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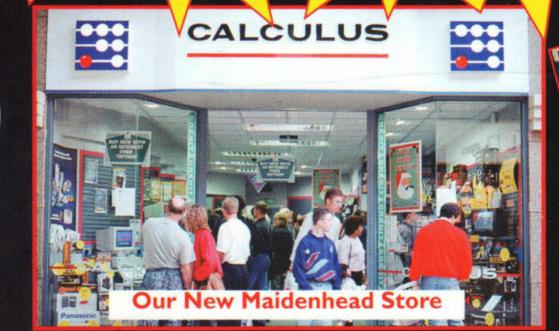


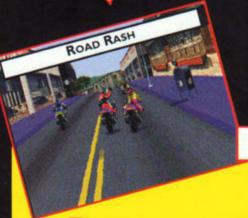
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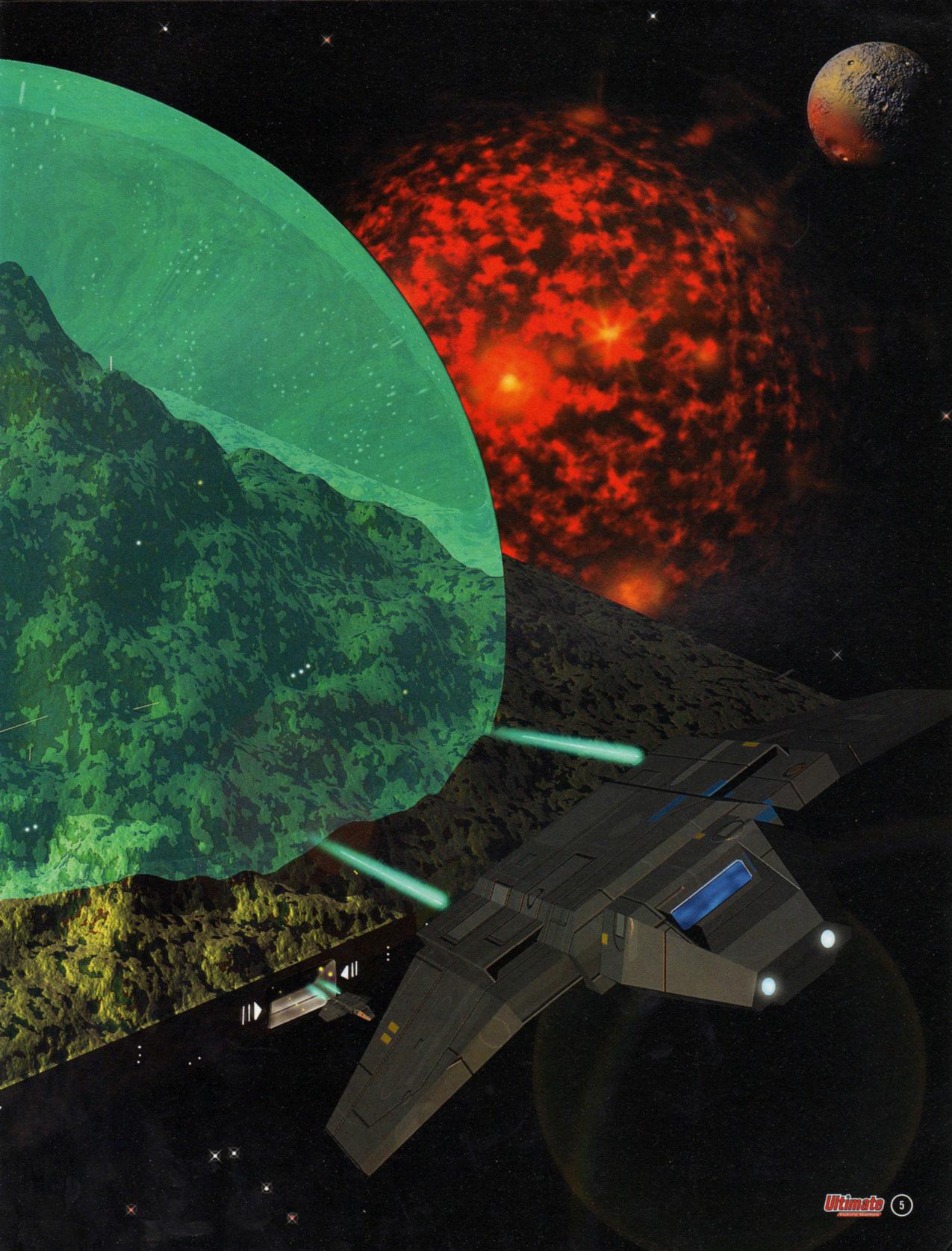
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As the Next Generation of consoles go Super Nova, old machines will become obsolete. The redundant formats will implode and die off.

Today's market will be replaced by more sophisticated games and even more sophisticated games gamesplayers.

LOOKINS to the Fufure



FREE giant wall charts wi



Time is moving quickly. The next gen consoles are really fighting it out, and it's time to take sides. All we want at UFG is the best looking, fastest, smoothest and most exciting games. We're not fussy.

News breaking this month includes me, the new editor, but Frank is sticking around as our top news hound bringing you only the best in next generation games.

David Roberts The

New Editor



Motor Toon GP

72 Possibly one of the smoothest, cutest racing games yet to hit the PlayStation. You deserve nothing else than the Ultimate review.





