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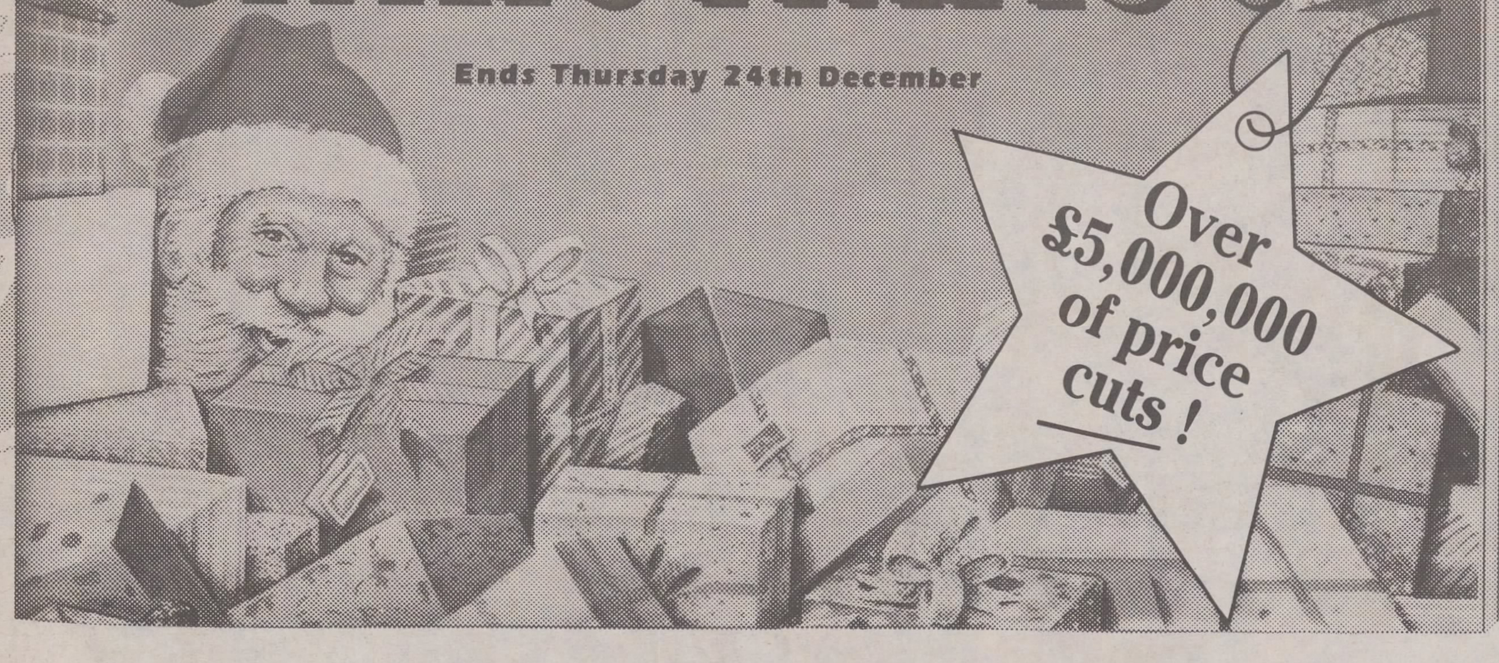

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MEGA POWER UP!

Super Sonic

Party time for the video game that's smashing records

SUPER Sonic has claimed a record for the fastest-selling video game of all time.

The tiny hedgehog was still celebrating nearly a week after the launch of Sonic 2 as shops around the country were frantically phoning distributors for more stocks.

The manager of one top London store said: "The game has more than lived up to the hype because it's brilliant to play. It's flying off the shelves. We ordered hundreds of copies of Sonic 2 as long ago as last August and they went in two days.

"Now we need more to cope with the demand that will continue to build until Christmas Day. There is no doubt this is the biggest-selling video game ever released."

Sega initially earmarked 800,000 copies of the game for the UK but are now revising that figure to nearer a million.

And Sonic is still nursing a hangover from a launch party where he played host to some of Britain's top stars.

The basement of the world's most famous toy shop – Hamley's in London's Regent Street – was turned into a space-age amusement arcade as celebrities such as pop singer Cathy Dennis got to grips with Sonic's latest adventure.

CATHY, whose hits include *Irresistible* and *Touch Me*, was clutching copies of both Sonic The Hedgehog and Sonic 2.

"I'm a complete games nut," Britain's brightest new singing star said as she rushed to a vacant console.

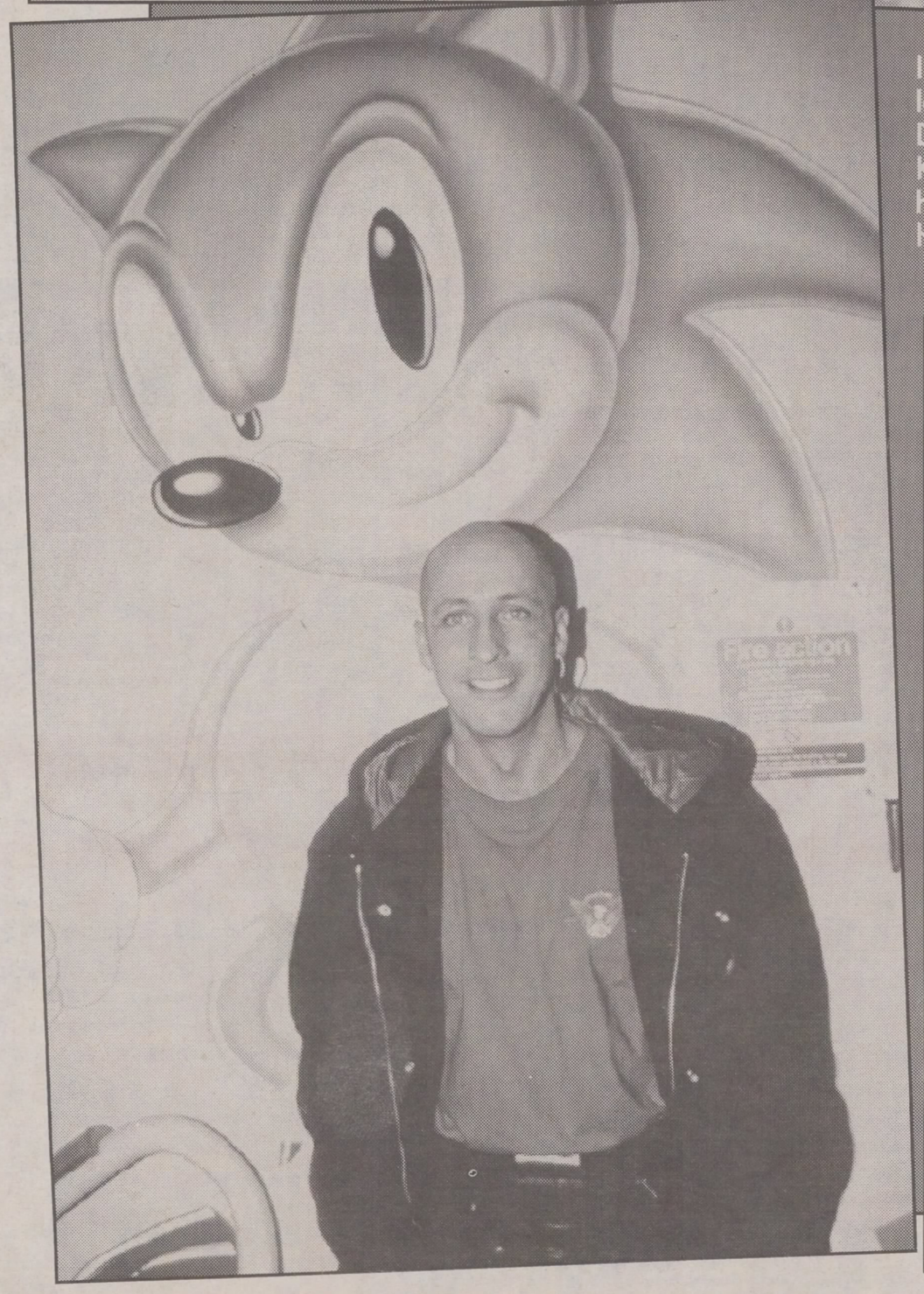
Cabaret DJs The Kleavage Sisters – Timna Woollard and Katrine Boorman – descended on *Gamesmaster* presenter Dominik Diamond, who hosted a Golden Joystick contest.

And *EastEnders* star Todd Carty, who plays Mark Fowler in the hit soap, nursed a joystick of his own – specially imported designer Japanese beer.

Fred Fairbrass from pop group Right Said Fred and rugby star Rory Underwood queued up for a go on Sega's R360 coin-op, which simulates a rolling aerial battle.

