

PSSSSSSSST!

Behind the scenes is where you'll find CVG this month. That's where the big attractions for the home and in the arcade are being planned; by developers such as Sega's AM2. Fighting Vipers is their new baby, and it's revealed exclusively on page 74. Enjoy!











00:23.

WIPEOUT



People are being blown away by the awesome sensation that is Wipeout on PlayStation.
Sony Interactive have written a

Sony Interactive have written a red hot player's guide to their game, exclusively for CVG!

CHOVEMBER 1995 ISSUE 168 C S



36 VIRTUA FIGHTER

- 32

Sega's premier fighting game comes to the masses courtesy of the Mega Drive 32X. It doesn't look as good as on Saturn, but we tell you why this could be the best version yet!

Videodrome



The most important event in the Japanese gaming calendar – The JAMMA show –

dominates our arcade pages this month! Read all about Sega's Fighting Vipers and Virtua Cop 2, not forgetting Konami's Speed King and more!

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Clockwork Knight

A sequel already! Sega sorts out what went wrong with their good looking platformer in its second outing on the Saturn.



Magic Carpet

Know how it feels to weild the power of a sorcerer! **Magic Carpet 2** features more magic spells, a host of new demon hordes. and more strategy than ever before!



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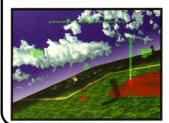
Positive proof that the humble 16-bit

Super Nes can still hack. slash or special move it in the beat-'emup market as Rare's ubiquitous arcader comes to the

home!



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news from

YOU SAY GOODBYE, AND I SAY HELLO

Welcome to the new, even newer and more improved CVG. And just why is it more improved? Because Piehead Patterson has upped and gone and left, that's why. Which means, after the celebrations and prayers of thanks are over, we've had to draft in some sucker to take over his job, giving us more time to play games and slack around. And that lucky bonehead is Paul 'Grover' Davies, ex- of our sister mag Nintendo Magazine System. Paul likes making coffee, asking to go to the toilet and being friends. So we're sure you'll join us in

welcoming him to the team with a hearty 'Bad luck, Paul!

Never mind!'.

At the same stroke, we'd like
to point out our blue-collar 'last
in, first out' policy by announcing

that poor old Simon, arcades maestro and games addict, has been cruelly kicked off the magazine to make room for Paul. If you're interested in following his adventures you're welcome to peruse the pages of our sister publication Nintendo Magazine System, his new home. Thanks for all the hard work, Simes, and, er, your wages are in the post. Honest.





In shock revelations revelated today, the staff of top computer games magazine CVG were blosted as baby-cetting glue-sniffing Satanist aliens. Builder Barry Hairline claims to have witnessed bizarre midnight rituals during which Editors and staff.

SACRIFICED little fluffy toys to Satan! DRANK soup made with blood and dandruff! and

PICKED their noses and ate it.

Barry believes that CVG is merely a front for a
backwards-masked Satanist publication, with

proyers to the Dark Lord Beelzebub encrypted in code in screenshots. "Games are the work of the Devil anyway," reasons Baz "So what better way for him to spread his dread word than through evil publications such as CVG? I mean, look at that Paul Davies, he's obviously some kind of alien. No real human being could look

Staff of CVG,



front

R MESSAGE TO

The computer industry adage states that as processor power doubles, the production costs halve. This is all very well if you're Johnny Mainframe developing huge computers for research institutes and so on, but it has stuff all practical effect for consumers. The last 10 years have seen the computer games industry develop from 8-bit four-colour home computers with tape-based loading systems like the Spectrum to a cartridge-based, console-dominated arena, and soon into a 32- and 64-bit CD-ROM scene.

The cost of both machines and games has steadily increased disproportionately to inflation. When we at CVG were nippers 10 quid was as much as you'd pay for even a top game.

Nowadays softcos are charging up to £70 for a cart. You're not just paying for a game anymore, you're paying for the branding,

the packaging, the advertising budget and the PR firms which sell the games to retailers and magazines.

Yes, development costs have risen exponentially as gamers demand more sophisticated titles, but the fact remains that playing games is now a very serious business. And like any business those within it are out to make as much dough as possible.

And given that this is your dough, quite some quantity of it, and you're looking at a pretty long-term home entertainment investment you'd be pretty stupid

not to find out as much information as possible before opening your wallet for either machine or game. While CVG has endeavoured to deliver this alongside unbiased opinion 14 blinkin' years, longer than anyone else in the biz, we feel that the changes in the gaming world need to be reflected by our magazine. In short, it's time for something new. We'll be sticking to the same editorial policy – except more so. We want to deliver still more info, a bigger overview of the whole industry and be more ruthless with our comments and ratings so you can make your decisions better prepared. You'll be able to buy the finished article next month. Trust us – it'll be better than sex.*

The Collective Mind of CVG. *Well, sex with Paul anyway.

people b

Hey kids! Wouldn't you just love to know what's in store for your favourite magazine journalists over the next four weeks? Well you'd better put CVG down and pick up Axe Child Periodical or whatever your favourite magazine really is. We'll just make do with some more of our star (he ha) astronomer's wonderful predictions

paul predict that you'll have a very tense back within the next four weeks. The fact that you've just taken over as Editor of the brightest, breeziest, busiest, most stress-filled and hard work video games magazine may have something to do with this. Or perhaps it's your rigid adherence to the Northern custom of sleeping in a coalmine. Lucky Day: Never



ary is month thieves will break into your car and steal an This month threves will ober an into your call and stear an awful lot of stuff. Although that's not exactly much of a prediction, because it happens about every fortnight on average anyway. every forting it on average anyway. Fairly soon you're going to run out stuff to leave in your car waiting to be stolen. Try bulky items of furniture as opposed to tiny credit cards and wads of bills.

Lucky Hamster: Hammy



ra c This month you'll be contacted by an alien race, seeking This month you'll be contacted by an alien race, seeking Ims month you ho Contacted by an aren race, seeking to benefit from your knowledge. They will ask you directions to the Ikea Superstore, requiring certain DIY materials to repair their space ship. Sadly you have a crap space ship. Sadiy sad have a crap sense of direction and instead direct them to a top secret military installation, where they are captured and the technology aboard their craft used in new Doomsday weapons which destroy the world. Lucky Bite: Toucan



ulie

It's your birthday this month, and you'll receive lots of It's your birthday this month, and you'll receive lots of presents from people in the office. Among these will be anti-depressants, fluffy, cuddly toy animals, cheery slogan stickers for your computer, balloons, the joyous laughs of children and other wornyingly uplifting iffts. Do not open them, or your permanent cloud of gloom could be dispersanced to cloud of gloom could be dispersanced to the could be dispersanced



Lucky Bird Call: Parakeet

Ireda:

I predict that you'll so on holiday again this month.

Aright, so that's ame ereasy prediction to make given
your 'carefree' (ie slack) antipodean outlook. Why bother going to work when
there's another barby in Africa to there's another barby in Africa to attend? Why slave over a hot Macintosh for some pasty poms when there are glorious beaches still not there are giorious beaches still not lazed around upon? It's alright for some. Luckily for everyone you con-tract 18 forms of malaria and spend your hols in a badly equipped kangaroo Lucky Leaf: Maple



connected

Windows 95 might

Sony blows heads at Live 95!

sound as dull as ditch-

Core announce load of new Next

water to you but it's

Gen releases: Blam, and Tomb

good news for PC

Raider, and news of their

gamers. Nintendo Ultra

Swagman tile. Infogrammes get

64 sightings look like

seriously into the 64-bit con-

they could come to

sole market with their not bad

fruition and Firestorm –

at all Alone in the Dark series.

Thunderhawk 2 is the

Blue Byte bring us Battle Isle

surprise arrival on the

3: Shadow of the Emperor.

Sega Saturn.

the wired-up gaming news section

UNITE

So Bill Gates paid an alleged \$6 million to use The Stones' 'Start Me Up' to promote Windows 95, but here at CVG we don't give a stuff, what we wanna know is how it's gonna affect our games?

Specky Bill Gates has taken another step towards global computer domination with the release of the new 'no-brainer' (ie – user friendly) Windows 95 operating system. It's a bit on the 'controversial' side. Firstly because it's

very similar indeed to the operating system used by Apple Macintosh computers, and secondly because it's an obvious attempt to standardise all PCs with a Microsoft OS.

Still, it's not all sinister mega-corporation stuff. Windows 95 is a bold step towards accepting the PC as a games machine too. It helps users set up their games without having to reconfigue their hardware all the time and allows those blessed with the software to perform all sorts of PC-type activity (including running other games) in the background.

The list of software houses supporting the software, while by no means complete, is alreaded and support of the property of the support of the support of the support of the platform, with more (and bigger names considering stepping in. Origin have already announced Wing Commander 4, staring poor old mark Hamill again, which as you can see from these shots, looks pretty near-

However, those considering Windows 95 (and have the recommended minimum 486 DX with about 8M on the hardware) might like to wait until the patch disk/upgrade makes its appearance, as early versions of the system are allegedly a bit rock to get working.



Windows 95 enables PC gamers to set up their games without reconfiguring hardware. One of the first titles that you'll be able to do this with will be Wing Commander 4.







MY GLASSES!

PCs are also the home base for another interesting development, this time from the new ESCOM subsidiary Virtual Products. The I-glasses, as they're known, are lightweight 30 specs compatible not just with computers but also standard TV outputs, so you can watch your favourite programmes in glorious 3D. Plans are afoot to install the I-glasses in 'planes, and even dentists to distract patients from painful operations. We're hoping to perform a full road-test on these in a future issue.



ULTRA IS REAL SHOCKER!

Nintendo are to give away, completely free, 300 Nintendo Ultra 64s at the forthcoming Shoshinkai electronic entertainment show in Japan, thus quashing rumours that the hardware doesn't really exist. Well done, lads.

SONIC CATHEDRAL OF SOUND QSound, that w

QSound, that wacky sound-placement technology found in arcade games like X-Men, is soon to hit the home. Compatible with just about any PC operating system (including Windows 95) QSound Labs hope to

corner the audio localisation market at a stroke. The demos we heard were ace (as good as Creative Labs more expensive effort), so expect lots of cool 3D sound effects in PC games soon.



CVG^{NEWS} CONNECTED

KILL YOUR MEAD

Sony flexed their wallet and opened the Live '95 consumer show with a massive exploding head stunt, mimicking their current ad campaign for the PlayStation. The actual cost of the stunt is unknown, although the company had to secure £6,000,000 worth of insurance (for the surrounding area) before the prank could go ahead. Blimey.

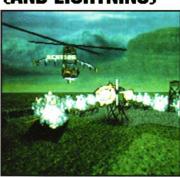
MASTER BLASTER

Creative Labs have announced plans for their latest crack at the big money. After pretty much standardising sound cards with the SoundBlaster, Creative are challenging 32-bit consoles with their new 3D Blaster – a graphics card which supposedly offers superlative polygon handling for any PC. CVG were invited to an unveiling ceremony where Creative Labs outlined their business plan, which includes the introduction of a standard graphics, sound and telecommunications card by 1998, and were subjected to a lengthy demonstration of the capabilities of the new 3D card. To be honest, the early demondisplay, whilst decent by low-grade PC standards, was a long way from bettering the current PlayStation or even Saturn polygon software. We'll keep you posted on any further developments.

IT'S LIKE THUNDER

ALONE FOR PLAYSTATION

(AND LIGHTNING)



The game that set the Mega-CD alight (whereas now most M-CD owners are just setting their machines alight) was without a doubt Thunderhawk from Core Design. Now the Saturn's here and the quality software far outweighs the crap stuff, and so to set the Saturn alight Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 needs to be something really spesh. And worry ve not because it looks sensational, and we've tested out the first couple of levels, and they play like a dream. The 3D perspective looks incredible as your targeting cursor

actually moves realistically round the cockpit; and the polygonised 'copter turns, flys, rotates and shoots so well that you can't quite believe what you ever saw in Jungle Strike et al. The Saturn version is aiming for a November release as are the PC and PlayStation versions, Yip. Eee.

Infogrammes distinguished themselves with a spectacular conversion of their PC hit Alone in the Dark for the PlayStation. It features a whole ruck of previously unseen Silicon Graphics routines which look lovely. Look out for a review soon-ish.

Next Gen consoles means the Alone in the Dark series is destined for PlayStation.





HERE COMES THE NEW BOSS

BMGie, the massive corporation who brought ex-Hollywood supremos Rocket Science (and their crap games) to the world have signed up another bunch of Oscar-winning types to produce software titles. Boss Game Studios, games wing of Boss Film Studios who have Academy Award credits for Star Wars, Empire Strikes Back and Raiders of the Lost Ark among others, are nearing completion of their first title, Adventureland. The title promises a wealth of modelling, 3D animation and motion-capture cleverness. But will it be any good? We'll let you know.

CONNECTED



SHADOW OF THE EMPEROR - BATTLE ISLE 3

One of the most successful wargame series, dating right back to when the Amiga was king of the home computers, has to be the Battle Isle series, and Blue Byte are happy to be the people behind the latest in the series: Shadow of the Emperor – Battle Isle 3.

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The second best hand held game in the world.

CVG EXCLUSIVE

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!

SATURN X-MEN IS HERE - EXCLUSIVE TO CVG!



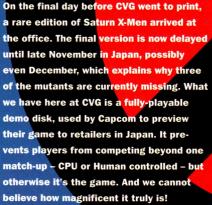
X-AGGERATI

CVG's mutant powers reveal that Saturn X-Men has at least two features additional to the coin-op! Versus mode, as seen in Super Stees Fighter II, is expected to record the number of wins in a series of two-player head-to-heads. Survival Battle, we hope, will adopt the same approach as that in Super SFII - allowing competition between up to eight players! Find out for sure next most.





Yes these are Sega Saturn screenshots, depicting X-Men: Children of the Atom – surely the greatest arcade-to-home conversion yet seen!



You can read all about the gameplay in the Acclaim booklet. While you're here, marvel at the splendour of these 100% CVG approved images.















If whips & chains excite you, get some hand relief.

OK, the Jag might not be a cool new console but Atari does have some up-and-coming titles on the way...

JATAR

PRIMAL RAGE CD



The third party game which aroused the most interest was Time Warner's conversion of Primal Rage for the Jag CD, definitely the best version of the game we've seen so far. The sprites are arcade-size and move in a convincingly unconvincing coin-op fashion. The sound's great too, and there's generally not much chance of disappointing coin-op fans when it's finally released.

