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NEXT GENERATION VIDEO GAME MAGAZINE



PAGE 20



PAGE 38



PAGE 42



PAGE 58

TABLE OF CONTENTS





PAGE 70



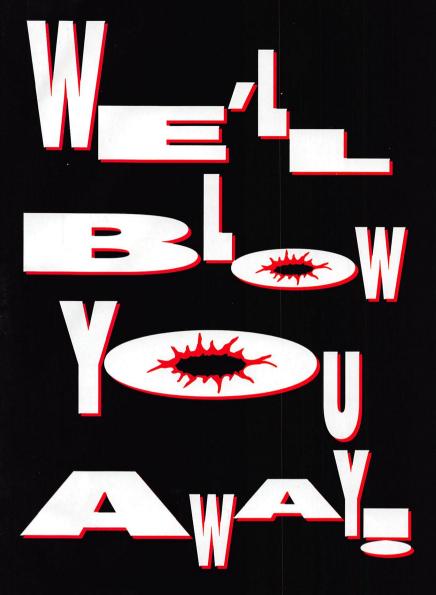
PAGE 82

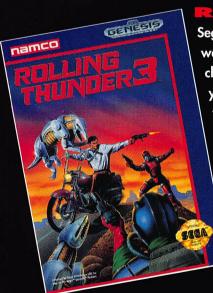


PAGE 90



PAGE 95





Sega Genesis smokes. We won't waste your time with words, check out the screen shots and you'll know. Grab it while you can.

- **TO** hard-core levels!
- **12** action packed megs!
- so nasty new weapons!
- Intense hidden areas!
- Password support!





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DIE HARD GAME FAN is published monthly for \$59.40 per year by Die Hard Game Fan, 18612 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356. Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at Tarzana. CA and additional points of entry POSTIMASTER: Send Address changes to DIE HARD GAME FAN, 18612 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356. Welcome to Issue #9 and another Editorial Zone. We recently returned from the great Pizza capitol of Chicago and the best CES ever. Our industry, my friends, is alive and well and growing rapidly...

For 4 shows now, we've been staring at the same tired Sega display so, when we entered the convention hall that first night and they were building a Sega city, we knew we were in for some surprises. SOA spent our money wisely and, for the first time ever, Sega actually overshadowed Nintendo. they had the AS-1, the incredible new Sonic arcade game, a huge sound stage, a dedicated Activator stage, a Virtua room, a whole line of the new Virtual Racing and big ol' round Sonic and Tails drums hanging from the ceiling, not to mention the 2 story office structure/press rooms and the adjoining refreshment area. Everything, including their 3rd party areas were newly designed and looking very Sega. SOA has come a long way in a short time.

Nintendo didn't look too shabby either. They hoisted a huge Nintendo arch that led you right down Mario Highway past 4 FX Trax cars and a whole slew of Mario All Stars, right up to the dome, which featured an incredible 3D (glasses and all) laser light show that had Starfox ships flying around your head while incredible surround sound filled the air. It was great. Still, the usual Nintendo dancers were absent and the big 'N' really didn't have a show stopper to pump, as they usually do.

So, Sega really stood out for the first time. A lot of the third parties really surprised us too. in January, Konami was off the floor of the show in a suite (a really big suite) but, here in Chicago, they constructed a solid white structure that looked like it came out of Architectural Digest. Virgin went Hollywood with a huge Art Deco display, with its own cafe, that sat below a huge 30' high Spot. Extreme also had a great looking new display as did Sony, Tradewest, EA, Acclaim, TTI (very impressive) and Capcom. In fact, just about all of the third parties looked better than ever this year.

As for product...I have never seen so many quality games at a CES. Virtually everyone had a great looking title. Companies that usually show little to nothing had great looking new projects and many of the third party companies had multiple hits. It was nearly impossible, even with 4 days of exploration to play it all, when, normally, you've seen everything worthwhile by day two. The point I'm trying to make is that video gaming has gone from a niche to a huge industry in the last year. That was the overall feeling we got from the show. In fact, the video game portion of CES so overshadows the rest of the home electronics industry, that they will soon be separating the two. Over in McCormick East, only 3DO saw huge audiences (they really belong in the main building). Bottom line, as gamers we have a lot to look forward to in the years to come. We are standing at the threshold of a new day in home entertainment, where affordable new technology is being created with one purpose, to give us an escape into brilliant new worlds in the privacy of our own homes. We look forward to bringing you the best of the home entertainment industry for many years to come...we're gonna have some fun, see you next month.





Welcome to Game Fan's TOP TEN and MOST WANTED section. Here are the results based on your cards and letters.... Keep them coming, because each time you write in (see instructions below) your name will go into a monthly drawing to win one of the goodies on the bottom of the page. So make your picks and send 'em in!

TOP TEN

- 1 StarFox (SNES)
- 2 Flashback (GEN)
- 3 Sonic 2 (GEN)
- 4 Cool Spot (GEN)
- 5 Streets of Rage 2 (GEN)
- 6 X-Men (GEN)
- 7 Street Fighter II (SNES)
- 8 Fatal Fury (GEN)
- 9 Ecco the Dolphin (GEN)
- 10 Fatal Fury 2 (NEO)

MOST WANTED

- 1 Silpheed (SEGA CD)
- 2 Street Fighter 2' (GEN)
- 3 SF2' Turbo (SNES)
- 4 Sonic CD (SEGA CD)
- 5 Final Fight 2 (SNES)
- 6 Final Fantasy III (SNES)
- 7 Final Fight CD (SEGA CD)
- 8 Mortal Kombat (SNES)
- 9 Battletoads (SNES)
- 10 Phantasy Star IV (GEN)

First Prize: Your choice of a core SNES, GENESIS, or LYNX!!!!! (Cool ha?)
Second Prize: Your choice of Skid, Sgt. Gamer, Tom Slick, or The Enquirer's pick of the month
Third Prize: A FREE year of Game Fan!

Congratulations to the following winners of last month's contest:

First Prize Wes Keaton of Evanston, II • Second Prize: Chris Souza of Grass Vally, CA

Third Prize John Newlin of Citrus Heights, CA

All you have to do to enter the drawing is fill out the readers survey/ TOP TEN card on page 122 and include a list of your top 10 favorite games and the 10 games you want the most that aren't out yet, then send them to:

GAME FAN TOP TEN 6400 Independence Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Drawing is limited to One (1) entry per person per month. Hope to hear from you soon.

Drawings will be held on the 21st of each month. The three (3) winners will be notified by mail and listed on this page.

PREPARE YOURSELF



RAYDEN



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JOHNNY CAGE



SONYA BLADE



KANO



GORO



SCORPION





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THO CUSED CUS

Travel With Thy Controller in Hand To A Land Where Cheaters Prosper.



Pocky & Rocky (Super Famicom) Stage Select:

At the character select screen, put the cursor on one of the characters and input the following: While holding X & Y, press A, A, A, B, B, B, B, B, A, B, A, B, A, B, A, B. This should put you to a stage select screen.



Splatterhouse 3 (Genesis) Hidden 1 Up

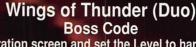
Go to room shown in picture on stage 4. If you search the dead body (shown in the other picture) you'll get a 1 Up. This will help you beat the 4th boss.



Batman Returns (Sega CD) Level Jump Go to the options screen

and select "Driving", then go to button #1 and hold left on control pad while pushing button "B". Repeat this for buttons 2-7 and then repeat for buttons 6-1. the sequence is as follows. Select "Driving Only" Button 1) Left & B Button 2) Left & B Button 3) Left & B Button 4) Left & B Button 5) Left & B Button 6) Left & B Button 7) Left & B Button 6) Left & B Button 5) Left & B Button 4) Left & B Button 3) Left & B Button 2) Left & B Button 1) Left & B

To activate during play, hit Pause and then C



Enter the configuration screen and set the Level to hard, Music to 01, and Sound to 01. Then make sure your cursor is not on "Exit" and press "Run" while holding "Select" & "I". You should hear a chime and the word "Boss" will appear instead of "Exit". Exit the configuration screen by putting your cursor on "Boss". Start the the game, and any level that you choose will put you right to the boss of the level.

Morrey Tip: 10,000 Cyrstal Bonus. At the configuration screen, set the level to Super, Music to 02 and Sound to 02. Then make sure your cursor is not on "Exit" and press "Run" while holding "Select" & "I". When your start the game you will have 10,000 crystals.



Fatal Fury (Genesis) Unlimited Continues:

At the continue screen, press C while holding A & B before the countdown reaches zero. You can boost your credits up to 9.



Unlimited Time:

At the Option screen set the curser on Time Limit then press Left while holding A until the number reaches 00. Start you game and you will have unlimited time.



Final Fight (Mega CD) Automatic Rapid Punches:

At the option screen put the cursor on exit and press "Start" while holding Right, A & B.



HONESTY IS OUR ONLY EXCUSE SKID SKID SKID SLICK SLICK SLICK

VIEWPOINT IS A PLACE YOU MUST VISIT BEFORE YOU GO OUT AND BUY YOUR GAMES, THAT WAY ALL THE GOOD DEVELOPERS WILL GET INIGH AND ALL THE BAD ONES WILL EITHER BE FORCED TO IMPROVE OR BECOME IV EVANGELISTS.

Mintendo Sego

Neo Geo

ויוונונו

I play games for fun, period. Chuck 2 makes me laugh and has all the color, graphics and special FX I could hope for on a cartridge.

SKID'S PICK

SGT. GAMER

Zombies is my hands down winner. I've been playing it for 3 weeks solid. While it hasn't taken a hold of me like Zelda, it comes close. TOM SLICK'S PICK

I've got to agree with the Enquirer and go with Turbo all the way. Capcom knows what I crave to play ...feed me! THE ENQUIRER'S PICK

Is there any doubt? Oh, yeah baby, you know it. When the SF2 show is in town, the Enquirer is firmly planted at center stage. Perfection!

RATED BY:

SKID

SGT. GAMER

TOM SLICK

THE ENQUIRER

CHUCK2 SON OF CHUCK - VIRGIN - 8 MEG - 1 PLAYER - SEE REVIEW PG. 28-29

Never in my wildest dreams did I expect a sequel this good to the one-sided Chuck Rock.

Baby Chuck has twice the play mechanics and great new special FX and now I here a CD version may be on the way! Core remains superb on the Genesis.

87% Son of Chuck is one disgusting little varmint! But, the little guy dishes out some serious action/platform gaming with special effects like you haven't seen on the Genesis. Combine this with the graphic and animation style that is Core's trademark and you have another strong game from Virgin.

This is a great example of quality action/platform gaming by the masters at Core. Chuck 2 is a rare example of the sequel coming out better than the original. The play mechanics and concepts behind Son of Chuck are fresh and unique and Core has given Virgin another winner.

Man, what an improvement over the first one. I can see that Core has learned the Genesis hardware because the effects that you see are unbelievable and at times you think you're playing a SNES game. The game is really fun and a blast to play over and over.

<u> Robo Aleste - Tengen - CD - 1 Player - See Review Pg. 34-35</u>



79% Finally! A worthwhile shooter for Sega CD. Although the capabilities of the CD are barely nicked, the great diversity, replay ability and great techno soundtrack make it a well rounded shooter worth

Robo Aleste makes a strong case for the advantages of CD. The music, sound effects and special FX all combine to take the basic vertical shooter and bring it to the next level. Tengen made a good choice when they picked up this Compile title. There is no question that Robo Aleste is the premier shooter on Sega CD.

Robo Aleste is a good shooter but a little light on Sega CD special effects. The techno soundtrack and FX are good but there really wasn't a whole heck of a lot of scaling. a good effort by Compile, but not a great effort.

graphics are very detailed and the game has the great game play that most shooters are missing. While there are tons of animation sequences, the most impressive features of the game are its length and difficulty which is all top notch.

This is one great shooter. The

<u> General Chaos - ea - 8 meg - 4 player - see review pg. 46</u>



70% This game delivers on fun, graphics and humor. Where it fades for me is in the limited control you have over the characters. A Rambo style format would have served these great characters much better...great fun for four players.

General Chaos is my type of game. The carnage, the pursuit of military goals and the quest for power and control are all things that make me wake up with a smile on my face. The fact that I can dish out the grief with and against 3 of my closest friends just makes it that much more memorable and special!

General Chaos is a pretty unique concept that, while a little short on action, gets high marks for its creative game play and strong presentation. Its not the first game that I would pick off of the shelf, but, through the 4 player tap, it offers some great party gaming.

Sorry, General Chaos just isn't my type of game. I need more action than this game allows. I can see where GC will appeal to the older PC type of gamer but, as for me, I'd rather see the characters in more of a Nam-75 situation.

ROCKET KNIGHT ADVENTURES - KONAMI - 8 MEG - 1 PLAYER - SEE REVIEW PG. 30-31



What can I say, Konami does it again. The new character is great (although a bit too cute) and the game is loaded with variety. Some of the special FX left me speechless. I look forward to many more Rocket Knight Adventures.

91% Rocket Knight is simply a great game. Sure, it has all of the bells and whistles that you have come to expect from Konami products, but it is the sheer joy in playing the game that makes Sparkster and Company a must have. Should end up as one of the top games of '93.

92% Sparkster is way cool! I really had fun playing this game. In fact, after I beat it on the normal difficulty setting, I was still coming back to it, determined to beat it on hard-the true sign of a great game! Konami has made my job a pleasure once again.

Rocket Knight really delivers the goods! The FX in this game really blew me away. When you couple the graphic quality with the varied play mechanics, you have another top shelf game from Konami that guarantees a good time for all.

<u> Lisia Dragoon - Game Arts - 8 meg - 1 player - See review pg. 108-109</u>



This game loses nothing over time. If it came out today, it would still be considered one of the best. Gamearts sole action till for cartridge is a unique and challenging game full of great graphics and awesome color. Dig one up if you don't own it.

God, I loved this game! When I was feeling the blues, looking for good Genesis software, she was there for me. Alisia, Alisia...your shooting and platform action, diagonal scrolls and uncanny sense of style brought me back to my Genesis at a time when I was considering leaving it.

Alisia is one of my all time favorites on the Genesis.

Gamearts really pored their design effort into the details of this action title and it shows. Even though it's an older title, it still holds up well today.

Ah, memories! Alisia Dragoon is one of those games that stays etched in your mind. You know, the kind where you can remember where you were the first time you played it. This Gamearts title is completely unique from beginning to end and still stands out as one of the best action titles for the Genesis.

TREET FIGHTER 2' TURBO - <mark>Capc</mark>om - 20 Meg - 2 Player - <mark>see review Pg. 58-</mark>6



This is, without a doubt, the best home version of Turbo you could ever hope for. It's lightning fast, controls perfect and delivers 100% of the original arcade feeling. I don't specialize in fightning games, but I know a perfect translation when I see one, and this is it!

Hyper Fighting is a near pixel for pixel translation that is going to have the millions of SF2 fans out there waiting in line at EB once again. For those fans, this game is a 99, no questions asked. Capcom has given the people what they want and they've done it to perfection.

Thank you Capcom. I am now set for the next year. Hyper Fighting is perfect and it was worth the wait. SNES owners who longed for the original are going to go ga ga for this. For me, this is what gaming is all about.

This new 20 meg version of Turbo for SNES is the closest home translation I have seen yet. Everything from the voice to the music has been perfectly translated. All of the 12 characters look and play identical to the coin-op. A perfect translation if you don't count the missing bonus stage.

EIGHBOR - KONAMI - 8 MEG - 2 PLAYER SEE REVIEW PG. 68-69



the ultimate game. Run around with a weed whacker or anything else you can find, mowing down zombies and saving suburbanites, all to phenomenal tunes, bosses includ-

Zombies is a very unique, addictive game. The combina-tion of gaming genres that it makes use of insure that you will come back to Zombies again and again. In any way that you can judge a game, it sparkles; graphics, sound, difficulty, control, you name it...Zombies delivers as a must buy and instant classic!

Zombies is one of the best 2 player games money can buy. It is so rare that you get this level of quality game design that it makes you really appreciate it when it does happen. The development team at Lucasarts was right on the money with this one. 48 levels, great graph ics, tunes and sounds...great game!

Zombies is an excellent game made even better by the two player simultaneous option and its extraordinary length (48 levels). The game is so unique that classifying it doesn't do it justice. Do yourself a favor, just buy the game, you won't regret it!

EE REVIEW PG. 76



For a Neo Geo conversion, this is a solid game. It offers baseball fans more to look at than same old sprites dressed in different pajamas and changes the rules enough to get non-sports fans involved...for a little while. I'm sure Talko loves it.

This is an excellent translation of the Neo Geo classic. I was in the arcades constantly when it was first released and have been waiting for a couple of years to get my hands on the 16 bit version. While it is not arcade perfect, 2020 is very close and the best playing baseball game on the SNES to date.