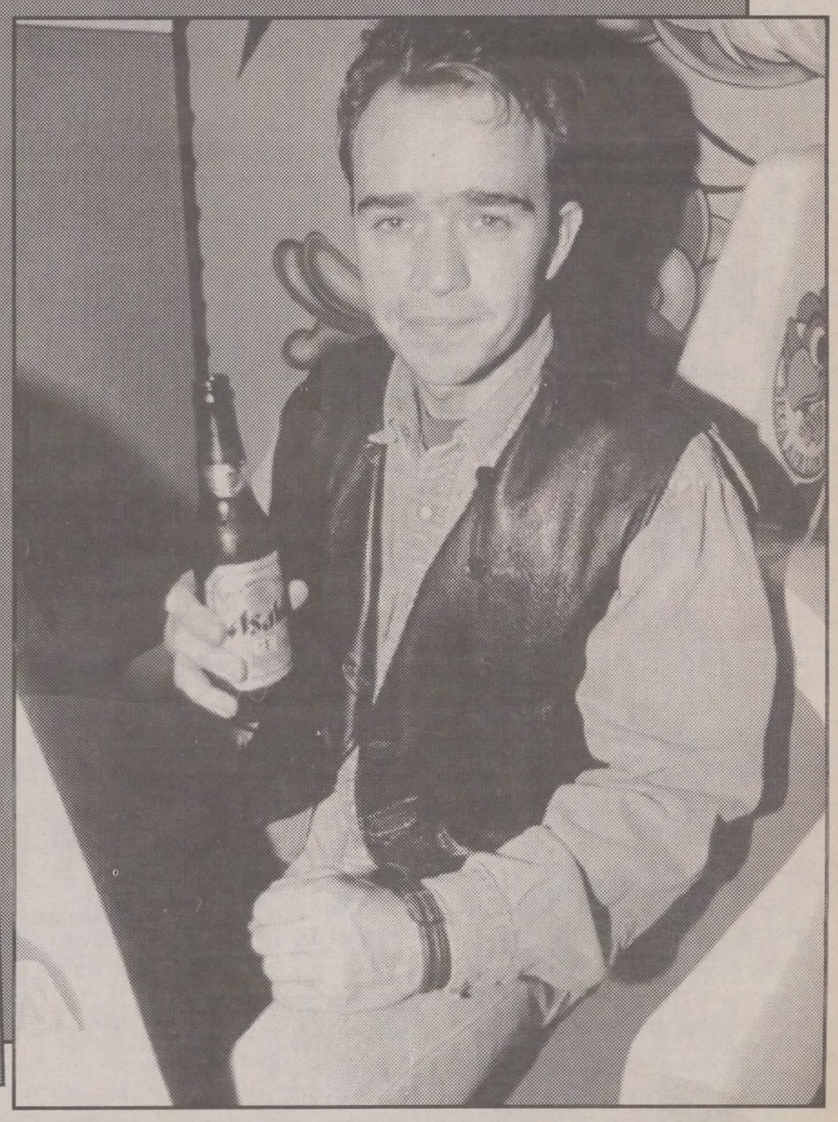
And the £50,000 bash, which was filmed for television, signalled the launch of a Sonic boom that is set to echo around the country for the rest of the year.

By DAVID HANCOCK



IRRESISTIBLE: Chart star Cathy Dennis (top left) tests her skill at an arcade game; Dominik Diamond (above) sparkles with The Kleavage Sisters; (below) Todd Carty proving he's got lots of bottle; and (left) Sonic The Hedgehog is just right for Richard Fairbrass

Pictures: ANDY PHILLIPS



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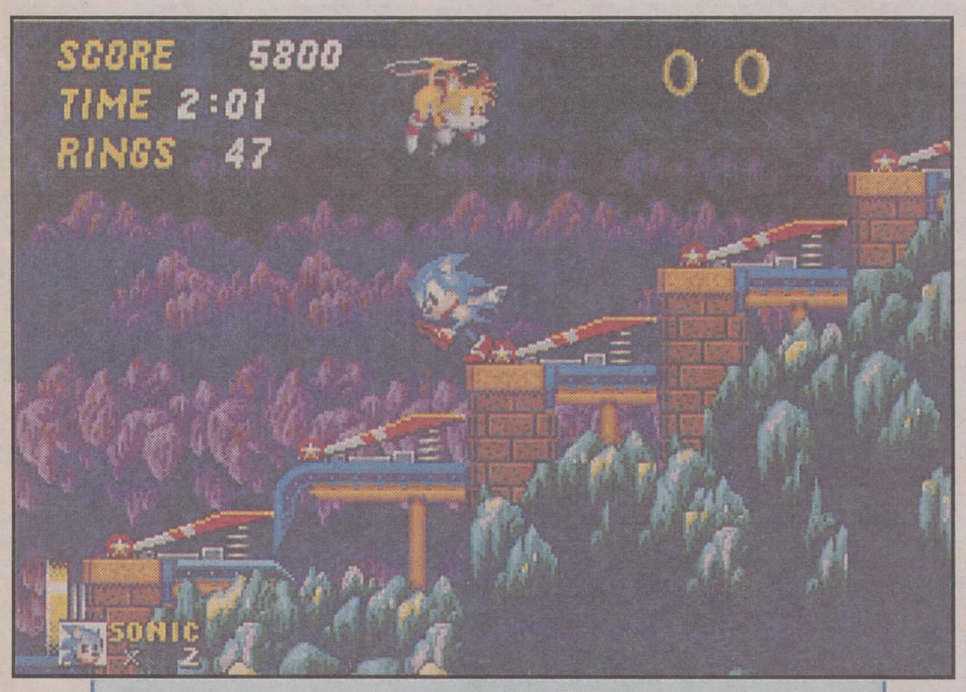
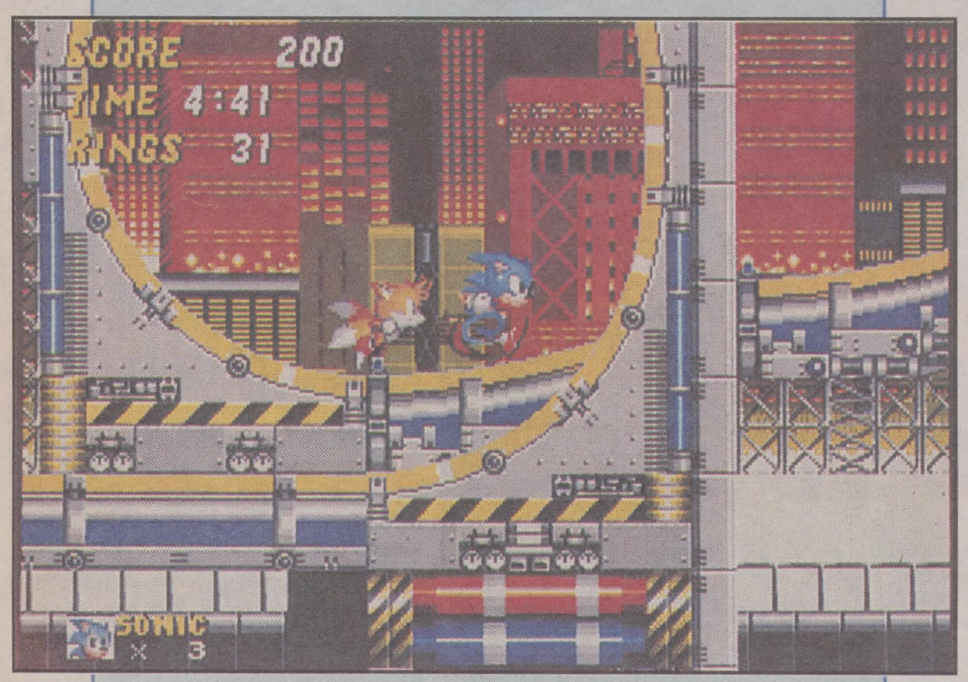
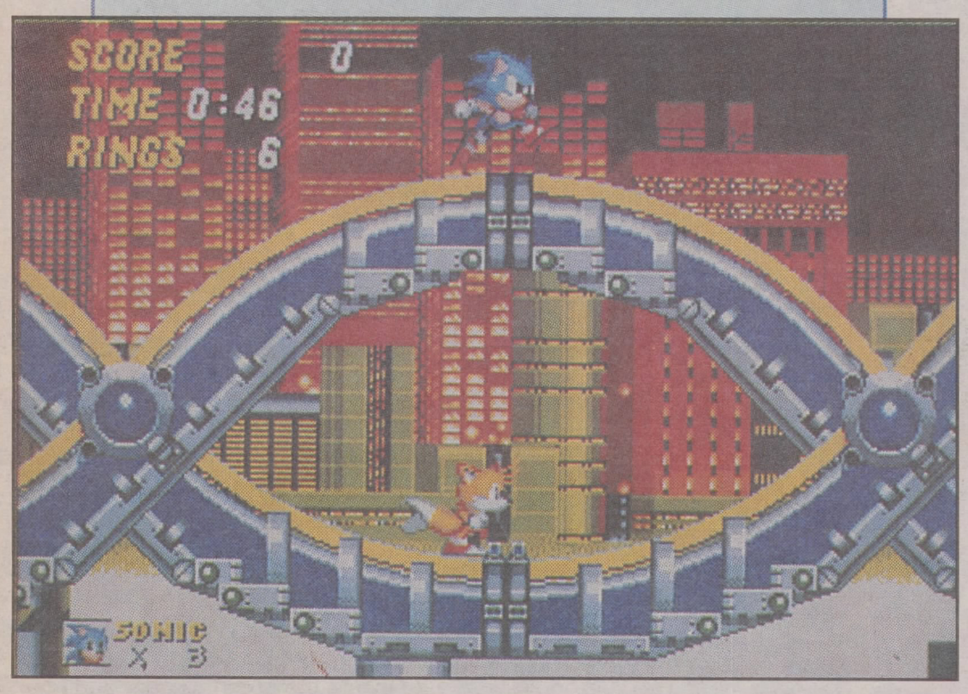
MEGA POWER UP!

All the lowdown on Sonic







IN LITTLE more than a year a bright blue hedgehog, who zooms along faster than Speedy Gonzales, has stolen the hearts of games players all over Britain.

The full-throttle creature is so popular he has made Madonna look like an also-ran and his latest platform game, Sonic 2, has set records for advanced orders not seen since the days of the Beatles.

Yet Sonic would never have been born had it not been for rival games character Mario.

In America Nintendo has always had the lion's share of the games market – thanks to the exploits of Mario and his brother Luigi.

Sega were determined to dethrone the pesky Brooklyn plumber with a planned and concerted campaign.

In 1988 they started an in-house competition to find the answer to Mario.

Minoru Kanari, head of the Sonic project, chose the rapid hedgehog because "he was everything Mario wasn't."

EXPLAINS Kanari: "Mario is very slow – Sonic had to be fast. Mario is a human – Sonic had to be an animal.

"We also wanted him to have a universal appeal in much the same way as a Disney character, so we made a study of the cartoon characters who are popular in Japan and throughout the world.

"We incorporated many of their features into Sonic. He has a wider appeal than Mario because he combines elements that appeal to both men and women. "He's cute and cuddly but he also has a cheeky attitude and is not afraid to flout authority."

Sega refuse to name the "father" of Sonic except to say he is a 28-year-old unmarried games programmer.

To reveal his identity would leave them open to him being poached by a rival Japanese company.

IN THE land of the rising sun, games-playing is very serious big business. All the family play, and one hit game can earn a fortune.