Screamin

It's PlayStation Motor Toon GP Tyres

Cover feature

Battle of the consoles

This time it's war! You need to know which machine is best in all the gaming categories, and we give you the low-down on the most powerful gaming machines in town. It is UFG's essential selection.

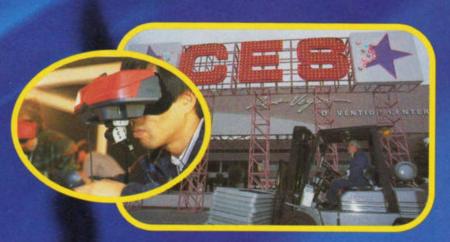


th over 100 vidoegame facts

Future Games

Show-we-like

It's big, it's exciting, and it's nothing other than the Winter CES. Full report and pictures.





Daytona USA

These are the first pictures of the top arcade hit due to appear on Saturn. Can it rival the PlayStation's Ridge Racer?

Toh Shin Den

Another Ultimate exclusive review of a PlayStation beat-em-up. It looks so damn good, has Virtua Fighter met its match?





Clockwork Knight

The first next generation platform game that looks bloody amazing. But has it got what it takes to beat Mario? Read our review, then win a copy and find out for yourself.



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News, previews and gossip start here



Specials Full Index 37

Plenty of prodding into the games world



Reviews

Our cut-the-crap reviews are legendary

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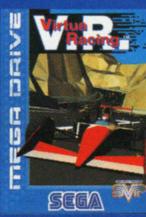
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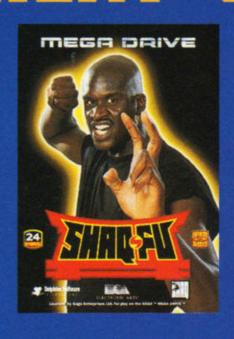
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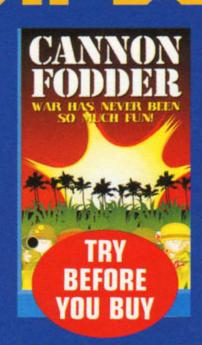


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Up-front

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• Family Feud	PC / 3DO	
• Super Street		
Fighter 2 Turbo_	PC	

• Hagane _____SNES
• Theme Park _____Jaguar / SNES

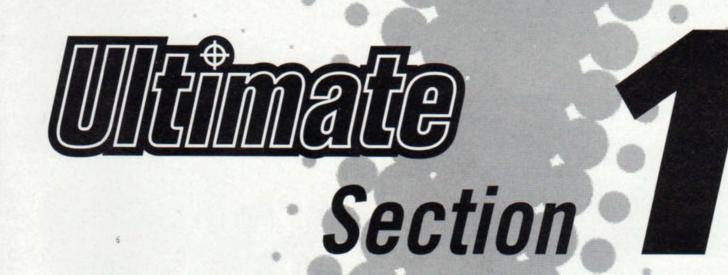
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• Cyberwar ______PlayStation
• The 11th Hour ____3D0 / PC

Star Fox 2 _____SNES

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CATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE

Jaguar gets it in one



Tari now look set to compete directly with Sony and Sega, rather than simply paving the way for them. The new Jaguar CD unit is set to be incorporated into an all in one cart and CD playing '64-bit' monster. Problem is, it might not arrive until this time in 1996.

The explanations for this delay are vague to say the least. Atari have virtually completed work on the CD drive, so quite why sticking it into an all in one plastic case will take a year is a bit of a mystery. To Atari's credit, the initial design of the new machine is a lot sexier than the original Jaguar, and certainly sexier than the Jag/CD combo, which looks like a black

plastic toilet. Complete with lid.

Technically, there's nothing new here, apart from some clever CD management stuff and a wad of memory. Atari's president Sam Tramiel said "I'm not sure that an integrated CD system at a high price will sell". Obviously the geezers at Sony and Sega are bonkers. Might as well chuck the PlayStation out.

If Atari can release the all in one console in Autumn to compete directly with PlayStation and Saturn, then we might have a genuine three horse race for the next generation crown. The Jag, especially with CD, is a powerful machine and the advent of Sega licensed titles like Daytona and Virtua Fighter could potentially eclipse the other machines.

Ultra set to make a killing

ow that Killer Instinct and Cruis'n USA are firmly installed in American and British arcades, what's happening with the Ultra 64 home machine? Well, the good news is that the main 64-bit chip is now complete, confounding industry cynics who reckoned it was vapourware. The price target

of \$250 is

still

realistic and according to sources at Nintendo, easily achievable.

Marketing boss Peter Main said Ultra 64, "is coming on like an express train" and promised it would arrive this year. Killer Instinct arrived in the coin-ops and while the press were a little

disappointed, the American kids love it – it's already the most successful stand-up coin-op this year.

Cruis'n USA is doing very well, and the strategy of including recognisable

American cities is reaping huge dividends. At the end of every game, a booming voice announces that both games will be available in the home by late '95. Looks like Ultra 64 is on track and if the two current games are anything to go by, the hardware is very impressive (with room for improvement).



Killer Instinct is hot!

So. Farewell then... old friend

■ intendo have now officially put the NES in its grave. Over 34 million **NES'** have been sold in America alone, and nearly 70 million worldwide, but its time has passed. The NES single handedly restarted the console boom and its incredible success will probably never be repeated. Nintendo have now stopped manufacture of the American unit, although small quantities of the revamped machine will still trickle into

Japanese shops.