Tradewest has done a good job in bringing 2020 to the SNES. Almost all of the elements that made the Neo Geo version an instant classic are present in this version. It's still baseball, but I enjoyed the game and it is faithful to

1 can't believe it. 2020 for the SNES is the only baseball game to date that offers fast action and that can actually keep my interest for a long period time. This is one of the best Neo Geo translations ever... great job Tradewest.

<u>ieg - 1 player - See review</u>



Although unique, Septentrion did little for me. I felt like I was stuck in an elevator. The game play is repetitious and uneventful, as there is not too much contrast and no bosses are present. It's kind of like a long, boring, rotating level of prince of

Septentrion is an exercise in Mode 7 foolishness. Seriously being stuck in a rotating boar a game that tries to mimic Prince of Persia is not going to win any design inspiration awards nor is it going to get me to open my wallet and cough up 70 bucks. Let this one go the route of the Titanic...LAND HO!

For thinking game fans, Septentrion is the game to get. This game combines excellent action with serious strategy. Not only do you have to escape, but you have to convince others to follow you. I found this game to be addicting and enjoyable.

Prince of Persia game play (though not as smooth) in a series of dark shifting rooms es not make a fun game. There's no real sense of urgency, even though the ship is sinking. It's all very mild. I quickly submerged my character to take him out of his misery. I then let the boat sink and went back to Hyper.

LAYER - SEE REVIEW PG.



find no flaws with this version of Champion Edition, other han the jingle jangle PC Engine tunes. The controller works well and the game remains fully intact, a stellar

Wow! This is the PC Engine/Duo? I really never expected 8 bit to look so good SF2 is an outstanding translation for the 8 bit turbo that, more than anystick and produce a series of excep-ional titles for its system?

The development team for this version of SF2 must come from another world, because these guys are not human. The music is tinny and slow in spots but, other than that, This 20 meg card grabbed me and shook hard. I can't believe that his is 8-bit! Hats off to TTI and here's hoping that it makes it across the

The PC-Engine has stunned my eyes. For being an 8-bit system, I have to say this is a perfect translation. All of the stages are here along with everything else but even though this is 8-bit I still have to say the music is excellent and graphics have to be seen to be elieved. I can't believe it, still!



This is, pixel for pixel exactly the same as the coin-op. Marty serves up a perfect version of the classic goo fest, Splatterhouse. The problem is, this is basic stuff and, for 1993, a bit dated. Still, lucky Marty owners should add it to their collection.

The original goo meister is back on the Marty. This version is arcade perfect with atmospheric sound and excellent, gory graphics. But, the one-dimensional game play grows a bit tiring and the story is growing a little long in the tooth. Still, a good purchase if you're one of the few and the proud.

72% I really enjoyed Splatterhouse 3 years ago, but a lot has changed in the video game since then. The Marty version is nearly pixel perfect to the arcade but, given today's technology, it comes off as a little flat and one-dimensional.

If you like Splatterhouse, you'll love this version. The Marty has done another perfect translation that has to be played to be believed. Basically there are no flaws with this version of the old coin-op classic. Truly perfection.

EVIEW PG. 90-91 - 146 **MEG - 2 PLAYER - SEE**



quest for fighting perfection. WH2 is packed with awesome characters (especially Mudman), sparkling moves and loads of backgrounds...add it to your all fighting Neo Geo collection.

I was a mild fan of the original and the sequel is, by all means, a worthy follow-up to World Heroes. But, the subtleties are really here for big time fighting game fans (which I am not) not the casual player. I own the first one, but I've got too many fighting games. I'll pass on

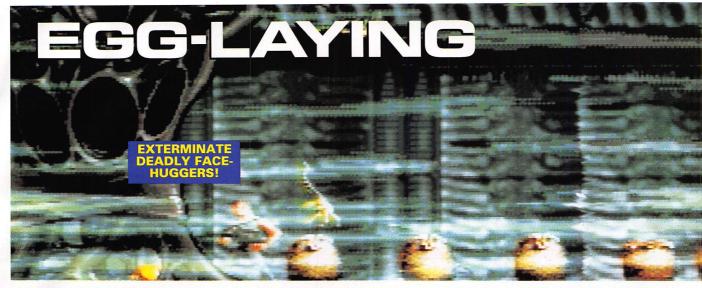
I guess I'm probably one of the few Geo owners who, while I would like to see some variety in their catalogue, is really happy with their fighting games, which seem to get better with each release. WH2 is great and a worthy sequel to the origi-

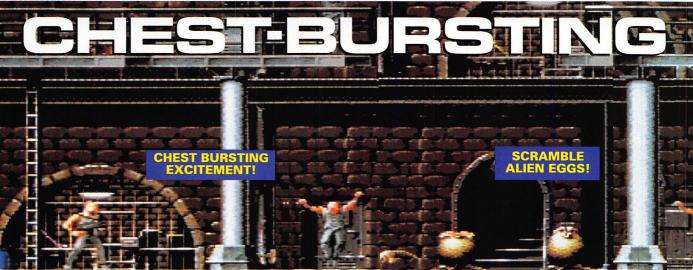
By far, the best Geo fighting game next to Fatal Fury 2. Better graphics along with tons of combos and the fact that you can control 14 characters really shows that SNK and Alpha almost have accomplished the impossible. They have made a game that is as good as SF2. Incredible, huh?

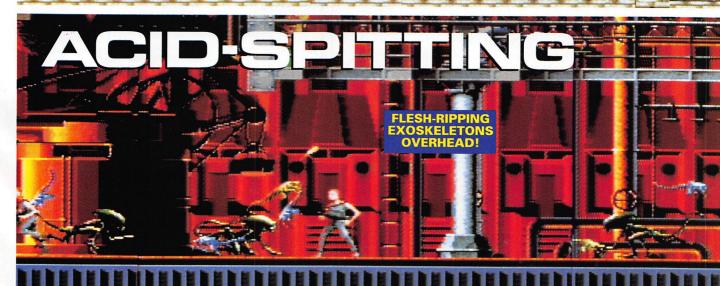
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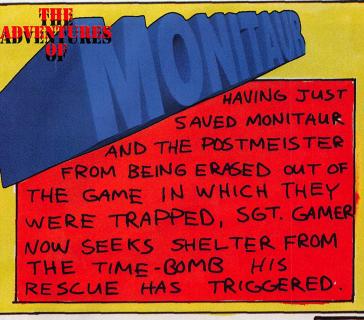


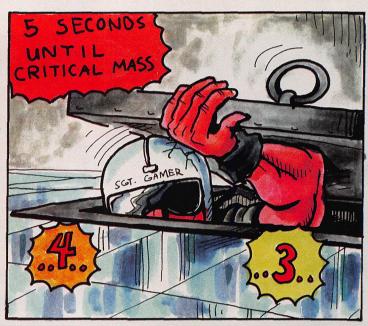


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AND WE'VE BEEN HERE EVER SINCE





WELL, CAN YOU HELP ME GET MY FRIENDS OUT OF THIS GAME?

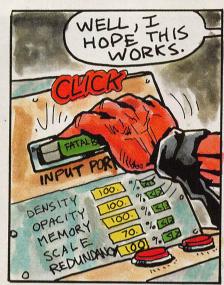






















TO BE CONTINUED.

UM , CHIEF. I THINK

PROBLEM HERE!

GOHARIARE WITH YOUR SIJES



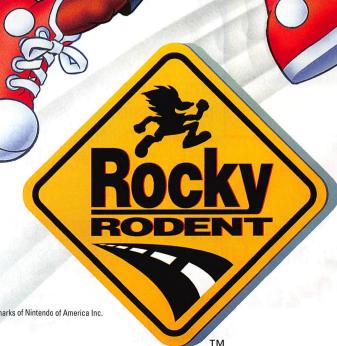
he's quicker than a greased hairball. Tighter than a hairpin turn. He's got hair with an attitude. And the fastest can of hairspray in the west. He's trouble in the fast lane. Tricks in a can. Cars, trucks and uncool dudes pull over. He's good road—from Irem. Move hair fast to your nearest video store for **Rocky Rodent!**







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whenever he wants. He's one bad ass senior citizen. However, before you meet him you'll have to engage seven other fighters and then three teams of two in one on one, head explodin' lung tearin' battle. Oh, and I almost forgot... there's Goro, a clothing salesman's nightmare. He's half man, half dragon. And if you're not totally familiar with your character he will quickly pummel you into oblivion. Quarters or Cartridge? A Mortal Kombat jamma kit, (cabinet not included), will run you around eighteen hundred dollars. (or about 7200 quarters). While a real good 16 meg Genesis version will run you around 70, (250 quarters). I don't know why I'm telling you this but there it is. I guess its



value man, value. Probe and Acclaim are bringing you one healthy version of MK. CENSOR THIS! ... I don't know, I must have slipped and hit the buttons just right, because I heard a voice and then, like magic, there was blood and death moves in the game. So, they spurt instead of spray, I still blew Cage's head off. Q & A ... I'll ask myself questions like a schizophrenic to answer yours. Are the characters the same size as the original coin-op? Yes. Are they digitized and well animated? Yes. Are the backgrounds as detailed and animated? About 80% yes. Is the music good? For a Sega cart, yes definitely. Its awesome! Is all the voice there? You get "Fight," Get Over Here,"



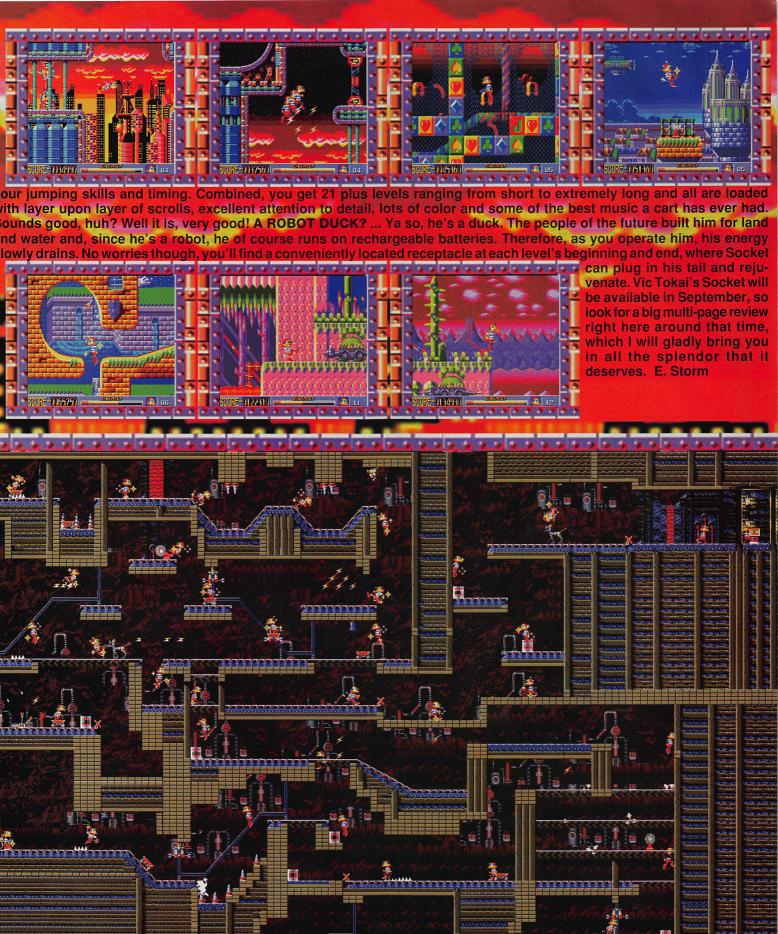
and "Finish Him," (at least in the version we previewed.) And finally, are the blood and death moves in this version? Well, yes and no. As I said before, I somehow slipped, (apparently at just the right time), and accidentally found this code that gives you the blood and the death moves. However, they are toned down a bit (from spray to spurt) but still look way cool and definitely get the job done. So there you have it. I believe next month actual percentages will be given. You can be confident they will be quite high.

