

ORROWS DOLLAR THE ULTIMATE GAMING MAGAZINE

THE MERS HAVE ENDED FOR SCURDLE INVASION

Previewed in this

INDEPENDENCE DAY

issue:

Virtua Cop 2

Jet Moto

Twisted Metal 2
The Incredible Hulk

Blast Chamber

Fighting Vipers

Steel Harbinger

Three Dirty Dwarves

VMX Racing

Super Dodge Ball

Over Top

Tunnel B.1.

Viper

Burning Road

Power Slave



RED HOT REVIEWS:

Jumping Flash 2 Space Hulk Gun Griffon Road Rash Silverload Gunship Baku Baku World Series '97 Frank Thomas Big Hurt Baseball Beyond Oasis

Also in this issue:

Big news for PlayStation owners, hot new Saturn RPGs, more Nintendo 64

facts, big

contest, reader letters, white-

hot sports section.

fantastic

cheats for all

the latest games and

lots, lots more.

TEKKEN 2

Namco's ultimate fighting game arrives:
Big strategy guide with cheats, hints and tips inside this issue



So prepare yourself. 'Cause this time, and use them as helpers.

the marshmallow's doing the roasting.

AOL@keyword:NOA









Neшs

It's still a month away for us, but in Japan, consumers have wigged out over the release of the Nintendo 64, despite there being only three games available at launch. Other news from across the Pacific: TOSHINDEN URA will be hitting the Saturn. This and other Sega news that will truly shock! (Well....) If you demand more from your home entertainment center, Samsung has the answer. For the gamer with everything (and money to burn), we look at a TV specially made for

video-game playing. From Play-Station land, Sony announces a price drop which has some staggering results. All this and the secret formula for Coca Cola in this month's new and improved news section. So read up-this way you'll be able to impress your friends with your bottomless video-game knowledge.





ips & Tricks

Chief Crispy, our intrepid—some would say dapper—cheatmeister, has been slaving over a hot console to bring you the latest and





greatest tips and tricks for the latest and greatest games around. This month, we have all sorts of cheats for the puzzle classic BAKU BAKU, as well as some much needed help on SKELETON WARRIORS. Fans of EARTH-WORM JIM 2 can check out some hot cheats, and GUNGRIFFON for Sega's Saturn is taken to pieces.

Skeleton Warriors
Baku Baku
3D Lemmings
Earthworm Jim 2

GunGriffon

P 28

P 30

Plus: Battle Arena Toshinden 2, Cyber Speed and the zaniest Game Genie/Shark codes around.

Soundboard

We know how much you readers love celebrities, so we went out and got one of the biggest we could find to guest-answer some of your letters. This month, rapper extraordinaire and all-around super-phat dude, Vanilla Ice, will give his insightful thoughts on your video-game ramblings.



Firet I nok

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Reviellis

All we've got this month are Saturn and Play-Station games. Good if you're a Saturn or PlayStation owner. Bad if you're not.

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Sportswire

ters, Sony invites the press down to its studios for a little baseball with the Cards and Padres. We've also got some nice scouts on MSA and Crystal Dynamics' new baseball sims, as well as a couple of upcoming college titles. Then get the skinny on the newest Acclaim sports titles, like BIG HURT and V-TENNIS, and Sega's newest WSB for the Genesis. Also check out the picture of a scantily

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RPG Attack p70

The coolest RPG section in the country brings you the latest news available. This month highlights LEGEND OF OASIS, the massive sequel to the Genesis hit Beyond OASIS. We review this big Saturn release and give you the full rundown. Also featured in the news is a new Fair PDC and other seconted. Enix RPG and other assorted goodies, including a new reader game giveaway!







Free Pullouts p39

Free stuff? Free art that you can hang on your wall? Free images from the latest and greatest video games? It's true and it's awesome. This month, THE INCREDIBLE HULK and IRON BLOOD are the games on show.

here are very few things worth

Christmas and concert tickets

perhaps, but very little else. The

waiting for. In-and-Out Burgers,

Frank O'Connor - Editor in Chief





Nintendo 64 has been a long time coming though, but guess what? It was worth the wait. We received our first machine in a frenzy of excitement, plugged in Super Mario 64 and nearly lost our

tiny minds. From the

remarkably silly title screen to the jaw-dropping secret levels, Mario 64 is one of the most amazing things you'll



ever see on a TV screen. Although Nintendo's new console doesn't ship until September in the US, demand in Japan has already forced Nintendo to reappraise its manufacturing schedule.

Only 500,000 units shipped on lune 23rd in Japan, with another half-million due to be built before Christmas. As far as we can tell, the first shipment has already sold out! The US will receive a similar shipment for September 30th and if Nintendo has done its homework properly, it'll sell out in no time at all.

But back to Mario! We'll bring you a full review of the game when we see the American version, but we have to tell

you right now, this looks like being quite simply the best game ever made. That's a claim that has been made a bunch of times in the past, but this time, it could very well be true.

Everything is supremely well implemented, from the stoopid title screen to the extremely silly noises Mario makes

> throughout the game-all incredibly well put together. As for the actual game, what at first

appears to be simple and mindless fun soon proves to be challenging

on a scale you may never have encountered before. This game is tough.

pants!"

Pilotwings 64 is a good game, but kind of overshadowed by the diminutive Italian One. The gameplay and graphics are both of the quality you might expect from Nintendo, but getting people to turn off that Mario cart is tough. Yup, you may as well tell your parents now, you want a new console for Christmas, and now you don't know which one to buy. But use the following words: Sony, Sega, Nintendo. I think they'll understand.

-Frank O'Connor **Editor-in-Chief**



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- Next Generation



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PLAYSTATION"

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SATURN"









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THE TV MADE ESPECIALLY FOR GAMERS LIKE YOU AND IME

amsung is releasing a new product called GXTV, a TV Monitor designed with the gaming enthusiast in mind. The 13-inch screen, ideal for close viewing/playing, has multiple audio-visual inputs with monitor-output option. The big selling point of the tube is its sound system,

The big selling point of the tube is its sound system, which is fairly obvious when you take a look at the TV.The two front speakers fold out and blast you with 21 watts of stereo surround sound, with additional preset sound settings to suit different games. Mounted on the back of the TV is the monstrous 15-watt Subwoofer which makes me all

Subwoofer which makes me all sweaty just thinking about it. The TV is on a monitor mount which swivels to match your view and doubles as a 181-channel stereo TV with built-in dbx Noise Reduction. Expect to see the unit at electronics retailers and certain game stores for a suggested retail price of \$349 around August or September. I want one...or two.



NEW MORTAL KOMBAT MOVIE AND TV SHOW: HEADED YOUR WAY!

Fans of Mortal Kombat will be stoked, thrilled and elated to hear that wok is underway on a brand new Mortal Kombat movie. Called "Mortal Kombat 2" the new movie should not be confused with the game of the same name - but probably will be. Good news is that all your favorite characters will return, including Shang Tsung, Goro and Lui Kang. We can't give away too much plot, but lets just say that the trouble is no longer confined to the Outworld.

Even bigger news is that a big budget, action-packed Mortal Kombat TV series is also in pre-production. Casting announcements have yet to be made, but the series will feature almost every character from the game, as well as a bunch of new ones written specifically for the TV show. More news next issue.

TITUS IS AN N64 DEVELOPER

Titus Software has announced that it is an official N64 developer and will release its first title sometime in '97. There's no word yet on what that game will be, or even what type of game, but it will be an exclusive and won't appear on any other system for at least a year. Of course, since Titus claims that the game it's making has stunning 3D that can't be duplicated on any other home system, it seems to be a moot point.

VIRGIN HAS A "BURST"

Virgin Interactive has announced the formation of a new in-house development team to be named Burst. This team has five titles planned for release, including Spot Goes to Hollywood (multi-systems) and Freak Boy for the N64. Burst will be developing titles for the PlayStation, Saturn, Nintendo 64, PC CD-ROM and Internet games. Let's hope for the best from Burst and pray it's not a Bust.

SEGA LOVES THE MOVIES

Sega Gameworks has reached an agreement with the Cineplex Odeon Corporation to provide Cineplex theaters in the proposed location-based Game Centers developed by Sega Enterprises, Dreamworks SKG and MCA Inc. "By joining forces with Sega Gameworks, we have created a strategic relationship with what we believe to be the most important leading-edge participant in this evolving industry" says Allen Karp, president and chief executive Officer of Cineplex Odeon. "We view this agreement with Cineplex Odeon as an opportunity to forge a long-term and vital link with either one of the world's leading motion-picture theatre chains, particularly given its significant presence and planned expansion in key urban markets" commented Sega Gameworks' chief executive officer, Skip Paul. Sounds interesting, but can you hurry up and build these things already?

CHEESY GAMES ON PLAYSTATION!



That's not to say they're bad games, but Cheesy is the title of Ocean's first platform game for the PlayStation. Featuring the antics of a renegade mouse in outer space (oh those zany game designers, where will their imaginations lead next?), Cheesy incorpo-

rates 3D elements seen previously in games like Clockwork Knight, as well as specific 3D bonus sections. It looks like fun, but not as much fun as Z.

Z comes from the Bitmap Brothers, a



famous British programming team, and it's a mixture of genres. Strategy, management and action. All





kinds of brain-teasing, finger-stretching fun.
Although the PC version is the only one announced,
expect a PlayStation version to follow.











BLondes?

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NINTENDO 64 The launch of the Nintendo

MI

The launch of the Nintendo 64, after two years of waiting, was a massive media event. Only three games available and the darned thing still sold like hotcakes. We bring you the full story from Japan.

WOrld

NINTENDO LAUNCH A HUGE SUCCESS

Picture this: On Sunday, June 23rd, Nintendo launched the N64 game console. Kids, adults, men and women lined up for hours to buy their new machines. Although 500,000 units were shipped, stocks were virtually sold out in two days.

Nintendo had planned that the N64 would be



the most successful game machine launch in history, and if sales keep up this momentum, it could well succeed. Although 80 percent of stocks were prebooked, many stores offered the machine on a first-come, first-served basis. This led to big lines, lots of frustration, and a near riot outside an Akihabara toy store.

Tantrums, stamping feet and crying were rife, and that was just the adults. Statistically speaking, everyone who bought the machine also bought Mario 64. Pilotwings 64 came a close second and the interminably tedious Saikyo Habu Shohgi came in last. Actually, it's a chess-type simulator and it's probably very good, but booooooooring! So, go get a Nintendo 64 now. Well, in a month, anyway.

imagineer uses its imagination

Gigantic multi-corporation Imagineer appears to be among the most prolific potential publishers on the Nintendo 64. Three titles are currently nearing completion, all of them with a sports bias. First up is Chou Kuukan Fighter Pro, a baseball simulation featuring anti-aliased polygon characters and smooth motion-capture throughout. According to Imagineer, you will be able to recognize individual players by their motions. Sounds cool. The programming has been done by Genki, the people behind Kileak: The Blood.

After that, Imagineer hopes to bring you Dynamite Soccer. You guessed it—a soccer game, but again, polygons, anti-aliasing and all kinds of other shenanigans should ensure a fabulous game.

Perhaps the most exciting game in their line-up is Multi-Racing, a multi-player racing game featuring (literally) revolutionary joystick control. No more information available at this time, but we'll print it when we get it.

KEMCO GETS KRAZY

Blade and Barrel could be one of the hottest N64 games on the horizon. Although it's a relatively

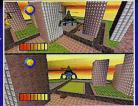


simple 3D shooter, the smooth graphics, awesome explosions and-get this-splitscreen gameplay should make this a two-player

treat of well-nigh epic proportions.

Early demos of the game show off the Nintendo 64's graphic potential, with super-fast, super-smooth and



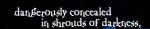


super-solid buildings being moved effortlessly around the screen. A choice of choppers and weapons will add to the variety, and Kemco promises

that this will feature intense action never before seen in a 3D game. Nintendo's Starfox 64 should mount some strong competition there.







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Saturn



This month's news focuses on hot games from Japan that will make you drool with anticipation.

oLanEt-

TOSHINDEN "URA" IS COMING!

A brand-new Toshinden game is coming later this year for the Saturn, and it won't be a remix of Toshinden 2 for the PlayStation. Toshinden URA is



the beginning of a new series of Toshinden games made to take special advantage of the Saturn. That's not to say that URA

will be radically different from T2 on the PSX, but it will have different features. There will be no story mode in URA, but there will be 11 characters,





with two mysterious new fighters joining the fray. Ripper is a male challenger with long blades on his hands, while the other character is still secret, but is known to be a woman. Eiji is still is still

the main character in this game. "The U.R.A. stands for something and has nothing to do with the Japanese translation of that word," says the producer of the game. Once again, Takara is the developer and Toshinden URA will be published by Sega.

SAILOR MOON LANDS ON THE SATURN

The lovable characters from the



anime series are starring in their own fighting game. The characters are rendered and have the Killer Instinct digital look, with special attacks that take



advantage of the Saturn. With the cartoon series enjoying a bit of popularity here, we may see this game appear domestically.



AM3'S LAST BRONX FOR THE ARCADE

The latest game from the prolific AM3 Sega arcade team is a (surprise...) 3D fighter. What distinguishes this game from the pack are the character designs, inspired by modern street-tough wear. The fighting

is weapon-based and appears to be Sega's answer to Namco's Soul Edge. The coin-op is set for a July release in Japan and





shortly afterwards over here. Fighting fans won't be disappointed and this should satisfy them until the imminent release of Virtua Fighter 3 sometime in the fall or around Christmas.