The NES has been

unavailable in the UK for a year now, and will be sadly missed by everyone. Except Sega, and the poor blighters who still have one. Ahem. I liked it anyway. That Super Mario Bros 3 was brilliant. I didn't like the carts though. They were huge.



Nintendo get on line

n intendo are all set to get on the information superhighway with the imminent launch of their new peripheral, the BS-X. This is essentially a modem device, with all kinds of other goodies bolted on, which

S PAUL PAUL

allows SNES owners to jack into the matrix.

Blimey! everyone's at it, but this was a little unexpected, since nintendo haven't exactly been forthcoming with their Super NES peripherals.

The BS-X unit will be

Nintendo bulletin
board thingy, which
will allow users to play
multi-player games
across the network, as
well as download all
kinds of goodies from
the Nintendo net.

√ "And so, the end is near, and so we face the final cartridge. Crap games, we've played a few, but then again..."

More of the Big Apple

he Pippen console from Apple, revealed exclusively in issue one of UFG is now firmly under way, with more details revealed about the hardware and the structure of Apples marketing. The Pippen is a 64bit system using **Apple's Power PC** chip, probably the 601. This will be backed up by an as vet undisclosed custom graphics processor as well as a superb Quad speed CD drive.

The Pippen technology is to be licensed however, in the same way as 3DO or VHS.

Anyone interested in producing a Pippen console can approach Apple, and Bandai (Power Rangers fellas) have already started work on their machine, to be called the Power Player.

Other companies interested in producing a Pippen console are

yet to be announced officially, but the strongest bet is Fujitsu.

Fujitsu are definitely in talks
with Apple and have already
snapped up rights to Apple's
smart operating system
and it would seem
logical to try their hand
with Pippen technology.
Apple themselves
have a console underway, but their strategy is
to make the console the core unit
of a Macintosh style computer

system, with hard drive, keyboard and printer to follow.



A Rebel Assault will be one of the first games to get the Pippen treatment.

Colour Game Boy finally arrives

ort of. Well, the casings are coloured. Identical to normal GameBoys, these new trendy ones are for people with filofaxes and colour blindness. On sale in America and Japan now, they may arrive in the UK, sometime.

So you buy clothes from Paul Smith and your furniture from Habitat. What you need is a trendy Game Boy.

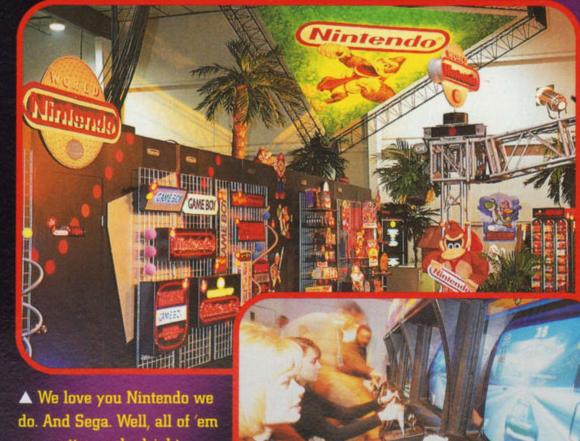


Show Report

The Las Vegas CES is usually the biggest video game show of the year, mainly because companies miss their

Christmas deadlines for products and have to show them off in January instead. This year's CES was huge, but uneventful. A bit like Milton Keynes.

One redeeming aspect of the brand new cross-over market created by CD ROM Porno! A porn show was running in Vegas at the same time, so we investigated. Apart from bevies of semi-naked ladies and big Swedish blokes with moustaches, there were oodles of interactive filth CDs on show, mostly for PC and Mac. Of course we found the whole thing disgusting, made our excuses and left after a matter of mere hours. And so to business...



are pretty much alright.

Some girls playing on Daytona. We love Daytona. We love girls more, though.

Next generation hardware?

n terms of filling you in on all the up-to-the-second coverage of the increasing potential of PlayStation, Saturn and Ultra 64, the show was all very ragged.

All the machines were present, in one veiled way or another, but there simply wasn't anything new to see. Nor were there any tangible pointers towards future potential. But...

er minor show-hits

Those coy ol' software houses do seem to be holding off the full display on all the best console/PC games until the big Los Angeles show this summer, but, there were a few shimmering jewels amid the rest of the electronic sewage...

FX Fighter

(GTE - PC CD-ROM, SNES) Another take on the SF2/MK



▲ FX Fighter: Yes, another punch-fest.

theme. With some hilariously realistic and 'street'-looking fist/shoeing trickery, floating camera perspective and all the usual bizarre monster warriors, this is competent enough. The SNES version is a little flickery, but plays much better than any of those fifty-a-penny Jap imports.