HIGHLANDER CD

We've mentioned this one before, and although there wasn't a lot to see at the recent show, we still reckon that this is going to be one of the more impressive CD titles. Highlander mixes FMV animation (which doesn't really look like FMV, thankfully) with traditional Alone in the Dark-style multi-perspective graphics in an action-RPG setting. We'll bring you more information when we've played a proper playable version.

The first RPGstyle game to arrive on the Jag looks likely to be the rather promising Highlander.



SUPERCROSS 3D

You might be forgiven for thinking that Motocross is still as popular as it was in the

early Eighties when it was on Grandstand, with the strange proliferation of games like Dirt Trax FX, Sega's Motocross Championship and now Supercross 3D for the Jaguar. Sadly for kids who like broken legs, it isn't. But that hasn't stopped Atari from pulling out all the stops for this first- or third-person perspective stunts-and-scrapes racer. The frame rate still needs a little work to make the game run smoothly, and the controls are a little awkward as yet, but there's plenty of promise in the title.



ATTACK OF THE MUTANT PENGUINS

One of the European developments on display, and probably the most visible game Atari will push before Christmas, is the British title Attack of the Mutant Penguins. Well explain the plot in the future, because it's a bit complicated, but the game casts you as a friendly alien out to save the world from evil alien penguins with the help of good non-alien penguins. You can tell them apart because the evil penguins are dressed up in clothes. It's a kind of reverse isometric Lemmings as you lead the evil "guins into traps and destroy them with vanious weapons whilst saving as many nice birds as possible. It looks quite pretty, although unspectacular, but play-wise this could be a real stormer.



ZERO FIVE

and the one which bodes best for the future, was Zero Five. The level on display is best described as a 3D Galaxians, with waves of aliens storming at your space ship in formation. Zero Five distinguishes itself by dint of its ultra-convincing 3D movement and chunky Stunt Race FX-style polygon graphics. Best of all, however, has to be the floating cameraon-a-string viewpoint which allows you to see the action from just about any angle, depending on your movements. It's even possible to have your craft flying out of the screen, seemingly towards your face, as the enemies pile in from behind your head. Well, not really, but that's what it looks like, if you see what we mean. Anyone who really does see aliens flying into their TV from behind their head needs to lay off the cough medicine for a bit.











DEFENDER 2000

We may have written about this one before, but it's just worth mentioning that Defender 2000 has come quite a way since we last saw it. The graphics are pretty much finished (and they look cool, apart from the main ship which looks daft) and the gameplay is all but done. And it's very very hard indeed. Even crusty games expert Paul was stumped to score more than about half a point. Expect this to be the Tempest of next year. Although it'll be released at the end of this year.

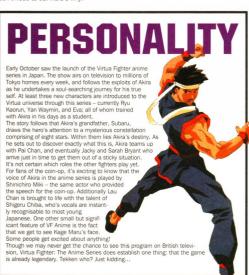


CONNECTED SEGA: THE CALM COOL COLLECTIVE

From Sega's point of view, there is no supremacy battle between them and Sony this Christmas. Saturn already won...

CVG isn't attempting to sway opinion one way or the other with this feature, but we reckon there's still a number of people who don't yet realise the potential of Sega's plans. Unlike most companies where the line is pretty much drawn with console hardware itself, Sega have the unique benefit of ranking among the world's biggest pioneers of coin-op technology. Their development teams have become superstars of gaming, through providing customers with ground-breaking state-of-the-art experiences time and again.

Sega Europe are not at all phased by Sony's £20 million marketing campaign. They don't need to be. Here's why.



GLOBAL GAMING

Next year Sega launches the Internet Reaction System for Saturn. Yes, as of 1996, the 32-bit console goes online with a package designed to introduce gamers to a whole new experience. Currently the Internet is something of an exclusive club for people with money to invest in a PC, along with the patience to get everything installed. The Reaction System is a module which slots into the



Saturn, and immediately puts gamers in touch with a service that is hoped to include product information and shopping opportunities. Eventually Sega intend to support IRS with a keyboard.

Very soon you could be picking up a joypad to challenge somebody in Japan to a best two-out-of-three on Virtua Fighter 2, or even racing head to head on Sega Rally! Beyond that it's anybody's guess what Sega have planned for IRS - the concept already surpasses all expectations.

Sonv are literally making a big song and dance about their PlayStation room in the Ministry of Sound, at the moment. It's a cool concept, but Sega's highprofile R&D team AM2 recently achieved something many times more impressive. For the launch of their new combat game Fighting Vipers (see JAMMA report.) AM2 targeted a place called Ropongi - THE entertainment centre of Tokyo. Here is where all the major night clubs are found, in particular "Bar, Isn't it?." which is where AM2 held this event called 'Gamer's Night.' The evening kicked off at 12:00



am. As techno churned the air AM2 demonstrated Fighting Vipers, which proved itself perfectly suited to the club atmosphere. AM2's flashy techniques

combined with the game's bright appeal sent everybody in attendance crazy! Or maybe it was just the orange juice.

VISION

With so much talk of multi-media machines at the moment, probably the least expected contribution is from Sega, Yet their Video CD Card for Saturn goes on sale in October ving owners access to the vast library of Philips Video CD films. It's pricey at £169.99. but is a cool option for those who can afford it

Proof as much as you'll ever need that Saturn really delivers is laid out for you here, as CVG takes the lid off Sega's box of delights for 1995 and beyond. Start making that wants list now, because some of these games are what dreams are made of!

GAMES! GAMES! **GAMES!**

VIRTUA FIGHTER 2

A 40-50% complete version of Virtua Fighter 2 made its world debut to the public at the Autumn ECTS. We are practically guaranteed an arcade perfect conversion of VF2 this Christmas judging from the performances of Jeffry versus Wolf, and Kage versus Leon. Seeing is believing, so take a gander at these screen-shots, and imagine them moving at 60 frames per second - with absolutely no glitches!

Dedicated Virtua Fighter fans in the UK should also be interested to learn that Sega are putting out Virtua Fighter Remix as a limited edition, packaged with a disc of cool VF rendered art









Super Monaco GP? Well F1 is better - we kid you not. A helicopter's eve view of the action displayed in a tiny window at the top of the screen, while players get to grips with the car below. In Japan the game features commentary from a leading sports celebrity. Though the Furonean code doesn't include this, Sega are updating the music to make it really kicking. Both versions allow players to race as Damon Hill Michael Schumacher, or whoever because the game carries the official Grand Prix

Ever dreamed of owning an arcade perfect version of



connected

GUARDIAN HEROES

Treasure are back again with yet another genius work, boasting two incredible modes of play. The basic game is a twoplayer hack 'em up, in which it's possible to lean in and out of the screen to do battle across three planes of action. Anyone familiar with Fatal Fury Special should be able to get their head around this concept. Those who aren't... well, tough - it's hard to describe. What's easier to understand is that GH is basically a scrolling beat 'em up, in which both players practice Street Fighter II style techniques against hordes of fantastic enemies. The other mode of play allows six players to face off against each other, in a brawl the scale of which could only have been attempted by Treasure! In both instances, the entire screen scales in and out from the action to accommodate the movement of all concerned. Plus the quality of art and animation is phenomenal!





VIRTUA COR

Another faithful coin-op conversion from AMZ. What more can we say, apart from the Saturn version includes Virtua Cops Rayge and Smarty going through pretty much exactly the same motions as they did on Sega's arcade Model 2 board. We know that AMZ are developing VC2 for the arcade at the

same time, and are learning new ways to port over the original as they progress. Apparently this means Saturn VC is to gain unique features!



(Above) By the size of that cross-hair, you're unlikely to miss really! (Right) A blue flash shows he's been shot by player one.





GOLDEN AXE

Direct from Sega of Japan's arcade division is an exact translation of Golden Axe: Duel. This is possible because Saturn hardware is identical to Titan's ST-V board – minus extra memory, and an upgraded sound chip (the Saturn's CD-Rom drive makes up for this.) Obviously it's a two-player combat game which revitalises the Golden Axe theme. Seems olday too.

WING ARMS

Sits you in the cockpit of a World War II fighter plane, of which there is a choice of eight. Three viewpoints are available for missions taking nlace over desert, sea, and night-time city. It's quite different to the Wing War coin-op, not least in looks due to the extensive texture mapping. Sega have also geared the gameplay so it's more suited to home use. with Mission

Objectives to

meet.





SEGA RALLY

Conversion of AM3's arcade stunner is being ably handled by the same team who squeezed Virtua Racing into the Mega Drive and 32K. More than ever their talents are being brought to the fore as Rall stakes form. CVG were visiting Sega Europe the day a 75% version arrived, complete with all the cars, all the car



HANG ON '95

Like F1 it seems we're not expected to be impressed with Hang On '95 the same way as we are Daytona USA, or Sega rally. But CVG can't help it – we're impressed. And greatly so! The only problem we find so



far with the early version is that the control is pretty severe. Otherwise the visuals are okay. In fact the overall presentation of the game is perfectly fine too. Bear in mind Hang On is part of Sega Japan's historical catalogue; along with Shinob, and Golden Axe. We doubt they would allow the reputation of Hang On '95 to drift out of control. It's expected that at least seven circuits will appear in the final version, plus time attacks, and a fullon Grand Pix mode.

HOT MEGA DRIVE 32%

Seems people are too keen to forget their Mega Drive. Fools! There's still a few cool reasons to stand by your 16-bit. Light Crusader, and Comix Zone - both of which you know about - plus the following.

32X Kolibri

Innovative and beautiful with it. Kolibri is as refreshing as Ecco in that it intends to make players feel like they are a humming bird. At least that's the spiel Sega are handing out! True enough, Kolibri looks very realistic and the gameplay is refreshing for a shoot 'em up. The enemies, all taken from nature, are detailed and to scale. There's even some use.



scale. There's even some vaguely interesting puzzles to solve. Best of all players have complete freedom to explore the graphically stunning levels – meaning they don't just whiz by and get forgotter.

MEGA DRIVE PREMIER MANAGER

Gremlin have skilfully compressed their hit PC title for a new audience. There's no doubting this sim's quality. 1500 players, each a bonafdle individual, await to be 'managed' as best as possible. The challenge is in finding success among the necessary transfers, and big time promotions. Anyone who fancies the challenge of rising from the position of 4th Division Chairman to Premier League Manager can't go wrong. This is a proven classic.

32X X-MFN

Looks cool, don't you think. Well it does considering this is the \$2X - not 3DO, PlayStation, or even Saturn. X. Men is programmed by Scavenger, was same people who brought you Subternania and Red Zone. As you can see, this is way different to any of those. So far the only version we've seen is a non-interactive denno, but a 3D beat 'em up starring Wolverine and the rest is a promising concept.







PREPARE FOR THE STORM



A storm is coming to the "PlayStation"... a GOAL STORM!... as Konami makes its first foray into the 32bit sports arena.

From beautifully sculptured polygon characters animated by the latest motion capture technology through to ear bursting commentary and sound effects the attention to detail is obvious. We've included all the features you'd expect from a top notch soccer title including fully selectable team formations, programmable tactics, viewpoints, leagues and every real soccer skill imaginable.











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PLAYSTATION

SHOOT-'EM-UP

COCMI III

EUNCONFIRMED

1-4 PLAYERS

PLANNED
NO OTHER VERSIONS
OVOIL ODLC

They wanna be what they wanna

They wanna be free to do what they wanna do – they wanna kill people.

hichever way you look at it, prison isn't a good place to be. The Sun reckons that prisons are like Butlin's holiday camps. and if that's what prison's like you're reading the writing of a straight-and-narrow clean-nose. Butlin's are known for enforcing a strict regime of early marning rentertainment! led by those netarious warders. The Redicads, fearsome 'traditional' British food (saggy Yorkshire puddings with gristly sousages) and confinement in cramped and basic "chalet" cells. And that's just for the model prisoners. Sarry - campers. Heaven help you if they don't like your face. You're singled out for ritual humiliation during hilarious family events, usually resulting with you being thrown in the icy pool, dragged up in front of the other immates for a Cuddly Granny or Wabbly Fat Legs contest or shot in the

vou're 18

or over).

Granny or Wobbiy var rog stomach with a harpoon. No wonder the six main player-characters in Loaded are so eager to get out. And you're just the type to help them (so long as

FOUR MEN WENT TO MOW DOWN

There isn't a game in existence which is worsened by the participation of more than one player. Except Ace Combat. But Loaded isn't Ace Combat, and as a result the two-player mode which appears improves the gameplay no end. To avoid that tricky edge-of-screengoing-in-opposite-directions trauma which is common in this type of game, the game camera has been configured to scale outwards as the players get further apart. This is especially useful if you've got a multi-tap and FOUR players on-screen. And it's up to you whether you're friendly to each other or not.







If you're a bit of a comics fan-type hording a collection of superhero tales in plastic bags foolishly awaiting the day that they're worth thousands of pounds you might recognise the style in which the Loaded character portraits are painted. That's because they're by Jay Sharples, famous gritty grimy Judge Dredd artist and comics brain behind the visual theme of the Judge Dredd movie. Jay worked from 12 original Gremlin character sketches and developed the personality and look of the protagonists from his own mind. Which is why they look scary.











SCORES















10510 J t fits the tone perfectly, Rather

ound effects. 94

ariety and vol-

AMEPLAY.....92

ace fun. Destroy! Ahahahaa!

HLUE Very tough, multi-Nayer mode

player mode extends longevity.

UTENNILL
One of the best
blasters we've
played for some
time. A great ten
slon-reliever and
all round bonzer
thrash.







300...

SHOOT-'EM-UP

ELECTRONIC ARTS

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OUT NOW.

ONE PLAYER

PLANNED....
PC VERSION
AVAILABLE







he one thing that Space Hulk is not short on is plot, no doubt because it's the licence from those adventure boardgames-heads Games Workshop; that place in your local shopping mall where all the trainspotters go when BR are having a one-day strike. If the term 'game' tied with 'adventure' makes you think of dulldom on a particularly dull day, don't despair because ultimately this is an arcade shooter that even makes Doom look tame.

Essentially Space Hulk is a Doom clone and then some. The Hulk in question is a space ship that is hurtling out of control towards Imperial Planet Devlar III. And it's bad news for the Devlars since it's packed to the rafters with deadly Genestealers (monster thangs), and it's up to you as one of a team of Space Marine Terminators to stop them on their infestation mission.