RETRO COLLECTIONS

Taito is releasing a CD of two of its classic coin-



op driving games, Chase HQ and S.C.I. Translations of these titles have appeared on various platforms, including the Genesis, SNES, and Gameboy While these games

were fairly cutting-edge for their time, they hardly tax the Saturn hardware, but they're ideal for purists who want perfect versions of their cherished memories. Technosoft is also jumping on the wagon with Thunder Force Gold Pack I and 2. Gold Pack I features Thunderforce 2 and TF3, while Gold Pack 2 has Thunderforce 4 (known as

Lightning Force in the U.S.) and Arcade Thunder Force. Technosoft is also planning an update to its game Reverthion (Japan only), which involved robot



monsters with human pilots fighting and shooting it out with each other. It is highly unlikely that the Taito or Technosoft game collections will be released here, but it's interesting to know.

attention. Fans of

The follow-up is coming exclusively for the Saturn (see VG news, July), but if you want to play something similar come this September, the game for you is Gekka mu gen tan Torico (the U.S. name could be shortened to just Torico). This game is developed by Sega which must have thought D was a great game and had to have one, too. Torico looks even creepier than D and promises to pack an equally creepy punch.

NICE PUNCH

Unfortunately, he has an iron jaw (and a rocket launcher).

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tOwN!

after the awesome ID4 movie, and Fox Interactive is already nearing completion of a video game based on the hit film.

Like the movie, the plot of the game is stoopidly simple. Blow up all the aliens and save the Earth. You do get the chance to use a bunch of cool fighters (including the enemy spacecraft), and best of all, the graphics are expected to fly by at a slick 30 frames per second. Expect the game to be as big as the movie.

PLAYSTATION SALES TRIPLE

Since last month's 100-dollar drop in the PlayStation's price, sales have apparently tripled in all retail outlets (on average), thereby catapulting the PlayStation to US sales domination over Sega's competing console, the Saturn.

PlayStation software sales have increased too, with Sony's own games, including Extreme Sports and NFL Gameday simply flying off the shelves. This is great news

INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Wow! the dust has hardly settled over the world

Sony Japan is currently testing a cheap price point for older PlayStation games, especially those with seguels already on sale. Three games that we know about at the moment are Toshinden, Ridge Racer and Arc The Lad, all of which are currently retailing at the bargain-basement price of ¥2900. If this pricing policy is a success over in Japan, there's no reason why it shouldn't do equally well in the US. No word yet from Sony US about any such plans, but we'll keep our fingers crossed. And in case you're wondering, ¥2900 works out to approximately \$30-a bargain.

NEW GENERATION LOOKS GOOD



Psygnosis is putting the final tweakage on its new generation of games. The two hottest titles are both sequels.



WipeOut XL is looking even better than the first game, and Destruction Derby 2 looks like a Daytona-killer!



CHECHPOINT POST CHECHPOINT POS

Both feature massively improved graphics (as if that were possible) and enhanced gameplay features. However, rumors abound that Psygnosis will be bought by Acclaim, making the latter the most formidable game software publisher on Earth.









THRUST

SOUIDSOLISO

BIG DADDY loves to hear from all you gaming nuts out there, while guest letter-answerer Vanilla Ice wants another record deal.
Send your letters to:
SOUNDBOARD
clo VIDEOGAMES Magazine
8484 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 900

Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Welcome to another wild and wacky edition of the most interesting letters section in all of gamedom. This month, the Big Daddy plays host to Vanilla Ice, who will personally answer some of your letters (You'll be able to tell which ones). The Big Daddy has been cruisin' around looking for new arcade games and is feverishly playing NBA Hangtime and Soul Edge version II. He wonders what everyone else around the country is playing.





The Big Daddy also loves all the artwork coming in, but needs more! So send us your art—and try not to fold it, so it'll look nice when we print it. And remember, the Big Daddy loves you.

ANOTHER SLOBBERING FANBOY

Dear Betty,

I think you look good virtualized, but I want to know what you really look like. So can you please send me a picture of you? That Mark Coleson guy—who

asked you if you slept nude—really got on my nerves. What a nerve that kid had! So how about that picture? What kind of music do you listen to? I listen to everything but country. (It sucks @!:#).

—Adam H. Plainfield, IL

Betty sez:

You can see a picture of me every month in the masthead for Tips & Tricks magazine! I like all kinds of music, but lately I've been listening to Underworld, Nina Simone, Too Short, The Upsetters, and George Michael. I like the new video for Fast Love.

ILLIN' FOR 16-BIT

Dear Frank,

I recently read your statement in VIDEOGAMES magazine (Input), entitled "Suicide isn't Painless."

This article made me think you could possibly help my husband and I. We are avid gamers. We have three systems: Sega Masters (don't laugh), Sega Genesis, and SNES. We know there are still many games left for these dinosaurs-they are young and healthy systems. Before we extend our systems collection with a new purchase, we'd like to be able to purchase these older games first. If you have any information, it would be deeply appreciated. We play our games for months at a time, so RPGs and the like are our favorite genre. We purchase our systems according to the available number of this type of game, so as to get the best mileage out of our system and the best entertainment.We're an older couple in our 30s and 40s.

Thanks,

—Dena Miller Sacramento, CA

Yo, Frank, let me field this question. If you ain't ready to let go of those Illin' systems—that's cool but let me extend a helping hand. The properties of the state of the system for both the SNES and Genesis. A good Genesis RPG is Shadowrunner; it's supercharged with the stoopid juice. It'll keep you playing for weeks because, after you finish the game, you can still be a cyberhacker. For the SNES, I play Might & Magic 3. This game is one of the smartest RPGs I ever played. If you want to know where to get these games used, try your local EB or video store. And while you're at the video store you can check out my movie, Cool As Ice.

LETTER OF THE MONTH

This month's pick is from Gregory Rohn who vents his frustration.

NO RESPECT FOR THE SATURN

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

What's the deal with retailers dogging Saturn? I was at the mall and decided to check out the games at Kay-Bee Toys. I was surprised to find GB, GG, SNES, GEN, 32X, SCD, and PSX—but no Saturn. I asked the manager about Saturn, and her reply was, "Saturn just hasn't caught on. We only carry games for the top systems." To this I replied, "Top systems? 32X and SCD have been laid to rest—are they top systems?" She looked



a little confused and said, "We get new games for 32X and SCD all the time." I said, "How? They no longer make them." With an authoritative and pained look she said, "I'm sorry, I don't know where you get your info from, but it's wrong." Angered, I thought I would swing by EB. I was

greeted by a large poster "EB and Sony present PSX Game Club: Buy two games and get a third for 50% off." So I asked the manager if they had a Saturn Club, she said, "No, Sega just doesn't have the kind of money to support their system the way Sony does." Whatever! I asked her if she had a release date for Wrestlemania, and she said, "That's out already for PSX." "No, for Saturn." "I didn't know that it was coming out for Saturn." "How about Alien Trilogy?" "That's a PSX game." I point to a Saturn box for Alien that says, "Coming Soon!" "Oh, I didn't know." "How about Die Hard Trilogy?" "Wow, I didn't know.... Whatever! Stressed out, I decided to try an old standby, Toys-R-Us. As I walk down the game isle. I see a PSX with Warhawk running, I look around; no Saturn. Once again, I ask the manager, "Why no Saturn?" The manager said, "It kept breaking down." I don't know how many people noticed this before, but at Toys-R-Us, the PSX has front-mounted controllers. whereas the Saturn had a cup or slot to hold the controller. Since its controller isn't front-mounted and has a nine-foot cord, if you miss the cup, the controller hits the floor and eventually breaks. Many times I would see dangling, broken controllers while the game demo plays fine. I explained this to the manager and he said, "I wasn't aware of any controller problems." Whatever! I could go on, but my list is so long. In conclusion, with this kind of retail support I'm amazed

that Saturn isn't Number

my friends do with their

gonna have a stroke!

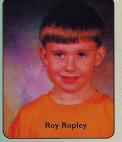
One all over the world. Ha! I

don't understand the preju-

dice, I get just as much, if not

more, fun out of my Saturn as

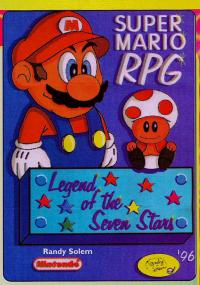
PSXs. Retailers, lighten up, I'm



—Gregory Rohn Tampa, FL

The Big Daddy is a fan of the Saturn and is also deeply concerned about poor retailer support You can't totally blame retailers, because they want to avoid another debâcle like the 3DO.

Jaguar and 32X.They lost a lot of money on those and are eager to pull the plug on any perceived poor performers. The best thing to do is to give your support to those retailers who support you and the system you own.



NINTENDO CAN STUFF IT!

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

I've been a Sega Saturn owner since June of 1995 and have been very satisfied with it. I had been planning on purchasing a Nintendo 64 when it was released on September 30, 1996, but recently changed my mind, I'd like to tell you why. While shopping in Electronics Boutique the other day, I noticed that both the Saturn's and the PlayStation's prices had dropped to \$199. I asked them about the Nintendo 64 and I was told that it would cost \$249 and wouldn't include a game. Super Mario 64 would cost about \$70, according to them. As I looked at the selection of PlayStation games, I noticed that there were close to 100 games available and that very few of them were priced at over \$50. I started to think to myself, "Do I really want Super

Mario 64 that badly?" In addition, the bulky drive for the Nintendo 64 will probably cost over \$100. All this makes the Nintendo 64 a very expensive system. I went home that night and thought about my options, which were as follows: Wait and buy the Nintendo 64 and some \$70 to \$80 cartridges, or buy a

Sony PlayStation now, and maybe buy the Nintendo 64 in a year or two, when the price comes down, Well, I went ahead and purchased the PlayStation for \$199, plus several games for it, including NBA Live '96 and Toshinden 2—for \$37.99 on sale. Needless to say, I'm very happy with my decision. I not only saved quite a bit of money but have been playing a terrific game system.

What I'm trying to say is that, at \$249, Nintendo's new system isn't the great bargain it seemed when it was announced a year or two ago, especially considering the cost of the cartridges in relation to that of Saturn and PlayStation CDs. While the Nintendo 64 may be a great system, it's going to be very expensive to accumulate a library of games. Super Mario 64 may look great but it's still only one game (and an expensive one, at that). I've made my decision to go with the PlayStation, and several of my friends are in the process of deciding the same thing. Now, with both a PlayStation and a Saturn, I can look forward to numerous good games at reasonable prices. After all, I'd rather purchase two Sony or Sega games for the price of one Nintendo 64 game.

—Jeffrey Kramer Sunrise, FL

Well Jeff, I'm sure there are plenty of people out there who'd rather have Mario 64 than three PSX or Saturn games. It sounds like you made the right decision for yourself. It's up to other gamers out there to figure out what they'll be happy with, and what they can afford. The Big Daddy thinks you're a wise man, but the Ice man guy thinks you're an idiot. Just another half-steppin' fool who won't be able to buy the N64.

I'M FULL OF

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

I'm full of ideas for making video games, but I don't know how to make them. How can I? And how do I sell my ideas to companies? I really want to make video games. I have fun just drawing pictures of parts of them.

-David Neagoy

Yo, yo, David, check this out. Just go out and do it, little man. I, too, found myself in the very same sitch a few years back. I had all of these ideas for fresh dance moves and dope lyrics, but didn't have the DJ to lay down the funky beat for me. I was illin'. So I decided to McGuyver and work that crazy riff myself. Look what happened: I became an international rappin' megastar with my very own ladies and movie. It was the bomb. Word to the wise, though, fella. When buying stuff with your newly acquired green, don't lease everything, because you'll end up broke workin' the professional moto-cross circuit.

I LIKE WEIRD AL

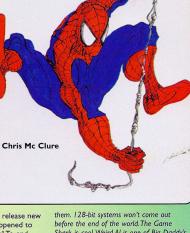
Dear VIDEOGAMES, Will N64 have a packin, what will it be, and will it raise the reported \$250 price? Any news about new developments for the Super NES? Do you have any info on whether MK4 will come to exist? In the June '96 issue, you featured stage threeout-of-five pictures from Virtual Fighter 3; do you have any pictures of higher developments? How many bits will PSX 2 and 3 have? Will you be able to play games from older ones on newer ones (a PSX game on a PSX3, for instance)?

Does Sega have any plans to release new Saturn peripherals? What happened to Gabe's Dream Game Gallery? To end with, I'd like to ask the staff at VG what your views are on the following: Taxes, the possibility of 128-bit systems, The

Game Shark, "Weird Al" Yankovic and those little ketchup packets you get at restaurants. Honored by the chance to be known by the higher beings at VG Magazine,

Oskar Horyd Troy, MI

That's a lot of questions, so here goes: No pack-in is planned for the N64, and it's highly unlikely that the price will go up. The biggest news for the SNES is a version of SF Alpha which includes all the characters from Alpha 2. No new MK4 info. More VF3 scenes will appear soon. PSX 2 and 3 are figments of your imagination, but they might be 64-bits. Who knows? New Saturn peripherals include the Net-link and mouse. Gabe took his Dream Gallery with him and won't give it back. We hate taxes, but pay



them. 128-bit systems won't come out before the end of the world. The Game Shark is cool. Weird Al is one of Big Daddy's all-time favorite performers and is still going strong today. Those ketchup packets never have enough ketchup in 'em, so sneak in a bottle of your favorite brand.

MK DIS

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

I was at a video arcade recently, watching some guy play Ultimate MK3 when I saw him do a really cool move for Kano. I thought it was really neat so I asked him how he did it, but he just looked at me and snickered, then walked off. I JUST HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE DO THAT!

—Jonathan Zang Ann Arbor, MI

I hear what you're saying, little man. He shouldn't have dissed you like that. Remember, though, the fact that he knows how to do that means he spends too much time playing MK3 and not enough time chasin' da booty. Let's see how much that helps him bust a move with the ladies.

DIGGIN' DA REMIX

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

I am probably buying a Sega Saturn. The game I want to buy is Battle Arena Toshinden REMIX. I want to know if it has really good graphics? Does it have blood



and gore? Please, please, put this in your magazine!

—Neal Brace Saline, MI

Where you at? Battle Arena Toshinden has story mode and a new character, but worse graphics than its PlayStation counterpart. There ain't no blood, neither. It is, however, three minutes longer, with some extra funky beats; good for when you're poppin' dope moves on the dance floor.