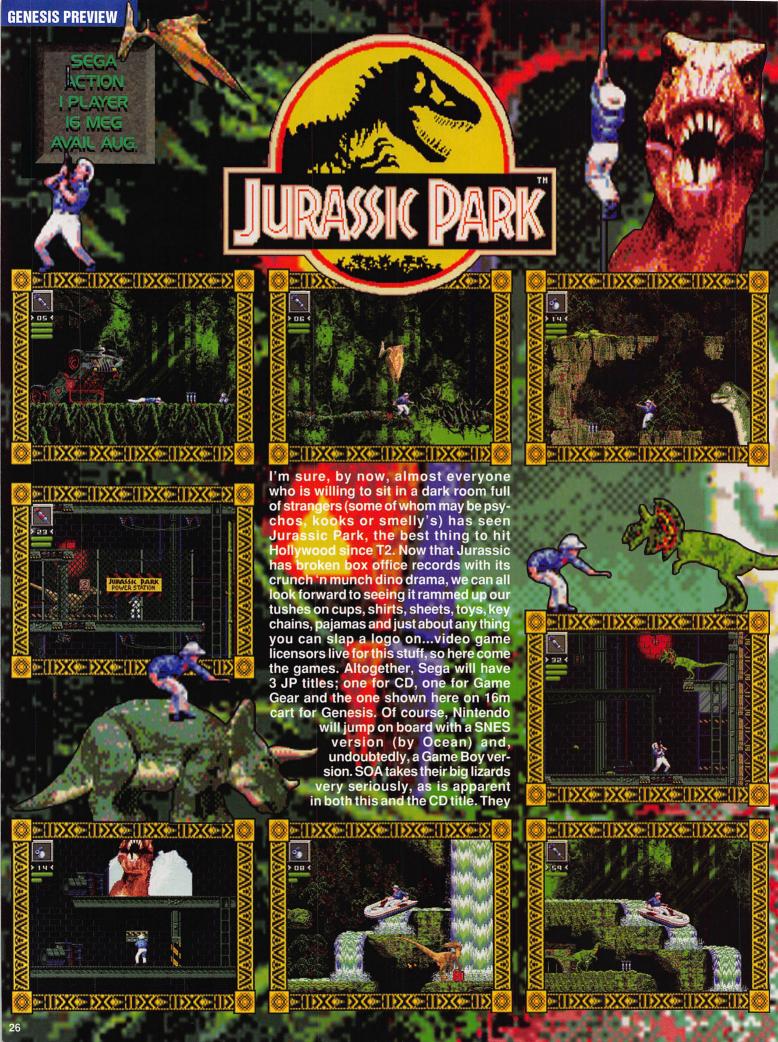






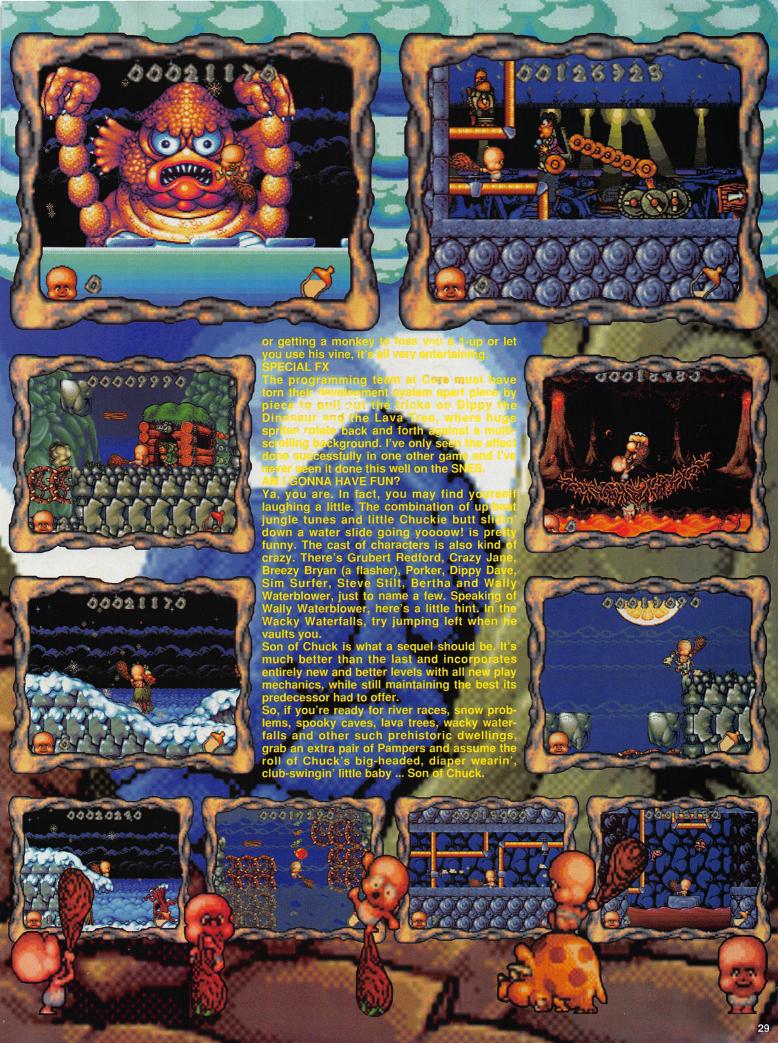




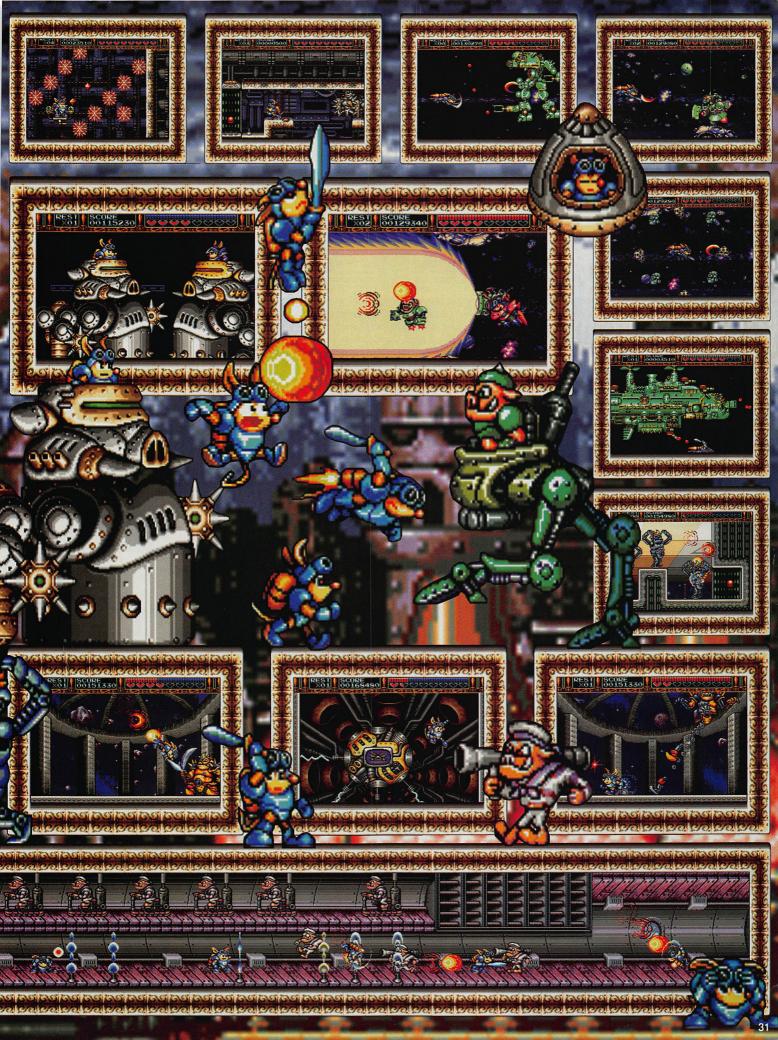












RANGER-X













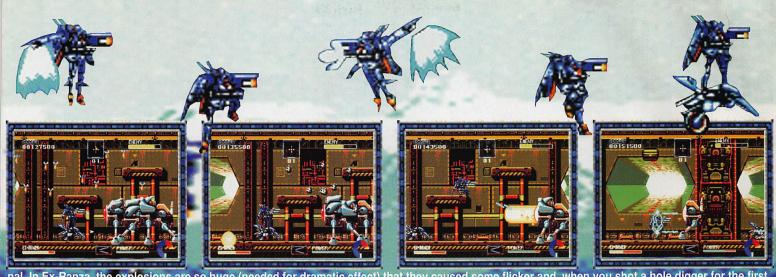
Last issue, we brought you a preview of the newly released import title, Ex-Ranza. At that time, we mentioned that if Sega of America showed a US version at the CES (we figured they would), we'd be back with more. Well, Ex-Ranza was at the show, although tucked away in the vast Sega display (as were Sega's other two best games, Gunstar Heroes and Silpheed) and is now part of Sega's strongest summer lineup ever. ENJOY THE RIDE ... You don't rush through Ranger-X. You must study your craft, know your enemy's strategy and familiarize yourself with each level to win the game. It's programmed to perfection and should, and will, be played over and over. FLICKER FREE ... The US version is slightly different than Gau's original contents.

- Take out this first generator. This cuts the power to the cannon on the cave wall. Now free fall, straight down, facing left.
- The goal here is to destroy these huge mechanized hole diggers, take out the first one here with your normal shots.
- Fly over the poisonous pool and take out this generator. It cuts the power to 3 cannons and allows you safe passage up the chasm. After
- you destroy it, go to your ex-up vehicle and make sure you equip your bombs.
- 2 bombs will waste this tank, exposing your power pod. You can regain energy here from now on. But, remember, as your energy goes up, your special weapon power goes down. You will also find your 3rd special weapon here.
- There are three targets here; a tank, a cannon and a generator. Morph

with your ex-up vehicle and roll up and down the incline until all 3 are toast (watch for falling rocks).

- Take out the second hole digger.
- Let in the light here, then draw in the deadly leaches (the light kills them) sit tight and shoot until you bore a complete path to the generator.
- Blowing up this generator cuts the power to the cannon below, allowing you to waste hole digger 3, unobstructed.





nal. In Ex-Ranza, the explosions are so huge (needed for dramatic effect) that they caused some flicker and, when you shot a hole digger for the first time, it spewed out a long line of boulders. Now, the explosions are smaller and the boulders are few. It's all pretty much flicker free but, personally, I prefer the dramatic effect the import provides. COUNT THE DAYS ... Ranger-X is set for a September release. Until then, we'll bring you these helpful play strategies. Pictured below is level 2, the first really complex level. Ranger-X is a fantastic game. In fact, I consider it among the top five Genesis games of all time and, if you're looking for an action shooter you can sink your teeth into, so will you.

- Take out hole digger #3.
- Fly straight through the tunnel and start working the two generators at 13 the end. When the tanks find you, draw their fire away by flying back and forth. Try to take as few hits as possible.
- Destroy the three pesky, hopping drones by using a combination of bombs and normal shots. You can also kick them (by walking straight into them).
- ing outside light to shine through.
 - When you shoot these rocks, they roll down back at you. So, stay back then, as you chip away at the barrier, leaches will attack and, although small, they can do major damage. So, when they appear, fly back and draw them into the light, where they will soon explode.
- Hole digger #4. Bend down and take it out using your normal shot, you're still saving your bombs for the levels end.
- Now, shoot the cave ceiling, allow- Blow this generator by either kicking that big boulder in to it or simply shooting it. Get ready to fly though, there's a pool of harmful liquid directly below. As soon as it blows, fly up and right, through the last chasm, kicking the hopping drones in front of you. Fly straight through to the end then unload your bombs one after the other, until the last hole digger blows. That's it! Now, get ready for the awesome line scrolls as you confront the level quardian.



ROBO ALESTE SHOOTER I PLAYER OF AVAIL JULY



What should a first generation CD shooter have that a cartridge doesn't? Perhaps a little scaling and maybe long levels packed with enemies and animation. Oh and, of course, cinematic intermissions and a butt kickin' soundtrack. Ya, that'll do for now. So, where do you find such a game? Well, until now, you would have needed a plane ticket, but now Tengen has brought Compile's first Mega CD effort state side to add to the so far bogus but about to take off. Sega CD lineup. **Originally titled** Nobunaga and His Ninja Force, Robo Aleste was designed by the long standing king of overhead shooters in Japan (where they go nuts for 'em) Compile, who were responsible for the popular Spriggan series for the PC Engine CD. Robo Aleste starts off with a narrated cinematic intro, where the story unfolds and the characters are intro-

duced. From there,

you find yourself hov-

ering over a rushing

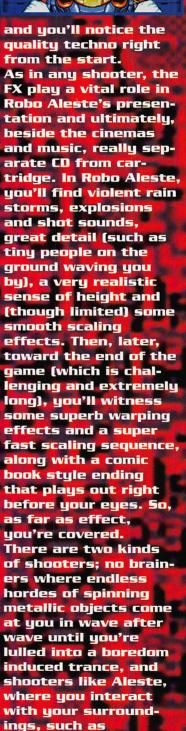
scaling in from over-

water sound is great

head. The sampled

river with enemies





avalanches, ancient











When last seen in the pages of Game Fan AH-3 Firehawk went by the name of Thunderhawk. At CES, the name was not the only thing that had changed. Core has been hard at work, adding more levels and digitized level segue ways to this already impressive title. As you can see in the accompanying screen shots, Core has added many more land and air based enemies to the game and they have been able to take the 3D technology that they developed for Jaguar XJ220 and expand upon it to create an action helicopter simulation that breaks new ground, graphically, while maintaining an addictive quality that is very hard to achieve in a shooter.



















AH-3 Firehawk looks to be another step up to the next level. JVC and Core have made a dedicated effort to creating unique 3D titles for the Sega CD and it is obvious that they are among the programming elite on this system. Look for a full review to appear in an upcoming issue. Until then, check out the photos, baby ... AH-3 is one sweet machine! Talko





















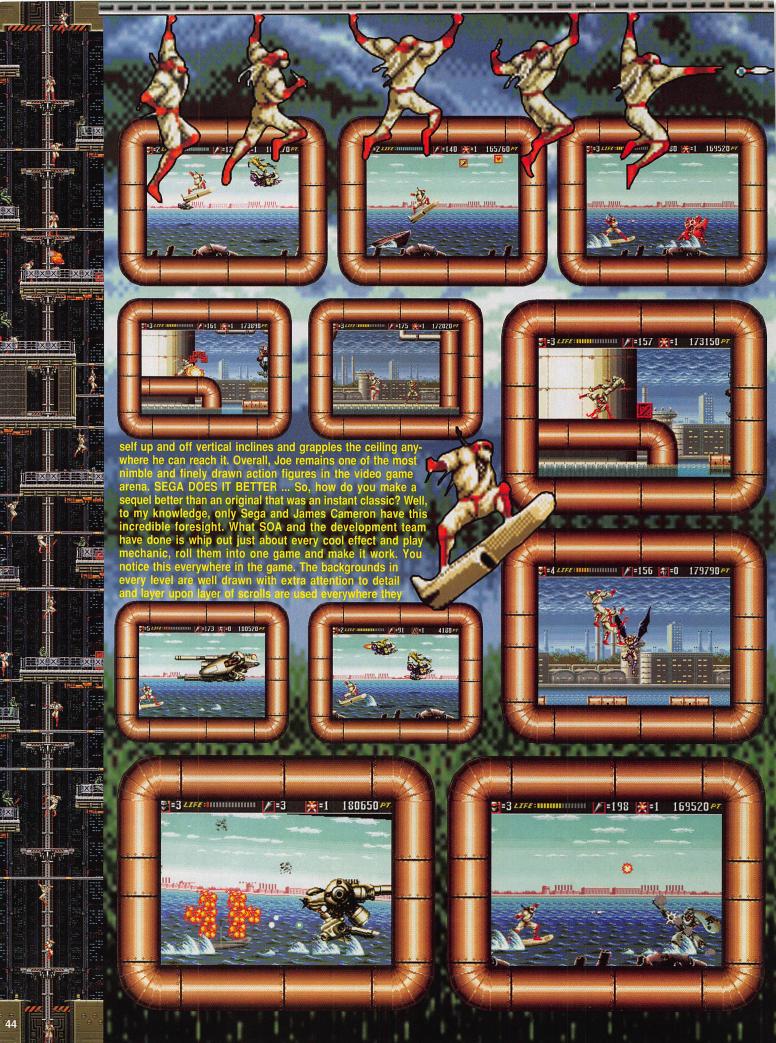


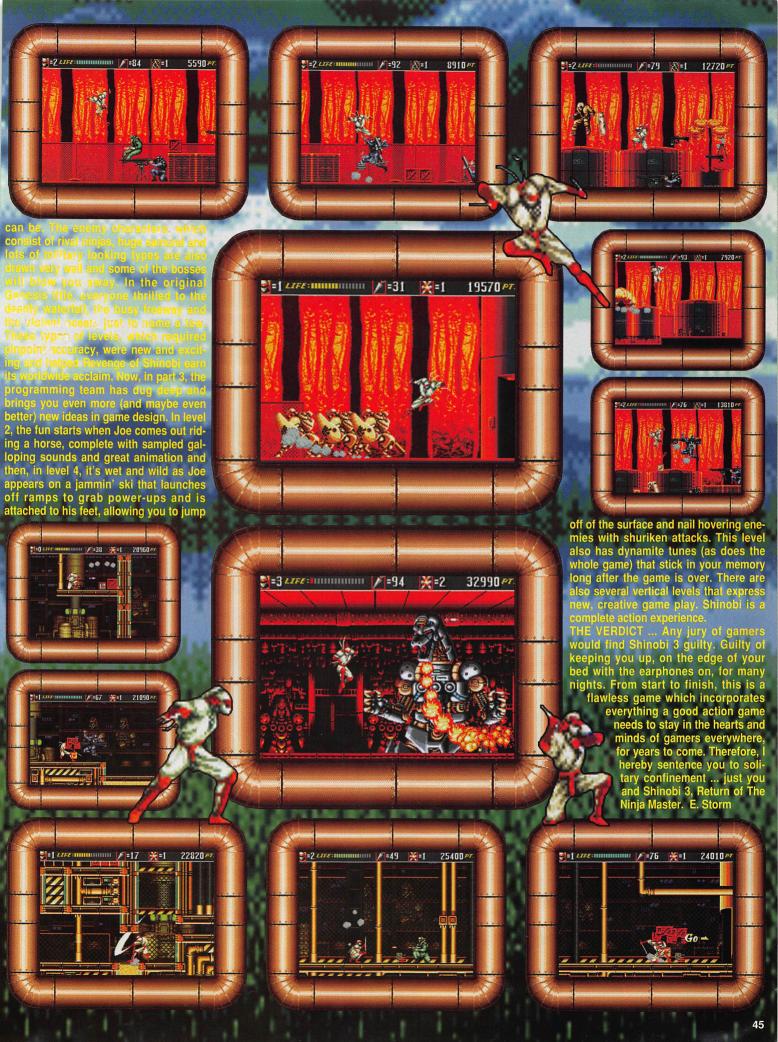
































Ay carumba! Bart's in trouble and he'll need your help to find his missing homework papers. What a nightmare that's going to be! While searching Springfield for his lost pages, Bart will encounter crazy mail boxes that hop off their posts, Otto man and his runaway school bus and the infamous Principal Skinner, who will try to make Bart wear a suit and tie. Keep your eyes peeled for the loose pages pages drifting around because, if you don't retrieve them all, Bart will be held back in the 4th grade forever! So, get ready, because the Bart man is on his way to the Genesis. Magilla

























ACTION I PLAYER



owerful sound chip, I just ubsy, who needed a littl sis Bubsy seems a bit m home on the General feeling the jumping had see the two versions are pretty much a still a tad repetitious, but done very well. It of gamers who own Sega only, this is a game you by, especially if you enjoy the likes of Mouse and other small, furry creatures. The land horizontally scrolling levels, lots coulent level of diversity. Along we wideo game. No fuss we gis the level when you've got a whol not. Especially in level 3 ging, switching between a iging, switching between a woolly infested train and anyon, this level seems to go on forever. I've never see a password (another nice feature). This is a well non cart. We'll review Bubsy, the Bubmeister, buba that! in our September issue.

k! Except, this time, he falls under my jurisdiction, or. I reviewed the SNES version back in issue #6 and live been anxiously awaiting a version on my sys-Sega Genesis. Although the SNES can display more ie SNES can display inclined like the way Sega game help and feels right at re fluid and the awkward y gone. Other than that, Even the music is good, rou're one of the millions you should not let pass onic, Tiny Toons, Mickey same features huge verticalor, great line scrolls h, of course, the first cate. uss and no litter box difficulty. Nine lives may herd of irked woollies on where there are 6 areas, ere there are 6 areas, olly infested train and









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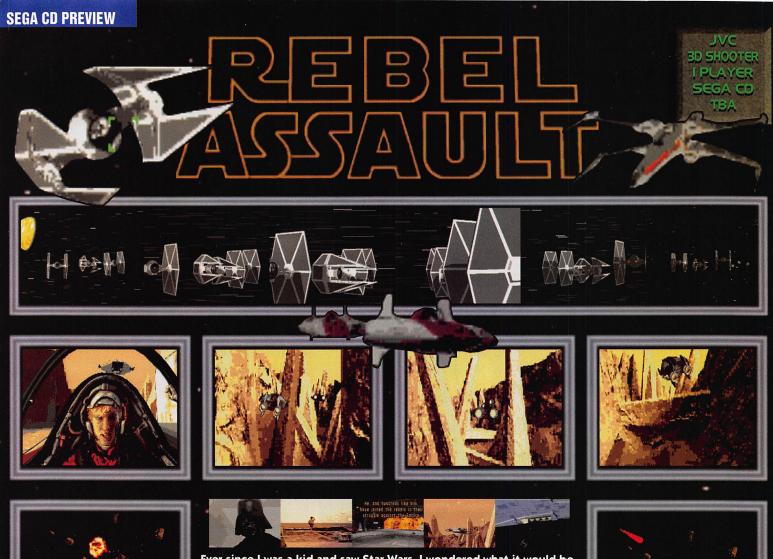