As a marine you are encased in armour, though if you encounter any Marines not in armour then chances are that they are under the evil auspices of Chaos and are traitors to the Empire, so splatter their blood all over the shop pronto. To help you in your goal, you can start off on the Training Missions which vary to the Campaign proper because in Training you have command over your fellow Terminators. and the mission briefings are far more specific. It's in the Training. Classic and Famous Missions that you can become au fait with combat readying yourself for the main campaign

The Games Workshop saga comes to life on 3DO, it's your job to find the alien scum on the Space Hulk and let them have it...

DI, WHO'S NICKED ME 501S:

...probably one of the evil mothers who are out for your blood in Space Hulk who go by the name of Genestealers. Not too hot in the looks department, unless you're into lizardy-reptilian looks because that's what they resemble when they come hurtling at you. They have six limbs, two hooved feet, a pair of quasi-human arms and a pair of much larger more muscled arms, which are invariably used to rip you to shreds. Also watch out for Hybrids who while not quite as gruesome or ferocious, are nonetheless quite bulbous and far more cunning.



SPACE HULK II COMING TO A PC NEAR YOU

The original Space Hulk on PC probably looks somewhat dated now as it was basically more strategy-based than anything else and didn't really have the freedom of movement that you have in 3DO Space Hulk. This will not be the case with Space Hulk II on PC CD though, which is planned to be released in January of next year, as it's based on the 3DO game.



300

No doubt all 3DO owners out there are awaiting Doom to arrive on their literactive Multiplayers, but as I seem to have javed the aftermentative do in just seem to have javed the aftermentative do in just forthcoming PlayStation) I'm quite ready for something a told different, And that is containly what Space Hulki is, the number of missions is phenomenal, and it's not the sort of game that you can just plough straight in to as there's a lot of tactics and skill to be accrued in the training and classic missions before going on the final missions. The detail of the aliens and the superb sound atmosphere really show you what the 3DO can do, they're excellent and this is a more than worthy 3DO game.

公司在1000年

GAKT LUKU



Your stats screen will tell you what's happening, and basically to your left and right are the weapons that you currently have; also how much Freeze time you have (a kind of limited pause-and-think mode). How much of a battering you're taking will appear in the bottom right of the screen, which will deplete if attacked with Bolter shells but will be revived if you manage to keep out of harm's way. Keep an eye also on the

Experience bar as those Terminators with more experience are naturally better fighters, especially in close combat.







GRAPHICS.

remendous' is the ord that springs to pind as well as 'bloom

ANIMATION.

The aliens move sup fast and the FMV is

OUND FFFECTS R

Brian Blessed sound alikey shouting lots aasically.

GAMEPLAY

Enjoyable, playab but lacking that c tain hook.

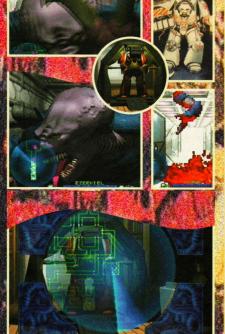
VALU

Probably the best but out of all the Doomstyle dames on 300

OVERALL.

A very in-depth game with a vast array of missions that will keep any 3DO owner transfixed to the screen and ready at

85





Don't expect such an easy victory with ISS Deluxe – it's way tougher than before!



SNES

SOCCER SIM

HONAMI

£54.99

OUT NOW 1-4 PLAYERS

NO OTHER VERSIONS AVAILABLE

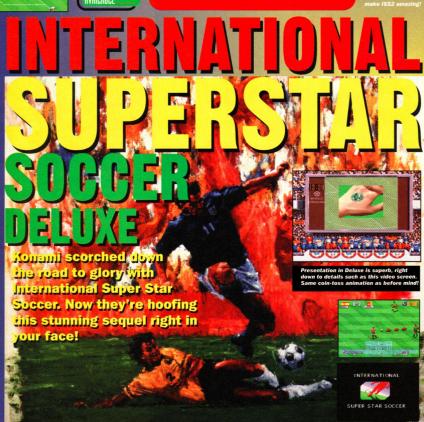
nen CVG lays 90%+ on a game, you know it's special. Now a deluxe version of something so amazing is sure to have fans on tip-toes, clenching teeth in anticipation of the final score. Rating follow-up titles to existing classics always presents problems. What we're setting out to discover with ISS Deluxe

is just how much the game improves over the original to warrant buying all over again. The volume of new or improved features in ISS

Deluxe is phenomenal. Extensive play-testing and research into what made the original so popular has placed Deluxe in the position to take the Premier League once more. Alongside the 'arcade' feel which contributed to making ISS such a rush, there are now enough custom options to keep any statistics engineer happy for months.

Enough of the pre-match chatter, already! Time now to find out why International Superstar Soccer is guaranteed the highest attendance this season.







FANTISSY LEAGUE FOOTBALL

The fun starts here! Best of all about ISS Deluxe is the facility to completely edit your own team. This means

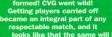
player attributes. number and colour of kit plus all their names. Once vou're happy with that. there's a chance to construct your own competition from the fully editable minileagues and tournaments available.

There's room for six to eight teams to enter - your only restriction is the number of mates you have around to play. However with this game in the house, we don't see that as being much of a problem really!



THINK ISS MY COLLAR BONE

Three years ago Electronic Arts introduced injuries to their John Madden series of American Football games. Suddenly the game was trans-formed! CVG went wild! **Getting players carried off**



looks like that the same will happen here. Yes ISS Deluxe takes note of anybody who is being a little hard done to, and sees them removed from the pitch for their own safety should pressure prove too much. Of course deliberately roughing people up is just asking for a red card, so watch it!

ISS A FAIR COP

Let's face it, we were allowed to get away with murder in the original ISS! For an important match we thought nothing of sticking the boot in to secure a place in the final. So what if a player got sent off, he'd be back again to play the next time around. Not any more! Having revised their football lore somewhat, Konami have decided to



include suspensions in to the proceedings. Disgrace your team in one match by receiving a red card, and watch to your dismay as your star player is suspended - yes SUSPEND-ED - from the following match! Well, guess we deserve it really. Ho hum.





ISS MY Over and

above the general team tactics, highlighted intervals in the match proceedings - corners, free kicks, throwins - allow for the selection of a suitable individual to do the honours. So no more slapping of foreheads as Johnny Defender vol-

unteers to take that crucial last minute













You may think that this caption is all over... well it is now.





SOUND EFFECTS

VALUE

WHEN ISSAY JUMP

Players do absolutely anything you tell them to in ISS Deluxe - so long as it's football. Of course football is viewed by many as a beautiful art form(!), so the correct tools are required to bring the perfect plan together. In ISS Deluxe the players are arranged in any formation you wish. Don't worry if your positioning is unorthodox; if it works, use it! Inside of that it's possible to tailor individual players' attributes. You can even piece together defence or offence-only squads! On top of all this there are players whose contributions to set plays can be toggled on or off too. This way the best players are always

kept where you need them, leaving the most reliable team units to build up the strategy. **Total footy purists** will also appreciate that playing somebody out of position affects their performance too.

ere's a whole load of new options and shots that you'll have try and perfect.

The graphics look a lot more polished and the game has a faster pace to it too.

e of you who already own the original ISS may vant to know this, but Deluxe is by far the better er, as the benefits are obvious right from the ng. The presentation is better, and the overall of the game is paced faster. Wait till you hear the CRS in all its glory! All the tactical extras are worth while, which means making the most of what's on Konami have made the game tougher in one-player mode too. FIFA 95 on Mega Drive used to rule here at CVG. Now ISS Deluxe has come and blown that, and ts successor, away! Go for it!

CRS ISS

In 1993 Konami pioneered something called the 'Crowd Response System' for their sports games. In Japan some of the biggest names in sports commentary lend their distinguished oratory to add realism to Konami's products. Powerful Pro Baseball uses this, as does the original ISS -

aka Perfect Eleven - in Japan. CRS reflects the action on field so that great shots are praised and foul play condemned by the guest commentator. Likewise the noise level of the crowd is in tune with the drama of a big game. Though the original ISS sounded impressive, it didn't actually make use of CRS in Europe because it was considered too expensive on memory. Now, for the first time, players can experience the difference CRS makes! ISS Deluxe features double the number of voice samples, plus additional sound effects such as samba beats on drums, and chants from the stands. It's brilliant!





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October 25 was a great day for music magazines.







Doing the boxer beat!





MYSTERY TRAINING

Skipping, sparring, getting hypnotised - it's a busy life as a boxer. What you really need (apart from big fists) is an at-a-glance month-long diaries, with important dates, such as exercise or play fighting, marked on. And hey - that's what Boxer's Road gives you. Between bouts you're spirited to your Virtual Training Room

bouts you're spirited to your Virtual Training Room where you can access any number of options, like Schedule, which gives you the opportunity to plan your boxer's month of training. What training you'd like to do on what days and who you want to spar against are fully under your control.





iya kids, Burgess Meredith here. Now maybe you're not old enough to remember me in my early dramatic roles – hell, not even my own family can remember most of those. That's because I'm famous for being The Penguin in the Batman TV series, and going 'Quack, quack' all

the time. Not that I'm bitter about the years wasted at drama school just for a part in a human carboon. You scum. But anyway, the other thing I'm famous for, apart from my silly name, is being Sylvester Stallone's trainer in the Rocky movie. And boy is 'rocky' the right word for them.

As a result I came to know quite a bit about the noble art of Queensbury, and so those wacky funsters at CVG thought I'd be the perfect guy to introduce this Boxer's Road review.

What they don't realise is that I'm a serious ac-toor, and I'm just going to take the money and talk to all about the exciting possibilities a career in the theatre can open up for you, instead of sitting in your bedroom playing these silly computer games. Now ask your drama teacher... [Sorry Burgess, that's all we've got space for – CVG].





SNES Boxer's Road seems like the first

on console. There are more options, management sections and strategy elements than you'd believe. Soldy for us monolingual types, however, they're all in Japanese. As a result, whilst the boxing sections (when you get to them) are pretty smart, it's impossible to tell what you're actually doing. We'll definitely have to review this when we see the official or American's version, because it should be excellent. But unless you're got an awful to of patience or a degree in Japanese you

1994年 4月11日 ** 48日

USIANSII

should avoid the oriental import.





GRAPHICS

Huge sprites which look solid and realistic.

NIMATION 90 Not altogether

bit stiff-looking.

Not exactly Wipeout, but decent enough.

SOUND EFFECTS...(8)
Thump, biff, ding
ding. Good quality
but no variety.

GAMEPLAY 76

The boxing bits are good.

ALUE 65

You'll never get the most out of the import version.

OVERALL...

A potentially stunning game rendered almost unplayable by heaps and heaps of Jap text. Wait for the official release and a re-review.

72



LIGHTS, CAMERA... PUNCHING

Polygons and camera angles, an almost inseparable pair in games these days. And given that boxer's Road is a polygon-based game it's no surprise to discover that pressing the Select but ton cycles through a variety of different viewpoints. The most useful is the one looking through your translucent ghost boxer, but the best has to be the view from your opponent's eyes, allowing you to stare into the sinister glassy orbs of your own fighter.



PC CU-HUM

3D SHOOT-'EM-UP.

ACTIVISION

£49.99

OUT NOW

TWO PLAYER

PLANNED NO OTHER VERS Activision's robot blaster has been in development for years, and now it's finally here. But is it any good or just a load of scrap? Trust us to reveal all...

o, you're not dreaming - MechWarrior 2 really does exist. I know it's hard to believe - after all, fans of big battling robots have literally been waiting years for this game's release - but now, at long, long last, it's finally here, angrily stamping about, knocking over tables and shooting things. But what took Activision so long? I have a theory. You see, when a young lad begins his working life, it's customary for his new colleagues to

make his first day a humiliating misery. Usually this aim is achieved by giving him 'impossible' tasks to achieve and then laughing at him when he can't do it.

For example, one might ask Mr Wet-Behind-The-Ears to go to the stores and get a can of 'stripey paint' (tee-hee!). Another wit might order him

(tee-heel). Another wit might order him to fetch a left-handed screwdriver (hoot!). Then, of course, there's the telling him to ask a workmate for a 'long weight', whereupon the poor wretch is made to stand around lookina like a lemon for an hour or so (a long wait - geddit? Grench!).

And it's my belief that this last fate befell the novice programmer of MechWarrior 2 - the problem being nobody remembered to tell him it was just a joke, and so he ended up spending months just idling about, kicking his heels and doing nothing. Still, it looks like the poor geezer spent all that thinking time wisely, because he's come up with one corker of a game. If just took forever!



MechWarrior 2 takes place in a brutal future where two rival 'warrior clans', Wolf and Jade Falcon, battle for galactic supremacy. This war has raged for centuries, and each side's fleet of battleships has been so severely devastated that 'conventional' space warfare is no longer viable.

So now combat takes place on every contested planet's rugged surface, with each side trundling to war inside BattleMechs. These giant man-o'-wars resemble the two-legged Scout Walkers from the Star Wars movies, but boast a far deadlier range of highly

sophisticated weaponry. The game gives you the option of playing as a member of either Clan, and there's a different set of missions to tackle depending upon who you choose. These missions are all linked plot-wise, and your

performance in them either culminates in you being proclaimed ruler of the Clan — or reviled as the cause of its downfall!

Pentium to get



REVIEW













GUNS. KNEES & BOOMS-A-D

Although MechWarrior 2 is an out-and-out blastfest, there is a small but important strategy element too. For a start, it takes a lot of firepower to destroy an enemy BattleMech outright, so often it's wiser to cripple a 'Mech by shooting its legs and then coming back later to finish it off at your leisure. Later on in the game further tactical complications are created by the introduction of

'wingmen'. As their commander, you can give your fellow MechWarriors a variety of orders which they will then attempt to carry out to the best of their abilities. Remember: be good to them and they'll be good to you.

FANCY A OUICKY?

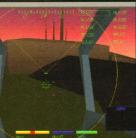
Although MechWarrior 2 is most enjoyable when played in campaign form, there's also an option to take part in a one-off scrap. From the menu screen you select how many BattleMechs you want to fight against and their individual model types and then off you go! It's possible to link up with a friend's PC via modem or network and fight head-to-head, which is great fun. In addition, Activision are promising a patch disk which will allow up to eight players to wage war over a network!











By clicking around the Clan Halls you gain access to the game's menu and option screens.

On a good PC MW2 looks terrific (inset), but on anything less than a 66MHz 486 the results are, er, less impressive (above).

