ENTERTAINMENT

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Marvel's latest superhero flick delivers entertaining punch

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arvel threw us into a Civil War this past week in life as in entertainment, we were forced to pick a side. As the prophet Axl Rose was recorded saying in 1993, "What is so Civil about War anyway?"

On May 6, 2016, the world was forced to make a choice by the executives at Marvel. But this was not the first time that this great responsibility was thrust upon us, nor is it the last.

Back in the early 2000s shortly after House of M and Avengers Disassembled story arcs, the Marvel universe suffered a horrific event in Stamford, Connecticut. A young superhero group took on a group of villains with a camera crew in tow for their reality TV show.

What resulted was over 600 civilians dead, 60 children from a school that was at the epicenter of the event. Only one teen hero and one villain lived through the ordeal. This prompted the U.S. government to pass a legislative bill that was already in the house. The Superhuman Registration Act (not to be confused with the Mutant Registration Act) was created.

It caused a split in the Avengers and found Tony Stark facing Steve Rogers — similar to the UN passing the Sakovia Accord in the Captain America Civil War movie.

While the comic book story arc crossed over into several different stories and forced the reader to buy into multiple comics, the movie gives a nice, pretty package one-shot. The movie had a great cast and introduction of new characters. It had a perfect balance of screen time for all the heroes as well as the villains. The fight scenes were amazing, unless you suffer from vertigo, then they might have been a bit much. In the end, you know it's a hero movie and heros can never

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FACTS OF THE DAY

Today is the 136th day of 2016 and the 57th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1918, the United States launched its first regular airmail service. In 1940, the first McDonald's restaurant opened in San Bernadino, California. In 1970, President Richard Nixon appointed Anna Mae Hays and Elizabeth P. Hoisington the first female U.S. Army generals. In 1972, Alabama Gov. George Wallace was shot and left permanently paralyzed below the waist while campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination in Maryland.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: L. Frank Baum (1856-1919), author; Pierre Curie (1859-1906), physicist; Richard J. Daley (1902-1976), politician; Jasper Johns (1930-), artist; Madeleine Albright (1937-), former secretary of state; Roger Ailes (1940-), news executive; Brian Eno (1948-), singer-songwriter/musician; Chazz Palminteri (1952-), actor; George Brett (1953-), baseball player; Dan Patrick (1956-), sportscaster; Emmitt Smith (1969-), football player; Ray Lewis (1975-), football player; Andy Murray (1987-), tennis player.

TODAY'S FACT: Former U.S. presidents and their spouses enjoy lifetime mail "franking" privileges, meaning their mail can be sent without postage, provided it is nonpolitical.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 2004, Smarty Jones won the Preakness Stakes thoroughbred horse race by a record margin of 11 1/2 lengths.

race by a record margin of 11 1/2 lengths. **TODAY'S QUOTE:** "Familiarity with any great thing removes our awe of it. The great general is only terrible to the enemy; the great poet is frequently scolded by his wife;

the children of the great statesman clamber

about his knees with perfect trust and impunity; the great actor who is called before the curtain by admiring audiences is often waylaid at the stage door by his creditors." -- L. Frank Baum, "The Master Key"

TODAY'S NUMBER: 21 -- years that Richard J. Daley served as mayor of Chicago (1955-1976). His son, Richard M. Daley, was mayor of Chicago for a record 22 years (1989-2011).

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter moon (May 13) and full moon (May 21).