The first Sonic game sold more than four million copies worldwide. Sonic 2 looks set to double that figure with ease. But it doesn't end there. The spiky guy has also become one of the best known figures on the "rave" scene after setting up his own nightclub.

Sega were quick to spot that ravers wanted something to do when they were chilling out after a long session.

The answer was to set up video games rooms at any club that wanted a Sonic night.

"It has been a tremendous success," says a spokesman for the company.

"We have moved games machines into nightclubs up and down the country as well as supplying Sonic hats and bags.

"And we are still getting a tremendous response. If clubs get in touch with us we can provide a chill-out area that will amaze them." The areas are packed with Mega Drives and Game Gears as well as state-of-the-art video walls and game projections."

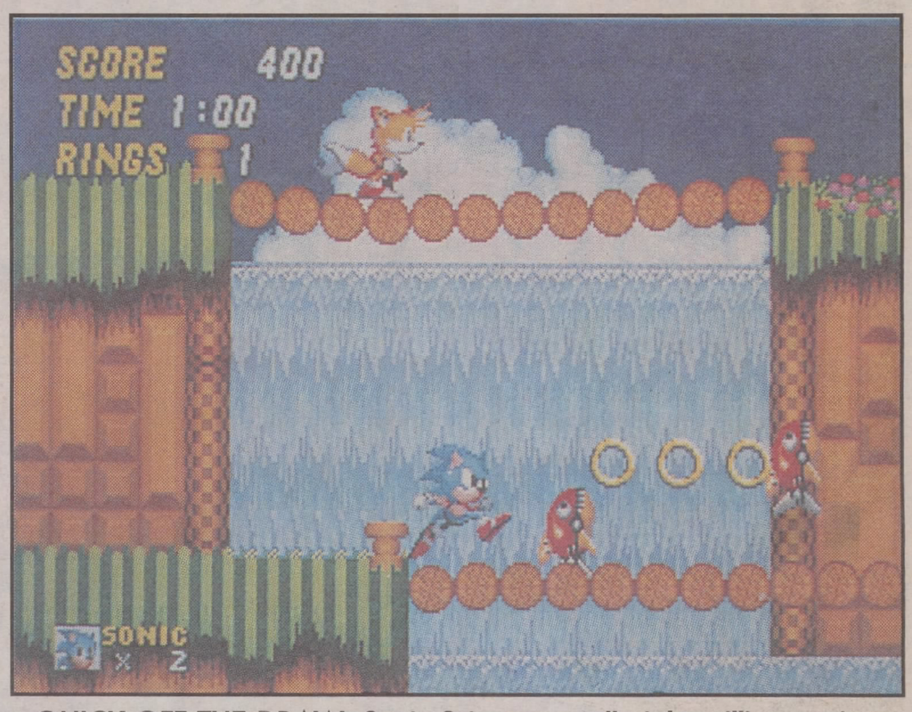
Sonic's first club started on Friday nights at Ormond Yard, off Duke of York Street in London's St. James's.

AND it has led the bristling little chap to inspire a rave record himself, called *Supersonic*, which is released this week.

Performed by H.W.A. – Hedgehog With Attitude – it is in fact the brainchild of former Haysi Fantaysee star Jeremy Healy.

Jeremy fell in love with the idea of Sonic when he started doing some DJ work at a Sonic rave night.

Now, with the help of speedy Sonic, the record looks set to dash straight up the charts.



QUICK OFF THE DRAW: Sonic 2 is set to sell eight million copies

He appeals to both men and women

Hedgehog that'll blow your mind

,SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2 (£39.99 Mega Drive; £29.99 Master; £27.99 Game Gear).

With larger and bigger levels than in the original platform game this feels and handles like a better value cart.

The two-player split-screen mode introducing Tails The Fox is a major innovation, although on first playing the screen seems rather cramped.

But both characters make up for it by having a new move. When they stand still press DOWN and any button and they'll spin. Let go and they'll shoot off in any direction.

And they are great fun in the 3-D special zone shooting down a slope faster than the Cresta Run and grabbing as many rings as possible.

The graphics throughout are once again superb – just wait until you start speeding round the Chemical Plant Zone – and there are new tunes as well as the soundtrack from the original game. There is no battery back-up or password system because the game is not that difficult to complete unless you are a novice player.

But it does have a steady difficulty curve with the evil end-of-level Dr. Robotnik getting meaner and meaner.

Sega have wisely realised that for many younger players the brilliance of Sonic lies in the fact that if you press your finger down to the floor he zooms along faster than anything seen in any game.

As a result they have had to keep the baddies to the end of the levels to stop them getting in the way, which makes it less of a challenge for top-notch players.

But for every player the game's real beauty lies in the fact there is no set way through any of the levels, so no two games have to be the same.

If you have never played Sonic before, this will blow your mind. If you have, then this is even more impressive than the first time.

● *RATING: 92 per cent.*

Here are some hints to get you started on Sonic the Hedgehog 2.

★ EMERALD HILL ZONE: Easy peasy. Get to the end of the Second Act and stand still in the middle of the screen.

As Dr. Robotnik comes along bounce on top of his car. Do this a few times and that's the end of him.

★ AQUATIC RUIN ZONE: Tough one but you can avoid the nasty bits by staying at the top of the screen and not going near the water.

★ CASINO NIGHT ZONE: Pinball with plenty of flippers and fruit machines are the order of the day here. Things get difficult but remember Sonic's new move. You're going to need it.

★ OIL OCEAN ZONE: Really tough. The best advice on this one is to take it easy and forget you're a supersonic hedgehog. And watch out for Robotnik's tail.

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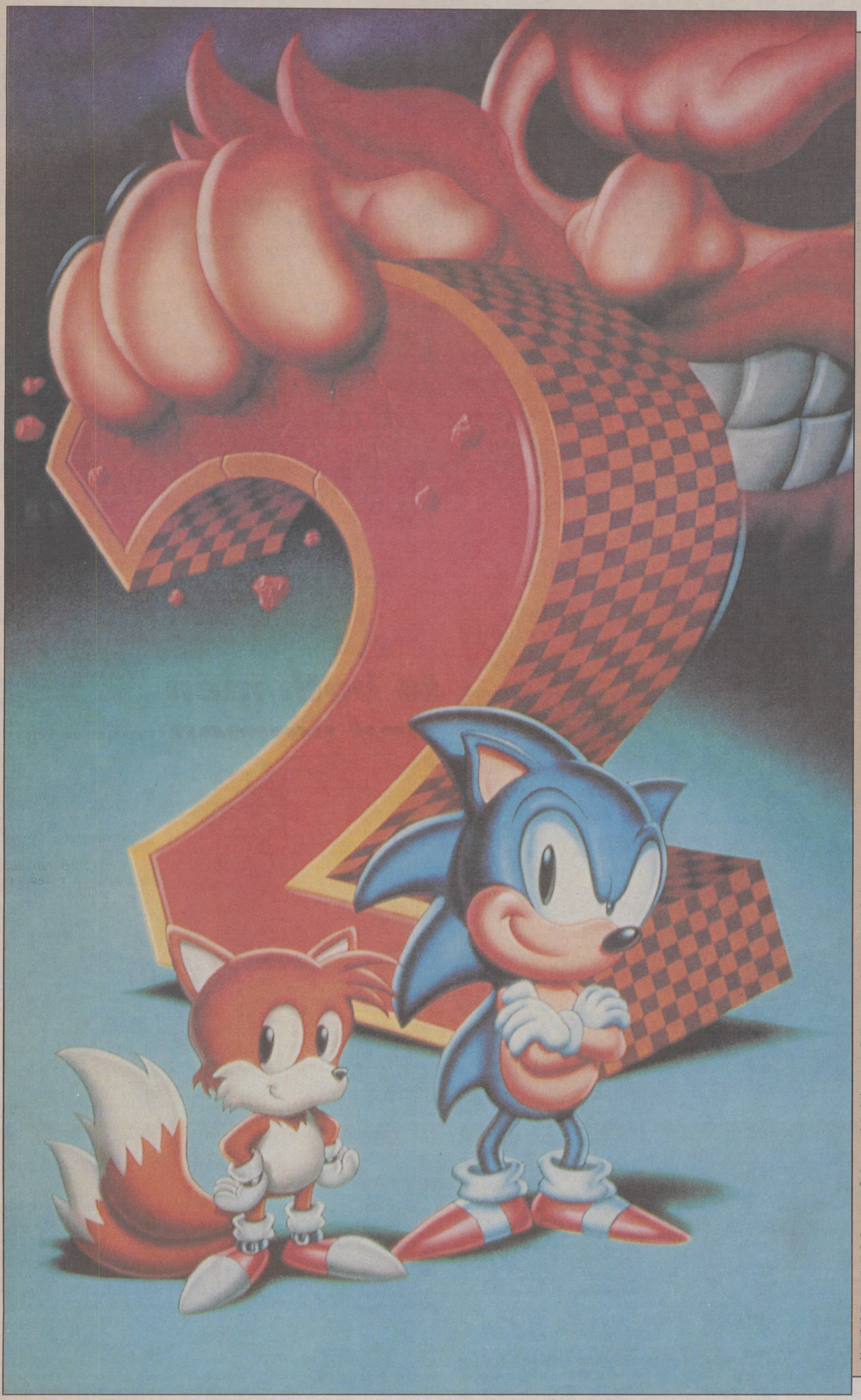
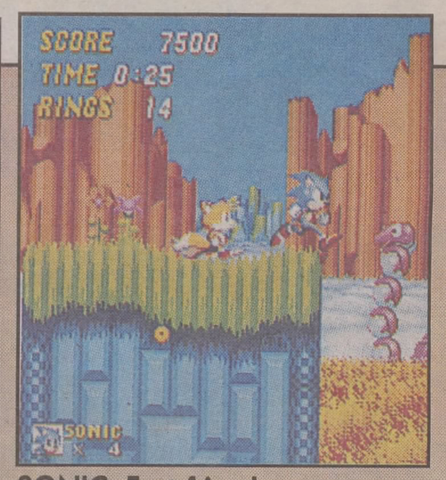
MEGA POWER UP!