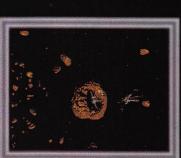












Ever since I was a kid and saw Star Wars, I wondered what it would be like to pilot an X-Wing fighter into battle. Well, I wonder no more. Rebel Assault for the Sega CD offers such an experience. Even though the version I played was only 20%, I still got that feeling of piloting an X-Wing. And, the rush of adrenaline! Oh, man, when the Tie Fighter went rushing by, Kid Fantastic almost lost his lunch! I kept turning my head looking for R2! Rebel Assault is an excellent demonstration of Sega CD technology. The scaling, speed, sound-track and voices could not be accomplished on a regular cart, this is the type of interactive experience that Sega CD owners have been craving for over the past year. JVC has been one of the most consistent supporters of the Sega CD to date, and their relationship with

Sega CD to date, and their relationship wit Lucasarts is one that will benefit Sega CD owners for some time to come. Jedi Knights, stay tuned. Rebel Assault is scheduled for a November or December release and Game fan will keep you posted on the progress of this exceptional game. Kid Fantastic

The Residence of the Control of the













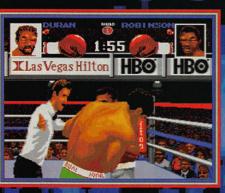
LEGENDS OF



ELECTRO BRAIN

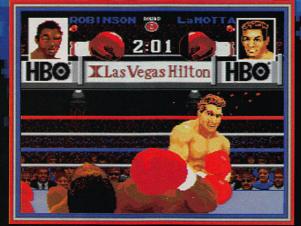
SPORTS
2 PLAYER
8 MEG
AVAIL AUG

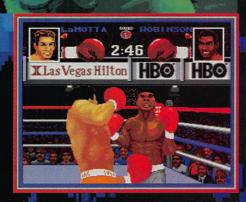






Boxing fans, get ready to tune up your thumbs. Electrobrain and Sculptured Software are about to let the leather fly with Legends of The Ring. The first thing that sets this game apart from all of the other contenders is the size of the characters...theu are huge! They are also drawn and animated very well (blood , sweat and tears flow freely in this one). So well, in fact, that you can actually pick out the great ones; Marciano, Leonard, Duran, Hagler, Hearns...they are all here. In addition, you can create your own fighter and, through a password feature, quide him through the 10 top ranked fighters in your attempt to win the championship and take the belt. Legends looks like a contender for the title of boxing game of the year. Look for an in-depth review in the premiere of Game Fan Sports, next month. Talko















Dragon's Lair fans can start getting ready for a November release of a nearly perfect translation for Sega CD by Readysoft. We got a peak at the CES and this game looked awe some!



on't judge! These are very early graphics just to show the camera angles for the MD Virtua Racing cart. The details aren't in yet. The programmers are wor ing hard on duplicating that arcade rush as well as possible. The new chip being used is serious stuff!



Konami's Lethal s is due out this August and comespackaged with its own cool six



ready to go with a wacky new Ronald McDonald title. They grub at Mickey D's in Japan, too. McSushi anyone? Don't look for this one stateside, you'll have to pick up the import, it is sure to become a Segaphiles collectors if



was one of the strongest new **CD** titles present at CES. It looks like another winner from Konami is on the way!





















We'll review Human's new Mega CD Shooter. Bari-Arm in our next issue. This new side scroller could be the shooter you've been waiting for.



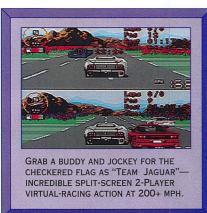


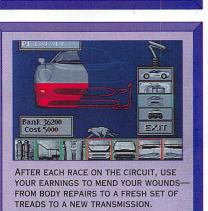
Here's some updated photos of Vic Tokai's awesome Trouble Shooter seguel. No word on a U.S. release yet out, judging by these photos, the game looks good nough to warrant a U.S. RELEASE ... come on Vic!

"...THE FASTEST PRODUCTION CAR IN THE WORLD..."

-THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS 1993





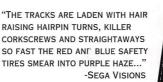




STRAP A SADDLE ON 542 HORSES AND RIDE THIS SILVER ROCKET TO 213 MPH.

IT'S THE ONLY ROAD BEAST ON THE GLOBE THAT CAN BE CALLED "FASTEST IN THE WORLD."

SO KEEP YOUR LOTUS, FERRARI AND PORSCHE IN THE GARAGE...JAGUAR XJ220 HAS ARRIVED.















SATURDAY NIGHT SLAM MASTERS IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE GAME FAN, THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF

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SUPER NES PREVIEW





It seems that one of the hottest topics recently in the world of video games is censorship, in general, and the application of it in Mortal Kombat. Since this topic has been discussed to death and since there was no blood to be found in the SNES MK used for this preview, we shall slide past that and, instead, concentrate on the game itself. Now, I know that blood and guts are synonymous with Mortal Kombat and that it is the main reason that most of us play it. However, after you've seen everything there is to see, there still has to be a good game left over to keep your interest high.

Although I am a SF2 purist, I couldn't help but be impressed with the overall presentation of this game. All of the yells, screams, grunts moans and groans are there, perfectly intact and seemingly direct from the arcade,



as are all of Shang Tsung's comments during a fight. The only sampled speech that I noticed was missing was when the Shang man says; "Flawless victory" and, instead of Scorpion's "Get over

RAYDEN WINS









here", he says "Come here"...no biggie. The quality of the music in MK is fantastic and might have gotten my vote for the single best feature of the game, but the saint of the immaculate digitization had something to say about that. I don't know how they pulled it off, but the graphics (shadows and all) are fantastic (closer than even SF2 to the arcade). Being that this is only a preview, we shall dissect this game further in next month's MK review. But, I can already tell you K. Lee will give it a thumbs up. - K. Lee







His moves are very similar to Ryu, but are done more flamboyantly. Ken's fierce dragon Punch has a very long range and can hit you three times. His spinning kick is very fast, but won't knock you down like Ryu's...fun to watch.



He and Ryu are thought to be the most rounded characters in the game. In fact, he is so effective that, in the process of upgrading SF2 to Turbo Hyper Fighting, he improved less than anybody else. Guile has a long range for throwing and plenty of catch you off guard moves.



His moves are very easy to execute and are logical. He jumps very quickly and his kicks and punches have a long range. Because of his vertical and horizontal rolling attacks. He is a very explosive character. He is strong against Zangief, Chun Li and Vega, but weak against Bison, Balrog and Honda.



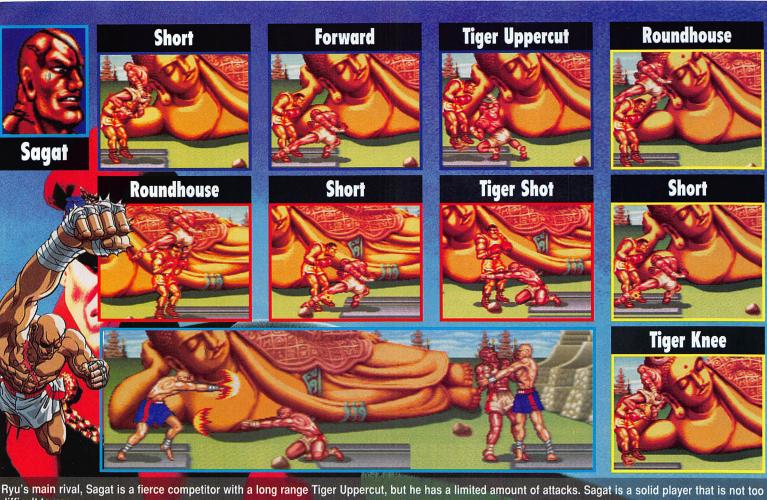
Honda is probably the most offensively biased character and can take the most energy off you while you block. Honda is slow in general, but people with quick reflexes can use him very effectively. He is weak against Ryu, Ken and Bison.



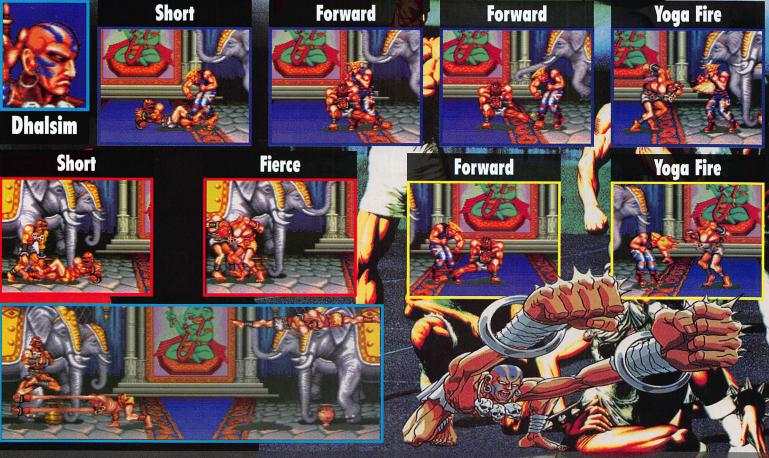
She is very fast and incredibly maneuverable, which makes her deceiving. Her air throws have the longest range and she is an easy character to learn, but you will need quick reflexes to be effective.



He is the structure of Dhalism. His main goal is to get close and snuggle with you and drill you into the Tarmac. If you can join a combo with a spinning Pile Driver, it can take as much as 50% of your energy off...weak against Blanka and Honda.



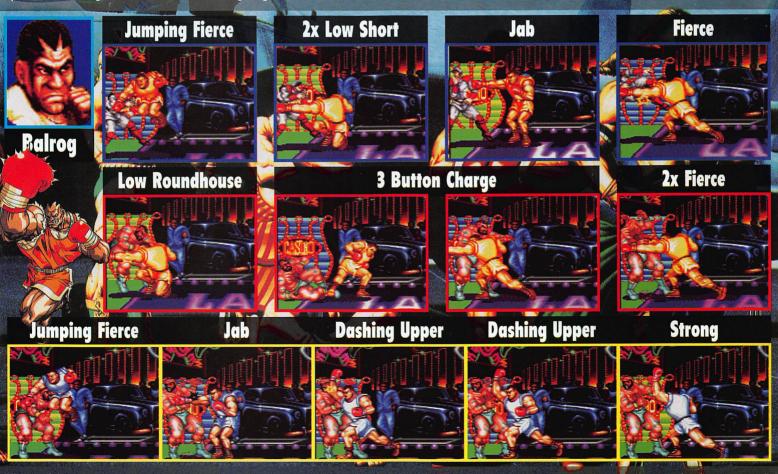
difficult to use.



He has the longest attack range of any of the characters and is actually one of the more well rounded players in the game. He is thought to only be effective from long range but, against good players, he is even more dangerous up close...weak against Blanka.



He is the fastest of all the characters and he has pinpoint control in the air while doing his diving attack. Vega has a long range because of his claw and his speed, but breaking off his claw reduces his long range effectiveness.



His special moves are very easy and are hardly ever reversed by his opponent. Close distances are stronger, but long distance fights are harder...very weak against characters with flying object moves.



Like Honda, he will take off a lot of energy while you're blocking and has a nasty of RE-Dizzy combo that is sure to induce anger from his opponents. Bison is one of the strongest characters in SF2 and he has no serious weaknesses.



Fighter is set to wow SNES owners this fall with one-on-one fighting action and Claymation graphics like you have never seen on the home screen. At CES, you can usually tell the potential success of a game by the crowd that it draws around it. We can tell you that, on consumer day, there was little to no breathing room over at Interplay's booth. Bad Frosty and the gang were hard at work making believers out of the throng of SF2 lovers that descended on Chicago like ravenous, combo-loving locust. Clay Fighter is about 60% complete at this point and is looking to be one of the early contenders for blockbuster status this Christmas season. From the graphics and animation to the solid fighting game play and sense of humor, CF demands that you pay attention to it. Quality games like this don't come around that often and Interplay is very well aware of the enormous potential of this game. Look to Game Fan for continual updates on Clay Fighter up to its release. In the mean time, enjoy... Talko

CUL FILEST

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8 MEG
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WORLS A SECTION OF THE SECTION OF TH





About a year ago, tWorld Heroes hit the arcades, right in the middle of the Street Fighter 2 craze. But, the gamers didn't reject the new comer. Instead, they stuffed as many characters into it as the ol' SF2. In fact, World Heroes became so popular that everyone who owned a Neo Geo tried getting their hands on one, but it was a limited release, so many gamers stayed dry. All they could hope for was a good SNES or Genesis version. Now, the wait is over, compliments of Sunsoft. This fall, World Heroes will be released for the SNES and it is, in my opinion, perfectly translated from the 82 meg Geo version. The two main













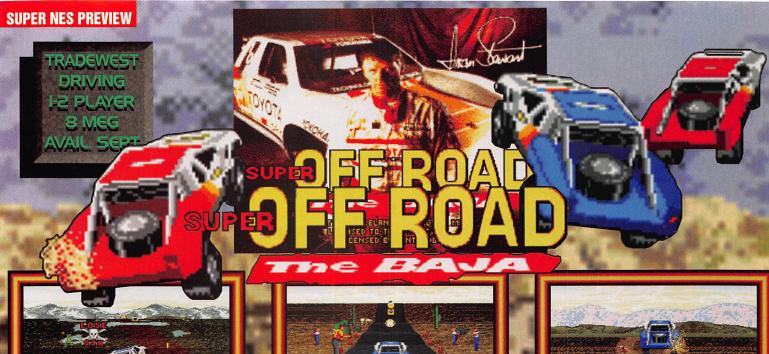


characters, Hanzou and Fuuma, are very similar to Ryu and Ken from SF2. The other characters, however, are each unique, giving this fighting game new play strategy and a look all its own. In the Neo Geo version, you had two attack buttons, punch and kick. The strength of the hit depended on how long you held the button down. If you tapped the button, you got a weak hit and, if you pressed and held the button, you got a fierce hit. In the SNES version, you can configure your buttons so the weak punch and kick and the fierce punch and kick all have their own buttons, giving you more control over

















Tradewest is set to deliver the ultimate off road driving challenge with Super Off Road, The Baja. Trust me folks, you didn't know what your SNES was capable of before this game. SOR makes liberal use of Mode 7 with huge characters and scaling hills that, to this point, have not been possible within the confines of Mode 7.

The game is an off road battle royal that takes place in Baja, California with 3 separate challenges; the Mexico 250, the Ensenada 500 and the Baja 1000. The races vary in length, with the Baja 1000 being the longest at 8 stages (incorporating the 4 stages found in the first 2 trials). The first person graphics in SOR are outstanding, easily the best to be produced for the system to date. SOR has got a lot of that "Road Rash" feel to it (ask the guy you just mowed

















down on the ATV, he's really feeling the "rash") and the programmers at Leland Corp. have successfully integrated the use of Mode 7 backgrounds with re-drawn sprites and road side objects.

With all the technological achievement in this game, what really grabs you is the game play. Although fairly simplistic in its drive and shop approach, the addictive qualities in SOR are enough to keep any driving fanatic's foot to the floor (or thumb to the pad, as the case may be). Look for a full review next month when we take this mud slinger through the editorial wringer. Talko

















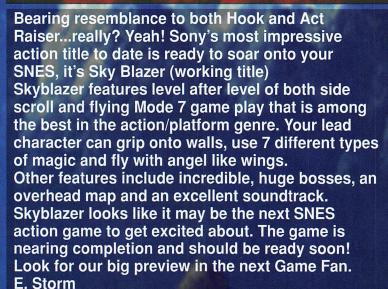




















SONY ACTION PLAYER

















How's this for a plot? You've had the flag over your home stolen and it's up to you and your projectile body parts to reclaim it! Oh, yeah, I feel a new NBC sitcom coming on; "He's tough, he's short, he's a one syllable, dismember able fighting machine, he's Plok!".