SHALOM FROM BOULDER

Dear VIDEOGAMES.

I would like to know if you guys (and gals) could send me a picture of the whole VG staff, please.

P.S. Tell Betty I said hi! You guys rule! P.P.S. This may sound stupid but are any of you VG members Jewish? Cause I am! Oy Vay!

—Gabe Bakst (It's Russian) Boulder, CO

Word, Gabe. Da boys at VIDEOGAMES don't give out pictures. I do, though, and if you really want one I'll send it to you. I have stacks of them in my apartment left over from my tour back in '93. I'm sorry to say

that VG has no Jewish writers. They're all gentiles and one druid.

WHO STOLE THE SMOKE?

Dear VIDEOGAMES, I don't know how Smoke got turned into a robot. Will you tell me?

> -Michael J. Kelley Laurel, MD

C'mon Michael! Everyone knows you're responsible for the Smoke/Robot thing, so don't try playing dumb. We were going to keep your little secret, but you've blown your own cover, buddy!

I'M A SELFISH PLAYSTATION OWNER

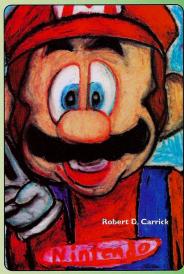
Dear VIDEOGAMES,

I'm a PSX owner, and I'm pissed! I'm pissed that they converted Wibeout from the PlayStation to the Saturn. What the hell did they do that for?! Wipeout should be on the PlayStation only. Not that damn piece of crap Saturn, I read that they might convert Destruction Derby too. If they do, I'll be even more pissed. Please tell me they're not doing that to DD, or any other game.

P.S. Ask the VG guys (and gals) which they prefer: Play-Station or Saturn? —Stephen Crocket Courtland VA

Yo man, chill out.What did Saturn ever do to you? Did it ever steal your woman? No. Did it help undermine your career and refuse to air your video? No. Did it

ever cast you out penniless with a bad haircut and force you to race quads in Florida? No. So stop illin', you brat and go out and buy my movie, Cool As Lee. As far as which system the VG staff prefer, they like 'em both. However, like the 3DO, so drop the zero and get with the hero.



ULTRA X-GUY

Dear VIDEOGAMES,

Dear VIDEOGMES.

I have a few questions for your staff.

First, I'd like to know what keeps your staff going on the job? Secondly, is it just me, or is it true that the more we read about the Ultra 64, the more we dislike it because of how many times its launch-date has been postponed? And I'd also like to know if any of you at VC magazine like the X-Men? I would also like to know your honest opinions on my artwork, and would like you to print it.

-Robert D. Carrick Cleveland, OH

Our staff are kept "going" on a diet of coffee (from Evil Viktor's House of Dirt) and bran muffins. Secondly, nobody is sick of N64 on account of the pant-filling excitement that surrounds this new console. We all like X-Men except Higgins, who says it's not "sporty" enough for his tastes. Your artwork is very nice, I'm sure. we'll hang it on the wall and call it "Bob."



f you have any tips or tricks that you haven't seen printed anywhere else, put them on a piece of paper or a postcard and send them to us at VIDEOGAMES, Attn: Tips & Tricks, 8484 CA 90211. If you're the first to tell us about a valuable new tip or trick, we'll print it and send you a cool new controller for your Super NES of Genesis.



Ultimate Kombat Kodes

To activate three hidden characters in the Saturn version of Ultimate MK3, access the "Ultimate Kombat Kode" screen by playing the game in one-player mode and losing. When the screen appears, enter any of the following codes with the A, B, C, X, Y and Z buttons quickly before the timer expires:

Mileena (700-723): Press X seven times, A seven times, B twice and C three times. Ermac (964-240): Press X nine times, Y six times, Z four times, A twice and B four times. Classic Sub-Zero (760-520): Press X seven times, Y six times, A five times and B twice. When one of these codes has been successfully entered, a message will appear that tells you that the character you chose is now at your control; you'll find them in the middle of the

ee Play

To earn infinite continue credits, wait for the copyright screen to appear at the beginning of the game and quickly press Up. Up, Right, Right, Left, Left, Down, Down. This code must be entered very rapidly; if you're fast enough, you'll hear Shao Khan say "Excellent!" to confirm the code. Now when you start the game, the credit counter will be replaced by the words "Free Play", which indicates that you can continue a losing oneplayer game as many times as you wish!



Quickly press Up, Up, Right, Right, Left, Left, Down, Down

Nintendo of America Inc.

Ninterido of America III. (206) 885-PLAY HOURS: Monday through Saturday—4 a.m. to midnight (Pacific



Now you can continue as many times as you like. 'cause you're in "Free Play" mode! OM THIS POINT ON. FRMAC AT YOUR CONTROL

character-select screen!

...to unlock the mystical red ninia named Ermac.

EN GETIMATE KOMBAT KOD 600000 Sec. 8

Press X seven times. A seven times. B twice and C three times...

ENTER ON INTINGTE KOMBOT KOS 310100

Press X seven times. Y six times. A five times and



...to make Mileena available as a playable character.

...to free Clas-

sic Sub-Zero

from his secret

hiding place.

Press X nine times. Y six times, Z four times. A twice and B four times...

ER EN DIVINETE KONZET KODE



You'll find these fighters at the character-select menu!!

B twice... Soda of America Inc.

(415) 591-PLAY Standard Time) seven days a week COST: Standard long-distance rates to Redwood City, California, apply.

TIPS: Sega's game counselors field questions about any Sega game for the Genesis, Sega CD, Game Gear or Master System, Questions about thirdparty games are not covered by Sega's counselors; they will, however, refer you to the appropriate phone numbers for tips on licensed titles.

Atari Corn.

(900) 737-ATARI

HOURS: 24 hours a day, 7 days a

COST: 95¢ per minute TIPS: Atari's Game Line offers Touch-Tone menus with recorded messages

Turbo Technologies Inc. (310) 337-6916

HOURS: Monday through Friday-9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Pacific Standard

COST: Standard long-distance rates to Los Angeles, California, apply. TIPS: TTI's game counselors field questions about any NEC, TTI or Working Designs game for the TurboGrafx-16 or Duo.

Electronic Arts (900) 288-HINT

HOURS: 24 hours a day, seven days COST: 95¢ for the first minute, 75¢

each additional minute TIPS: Recorded messages provide tips and passwords for Electronic Arts games; game counselors may also be available during normal busi-

U.S. Gold (Flashback Gameline) (900) 288-GAME

COST: 85¢ per minute
TIPS: Touch-Tone menus of recorded messages offering tips and strate-gies for U.S. Gold's Flashback for the Genesis and Super NES

Data East

(900) 4545-HELP

HOURS: 24 hours a day, seven days a week for recorded messages, or 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) Monday through Friday for optional game counselor assistance COST: 95¢ for the first minute, 75¢ each additional minute

PREPARE TO FLY.



COMING AUGUST

ONLY ON







Stage Select

o start at any stage in 3D Lemmings, choose "Codes" from the main menu and enter the password "LAMPWICK." Highlight "End" and press X; the message "Password Correct" will appear. Now choose a difficulty level and select "Play"; a stage-select menu will appear that allows you to start at any point in the game!



Enter the password "LAMPWICK."



Choose a difficulty level, then select "Play."



A stage-select menu will appear.



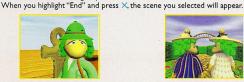
Now you can start at any level in the game!

Watch Movies

o see any of the game's full-motion video scenes, choose "Codes" from the main menu and enter one of the following passwords: SPACEAAA—Space movie EGYPTAAA-Egyptian movie ARMYAAAA—Army movie MAZEAAAA—Ending sequence



Enter one of the passwords as shown.



You can watch any of the game's animated movies.



Enter the password "MAZEAAAA" to see the ending!



Infinite Lives

n the Saturn version of Earthworm Jim 2, press START to pause the game at any time, then press Y, A, Right, Down, Down, A, Left, Right. When you press START again to return to the game, you'll find that your life counter has jumped to nine! Repeat this code whenever necessary to keep your lives maxed out.



Press START to pause, then press Y, A, Right, Down, Down, A, Left, Right.



When you unpause, you'll see that your life counter has been maxed out at nine.

Infinite Energy

At any time during the game, press START to pause, then press Left, A, Z, Y, Down, A, Y, Down. When you press START again to return to the game, you'll find that your energy meter has jumped to 100%! Repeat this code whenever necessary to keep your health maxed out



Press START to pause, then press Left. A. Z. Y. Down, A. Y. Down.



When you unpause, you'll see that your energy meter has been maxed out at 100%.

0 811111111

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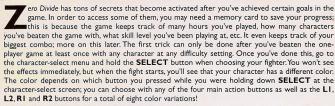
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TIPSATRICKS

Alternate Colors



First, beat the oneplayer game with any character





On your next game, hold **SELECT** and press any button to pick your character.



















Use different buttons to choose from any of eight different color variations.

Ring Select

heck the Option menu to find out how many hours you've spent playing the game. When the total is over 30 hours, a new "Area" option will appear in the middle of the characterselect screen in "Vs. Play" mode. Now you can choose which stage you want to fight in; just press **Down** repeatedly to cycle through the Area numbers.



Play until your total time is over 30 hours.



You'll get an area-select menu at the two-player character-



You can even choose to fight in XTAL's crazy palace!

Secret Comic Strip

o do this trick, you must beat the game in "Easy" mode without using any continues. (Note that we didn't say "Easy Mode or better"; that is, even if you've won the game at a higher difficulty setting, you must specifically win in "Easy" mode for this trick to work.) Once you've done this, highlight "Option" at the title screen, grab Controller 2 and hold LI+L2+RI+RZ+SELECT and press START. You'll see a title screen that says "Digital Neco Manga"; it's a comic strip starring Zero and the game's secret hidden character, Neco. Press START on Controller 2 to advance from one frame to the next.



Beat the game in "Easy" mode without using any continues.



Now highlight
"Option" and
hold LI+L2+
RI+R2+
SELECT+
START on
Controller 2.



Unfortunately, it's all in Japanese, so you might not be able to understand it.

Boss Character:

o play as the boss character, ZULU, you must beat the game in one-player mode with all eight characters, one at a time, at any difficulty setting. Once you've done this, ZULU will appear on the character-select menu in both one-player and two-player modes.



Beat the game with all eight characters at any difficulty setting.



Now ZULU is a playable character in one-player or two-player mode.



You'll see the hidden Neco comic strip!

TPS 2 TRIEKS

o fight the big-brained boss character, XTAL, you must beat the

game in one-player mode without using any continues. After you

defeat ZULU, you will face XTAL in the battle of the century! To play as XTAL, you must beat the game at the "Normal" or "Hard" difficulty settings without using any continues, then defeat XTAL when he appears, also without using any continues. Once you've done this, XTAL

Boss Character: XTAL



Beat the game without using any continues.



After you beat ZULU, you'll see this scary sight at the map screen.



It's the big-brained boss with the fruity voice: XTAL!



Try to play on "Normal" or "Hard" and get all the way through XTAL without continuing.



If you do this, you'll be able to pick XTAL in one-player or twoplayer mode!

Secret Character: NECO

o fight the secret cat character, NECO, you must first be able to play the game as XTAL (see above.) Choose XTAL and play through the game in one-player mode without using any continues. After you defeat ZULU, the XTAL logo will come in from the top of the map screen. When this happens, hold LI+L2+RI+R2+SELECT and press START. When the next battle begins, you will be fighting against NECO instead of XTAL! To play as NECO, you must play as XTAL or ZULU and beat the game at the "Normal" or "Hard" difficulty settings without using any continues. Once you've done this, NECO will appear at the characterselect menu in one-player or two-player mode.



Choose XTAL and play through the game on "Normal" or "Hard" without using any continues.



When the XTAL logo appears on the map screen, hold LI+L2+RI+R2+ **SELECT** and press START.



You'll be fighting in XTAL's stage against the crazy cat. NECO!



Try to play on "Normal" or "Hard" and beat the game as ZULU or XTAL without continuing.



If you do this, you'll be able to pick NECO in one-player or twoplayer mode!

Flat-Shaded Turbo Mode

ere's the coolest Zero Divide cheat of them all! It has two steps: You must play the game until your total playing time is over 100 hours, and you must have performed a five-hit combo at any time. Once you've met both of these requirements, go to the Option menu, highlight the "Match Point" option, hold L1+L2+R1+R2 on Controller I and press Down. You'll see the words "Shadow Obj" appear in the corner of the screen, just above the save counter. With this option in place, start the game and get ready for a surprise! The "Shadow Obj" option allows you to play the game with characters made of flat-shaded polygons instead of texture-mapped polygons: it also eliminates the background graphics. Not only does the game look different this way, but because the PlayStation is freed up from having to process all of those flashy texture maps, you'll find that the game's speed has been tripled, maybe even quadrupled! To disable the "Shadow Obj" option and return the game to normal, just highlight "Match Point", hold LI+L2+RI+R2 and press Down again.



To do the trick, you need to perform a five-hit combo and get your play time over 100 hours.



Now highlight "Match Point", hold LI+L2+RI+R2 and press Down.



You'll see the words "Shadow Obj" appear just above the save counter



Now the polygons are simplified and the action is incredibly fast!

TPSATRIERS



Disable Targeting Cursor

At the main title screen while the words "Press Start Button" are on the screen—quickly press Left, Right, C, A, START. This makes the game more difficult by disabling your mech's targeting cursor.



Quickly press Left, Right, C, A, START.



Now it's harder to lock on to your enemies.

Disable Radar

At the main title screen—while the words "Press Start Button" are on the screen—quickly press B, B, B, Down, C, START. This makes the game more difficult by disabling your mech's radar systems.



Quickly press B, B, B, B, Down, C, START.



Now your enemies will not appear on the radar.