SONIC: Fast friend

TIPS 'N' CHEATS

☆ IN Revenge Of Shinobi to get infinite Shurikens enter 00 on the option screen and wait for 40 seconds. (*Matthew Harrison, London*).

☆ FOR 99 lives in Hellfire on the Mega Drive go to the options screen and set the sound test to 1. Let the music play for a couple of minutes and then you'll have the lives – but you'll also be in super hard mode. (*David Ryder, Hartlepool*).

☆ IN Bubble Bobble on the Master System the password for Level 100, which gets you to the room with three crystals and is vital in order to continue, is: RY7CQK65. (*Mark Corden, Coventry*).

☆ FOR an extra credit on Golden Axe for the Master System press I, 2 and UP when the Game Over screen appears. (*Stephen McHugh, Winlaton, Tyne & Wear*).

☆ TO be Everton in the final of European Club Soccer on the Mega Drive and play Sampadoria enter the code: ID8UABCIGC. (*Marc Jennings, Manchester*).

☆ HELP: Ian Daniel can't get past the snowman at the end of Level Nine on James Pond 2: Robocod for the Mega Drive. Answers please.

☆ TO find out the passwords on Dragon's Fury for the Mega Drive press Pause and then button A and up will come a password. When you've finished the level key in the code and repeat the process for the next one. (*Steven Howlett, London*).

☆ SOLVED: To get the last piece of the map for Alex Kidd in High Tech World on the Master System make sure you have the ladder and go to Floor Three. Move to the clock and press UP on the control pad. You'll climb up and find the map. (*Chris Bainbridge, Castleford, W. Yorks,*).

☆ HERE are some codes for Desert Strike on the Mega Drive: Level 2. BQJRAEF; 3. TLJKOAP; 4. WTEOVJP. (*Vera Gass, Carlisle*).

☆ TO be in the final with USA vs Croatia in Team USA Basketball on the Mega Drive enter the code: M4T7RB3. (*Kevin Hood, Newcastle, Staffs.*).

☆ HELP: Andrew Zwaldo of Huddersfield wants to know how to locate the green plunger and how to get past the falling ceiling and out of the pyramid in Quackshot on the Mega Drive. Answers please.

☆ TO go straight to the final level (*Level 99*) of Slider on the Game Gear enter the following code: PCJK. (*Richjard Fishwick, Ryton, Tyne & Wear*).

☆ TO find the secret level on Pacmania for the Master System eat all the dots but leave the power pills then go to the object in the middle of the screeen. (*Simon Fergus, London*).

☆ IN stage 1-3 of Psycho Fox on the Master System there is a mid-air warp zone. Fly high and throw your bird in that direction until you make a hole and then jump in. It also happenes on stages 2-3, 3-3 and 4-3. (*Mark Scope, Newcastle Upon Tyne*).

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MEGA POWER UP!

EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF THE SEXIEST PIECE OF KIT FOR ★★★★ '93 ★★★★

BE FIR

IT'S THE sexiest piece of kit yet – set to revolutionise the games-playing world. Sega's Mega-CD is still under wraps and won't be released in Britain until the end of March.

But we managed to get a sneak look at the top-secret add-on, which will sell for less than £200, and it is even better than anyone imagined.

Instead of on-screen graphics it uses real film for the games. And instead of plinkity-plonk noises it has true CD sound and real voices. It's simply stunning and will change the face of electronic games.

Here's how it all works. The sleek-looking piece of kit fits snugly under your Sega Mega Drive and provides a Compact Disc drawer.

As well as playing the special CD games, it also acts as an ordinary audio CD and plays music CDs when hooked up to an amplifier and speakers.

Inside there are two 16-bit processors, which make it twice as powerful as the Mega Drive.

But the secret is in the CD. Whereas a cartridge usually has about eight mega bytes capacity, a CD can store an astonishing 500MB, making the games limitless.

It also means that 60 minutes of real film can be put on one disc and that does away with the need for blocky graphics.

A SEGA spokesman says: "The Mega CD will turn the Mega Drive into an all-in-one entertainment system.

"It is the ultimate peripheral and means that when you bought your Mega Drive you bought a passport to the future of games playing."

The Mega CD will be launched with around 30 games, including one CD that will be a compilation of five or six classic Mega Drive cartridge games.

And although CD games will be light years ahead of what you see now, Sega say they will cost about the same – between £20 and £40.

The Mega CD was first released in Japan in December, 1991, but we have had to wait so long because the games market is different in Europe.

In Japan everybody plays games – it's not just confined to teenagers – and they love the very deep and involved role-playing titles, such as the Phantasy Star series and Dragon's Quest.

Here the market is still growing and players tend to be much younger. They like to concentrate on shoot-em-ups – the Thunderforce series or platform romps like Sonic.

AS a consequence a whole new range of games has had to be developed especially for Europe.

Here are just a few of the first CD games to look forward to:

● **MAKE YOUR OWN POP VIDEO:** The game is entirely shot on real film and you choose from chart acts such as INXS, Kriss Kross, C&C Music Factory and Marky Mark.

On the screen there are three different images – the video, live concert footage and tape of the pop stars shot specifically for Sega.

You pick the image you want, chop and change it, turn it upside down, change the colours, add special effects and blow up certain segments.

● **NIGHT TRAP:** You have to save five cheer-leaders from aliens who've got into their house.

It's a good puzzle game in which you have to locate trap-doors and use them to stop the aliens.

● **SEWER SHARK:** Another real film game in which the whole world has been turned into a global maze of sewers inhabited by mutant rats.

You must fly through the maze with a co-pilot named Ghost and destroy all the rodents.

As well as games such as these, programmers have been feverishly worl Sonic for the CD, p to be called Super So for release in Brit May or June.

Not all games w made entirely of fil age.

Many will inte film with graphics b are keen to releas film straight away s ers can see the pote the Mega CD.,

The future for gam ers looks decidedly but it doesn't stop t

Sega boffins are w on the ultimate – Reality for the hom

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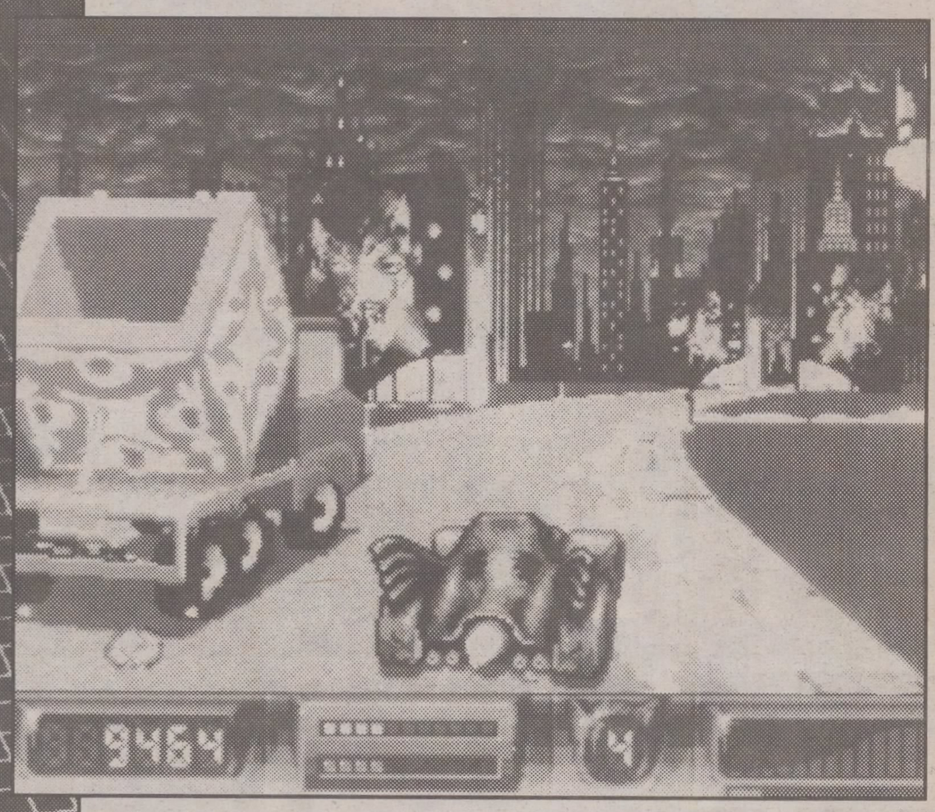

is a top-secret stunner with out-of-this-world graphics such as those pictured right

HOW TO ENTER

☆ THE minute the first consignment of Sega Mega CDs is flown in, one of them will be rushed to each of the three winners of this free contest.

☆ And all you have to do is tell us on a postcard what the initials ROM stand for.

☆ Add your name and address and send the card-to Sega Mega contest, Daily Mirror, 9 Thavies Inn, London EC88 1TL.

☆ Closing date is December 10. The winners will be the first three correct entries drawn.

☆ Normal MGN rules apply. There is no cash alternative.

AIMING FOR FUN: The menacer brings a new dimension to your game

Gunning for a great game

☆ IT'S the most accurate light gun ever invented – the Menacer. And it goes on sale this Christmas for £59.99 which includes SIX games to play on your Mega Drive.

Just line up the sights and shoot at your television screen with uncanny accuracy from anywhere in the room thanks to the infra-red remote system.

The Menacer will add a new dimension to your game-playing because you are no longer tied to the console with leads and a control pad.

It comes with three interlocking parts including adjustable sights so you can zoom in on the target.

Ordinary shoot-'em-ups will seem like kids stuff after you've handled The Menacer.