All kidding aside, Plok-man is a good looking and playing action/platform title by Tradewest and Software Creations (the people who are trying to bring us Equinox). The most impressive part of the preliminary version of this game is the music. The developers have made

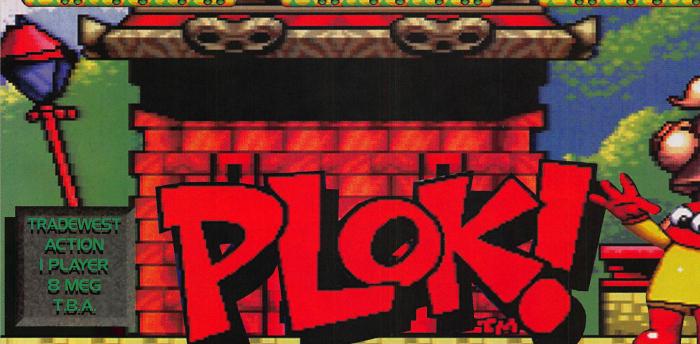


excellent use of the SNES hardware and the quality of the soundtrack is stunning. Graphically, Plok is as impressive as Equinox with a definable cartoon style that really helps to set the mood and tone of this entertaining, addictive game. With a relative shortage of action/platform on SNES, Plok looks to be a terrific addition to the Super Nintendo library. Look for more Plok-style action in our next issue when we take this one apart (no pun intended) and give it the full Game Fan review treatment. Talko











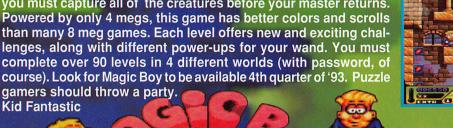








In Magic Boy, by JVC, you play the role of an apprentice magician who, while the master magician is away, accidentally releases all of the monsters. Armed with only your magic wand, you must capture all of the creatures before your master returns. Powered by only 4 megs, this game has better colors and scrolls than many 8 meg games. Each level offers new and exciting challenges, along with different power-ups for your wand. You must complete over 90 levels in 4 different worlds (with password, of course). Look for Magic Boy to be available 4th guarter of '93. Puzzle

















That arch nemesis of Mr. Wilson is back, and his time he's causing trouble, 16 bit style, on he SNES. Ocean looks to have one of the petter action/platform games of 1993 ready o cause a little mischief near the end of this year. With pea shooter and sling shot at his disposal, Dennis the Menace will be plotting oig trouble for good ol' Mr. Wilson, Margaret and the gang. Look for more in future issues.











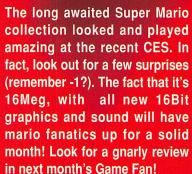


Capcom's 2nd Disney title for the SNES is said to animate as well as the movie. The layout of the levels closely follow the movie, and with 10 meg of memory, Capcom should have no problem! Look forward to a Game Fan preview coming soon!

















Storm's new 8Meg Action/Shooter Lawnmower Man is absolutely unbelievable and is due out sometime this fall. The first person scaling is smoother and faster than Star Fox! We can't wait to get our hands on it!







Finally! Mega Man X is coming! I can't tell you how much we want to play this game. Capcom will be doing this 8 Bit classic total justice, with 12 Megs of memory and an entirely new cast of villains (the kind we love to hate!) Look for an exclusive preview in next month's issue!

Loricles has got a surprise! The first 3D action/shooter for the SNES will make your eyes bug out. Jim Power can be played with or without 3D glasses, but the 3D effect is so real you'd think you could reach into the screen and grab Jim.







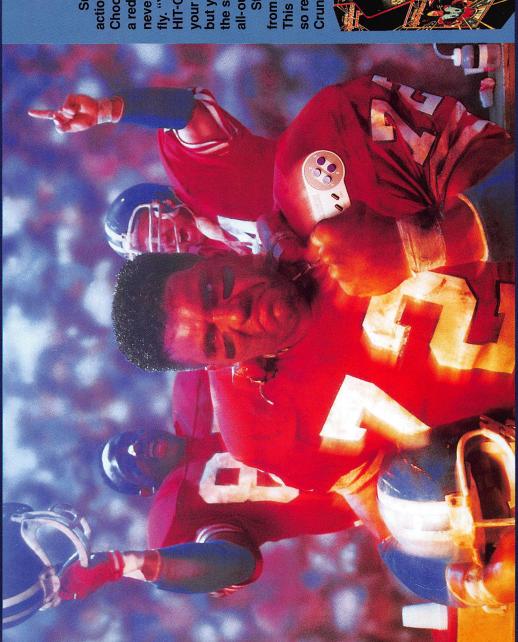
All right! Lucas Arts is at it again with their 12 Meg blockbuster sequel to last year's mega hit Super Star Wars! Super Empire Strikes back has awesome new mode 7 flying sequences and a theater soundtrack (which will hopefully be in surround sound!) As you can probably see from the pictures, this cart really captures the feel of the movie and will be a definite candidate for this year's Golden Megawards.









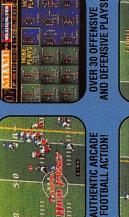


BI MERINA

Choose from 18 hard-charging teams and over 30 plays, from Super High Impact for Super NES" brings the fast-paced action of the BONE-CRUNCHING arcade smash home.

ily. "Yer Toast" if the your tackle "Dweeb"; never-say-die super HIT-O-METER rates a red dog blitz to a but you can settle all-out team brawl the score with an

This is football action from the sidelines... so real... it's Bone Stop watching Crunching





SETTLE THE SCORE WITH AN ALL-OUT BRAWL!

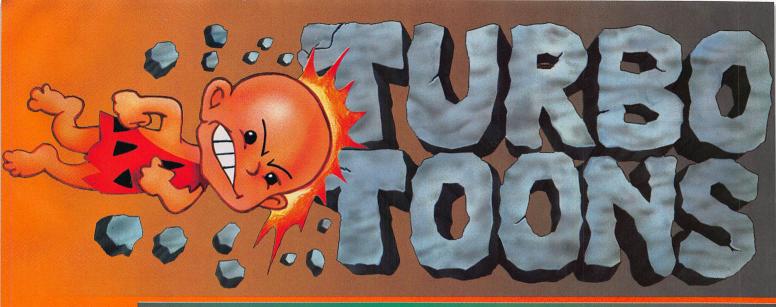






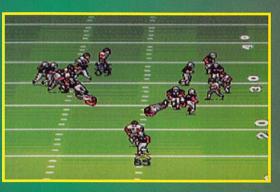


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DUO PREVIEW













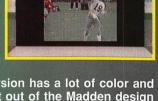




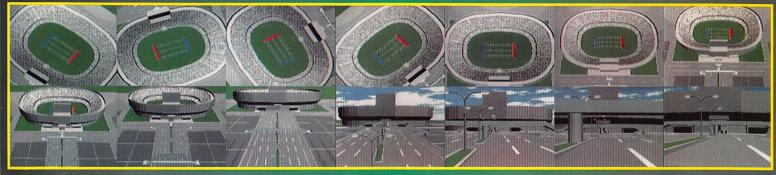


Duo owners rejoice. For 4 years now, you've been waiting for some sort of decent American development and sports titles that offer something more than slow play and big headed, goofy characters. Your time has come, John Madden CD has arrived, courtesy of Hudson and

EA. The version of JM that was at the show was early, but showed incredible potential. From the polygon scaling intro that takes you into the stadium, to the high quality full motion video used extensively throughout the game,



Madden CD makes its claim as the best version of Madden yet, on any platform. Graphically, the Duo version has a lot of color and players that are more cartoony in nature than their SNES or Genesis counterparts. The game play is right out of the Madden design book so, if you have played the 16 bit versions, you've played this. What really makes the Duo Madden work and become almost an entirely new game is that it makes full use of the CD hardware. The video, sound and depth of game play is outstanding. If you are a sports game fan and do not own a Duo, John Madden CD may be the game that makes you an owner. Talko











The greatest arcade game of all time has made its way on to the PC Engine and its 20 megs of the most intense Street Fighter action you could have ever expected on this system. The game is absolutely beautiful with color, animation and sound that feel like the arcade with barely any color or resolution loss.



























All of the endings are in the game as well as two bonus stages and the characters all control like their arcade counterparts. That's the good news. The bad news is that there is some flicker and slow down in this version of the game. Although, neither the slow down or the flicker really detract from this incredible design achievement. I know all of the SF purists out there are dying to get





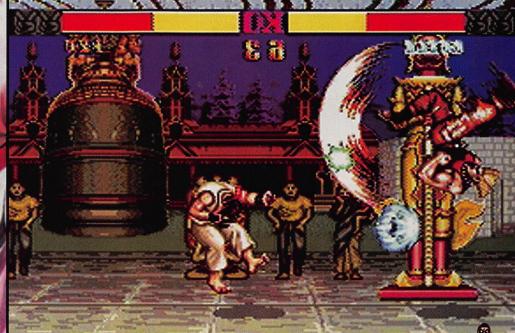




































their hands on this game. Don't sweat it. many of my sources say that the Turbo/Duo version will be out in October and the fact that my sources have











never been wrong means...no worries! This is the game that TTI really needs in America, so keep those fingers crossed! Yoshi





























Welcome to Issue #3 of 300nly, where you can look to Game Fan to bring you the latest and greatest on the king of the super systems. Our latest information comes from Chicago where the electronics industry was treated to its first hands-on experience with Panasonic's FZ-1 Real 300 Interactive Multiplayer at Summer CES and there wasn't a dry palm in the house!

The editorial staff at Game Fan was able to see and play those games slated for release at system launch (or soon thereafter) for Trip Hawkins' silicon version of heaven. Most of the titles are very early (in fact, Crystal Dynamic's Crash & Burn was literally compiled, in its early form, just days prior to CE5) but, even at this early date, the software is extremely impressive with 3D and special effects that are a quantum







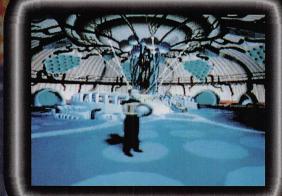




leap forward for home entertainment.

The system is scheduled to be available nationwide on October 1 at a retail price of \$699.00, over \$100 cheaper than the original suggested retail price. Judging by the various stages of development that the games are in, you can expect to see 10-15 games at system launch, including Crash & Burn and Total Eclipse, which are both reason enough to how the system.





system launch, including Crash & Burn and Total Eclipse, which are both reason enough to buy the system.

Nearly every type of game was present in the 300 booth; you want sports? EA and Park Place have got you covered. Driving, flying? No problem, Crystal Dynamics and EA have titles that will be available at launch and before Christmas. 3D adventures and movie action titles will also be plentiful with MCA's Jurassic Park and USO 2015, Virgin's Demolition Man and Spectrum Holobyte's Star Trek: The Next Generation.

SPECTRUM HOLOBYTE

ELECTRONIC ARTS



WORLD BUILDERS INC.









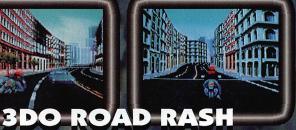
The Crystal Dynamics titles were, by far, the most complete at the show, but Electronic Arts, MCA, Park Place, Spectrum Holobyte and Virgin (among others, there are now over 300 licensed developers for the 300 system) had incredible demos and teasers at the show.

Upon speaking with the folks at Crystal Dynamics, we were informed that Crash & Burn, which is the best looking driver this side of Virtual Racing, was about 20% complete, would have 30 levels and that the frame rate would be about 50% faster than the show version. It will also sport features like speed warping













DEMOLITION MAN VIRGIN GAMES







TOTAL ECLIPSE CRYSTAL DYNAMICS

of oncoming objects, transparent skyways and a multitude of characters and vehicles to choose from. In Star Trek: TNG, the 3D environment is like nothing you've experienced in a video game before, with ray-traced, rendered graphics that place you in a real-time 3D environment and have you living the game.

There has been a blitzkrieg of media coverage on 3DO and much debate over the viability and marketability of a \$700 game system. Does 3DO deliver the goods, or is it merely the next COI? The answer will ultimately come from the consumer, but we at Game Fan have played the future and our anxiously awaiting our review hardware to get under the hood and start bringing you the completed versions of these extraordinary titles. Talko

th GUEST



INTELIMIDIA FOOTBALL INTELIMEDIA

INTELIMIDIA BASEBALL



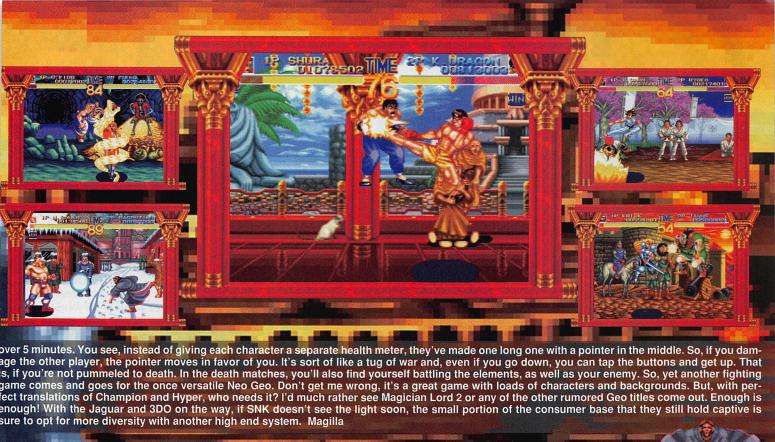
3D FOOTBALL PARK PLACE 88





The characters have definitely been training hard since World Heroes. Now, Hanzou, Janne and the rest of the gang are back and ready to dish out the carnage in World Heroes 2. This 146 mega shock now has 14 characters to choose from and even character vs. character. As you can see, the original 12 fighters are enhanced, both in speed and technique. Some of the more noticeable changes are Hanzou's Arching Uppercut, Muscle Powers' Rag doll Rampage (he swings his opponent by the feet and tosses them like yesterday's trash) and Janne's Sword of Justice, which slices and dices faster than a Ginzu. The four newcomers aren't too shabby themselves. My favorite character, Captain Kidd, carries some walloping blows. Gifted with the spirit of the great white shark, C. Kidd can unleash a Shark Aura onto his opponents. For all of you SF2 fans, C. Kidd comes the closest to Guile...so you know why he's such a cool character. Along with the new characters comes new death matches. One of the best features of this is that each round can last







ORTA







One of the best soccer games on any system, Tengen's Tecmo World Cup is full of well-animated players and is extremely fun with two players using the optional link-up cable. Don't miss it if you're into Game Gear Sports.



Jurassic Park fills the little Game Gear screen with about as much dinosaur as humanly possible and features many of the varied play mechanics of the Genesis game. Look for it this July.





Tom & Jerry seem to be popping up everywhere, so why not onto your Game Gear screen? You got a mouse, you got a cat...you play Tom and you gotta

Jump into the Steel Cage with the likes of Brett Hart, Ted DiBiase, Randy Savage, The Undertaker, Tatanka and Shawn Michaels. But, don't forget to stop by acting

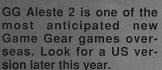
class on the way.













DRACULA





JAMES POND 2

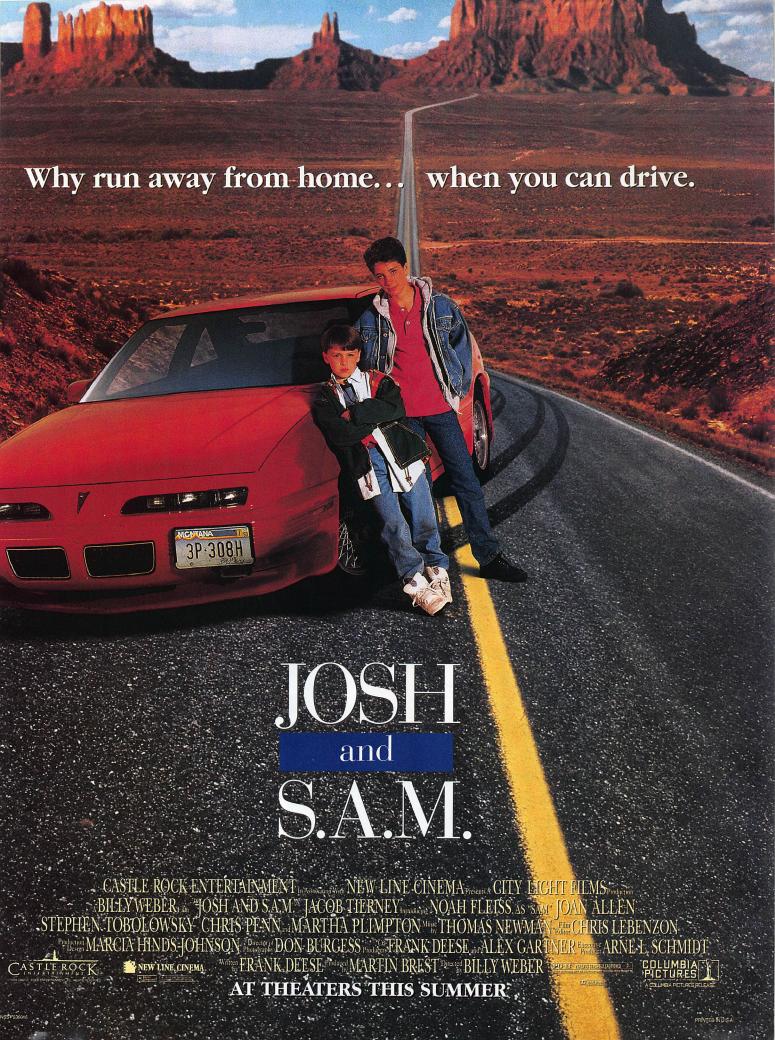


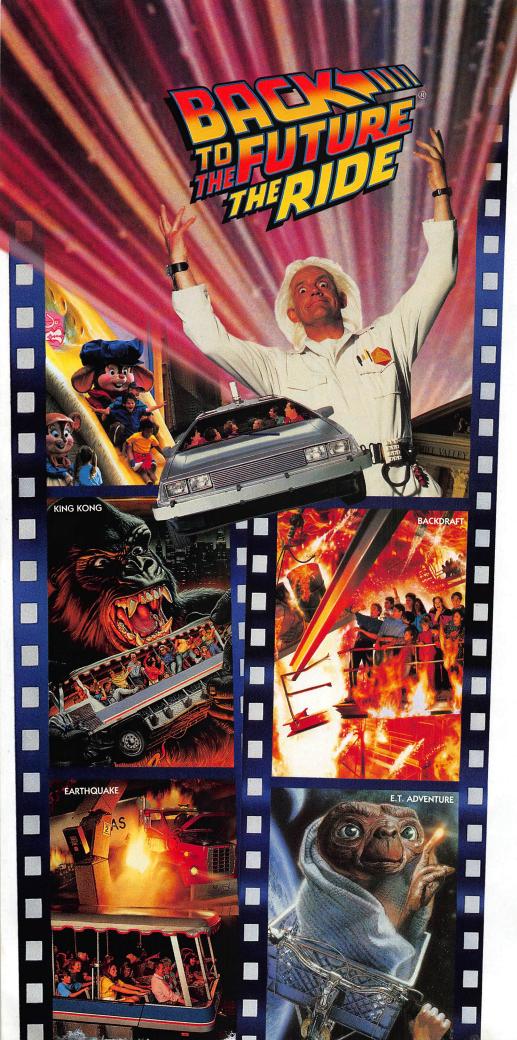


INCREDIBLE CRASH DUMMIES



SPIDERMAN





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This year's Summer CES was perhaps the biggest ever for the video game industry. A large emphasis was placed on new cutting dge technology such as Virtua and 3DO while, as a whole, there were simply more good titles than ever before. It seemed like just bout every company had something to brag about. We've compiled, as well as possible, all of the games of this great show for you o use as a guide to what is coming in the months to come. Some of the screen shots aren't the greatest as many come from slides, tc., but this should give you a good idea of what we saw. The logos in the shots represent what system the title will be available for.





