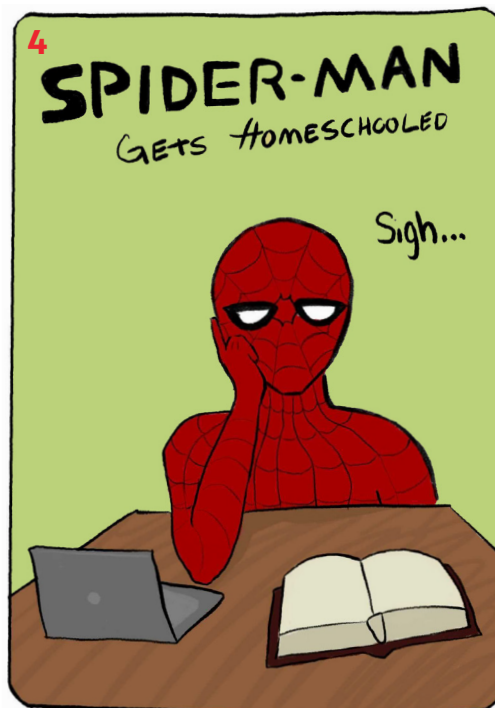
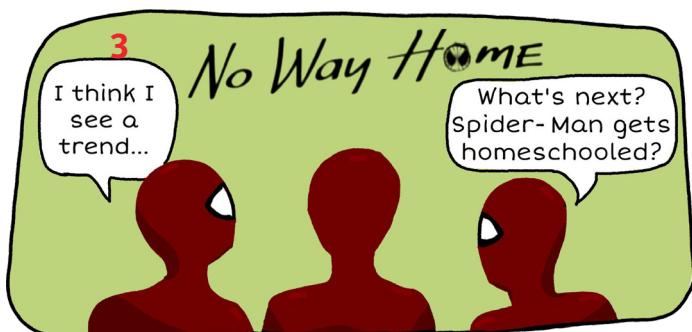
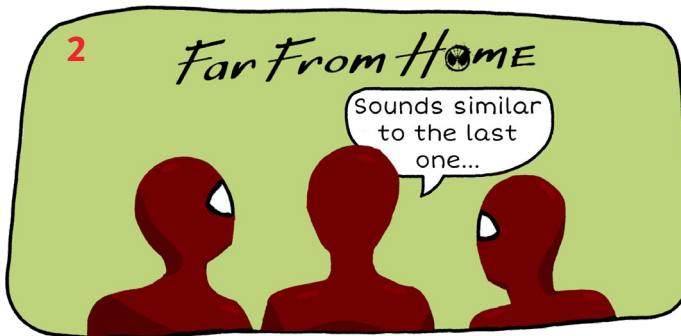
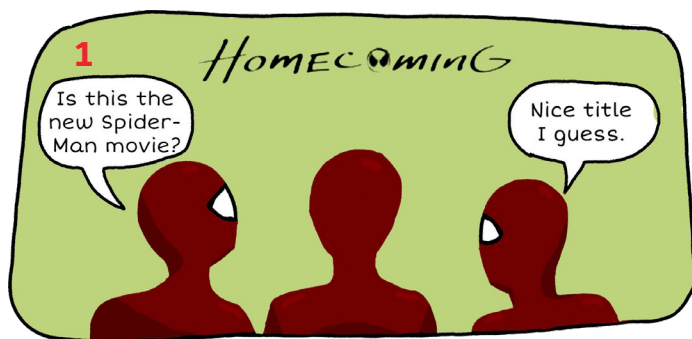
"I thought Andrew Garfield did a great job. The Spider-Man wasn't as crisp of a character, but Peter Parker was about right. And then as far as the total package, I think Tom Holland is pretty awesome," Wagner said.

Alexis Nguyen, junior, said Spider-Man and the MCU has been a form of escapism for her.

Like many others, Nguyen said that her favorite Spider-Man actor has been Tom Holland because of his performance as both Peter Parker and Spider-Man.

"Spider-Man is such a classic character," Nguyen said. "He's a reminder of how purely good someone can be, and I'm extremely excited to see how this movie turns out."

"Spider-Man Discussions" by Emma Tyulyayev



Comic by Emma Tyulyayev



Brandon Forrest is the owner of local comic shop, Altered State, which is located in Manchester. The store was opened in October. Forrest said that Spider-Man comics are his best seller, with him selling over 218 comics.

← These are the newest Spider-Man comics that have come into Forrest's shop.

Evolution of Spider-Man Actors



Tobey Maguire

Though TV shows featured other actors, Tobey Maguire was the first to portray Spider-Man on a movie screen. He starred in the original "Spider-Man" trilogy from 2002-2007.



Andrew Garfield

Although he only starred in the role of Spider-Man in two films from 2012-2014, Andrew Garfield was well known in the role. He premiered in "The Amazing Spider-Man" and "The Amazing Spider-Man 2."



Tom Holland

Making his debut in the role of Spider-Man in 2016, Tom Holland starred first in the movie "Captain America: Civil War" and has subsequently appeared in five Marvel movies, most recently, the new film "Spider-Man: No Way Home."

Illustrations by Emma Tyulyayev

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