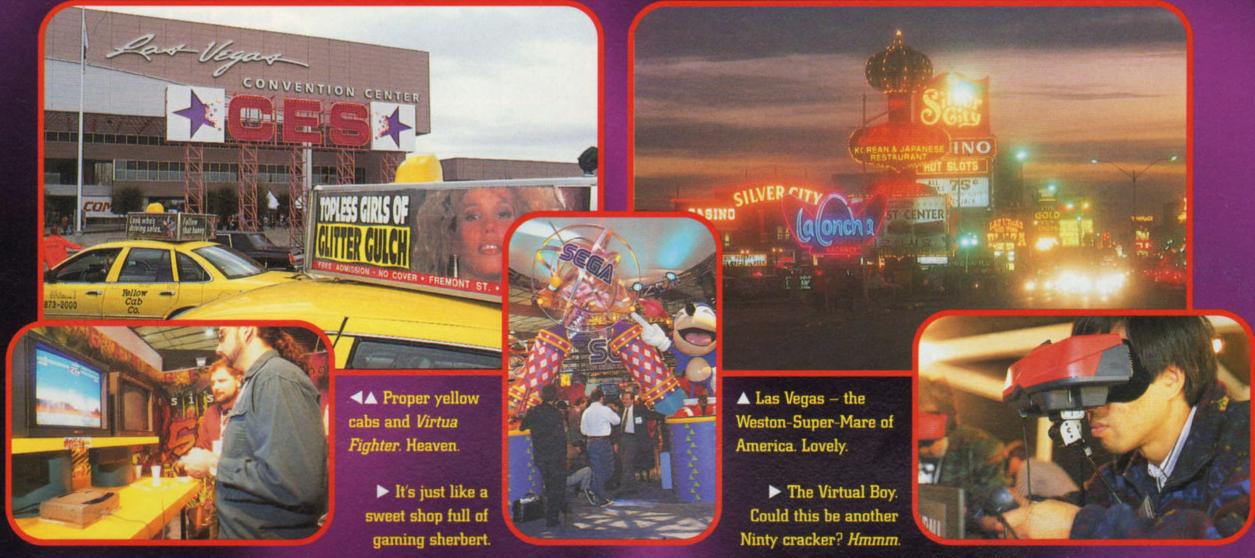
Hell

(Gametek - 3DO, PC CD-ROM,)



Hell: Cybersatanicadventure-'em-up.

Billed as "a Cyberpunk thriller" (ho-hum) Hell features electric versions of, among others, **Dennis Hopper and Grace**



Good times for the Jaguar

ames-wise, Atari's '64hit' prowler got off to a bit of a spazzy start but the CD add-on was still being paraded heavily. Flowerily labelled the "Jaguar CD Multimedia Player", the unit snaps snugly onto the

console, and, with all the usual Cinepak wizardry, packs a serious bulge by way of full-screen, true colour FMV... the usual.

It also boasts the Virtual Light Machine (VLM), a remarkable little thing\ which splashes up sickeningly pretty psychedelic pyrotechnics,

synchronised in time with any music CD. This is guaranteed to break the ice at dull parties.

Dedicated (and fresh) Jag CD games were also conspicuously thin on the ground (the majority being PC conversions like Robinson's Requiem and Creature Shock), but, of the new, basic Jaguar

stuff being showcased, the platform tomfoolery of Rayman (Ubi Soft), Space War 2000 (Atari) and the much-improved sequel to freebie game Cybermorph, Battlemorph (Atari) looked like the best reasons not to sell that lovely Jaguar juuust yet...

Jones, all battling against those ubiquitous ol' forces of darkness (it's Washington, 2094, and the actual gates of Hell have opened, y'see). The object of the game is to have a fight with Satan. Blimey.

Super SF 2 Turbo

(Gametek - PC CD-ROM)

Basically, exactly the same as the 3DO/coin-op version, only on a PC. It's arcade perfect, it's compatible with 6-button PC gamepads, and that's it.



▲ SSF2 T: From 3DO 2 PC CD-ROM.

Family Feud

(Gametek - PC CD-ROM, 3DO) Based on the "hit" (er...) all-American television show this is like some insane Quiz Show Game Construction Kit based around the good ol' cheesy, "Hi, honey, I'm home..." American family. Sound crap? Hey, I was in a bad mood when I saw this, and it sort of lifted me a little.

Hagane

(Hudson Soft - SNES)

Not, if you will, bad! The natural successor to Konami's awesome Super Probotector, Hagane (that is a really shite name) has all

that shiny side-scrolling, screenspinning, Mode 7-dizzying, missile-puking, boss-spattering mania. You'll love this.



▲ Hagane: It's blasting time hagain...

Show Report



And what a true

A lovely chap.

professional he is.

NEO GEO CD

he games are fantastic. The new, revamped machine looks gorgeous. The controllers fit snugly into the hand, SNES-style. The price is coming down. **BUT - that loading time!** Fancy a quick blast on the utterly wonderful Samurai Shodown 2? Switch it on. Wait minutes for the **LOADING TIME. Choose your** characters. Waaaaait three minutes for the game initialisation. THEN, after the game, wait again, choose

different characters, wait again...

Despite this, the good people at SNK seem keen to emphasise their CD-ROM addon as more of a relaunch intended to smother the Neo Geo's previous, only-for-therich image. Rather than rely on a gimmicky built-in disco lighting system, they're also pushing the most important aspect - the GAMES. Well, uh, the BEAT-EM-UPS, at least...

Samurai Shodown 2 is a delightfully unsubtle, bloodspattered, newcharacters

launching their long-awaited CD add-on for the Jaguar. Let's see if this leads to a bucket-load of cheap, quality software.

▼ Balls and hoops were present for the cheap titilation of passers-by. How they were mocked, how humiliated they became. It was a sorry sight.

JAN

andsecretthings kind of game, shamelessly going straight for the anaemic MK2 jugular. For now - ahem - this IS the ultimate beat-em-up.