Each mission has its own set of objectives that have to accomplished, so it's important to select the right 'Mech

and the right weaponry to get the job done.

There's a total of 15 BattleMechs in all, each of which has its own set of performance peculiarities. One, for example, may be fast but poorly armoured (and therefore great for scouting missions), while another may be slow but capable of carrying a huge arsenal of weaponry (and so excellent for those missions where you have to kill everything.

Before each mission you have the chance to kit out your BattleMech with whatever weaponry you see fit. The range of hardware on offer is truly awesome, going all the







Your mates have 'desert'ed you! Ho!

PC CD-ROM

After a long wait I thought MechWarrior 2 was bound to be disappointing — but Activision have proved me wrong. Perhaps the best thing about the game is that, once you get used to the naffish graphics, it really makes you feel as though you're riding in some giant walking death machine. The action is incredible - if you let your guard slip for even a fraction of a second then you'll be dead meat. The master stroke is the ability to play as either Clan, effectively giving you two games in one. Brilliant stuff.





RAPHICS.

ANIMATION.

The impression of diant robots lumbering about is great.

ng too spec but it does its job

SOUND EFFECTS... 88

The big booming explosions and radio chatter are tops.

VALUE

The option to play as either Clan adds to the longevity.

MechWarrior 2 has been well worth the wait — an excel-lent 3D blast-'em-

end's gone. That's

gonna cost ya..

















EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT FOOTBALLERS AND MORE!

REVIEW



PLATFORM

ONE PLAYER

PLANNED





OK, he may



Any 90s platform hero worth their silicon is equipped with multiple talents. So Ubi Soft now present one who is incapable of doing anything remotely special! Luckily Rayman is a quick

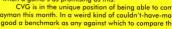
learner...

when a game's as promising as this. Saturn, Jaguar and PlayStation versions of Rayman this month. In a weird kind of couldn't-have-ma better-if-we-tried kind of way, Rayman is as good a benchmark as any against which to compare th machines. Comme ça?

f only because nobody else has thought of doing so. Ubi Soft's decision to debut with a cute platform game on PlayStation is a smart one. Rather than sink all their resources into something which makes people go 'wow' in the same way WipeOut or Toh Shin Den does, Rayman majors on quality and magnitude of gameplay. Plus Namco had just six months to conjure-up Ridge Racer; Ubi Soft have had Rayman in development for well over a year. Nintendo have near as damn it confirmed Ultra Mario Bros as one of the initial Ultra 64 releases, so Ubi Soft have every right to feel proud of such a great-loo' the concept.

Rayman himself, we are told, is co 124 different elements, which

accounts for the super-slick animation of the character. Throughout the 70-level strong world which he travels, the little felle comes into contact with over 50 varieties of er Okay Yoshi's Island has over 100, but who's cour

















soon learns more tricks, to please not only himself but the player keen on dis-covering all the secrets his game has to



Telescopic Fists: For his size, Rayman a has a reach greater than Frank Bruno! This has a lot to do with the fact that Rayman's fists aren't attached to his body in any way Which is kind of eerie, but useful all the same

his gripping hands. These do sort of life-saver should Ra tally stumble off the edge of a p Helicopter: It's difficult to prec what's below when hurtling tov ground. This is where Rayman 'hele-'do' comes in handy. Spinning his locks enables Rayman to slow his descent, in order to manoeuvre accurately





PLAYSTATION

Jaguar owners should maybe buy this game. Everyone else, forget it - unless you bought a 32-bit machine to play 16-bit games. Even then Rayman doesn't come close to Yoshi's Island. We have Clockwork Knight 2 on Saturn, and Jumping Flash (still) on PSX running at CVG, with a new 16-bit stunner - Super Mario RPG on the way. Nobody here has any incentive to lead Rayman through 70 levels of seen-it-done-it and tricky sequences met by little reward. These are old ideas dressed in the emperor's new clothes.

PAUL DAVIES

ELECTOONS

man's world is govat Protoon. Nobody Great Protoon looks evil Mr Dark takes it notices it's missing. This is because everybody in Rayman's world is an Electoon - a tiny creature used to gravitating around the Great otoon. Now Rayman has to reunite the **Electoons with the** at Protoon, kick Mr k up the ass, and

the peace. Simple enough? Well the Electoons are all locked away in guarded cages. Add to that the fact that Rayman can't reach many of the cages until Betilla has granted him a certain ability. Each location hides six cages, and the only way to progress through to the final level is to find every one of them!





GRAPHICS

rickery, but sprites





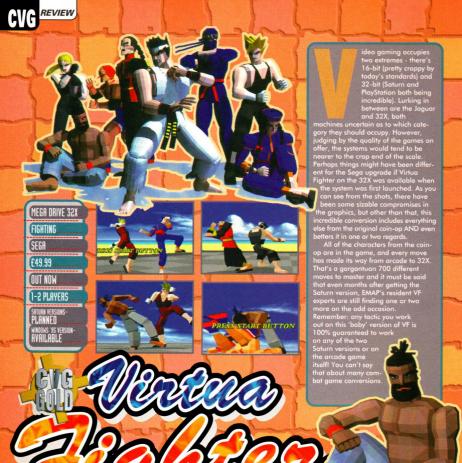
Golden medallions allow Rayman to monfive worlds are co lete is Rayman given access to Dark's Candy Chateau!











32X Virtua Fighter is better than the Saturn version, in more ways than one. Impossible? Well that's what we thought!











VERDICT.

PLAYSTATION

PAUL DAVIES



AKIRA YUKI There is no doubt that

There is no doubt that Akira is one of the most difficult characters to control. This situation is remedied somewhat with the 32X version, mainly due to the excellence of the Mega Drive six-button joyad. Akira is the most powerful close-quarters fighter, and has some stunning, super-energy draining special moves that incur huge damage when used as counter-strikes.









LAU CHAN
Pai's father has much
the same range of irritoing PPPK combos at
his commands, and while he isn't
as fast he has some astounding
moves that result in multiple-hit
strikes. Best of all is on unbelievable
eight-hit combol His throws only work
at very clase range, but when they do
work, they inflict much damage.
Overall, one of the most powerful
fighters in the game.





SECOND OPINION





KAGE MAR

The ninja of Virtua Fighter has perhaps the sneaklest artificial intelligence of all computer players. He also has the most spectacular range of moves at his disposal. However, Kage's combos aren't that great, and his throws are neither powerful or easy to pull off. Although initially quite interesting to sad fops taken in by his good-looking moves, Kage is basically crapl







EFFRY MCWILD

Any one who practises an ancient Roman fighting art called Pancratium is bound to be quite an interesting characterl Although Jeffry is the slowest fighter in the game, he is by far the most powerful – with only Wolf rivalling his range of incredible throws. Along with Akira, Jeffry is the most difficult character to master in the game, but as experienced VF players will tell you, this has its own rewards... rewards.



FEET FIRST

It's only a small plate of the state of the



JACKY

Wirtua Fighter is in fact a lacking character who has the speed of Sarah, but not her range of devastering combination strikes. Japanese experts have had to be extremely cunning to get any sort of tech-nical mastery out of this particular character. Still, he's better than Pai or Kage.





Originally put together by Sega of America, the Mega Drive 32X was designed to be a mini-Saturn which would be the only affordable 32-bit system on the market. History has shown that the machine is clearly lacking in the 3D area and offers little more than extra 2D capabilities to the standard Mega Drive. The lack of a truly incredible new game really let the system down when it was first released, with the parent Japanese company keeping all of the best Sega arcade titles for Saturn only. Things didn't improve with the likes of Cosmic Carnage, Motocross and the god-awful Motherbase – a trio of truly evil products that turned many off the 32X straight away. Virtua Fighter on 32X shows that the machine is capable of producing some excellent software, but the lack of new games remains a problem. In fact, there are anly four promising titles for 32X in the lead up to Christmas. Cheapness is in the 32X's favour, but more expensive 32-bit machines such as PlayStation and Saturn are certainly more powerful (like, try ten times more powerful: 32X does 50,000 polygons a second, Saturn 500,000 – that's Sega's stats too). While VF is a step in the right direction, it's clear that Sega's future is in Saturn. Virtua Fighter 2 on Saturn features full texture-mapping and 60 frames per second movement. You'll never see that on 32X. If it's gaming with a serious future you want, the extra monetary investment in a higher-specced 32-bit system will reap rewards in both the short and long terms.







PAI CHAN

In a word: irritating. Pai is the fastest character in the game by far and has a bewildering array of PPPK com-

bos at her command that enable her to best most characters in a repetitive, boring fash-ion. Adding to the irri-tation factor are her counter-strike throws, which turn an oppo-nent's punch or kick against



YET MORE NEW STUFF



To make up for compromises in the graphics, Sega of Japan have added various extras to keep players amused.

Included in the line-up are the tourna-ment mode, plus the ability to change character colours as well as the option of replay-ing the entire bout!

Other intriguing extras include the 'squeeze' mode, which gives the characters the same pro-portions as the arcade fighters, but reduces their size. It's a very curi-ous effect, and somehow they look that much better when



SARAH BRYANT
A powerhouse of sheer aggression, Lau is the only character who is equipped to take Sarah Bryant down. All of Sarah's moves are keyed to attacking key points of the opponent's at differing heights, thus making her exceptionally difficult to defend against effectively.
Probably the first character you'll finish the game with.







GRAPHICS

NIMATION

perb! We're flab-rgasted by the ality of this featu

MUSIC

SOUND EFFECTS

ally identical to originals. Slight ction in clarity.

GAMFPI.AY

We've played Saturn VF for over a year an this plays as well.

OVERALL



WOLF HAWKFIELD

Another of the large, but powerful brigade. Wolf powerful brigade. Wolf seems a superior fighter to Jeffry on paper; with three super-damaging throws and a whole host of other, less powerful ones. His scoop-ing punch and knee blast moves offer quite a lot of potential for combina-tion attacks and you can even execute some of his moves while blocking.







PLAYSTATION

Jrunij.

ACCLAIM

£39.99

TUO DI DIICD

NO OTHER VERSIONS
PLANNED
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32X,SNES VERSIONS
AVAILABLE





If your kitchen's ablaze then it's probably 'cos you left the chip pan on, if your backetball's on fire then it'll be because your playing NEM Jam on your new-playstation...



TOURNAMENT EDITION

oomshakalaka. As I believe they say among the basketballing fraternity. Quite a lot in fact. And you will too once you jam your new PSX disc and start playing NBA JAM in a 32-bit stylee. Alright you may have played NBA in one of its lesser 16-bit guises, but that's by the by because this game was one whole lot of fun on Mega Drive and SNES, and things haven't changed on PlayStation.

What was so great about NBA when it came out was that it made the basketball seem sooo playable. Each game is basically a two-on-two challenge, and because the ball never really goes out of play the gameplay is kept at a constant pace. It's all about scoring as many baskets (goals to you and me) as possible and each match is divided up into four (each quarter lasts for three minutes) with you against one other player (or the CPU). However you can have four of you play if you've got a Sony Multi-Tap.

What's so spesh' about the Tournament Edition though is the inclusion of various 'Hot Spots' and 'Power Up' icons. It's these power-uppy additions which can have a devilish effect on your opponent, as you become a Jammin' and Shootin' maverick as you tread on an 'S' and your speed increases, or a 'T' will give a player unlimited turbo, whereas tread on an 'F' and you're set ablaze in a dunkin' mayhem of three point heaven.





I PICK YOU, YOU AND YOU OH YEAH AND THE FAT KID WHO'S LEFT

Last month when playing Winning Eleven it was tres difficult to know which team was best because it was all in foreign. But that's not the case with NBA JAM

TE because it's all English, and each player's particular skillular attributes are listed underneath his digitised picture. So if his clutch rating is high it means that he's likely to come through when you need him the most, like at the end.

VERDICT

PLAYSTATION

GARY LORD

CORCHING TIPS

TANK

SO YOU'RE CRAP THEN

If you are then there's not a lot Acclaim can do about it, unless you're playing NBA Jam that is, because then you can watch out for these handy coaching tips. Which should help you beat your mate who's au fait with the game and when you say dunk doesn't drop his Rich Tea in his cuppa.











bomb icon as this leaves all your compatriots on





THAT ON A MEGA DRIVE. **NOSIREE** Just so that you don't

get bored in the interval or after the game you can have some authentic full motion video of your



real life basketball counterpart chums doing some Boomshakalaking of their own.

Step back in time, just like Kylie, with this ace new/old shooter...





them were t'days.

with guns and their huge bosses. Eeh,



VERDICT SATURN

RAD

VALUE

els, plus a fun-expanding two-player mode.

OVERALL

Might not appeal to tech-heads, but this is old-style shoot-'em-uppery to a healthy degree. Worth



SO YOU THOUGHT IT WAS £29999?



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hen things are going well, people say that they're 'running like clockwork'. These people have obviously never used a clockwork device in the entire of their sorry lives, or been on a train, which they probably also believe run smoothly and without trouble. What a load of rubbish. Clockwork toys are famous for moving at stupid hyper-speed at the beginning phase of winding, gradually slowing to a pathetic whirry crawl at the end. They can't even maintain a consistent pace at any stage. If Clockwork Knight were in any way realistic the main character would peg it about four inches along a platform. stumble up to the edge and then stop dead, whereupon a giant hand would pluck him into the air, begin the winding process and then discard him.

Indeed, most people did dis card Pepperouchau the Clockwork Knight when his first eponymous adventure hit the Saturn. One, because no-one had a Saturn anyway, and secondly because it was a trés boring game. But he's back, he's very seen and he's hoping to redeem himself in the same way as Street Fighter, But can he do it? Or what?







Left – Bite things with your horse's head! It's great! Fun for all the family!



SATURN

The original Clockwork Knight was a load of rubbish, so I was surprised to find myself actually enjoying Number 2. The first level is pretty quintessential Clocky Knight, but stick with it and there's an abundance of ace ideas lurking in each stage. Whilst it's about the same size as the original and of comparable difficulty there's more to keep you occupied and encourage you to return once you've completed the thing (and it's worth completing for the ending). Not a serious challenge, but certainly an enjoyable one

RAD

Lucky in cards, unlucky in love, hat's what they say whoever the siniste are). "They inly seen to ve a lot to say. I anyway ork Knight ory quite neatly. wit - the toy he es is repeatedly kidnapped, whilst

collecting the four aying cards secretithin each level brings him nothing but good for-

ve're as yet sure just hat good





GRAPHICS

Beautifully drawn sprites and levels in

ANIMATION.