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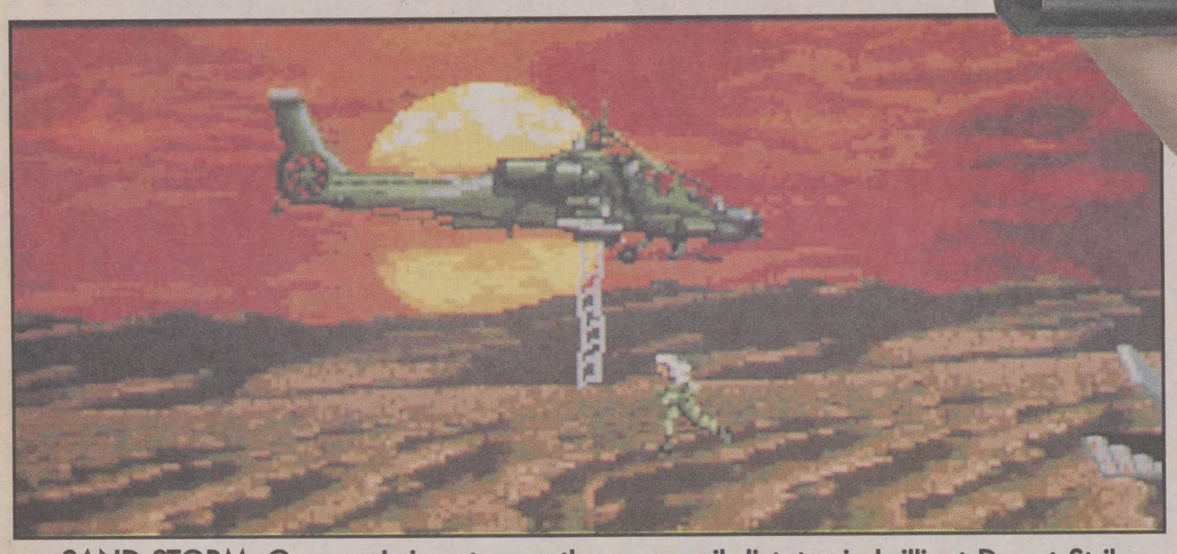
MEGA POWER UP!

MIGHTY Mega Drive



SAND STORM: Go on missions to overthrow an evil dictator in brilliant Desert Strike

Get right on the button for great games

IT'S Sega's flagship video games system and it's the biggest-selling top-notch machine in Britain – the mighty Mega Drive.

First released here in 1990, it revolutionised the games scene. Here was a dedicated games machine with all the power of a 16-bit home computer at an incredibly low price.

It was from that moment that games-playing started to be taken seriously as a major new entertainment industry in Britain.

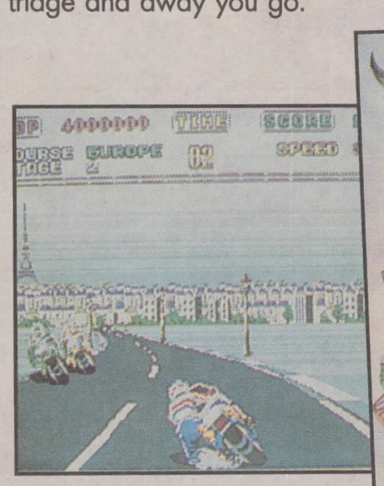
There are now more than 700,000 Mega Drives in the UK and Sega are confident they will pass the million mark by Christmas Day.

Bundled with the original Sonic The Hedghog game the Mega Drive is currently selling at £129.99.

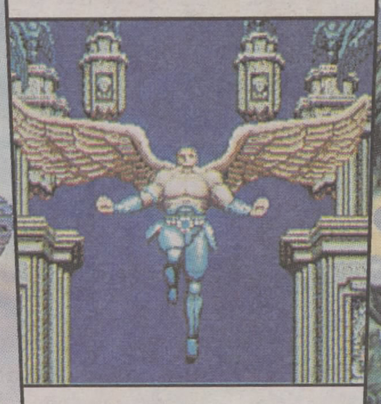
It' simple to operate. You connect it to the TV, tune it to a spare channel, bung in a cartridge and away you go.

It has excellent graphics, plays 3-D games and will produce stereo sound if you connect it to a stereo telly.

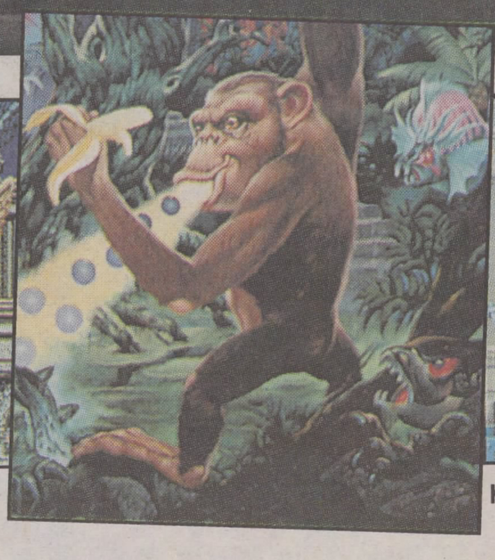
There are more games for the Mega Drive than its rival 16-bit console. And here we reveal some of those worth checking out.



RACY: Super Hang On and, right, Kid Chameleon



IT'S WAR: Blast hordes of aliens with Gynoug



KIDS' CRACKERS: Toki, left and, above, Quackshot

★ **DESERT STRIKE (£39.99):** This came out after the Gulf War and some shops banned it.

But for great gameplay and brilliant graphics you can't beat this special forces campaign against an evil dictator.

There are five detailed missions as you try to blast enemy units with your chopper and rescue troops and civilians. Highly addictive.

★ **TOKI (£34.99):** A fun platformer for the younger members of the family who will love Toki the monkey.

It's not that difficult to complete, which is why there are no save options and the animation and antics are excellent. Try before you buy.

★ **SUPER HANG ON (£34.99):** For pure high-speed motor bike racing you can't get better than this.

It is almost as good as the top-rated arcade coin-op that spawned it. It looks great and plays gracefully. But if it's racing with violence you're after check out its wicked cousin Road Rash.

★ **GYNOUG (£39.99):** A great big blast-'em-up with some huge and superbly detailed sprites.

It's a horizontal scroller and you must remember to always stay at the back as you blow the aliens to smithereens.

You are the winged battle master Wor and you've got to have your finger on the trigger for this one.

★ **KID CHAMELEON (£34.99):** A really neat-looking platform game in which the Kid changes into different creatures.

There are 103 levels but no level codes so be prepared to start the game all over when you die. But there are lots of different levels and weapons and it's great fun to play.

★ **QUACKSHOT (£39.99):** A platform romp almost on a par with the great Sonic. This Disney licence which is similar to Mickey Mouse's Castle Of Illusion looks and sounds fantastic with big bold sprites and startling colours. There's plenty of action and it's no pushover.

★ **DRAGON'S FURY (£39.99):** The finest pinball simulation on any console. The graphics are in awesome 3-D and the response of the six flippers is super smooth.

There are plenty of bonus stages to get stuck into and a password system to take you to higher things.

Better and cheaper than having a real pinball machine in the house.

★ **NHLPA HOCKEY '93 (£39.99):** This follow-up to E.A. Hockey has plenty of violent action and a two-player mode that is superb.

It is fast and furious and easy to get to grips with – just zoom across the ice and try and get the ice hockey puck in the net. But watch out when the gloves come off – that's when the fighting starts.

★ **ALIENS 3 (£39.99):** One of the classiest little platform shoot-'em-ups ever devised as you try to kill the aliens and rescue the prisoners in this movie spin-off.

The attention to detail in the graphics and the brilliant sound effects – especially the gunfire and explosions – mark this out of the ordinary.

SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA

MEGA POWER UP!

GREAT Game Gear

DEVILISH: Tazmania (left) and World Class Leaderboard

☐ IT'S not merely the world's best-selling colour portable games machine it is also the heart of a complete hi-tech viewing system. It is the great Game Gear.

☐ WHEN it was launched last year few people gave the Game Gear much of a chance because Nintendo's black and white Game Boy dominated the hand-held market.

☐ BUT now more than 300,000 have been sold in Britain and it is the system everyone wants. The Game Gear costs £99.99 and is bundled the with excellent puzzle game Columns.

☐ BUT the thing that changed everybody's mind was the Game Gear's versatility. When you're exhausted after blasting aliens for hours, click into place the TV tuner and it turns into a telly.

☐ IN fact there are more add-ons for the Game Gear system than any other machine.

☐ THERE'S an AC adaptor to run it off the mains; a Wide Gear to magnify the screen; a cable for connecting to another Game Gear for head-to-head playing, and even a car adaptor for playing on long journeys. If you've got a Game Gear or are thinking of getting one here are some games worth trying out:

★ **TAZMANIA (£27.99):** An absolute smash hit on the Mega Drive this recently released conversion is an hilarious platform romp with beautiful graphics.

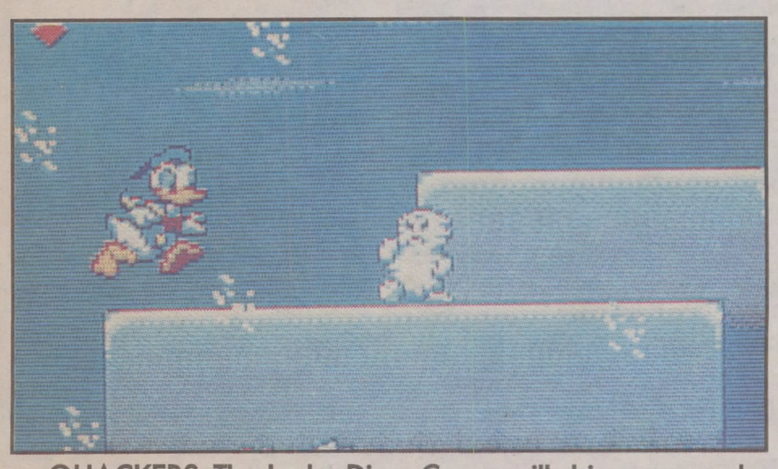
It's perfect for kids because it is not too demanding and is very cartoon-like as you play the part of the Devil from Down Under.

★ **THE LUCKY DIME CAPER (£24.99):** Possibly the best cart ever released for the Game Gear as Donald Duck sets out to save his newphews and get the dimes in a brilliant platformer. Don't be fooled by the Disney connections this is one of the hardest and most addictive games around. Highly recommended.

★ **STREETS OF RAGE (£24.99):** Released this week is another Mega Drive beat-'em-up classic with plenty of baddies and a sprite with more combat moves than the Desert Rats.

Excellent graphics and startlingly good animation make this the best of it's type on the Gear.