Or maybe that accolade belongs to The King Of Fighters '94, basically an Art Of Fighting/Fatal Fury hybrid? Oooor... pooossibly... the best beat-em-up in the world ever could well be the sturdily titled Aggressors Of Dark Kombat, where the emphasis seems to be on idiotically large characters set before weedier backdrops?..

Starfox 2 SNES preview

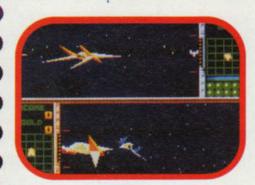
Mhereas Sega seem to be content to merely graft some new levels (and the occasional same-as-allothers extra character) onto the saaaame game, The Big Nin really do work on refreshing and dressing their updates.

You know how it is. Evil warlord does the "I'll be back/You haven't seen the last of me!" routine, and all the furry animals celebrate. In space. Well, he's inevitably back. And this time he's taken to launching all-out attacks on your tranquil planet base things.

This time, you have a choice of eight silly animal pilot characters and, instead of simply sitting back while the game takes you on a linear course through each prearranged attack wave, there's a lot more dipping into random fight sequences, with the added hassle of keeping an eve on the Motherbase.

Some sections involve you morphing your ship into an angular, walking droid thingy, allowing for 360 degree turns and the usual sub-game niceties.

It's got a tasty training mode, masses of frantic, planet surface/space battle hilarity, and seething great swarms of new nasties.



▲ Starfox 2: Fluffy creatures return in slick, FX-filled shootem-up shocker. And all that.

Theme Park

(Ocean - Jaguar/SNES)

The console versions of the number one PC/Amiga smash hit are, in many ways, looking



▲ Theme Park: What's going on here?

more appealing and playerfriendly. When it comes to stats and sub-menus, Bullfrog do have a tendency to trickle into downright anal territory.

With just a joypad and a wholesome, try-anything-once attitude, it all seems more active and enjoyable.

Hard Corps

(SCI - Playstation, Saturn, 3DO, PC CD-ROM)

You appear to be scampering around an in-the-future, lawless



▲ Hard Corps: Future fist frenzy.

society. You must fight to survive in over 20 hostile battle arenas. Could be everything initially promised by Rise Of The Robots.





Blimey!

and

▲ Woo, this screen is from the city rack, which infers heavily that Daytona USA will have all the tracks from the arcade.

angles portray the action from any vantage point you fancy, or rather that the computer fancies.

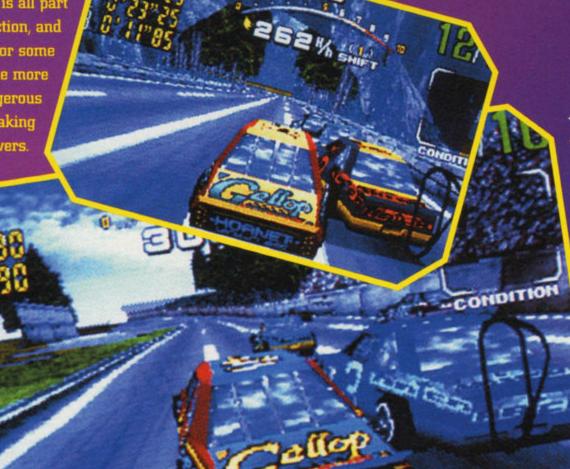
▼ Multiple camera

▲ Blimey! Your car comes to a screeching halt just outside some sort of bullring type arrangement.

It has to beat Ridge

Scraping against other cars is all part of the action, and necessary for some of the more dangerous overtaking manouvers.

1 8



✓ You can adjust the viewpoint manually, just like in Virtua Racing, but it's more fun to watch the computer relayed replays.

> Of course, being inside the car is the most realist viewpoint, but i doesn't make terribly exciting screenshot





.TRUE LINES... Samsung have allegedly been manufacturing illegal Donkey Kong Country chips. DKC carts were opened up and people











▲ Erm, this is a car, from a number of thrilling and amazing angles. We sincerely hope you like it.

is Sega's great hope

■ At this early stage, Sega don't have a full complement of cars on the track, but they will do by the launch.

▼The straights and curves of the first track are a bit dull, but later circuits provide more challenge.

ega's Daytona is still
quite a way off, but is
looking pretty bloody
special. Designed by the
same team who brought you
the first
Virtua Fighter, it features
supersmooth rendered 3D
graphics. And it's not

too shabby at all in the old gameplay department either.

For a start, Daytona
has more tracks than
Ridge Racer, thereby
giving loads more
variety. Hardened
arcade gamers rate it
higher than Ridge

Racer in terms of playability too. If it can match the fluid graphics of PlayStation Ridge Racer, then it's a sure fire hit.

What isn't known at this stage is whether a two player link mode will be included, but they'd be mad not to. If *Daytona* is played on linked Saturns, then it ought to blow *Ridge* Racer away.

Initially disappointing
graphics have been sharpened,
cleaned up and now look
awesome. The soundtrack will
be identical to that of the
arcade game and all things
going well, this should make

another very convincing reason to buy a Saturn.

We'll have a full review in a month or two, so start holding your breath. And start praying that there's a built-in link up facility, because then it will be, and I quote, "ace".

Machine....Saturn

Publisher...Sega

Developer..Sega AM2

StyleRacing

Release.....March/April

Status80% Complete

ound that the DKC chip was blacked out with a marker. When this was scratched off, the word 'Samsung' appeared. Allegedly.