Quite stunning, to be onest with you.

SOUND EFFECTS. 91 Sometimes very fit-

ing, sometimes just funny. But good.

GAMEPLAY. 90 Takes a little while to

warm up, but there's more to later levels.

On the short side, but there's enough to go ack and see again.

OVERALL

If it were twice the size this would be a classic. But it's perhaps a little too midgety for top pla ers. Still ace thoug









REVIEW

PLAYSTATION SHOOT-'EM-UP SONY INTERACTIVE **NIIT NOW**





You bought your PlayStation to play at least one great looking game, right! Great-looking, yes! Game, yes! Okay, this here is Novastorm.



ne word - Microcosm. If that stirs mixed feelings within your soul, let us remind you why this is so. Microcosm was once the singularly most impressivelooking game on PC and Mega-CD. It was a 3D shoot-'em-up developed by Psygnosis which overlaid sprites on to a full-motion video (FMV) backdrop. Sadly the gameplay was thought to be poor

Novastorm runs along similar lines. Except this time we have Fractal Engine Technology to boost the FMV, along with a tad more interaction with the scenery. Sure it's a different scenario - outer space opposed to inner space - but the concept is largely the same. What's immediately so distressing about all this is we're now two years down the line from a flawed concept, and it's being tried on us again.

Explaining the gameplay doesn't take long. Basically, lead a space craft into battle through eight stages of swarming aliens. As is tradition for shoot-'em-up ups, super enormous boss characters hang out at the end of each stage. The action is viewed from behind

employed, the action is necessarily uncomplicated.





VERDICT

sis (aka Sony Interactive) have produced Station, Novastorm is by far the least inspiring. we appreciate what they've set out to e, the end result isn't destined for Hall of Fame status. At least not in the way they'd like, Raiden II is a way better choice for gameplay, then there's eOut and Jumping Flash to consider for more

PAUL DAVIES



GRAPHICS

SOUND EFFECTS...





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REVIEW

MEGA DRIVE

PLATFORM SEGA

EUNCONFIRMED

OUT OCTOBER

ONE PLAYER

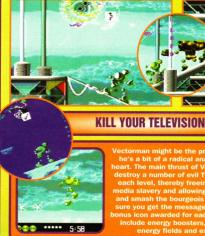


raditionally maths has taught us that vectors are all to do with straight lines, logical point-topoint plotted lines which your dad would like. But Sega, those wily games types, are reversing the trend with their latest title. For the hero, going by the name

of Vectorman, is made of distinctly spheroid shapes, close cousins of all round things. And - get this, numeration fans - they're not even joined up properly. Who says computer games don't ruin your education?

Although, actually, perhaps Vectorman is just a nickname given to our android pal as a youngster. Perhaps in the usual style of 'irony', like calling tall kids 'Shorty' or fat kids 'Not a disgraceful no-self-respect slob at all', as you do. Or perhaps because, true to his high-tech form, Vectorman was the proud possessor of a Raleigh Vector talking bike with ace electronic control panel on the crossbar and 20-odd different kids of electronic bell/buzzer/beeper/wild animal mating calls. Or whatever. Oh, who cares.

Don't Write Off The Megadrive Part 1000...



Vectorman might be the produce of Gamos, but he's a bit of a radical anarcho-libertarian at heart. The main thrust of Vectina's mission is to destroy a number of evil TVs dispersed around each level, thereby freeing the masses from media slavery and allowing them to rise as one sure you get the message there's a Pavlovian bonus icon awarded for each telly smited. These include energy boosters, whirly invincibility energy fields and extra weapons.













The good thing about being made of unconnected spheres is it allows you to be expressive with your body shape. Sadly though, robots aren't known for their imagination, so it remains for power-up icons to suggest shapes. Perhaps turtle-shape (for faster underwater movement), drill-shape (for burrowing into inaccessible caverns) or even bomb-shape (wait for the counter to reach zero and wipe out everything on the screen). Be warned, though —

screen). Be warned, though – Vectorman has a short memory, so transformation is temporary in the extreme (ie – about six seconds).

VERDICT SEGA

What really infurates me about the Megadine is that, as Cunstitus Herois proved all to long ago, it's capable of far more than most of the fat that hist the shekes. Yet no nec can be bothered to stretch the machine when they can cop out with a crap isonice or cane platement with a crap isonice or cane platement character. Well Verdoman has reliefled to case flatter of these qualifies, but it's absolutely great. The graph is are sturning, the game design shows — shock for nor—real imagination and it's hard enough to challenge any player, no matter how experienced (and jacots). One of the best releases of the year, and a great demonstration that, quite framély, you can stick Bulbry the Boloscu up your area.

RA

Budding evil genius types – don't make your henchmen from rocks. They're toss.

GET TANKED UP

The other good thing about spheres is that it doesn't matter which angle you view them from – they look the same. This means clever games like Vectorman can warp the play area to whatever degree they fancy. This trick is best evidenced by this groovy overhead-view tank level. Vecto has to blast the evil grabbing hands of a fully scaled boss monster whilst riding a tiny thin rail which warps and twists as the stage progresses. The ultimate aim is to destroy the fingers of doom and cause the nefarious



GRAPHICS

ANIMATION S

SOUND EFFECTS. 90

GAMEPLAY. 94

VALUE 96

OVERALL

96



SNES

BEAT-"EM-UP.

NINTENDO

£54.99

OUT NOVEMBER

1-2 PLAYERS

NU 64 FOLL OW-UP
PLANNED
ARCADE VERSION
OVOIL ODL C









NO MERCY - NO SHAME!

Whereas the basic gameplay in KI is indebted to Street Fighter II, the finishing moves ('No Mercies') are influenced by the Mortal Kombat fatalities. Each fighter is armed with at least two of these techniques, and, just like Mortal Kombat, they are executed to massage the victor's ego. No Mercies are more cinematic than MK fatalities, however; an example being that Shao Khan's unceremonious dumping of a foe on to a bed of razors is matched by It's exhibitionist Chiropractor. Even so, there are significantly less opportunities for such gags in KI as there are in Tobias and Boon's pride and joy – Humillations included.



ing against Toh Shin Den, Tekken, and Virtue Fighter this autumn. Nintendo are claiming this is an even match up. Well, CVG is happy to consider this notion for as long as it holds up in this, the authorative CVG review.

INSTINCT

"Too late," was the cry! Both Saturn and PlayStation are on sale – RIGHT NOW – while Nintendo trail behind with their 64-bit machine, and postpone the release of Killer Instinct. Too late. Or is it...



(Top Left) activates forgotten algorithms in Fulgore! (Middle) A flashy end to Miss B's big-hitting Ultra!



NINTENDO

introduction of MK3, says it all. You could argue that has a superior graphic style, more amazing sounds, tern to deter smart players from having the tide turn

BURP! 'Scuse







WOOPS AN ULTRA

Ultra combos take no more skill than the simplest two-in-one. Which is often why players find them by accident! They're 'Finishing' moves, that's all - like the Ultimate Combos. When your opponents' energy is down to the last sliver of red, simply tag a single, special technique to the end of a basic combo and the Ultra is yours. That said, alongside the slo-mo death of SFII, or the MK fatalities, there is no better way of watching losers get wasted!

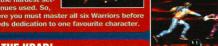
Not all the 'modifications' in SNES Killer Instinct are to its advantage. Shadow Moves are crucial tactically in the coin-op; they're still here, but the method of execution's changed. Like the coin-op, Shadows are specials that are doubled in power, post Combo Breaker. In the coin-op Shadow Moves involve holding a button then releasing it after the technique, making it necessary to rethink your combo strategy mid-game. On SNES just the standard moves are used. To some this

may be good news, but those looking forward to brandishing the coin-op's Shadow Combos don't have the chance.

EYEDOL SITUATION

The secret code to play as Eyedol is revealed to players who master the game on the hardest setting - no matter how many continues used. So,

unlike Namco's Weapon Lord where you must master all six Warriors before playing the BOSS, KI simply needs dedication to one favourite character.



KUT THE KRAP!

Rare weren't lying when they said the home version would play better than the coin-op; and no-one realised they were talking about the SNES! Regardless. the final version has a refined combo regime, under which Eyedol's 80 plus hit juggle is impossible. The modifications allow for extra 'Linkers' between specials, meaning there's potential for higher-scoring Ultras in the mix!

AIR COMBAT

With a mid-air challenge in KI there's the risk of being combo'd! Fighters who begin with a Fierce Low may two-in-one with one of their specials to gain multiple hits. Fulgore's Plasma Slice and Jago's Wind Kick are among them.











REVIEW

MEGADRIVE

RACING

CODEMASTERS

£44.99

OUT OCTOBER

FOUR PLAYERS

CROMACHINES

It's time for those mini meisters of miniature to race round all and sundry, and even your own made

up course...

K. CodeMasters may be trying to milk the Micro Machines game for all it's worth, but hey, just think of the other Micro games they could produce Imagine Micro Fighter, where all the world's short arses, Danny Devito, Ronnie

Corbett, Barry McGuigan (my money's on 'im), fight it out in their very own 3D rendered Lilliput, with a Gulliver secret character if you manage to beat Bazza

Or maybe not, perhaps they'll just give you a massive 65 courses for the '96 MM release, and how about a Micro Machines Construction Kit so that you can produce your own quirky racing track, full of the usual obstacles Mega Drive owners are now so familiar with: oil splats, errant screws, you know the

There's not a great deal more, only more noises and even more inventive and treacherous courses that Micro addicts will die for. Not forgetting that the familiar four play J-Cart is in effect, so you can meet up with three like-minded Micro Mates to race round the household





Tom Guise, that is. If yo

CONSTRUCTION















COMING SOON TO ONE OF THOSE SONY THINGIES NEAR YOU

The PlayStation. Even the women behind the counter at WHSmiths have heard of it now, and 'bout time really, we've been harping on about it for what now seems like an aeon and now Codemasters have finally let us have some pics of their first releases for PSX, and it comes as no surprise to find that the first release will be Micro Machines.

KIE

MEGADRIVE

GARY LORD







GAMEPLAY

VALUE

OVERALL

Hello, Rad here. You know I was the first person to review Micro Machines

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Shoot Out competition involves 6 questions and a penalty shoot-out. For rules or winners' names send a stamped addressed envelope to InfoMedia, PO Box 28 Northampton NN1 5DS.



The intro looks splen-did and is kept nice and short.



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OUT NOVEMBER

TWO PLAYER

NO OTHER VERSIONS PLANNED NO OTHER VERSIONS AVAILABLE

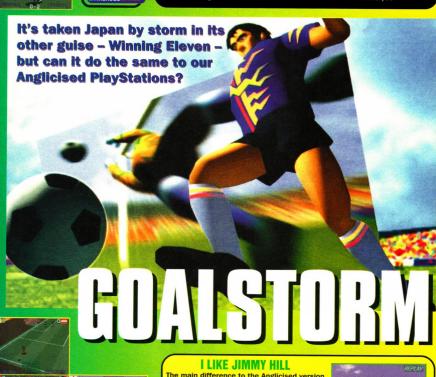
nen you buy your PlayStation (or Saturn – we're not machineist here at CVG), and you've bought Wipeout, Tekken and Jumping Flash the next piece of software you're going to have to add to your collection is a decent footie game. Now, if you're a Saturnite you're going to have a problem as at the moment, the only thing on offer is the lacklustre Victory Goal. If, on the other joypad, you're a Stationer then you're in luck as Konami have surpassed themselves with the terribly playable and addictive Goal Storm.

Gameplayers who know their onions will undoubtedly recognise the screen-shots as last month's rather top Winning Eleven, and there'd be a good reason for

that, in that this is the European version of said game. It's virtually identical to the Jap original and it doesn't take you long to master the controls and start performing vicious sliding tackles, diving headers from corner crosses and some rather spectacular overhead kicks as only Goal Storm knows how.

This is of course the English version but not much has changed as the game still has quirky orientalisms – like the way the players bow their heads at the ref when

they commit a misdemeanour; you certainly wouldn't catch the good citizens of Osaka chanting 'Who's the merchant banker in the black' now would you?



The main difference to the Anglicised version (apart from non-Japanese players) is that you get fully controlable action replays, so that you can really wind up your opponent as you show him how you waltzed past his defence and scored in the last five seconds of injury time.







Shiny happy people scoring goals.

DESMOND LYNAM IS A GEEZER

The commentary for Goal Storm is comedic, but for the wrong reasons in that it's just how a Japanese person would envisage us Brits to speak, ie in a Mr Chumdley Warner type accent. Some

choice commen-



tary includes "That's a rocket," and "Good stuff goalkeeper" and "Corner Kick"! I actually prefer the Jap commentary, as this one is just embarrassing.



VERDICT PLAYSTATION

rnational Superstar Soccer showed that Konami make a football game. And Goal Storm demonites that they're not gonna let down their patrons on the Next Gen consoles. The sound effects might nd more like they should be in a beat-'em-up, and but that doesn't detract from the arcade playability of pitch. The only drawback is the appalling English con tary that's been tagged on, it will have you cring



don't throw the ball, always go for a goal kick.

e the sliding tackle

and your opponent will come down with a

ud and a crack.



ng big time. Apart from that, it's grrreat.

SOUND EFFECTS.

but enjoyable GAMEPLAY

GRAPHICS.

ANIMATION.

fab set anims.

Very polygonised and

very slick, with a trés Japanese style too.

Great movement on the pitch and some

Konami have got it just right in this cate-gory and no mistake.

VALJIE

For your first footie game it's money well spent that's for sure.

OVERALL

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BRIAN MOORE



Just so that you don't have to play as Granpus 8 or any of those other comedy Japanese teams, Konami have put a load of other jolly foreigner teams in

Argentina, **Holland** and Wales.

instead, such as



If it's a depressing nil-nil draw then I'm afraid it's down to penalties. Will he go left or will he go right. (Actually he went down the middle.)



BLOKE

Score a goal in Goal Storm and your team will run off like stampeding wilderbeast, in all their polygon glory.





NON-PC PC

Whilst the PC version isn't in such an advanced state of completion as the (finished) PlayStation Mortal 3, we've gotten hold of a variety of lovely shots. As you can see, it's shaping up rather nicely. The gameplay remains to be tested, but given the sterling job done of converting Mortal Kombat 2 to the same platform we doubt there'll be too much trouble on this score. But



then, GT Interactive are handling this port-over job, and it's their first time with the Mortal mantle. So how will it do? Be sure to read a forthcoming CVG for the full scam.