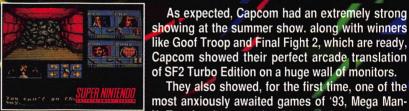




ALADDIN



EYE OF THE BEHOLDER



They also showed, for the first time, one of the most anxiously awaited games of '93, Mega Man-X. Two levels were playable and the game looks and plays absolutely fantastic. The now larger and

As expected, Capcom had an extremely strong

well animated Mega Man can cling to walls and the new graphics are awesome, look for a November release. Capcom also has what looks like the best version of Eye of The Beholder and an excellent football title, Capcom's MVP Football, showing a commitment to RPG and sports gamers, as well as action and fighting. Over in the Sega area, a smaller Capcom display showed a very early version of the upcoming 24 meg Sega SF2 Turbo which, although early, played extremely well. Look for a review of this great version of SF2 coming soon.



SF2 TURBO HYPER FIGHTING













TOEJAM & EARL2

JURASSIC PARK

SILPHEED

SONIC SPINBALL

GUNSTAR HEROES

Sega had the best presentation I have seen in three years, with an entirely new display for '93. Their recent growth into a major force was definitely apparent with a huge display including dedicated Activator, Game Gear, CD, Virtua and sports areas, as well as the phenomenal new Sonic arcade game (which blows away anything I've ever seen in the arcades) and the impressive AS-1. As-1 is comparable to Star Tours, but you actually interact with this ride which, by the way, is hosted by Michael Jackson. Game wise, Sega blew me away with Gunstar Heroes, Aladdin, Sonic Spinball and Silpheed. Other standout titles by Sega were; Jurassic CD, Eternal Champions, Ranger-X, NFL '94 and the new World Series Baseball game. Virtua also shows great promise. Sega's only weak point was the lack of innovative new CD titles as Silpheed, Spiderman, Montana, Ecco and Jurassic (titles which we expected) were the main titles. Sonic CD, which is near completion, was nowhere in site. Luckily, Sega's strong 3rd party companies showed excellent support for CD and all have big plans for '94. Strangely, a strong emphasis was placed on the Activator which, to this point, we all agree is just too goofy. Overall though, Sega had a very strong show and winter should be even better!



RANGER X



ETERNAL CHAMPIONS



NFL 94



WORLD SERIES BASEBALL



SHINOBI III



ALADDIN



Extreme (formerly Bignet) showed their awesome boxing game, Riddick Bowe, which could very well be the best boxing title so far on a home system, and the old classic, Choplifter gets a major facelift on the SNES. They also had a great looking booth. Extreme products for Sega include Battletech CD and cart

WARRIOR OF ROME

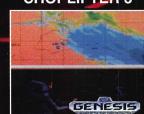


BATTLETECH





CHOPLIFTER 3





RIDDICK BOWE





PINK PANTHER



SYLVESTER & TWEETY



AGASSI TENNIS



In last month's CES preview, we showed Sylvester & Tweety as

an Absolute title (late night). Our apologies to Tekmagik. The game looks fantastic, with perfect animation. Pink Panther also looks great and a new Steven Segall action title is in the works. Keep your eye on Tekmagik, this is a promising new developer.









BATTLE CLASH 2



YOSHI'S SAFARI



MARIO ALLSTARS



STANLEY CUP











MARIO & WARIO

the CES with Mario, Yoshi and an all new FX game titled FX Trax. Although only about 40% complete, this new title shows innovations in racing games never before imagined and has that quality Nintendo feeling written all over it. But, the real show stopper was Mario All Stars, which surpassed our highest expectations. All four adventures are beautifully colored and detailed and have excellent music. All Stars is definitely an

Nintendo brightened up





FX TRAX

incredible value and candidate for Action Game(s) of The Year. Yoshi's Safari also looks great and features great Mode 7 with jumps, bosses and lots of Marioish stuff to shoot at with your Superscope. The well-rounded SNES lineup for '93 also includes Mario/Wario for puzzle gamers and Stanley Cup Hockey for sports fans, which scales all over the place and looks to be a hockey player's dream come true. Altogether, Nintendo had a very strong lineup but I have a feeling the best is yet to come this winter in Vegas. Oh, inside the dome? The best 3D laser show you'll ever see had Starfox ships flying into your face and sound you had to hear to believe...bonus!



Sony had a varied and unique lineup, including 2 realistic game show experiences for CD, Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune. In fact, Vanna was there! Man, you should see her rippin at Street Fighter!...just kidding. Anyways, she drew quite a crowd. It will be interesting to see how these games do. Sony also has a strong sports lineup with the ESPN series (baseball and football). In fact, Chris Berman was there! Man, you should have seen him rippin' at Street Fighter! Back, back, back, back...sonic boom!...kidding. Chris also drew a huge crowd and is a very nice guy. The baseball game looks amazing, with tons of animation and all the right stuff. For action fans, Skyblazer looks awesome (see page) and Last Action Hero (which will employ Silicon Graphics) and Journey to The Center of The Earth give Sega CD owners hope for the future. Sony has big plans. Oh, Sony also ties Konami for best on the floor executive suite...style! Rounding out the display were Equinox (remember?), Dracula CD and Cliffhanger.

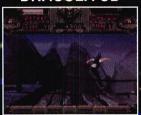


DRACULA CD





CLIFF HANGER













JEAPORDY

EQUINOX



ROCKET KNIGHT

GENESIS



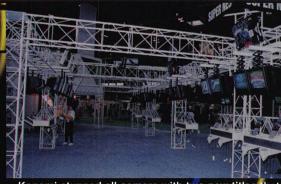
LETHAL ENFORCERS



CASTLEVANIA BLOODLINES







Konami stunned all comers with two new titles that really stood out. Tournament Fighters on SNES looks like a Neo Geo game and Lethal Enforcers on Sega CD is nearly perfect and comes with a cool six shooter! How do they do it? Additional Konami excellence for Sega included; Rocket Knight Adventure (I already smell a sequel), in which you'll find out how cool the sparkster really is, TMNT Tournament Fighters, unique to the SNES version and also very impressive, Zombies Ate My Neighbors and, of course, Castlevania Bloodlines, which was less than 10% but I guarantee will be amazing. For SNES, Sunset Riders looked arcade perfect and, as you know, Zombies is pure fun. Konami also had one of the most intense booths we have ever seen.





TOURNAMENT FIGHTERS



ZOMBIES ATE MY NEIGHBORS



SUNSET RIDERS











EA continues to expand with an excellent variety of 16 bit titles. For Sega, Jungle Strike, BOB (EA's new comical robot), General Chaos, 2020 Baseball, Technoclash, Madden '94, NHLPA '94, Bill Walsh College Football and, especially, Poulterguy stood out, along with Mutant League Hockey, which is just too cool...everyone will love this game. For SNES, EA has NHLPA '94 and Madden '94. Add to that all of EA's stunning 3DO softs, including Madden and the ever so fast scaling Road Rash 3DO and you've got a well-rounded '93 lineup with something for everyone.



GENESIS BLADES OF VENGENCE **MUTANT LEAGUE HOCKEY**





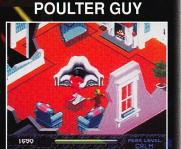


DENESIS

GENERAL CHAOS

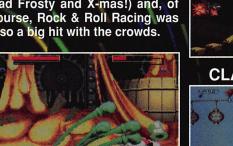


JAMES POND 3

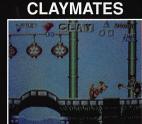


When you could get close to the Interplay booth, you'd find hordes of people waiting to control Bad Frosty and the rest of the crazy cast of Fighter, Clay Interplay's new one-on-one that features combo crazy clay figures

that look so real that you'd think you could reach into the screen and grab one. Look for this title to be a big winner in the SNES Christmas lineup (how seasonal, Bad Frosty and X-mas!) and, of course, Rock & Roll Racing was also a big hit with the crowds.



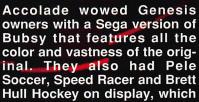
ROCK & ROLL RACING





CLAY FIGHTERS







SPEED RACER





Hull Hockey on display, which could possibly give NHL a run for its money. Also look for Accolade to deliver a new football title this fall with great fanfare and mucho memory.



One of the most impressive third party lineups at the show belonged to Tradewest, who had awesome versions of Battletoads/Double Dragon for both SNES and Genesis,



BATTLETOADS



PLOK





THE BAJA



along with two surprise SNES titles; Plok and Super Off Road Baja. Plok is a colorful new action title with a lead character that hurls his arms and legs at attackers (see page) and Super Off Road Baja takes all the rules and throws them out the window with smooth Mode 7 and hills galore, along with smooth scaling objects at track side and day and night racing, what a sequel! And, for sports fans, look out for America's Team as Troy Aikman Football Signature Addition arrives in 16 meg glory for the SNES. This sort-of-sequel to Pro QB looks to be one of the top football games of '93, so stay tuned.



BATTLE CARS





PAC MAN 2



how 'bout those monitor stands, I gotta get one of those.



SUZUKA 8 HOURS





Namco showed the eagerly anticipated Suzuka 8 Hours which, although early, looks like the road racing game we've all been waiting for. Also on hand was the world famous Pacman in an all new 12 meg adventure, Pacman

2, which promises to be an awesome action/platform title with some very unique game play. And, for Mad Max fans, Battle Cars is a futuristic Mode 7 Battle Royal reminiscent of F-Zero. It's all SNES, all Namco.



GENESIS



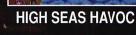




DASHIN' DESPERADOES



SENGOKU



genesis. For 2 player cooperative craziness, check out the too much fun Dash 'n Desperadoes or, for one of the most promising action/platform games of '93, there's High Seas Havoc, data east's answer to Sonic. For the SNES, Data East showed an early version of Sengoku and their promising new football game, Monday Night Football...just so Dandy doesn't sing...and,

Data East has two big winners for







DAFFY DUCK



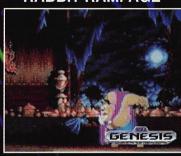
BUBBLE & SKWEEK



WORLD HEROES



RABBIT RAMPAGE



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Sunsoft continues to dazzle us with awesome Warner Brothers titles like Rabbit Rampage and the Marvin Missions, but no one was prepared for Aero The Acrobat which, for many people, stole the show. It's all in the play mechanics. Also surprising was Beauty and The Beast, each of whom stars in their own Sega cart and a near perfect SNES version of World Heroes (see page 66)



MORTAL KOMBAT



CRASH DUMMIES



BART'S NIGHTMARE



T2 THE ARCADE GAME



NBA JAM



ROBOCOP 3



T2 JUDGEMENT DAY





As expected, huge crowds gathered around Mortal Kombat for both SPIDERMAN AND the SNES and Genesis. However, just a few feet away, another sur-

prise was waiting; a remarkably good looking preview of the oh-so-awesome NBA Jam. Yet another coin-op heavy hitter makes its way into the Acclaim/Arena lineup for both the SNES and Genesis. Also under the Arena label are Itchy and Scratchy, featuring the Simpsons, and the king of Mortal Kombat is on Sega CD. Then there was this awesome Alien CD demo...



If al that walking made you thirsty, you could stop in at Virgin's Art Deco cafe for a 7-Up under the huge Spot. Then, once your thirst was quenched, you could stand on your tip-toes and look at Aladdin, Sega/Virgin/Disney's shocking show stopper for the Genesis. Also looking great for Genesis are Robocop vs. Terminator, Terminator CD, Chuck 2, Dune 2 and the incredi-

ble (as good as Aladdin) Jungle Book.
On the SNES side, Merlin is the answer for RPG gamers and Ali's Heavyweight Boxing looks like a knockout. Super Slam Dunk and Slapshot rounded out Virgin Sports and. of

course, Spot for SNES brings all of the fun of the original, plus new features to the Nintendo summer lineup. It's DP n Seth n Edy n Eric...burnin' at Virgin.



ALADDIN



ROBOOCOP VS TERMINATOR



COOL SPOT



MUHAMMAD ALI



DAN MARINO'S FOOTBALL





THE TERMINATOR



OUT OF THIS WORLD 1&2



SON OF CHUCK



WRATH OF GODS



YOUNG MERLIN



SUPER SLAP SHOT



SUPER SLAM DUNK



WORLD HEROES



KING OF MONSTERS 2



JOHN MADDEN CD





VASTEEL **BEYOND SHADOWGATE**



EXILE 2

MACROSS 2 036



GODZILLA



DUNGEON EXPLORER 2

Housed within a new hi tech display area that looked like it might blast off, TTI showed great support for the Duo in every category; Madden CD for sports, Macross for strategy, Dungeon Explorer, Might & Magic 3 and Beyond Shadowgate for RPG, Lords of Thunder, Nexar Zonk CD and Magical Chase for shooters, Bonk 3, Blood Gear and for action, Godzilla for fighting and Bomberman '93 for plain fun (our Bomberman team got slaughtered due to one crazy night in Chicago). Hey TTI, how about a SF2 competition next year?



GOOFY



TURN & BURN



ROCKY & BULLWINKLE



SUPER BATTLETANK

game of Goofy, a dynamite new CD version of Super Battletank 2 and Rocky and Bullwinkle is looking great. On the SNES side, look for Super Turn n **Burn and Super** Battletank 2. Oh, and don't forget about Home Improvement for both Genesis and SNES...ahr, ahr, ahr...



7TH SAGA



PALLADIN QUEST



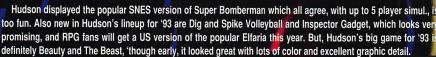
One of the most eagerly anticipated SNES carts of the year was on display at the Enix booth. Act Raiser 2 looks phenomenal and, with Yuzo Kashiro back for the music, sounds just as good. Serious about role playing? 7th Saga, Evo and Paladin's Quest also look excellent. Enix remains a safe haven for RPG players.



INSPECTOR GADGET **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**



DIG & SPIKE







PUTTY



GUNSHIP

GENESIS



WINTER OLYMPICS

The big surprise at US Gold was the Incredible Hulk game, which is being programmed at Probe (makers of Mortal Kombat and Alien 3). This new Genesis title (due out this fall) has all of the makings of a masterpiece. Strider 2 is



THE INCREDIBLE HULK

now complete and due out soon and Winter Olympics has some new features that will knock your socks off. And, of course, we all know about Flashback, one of the year's best so far.





R-TYPE 3



HAMMERIN HARRY



UNDERCOVER COPS

Irem had a surprisingly strong line-up with Rocky Rodent ready to go and two more great looking SNES titles; Hammerin' Harry (which we will review ASAP, and Undercover cops of coin-op fame, which looks like an excellent translation. Keep your fingers crossed for R-Type 3, Irem is skeptical on the whole shooter thing.