PlayStation



▼ Six-button pleasure, we want you, we really do.



Jarkstalkers

– The Night Warriors

▼ This shot has not been doctored. It really happened.

What big teeth you've got...

apcom and beat-'em-ups. They go hand-in-fist like **Keanu and that lass** in *Speed*. And games as entertaining as this can only tighten their grip. We've all seen Darkstalkers hovering around the arcades like a great wing-ed beast, and it's certainly been a veritable coin-quaffer when those lovely

Street Fighter machines were busy.

▼ Ahoy there, bandage action! Strap me now!

If you haven't had a go of it yet, well, it basically plays the same as Capcom's benchmark streety-beaty, though not all the moves follow the same pattern. The majority of them involve joypad rotations and repetitive punch/kick presses. It has been tried, but no-one has come close to improving the playability found in SF, which is why they've just built on the existing format, spicing up the vintage visuals with comichorror backdrops and sprites.

Darkstalkers hasn't quite received the attention it merits yet, but now the **PlayStation** version is

likely to change all that. The pad is crying out for a bit of sixbutton action, and the Ridge Racer conversion clearly shows how closely games can mirror their coin-op big brothers. It'll certainly be a match for Capcom's other treat, X-Men, currently keying itself up for a Saturn unveiling.

There's a great big coffin-full of humour to be found in Darkstalkers, from the classic horror locations and characters (every spook from a mummified chap called Anakaris through to a Sasquatch), to the bizarre special moves. They really are wackier than the very wacky **Princess of Wackidom.**

So choose your monster, let



your 'rage gauge' special moves bar grow, and lose your head with a nasty bunch of Night Warriors on the PlayStation. Maybe quite literally...

Machine.....PlayStation.

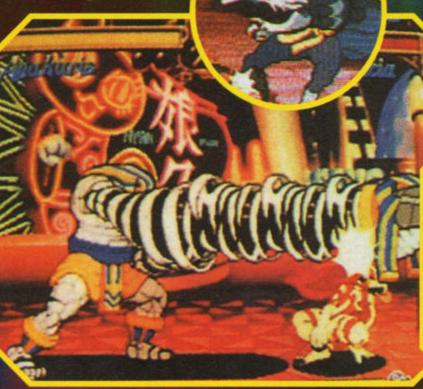
Publisher....Capcom

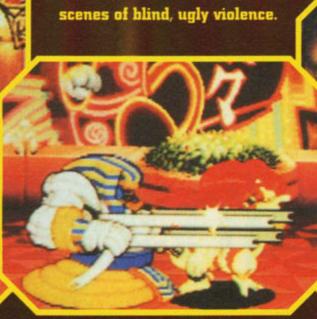
Developer...Capcom

StyleBrawl fest

Release.....April

Status80% Complete





▼ Tomfoolery can end up as



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EDI

All proceeds to charity, Including ChildLine and the Prince's Trust.





▼ Look, hare you can the zany zoominess is.



A Ch, someons's out destroying my camp while I still choose me car...

The best blast on the 300

▼ The faster you move, the further the camera pans out, and vice versa.

rough to the naway Train stages e game on the

he 3D0 has more of 3D blasters, but a good old fashioned scrolling blast? Not

action, in two player mode at least, is a very straightforward game of hunt and kill. Choose from one of four vehicles, a tank, a jeep, a big armoured

simultaneous two player up as you scout around the landscape is incredible. You can lay



.TRUE LINES...Look no hands! After scientists recently developed a wheelchair that can be controlled by thought, American developers

Trip's machine. Return Fire comes then as a welcome breath of fresh air, not to mention a retro gamer's dream come true.

This, for the crusty among you, is a 90's update of Atari VCS classic, Combat. The

helicopter. Each possesses different attributes and weapons. All you have to do now is find your opponent and blow him up.

The graphics are fab, super smooth scrolling with a lovely 3D effect, all of which takes place on a split screen for that

drivers/pilots, as well as choose an all out assault.

This kind of straightforward fun hasn't been done so well since the days of Desert Strike and this is going to be an essential buy for action-starved 3DO owners. Full review next month, so check it out.

Publisher....Prolific Publishers

Developer.....Silent Software

StyleOverhead shooter

Release.....March '95

Status99% Complete



Utimate UPDATE

Games to be carted off...

As Sony gears up for September's European launch of the PlayStation, they have been making efforts to reduce their inventory, by offloading a million cartridges at hugely reduced prices.