Sub-Zero's Ice Clone





That background



poks like great fun. Like one of them Party













RUNAWAY RETURN Running. We're all forced to do it during our childhoods. They say it's to keep us fit at school, but we know it's

just training to help us escape monsters. Some people like running and make careers out of it. Some people are unfit and hate it and just get jobs in computer games and let little computer sprites do the running for them. That's us. Luckily Mortal 3 incorporates a lovely exercise-dodging feature in the form of a Run button, instead of double-pressing a direction like you normally would there's now only a single button press required to leg it across the screen. As you might expect this comes into action quite a lot for Fatalities and such.





MEET THE GANG

One of the main reasons for Mortal Kombat's original and continual success has to be the imaginative character design, which plagiarises all manner of B-movies, comics and myths for inspiration. Hi-tech cops and robbers, zen ninjas, ancient gods – you name it, they've got a reason for showing up at the Kombat tournament. Mortal 3 introduces some new friends and fiends to the roster (although it drops a couple too). Here's a rundown of the new faces, in case you haven't seen them before.

SINDEL

Whilst her hair doubtless goes down a storm at the Goth gigs it's also a very useful grappling weapon. Also has a horrible Banshee wall (which is quite a clever Goth in-joke thinking about it).



SEKTOR

Sent by the evil Lin Kuei ninjas to destroy the defecting Sub-Zero he's an evil robot ninja with a host of deadly techno-powers.

but with rocket nets instead of blasting projectiles in his arsenal.



SHEEVA

Coming from the same race of evil aliens as Goro, Sheeva is one of the scariest characters in the game without a doubt. Her immense strength and superior grappling capabilities make her deadly.



110

NIGHTWOLF

He's a flinkin' red bleedin' injun inne?As a result he's armed with a psychic bow and arrow, plus a very real tomahawk. Wears facepaint yet is not a girl. Do not argue about it.



STRYKER

A riot copper trying to save the universe on his own, unarmed apart from an electrified baton, gun and selection of grenades. Just like a real copper.

VADA1

Funny face mask which makes him look like something from Starlight Express, but Kabal is a deadly master of blade-style attackery thanks to his two big-hooked swords.







Sub Zero attempts to make the world's largest pizza base, arriving at the tricky dough-toss.



bit misleading. She doesn't always win. Otherwise noone else would get picked ever.







I WANT YOUR

Secret stuff. That's what Mortal Kombat is famous for. Apart from blood and death. But if it's secret stuff you're after... well, you're better off buying a Mario game, frankly, but

Mortal Kombat 3 still isn't short on the old secretometer. There are four hidden characters, of which one (Smoke) is player selectable, and there's a special code entry screen which is a veritable mine of secrecy. Enter six of the icons

on offer and, provided you've got the sequence right you can access a wealth of hidden cheats and effects, from fighting in the dark to being

invincible.











hronised moves, to Sheeva's obvious

PLAYSTATION













ANIMATION Convincing, as it's digitised, but still a

bit stiff.

SOUND EFFECTS

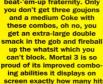
Hard to finish, lots of hidden stuff, and ming in two-player

FINE TOOTH COMBO

WINS: 05

MIGHTWOLF

Combos. First invented by Colonel Sanders as a way of trying to shift more tatty cartons of chips with his rather more pleasant-tasting chicken, and now adopted by the beat-'em-up fraternity, Only and a medium Coke with these combos, oh no, you get an extra-large double



screen exactly how many hits a combo scored, and what percentage of the enemy damage meter it destroyed. TIP - this means you can show off to your friends more and really rub it in.



RAVEN GAMES LONDON

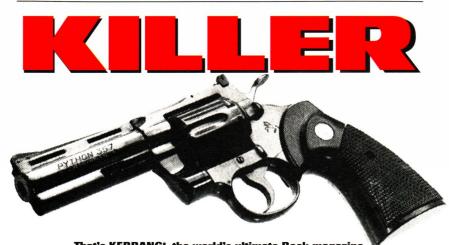




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SUPER NES

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7200

Puzzle fains welcome the new breed of brain bender! Viacom's Zoop is a better game than Tetris. We know, because the guy who wrote Tetris says it's true.









100



PSST... LOOK OVER HERE!

One final thing we feel we ought to warn you about. Even before making a move with that chip, the chances of striking out in the right direction are slim. This is because Hookstone have devised the Optichallenge" - a series of 10 backgrounds that incorporate optical illusions to deceive the eye. While shapes advance from one direction, the background pattern tries to focus attention elsewhere. Even once you're wise to the Optichallenge" it's still tough maintaining concentration on the real danger areas. As the game progresses, so does the complexity of these sneaky designs!

VERDICT..

Original cleas are few and far between. Zoop is not only innovative. If is feeh and inneceibly addictive too, Aside from the stylish visuals, which you're neither meant to love or hat, the basic gampley is a strike of genlus. It's ironic that a game, destined to become nee of the greatest of the decade, is about to do so without need for X-amount of light-sourced, taxifure-mapped polygons, or CD-quilty sound. No matter what format you're running this on, Zoop is an essential ingredient to spice anyone's collection.

PAUL I

3500 1171 2500 1171 2500 1171 2500 1171 2500 1171 2500 1171

es indeed, Mr Alexey Pajitnov (inventor of Tetris) approached programmers Hookstone at a recent trade show and proclaimed their game the best thing since his own genius work.

Those who survived Tetris fever better prepare to get totally Zooped, because

the game looks set to become MASSIVE! Players control a triangular chip which occupies a box in the centre of the screen. This box is surrounded by advancing rows of coloured shapes, and the chip prevents them getting too close by striking out to eliminate them. Chameleon-like properties enable the chip to adopt the shade of whichever surface it comes into contact with. Shapes only disappear after being struck by the chip when it's the same colour; otherwise the two just swap shades. Of course 99 levels of difficulty, combined with nine speed variations ensure that this simple operation doesn't stay too simple for very long!

On Super NES and MegaDrive Zop is con-player experience. However the Game Boy supports a two-player option, whereas PC and Mac versions allow as many as four people to network machines for a multi-player experience. We're not certain as yet to how the PlayStation and Saturn versions are configured, but we'll let you know as soon as we find out. Whatever situation you find yourself in, depending on which machine(s) you own, Zoop is an experience like no other.

SCORES

GRAPHICS

ANIMATION

SOUND EFFECTS. 7

GAMEPLAY.

90

VALUE OVFRALL

93







WIZARD JAPES!

As the game progresses you encounter rival wizards loyal to Vissuluth - some of the deadliest foes you'll ever meet. Although you can shoot them out of the sky, they resurrect themselves after a short while, provided that their home castle is still standing. The trick is to blast them to kingdom come, then seek out their base and destroy that before they get a chance to be reborn. The same holds true for you, though, so it's vital to ensure that your castle is protected at all times.



er played the first Magic Carpet, so I ap this sequel with a degree of scepticism – after all, I thought, how much fun can flying some tatty old bit of nd out - lots! The game's speed and fluidity is sim awesome - you really feel like you're flying - while

PAUL DAVIES













An incredible gaming experience that's lam-packed with excitement -

there are definitely no bugs in this rug!



DOING

IT WITH **YOUR MATES!**

If your PC is connected to your mates' machines over a network (and you've all got a copy of the game!) you can play Magic Carpet 2 head-to-head, with each of your carpet-surfing wizards in a battle to be the last man standing. Of course, it's not something that everyone will be able to try but if you get the opportunity leap at it - it's an incredible laugh and intensely exciting.



for this sequel – and I'm glad to say that it 't disappoint. Bullfrog have managed to impre ster like me, it's a little too easy to complete. Still, (carpet) bags of fun while it lasts, so I'm not com-

The new home cinema...



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PCREVIEW

MPEOUT MASTER-GLASS A COMPLETE GUIDE

FROM THE GAME'S CREATORS

WHO BETTER to prepare pilots for Wipeout's 'ballistic' racing philosophy than the men who invented it. Designer Nick Burcombe, together with his team of programmers and play testers take the game apart – exclusively for CVG!



WEIGHING IN

Perceived by Wipeout play-testers as the best for getting through the game. Despite having a low top speed, Fiesar's ships have an extremely low mass; so collisions with the side of the track mean you just bounce right off again. Of course it's necessary to hit all the speed-up grids to be effective in the Rapier League.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

The following is for CVG readers' eyes only. It has not been published to any other magazine. It contains information that enables players to gain instant access to Wipeout's hottest locations, and must not be passed on without the owner of this magazine's express permission.



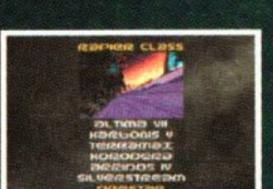
AG SYSTEMS

Second choice for beginners. A better top speed than Fiesar and acute turning ability allow pilots to find success in the Venom League with relative ease.



ACCESS: RAPIER CLASS

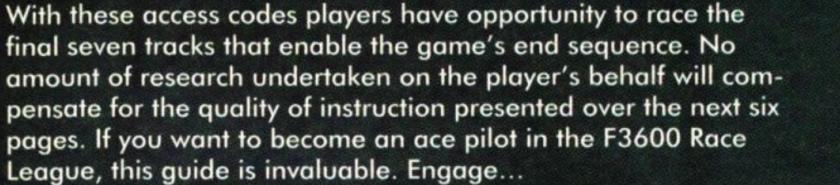
Highlight 'one player' on the start-up screen. Press and hold L2 and R2, LEFT on the direction pad, plus START and SELECT. Now press X.

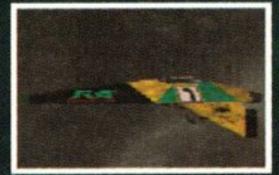


DIREX FEISDR

ACCESS: FIRESTAR (SECRET TRACK)

Highlight 'one player' on the start-up screen. Press and hold L1 and R1, RIGHT on the direction pad, plus START, plus (square) and (circle). Now press X.





AURICOM and QUIREX
Reserved for pilots who have a death wish, as
these rocket along 50% faster than the others.
However for the purpose of achieving cosmic
lap times, Auricom and Quirex are the choice of
masters.



WIPEOUT MASTER-CLASS A COMPLETE GUIDE FROM THE GAME'S CREATORS

ALTIMA V11 Location: Canada Length: 5.5 km Height: 359 m Surface: F3600

Racing Standard

THEME

TILT

Speed has more to do with road contact than aerodynamics, so Allima introduces players to the importance of raising or lowering the ship's front end. When heading down a steep incline, keeping the nose down increases velocity. However when rising out of this it's necessary to pull up to prevent scraping the chassis on the road surface. Another trick is using the forward/ back movement of the craft is when gaining extra distance over a jump: a little extra lift is gained by pressing forward then pulling back a little before comina to land.

KEY POINTS



1. After a Turbo start (see separate paragraph,) prepare to jump on he air brakes as you reach the first bend.



 The majority of Speed Ups encountered are on the left-hand side as you climb the hill. Only go for weapons power-ups if your position needs salvaging.



As you plummet toward the dip in the tunnel marked by the Danger sign, pull the nose up to prevent it scraping the road surface. Veer right to clip the no-risk weapon power-up.



4. Take the speed-up at the top of the hill at an angle, in order to scoot right over the weapon power-up on the left. Given the choice between the two, go for the speed every time – it helps make the jump.



5. It's risky, but keep to the left on the snake-like run up to the tunnel. The speed ups make a big difference to your time. Though keeping to the right-hand side provides the most natural racing line.



6. Skim the right-hand wall of the tunnel to catch the speed-up, then gently veer to the left for another. The left-hand turn at the exit is quite gentle, so feel confident about hugging it close for the additional speed up. Tap the left-hand air-brake if necessary.

Making use of speed-up and weapon grids as guidelines is useful for creating the best racing line. There is usually more than one route, so find the one which suits your

style. Usually it is better to adopt the route involving the most speed-up grids, though

desperation might force beginners to rely on weapons. Throughout this guide the options are explained for you. Just remember indecision is likely to foul things up big

THEME
ADVANCE PREPARATION



TERRAMAX Location: Gerr

Location: Germany Length: 4.1 km Height: 121 m Surface: F3600

Racing Standard



Best opportunity of all for a Turbo Start is in the opening stretch of Terramax!



2. Take a diagonal line across from the right lane speed-up to catch the one on the left side before climbing the hill.

KARBONIS Location: Japan Length: 3.4 km Height: 107 m Surface: Reclaimed Titanium



KEY POINTS

THEME

AIR BRAKES

The kind of power sliding required in Wipeout has never been experienced for home use. Tap the air brokes as apposed to keeping them pressed for any length of time. Imagine the air-brake places an invisible anchor at the point which it is used, and the directional control which follows moves in an arc around this. Air-brakes are good for guiding ships gently onto speed-up grids, should they fall slightly out of the racing line.



1. Best to avoid the speed up at the start, in the left lane. You can cut in front of the others by taking the right-hand route.



2. Hitting the speed-ups in the right lane prior to the tunnel gives the best driving line.



Use air-brakes to contain the throes of the ship through the tunnel, and aim to exit on the right of the track for the dip ahead.



4. Push the nose forward and to the left for maximum velocity down the hill – there is a speed-up in the left lane.



5. Take advantage of the speed-ups in the right-hand lane by tapping the left airbrake.



6. If your power is up, keep the nose down when making the jumps to maintain speed.



7. Use the weapon and speed-up icons as guidelines for the perfect racing line through the chicane.



8. Air-brakes are only necessary through this final section when competing in Rapier Class.



3. Keep to the left at the verge to take into account the twin speed-up icons.



4. Guide the ship through the speed-ups on the left and right, using the latter to line up for one on the inside corner before the tunnel.



5. Use of air-brakes is advised through the tunnel, especially so with the dual speedups on the inside of the right-hand bend.



6. Ignore the dual speed-ups if you want to take advantage of the weapon power-up in the right-hand lane.



7. Apply the righthand air-brake if you plan using the speed up before climbing the ramp.



8. Position yourself to the right when taking the jump, this lines you up for a speed up on landing.



9. Ignore the weapon power-up in the right lane – take full advantage of the speed-ups instead!



10. Tip the nose down when flying off the crest of the hill to reach maximum speed.



WIPEOUT MASTER-CLASS A COMPLETE GUIDE FROM THE GAME'S CREATORS

KORODERA

Location: Russia Length: 5.4 km

Height: 210 m

Surface: Carbonic Iron

THEME

In truth Wipeout tracks are pretty well balanced. There is no right or wrong way about them. However junctions require more commitment. Sany Interactive have tried to be as informative as possible regarding this area, but in the end the choice is yours. Sounds crap, but that's the way it is!