Hard Mode

At the main title screen—while the words "Press Start Button" are on the screen—quickly press Down, C, C, A, START. This makes the game much more difficult; your enemies will shoot at you much more aggressively.



Quickly press Down, C, C, A, START.



Now your enemies will attack you more aggressively.

Infinite Jumping Ability

At the main title screen—while the words "Press Start Button" are on the screen—quickly press Up, Right, Down, Left, Z, START. This code disables your mech's jump meter. The jump energy will never be used up, so you can jump as often as you like.



Quickly press Up, Right, Down, Left, Z, START.



Now you can jump whenever you want to.

Infinite Ammunition

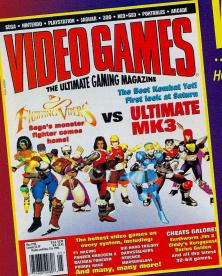
At the main title screen—while the words "Press Start Button" are on the screen—quickly press B, B, C, START. This code gives you infinite 120mm ammunition for your main gun; the weapon status window will always show 80 rounds remaining no matter how many times you fire.



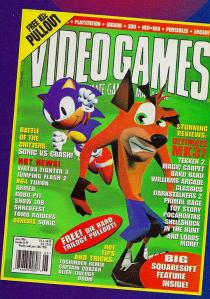
Quickly press B, B, B, C, START.



Now you have infinite ammo.



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OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 20, 1997

BANGO TOTO ZOOKener Contagy SETURI

League Mode

At the title screen—while the words "Press Start Button" are flashing on the screen, spell the game's title with the controller by pressing **B**, **A**, **C**, **Up**, **B**, **A**, **C**, **Up**, **Y**ou'll hear a chorus of voices shouting to confirm the code. Now advance to the Main Menu and you'll find a new option called "League Mode." This mode is so top-secret that even Sega must not have known about it, because nobody bothered to translate the lapanese text to English!



Spell "Bacu Bacu" by pressing B, A, C, Up, B, A, C, Up



Now you can choose the topsecret League Mode!



Here are rough translations of what the menu items say at the League Mode screen:

Game Start

Start a game in League Mode. When you choose this item, you'll get a menu that asks you to select the names of the two people who will be competing. If you haven't registered your name for League Mode play (see below) you must choose name 6, a generic name which will allow you to play without any records being saved. The last two items at the bottom of the play menu are "View Records" (see description below) and "Return to League Mode Menu."



Choose which players will be competing.



Let the action begin!



Pick a level just like in the two-player "vs." mode

The winner gets to chalk up a victory in the league standings



Congratulations!



Name Entry

Choose from one of five save slots and enter your name. Move the cursor to the "ABC" item and you'll be able to enter your name with the English alphabet instead of the default Japanese Hiragana characters. The three-character item in the upper right corner says "backspace" and the one in the lower right corner means "done."

Enter your name at this menu to register for League Mode play. Click the "ABC" icon...



...to change the characters to more familiar letters.



Delete Name

Use this option to remove any of the registered names from the machine's memory. When you select a name to delete, a small menu will come up which asks you to confirm if you really want to remove the selected player and all of his or her records from the league: choose the top item to say "Yes."

To delete a player from the League Mode registry, highlight the name and press A or C.



When this confirmation menu appears, press **Up** to choose the icon which confirms the deletion.



View Records

Use this option to check your stats. The first screen shows your winning percentage; hightyour name and press **A** or **C** to view your win/loss records against each player.

Check this screen to see the league standings, based on your winning percentage.



Press A or C to see your win/loss records against each player.



Return to Main Menu

The next-to-last menu item brings up a quick description of how the League Mode works. There's really nothing here that you can't figure out on your own just by playing the game in League Mode for a while. The last option at the League Mode menu takes you back to the Main Menu. This is a simple text screen that explains how the League Mode works.

リーグ転モードのせつめい リーグをモードでは、あかいとの場をを留し してかき、物色された場合例にする。 選手は最高ら人まで整理できます。 機能されていないプレーヤーも、IRM選手 して参加するこかできます。 品数型手の物値はRAMに存在され、2階 の場やリークが機能を発売ことができます。 BRグンでメニューに戻る



TPS&TRIEMS Invincibility

Skeleton Warriors is not a tough game, but if you're really lazy and just want to breeze through it, try this top-secret cheat. At any time during the game, press **START** to pause, then press **Down**, O, D, D, W, When you press **START** again to return to the game, you'll find that your character has become a ghostly, semi-transparent figure. Now you can walk around and hack and slash your enemies at will because they can't touch you!



Press **START** to pause, then press **Down**, ○, □, □, Up, ×.



When you unpause, you'll be able to see through your character.



You're not completely invisible, but you are completely invincible!



Invincibility

If you're a Saturn owner, don't feel left out 'cause we've got Skeleton Warriors codes for you, too. At any time during the game, press START to pause, then press C, Right, A, Z, Y, Left, A, Right, Down, B, A, B, Y ("crazy lard baby"). When you press START again to return to the game, you'll find that your character is now invincible.

Press START to pause, then press C, Right, A, Z, Y, Left, A, Right, Down, B, A, B, Y.



When you unpause, you'll be able to see through your character 'cause you're invincible!



Infinite Lives

At any time during the game, press **START** to pause, then press **B**, **A**, **Down**, **B**, **A**, **Left**, **Down**, **Right**, **Y**, **Up** ("bad bald Ryu"). When you press **START** again to return to the game, you'll find that your lives counter has jumped to 99. Repeat this code whenever necessary to keep your lives maxed out—as if you could ever use up 99 lives!

Press START to pause, then press B, A, Down, B, A, Left, Down, Right, Y, Up.



When you unpause, you'll have 99 lives in



Infinite Crystals

At any time during the game, press **START** to pause, then press **Left**, **A**, **Z**, **Y**, **C**, **Right**, **A**, **B**, **B**, **Y**, **Down**, **A**, **Down**, **Down**, **Y** ("lazy crabby daddy"). When you press **START** again to return to the game, you'll find that your crystals counter has jumped to 80. Press the **Z** or **C** button to fire your weapon and you'll see that the counter never goes down, giving you infinite firepower.

Press START to pause, then press Left, A, Z, Y, C, Right, A, B, B, Y, Down, A, Down, Down, Y.



When you unpause, you'll have an infinite supply of crystals for energy blast ammunition!



TPS&TRIEKS



Cheat Menu

If you want to crack open the secrets of Shellshock, just access the main title screen and press Up, Down, Left, Right, Down, Down, Right, Right, ... You'll hear a piano melody and the screen will change to a photo of the game's characters with a cheat menu below! Press Left or Right at the "Starting Level" option to start at any stage, or use the other options to watch all of the full-motion video footage in the game, listen to the music and sound effects or see the credits.







Press Up, Down, Left, Right, Down, Down, Right, Right,

You'll find this topsecret cheat menu!

Use it to watch all of the game's video scenes.



It also has full-on sound test options.



The best part is that you can start at any stage!

Play Japanese Discs



Normally, the American Saturn cannot be used to play Japanese Saturn software; the operating system refuses to recognize an import disc as a CD-ROM and the game will not load. However, if you own a Game Shark Video Game Enhancer, you can take advantage of a top-secret feature that allows you to get around this problem. Here's how it works: With the Game Shark installed in the Saturn's cartridge slot, put the Japanese game in the drive and turn the Saturn on. Choose "Start Game" from the Game Shark main menu, then highlight "Start Game Without Enhancements. Now hold down the X, Y and Z buttons and press START; the game will magically load just as if it were being booted on a Japanese Saturn!



Normally, the American Saturn will not allow you to play Japanese game software.



With the Game Shark installed, just hold **X+Y+Z** and press **START**.



You can play any Japanese Saturn title perfectly!



CODES

Codes for use with Interact Game Products' Game Shark Video Game Enhancers

Frank Thomas Big Hurt Baseball

F6000914-C305 + B6002800-0000—Master code (must be entered) 160ADBA8-0500—Player I always wins 160ADBA8-0005—Player 2 always wins

Golden Axe: The Duel

F6000914-C305 + B6002800-0000—Master code (must be entered) 16078A5C-0080—Infinite health, Player I 16078B50-0080—Infinite health, Player 2

Road Rash

F6000914-C305 + B6002800-0000—Master code (must be entered) 1607407E-FFFF—Infinite cash 16074074-0709—Have Stiletto bike

Skeleton Warriors

F6000914-C305 + B6002800-0000—Master code (must be entered)
1607EBCA-0064—Infinite Star Sword
1607EBBE-0064—Infinite lives
1607EBB6-0064—Infinite health

Frank Thomas Big Hurt Baseball

PlayStation 80173BD8-000F—Team I always wins

Darkstalkers

800CD1A0-0090—Infinite health, Player I 800CD514-0090—Infinite health, Player 2

PO'ed PlayStation

801DB760-0064 + 8009ABA0-0064—Infinite health 8009ABA8-0032 + 8009AC70-0100—Have ietpack

Skeleton Warriors

801DB760-0064—Infinite health 801DB774-0064—Infinite Star Sword 801DB768-0064—Infinite lives

Top Gun: Fire at Will!

PlayStation

801CFECC-0064—Infinite AGM missiles
801CFEC0-0064—Infinite MIRV missiles
801CFEBC-0064—Infinite Surefires



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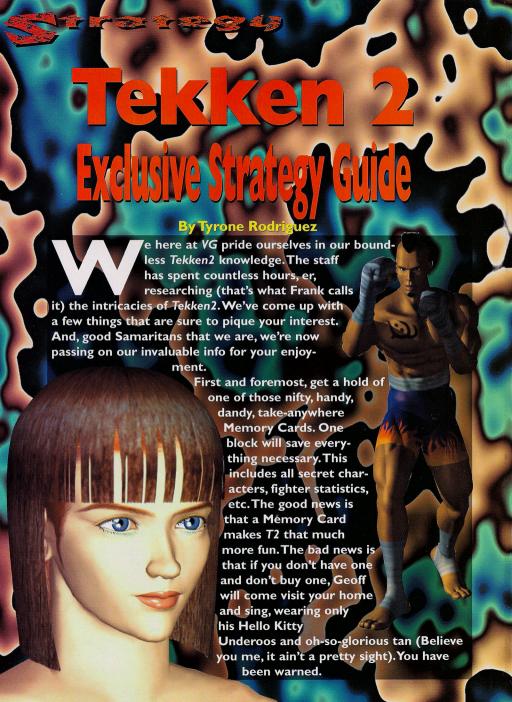
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Kazuya and Devil Angel:
Beat the game with all of the default characters.
Thereafter, they will appear in the character selection screen.

To play as Roger/Alex. Get to the last round of the third match. Defeat your opponent with a minuscule amount of energy. If done correctly, the announcer will yel, "Great!" Your next opponent will be either Alex or Roger. Defeat them and you will gain access to them.

Note All characters must be accessible for the following codes to work!

Kazuya with his snazzy purple suit: Press Start to select Kazuya with a purple suit.

Super deformed mode: In Japanese tradition, Namco has included an SD mode for T2. Note that some of the fighters' physics appear to change when in SD mode. Yoshimitsu's sword becomes elongated, etc. Extensive research has revealed, however, that the sword still has the same range, in spite of Frank's desperate claims to he contrary. Who needs Virtua Fighter Kids? Hold Select while choosing your player at the character selection screen and continue to hold the Select button until the fight has begun.























The clock is running your adrenaline is pumping

sweat is dripping into your eyes as you

feel your muscles tensing and you prepare to

make the move that for just one fraction of a second will send you

soaring right over that other guy in your

quest to feel the exquisite rush of head

conn<mark>ecting with ball and in</mark> one brilliant blinding

flesh wonder how anyone <mark>can</mark> actually

believe that this is just a game

adidas PUMPI

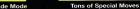
THE LAST WORD IN FAST, FURIOUS FUN FROM THE FIRST NAME IN SOCCER!



















Even Bigger Super Deformed Mode: Repeat above step a second time. Works in Versus Mode

First-person perspective: Hold LI and L2 while choosing your character. To get a second-person perspective, just do the same code on the player 2 side. The second method only works in Practice mode, as it would be impossible to do anything while both fighters are moving around.

Juggle Mode: Hold Up and Select on the opposite side's controller while choosing your character to access the juggle mode; e.g. if you're on Player One side press Up and Select on the Second Player side.

four first juggle will be normal but the second and subsequent ones will knock you high into the air, similar to Baek's Wing Blade. If you do the code on your side, your opponent will be able to juggle you high—not a very good thing to happen.

The codes can be combined for wacky effects. It is possible for you to have Devil Kazuya in super deform mode while fighting in first-person perspective! It's funky fresh!

Ever wonder what your favorite Tekken 2 characters are thinking about? We think you'll be disturbed when you find out. Here's how you do it. Select VS or Practice game, then simply leave your character alone for a minute or so. If they stand around inactive for long enough, they'll dream of ice-cream, Pac Man or even Galaxian.