★ **WORLD CLASS LEADERBOARD (£24.99):** An excellent golf sim that has four courses and 72 holes. You can do just about everything from choosing you own clubs to re-playing holes. You must adjust your play for wind speed and direction and watch out for hazards. A hit at the 19th hole.



QUACKERS: The Lucky Dime Caper will drive you mad

★ **SUPER KICK OFF (£27.99):** Wonderful graphics and plenty of options make this the best football sim for the Gear.

It is a perfect conversion of the Master System classic with overhead views and really intelligent gameplay. You can't put a foot wrong with this one.

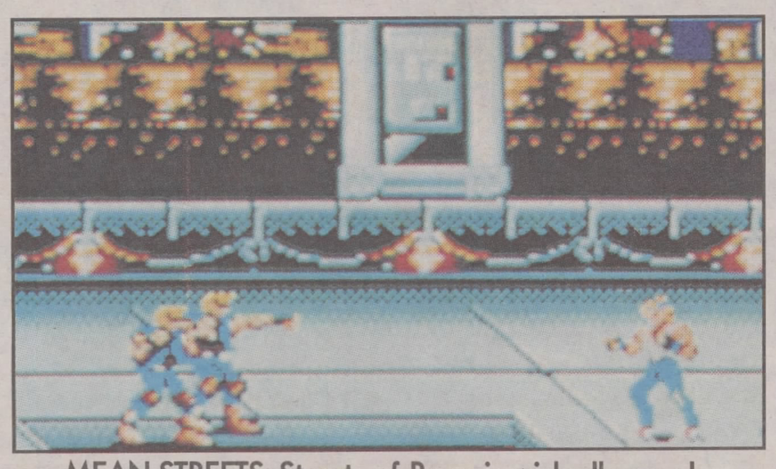
★ **SPIDER-MAN (£24.99):** Breathtaking animation as Spider-Man swings through New York trying to clear his name after getting framed.

There are five levels of platform action and three skill options in a game with tough level bosses and a great soundtrack. Brilliant.

★ **THE CHESSMASTER (£24.99):** It might seem a touch obvious to release a chess game but this one is out of the ordinary with excellent graphics and even a touch of speech. It doesn't matter how experienced a player you are there is everything here from a teching to Grand Master mode. Check it out, mate.

★ **CRYSTAL WARRIORS (£29.99):** Not content with being the best Role Playing Game for the Game Gear it is also a tactical map-based war sim. The graphics are good, especially the battle sequences, but be warned it is not for beginners. You need plenty of grey matter to master this one.

★ **SLIDER (£24.99):** Immensely enjoyable puzzle game with 99 levels of slithering fun as you try to clear up the screen and dodge the monsters. There are lots of bonuses and a plenty of password options to keep you going forward. And with flowing gameplay and plenty of surprises it is a great game.



MEAN STREETS: Streets of Rage is wickedly good

★ **SUPER OFF-ROAD RACER (£24.99):** Overhead-view truck racing in this near-perfect coin-op conversion. It has some of the best graphics ever seen on the Game Gear with great detail and smooth animation.

It is very fast and really comes to life in the two-player Gear-to-Gear mode.

★ **DEVILISH (£24.99):** A very hip paddle game that's a cross between Breakout and a pinball sim. The graphics are a revelation; the sound is almost arcade standard and the obstacles include ball catchers and warp zones.

There are seven levels and you can play against the clock to improve speed.

SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA

MEGA POWER UP!

Super System

TOP SELLER: The evergreen Master System

THE Master System was dealt a major blow when the Mega Drive was launched and written off when the Game Gear was introduced.

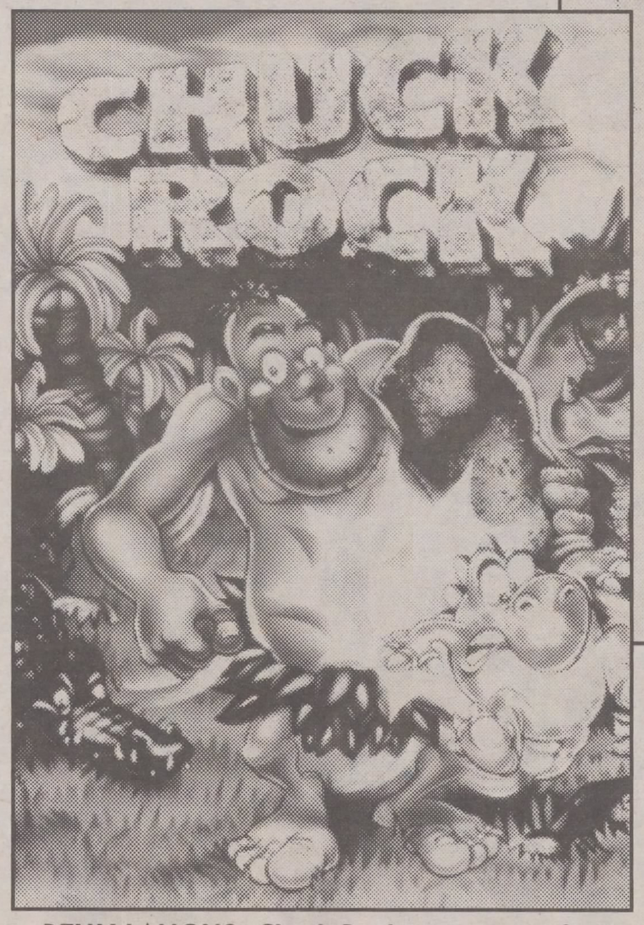
But it is still Sega's biggest-selling games machine with more than one million in this country. No wonder they call it the Super System.

It first appeared in the UK in 1989 and by today's standards the eight-bit processor is "old" technology. But that hasn't stopped a wealth of brilliant games being released for it – and with a price of just £49.99 it represents real value for money.

It is ideal as an entry into video games-playing for younger family members and not out of reach of kids who want to help pay by saving up pocket-money.

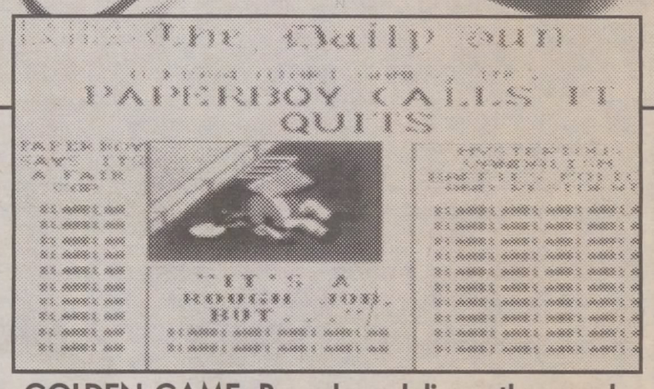
After a recent facelift to make it look more appealing, the current model is Master System II.

Check it out and you'll be in for a pleasant surprise. And try out games like these at the same time to get the very best from the Master.



BELLY LAUGHS: Chuck Rock guarantees fun

ONE MILLION UP .. AND STILL GOING STRONG



GOLDEN GAME: Paperboy delivers the goods

☆ **PAPERBOY (£29.99): Get the news out on the street in this diagonal scroller which is available on most formats – but none better than this. Deliver the papers to the right houses but beware of the dogs, traffic and everything else. Oldie but goldie.**

★ ROCKY (£29.99): Unlike wrestling sims, boxing games are usually dire but this one stands out because you train the boxer before fighting for the title. Essentially a two-player game, it has some excellent animation. It's knockout.

☆ **CHUCK ROCK (£29.99): In this excellent platform romp, Stone Age Chuck has one hell of a beer-belly which he uses to good effect as he tries to rescue his wife from the evil Gary Gritter. Good graphics and a sense of humour make this highly playable.**

★ PRINCE OF PERSIA (£29.99): Undoubtedly the finest animation ever seen on an eight-bit game. In real time the Prince has to escape from the dungeon and see off the Grand Vizier, who has nicked his girl. Plenty of puzzles and truly awesome use of the Master System graphics. A classic.

☆ **R-TYPE (£29.99): The very best blast-'em-up you can get for this system. If you like blowing away aliens and standing up to some huge sprites, this is the one. You'll need quick reactions and plenty of power to overcome some of these baddies.**

★ CALIFORNIA GAMES (£29.99): A series of West Coast "sports", such as frisbee, skateboarding, BMX riding and surfing, are brilliantly brought to life because of the fine graphics. Will appeal to the tanned beach bum in everyone and about the only injury you get is a sore thumb.

☆ **ASTERIX (£29.99): After Sonic's 1 and 2, this is probably the best platform adventure you can get as Asterix and Obelix set off to tackle the Romans and rescue a druid. Cute characters and imaginative gameplay mark this out from the herd. Not as easy as you might think.**

★ SUPER SPACE INVADERS (£29.99): Space Invaders started the games boom light years ago and although it might seem old hat this reincarnation is totally addictive. You don't merely shoot up the aliens this time round there are lots of innovations and plenty of power-ups. Your dad remembers this game.

☆ **POPULOUS (£34.99): This complex strategy game has you playing God, creating and building worlds with the touch of an icon. You have to build up your own tribe and power and destroy your enemy. Absorbing and vast it has detailed graphics and tests your brain power**

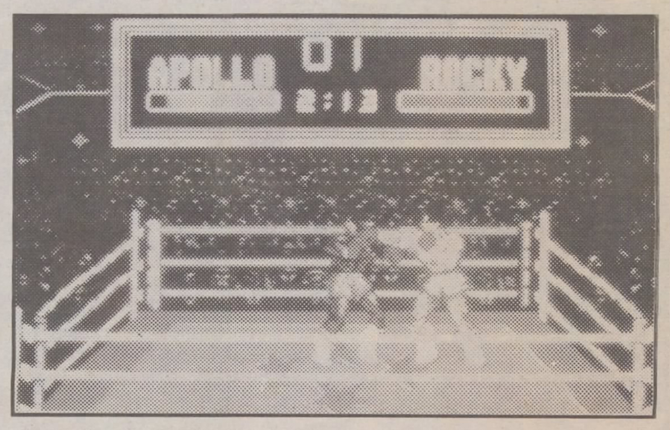
TIPS 'N' CHEATS

★ **HERE are some codes for Quad Challenge on the Mega Drive: Level 2. EC6T; 3. M4SR; 4. DTXG; 5. 9F2J; 6. 13RB; 7. PNF5; 8. CR11; 9. 5JE8; 10. 8SWG; 11. HGLY; 12. Q44E; 13. WHCM; 14. TVGZ; 15. SNDN; 16. B164. (Lisa Wynne, Liverpool).**

★ FOR the final play off of John Madden '92 on the Mega Drive enter the following code: D5FHS6VI. It's Buffalo vs Philadelphia. (Christopher Bratten, Trowbridge, Wilts.).