The best graphics I've ever seen in a puzzle game were displayed here in the whimsical, wacky world of Puggsy, a new puzzler with major sequel power. Also looking good from Psygnosis was Wizzy and Lizzy, a colorful new comical action game for the Genesis.



PUGGSY





FIRST SAMURAI

Kemco follows up on 91's funest racing game with a lightning fast seguel that incorporates all of the best features from Top Gear, along with even smoother game play and new added elements like snow, rain and fog...awesome. First Samurai was on hand as well, but G2 was nowhere to be found. Maybe we'll catch up with it in Vegas



PITFIGHTER 2



Tengen is serious about the future and showed an excellent selection of new Sega titles, including Awesome Possum, a great looking new action/platform title, Prince of Persia, which is finally making its way to a cartridge format, Pit Fighter 2, which incorporates the best of one plus all new features, Robo Aleste (see page), their awesome new Sega CD title, Grind Stormer (from the makers of Truxton) and Gauntlet 4, which uses the new 4 player tap. Look for some more surprise news AWESOME POSSUM from Tengen very soon.



PRINCE OF PERSIA



ROBO ALESTE





BEASTBALL

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

Spectrum Holobyte showed two promising Sega titles; Beast Ball and Soldier of Fortune. Beast Ball is a carnage oriented football/soccer game an Soldier of Fortune is an overhead war game. Both were early, but had very impressive graphics.



TIME SLIP







Super Miniel

LOCK ON

LOST MISSION MAZINE SAGA

SOCKET

Vic Tokai had a great showing with two awesome Genesis titles and 3 great SNES carts. Socket (see page) looks and plays incredible and Time Slip looks like a big winner for both formats. Also SNES bound are the long awaited RPG, Lost Mission, which looks great and Lock On, a super fast flight sim. with 360 degree loops, which uses the new DSP. OK Vic, Give us Golgo 13!



GP₁





Atlus brings GP racing to the SNES for the first time with GP-1. Also looking good were Atlus' new soccer title and, of course, Run Saber, the great new 2 player action title that mirrors the likes of Strider. Super Widget rounded out the something for everyone presentation.

SUPER WIDGET



BATTLESHIP

Mindscape's extensive SNES lineup includes the new and much improved Wing Commander Secret Missions, Super Battleship, which now features digitized graphics, Championship Pool





CHAMPIONSHIP POOL



OUT TO LUNCH



WING COMMANDER
THE LOST MISSIONS





Black Pearl is bursting on to the scene with a sure fire winner, the popular coin-op hit Total Carnage! for both SNES and Genesis

With their first entry on the Sega, Saddleback Software will be bringing My Paint for the Sega CD. This title will be the first software to support the new Sega mouse.









RIVER RAID

PITFALL HARRY

BIO METAL

Activision is readying two classics for SNES release, River Raid and Pitfall Harry of 8 bit NES fame. Also on hand was Bio Metal, a great new shooter with an unbelievable soundtrack.





SPELLCRAFT

ARDY LIGHTFOOT

Ascii showed up with the unique new RPG/Quest Spellcraft, which looks great, along with a unique new action title, Ardy Lightfoot, a cool new character. Dominus, another mystical adventure is also coming soon





Coming soon to a Sega CD near you, the Don Bluth classic, Dragon's Lair from Readysoft. This translation from the original arcade game is perfect, with all of the cartoon animation, music, sound and special FX found in the coin-op game. Look for Readysoft to get this game to market by November of '93.





DRAGON'S LAIR





The realistic 3D in the Genesis version of Jim Power must be experienced to be believed. Who will pick-up this new breakthrough title?



Toho brings robots into the golf arena with Mecarobot Golf for the SNES.

Titus really surprised passers-by with the great looking new action game prehistoric man which looks really good! Lamborghini Challenge also looks great and is ready to go



THE SECRET OF MANA



The magic of Square comes through big time in many people's RPG of the show; The Secret of Mana. This new action RPG features all new characters from the makers of Final Fantasy and is 3 player simul.!

STELLAR FIRE



Dynamix has Stellar Fire almost ready to go for the Sega CD and its looking awesome with lots of color, smooth polygons and great animation screens. look for a preview coming soon!



ART OF FIGHTING



FATAL FURY



KING OF MONSTERS

Takara has perfected the art of squeezing mass quantities of memory into a SNES cart, as is apparent in the new SNES Art of Fighting (see page). also looking great is Joe & Mac for the Genesis (which we mistakenly showed as a Data East title last month). Look for a preview on this one soon.



LUFIA



CHASE HQ 2



DARIUS 3



FLINTSTONES

Taito's SNES lineup includes a RPG, strong Lufia, which we will bring you next issue, the Flintstones, which looks great on SNES and Super Nova (Darius 3), which looks intense and will be a candidate for shooter of the year



LESTER THE UNLIKELY



ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPORTS

DTMC has a unique new action title in the works called Lester the Unlikely and a unique new California Games type title that takes place in the Rocky Mountains including; ATV, mountain bikes, climbing, etc...Rocky Mountain Sports.



GOAL! TWO



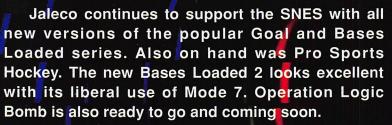
TUFF E NUFF



OPERATION LOGIC BOMB



SUPER BASES LOADED 2





PRO SPORT HOCKY



Lawnmower Man by STORM looks amazing. With scailing to rival starfox this title should make IT big in '94, so jack in and get ready.

LEGEND



Seika had an unbelievable new side scroll called Legend that looks arcade quality, along with Troddlers; "The thinking man's action/platform game". Also announced was a 12 meg sequel to the awesome 4 meg Super Turrican...can you imagine?



TRODDLERS



FUTURE ZONE

Electrobrain drew crowds with a live appearance from Sugar Ray Leonard to promote the new first person punch-orama; Legends of The Ring, on both Sega and SNES formats. Also looking awesome is Future Zone, which is still early, but shows great promise



LEG OF THE RING



SPORTS ILLUSTRATED FOOTBALL



REN & STIMPY

The big surprise in the THQ booth was a great game of Ren & Stimpy for the SNES and, over at Sega, Time Killers (the gross one-on-one fighter) was announced. Wayne's World 2 is also in the works for both formats.

Hi Tech had Tom & Jerry Frantic Antics and Barbie Super Model (aimed at young females) for Sega and the same plus Beethoven (of movie dogdom) for the SNES. Other HT titles for '93 include; We're Back, Mickey's Toon Town Adventure and Where in The World is Carmen San Diego?



TOM & JERRY



BEETHOVEN



SEGA



DUNGEON MASTER

AH3 FIREHAWK

SUPER EMPIRE STRIKES BACK



INDY JONES (FATE OF ATLANTIS)

Over at JVC's SNES area, the big attraction was Empire Strikes Back, which surpassed all our high expectations. Meanwhile, over at Sega an early version of Rebel Assault (see page) looked great. Also hot for CD is AH-3 Firehawk (working title) and Indiana Jones, Quest for Atlantis. Unfortunately though, Heimdall was nowhere to be found. Maybe Vegas.



GHENGIS KAHN 2

Koei had two of the very scarce strategy titles at this show; Genghis Khan and PTO(Pacific Theater of Operations). PTO puts you below sea level in a sub, while Genghis Kahn pits you against ancient war lords.



P.T.O.





F-15 EAGLE 2 PIRATES GOLD!

SUPER STRIKE EAGLE

Microprose continues its support of the flight sim. market with F-15 Strike Eagle 2 and Ancient of Art War in the Skies for Genesis and Airborne Ranger for the SNES. The new adventure game, Pirates Gold for Genesis was also shown for the first time.







CHESTER 2

FIDO DIDO

SOCKS THE CAT

Kaneko, along with the announcement of Chester Cheetah 2, had playable versions of their new Fido-Dido and Socks the Cat games for Genesis. Fido-Dido puts a black and white character on a color background...interesting.





SPEEDWAY PRO CHALLENGE THE JOURNEY HOME

ARCUS ODYSSEY

Renovation has two strong SNES titles on the way; the great action/RPG The Journey Home, Quest for The Throne and Arcus Odyssey, which did huge business back in '90 on the Genesis. On the Sega side, Speedway Pro Challenge was the only new Genesis title.

NIGEL MANSELL RACING



You saw it here first! Gametek has picked up Nigel Mansell Championship Racing for both the SNES and the Genesis. Both moved fast and looked like great drivers.

DENNIS THE MENACE



No one expected to see great looking versions of both Dennis Menace and Jurassic Park but Ocean had 'em both. Dennis the Menace is a colorful and well laid out side scroll while Jurassic Park is a first person and overhead adventure. The Untouchables was also present and uses multiple viewpoints.



THE UNTOUCHABLES





NOSFERATU



WIZARD OF

Seta's F-1 ROC 2 takes formula one racing to new heights with the awesome DSP chip. The music in this game is also great. The Wizard of Oz was also on display and looked great. sorely missed was Nosferatu, which remains a mystery.



FORMULA 1



Genesis titled Formula One **Grand Prix.** Man, is it fast! Harrier **Assault for** Sega CD is also in the works and looking good.

Domark

lightning fast

and smooth

game for the

F-1 racing

showed a



SILPHEED

TOURNAMENT FIGHTERS





CUMSTAR HEROES

MUTANT LEAGUE HOCKY

All I gotta say is... What a show! I never thought there would be to many good games. I walked around for four days and I still didn't see everything! This is going to end up being the best year ever!





SILPHEED

SF2 TURBO HYPER FIGHTING





GUNSTAR HEROES

CAPCOM MVP FOOTBALL

Of all the CES's I've attended (13 in all), this is the best CES I've been to so far. Not only were there a lot of great original games, but all those great 8Bit games are finally all coming out on 16 Bit. The true icing on the cake, though, has to be the advanced hardware that is coming soon.





SILPHEED

SF2 TURBO HYPER FIGHTING





ALADDIN

MONTANA '94

Never have there been so many good games at a CES! 3DO looks strong, the Jaguar is on the prowl, and there has never been such a strong collection of sports and driving games!





SILPHEED

SF2 TURBO HYPER FIGHTING





MARIO ALLSTARS

STANLEY CUP

Another CES, and once again Street Fighter reign's supreme. But overall this was the best CES for new product and hardware. With 3DO life will definitly be better! I can't wait for Turbo Hyper!





Back in early '92, when solid Sega action titles were as scarce as a one legged man at a butt kicking contest, Gamearts unleashed Alisia bragoon and SOA quickly acquired it, and with no print or media hype, released it just after the January show. Having always kept up on import releases, I quickly grabbed a copy, knowing it would be a great game because, number one, it was a Gamearts title and, number two, it pent over 18 months in development. I was right. Although the game passed by with no real magazine support or hype, it remains, to this lay, one of the best action titles available for the Genesis. Alisia Dragoon is also one of the few good games that features a female lead. The track mechanism Alisia uses is also very unique. She possesses a lightning attack that can be powered up more and more throughout the same and has a fluctuating gauge that determines the strength of the charge. Alisia can also power-up and use 3 different creatures, which have their own attacks, and stick by her side to the bitter end. Bottom of the grave, if you don't already own Alisia Dragoon, go find one.















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As we all know, SNK is on one hell of a fighting game spree. It seems like they won't be content until they have unseated SF2 as the reigning champ. The bad news is...that will never happen. The character recognition that SF2 possesses comes along once in a lifetime. A true SF2 pro believes he knows his character. All the special effects in the world won't change that and, with Samurai Showdown, that's exactly what you get. To my untrained fighting eye, this looks like the best fighting game of all time. It is, to say the least, stunning. The backgrounds look so real, you'll feel like you are watching a movie as the camera zooms way out, then way in, twice that of Art of Fighting. Then, there's the characters, who's artwork and animation is incredible that I've never seen anything like it. Its like watching a drama play out on the screen. I won't even begin to tell you who they are and what they do. I'll save that for next month's review. But, one guy, I swear, grabs your head and pulls it to his butt and unleashes a mighty brown cloud, no joke. I would buy a Neo Geo for this game, it's that good. If this one doesn't snap the SF2 crowd out of there trance...nothing will. So SNK can get on the horn to Alpha and give the final word...roll out Magician Lord 2. We're back on the horn to Alpha and give the final word...roll out Magician Lord 2. We're back in action! E. Storm



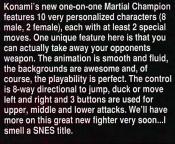












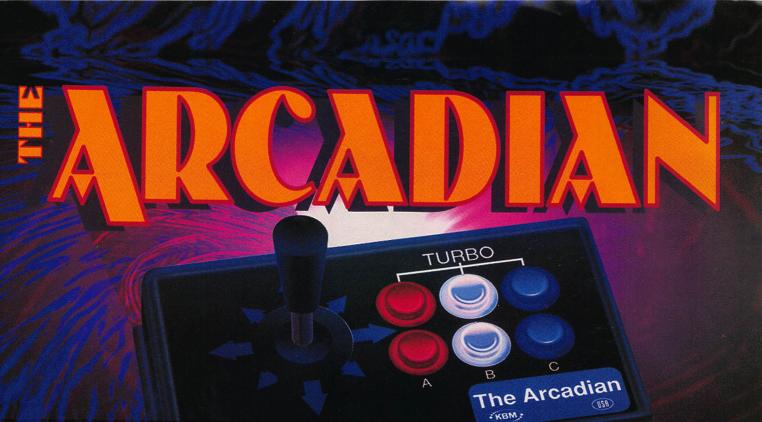












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Other Stuff is full of surprises this month, the biggest being (brace yourself) the official announcement of the Atari Jaguar. Believe me, when this info shot out of our fax machine, we almost went into shock. Check out these specs; the Jaguar is based on an Atari designed proprietary 64 bit RISC processor featuring over 16 million colors in true 24 bit color graphics, and can produce shaded polygons manipulated in a "real" world, in real time. It also has real time texture mapping and can create amazing video effects. The sound is based on Atari's high speed DSP, which is dedicated to audio. The audio is 16 bit stereo CD quality and can process simultaneous sources of audio data (sound FX and voice). The new system is also expandable, with a 32 bit expansion port, which will allow future connection into cable and telephone networks, as well as a DSP processing port for modem use and connection to digital audio peripherals such as DAT players. There are also plans for a CD peripheral, which will be double speed and play regular CD's, CD+G and Kodak's new Photo-CD(r). Megacarts currently in development include; Battlezone 2000, Tempest 2000, Cybermorph, Alien vs. Predator and Jaguar Formula One Racing. The Jaguar will be manufactured by, get this, IBM in their Charlotte, N.C. plant and IBM will also be responsible for the component sourcing, quality testing, packaging and distribution of the system.

Atari is also licensing third party companies for development of Jaguar product. Now, get the price...\$200, yikes! A 64 bit system for 200 bucks, sign me up! The system will debut in New York only this fall and will be available nationwide first half of '93. I know a lot of people may be skeptical on this one, due to the slow flow of Lynx product. However, take into account that this new system focuses on the home market and, at \$200, Atari is sure to pick up tons of support, as just about every enthusiast gamer will be waiting at the door of their local game store as soon as the system is released. How can you go wrong? A 64 bit system for 200 dollars...'94 should be an interesting year...3DO, 32 BIT Nintendo, NEC's 32 bit system, 32 bit Sega and now, this. OK, that's next year, let's talk a little bit about what's happening now.

In Sega news...

The Wonder Mega 2 has just been released in Japan and features all of the original features (except for the Midi jack) in a smaller, cheaper casing; the best features being the new cordless six button controller that allows you to turn your TV on and off, adjust the volume and switch between TV and video, and for two player games, the controllers connect. If Sega (or Victor) does bring out a version of the Wonder Mega to the states, this would be the obvious choice. However, with the Sega Genesis 2 and CD 2 just being introduced, I wouldn't hold my breath.

Speaking of new systems, at the recent CES I got a chance to sample Sega's new Virtua, and I must say, the unit is very impressive. It easily adjusts to suit any user and offers a very unique and impressive, wide field of view. The game itself was a simple demo, but successfully demonstrated the "virtual" feeling the user gets. At around \$200, this new peripheral is a steal. Look for the Virtua this Christmas (2 DSP games are in the works). As far as the Activator is concerned, well, there's no way you're gonna get me to jump around in a black circle to control any game. I predict this item will quickly make its way to Pic & Save or become the newest "Blue Light Special". Game wise, the latest scoop over here and the best news for RPG players in a long time is that Working Designs has had the foresight to bring the best RPG ever for Mega CD (or maybe ever, period) to RPG players here in the states...thank you, thank you. Lunar, The Silver Star will be Sega CD bound 4th quarter this year! In the mean time, Gamearts has begun development on a sequel. Hey, maybe there's hope for RPG players after all. And, lastly, Game Fan had the opportunity to sit in with, and have a ega Channel debut...here's the deal. Similar to premium cable channels, you will pay a low pow-wow about next year's \$ monthly fee (15 to 20) to gain 24 hour access to around 50 games a month, including previews (a couple of levels on a working title) of new and exciting upcoming product. This will allow you to get a good idea of what games you want to buy and keep from getting stuck with a dud. Once a game previews, it will not show up on the channel again until some time after its release. That way, the channel will help fuel retail sales rather than annihilate them. At the same time, new users can get a look at the many titles now available for the Genesis. This takes the guess work out of buying an older title.