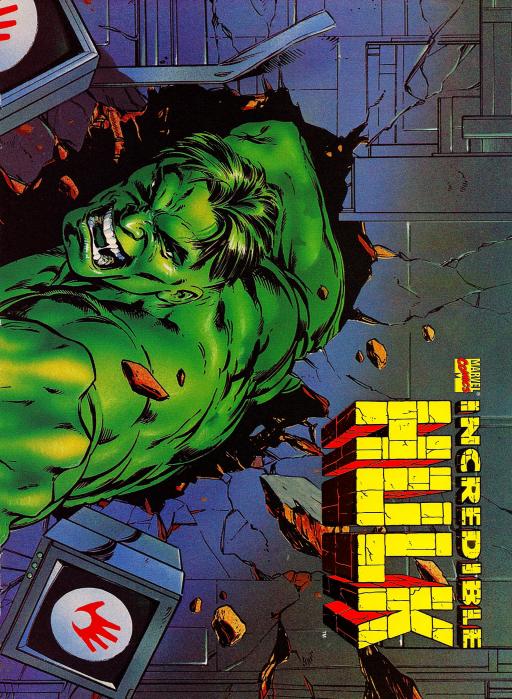










































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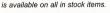
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SNES SEGA **PlayStation** Gameboy **Nintendo** MLBPA Bottom/Bit Mortal Kombat 3 NBA In The 20 NBA I Menacer Game Altered Beast Bulls vs Blazers Bulls vs Lakers Chakan NBA Allstar Chig Pirlighter Shadow Dancar Evander Hlyflid Shag Fu Sonic Hdghog Sonic Hdghog Tony La Russa Bill Walsh Fibl 95 College Fb Cyborg Just FiFA Soccer Filashback NRA Live 65 Paraltary Star 2 Paraltary S Monopoly NARC Bases Loaded NARC Ninja Gaiden Ninja Gaiden Operation Wo Pac-Man Batman Battle Unt Zth Operation C Paperboy Play Act Ftol Battletoads Bo Jackson Caesars Pal Qix Radar Mission Ren & Stimpy-SC Revenge Of Gator Simpsons-Escape Skate Or Die 1-B&R Printall Platoon Play Act Ftbl POW Pro Am Racing Pro Wrestling Punch Out Rad Racer Rad Racer 2 Space Invaders Spiderman Spiderman 2 Star Trek Nxt Gen FIFA Soccer Flashback Ghouts Ghosts Golf John Madn 95 Mario Lemieux Michl Jksn Mwk MLBPA Bsbl nkey Kong nkey Kong Land uble Dragon Power Rangers Primal Rage Ren & Stimpy Vdts Robo Trek Samural Shodown Secret Of Evrmore Secret Of Mana Star Trek Nxt Ger Star Wars Supr Mario Lnd Supr Mario Lnd 2 Supr Mario Lnd 3 Supr RC Pro Am Supr Return Jedi Supr Scrabble Revolution A Ridge Racer Road Racer Ramance 3 Kgdms 4 Shck Wave Assault Sim City 2000° Skeleton Warriors Space Griffin Street Fightr-Vipha Street Fightr-Vipha Total Eclipse Triple Play 97 Total Eclipse Triple Play 97 Wisted Metal V-Tennis Wewpoint War Hawk Wing Command's 3 Dr Mario Dr Mario Earthworm Jim F 1 Racer Final Fant Adv Final Fant Leg Final Fant Leg 2 Fist Of N Star D Darkstalkers Defcon 5 Descent Destruction De Discworld Rescue Rangers Robo Cop Roger Clemens Bsbl Roger Rabbit Rush N Attack Rygar Section Z NEAS Showatown NEL Si Novatown NEL GB Club NH-LPA 93 MEIL Babb Si NH-LPA 94 MEIL BABB SI NH Doom Dragon's Lair 2 ESPN Extrm Gn Extreme Pinball Fade To Black* FIFA Soccer 96 GEX Goal Storm ira Hy Towers sk Tracy nkey Kong Cls uble Dragon uble Dragon 2 uble Dribble Section Z Shadowgate Silent Service Simpsons-B vs SM Simpsons-B vs Wild Skate Or Die 1 Sky Shark Snake Rattle Snakes Revenge Solar Jetman Solstice Spawn Spiderman/X-Men Star Fox Star Trek Nxt Gen Star Wars Street Ftr 2 Stunt Race FX Super Mario RPG Supr Bases Lded Supr Battletank 2 Supr Black Bass Supr Back Bass Mega Man Metroid 2 Kileak-DNA Impert Kings Field Krazy Ivan Lemmings 3D Loaded Magic Carpet MLB Pennnt Race* 19 nal Fanta iday 13th Playstation Deck it Batra olgo 13 Saturn **Game Gear** carrhanger Ecco The Dolphin F 22 Inter NFL QB Club 96 NHL Allstar Hockey Off World Extreme Panzer Dragoon Pebble Beach Golf Quarterback Attack Intercptr en Axe 2 Bass Masters Big Hurt Bsbl Comix Zone Earthworm Jim Jeopardy Dtx Liberty or Death NHL Hockey 9th Shin^{to} Aladdin Arch Rivals Ax Battler Batman Returns Batter Up Big Hurt Baseball Chakan Time Lord TMNT TMNT 2 TMNT 3 To The Earth Top Gun Top Gun 2 Total Recall Town & Country Track & Field Track & Field 2 Traice sws ohn E Qback ordan vs Bird Carate Champ Carate Kid Bug Center Ring Boxing Shinobi 3 Lion King Lufia Magical Quest Mario Is Missing Mario Kart Maximum Carnage Mech Warrior Mega Man X Mega Man X2 Mickey Mania Star Trek Nxt Gen Tazmania Crystal Pony Tales Hardball 94 Judge Dredd King Salmon Land Stalker Lethal Enfror NHL Hockey 95 Streets Rage 2 Supr Str Ftr 2 TMNT Tourn Ftrs Warrlors Etrnl Sun Passion 8: Futthoud Shinobi Sim City 2000 Skeleton Warr gnt Roder ig Fu acy Of Wiz end Of Kage Force Nemo Dream th Rider George Frmn Joe Mnton ing Man-Best Of Warriors etmi our. Beavis & Butthead College Ftbl USA 96 Desert Strike a 3 bies Ate Nghbr NBA Alistans NBA Give & Go General Chaos Mortal Kombat 2 Super NES Deck We Accept: All Games Come With a 90 Day Warranty! Funco Order Form DIJCOVER **ONE YEAR Warranties are Available** VISA MasterCard Name Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am to 7:00pm Central Personal Checks and Money Orders Are Also Accepted 612-946-8107 RUSH DELIVERY! Look for us on the World Wide Web!





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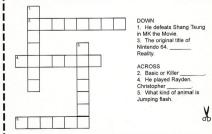
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First Look Saturn Virtua Con 2















'm so glad that I will soon have another game that uses the gun I bought with the first Virtua Cop! The gun itself is so cool it that seems like a shame to waste it on only one title. Actually, there are quite a few others coming from third parties, but none has the big name-recognition that this coin-op big boy packs. Virtua Cop 2 takes a quantum leap ahead of the first game, and it's coming to blow you away.

Last year, the original Virtua Cop helped the Saturn to enjoy a healthy Christmas season and drove parents nuts with kids shooting people on their TV sets. This year promises more of the same, except for the fact that Sega needs to make more of the VC guns available, hopefully at a lower price.

Virtua Cop 2 puts you in all-new police situations, including an insane car chase and bank hold-up. This sequel is much tougher than Virtua Cop and will, we hope, feature more bonus options than its predecessor. The enemies are more varied now, and are detailed with extra texture maps which give the game an edge over the first edition. There is no rest for law enforcement's finest.





















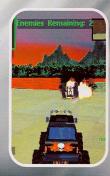


ulk smash. Hulk break stuff. That's what the Incredible Hulk does. Marvel's greenest, and possibly meanest, superhero, is perhaps the strongest creature in the galaxy—with the exception of Juggernaut and maybe The Thing. Anyway, he's pretty strong and he likes to "smash" stuff—you get the picture. And now, thanks to the good folks at Eidos, you get to play the game too. There have been a couple of similar-looking games for the

There have been a couple of similar-looking games for the PlayStation before—Hulk looks remarkably like Interplay's Loaded—but so far nobody's done a 3D maze platform game with beat-'em-up elements, so at least it's a first. The version we played had only one level, so it's hard to say how this will look when complete.

The forced 3D perspective works well enough, and the addition of accurate light-sourcing adds a spectacular dimension. Marvel-esque metal guitar follows the action as Hulk leaps, punches and kicks his way around each level. Eidos promises a bunch of boss characters, all favorites from the comic book and plenty of cartoon violence. Mmm. Hulk smash.

First Look Playstation Two isted Vieta 2







ne of the most exciting games for the PlayStation is Twisted Metal. Its intense gameplay and cool array of vehicles were greatly enhanced by the game's desolate backdrop and amazing soundtrack. This was one game that truly amazed.

Well, a year has passed and it's time for a seque!! This time, Calypso is talking his tourney on the road, due to the fact that the good people of L.A. don't want him and his ruffians tooling about in their town. In search of a new home, Calypso takes the contest to New York, Paris, Moscow and Tokyo, he even holds a contest in Antarctica. Along with many of the old contestants, some new guys are taking a whirl, including a bulldozer, a hearse and a race car.

TM2 looks great with its new locations, vehicles, and weapons. Only problem that I can see is that it looks like there will be no link capabilities. That may change, though.





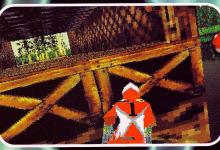
















t seems that whenever SCEA and Single Trac get together, good things happen. Last year, they gave us two of the best PlayStation games, Warhawk and Twisted Metal. This year, along with

TM2, you're going to see this game: Jet Moto.

Jet Moto is a racing game in which you ride a jet bike that can cruise over land, water, or fly through the air. This kind of latitude results in a wide range of courses—I2 in all—that will have you splashing through swamps and dodging around trees and boulders

One of the game's big selling points is that a great deal of time was spent on getting the bike physics correct so that it will react realistically to the courses and their obstacles. Also, Jet Moto has no set courses, just a start and a finish. This will allow players to discover different ways of getting to the finish line fastest. The fastest way between two points is no longer a straight line. That's exactly the kind of variety a game like this needs.

First Look PlayStation Blast Chamber









riginality is one ingredient that's particularly hard to come by in the video game market. As is the case in Tinsel Town, you can bet dollars for donuts that whatever product is being developed is just a new rehash of an old idea.

It was this cynical approach that made us step back when we saw Activision's new game, Blast Chamber. Although it's little more than a cyber-sporting event, Blast Chamber is one of the simplest, and cleverest, team games we've ever seen.

The rules are simple: You have a certain amount of time to get a crystal from wherever it may rest, into your goal. The problem is that there are many obstacles littering the playing surface. And, when playing a multi-player match, you must fight between your opponents. What makes Blast Chamber so refreshing is that you can shift the chamber you are in by running up the walls. This allows you access to the other playing surfaces and will help you to disorient your opponents. Looks like great fun.







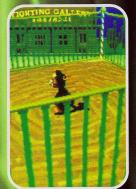


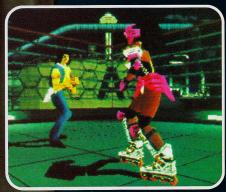
Fighting Vipers

















he big fighting game for the Saturn this Christmas is Fighting Vipers. Excited? Why not? This game didn't get the attention it deserved in the arcades, but now home users will be able to take in all the neat extras Sega has included over the original VF2 engine. This is yet another step forward for Sega 3D fighting games and may well give the Saturn an edge over the PlayStation in this respect.

One of the biggest flaws in the arcade version was the short time period you had in any given match—30 seconds—which was far too brief to stage a comeback. The home version will remedy this problem with adjustable round times and a whole bunch of other option-related goodies.

For those unfamiliar with the game, here's a quick run-down. You fight in a fence-enclosed ring which you can use to knock opponents against and through. The fighters wear armor that can be knocked off (upper and lower) and possess counter-strikes that are easy to do and needed to break armor. Lots of hidden moves, plenty of violence. This one's a winner. Trust me.

First Look PlayStation Strain Harbiton











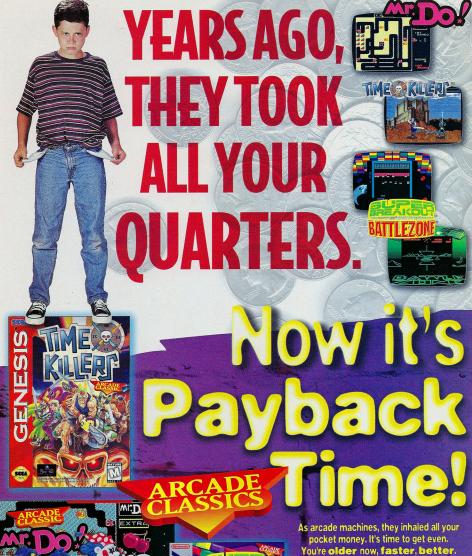




lien chicks wearing thong-armor are always a welcome element in any sci-fi piece of work. Of course, Steel Harbinger isn't just a pretty face and a smile; it also packs a nice frightening storyline to go along with all the laser-blasting action.

The first thing to grab you is the freaky opening cinema sequence detailing the story of the invasion. The aliens storm the world and aren't shy about shedding human blood in their quest to turn the human race into half-metallic organisms. The plot's far from original, but entertaining gameplay is the more important factor in this adventure.

You have to perform a variety of tasks involving a lot of searching and evasion along the vast landscape. Steel controls well and, hopefully, its mission objectives will deliver the diversity needed for this type of game.



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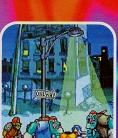
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First Look Saturn Thur each Director Dwarves













he best way to describe this game is a as cross between Streets of Rage and Guardian Heroes, but different. Three Dirty Dwarves manages to borrow from various sources while maintaining its own brand of dwarven hijinks.

I really like the cartoon-style graphics that 3DD uses; they're large and which animate nicely. Character design is interesting, with a grungy theme throughout. You control one character at a time, with the other two right behind you and ready for battle. You can switch manually between them, or, if the controlled character is hit, the next in line will automatically come forward. The dwarves have regular attacks as well as specialized weapons like a shotgun, a bowling ball, and a baseball and bat which you control like a game of Three Flies Up (toss the ball to yourself and whack).

The dwarves are looking good so far and we'll be looking forward to reviewing this one soon.









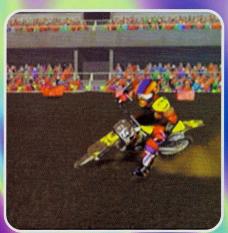


First Look PlayStation | Cook | Cook | PlayStation







ow here's a game that should have been done a while ago: moto-cross racing. I mean, come on—dirt bikes, mud and gnarly race courses are three components which are sure to please. This is the kind of manly fun which makes you want to dust off that old Mongoose and ghost-ride it into the nearest tree.