KEY POINTS



1. At the junction, the left lane leads to speed ups, and is therefore the better option.



Only head right for the weapons if you have positioned badly, or want to make doubly sure of a lead after a successful Turbo Start.



3. Keep a straight line down the middle of the three speed-ups in this chicane, applying the left air-brake, only slightly, as you exit.



 Reign in on power to squeeze into the left side of this tight bend to hit a couple of speed-ups which boost you back into action.



5. Only the last of the three sharp bends requires air-brakes, and only then if you're racing heavier craft. AG Systems and Fiesar have no need. Whatever the case, cut deep into the final right-hander to snag the speed-up in the right-hand lane.



 Aim to take off from this ramp from the middle, and make only small adjustments in the air. The lie of the track below is deceiving.



7. Approach the sharp left-hander at the bottom of the hill from the right-hand lane. Forget the weapon grid. This line allows you to cross over 2X triple speed-ups!!!



8. In the slow right-hander which leads to the final tunnel, stay central to skim all the speed ups. Adopting either the left or right lane causes you to miss out.



TURBO START

Place first after just one lap! The trick is to monitor the power of the thrusters so that the red, transparent bar is on the second line from the end when the commentator shouts 'Gol'. To gauge this visually, look for the orange light then hit the button. Those who prefer to listen for a prompt, concentrate on splitting the word 'one' straight down the middle.





THEME

CONVICTION

Choose a ship, and stick with it! At this stage in the championship pilots must be accustomed to the nuances of their craft, otherwise sections such as the snake tunnel in Arridos become a total embarrassment in front of other pilots. Without dedication to one particular machine, it's unlikely you'll be able to pick up the kind of skills mentioned elsewhere in this manual before more skilfully robust competitors.

KEY POINTS

ARRIDOS IV Location: USA Length: 6.04 km Height: 245 m Surface: Blasted Sandstone



 Head straight down the middle of this bumpy section – trying to hug the corners will only make you crash!



2. Rapier pilots need air-brakes in this tunnel, whereas it's perfectly feasible to swing on through without a care in Venom Class conditions.



Keep the nose down when plummeting down this hill, as this increases velocity.



4. Choose the right-hand route both times when confronted by these junctions. The first hides a speed-up, which fires you on to take advantage of two more in the next. Apply the right-hand air-broke for assistance into the second stretch, or keep left and cross over the speed up to the right as you exit the first junction.



5. Careful about using the Turbo Boost on the second jump – there are height restrictions in Arridos.



6. Hug the left-hand wall of the tunnel to gather the speed-ups as you exit. Pull up as you cross the second otherwise the ship bumps the ground.



7. Prepare to turn deep into this second right-hander, using air-brakes. The triple speed-up is a god send for the open road ahead!



OVERTAKING

Enemy craft are programmed to block your path, but take a moment to recognise your existence. Choose your moment, then lure your obstacle to the extreme left or right lane. Now quickly move out into the opposite lane and power chead. Sportsmanship, as a rule, isn't written into the F3600 code.

2-PLAYER LINK STRATEGY

Head to Head competitions are won and lost on weapons skill, no doubt about it. Best way of stopping a player's fun is to observe their strategy first, then exploit their weaknesses. Racing out in front the whole time is risky, which is why experts hang back for two laps, keeping the 'enemy' in sight, before loosing a missile in the run up to the final stretch. Two people going for the same gag kind of forces speed to take a back seat, though!

'Revcon' is most effective on pilots negotiating tricky chicanes. Use of this icon when rivals have an open stretch ahead of them is totally wasteful!

'What's This?' disables an opponents' weapons recognition system. They cannot arm their ship until the effects wear off.



SILVERSTREAM Location: Greenland

Length: 6.4 km Height: 232 m

Surface: Artificial

Crystal

WIPEOUT MASTER-CLASS A COMPLETE GUIDE FROM THE GAME'S CREATORS

THEME

SEVERE AIR BRAKES

SilverStream is comparable to an Olympic Bob sleigh run. There is absolutely no time to make a wrong decision here, and skilled air braking is tantamount to success around the 90° bends. Naturally this is the hardest course in the game to come to terms with – it is, after all, the final challenge before moving on to Rapier Class, and from there to FireStar. Sony Interactive claim SilverStream is even tougher than FireStar, if that's any consolation to frustrated pilots. Practice pays off in the end.

KEY POINTS



1. Definitely head left at the start. It's steep and requires the speed-ups to get you motivating but the veepon grids and speed up on the descent are worth it. Careful to lean hard right to avoid smacking into the wall at the bottom though. Air brokes are useful for gliding into the tunnel.



2. Using flawless air-brake tactics, turn hard left soon after hitting the triple speed-up!



3. Air-brakes again for the ensuing right-hander.



5. Take the left-hand fork at the bottom of the hill, lining yourself up on the left for the speed-up on the verge.



6. Head left once more, through the tunnel where it's safe to gather all the speed ups. Careful of the double as you approach the left-hander, though. Avoid it unless your air-braking is exemplary!



4. Again predict the curve before launching into the speed-ups at the bottom of this hill. The left-hander is tight, plus you need to pull back slightly on the D-pad to prevent the nose from scraping the road surface.



7. Rocket over the finish line by adhering to the inside right when crossing the triple speedups, and stab the right-hand airbrake.



THEME

WIN OR LOSE

Once FireStar is entered into the Championship, players are required to race through all seven circuits before enjoying the game's end sequence. Fail here and you lose everything. And you will fail – unless you take heed of the Key Points mentioned here. Sony Interactive would like to wish all pilots the best of luck. CVG would like you to know the effort is most definitely worth it!

KEY POINTS

FIRESTAR Location: Mars Length: 6.3 km Height: 198 m Surface: Unknown



 Follow the road to the left at the start, toward the small ramp. It requires the least adjustment.



2. As you fall, aim toward the right lane in order to line up for the left-hand side of the junction ahead. You gain a speed boost plus a weapon as reward.



Keep hugging the inside of the left lane to benefit from the double speed boosters which are hidden from view. Aim to glide slightly over to the right after doing so for the weapon.



4. Stay central for the duration of the jump that follows. Only drift to the left upon landing for the double speed up. Then back over to the right for a triple, and again back to the left for another. Steer right out of this. How's your stomach!



After a small climb there is a weapon grid closely followed by a triple speed-up. Go for it, of course, but be sure to use the right air brake to avoid hitting the boundary.



6. Ignore the speed up as you round the bend. Take the line indicated by the weapon grid as it heads directly for a triple speed up. Otherwise there is a strong possibility you could crash – especially at this speed.



7. In the section containing multiple weapon grids, keep tapping the fire button in the hope of gaining a Turbo Boost. Probability is on your side.



 Skim the triple speed-up on the upward slope toward the right-hand bend, then aim left for the double speed-up. Lastly aim right for the double speed-up prior to the weapon grid.



9. Finally, on the last section, veer right for the double speed-up on the bend, then quickly to the left for the triple. That's five speed-ups to power you across the finish line victorious!!!

TACTICAL WEAPON USE

Shield – Hang onto this. If you're confident of your racing ability, having performance ruined by mines or missiles is unbearable. Turbo Boost – Great for overshooting corners. However, avoid using off of ramps where height restrictions are in operation. Mines – Lay across the track on approaches

to a take off; or in blind spots where someone riding your tail cannot see – until it's too late!

Shock Wave – Ruins an opponents driving line through 'S' bends. Always wait for a good corner before letting loose.

Rockets – Move aside the moment its fired, otherwise prepare to roast on someone's afterburner!
Missiles – Disabled craft take a while recovering, and are best left to do so once.

you've passed them by. So use close in wherever possible, leaving about two ships length between you VG ARCADES

In the coin-op world, the Japan Arcade Machine Manufacturer Association (JAMMA) show is the event of the year. CVG reports from the huge Makuhari Messe centre in Chiba, Japan, with news of the hottest videogames coming your way in the near future.

VIDEO

FIGHTING VIPERS







'DOMINIQUE AND BAHN'
A metal sheath adorns
Dominique's forearm, which
she uses to lash out at foes.
Same goes for the shin-guard.
Dom looks pretty lowly compared to Bahn in his princely
attire. So far as we know Bahn
has no weapons except, of
course, his fists.



PICKY AND 'GRACE' Picky keeps a skateboard strapped to his back, which he uses to smack his foes all about with overhead swipes. For protection he depends on skate armour. Grace is a roller-babe, her shin pads shield her slee, der legs while dishing out extra damage too.





RAXEL AND 3-MAN
Unfortunately we have no pics
of Raxel – the long-haired guy
who wields a guilar. 3-man,
however, is seen here taking a
bealing from Picky. He looks
like a cross between a riot-cop
and an American footballer.



THE FACT THAT FIGHTING VIPERS COMES FROM AM2 SAYS IT ALL. It seems the wait for Virtua Fighter 3 is extended, as this is obviously where the Yu Susuki team's energies have been focused of late!

Vipers is a 3-D fighting game developed for the Model 2 board. Comparisons to the Virtua Fighter series are inevitable, but there are many unique features to Vipers. First obvious difference being that the characters wear gang-land skate, and club gear as opposed to traditional martial arts attire. The choice of colours here is more than 1972, and the special effects accompanying moves are far more extravagant. Gamplay is also notably faster, ensuring that adrenaline levels soar almost immediately.

Looking into the gameplay, the most immediate change to VF2 is the presence of enclosures. So Ring Outs are gone, and in their place a far more acceptable technique of being able to smash opponents against the wall. This is achieved in a similar fashion to Sarah's Flip-Kick Combo, where a succession of punches culminate in the 'pin.' Cortain combinations of moves, when used at the close of a match, can even hike fighters right over the top!

What do you do when your back's against the wall? Well, each fighter has a Killer Instinct-style breaker which allows them to get out of trouble – either by throwing the aggressor off balance, or slipping out of reach. Some fighters are able to use weapons, though not at all in the same way as Namco's 'Soul Edge,' in Vipres, weapons adopt the form of Skateboards and Guitars! Read the miniature profiles to find out some more on that.

miniature promes or more our cause. There's no getting away from the fact Fighting Vipers plays similarly to the Virtua Fighter games. But CVG gets the impression AMZ wouldn't want it any other way – they want this game to be accessible. If this means keeping it 'easy' at the base level, that's fine. Besides, we're almost certain Vipers has many hidden depths. It's coming to Saturn, and you saw it here first!

JAMMA SHOW HIGHLIGHTS



DROME SPECIAL EDITION

SOUL EDGE

- Beat-'em-up ■ £1 per play
- Namco
- 1-2 Players





SKY TARGET from Sega is an OK progression of the After Burner series. Wing Arms is probably better.



Fresh out of Namco's arcade R&D is a weapons-based fighting game developed for the System 11 board, as used by the Tekken games. Evidently the standard of graphics has improved yet again, and the control system has changed accordingly. The designers have taken the Virtua Fighter route and implemented just three buttons: guard, punch, and kick. From this you can gather that most moves are performed in the Street Fighter 2/ Fatal Fury style, plus there's the ability for some characters to sidestep attacks – à la Toh Shin Den.

Stoesteep attacks – a is roil simil veni.

So far we have seen eight characters, The Barbarian with the axe is called Rocky. More heavy-duty kit is wielded by Siegfried, a Knight, and Mitsurugi, the Samurai. Mina flourishes a Bo. Taki bears close resemblance to a Ninja and Vold is the ageing mutant bladesman.

System 11 is proving itself ever more capable of matching Sega's Model 2 – just look at those amazing structures in the background! Also significant about Soul Edge are the lighting effects, which Namco are especially proud of. Day turns to night or vice versa in the final round. Flares frace the moves of special attacks.

What is surely the best part of this news is that we are almost assured a home version before Christmas next year.

















(LEFI) Sega NetMerc is currently playing at Hamley's Metropolis in central London. Stereo speakers blast from the console behind the player, as you are transported to a virtual battlezone inside the VR helmet. Kil the me

VIDEO DROM

- Racing
- Konami 1-2 Players









(ABOVE) The only way to avoid feeling totally sick is by closing your eyes. Everything looks so real!

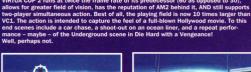




- Shooting
- Sega 2 Players











(ABOVE) Anybody fancy loosing their cool for a few minutes – not to men-tion your lunch!!!

ANY CAME THAT COMES WITH A HEALTH WARNING has got to be worth a look. Konami's Speed King is a futuristic racer similar in concept to Wipeout, only it's taken to the furthest extreme! The game is site-based; so is delivered as a pod mounted on hydraulics, surrounded by a safety enclosure.

The seats are found inside the pod. Speed King is a one-player game so the second is intended for a passenger. There are seat belts here. Arready this doesn't look too comforting! Once strapped in place by a Konami official, the doors close and the game sequence is initiated...

An options screen gives players the choice between Mild or Hard motion. So you choose hard, right? Well here's what happens next. You and your virtual hover jet (there's a choice of two) are launched on to the streets of Neo Kobe, and left to struggle with the controls as the craft is bounced over ramps, falls hundreds of feet, and is thrown around bends. It! controls situated behind the steering wheel allow for even tighter cornering; banking the machine wholesale on its supports. The benefit of being strapped into this Emaginator-type machine is that you feel everything - G-Force is simulated by whiring the unit through 300 degrees. FASTI!! The pictures don't do the game justice. Speed King is literally breathtaking!