★ **TO access any level from 1 to 199 for Bubble Bobble on the Master System enter 3V35NLLE on the password screen. You will also have the five jewels, the candle and one mirror leaving you only the other two mirrors to find. (Zac Wootton, Clevedon, Avon).**

★ IT'S a long one, but to get into the Madonna team in Super Monaco Grand Prix on the Mega Drive,and find yourself with 135 points and two world championships, eter this code: 07C8 HG8B PE01 0000 0P1J 00V1 R35D 2467 CA89 EW92 0000 0003 0000 0000 F200 90B7. (Nigel Wood, Stainforth, S. Yorks.).



BOXING CLEVER: Rocky can be a real knockout

IF YOU'RE BUYING SEGA, BUY THE BEST!

James Bond 007 – The Duel

He's back, James Bond, the world's most famous secret agent, has arrived on The Mega Drive.

"A roller coaster of action and adventure"
Game Zone

Pitfighter

"Already a No 1 hit on the Mega Drive, Pitfighter now comes to the Master System. Welcome to the world of Pitfighting"

"Pitfighter is definitely one you should add to your collection"
Mean Machines

Trivial Pursuit – Genus Edition

With sound, music and over two thousand brain bending questions, Trivial Pursuit is a pure Master System masterpiece...

"It's great, I thoroughly recommend Master System Trivial Pursuit"
84% Sega Force

Rampart

Rampart combines the best of strategy puzzle games with dynamic action in a medieval battleground. Fortify your castle, place your cannons and prepare for all out battle!

"One of the most addictive and fun blasters seen on the Master System for a long while"
87% Mean Machines

Prince of Persia

Taken from hundreds of movie clips the animated sequences are so uncannily human addiction happens in seconds.

"The character animation is absolutely stunning! Got a Master System? Get this, you won't play any better"
96% Sega Pro

Dragon's Fury

A totally awesome gothic chamber of horrors with incredible graphics. The best 3D pinball game in the world.

"What can I say but WOW! I have never played a game as much as I've played Dragon's Fury. It's absolutely amazing!
93% Sega Force

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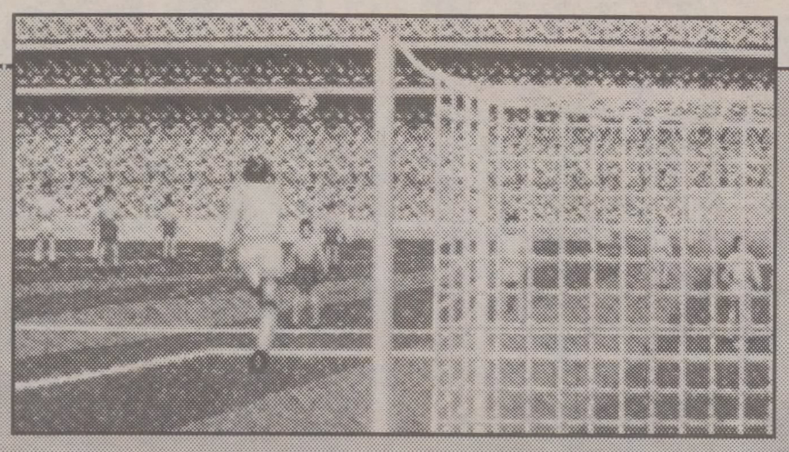
Trivial Pursuit Genus Edition: © 1983 Horn Abbot International Ltd. A Horn Abbot game,licensed by Horn Abbot International Limited, owner of the TM Trivial Pursuit.
Rampart: TM Atari Games; Licensed to Tengen Inc. © 1990 Tengen Inc.
Prince of Persia: TM Broderbund Software, Inc. © 1989, 1992 Broderbund Software, Ltd.Jordan Mechner. All rights reserved.
Dragon's Fury: "Dragon's Fury" TM & © 1992 Tengen Ltd. All rights reserved.

WHEN ONLY THE BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH

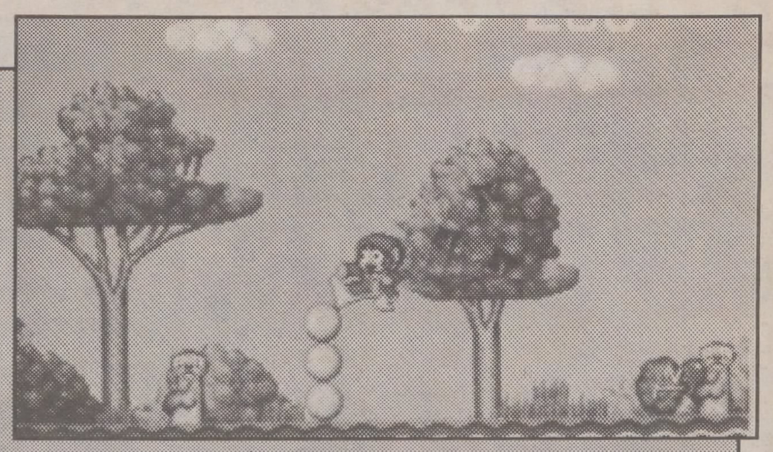
DOMARK SEGA™ Master System™ SEGA MEGA DRIVE TENGEN VIDEO GAMES

MEGA POWER UP!

SPEEDY: But give Out Run a try before you buy



BEST SELLER: Check out World Cup Italia '90



POLISHED: Alex Kidd in Enchanted Castle

It's a bargain!

YOU CAN RENT SUPER GAMES FOR JUST £2 A NIGHT

IF YOU have been hit by the recession and can't afford the high prices for video games don't worry.

Sega allows shops, licensed by the company, to rent out machines and carts for as little as £2 a night.

Hundreds of outlets – off licences and video film hire shops – have applied to join the scheme.

Says a spokesman for the games giant: "Our competitors are firmly against rental but we think it can only be a good thing.

"This way people can try out a game, many of which take weeks if not months to complete, and if they like it they will go out and buy it. It is a sort of try before you buy scheme.

"Other people might just rent a Mega Drive and a game for a night because they are having a party and want a game playing in the corner.

"It is proving extremely popular especially as people are tightening their belts while we go through a recession." Check out your local video shop and see if they rent games. If they don't, ask them why not.

Sega has slashed the price of some of their older games to give them a new lease of life. Here are ones that are available for under £20:

● **WORLD CUP ITALIA '90** (£19.99 Mega Drive): Not up to the quality of Super Kick Off but this has been a steady seller for a couple of years and still figures in the best-seller charts. Worth checking out if you're a soccer fan.

● **ALEX KIDD IN ENCHANTED CASTLE** (£19.99 Mega Drive): Very polished platform romp that has all the essential ingredients to keep you playing for hours. One for the younger members of the family but not that easy to complete.

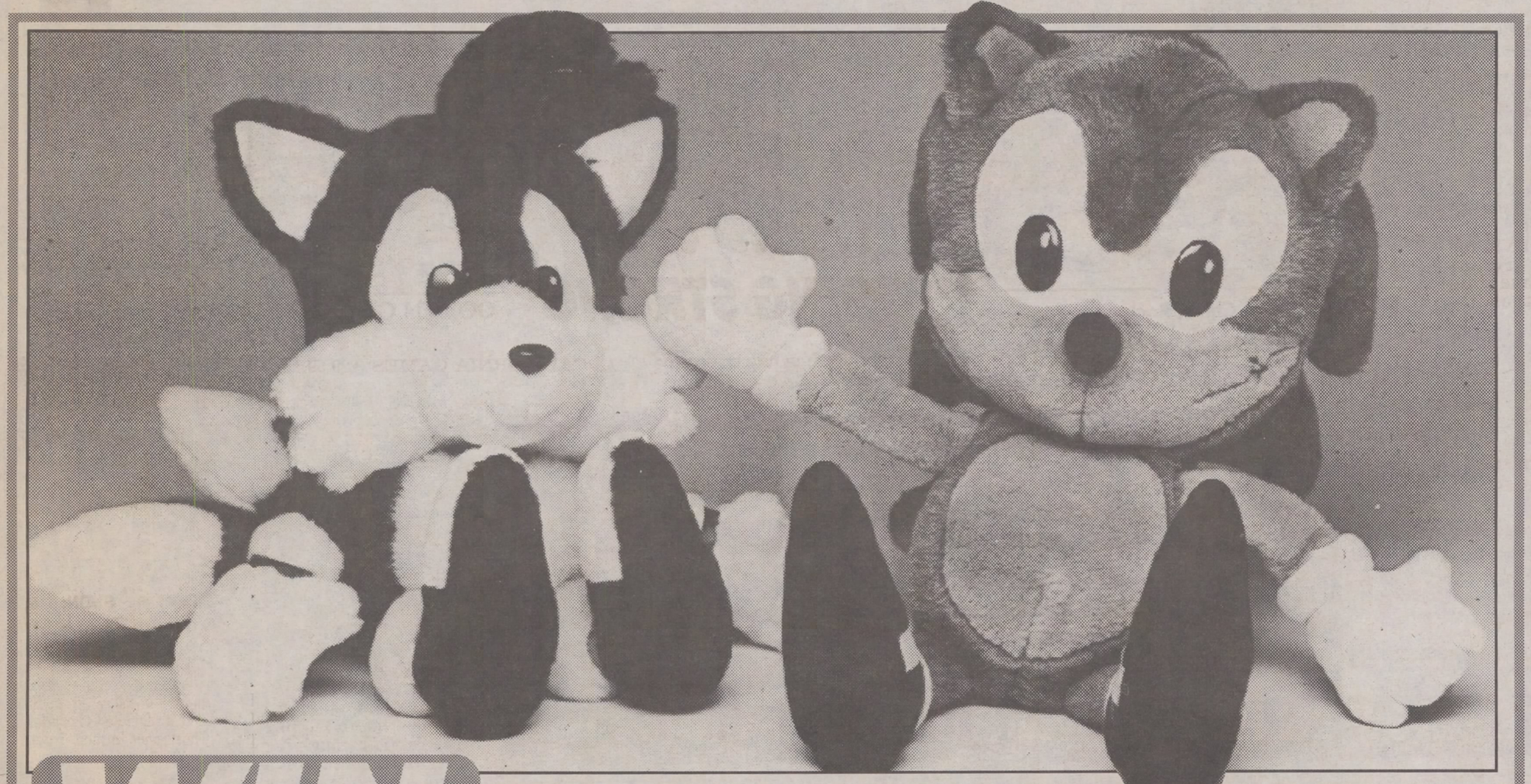
● **OUT RUN** (£19.99 Master): A good standard road racer with a fine feel for speed that unfortunately has been overtaken since it first came out by Out Run Europa. Try before you buy.