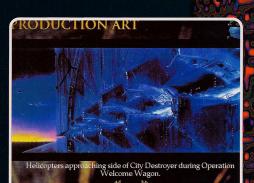
Playmates has taken the classic Excitebike, mixed in a little Road Rosh, and put the "virtua" spin on it. What you're left with looks like becoming one of the most promising racing titles of the year. Choose from a half-dozen racing teams and enter the chase for the grand prize (well, as grand as any prize can be for someone racing on a low-brow circuit like moto-cross).

The playability is there, as well as some snappy graph ics and comparable sound. The only problem with the game at this point is that it's really tough to discern the muddy course from the muddy background. There's just too much damn mud!

FIRST LOOK PC CD-ROM INSTIDE INDEPENDENCE DAY







DESTROYERS PEEL FROM THE SHIP AND HEAD TOWARDS EARTH

Of 9
30 of 6

ormally we only preview games, but Inside Independence Day is so cool, we thought we would make an exception this month. Independence Day proved to be the biggest boxoffice hit of the summer, and Inside Independence Day lets you find out just what went into making the biggest blast of the decade. This is a whistlestop tour through the amazing world of special effects, planning and sheer imagination that went into the movie. Point, click and explore.

Many of the things included on this PC CD-ROM aren't even included in the final cut of the movie, so you get to see a lot of extra effects and scenes. There are interviews with the cast and crew, as well as the writers and directors. There are bloopers, movies and stills from the movie, models, maps...in short, you name it, Inside Independence Day has it.

This is going to be one of the hottest-selling CDs around, and it's kind of a shame that you won't be able to buy this for PlayStation or Saturn. Ask your dad if he'll let you borrow his PC for a while....







NK has done it again, but this time with the help of ADK. Neo Geo games have been a little thin on the ground for the last few months, and the ones we have seen have all been fighting games. Over Top is a driving game, similar to the Rally games you've seen on this system before.

Although the control system is cool, it's fairly simplistic and kind of twitchy in places. The variety of vehicles available more than makes up for that failing, though. You can drive a Hummer, a motorbike, even a Ferrari lookalike, all of which handle in different ways.

There are loads of secrets to discover, but the most useful is the wealth of shortcuts hidden throughout the game. These can make what would be a very dull game very cool indeed. Full review next month.

SHK Neo Geo First Look OVERTO O







First Look SNK Neo Geo

Super Dodge Ball







ports games really don't get much simpler than Dodgeball, so it comes as something of a surprise to learn that Super Dodgeball is one of the most involving games available for the Neo Geo. Best of all, it manages to combine the best elements of sports games with fighting games, almost creating a brand-new genre!

Each of the zany characters available in Dodgeball has his or her own array of special moves and abilities. A lot of these moves are accessed using SF 2-style moves. A lot of experimentation (or an instruction manual) is required to figure out who does what, and how.

The graphics are wonderful. Brilliantly drawn and (reasonably) smoothly animated figures leap around on a detailed and impressive variety of backgrounds.

First Look PlayStation Turnelle

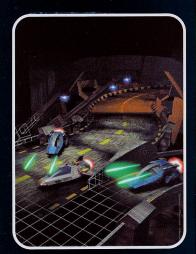
















cean has been teasing us with this hotlooking PlayStation game for some time, but the good news is that it will also be appearing on Saturn. The PlayStation version of the game will actually be released by Sony, which wants to take control of the so-called second generation products.

That's'as big a compliment as a game could hope for, though, and it certainly fits this fast-action racing sim. It's set in a future world, filled with decay and violence, not entirely unlike Wipeout, in fact. The similarity to Wipeout ends there, though, since this is about twice as smooth as Psygnosis' amazing racer.

Graphics and speed are what make this stand out from the crowd, as you pilot your super-fast craft through tunnels (in full 3D) trying to avoid enemy fire as well as the more conventional racing-style objects. *Tunnel* may not be a catchy name, but the game is going to be awesome.













PlayStation



cean really seems to be coming up with the booty these days. Worms is one of our favorite action/puzzle games, and Tunnel is setting hearts racing wherever it's shown. Viper, if anything, looks better than both of those titles and should set new standards for graphics on the PlayStation at least.

Like Tunnel, Viper will appear on PlayStation courtesy of Sony, with the Saturn version following later as a regular Ocean of America release. Saturn fans can look forward to a version that Ocean promises will be just as much fun.

The graphics are possibly the smoothest we've ever seen on a PlayStation game, and the fast-action helicopter-blasting gameplay promises to liven up the visual appeal of the game. Split into many different missions, your task is to blow stuff up, rescue some guys and try to stay in the sky as long as possible. The ground is a very unforgiving place.

First Look PlayStation Burning











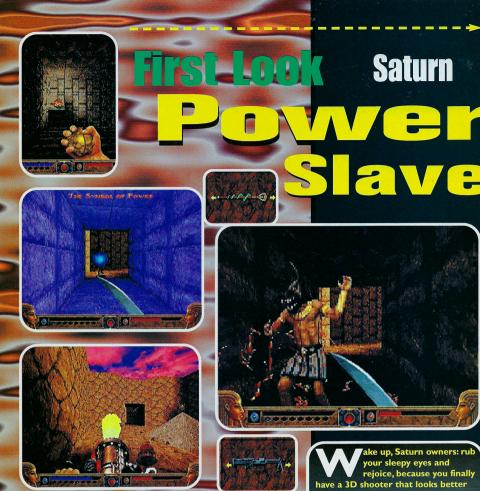
ike PlayStation owners really needed another driving game? I mean, come on!

Well, I suppose they could use a Daytonameets-Dirt Dash—with a hint of Frenchiness. And that's exactly what Burning Road is. The game, although released by Playmates, is by two companies named "Toka" and "FunSoft," who apparently felt the need to Frenchify the game.

All the voiceovers are from some weird French (Belgian!) guy who says things like, "Decided like this" when you choose an option. This is backed up by the incredible "Burning Road" song, which is very spazzed-out indeed.

The graphics are among the smoothest and most solid ever seen on a PlayStation racing game and the gameplay is equally solid. Three (possibly more) tracks, varying weather and lots of cars. Cool!





than anything on the PlayStation. Yes, sir. Powerslave is the name of the game, and it comes from the good (or perhaps evil) people at PlayMates.

Original it's not. Powerslave is a blatant copy of games like Hexen, Doom and Duke Nukem 3D. The good news is that, original or not, this is made, not to mention a darned good title in its own right.

The 3D graphics are super-smooth, with all sorts of light sourcing and texture-mapping to tart up the proceedings. The weapons are cool, with everything from a sword to a flamethrower. Puzzles are tricky enough to vex you, without being altogether too frustrating. Yup, this is a biggie alright. We can hardly wait.







First Look PlayStation Bubble Robbert















ack in the olden days, all we had to play with were dinosaurs. Bub and Bob to be precise. These Jurassic Juveniles are the heroes of Taito's now gnarled and ancient Bubble Bobble coin-op. They are also featured in Puzzle Bobble, the popular Tetris-style puzzle game.

Bubble Bobble features some pretty radical action as you (and a pal, in two-player mode) attempt to imprison rogue bad guys in your bubble-icious spit. Once imprisoned, the bad guys can be popped out of existence and out of your hair.

It gets better, though. Since Bubble Bobble is a remarkably sim ple game, Acclaim has taken the liberty of including a couple of littereats, not the least of which is a fully playable version of Rainbow Islands, the brilliant sequel. This is quite early, so expect it to get even better.







0 8 8

he people have longed for a real meaty fighting game with cool RPG-style campaigns, and now, Take 2 Interactive is intent on giving the people what they want. Iron & Blood will have the usual battle and vs. mode of battle, but will also feature the much anticipated campaign mode.

Iron & Blood sports the official Advanced Dungeons and Drogons license, so all the dwarves, orcs and magicians are authentic D&D-endorsed combatants. That doesn't mean that these guys are established characters. I'm sure that would have cost extra dough and cut into development time that's better spent on making the game as good as possible.

The game looks good and features 16 action-packed characters, with a mix of heroic fighters and demonic denizens of evil. Check out this month's insert poster and look for the VG review soon.

JUMPING FLASH 2

PLAYSTATION SCEA REVIEW Price: \$49.99

aron Aloha. Perhaps the most twisted criminal mastermind the Universe has ever seen. His planet-stealing

antics were stopped once before by Galactic City Hall and by the talents of



Robbit—a robotic rabbit. But now it's Baron Aloha who is the victim, and Robitt must save him.

The even more evil Captain Kabuki (a giant fruit-creature in a tu-tu) has stolen planet parts for



his "Planet in a Bottle" collection. (Look, I'm telling you this the way it is; it's not my fault if it doesn't make sense—Ed.)

Robbit must reassemble the planets as well as rescue their inhabitants, the Muus. Muus are called "Muus" because they go, "Muu" a lot. Seriously. Stand next to one and listen. I bet you 50

bucks it

"Muu." Yes this is creepy and stupid.

The game, however, is a masterpiece, but perhaps a little too similar to the first outing. Jumping Flash was brilliant and original. This is just brilliant. The graphics have been improved slightly, but not as much as they could have been. There are new effects, such



as underwater levels and cooler explosions. This is a tougher game too.

Many readers complained that the first Jumping Flash game was too easy and too short. Jumping Flash 2 players will be pleased to note that this is bigger and harder.

The sound effects and music, as with the first game, are top notch. A ton of wacky sound



effects
accompany
the equally
wacky
music and
drive the
game on
at a stu-

pendously frenetic pace.

The rendered intros are amusing and good-looking, and the cheesy commentary never

VIDEOCAMES HYPERHINT

Mastering the difficult three-stage jump is all-important. Without it, you're destined to fail. Timing is everything, and once you've developed the correct rhythm, you'll be unstoppable. You should also note



that killing the bad guys is a complete waste of time. You'll get more bonus points from completing the levels in a fast time than you will for destroying critters. Also, don't spend time exploring: Use the radar!



grates. The inclusion of "Time Attack" mode gives players a little

something extra for their investment and, all in all, this game represents good value for money.

If you don't already have a copy of the original, I'd suggest buying this

instead. If you do have the original, get this too. It's better and

it's bigger.



Graphics 8
Sound/FX 9

Gameplay

Rating

9

S = VIDEOGAMES HYPERHINT! HULK

PLAYSTATION ELECTRONIC ARTS **REVIEW Price:** \$49.99

lectronic Arts wowed us with this title on the 3DO. ■ With its great graphics, its engrossing gameplay and some truly spooky atmosphere, Space Hulk became one of the great 3DO games.

You play one of a group of "Terminators" whose job it is to battle the evil Genestealers throughout the galaxy. In this particular game, you must venture into a huge, derelict space ship and search out archive data. Besides the campaign option, you can also play scenarios made popular on the PC version and the original board game.



What makes Space Hulk so much fun is that it requires much more strategy than your standard Doom-clone. You're only one of a group of soldiers and must function as part of the unit. Your job is to watch your buddy's back and carry out your leg of the operation, whether it be setting explosives, say, or guarding a

When you've earned the right to control the movement of the Terminators, placement is of the utmost importance. You'll get nowhere in this game if you don't properly disperse these guys in order to cut



down the Genestealers. Make sure that everyone's back is covered and that, where possible, you set up your troops to catch the enemy in a crossfire. This way they'll go down a whole lot faster.

hatchway. As you progress through the

game, you will take command of the whole group and will have to deploy them as you see fit. Those Genestealers are ferocious and plentiful, so you'll have to deploy your personnel wisely.

While the overall package is good, there are features of Space Hulk that should have been much



hetter Since this version. as far as I can tell, is an exact port of the 3DO, the graphics

Neither are the scrolling or the sound. One aspect of the game with the most impact is the chatter amongst Terminators and the commander. The dialogue splicing, however, is a bit choppy and redundant, almost dispelling the illusion of the situation.



Space Hulk still offers you excellent playability and a superb storyline which propels the game at an intense pace. Although it may be a little disappointing for those familiar with the game, Space Hulk remains a worthy addition to your PlayStation library and is recommended for those of you yet to play it.



Graphics Sound/FX

Gameplay

Rating

Gungriffon

SATURN Sega REVIEW Price: \$49.99

ungriffon is the best battling 'mech game I've ever played. Everything, from the graphic presentation to the control of the 'mech, has exactly the right look and feel.

The missions unfold in different locales and are very distinctive. There are areas covered in snow or shrouded with fog. Some levels take place at night or during the red twilight. It would have been nice if there were multiple tasks in each of the mission locales, resulting in a longer game. The colors used in the game are also worth mentioning since they do a good job of con-



veying the proper atmosphere of any given stage.

Maybe there aren't enough missions, but those we have are formidably tough and challenging. The later missions pack intelligent enemies which move in groups, forcing you to use strategic placing. Refueling helicopters must be protected at all costs in order to finish missions.

VIDEOGRAS HYPERHINTE

The main thing you need to nail down in Gungriffon is the controls. There's a training mission available to help you get adjusted. Use it! It would also be wise to tackle the missions in a specific order. The night-time



order. The night-time level isn't as hard as it seems because the enemies are easier to defeat, if harder to see. Make sure you take advantage of the night vision your 'mech is equipped with. Jumping is the best defense against an unseen enemy.

The biggest mistake

most 'mech games make is in the control and overall feel of the robot. In Gungriffon, your robot moves around with weight and gives you the feeling of controlling one of those vehicles from Robotech. I'm no expert, but the physics of the 'mechs feel correct. The way your robot reacts

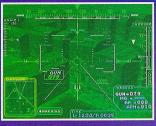


when loosing off a few megatons of heavy-duty firepower is also very satisfying

Another thing that grabs your attention is the design of the vehicles and armored warriors in the game. They look very cool and have that anime-influenced style. Unfortunately, the box art features some random robot not featured in the game, but it still looks great.