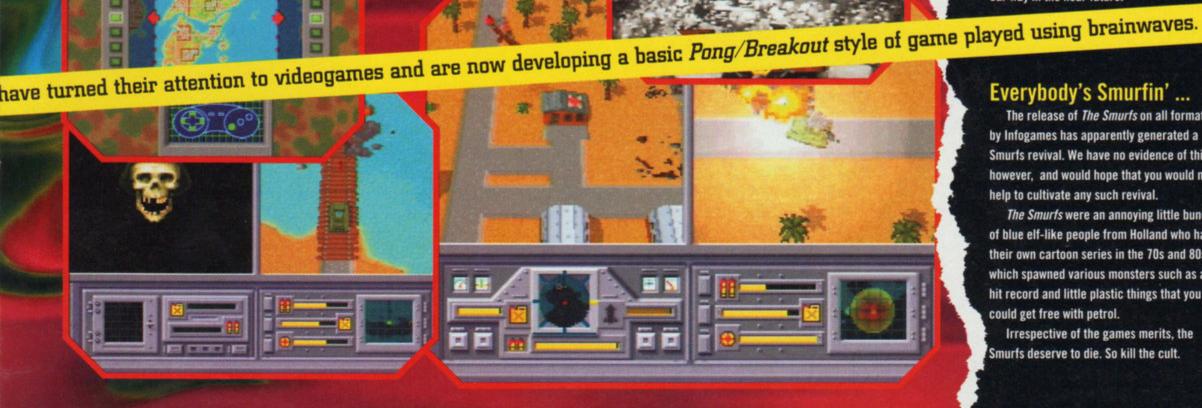
Computer Retail News reported that games for the SNES such as Double Dragon 5, Legend, Troy Aikman American Football and Charles Barkley's Shut Up and Jam Basketball will be retailing for as little as £8.50 each - an average £40 less than their normal retail price.

Although industry boffs believe that Sony cannot afford to drop the 16-bit cartridge market altogether, they must concentrate on establishing the PlayStation. Good news for us in the future and even better news for current owners of the SNES!!

PlayStation figures highly

Official Sega figures claim that over 400,000 Saturns were sold in Japan over Christmas, as compared to 300,000 PlayStations. While it might look like the PlayStation is lagging behind in the Next Generation race, however, it must be remembered that these figures were produced by Sega themselves, and that even if the figures are 100% accurate, the Saturn had two big advantages over its competitor in Japan. One is the amount of advertising that Sega concentrated on the Saturn, and the other is the love affair that the Japanese public have with Virtua Fighters. Despite the far superior reproduction of Ridge Racer, the Japanese van't get enough of the polygon scrappers.

The good thing for all of us is the combined amount of consoles that have been shifted, which will surely mean even more interest is generated by Software companies and even more games coming our way in the near future.



The release of The Smurfs on all formats by Infogames has apparently generated a Smurfs revival. We have no evidence of this, however, and would hope that you would not help to cultivate any such revival.

The Smurfs were an annoying little bunch of blue elf-like people from Holland who had their own cartoon series in the 70s and 80s, which spawned various monsters such as a hit record and little plastic things that you could get free with petrol.

Irrespective of the games merits, the Smurfs deserve to die. So kill the cult.

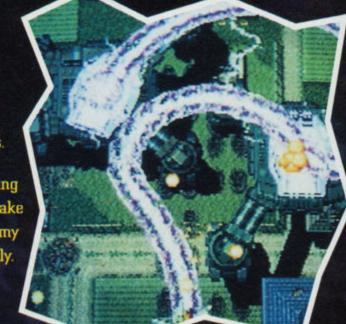


PlayStation



classic Raiden is a most pleasurable sensation. Just wait for all those power-ups.

One of the more amusing ones is the wibbly wobbly snake thing. It locks onto an enemy and thrashes about wildly.



Kill stuff and lots of it in 7.11

the best shooter ever made

UPDATE

Rumour has it that

Rare (the developers behind Donkey Kong Country and Killer Instinct are working on a Mario Kart-style game using DKC rendered graphics. Look no further than Ultimate Future Games for further information.

Playing over the phone

is now possible on your 16-bit Mega Drive thanks to a new add-on called Catapult. If you have no friends close by, you can play against your chums from around the world. So far the modem is only available in the States, and works with 5 games: NBA Jam, Mortal Kombat, Mortal Kombat 2, John Madden '95 and NHL '94. Not bad for starters. The Mega Drive version of the modem will also work with Mega 32X games.

Virtual Reality glasses

have just been developed in America to get "a true 3D experience" from games

'em up, but then you have to admit that straightforward is very often best. Seibu have done a number of arcade games based on the Raiden formula, and enjoyed huge success in Japan. The Raiden series has never been converted properly, however, and every home version to date has been flawed. This time though, Seibu have done the conversion themselves and reckon it's identical.

There are actually two versions on the PlayStation CD. The first is the PlayStation conversion proper and the second is a near identical horizontally scrolling version. The theory is that if you turn your monitor or telly on its side, you can play an identical conversion, with the correct aspect ratio. The normal version is squished to fit a normal TV. However, TVs don't like being

The game has all the ingredients for a successful blaster, like smart bombs, extra weapons and devious bosses. It also has some gloriously detailed graphics, plenty of hidden surprises and a huge, near impossible task to complete. Raiden follows very much in the tradition of games like Star Force and Tiger Heli, but has a unique character its own. It's also fair to say that it has one of the best soundtracks around. We'll review it as soon as we get the bugger.

Machine....PlayStation

Publisher...Seibu Kaihatsu

Developer...Seibu Kaihatsu

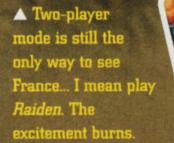
StyleVertical Shooter

Release.....March

Status85% Complete

TRUE LINES... The Sega Channel which was launched in the USA in December 1994 will launch here on cable sometime this year. ▼ Bosses come thick and fast in

> this shoot-'em-up. They make lovely explosions. And this has been a fiveline captio-athon successfully completed, I thank you.