VIRTUA COP 2 runs at twice the frame rate of its predecessor (60 as opposed to 30),

VIRTUA COP 2









- **Fighting** Capcom
- 1-2 Players

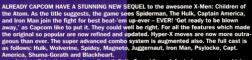
ARVEL SUPER HEROES













As they fight, they seek to collect Infinity Gems' from defeated opponents, which serve to dramatically increase their super powers. Collect all six – Time, Reality, Soul, Mind, Power, and Space – and, it is said, that a player's whole fighting style is destined to change!!! This game is so powerful. But powerful enough to defeat Thanos at the end of the game? Only your skill can decide that. Sadly we still have quite a wait until the finished version is released worldwide, but rest



- Shooting
- Namco 1 Player

TIME CRISIS





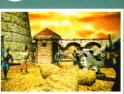


WORRYING NEWS FOR SEGA, this. Time Crisis makes Virtus Cop 2 look almost dated by comparison; the power of the Super 22 System used is phenomenal. The whole Point and Shoot theme receives a whole new feet too, with the benefit of 'Hit and Hide'. — the ability to duck and cover out of trouble by means of a foot-operated Action Pedal. As you aim to blow away the uniformed guards, your hand-gun recoils almost like the real thing. Rather than being confined to horizontally scrolling scenarios, players are transported on elevators, run Doom-style through corridors, find themselves surrounded in castle courtyards. The new features in Time Crisis may well persuade Virtua Cop loyalists to switch sides. However they'll be doing it alone.



assured CVG is hot on the case!

(LEFT) Namco's Action Pedal, which enables players to duck out of harm's way.







Seems

vou lot

in the

are on a role with all your technical know-how cantankerous opinions of late! If things carry on this way there'll soon be a mag called *In the Bag* on the newsagents' shelf with a small section called CVG inside! Which do you think is best, Saturn,

PlayStation, or PC? We need to know! Send your letters to: My

Advice to You, In the Bag, CVG,

Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon

Lane EC1R 3AU.

Dear CVG,

l, like many other gamers, am fed up with paying artificially inflated games prices and so I was very excited to read your article on the new games and hardware ental scheme. Now instead of having to spend £900 plus for hardware and software, you can sample both for a fraction of that

price. By the end of the article I was halfway to cloud nine. Then I read the next two pages and came across a piece called 'Rent Boy' and after reading it I hit the ground like a lead balloon.

Why? Because the article questioned whether or not games machines will be required any more. I've been an avid reader of CVG since the classic era of the Speccy and intend to continue reading when the likes of the Ultra 128 and M6 Accelerator hit the shelves. Your 'zine has been my biggest influence on which games to buy. It's a piece of gaming history and I hope it will remain to fight companies who try to release 'dodgy' games to take advantage of the new rental system. Long live CVG. John Allen, Carrick Fergus, North Ireland.

CVG: Sob, sob (sound of hanky filling noisily). You're too kind. Seriously, if you re-read the article, we're not suggesting that CVG's days are numbered – perish the thought – but that certain lesser 'zines might be in trouble. Fear not, John, we intend to continue our tradition of professional, insightful games coverage for many years to come.

SUNNY SIDE HAND-HELDS





SOMEONE LOVES US SHOCKER

Dear CVG,

If portable hand-held machines are wasting too much power, why not make them solar powered? If there's no sun (which shouldn't be too often), you could stick batteries in them then.

C McDee, Fife

CVG: There actually was a short-lived trend in solar-powered hand-held games back in the mid-Eighties. However, while that's fine for one-screen games with five frames of animation, it's simply not practical for a modern release like Donkey Kong Land. The solar cell for one of those monsters would be hard enough to carry on your back, let alone hold in your hands!

ORDER! ORDER!

I am a 15 year-old Ugandan boy and a total video games fan. I have read two of your issues which I loved and from which I got your address. I would like to order your August '95 issue or the back issue where you reviewed Donkey Kong Country, Unfortunately I don't have any access to order forms so could you send some so that I could order? I would greatly appreciate it. Thanks for your time

Katawonga Kizitio, Kampala, Uganda.

CVG: Hi there, Katawonga. The best person to contact about back issues is Subscription Enquiries, who can be contacted at CVG Subscriptions. Tower Publishing, Tower House, Sovereign Place, Lathkill Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire. England LE16 9ES. Alternatively, they can be contacted on (England) 01858 468888. Hope that helps.







I am sure that the PlayStation will win the format war and intend to buy a UK PlayStation as soon as possible. Sega are martyrs to the consumer and are dogged by failed ventures because the public do not know what they want. 'What?' I hear you shout, but think:

Public say: "We want 16 bit." Sega release Mega Drive.

Within 2 years of the SNES' launch, it has outsold Mega Drive. Public say: "CDs are trendy." Sega release Mega-CD. No-one buys it.

Public say: "Next Generation costs too much." Sega release 32X. No-one buys it. Public say: "We want 32-bit." Sega release Saturn, a rush job which is generally considered second-best, I feel sorry for Sega.

Meanwhile, Nintendo have made it company policy to ignore public demand - eg waiting until now to release Yoshi's Island. Too late, Mr Miyamoto, I sold my SNES a year ago. Sony on the other hand have produced a powerful machine, are releasing at the right time for the right price, have the software support cheaper than Sega or Nintendo... need I go on? OK, Sony have no experience as videogame manufacturers, but as Atari's track record proves, you don't have to be inexperienced to be clueless.

Alex H, Manchester

CVG: Hmmm. The issue of how much manufacturers should be swaved by public trends is an interesting one, but Sega's Mega-CD and 32X failed for far more boring reasons - ie the software support was utterly crap! As for the Saturn vs PlayStation question, it's much too soon to say ...





When is this barrage of Next Generation machines going to stop? I want to buy one, preferably a PSX, but am worried that something else new and lush, i.e. Ultra 64, will be the best machine in a year making my machine outdated and poo! Things are going so fast that one minute you're playing a lovely texture-mapped polygon-fest of a game for £300 - £400 and the next there's a new machine, same price as yours, running ray-traced, lightsourced graphics with lens flare and real time! I don't know whether to buy or sit on my fat arse missing

all the fun. Tom Hughes, Wallingford, Oxon

CVG: Some people are never happy, are they? Present them with a load of cutting-edge machines to choose from and they whine 'cos they can't decide which one to have. Our hearts bleed... All we can suggest is the obvious: read up on the machines you're interested in (preferably in CVG), try a few shop demos, wait for the official releases and decide which bit of hardware suits YOU. And think games. Remember, the most orgasmic texture-mapped graphics won't be worth a ZX81 if the gameplay stinks.







Education can be fun when it's CVG's 'Help!' pages. So. whether you want to get the lowdown on Killer Instinct or a **DIY CD-ROM** kit (!!!) these two infoheavy pages should be **vour first** port of call to an A grade pass in anorakology.

CONTROL FREAK

One of my friends is about to sell his American SNES with a few games and a couple of pads and I'm interested in buying it. Thing is, I already have a PAL SNES but only one pad and want to know if it's safe to use the American pad on the UK machine? I know this might sound like a dumb question but I remember reading something a couple of years back that said it was dangerous to use American or Jap pads on PAL machines. I'd be grateful if you could tell me as I much prefer the indented buttons of the American pads to the UK one. Cheers.

Karl Moody, Dunston

CVG: Actually your question isn't as stupid as many readers might be thinking. A couple of years back there was a rumour that using non-country specific pads on different machines might either damage the SNES, the pads, or both. Rest assured it doesn't affect either and we swap pads all the time here at CVG. If only using American games on a PAL machine was as easy

KWESTIONS

Hi Help!



1. I read in another magazine that the American version of KI will come

with a CD of tunes from the coin-op. Will this be the case with the UK version of the game?

CVG: We doubt it, but it is possible considering the steep £55 price tag. 2. I read in the same magazine that Cinder had been chopped from the SNES version. Is this true? CVG: Kind of. Cinder was originally taken out because of lack of memory space. Rare know that he's the least

popular character and figured it wasn't too much of a loss if the freed up space allowed them to incorporate everything else from the coin-op. However, being the programming Gods that they are, they've not only managed to squeeze in all the code but somehow find room for Cinder as well!

3. What size will the cart be and is it bigger than DKC? CVG: 32 Meg, the same size as DKC.

4. And finally, is the SNES version as good as the original coin-

op?

CVG: Yes, it's very faithful considering the massive technical difference between the humble SNES and the custom built and pretty darn expensive coin-op hardware. Be warned though, the PAL version is quite slow in a Streetfighter kind of way.

Lee Grogan, Sheffield

NOSTALGIA FREAK

Dear CVG.

I'm probably considered to be one of your older readers (I'm 34) and am desperate to play some of those classic 8 bit Spectrum games. Unfortunately I got rid of my Speccy a few years back and am finding it surprisingly tough to track down a decent second hand one. I've read about C64 and Spectrum emulators in the Amiga mags (I own an A1200) and would therefore be grateful if you could answer the following questions.

1. What sort of price are the emulators and do they come with any

CVG: The price varies considerably but for around £15-20 you could expect to get either a Speccy or Commodore emulator with 100+

2. Do you need any additional hardware to run them?

CVG: No, the emulators will run on even a bog standard A500. However, because these are emulators the games will run much faster if you have an accelerator as the processor won't have as much work to do converting the original 8 bit code to something the Amiga can understand. 3. Are emulators illegal?

CVG: Quite probably yes, although you could argue that the PD companies and emulator creators make little cash out of them.

4. Are there other machine emulators available on the Amiga? CVG: Yes, you can get MSX, BBC, PC, Mac emulators and probably others too.

Joseph Coots, Bristol



32X WORRIES

Dear CVg.

As a 32X owner I'm becoming increasingly despondent at the way both software houses and the public alike seem to be continually slagging the machine off and saying it has no future. I'm seriously considering selling the machine along with my Mega Drive 2 and software collection and upgrading to a Saturn. However, before I do, I'd be grateful if you could answer these questions and put my mind at rest.

1. Do you think the 32X has a long term future? CVG: To be honest, the answer has to be no. As you say both the software houses and the public saw the 32X as a stopgap and have waited for superior machines like the PlayStation and Saturn to appear. We'd be very surprised if the 32X was still doing much business a year from now.

2. What do you think of the 32X conversion of Virtua Fighter?

CVG: Well, we haven't seen a finished version, but what we have seen looks superb. Obviously the graphics aren't quite as detailed as the Saturn version, but the animation is just as smooth, and there are NO glitches! Quite an achievement we reckon.

3. Is there any other good 32X software worth hanging around

for? CVG: The Scavenger Team stuff looks very cool

(as always.) 4. Would you lot rather buy a Saturn or PlayStation?

CVG: It's much too early to say. Though CVG is astonished at the quality of the initial

PlayStation line-up, there's equally amazing stuff coming down the line for Saturn. We've played Sega Rally, seen Virtua Fighter 2, and they are UNBELIEVABLE! So, we suppose the answer to this question is: 'Keep reading CVG! Steve Formby, Liverpool

STATION SNAX **CROWN JEWELS**

Dear Help!

I can't wait to get a PlayStation next month and I've got a couple of general questions that I hope you can answer:

1. Will Datel or some other techy company come up with a CD or something that plugs into the memory card slot which allows you to play games from the USA and Japan? CVG: Apparently this is proving very tricky to do, but if anyone can pull it off then it's Datel

2. Can you use saved positions from Jap games on their English equivalents? BARON ALOHA For instance my mate has Jumping Flash saved on his Jap PlayStation and I wondered whether I'd be able to copy his card once I get the PAL version of the game.

CVG: It may work with some games, but for the majority it won't. There are quite a lot of changes made to games when they're converted from NTSC to PAL so it's likely that you'll have to play the game through yourself we're afraid!

3. If I buy an English SCART lead, will I be able to use it on my mate's Jap PlayStation? CVG: Yes.

4. Will there be PlayStation games that come on more than one disk? CVG: Yes, Novastorm and Wing Commander 3 for instance.

It's not yet known how much more expensive, if at all, these multi-disc titles will be.

Clem Parish, Suffolk.

Dear CVG I have a collection of old CVGs that I don't have the room for anymore. Do you think they would fetch much

money?

CVG: Hey, every issue of CVG is priceless folks!!! But seriously you don't say how old the magazines are, how many you have and what condition they are in. Why not try putting an ad in a games mag or perhaps the computer section of a local paper and seeing what kind of response you get.

Mark Reegan, Cornwall





SONY Nintendo'

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AS MUCH FUN, BUT WE WON'T GO INTO THAT RIGHT NOW.



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It sounds like an SNK beat-'em-up, but it's not. So there.

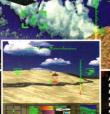
THERE'S A POINT in every young boy's life when he dreams of being a fighter pilot. Fortunately this is usually just a passing phase, otherwise the world would be chock full of fighter pilots and there'd be no-one to work in kebab shops, which would be a disaster. But there are some people (gener-ally those who later take jobs in the RAF) for whom fighter pilot-ing remains the focal ambition of their lives. Now, given the danger level inherent in this career (almost that of kebab work) it might be a good idea if these chaps got into video games instead. For starters they'd spend all their time sitting in their rooms in the dark, straining their eyes and wasting their muscles to a point where they'd never pass the Air Force medical anyway. And for finishers they'd be able to indulge their soar-and-swoop fant

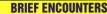
without having to kill anyone or be killed themselves. And then we'd lose loads of wars and end up as woad-wearing slaves

from the point a bit. Wha we're leading up to is the fact that there's a new air combat game coming out for the PlayStation, hot

on the heels of Namco's rather natty Combat. It's from Virgin, which is a good sign and it's called Agile Warrior: F111X. And we're going to tell you a

to a despotic post-apocalyptic warlord with an eyepatch.





If only Hans-Karloff Megasedee had thought about the terror he was unleashing upon the world when he launched his eponymous add-on, we might all have been saved such a gruesome fate. Yes, we're talking about FMV, and Agile Warrior is the latest game on the scene to employ this nefarious device. Each mission kicks off

with a fully FMVied briefing in a secret bunker, with those weird seethrough map board things. And, for once, it's pretty good.





and readier about stock car racing than yer Formula Ones, or ver Le Mans 24 hour endurance race. With stock car racing it's just race, bash and then crash, and the winner probably celebrates with a pint of light and bitter and a pie, rather than a bottle of Bollie and nibbly

elocutionally challenged) the videogame, though somewhat ironically, is actually a lot classier than its racing peers (we know as we scored it a 94% on PSX last ish). The reason for this is that so much more has been put into the game than just racing around the track trying to be first past the winning post. Although if that's

Racer, NASCAR Racing et al. What makes this game so appealing to PlayStation gamers, and soon to all of you in PC Land is the 'destruction' element. The latter comes into its element in the Wreckin' Racing tournament as here it's about earning points by smashing into the other motors. The more you spin a car then the

place to learn about destroying other cars though, as here there's no racing tracks to distract you, it's just out-and-out carnage. Those of you who pored over the DD PlayStation review last ish can more or less expect the same from this CD that goes into your PC machine.