Gungriffon definitely isn't for everybody, because of its rather complex controls and its steep learning-curve. The game isn't impossible, however, and good arcade skills will help you prevail as long as you use good planning. Most gamers will dig right in and discover one of the best Saturn games of the summer.



Graphics 9
Sound/FX 8
Gameplay 8
Rating 9

TURN Electronic Arts VIEW Price: \$49.99

ikes and violence tend to go together, thanks to Hell's Angels and those weird people from the Saturn car commercials. Putting them together deliberately has long been the job of Electronic Arts. with its bestselling series of Road Rash games. The original Genesis game caused a huge stir when it was released several years ago. This latest Saturn conversion of the game is no disappointment.

The graphics, although not guite as silky as in the previous PlayStation incarnation, are certainly a lot better than the 3DO game's visuals. Smooth-scrolling



road terrain flashes past as you attempt to dismount competing racers with maximum force. Race game though it certainly is at heart, Road Rash could never be described as a sport, since none of your activities are particularly sportsmanlike.

The wealth of options is useful, but the handiest of all is the

EUGAM S HYPERHINT :

Fighting may be cool, but it's not always the smartest thing to do. If you're concentrating on trying to beat an opponent, you could well lose your place in the overall race. A far smarter strategy is to concentrate



on racing first and fighting second. If someone's getting in your way, attack 'em with any force necessary, by all means; otherwise, avoid them. Also, like any racing game, try to find the racing line through corners.

between this and the PlayStation version is not an easy task.

Electronic Arts is really starting to come through with the goods for Saturn owners, and after a fairly quiet year (thanks to the long delay of Madden for PlayStation) it finally looks like the boys are back in town



inclusion of

a simultane-

player, split-screen game. Woo-

hoo! In two-player mode, Road

ing diversion to an all-out road-

the various tracks is super-

Rash is elevated from an interest-

war. The strategy involved in arc-

ing and fighting your way through

ous two-

behind you. In short, the possibilities are limitless.

One of the coolest things about Road

Rash is the soundtrack. This extra musical dimension was obviously missing from the Genesis game, but the CD consoles have music by the bucketful, as well as some totally bitchin' sound effects. The Saturn version in particular sounds very crisp and clear. Trying to spot the difference





Graphics Sound/FX Gameplay Rating

Iver od

PLAYSTATION

f you thought Resident Evil was a bloody horror experience, wait till you play Silverload. The games share a common theme, but their play elements are totally different from each other, Silverload is a point-andclick adventure title with an occasional shooting game thrown in.

You play the role of a wandering gunslinger-type guy who has found himself in the middle of something sinister. The game opens with you huddled around a campfire with a lonesome traveler. He tells how bandits kidnapped his son and the children of his caravan mates. He tells you of a



town called Silverload where staying longer than you need to is not advisable. He took his son with him to Silverload for supplies and they were attacked when they got back. After you talk with the other members of this troupe. you head into the town.

The atmosphere is eerie and the graphics are not for the

squeamish. There are

rotting

corpses, rotting animals and many other icky things in various states of decay. The town is sparsely populated and if you had neighbors like these, you'd be pretty anxious to hit the trail too.

You control the game by pointing at "hot" spots that allow you to select a direction or receive



You'll also need to gather items and use them in specific locations. some are

pretty obvious, while others are considerably more complex.

Death isn't shy about rearing its head in Silverload so be prepared to bite the dust a lot. Don't forget to save often and make sure you have a memory card.

Silverload is highly entertaining and has a degree of difficulty that



HYPERHINT'S

To help you get around, make a map of the town and surrounding areas. It's also smart to keep notes of places where items might be used. This will help you look for something that might solve a puzzle later on.



Make sure you talk to everybody and ask them every question. Items can sometimes be acquired merely by asking. There are, however, times when you should watch what you say-when talking to the Sheriff, for instance

will keep you playing for a while. The only downside is the replay factor, but you can always play to get 100 percent items which has a little bonus ending scene, or simply to revisit the place known as Silverload whenever you need to feel the hairs on your neck stand on end.



Graphics R Sound/FX Gameplay

Rating

GUNSHIP

PLAYSTATION MICROPROSE REVIEW Price: \$49.99

VIDEOGAMES HYPERHINT

There are a couple of things you're going to need to know in order to succeed in this game. One is to play it from the cockpit view. This allows you immediate access to much more information than you



need—like your co-pilot's comments. Another piece of advice is to make sure that you're mentally prepared for some serious tedium. I would recommend some No-Doz to keep you awake.

he only good helicopter games made for the home console are EA's Strike series. I will stand by that. The fact of the matter is that flight sims—be they plane, helicopter or hot-air ballon—are tedious, plain and simple.

It's not that the games are technically poor. On the contrary, most simulations are marvellous recreations of the real thing. But therein lies the biggest problem: they're realistic. Games like Desert Strike and Afterburner were arcade games that emphasized ease of playability with a lot of pyrotechnics, as opposed to real-



istic aerial combat. One didn't have to worry about the intricate ins and outs that make up true flying. In real life, there's a painfully large amount of downtime between combat and objectives. Now, while this is OK with real-life pilots, who would like to avoid being shot at, it sucks for those of us who like to fly by the

seat of our Lay-Z-Boy. Sims are just plain boring and have no business on the console. Let them stay on the computer where they belong.

Gunship is no different from all other sims, insofar as you're hard-pressed to find anything to do. You spend a painful amount of time just trying to get into the vicinity of the enemy instead of blowing them up. Even worse,



you do
blast
the bad
guys,
your
only
reward
is a dis-

tinctly sub-par explosion.

You can campaign in two theatres of operations: the Persian Gulf and Central Europe. While Gunship does offer an arcade mode for those not as interested in sims, it still lacks the break-



neck intensity that gamers crave.

The game does have the depth for long-term play value, but I'm not sure why you'd want to play this game for long.

I'm sure hardcore fans of flight sims will enjoy Gunship, For those of you reading this, add one or two extra points to the overall score. If you're looking for some action, though, stay away from this title. It just doesn't deliver.



Graphics

Sound/FX

Gameplay

Rating

6

Mohawk and Headphone Jack's Rap Attack!

his is your chance to prove, once and for all, that you are the phattest, dopest, most illin' chillster on the block. You can bust a move, throw a break or, ahem, some other stuff, because we want to hear your rhymes. Not only that, but the most kickin' rhymes will be rewarded with a mess o' spectacular prizes from THQ, the sponsors of this killer kontest. Word.

All you have to do is make up a rap about the antics of Mohawk and Headphone Jack—the two dopest homies in town. Your rap should be written in the form of song lyrics, or as a poem, on a sheet of paper. If you send a video or audio cassette, we will listen to it and it will be entered into the contest, but you can kiss your tape goodbye, because we won't send 'em back, unless they're accompanied by a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope. Now remember, Tipper Gore is always watching, so let's keep it nice 'n' clean, OK?

Here is an example rhyme, as busted by our glorious leader, Phat Frank O'Hood:

Rolling In my five point oh With my hankie out So my nose can blow

Ladies
With the red hot moves
Are dancin'
To my hyped-up grooves

Mohawk And the Headphone Jack Are dancin' 'Cause phat Phrank is back Word.

That was Phat Phrank's rap. Of course, your rhyme has to be good.

GRAND PRIZE (one lucky winner)
Mohawk Crew Jacket (awesome)
Sony CD Stereo Boom Box
(illin')

CD Carry Case (necessary)
Mohawk and Headphone Jack
video game (Super NES)
T-Shirt (thrillin')
Sunglasses (cool-a-mundo)

FIRST PRIZE (ten winners)
Mohawk and Headphone Jack
video game (Super NES)

SECOND PRIZE (ten winners)
CD Carrying case

THIRD PRIZE (50 winners!)
T-Shirt
Sunglasses



SEGA

Price: \$49.99

ookin' for a portable puzzle game that offers a whole barre lof mirth? Look no further: Boku baku, the super-addictive Columns: clone for the Saturn, is now available for the Game Gear

The Royal Zoo needs a zookeeper!
If you want the job you'll have to
prove your skill by keeping the animals fed. So what you need to do to
impress the Brass is match the animal with its proper food
as speedily as you
can. There are four

s speedily as you can. There are four types of animals: pandas, rabbits, degs, and monkeys. OK, so they aren't the most stock a zoo with. They never said which Royal Zoo it was It might be the Royal Zoo of Bangladesh or sonething. They be still trying to keep the Royal Cupboard stocked, so they don't have the funds to spruce up the zoo yet. Maybe. That's not the point, though. The point is, monkeys eat

point is, monkeys eat bananas, pandas eat bamboo, dogs eat bones and rabbits go for carrots. Whenever an animal is next to his food, he eats it and clears those blocks. If you're better at doing this than your opponent, then you'll win.

than your opponent, then you'll win.

Simple as that

Although the sound and graphics
are, of course not as dazzling as on
the 32-bit version, the gameplay

HEXT

remains intact in the translation. There's a password feature which allows you to save a game, and you can even link your NEXT COLUMN TO THE COLUMN TO T

Game Gear with a theod's and play versus mode. Baku Baku is a superbogame which is just as entertaining of the portable as it was on the Saturn

Graphics 7
Sound/FX 8

Gameplay 7

Rating

8

ou know it's a classic, I know it's a classic; we all know it's a classic. This mega-hit for the PC and Mac has recently graced the Saturn with its greatness and has now found the time to do a similar number for the PlayStation.



If you don't already know about this game, then you're way beyond help. Sim City is one title in a catalogue of building sims that allow you to generate your own living community. Zone out living and commercial areas;

build parks and schools; set up police precincts and construct sports stadia—it's all here.

Sim City 2000 for the PlayStation resembles its home-computer counterpart in every respect. The

graphics aren't as clear as they could be in this day and age, but they more than suffice in creativity and detail. Ease-of-play is also maintained, permitting the user to play with either the normal controller or mouse. The only



Sim City 2000

PLAYSTATION REVIEW

Maxis Price.

Price: \$50

outdated and is in need of an infusion of new blood.

Graphics

Sound/FX

Gameplay

Rating

7

6

8



This month, we take a look at an import release from Enix called Star Oceans, and the epic Legend of Oasis from Sega.

RPG NEWS

ZELDA 64

Lately in the offices of VIDEOGAMES, we've been endlessly playing Mario 64. After extended play, we can't help but think that this Mario game is now very much like Zelda. In Mario 64, our

favorite plumber goes to different areas and collects stars (kind of like the tri-force) in order to access new areas. Mario walks around freely and talks to his friends and to residents of certain areas. They give him hints about star locations, or tell him a story that gives him a clue as to what must be done next. So what will Zelda be like on the N64? What kinds of special things are in the works for transforming the Land of Hyrule into a 3D expanse? The Zelda game has been in the works for four years now (most of it in planning and puzzle design) and is set to be released on the bulky drive device. There's no doubt that this game is going to look stupendous and will play to perfection (à la Mario). Original plans called for a Christmas release, but with the U.S. delay of the bulky storage device, that's up in the air. It's hard to say when the bulky device will be released, due to the shifting release date of the N64, but for all you patient Zelda fans



out there, great rewards will soon be yours.

STAR OCEANS

The latest RPG to come from Enix is Star Oceans.
Weighing in at a hefty 48 Megs, it's set for release July 19 in Japan. There has been talk that



Nintendo might release several Enix RPGs, like *Dragon* Quest, but nothing has been confirmed officially. Nintendo







There will also be prizes for RPG art. Lucky winners will get their names in RPG Attack! and will be sent a list of games they can select from. So what are you waitin' for?! Write in with all your RPG questions, observations and artwork. Especially art! We can have up to three winners a month, and possibly more, depending on how many responses we receive. We already have one winner selected (the person won't find out till next month) and we're on the hunt for more!

FANZINES

Unfortunately, VG seldom has enough space to cover fanzines in depth, but we fit them in whenever we can. Especially if it's well produced, like Shining Forth. RPG Attack! featured SF in an earlier issue, but we like it so much we're promoting it again! Shining Forth is produced by Robert Schmitz, with artwork provided by John Watkins-Chow. The issue you see here is the May 1996 edition and will cost you a mere \$2. The price has gone up from a buck, due to the increase in pages. Send for info: P.O. Box 98, Yorkville, NY, 13495.



has already picked up the U.S. rights to release Street Fighter Alpha 2 from Capcom (Capcom itself will release it in Japan) and is looking at other high-profile titles from other developers. Let's all hope that Nintendo will release at least two new RPGs later this year.

THANK YOU, UG RPG READERS! WRITE IN FOR FREE GAMES!

I've been getting a lot of great reader feedback on RPG Attack! and I hope you'll continue to write in. The most surprising thing is that many of the letters have been from female RPG lovers. In recognition of this fan support, we will select an RPG letter of the month in Soundboard. The winner will be able to select any game made by Working Designs (they're swell and generous folks, aren't they?).



LEGEND OF OASIS



I'm sure many fans of the original Beyond Oasis have been keeping track of this update and have wondered if it's as good as the first one. The only complaint I had about Beyond Oasis was its length-about 10 or 15 hours. Let me tell you right off the bat that Legend of Oasis is much, much longer and is at

Myra (ii mysteriou The black-hair who is beleived to a prophet.

Many believed they would

times more frustrating than the first. This, of course, is a good thing. The story revolves around Leon (who looks just like the

hero from the original, but isn't), who lives in Aquaria, a small village in Oasis. Oasis is enjoying a time of peace, but that won't last for long. Ordan, who is Leon's father, has dis-

covered the Golden

Armlet, which is only one of two mystical pieces. The matching piece is the Silver Armlet, and together they represent knowledge and will.

The armlets were originally worn by Reharl (gold) and Agito (silver), who for many years fought an epic battle for control over Aquarius. Reharl eventually won and now, after all this

and you can

character with a vor-

Rehard

resides among the

The first Spirit Kind and keeper of the Gold Amilet It was Rehar who or cincilly banished Agito Rehardnow

















Gathering elementals was a part of the original, and returns in Legend. There are now six elementals, plus two newcomers join-

ing the action. In addition to Dytto (water), Efreet (fire), Bawu (earth) and Shade (darkness), there are Brass (sound) and Airl (air), all ready to serve the Spirit King.