● **WOODY POP** (£14.99 Game Gear): An updated version of the paddle game Breakout where you use a bouncing ball to smash a wall of bricks. Plenty of power-ups add to its addictive quality.

● **NINJA** (£9.99 Master): Surprisingly good vertical scroller with plenty of fighting and a few puzzles. Represents excellent value and well worth trying.

● **COLUMNS** (£19.99 Game Gear): A frustratingly addictive Tetris-style puzzle game in which you have to line-up coloured jewels as they drop from the top of the screen. It also has a Gear-to-Gear two-player option.

● **GLOBAL DEFENCE** (£12.99 Master): A neat mix of a blast-'em-up with a little bit of strategy. It has some very good graphics and is excellent value.



HUGGABLE: Sonic the hedgehog and his pal Tails the fox are also available as cuddly toys

WIN YOUR VERY OWN CUDDLY SONIC

THE world's most-loveable hedgehog can now be yours to hold and hug - as a cuddly toy.

We have joined up with Sega to give one each to 100 winners of this latest contest.

Worth £12.99, this is the coolest, trendiest, most-awaited cuddly toy there is.

It is Sonic as you have never seen him before – a real must for every Sonic fan.

Sega have been floooded with requests for more Sonic merchandise and he features in the latest range which includes badges, baseball jackets, kites, mugs and T-Shirts.

Now, for your chance to cuddle Sonic just write the name of his greatest foe, on a postcard.

Add your name and address and send the card to: Hedgehog contest, Daily Mirror, 67 Fetter Lane, London EC88 1BP.

Closing date is December 10. The winners will be the first correct entries drawn.

Normal MGN rules apply. There is no cash alternative.

★ TIPS 'N' CHEATS ★ TIPS 'N' CHEATS ★

★ **HELP: Anthony Farrell from Wigan is playing Spider-Man on the Master System. He has found the key in the electricity power station on Level Three but he is unable to get near it and retrieve it. What should he do? Answers please.**

★ TO GET an extra built-in game on the Master System keep buttons 1 and 2 pressed down and the D-button pressed UP. Now turn it on and you should get a maze game. (Frances Gakins, London).

★ **TO START Desert Strike on the Mega Drive with two extra lives type in the code: TQQQLOM. If you finish the campaign you'll start every other one with five lives. (Jason Paul JOnes, Holyhead, N. Wales).**

★ TO GET extra points and lives on Levels Four and Five of Mickey Mouse Castle Of Illusion on the Master System don't pick up the gem until you've killed the end-of-level guardian. Then repeat the process as many times as you like. (Brendan Clifford, Malton, N. Yorks).

★ **ON Double Dragon for the Master System you can become invisible at the beginning of Level Four if you do 15 Roundhouse kicks. (Dalvin Kalsi, London).**

★ IN ROLLING Ronnie on the Mega Drive enter your name as TRACTOR on the high score table and you'll get maximum energy in your next game. (Richard Gould, London).

★ **HERE IS a list of codes for Splatterhouse 2 on the Mega Drive: Stage 2. EDK NAI ZOL LDL; 3. IDO GEM IAL LDL; 4. ADE XOE ZOL OME; 5. EFH VEI RAG ORD; 6. ADE NAI WRA LKA; 7. EFH XOE IAL LDL; 8. EDK VEI IAL LDL. (Jamie Davies, Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan).**

★ THE codes for F-22 Interceptor on the Mega Drive are: American Campaign. 0HG010; Korean. 7DG002; Iraqi. K10B0U; Russian. F22F22; Aces. M10106. (Richard Steptoe, Nuneaton, Warls.).

★ TO GET 200 magic units on Golden Axe II for the Mega Drive when you reach the first boss keep holding button A until you kill him. When the campfire scene starts release button A. Don't move or hit anything and when you enter the next stage you will have the units. (Matthew Harfield, Southampton, Hants.).

★ **FOR as many extra lives as you want in World 1-2 of Fantasia on the Mega Drive leap on to the platform at the start of the level and grab the musical Extra Life. Go right to the chest and you'll be transported to the start so you can do it all over again. (Darren Lewis, Milton Keynes).**

★ TO GET to the final of Cyberball on the Master System and control the Minnesota Maulers enter this code: P5BB B5PS 1HEX. (Dean Alias, London).

SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA

DAILY Mirror POWER UP!

Back to the Future

We tap in to the New Year's new releases

THE world's greatest beat-'em-up game Street Fighter II is set to be released on the Mega Drive by March next year.

Sega are in secret talks to finalise a deal even though arch-rivals Nintendo claim they have exclusive rights to the game.

A Sega marketing executive admitted last night: "It is being rumoured that Street Fighter will be released by us. I am not confirming or denying it."

But spies in Japan say the game will be called Street Fighter II Champion Edition and will have all the features of the world's biggest-selling coin-op.

Ecco

Plus you will be able to play each of the four bosses and there will be extra moves for the main characters.

The only console for which the game is currently available is the Super NES and it is Nintendo's main selling point this Christmas.

In January Sega are planning to release a brand new games character called Ecco the dolphin on the Mega Drive.

"It is an environmental game in which you play the part of the dolphin and have to collect crystals and lots of other New Age stuff," explains a Sega spokesman.

"Then you have to make sure that mankind gets its come-uppance for allowing the world to get into such a sorry state.

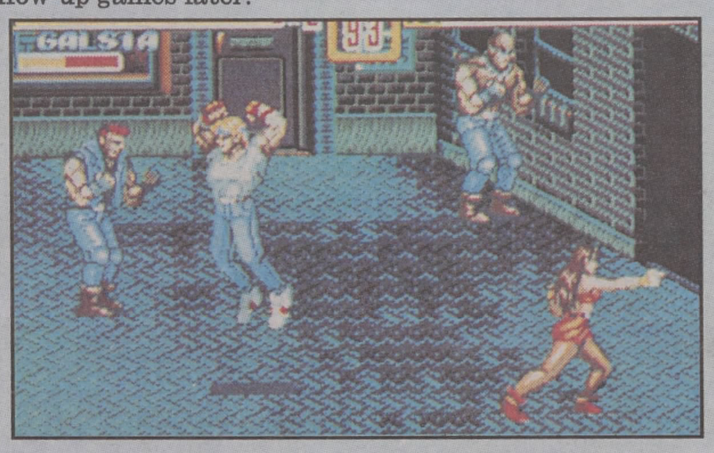
"We expect Ecco to become a major character and if he proves to be a success then there will no doubt be follow-up games later."

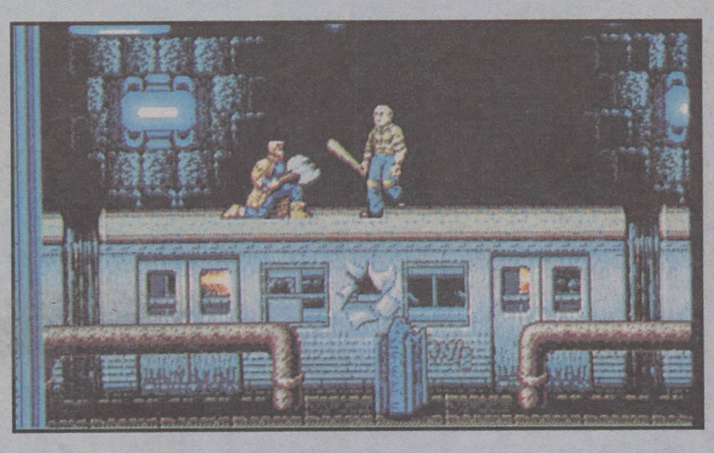
ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY: Sega hope Ecco the dolphin will ride on a wave of popularity

Another character being released in the first weeks of the New Year is Chakan.

In most games you have to try and keep your character alive against dreadful odds.

Not this time. Chakan is practically invincible and the idea is to try and kill him!





VIDEO STARS: Old favourites Streets of Rage II versus newcomers, the Ex-Mutants

In 1992 Sega released more than 100 different games in Britain and next year they expect it to be more.

Some of them will be re-vamped old favourites such as Streets Of Rage II. The original was one of Sega's best-sellers.

Now the classic beat-'em-up has got tougher, with better backdrops and more sophisticated weapons.

Says Sega's marketing man: "It is not simply a question of cashing in on a game that we already know is a provable hit. We are improving it for a new generation of players.

"Our 16-bit Mega Drive system is a highly advanced piece of technology.

"And the more the programmers get used to writing for it the more they can get out of it. Better colours, faster sprites that sort of thing."

But if you want real wicked action wait for the Ex-Mutants – they don't go anywhere unless armed with a baseball bat.

On a gentler note there will be three Disney spin-offs out very soon including a platform romp with Mickey Mouse as well as a game involving the Little Mermaid.

Other carts include the pool game Side Pocket as well as the strangely named Two Crude Dudes.

You'll just have to wait to find out what that one's all about.

DON'T MISS POWER UP! EVERY SATURDAY IN TV WEEKLY

NEVER SAY DIE: Chakan is almost invincible

SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA SEGA