On the other hand, you can play previously released titles for as long as you want (you can even save one game, so RPG's are feasible). If you're not dying to own the game, at least you still get to check it out when it comes along in the cycle. Also featured, will be game play tips, news, contests and promotions.

To receive the Sega Channel, subscribers will be issued a special tuner/decoder that plugs in the Genesis cartridge slot and attaches to the television cable. A menu appears on the screen, allowing the user to select a game, preview or other programming material. The selected game is ready in minutes and plays identically to the cartridge version.

You want my opinion? Retail sales on Genesis take a huge blow and sink drastically. Only the best games see good numbers (Sonic, SF2, etc.). Many third party companies either change formats or fold, only the strong survive. Mom and

Pop retailers fall like flies at a Raid convention and kids constantly here "I'm not buying you that game, I got you the Sega Channel, didn't I?". Ultimately, CD-ROM and 32 bit take over and 16 bit Sega becomes nothing more than a relic you can pass the time with for twenty bucks a month.

Now, for some news on Nintendo...

CD or not to CD, that is the question. Nintendo may be about to do something very, very smart. Our sources say that, rather than develop expensive new hardware, Nintendo may install a new RAM chip, along with the new 32 bit CPU, into its cartridges that can store up to a Gigabyte (1000 meg) of memory, which would nullify the need for a CD. Think about it, CD's scratch, skip if bumped, and players have moving parts, subject to wear. A new system card or cartridge upgrade, however, would allow programmers all the space they want, while continuing to work on a development system that they are familiar with and, given the SNES's incredible sound and graphics capabilities, extra gobs of memory, rather than an expensive new system. May be the answer, I like it!

In the meantime, you can start looking forward to Super Metroid, which has been confirmed for a December release. The scoop so far is 16 meg, multiple suits and a huge character that is amazingly fluid. Look for Metroid, along with two all new Nintendo SFX titles, to debut at Japan's Nintendo Show this August. We'll be there to bring you all the breaking news...more game news...Rumor has it that World Heroes 2 has been picked up by Takara and could be up to 24 meg. Another new fighting game just announced is an all new 20 meg Fist of The Northstar 7, which should be out by year's end. And lastly, I'm sure many of you are anxiously awaiting the all new 16 bit Mario All Stars 4-in-1 cart. Well, keep your fingers crossed, we hear they may be working the same magic on Zelda 1 and 2, the greatest NES RPGs of all time. Nintendo, we like your style.

Here's some interesting news from NEC of Japan. A new 16 meg system card (added to the 2 meg built into the system=18 meg) is ready to go soon, along with Fatal Fury CD and Art of Fighting CD. Which, given the added memory, should be near perfection. If you've played SF2 CE on PC Engine, you know it can be done.

And, finally, breaking news is about to come in on the rumored Super SF2, we can't tell you anything more until official word comes in from Capcom, so stay tuned for the exclusive info we've all been waiting for.

There's more info packed in to the photos on these pages, so don't turn the page yet! See you next month, with more other stuff.



Hope for RPG players! Working Designs is readying Lunar for a 4th quarter release on Sega CD.

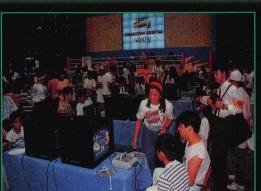


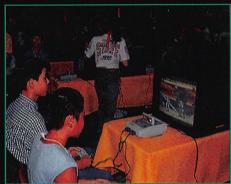


For all of you Mortal Kombat fan's, Here's the actual cast of characters from the arcade hit! Look out for September 13th (Mortal Monday) when Mortal Kombat hits all major gameing platforms.



Here's a shot of the new Castlevania X for the PC Engine Super CD and it looks awesome! Look for more on this game as soon as we can get our hands on it. Way to go Konami.





Game Fan has entered the Enquirer into Japan's biggest SF2 competition, to be held this August while we're at the Nintendo show. Will the Enquirer and the mighty Zangief start WW3? This oughta be fun!

This funny looking hand held, shown at the recent CES, can play SNES, NES, Genesis and Turbo carts and will supposedly be operational at the winter show in Las Vegas. Could the ultimate hand held be just around the corner? Active Enterprises says...yes!

Victor has a new toy, the Wonder Mega 2.
This little beauty comes with built in Karoke, CDG, a wireless 6 button control pad, super VHS out, play's Mega CD's and Megadrive carts, is packaged in a sleek new case and will cost about \$200 less than it's



predicessor.

Nintendo has been given a face lift! Now for \$49 you can choose from a library of over 500 titles, and with a cool new look Nintendo might sell a million more.













At the recent Tokyo Toy Show, held in Chiba, Japan, the big news for Sega was the new MD DSP title, Virtua Racing and a new CD from Bignet, AX 101 (which we are trying to get as we speak)



Sonic CD was also on hand and is nearing completion. The big attraction for all three, Nintendo, Sega and NEC could be found. Where else, but the Capcom booth where SF2 drew huge crowds for each format. Other than that, nothing really spectacular was announced. It seems our CES is now king of the shows

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Check this out. Zelda on CDI? Yes, it's true. Zelda and Mario will be released for the CDI later this year. E. Storm got a chance to play Zelda at the CES and said it was like playing a cartoon!







A Megadrive version of Outrunners is already complete! We'll bring you the details, along with a release date as soon as possible. (arcade screen shown)



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Hey you! I'm the Postmeister here to answer all your questions, no matter what you want to ask me, ask! I've got the answer! So write me a letter or i'll come to your house and steal your mail ... cuz I'm CrAzY!!

Dear Postmeister,

I love your mag. The best part is "Other Stuff" and your articles on 3DO. I just got your June issue and it was great. You had articles on both the 3DO and Marty. I would like to thank you for that and please keep them coming. I was also wondering about the Jaguar, when is it coming out and what is it like? Should I invest in 3DO or Jaguar? I am desperate for a new system and I don't want to fork out the big bucks now for a Sega CD when these two systems are right around the corner. Please help me out.

PS More 3DO!

Jeremy Bodager London, KY

Dear Jeremy and other 3DO fans,

What new system you choose should ultimately be decided by the goals of the manufacturer, and the direction they are taking. Let's look at 3DO first...it's around \$700 is due out later this year, has amazing capabilities and anyone with the cash for a development system can make games.

Of course, all of the big third parties will wait, see how it sells then decide how much they are willing to invest based on the installed user base. Here's where 3DO could stumble. I'm seeing way too much multimedia stuff, too few shooters and absolutely zero action or fighting titles. If they want to sell 3DOs, give us a Mario/Sonic action game with 3D modeled characters, huge, scaling, roaring monster bosses and realistic 3D animated backgrounds with rushing water and lots of weather effects. You say you can do it, so do it. That one sequel strong title will sell a zillion systems. Or, how about a fighting game where a realistic 3D modeled character could crack off a limb from a tree in the background and run at you, splashing in the mud on the rain soaked ground as your character slides through the mud, dodging the limb, through the attackers legs to stand up, dripping with mud, grab the back of his head and slam him into the door of a hut, sending him tumbling in, clunking his head into a hot stove, as the terrified inhabitants scream and dive through the windows ... another zillion sold. We don't want to look at birds or point and click or learn an instrument.

give us the games and we'll give you the money. Then (just recently) there's the Jaquar which now must be seriously considered (see Other Stuff for the scoop). The specs, on this monster seem too good to be true, as is the low \$200 price tag. Let's see, a 64 bit system with carts that hold like a Gigabyte of memory and cost around 40 bucks. Hey, look at the Lynx, it's still way ahead of its time. Funny thing is, it costs less than a Game Gear and they aren't moving, the software trickled out too slow. too many promises were broken and a great system has suffered at the check stand. Will the Jaguar get the support it needs to compete. That is the question. My opinion, yes. At \$200, even if there's only a handful of games, gamers will come in droves, knowing that a perfect version of Stun Runner or a Midway title is lurking around the corner. Then, with a huge user base, third party companies will immediately start projects and a new competitor (an American one) will enter the race (it could Happen). Then again, you could always play it safe, Nintendo and Sega are rock solid and have plans of their own...now I'm confused, you decide.

Dear Postmeister.

I would like to congratulate your magazine for kicking butt and becoming the new king of gaming mags. I want to make a point on the fighting games for the Neo Geo. I realize that all they have been releasing lately are fighting games but the reason behind it is plain and simple, that's what players want. I bought the Neo simply because of Fatal Fury. I'm sure that a lot of people who now own the system did the same thing. I've always been a fan of fighting games and the Neo has delivered BIG TIME. What I'm trying to point out is that, in my opinion, RPGs and platform games are best suited for the regular 16-bit formats (SNES/Genesis). I really can't picture myself paying \$200 + for a game that's going to end sooner or later. You can add more levels, characters, color, better sound but, eventually, all of it will end. I'm talking REPLAYABILITY. What are you going to do with a \$200 cart after you finish it? Fighting games have had the highest replayability factor out of all the genres of games. They require technique to master and the option of playing against a human opponent adds endless variety to

the game. I'm not saying the Neo can't have variety, but it should produce games more in the lines of 3D racing and flight sims which, in my opinion, also have a high replay factor. I'm sure not everybody will agree with me, especially your review crew. That is why I would like to hear opinions to the contrary. one more point I need to add is that I'm sure there are no DEDICATED Neo owners out there (meaning we have more than one system). So, if you want RPGs, I can always play it on my SNES.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and for the excellent magazine.

Jorge Aquino Daly City, CA

Dear Jorge,

You've written an excellent letter and pointed out some big pluses about fighting games, point well taken...but, what if own a Neo Geo and I don't like fighting games? Here's what's really happening. SNK knows that, if they are going to make some big cash, it's going to be in the arcades, not the homes. With a home user base (systems sold) of under 50,000, no matter how good a game is, it's not going to bring in the big bucks. However, fighting games are doing huge business in arcades across the country. So, why not go for the gold? I'll tell you why. Many or us bought our Neo Geos because games like Nam-75, Magician Lord, Baseball Stars and Last Resort blew us away and offered true arcade quality for home use. That's what we bought into. SNK, as a hardware manufacturer, is responsible for bringing us a wide variety of games, as are Sega and Nintendo. You don't see them just tucked away making fighting games, they can't. It wouldn't be fair. For a third party company to concentrate on one genre is fine, but for a manufacturer to favor one category of gamer is both unfair and unprofessional. Why not, at least, get a few teams working on some 30-60 meg titles for the rest of us. Or, better yet, lower the price of the system to break even, sell a ton more and get some third parties interested. Anyways, I'm glad you're having fun, Samurai Showdown is so good you'll probably throw a party. In the meantime, the rest of us will continue to wait for our turn.

Dear Postmeister,

Please, you must help me! I am becoming very worried about my husband! All he does is play video games. When I finally do get him to notice me, all he'll talk about is Sega, Nintendo or Turbo Duo games! He won't even get a job. So, Postmeister, my question to you is this, can he make money with this obsession? Is there a job that requires the ability to sit for hours and play or talk about video games? Please, answer quickly as I'm losing my grip on sanity!

Annette Gatlin

Dear Annette,

Your husband sounds like a fantastic guy. However, he may be suffering from a serious condition called Graphicitus. Graphicitus is the addiction one gets when still overly dazzled by 16 bit graphics. This ixation causes video game characters such as Mario and Sonic) to appear in your freams and remind you that they are waitng in a nearby monitor...there is only one cure. Grab the Visa, head down to your ocal dealer and rent a ton of bad games, hen force him to play at least two of them. This should remind him that it may be smart o pace himself so he won't run out of good games and be stuck playing goo like you ust brought home (it may also help if you vear a skimpy nighty during this process). f that doesn't work, don't pay the power oill and make him sleep on the couch. That'll get his butt working. As far as a job that equires the skills described above, vell...look at us!

Dear Postmeister,

read in another mag that there was a game in Japan for the Mega CD called Cosmic fantasy Stories. In the section, it was also called Cosmic Fighter. I recently borowed my friends TG-16 (and CD) with the game, Cosmic Fantasy 2. Soon, this game became one of my favorites. I scored a Sega CD a few months ago and I would take to have the Cosmic series on my system. my question is; is the game, Cosmic Fantasy Stories related to or a spin-off of Cosmic Fantasy 2? And (hope, hope) is it going to come to the US for the Sega CD?

Adam Sanchez Fremont, CA

Dear Adam,

Cosmic Fantasy Stories, for Mega CD by Riot, is actually parts 1 and 2 combined on one CD with upgraded music, animation scenes and fighting sequences.

So, if you liked part 2 on the Turbo, you'll ike it even more on Mega CD and you get he original (which is actually the best of he two) as well...bonus! Unfortunately, you nay have to invest in a converter to play t, as a US release is nowhere in sight at

this time. However, Working Designs has translated many import RPGs into English (right now, they're working on Lunar). So, if you're patient, maybe you'll get lucky and they'll pick it up. If we hear anything, we'll let you know. In the meantime, we'll put it in our September RPG special, so you can check it out.

Dear Postmeister,

There are advertisements out for the upcoming Sega Activator. Not many of these advertisements tell of how, exactly, it works and its in-depth use. They say it can be used with Streets of Rage 2, but I don't think I'll be able to do Skate's head spin or spinning attack. How, if at all, will the Activator allow us to do such complicated moves? By the way, I'm from South Dakota and the first time I had a chance to see your magazine was the beginning of May. One last thing to add-I love it.

Bill Ouverson Madison, SD

Dear Bill,

As everyone knows, I'm crazy. But, even I (although I look sexy in tights) would never enter a circle then squat as if to launch a turd and start punching and kicking into the air, which is exactly what I've seen the Activator demo squad doing at the shows. Actually, it's not that simple. The moves you perform must be within the correct zone (like low, medium and high punch or kick), it's all very aerobic. Imagine an RPG, you'd wear out the rug! I don't know, I guess if you want to mix exercise with game play, this is just the right thing...but, all the gamers I know consider finding the remote all the exercise they can handle.

Dear Postmeister,

I think your magazine is ahead of its time and nobody comes close to you guys. I would like to know why your magazine never talks about the Phillips CD system? I bought one, thinking it was pretty neat. But, now, I see you guys raving over the 3DO system. Did I make a mistake buying the Phillips CD system? I also understand that you will be able to play Nintendo CD games (whenever they come out). I just want to know when the Nintendo CD adapter for the Phillips is going to come out.

Ray Vallin Canyon Country, CA

Dear Ray,

The Postmeister is here to shine some light on your dilemma. The problems with CDI are quite obvious...there are no games! Most of the soft-

ware is this multimedia rubbish like toidy doidy Sesame Street or Where in the World is my 500 Bucks? The one good sports title has good looking golfers swinging at a cotton ball and some aussie mate you want to bury in a sand trap doing the commentary. Number two, if they do, by some miracle, make a good game, you have to control it with that thing that looks like a cellular phone. Now, although the 3DO looks fantastic, remember, only a handful of the games shown so far are gamer friendly (Crash & Burn, Total Eclipse, Demolition Man, Road Rash and the EA Sports stuff) the rest fall under the "uh-oh they think we want to learn on our \$700 system" category. So, even 3DO may not be the answer. Now, for some good news! Recently, I got to demo the Adventures of Link for CDI, (see other stuff) which is a way cool action adventure with voice and cartoon animation. Mario is also on the way but remember, these games are not programmed by Nintendo, Phillips just acquired the rights, so don't think you're gonna get the magic of A Link to the Past. These games are American programmed. As I stood there playing their game, fighting with that controller thing, I asked if a control pad was planned. To my surprise, the nice Phillips lady said "yes". So, there is hope. So, hang on to your CDI (they're starting to get it) and stay glued to our 3DO coverage, where you'll always get the gamers point of view.

The Postmeister

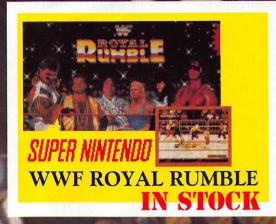


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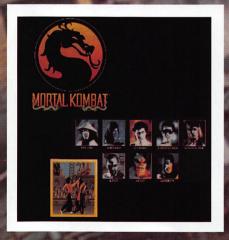
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Age System(s) owned

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What type of game do you prefer?

Please write on a separate sheet what your most wanted/top ten games are.