The coolest thing about Legend of Oasis is that it's exactly like Beyond Oasis—

except better. The control is tight, the graphics look spruced, the sound's clearer, and the adventure's longer. There are more special attacks, weapons, and items. It would have been nice to have even more weapons and items, but everything you get serves a purpose, and besides, it might get kind of hectic



If you're new to the land of Oasis, you'll find yourself in the middle of a meaty game of action and adventure. Like Zelda, this game can appeal to many different players and should reapbig sales, thus perhaps

big sales, thus perhaps prompting a bigger RPG push from Sega. Prepare yourself for the Legend of Oasis.













ES VS. CAR

ust recently, Sony Sports invited the press down to San Diego for a little demonstration of its upcoming title, MLB Pennant Race. Since these guys were from Sony, they obviously weren't going to leave it at that: the trip needed some pizazz. And that's where the Cardinals and Padres come in

The San Diego trip wasn't just for us to get a chance to play the game, but also for the boys from the St. Louis Cardinals. These guys like their video games, just like the rest of us. Mark Sweeney, Alan Benes and Cory Bailey each took turns testing the new title. They were impressed. We were impressed. Hell, everyone was



Channel 9 sportscaster stumps Alan Benes when he asks him what the formula for the area of an isosceles triangle is.



impressed.

MLB Pennant Race wasn't the only event planned for us, though. The next day, Kevin Horn, the crowned King of PR, took us to a Padres/Cards game and allowed us to go onto the field and get a feel for what The Show is really like. Both teams took the field for some light batting practice and we from the press got a chance to see something that's rarer than a Condor in northern California: a good Padres team. Thank God I brought my camera. Later on, we were shooed off the playing field so that the game could commence, a game that would see the Cardinals win for the first time in San Diego for three years. Who cares? I'm an AL fan. Go Red Sox! Yeah, yeah, don't laugh-I'd like to see you do better (actually, if you're a pitcher, you probably could do better).

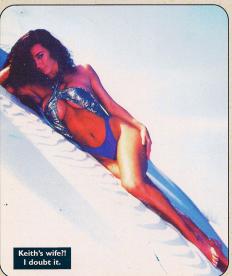
Cory Bailey and Mark Sweeney laugh as Alan Benes plays the fool.

GAMES WE'D LIKE TO SEE

ronically, one of the letters I got this issue was about a game that will actually be coming out—a least, sort of. Keith Coble from Lake Helen, Florida says there should be a football game out there called NFL Expansion (good title, Keith). In NFL Expansion, you would build an expansion NFL team. Pick the town, team colors and name. Then hire your coaches, draft college players and trade for some hearty vets or pick up free agents (watch out for your salary cap, though!).

I have to say that this is one of the best damn ideas for a sports game ever. It would work for any sport and would increase the replay value of a sim tenfold. The good news is that Data Easts MVP College Footbul '96 will have a bit of this incorporated into the game. You'll be able to draft kids out of school and develop your players through continuous seasons, enhancing your coaching and player staffs. You will play all of the other schools in the NCAA in your quest for the title of National Champs.





Good call, Keith, but I still don't believe that this is a picture of your wife. I'm gonna need better proof than this.

I'd also like to acknowledge June Marshall from Chicago. He wrote in what he thought were features he'd like to see added to his dream sports game. Most were actually available for some games, but he brought up a feature that I really miss: Fans. Enough with the flat smudges that the developers call fans in the new 3D games. Put some damn sprites in there and show me some action in the seats!

SCOUTING REPORT

AARON VS. RUTH

I'd like to have seen that. Baseball's gotten a pretty bad rap over the past five years—and rightly so. With the exception of only a couple of players, including Cal Ripken, Tim Salmon and Ken Griffey, Jr., most are just jerks. They have whined complained and money-grubbed themselves into the most unflattering of places. Who'd have ever thought there'd come a day when NHL players were thought of more highly than the Boys Of Summer?

For those of you who long for the days of the greats, when men played for the love of the game and not the love of the free agency. Aaron vs. Ruth: All-time Superstars Baseball may be what you're looking for. Complete with the greats of the game, like Ty Cobb, Willie Mays, Joe Morgan and Pete Rose, you can create your dream teams and see how they'd match up, against today's greats like Roger Clemens, Cal Ripken and Roberto Alomar. You will also have the option to customize players if you'd like to see your very own name somewhere on that batting line-up scorecard.

Agron vs. Ruth has also recreated some of the old, classic parks for you to play on, such as Polo Grounds and Ebbets Field. Ugly behemoths like the Astro Dome and the King Dome have no business here.

Along with all of this great stuff, expect to see many of the options and features of the other baseball titles on the market. This looks like it could be just what an ailin' baseball fan needs.





SCOUTING REPORT

NCAA, SONY STYLE

Sony takes a page out of Acclaim's and EA's books and will be releasing NFL Gameday in the guise of a new game.

In Sony's defense, the graphics look sharper and there will be a difference in the playbooks, but essentially, NCAA GameBreakers is the same game as GameDay. This time around, though, you'll be able to play as your favorite college instead of as a pro team. I played this game a little at E3 and enjoyed it very much. But if you remember, I gave GameDay a 9, so I'd be lying if I told you that GameBreakers was any worse. Play mechanics and options are virtually identical, so you can expect the same gaming experience. Next issue I hope to have a review for you and I'll be able to tell you that there truly is a reason to buy this game.







3D BASEBALL

did a scouting report on this game, several months ago, but could only tell you a little about since I hadn't played the game then. Well, time has passed and with the arrival of summer came an early copy of 3D Baseball.

I'm happy to announce that this game looks as though it will be excellent; a step above CD's other sports title, Slam N' Jam. From this alpha version, I can tell you that. Van Earl's color commentary is excellent. Full of life and variety, Van Earl, like the commentators on the Japanese version of WSB, has greatly enhanced the overall feel of the game. The visuals of 3D Baseball are no less spectacular. The motion-capture of the players is amazing, including several types of running catches, tag moves and dives. The players themselves look great; the best of any polygon baseball game.

As of now it's too early to assess the gameplay fairly, but I saw no obvious flaws when I played. Good Al. a firm grasp of the basics, and, hopefully, a decent amount of stats will make 3D Baseboll a major title. I'll have a review next issue.



DREAM TEAM BASKETBALL

I've always thought that this was a lousy license for a video game. What kind of competition is this? It's easy enough to master all of the legitimate NBA titles on the market already, without decreasing the strength of the opponents. This game also has little replay value; I mean, who the hell wants to try going through a tournament with the Angolan team—except maybe an Angolan? The only team anyone will want to use is the Dream Team, which makes playing a two-player game monotonous.

NCAA BASKETBALL: FINAL FOUR '97

ong title, cool-looking game, MSA, the newly-formed Mindscape sports team, will be releasing a college basketball sim that might be worthy of comparison to EA's stellar Coach K.

Before we get too excited about the game (a playable version is still a ways off) we should step back and look at what the game is going to offer. Final Four '97 will have all of the Division I teams and the current team stats for each school. Like most sports games now, Final Four '97 has motion-captured players and multiple camera angles, but will add some nice visuals like light-sourcing and lens flares. Another nice addition is the school fight songs and a coaching mode.

I'll keep you updated.





The first look at this game does little to change my critical opinion of the title. The graphics still need to be spruced up, as does the playability. The court looks great and so do the player reflections, but these don't amount to a hill of beans without the proper playability. Dream Team Basketball is still a long way from completion, so there's plenty of time to whip it into shape. Wouldn't it be cool if, instead of setting up a forum in which to demolish the other Olympic hopefuls, the developers had invented a number of superhuman teams that the Dream Team had to face off against to help save the world-kinda like when the Globetrotters helped save Gilligan's Island. Now that would be a cool game.

REVIEWS

WORLD SERIES BASEBALL FOR THE GENESIS

t was the best news I'd heard in ages when they told me that Sega was putting out one more WSB for the Genesis. WSB '95 was simply the best 16-bit baseball game ever, period. It had the best playability, the most stats and the finest graphics and sound. In fact, WSB '95 did a better job of emulating baseball than any of the current 32-bit baseball titles. Go figure.

Well, I'm happy to report that WSB '96 is just as good. I can't say better, because so little has been changed that it can't warrant a higher grade, but what was added is a nice bonus to an already perfect purchase. WSB '96 has the same stellar playability, in-depth stats and realistic feel. It also has the exact same soundbytes from the '95 version, so don't expect any surprises there.

As I mentioned before, WSB '96 doesn't feature many additions. What it does add, though, is flavor. Besides the up-to-date stats from last season. WSB '96 will also have a larger battery, so you can save more statistics. Also, at the end of a season, there are post-season awards for five offensive and four defensive categories. The best new feature is the addition of an AL and NL all-time great team. Now you can control the likes of Ty Cobb, Dizzy Dean and Lou Gehrig.

This is a wonderful game. Usually I'd have to say that the meager additions to this cart are not enough to warrant its purchase. But given that this is probably the last time you'll be able to get a WSB on 16-bit, and the fact that the current 32-bit titles, while great initially, are often exposed as flawed after some extensive play, you'll want to pick this one up.



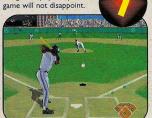
THE BIG HURT

cclaim has done some good work here. What I honestly thought was going to be a disappointing title has turned out to be one of the strongest contenders in the baseball genre.

Frank Thomas "Big Hurt" Baseball, while making some small, superficial mistakes, has maintained the integrity of the game. The players look great, move better, and the playability is exemplary, due to some smart A.I. and super-easy controls (the best controls of any current baseball game). The stand-out features are that baserunning Al is the smartest around, all of the option screens are easy to use, and access and the graphics are crystal-clear. The game contains some average sound and stats, but they are solid enough to avoid criticism.

The problems with the game are greatly outweighed by the overall package, but need to be addressed. For one, the game claims to have all of the Major League parks. This is, in fact, misleading. All the parks are essentially the same, with only minor adjustments to make them passable as the home field. Fenway for example, differs little from Arlington, with the exception of a strangely out-of-place, miscolored Green Monster (which, incidentally, isn't even green). This is lazy and somewhat insulting to the avid player. I'm surprised and somewhat disappointed to see that, while Big Hurt has some nice stats for your team during season play, there are no leader board stats. In this game you can't access a table that will show how your pitchers and batters stack up against the other players in the league. The final problem is with batting mechanics. There's a delay from the time you press swing until the bat head actually gets around. You must swing right after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand if you plan on hitting a fastball. This, however, might actually be construed a plus, because it adds a lot of impact to junk pitching and change-ups, which are historically very easy pitches to hit in other baseball sims.

I have to recommend Big Hurt despite these flaws, however. They are, as I said earlier, extremely superficial and in no way affect the game's playability. This



VIRTUAL OPEN TENNIS

cclaim is beefing up its sports collection by snatching up many other third-party games and releasing them itself. One example of this is Virtual Open Tennis. Available for both Saturn and PlayStation (the Saturn version is pictured here), Virtual Open Tennis is, in fact, a completely different game on each system, each developed by different companies.

They may be totally different games, but they seem to suffer from the same problems, problems that have appeared in just about every tennis game to come out. The most obnoxious problem is with the camera angles. Maybe it's just me, but none of the angles seems quite right. I know a lot of it has to do with the fact that the graphics are so grainy, but depth perception is extremely difficult when you're playing on the far side of the court. Another problem, more noticeable on the Saturn, is player control. Moving that guy to wherever you want him to be is a lot more of a task than it really should be.

Other problems stem from the afformentioned angle and movement difficulties. Neither of these games is particularly bad, but a high learning curve makes what should be a fun experience nothing more than an exercise in tedium.





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You can't just run away from your problems any more. From now on, you'll have to think on your feet.



Jumping, ducking and dodging have always been a critical part of any button-

bashing Mario

adventure. But with the new Super

Mario RPG you'll also be pushing every brain cell

· you've got. • That's right. You and the world's most



You'd never want to be on the bad side of your new pal Mallow. His thunderbolt Special Attack brings a blast of lightning down on any enemies in sight. heroic plumber will have to battle through all the twists, turns and thumb-numbing action of a clas-

sic Mario adventure. Plus, meet

the mental challenge

as the story unfolds in

this fully-rendered role-playing game! • It's
the best of both worlds. One minute you're
neck and neck at the Yoshi Races. The next

you're gambling the night away at the

Grate Guy's Casino. And, in between, you'll

have to test your brains on mindmushing riddles and new action-



puzzles. Of course
you'll find plenty of
new friends who
can help out. But

they'll need your help

in return. Without you, Mallow will never find his true family.

Geno will never become a real boy. And Booster will never find a bride. • You'll also

bump into all kinds of new bad-

dies, plus classic goons from every

Mario game in history. Only now,
they're rendered in ACM with a 3-D,

three-quarter overhead view. • So get ready

for all kinds of new Nintendo

action and brain-bending

Square Soft adventure.

Remember, running and

jumping is a great start.

But this time around

(A) DEPTH OF THE PARTY OF THE P

Whether you call it more action or more RPG, the fact is you'll have to use every trick in both books to beat these bad guys.

you'll also

need plenty of brains to finish.



of Mario action? Try

to the beat, you'll get

the Yoshi races. But

here's a tip. If you don't hit the buttons

Finding Frogfucious is a wise move if you want to know more about your future quest.



360° OF ACID-SPITTING HELL ARRIVES ON SATURN!



"The graphics are awesome, the gameplay is dead-on..."

-Game Plave



"Alien Trilogy is fantastic."

--Video Game

"...a rare achievement."

--Next Generation



"The 3D engine is first rate."

"...a real winner!"



For a sneak peek check out Alien Trilogy at http://www.acclaimnation.com





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