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heaven. What does the future hold?

sumptuous selection of

Tekken

amco would appear to have another winner in their vice-like grip. Tekken is not unlike the Virtua Fighter style of beat-'em-up. No, it's a -flip lot like VF. It's still very welcome though, particularly as it's a darn sight

cheaper in most arcades. The VF influence doesn't only extend to the visual

polygon state of everything.

The animation's silky smooth and the whole style of fighting has its roots in the same familiar movements.

The trouble is it's not quite as polished as VF2. The backgrounds, impressive in their own right, don't quite come up to the standard of VF2. The eight

▼ Paul Pheonix and his big yellow





There are areads



pionship Or hance

international locations to visit.

You really do feel like
Chicken Tonight... I mean
Jimmy McRae in your Toyota
Celica Turbo or Lancia
Integrale. To get that hint of
realism the programmers went
rallying in order to make the
responses authentic, with even

exhaust being sampled from the

the sound of engine and

1995

▼ Yes, there's a bit of replay based tomfoolery. Nice one.



actual cars. The only major deviation from Rallying authenticity is the fact that you can race directly against the other car, but that's so much ■ Only an in-car view is on

offer in International Rally.

and once Daytona

finally appears on the machine it's going to be a hell of a lot easier to console ify this.

A No, this bit doesn't seem

like a real rally does it?

Sega Rally Championship looks to be loud, fast and frantic. But we're going to have to be a bit patient before it emerges here. Bloody hell.

characters are more stylised than the natural-looking members of the *Virtua* clan, but there's still lovely motion-captured animation.

It's a shame that *Tekken* filtered into the arcades at the same time as *VF2*. It would have shone like a beacon.

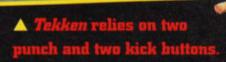
Ultimately

Virtually

Highly rendered characters
 Comes a close second



Selectable
 viewpoints give Tekken
 a drop of the life giving variety fluid.



▼ Some special moves are identical to those in *Virtua*.



Cyber Commando

Charles Sir William India Activities with



more fun than racing

There's also the

against the clock.

huge possibility that this'll be

skidding itself onto the Saturn

at some point. The advertising

hoardings around the courses

clearly display the Saturn logo,

▲ Identical view, same topnotch fun.

▼ No confirmation on UK launch date.



A Here's Namco's sequel to *Cybersled*.

▼ Could they have another classic here?











(NEO GEO CD)

March

First question
On what date did the
Saturn hit the streets
in Japan?

answer:

1

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Clued up

Bluffer's Guide To...

A bit new to the gaming scene? Think next generation machines are Pepsi dispensers? Well fear not! Prepare to win friends and influence people with these essential Sony facts for beginners...

Sony – all Walkmans, Betamax Videos and Camcorders, right?

Not any more. When Sony announced last year that they were entering the games hardware market nervous chuckles could be heard throughout the industry. When the PlayStation was officially unveiled Sega and Nintendo realised that their worst nightmares were being realised. A serious competitor had emerged.

The PlayStation - a bit of a girly name isn't it?

Yes it is a bit of a pump name (see *Play School* and the *Play Bus*) but it kind of grows on you. We prefer PSX as a more techy and less Toys R Us title.

What about games?

No worries there. So far more than ten games are available including Ridge Racer and Ultimate Parodius and they are brill! Sony have also got support from nearly 200 different software companies which is virtually unheard of.

Where did Sony pop-up from then?

The company was formed by a two-man partnership in 1946. The original name was the catchy Toky Tsushah Kogyo (Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering company) but they changed their name to Sony in 1955 after the success of their electric rice cooker and suitcase-sized tape recorder made them think globally.

Why were Betamax videos so crap?

Actually they weren't. The Betamax system was technically superior to the VHS system that is accepted by everyone today. Unfortunately it was slightly more expensive and so as people decided which way to jump, as usual the cheaper version of new technology was taken to heart, hence VHS.

So why call it Sony?

The name Sony is an amalgam of the Latin word sonus (sound) and the slang word sonny. Why sonny you may well ask? Well

there are three reasons: It has no meaning in any other language (unlike the Italian interpretation of Sega); it's short and easy to remember; and it carries with it optimistic connotation of sunny. Erm, or something.

Can Sony really compete with the might of Sega and Nintendo?

Too right they can! Sony don't just make flashy gadgets. Sony Music Entertainment is one of the biggest record companies around and the acquisition of Columbia Pictures in 1989 has made Sony the third largest multimedia group in Japan. They've got a virtually unlimited amount of cash to throw at this project.

Just who the hell do they think they are?

They're the people who were ridiculed for creating the Walkman back in 1979 only to sell over 100 million units in fifteen years. Sony have the reputation of being innovators but like any other company they've had their fair share of set backs. They once produced a cellophane-based audio recording tape that actually distorted the sound it recorded, making Elvis sound like he was singing under water.

Did you know the PlayStation was originally a Nintendo idea?

The PlayStation was originally to be a SNES compatible CD add on, but due to the better deal they got with Phillips, Nintendo pulled out and Sony were forced to go it alone.

Has the PlayStation got a Mario or Sonic type figurehead?

Yes indeedy! That geezer in the middle of this page is Captain Rock from the forthcoming game *Motor Toon Grand Prix*. He's going to be Sony's new mascot and he certainly looks harder than either Mario or Sonic.

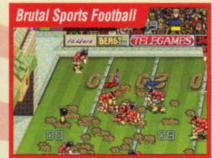


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Dragon - Bruce Lee Story









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EXPECTED DURING '95

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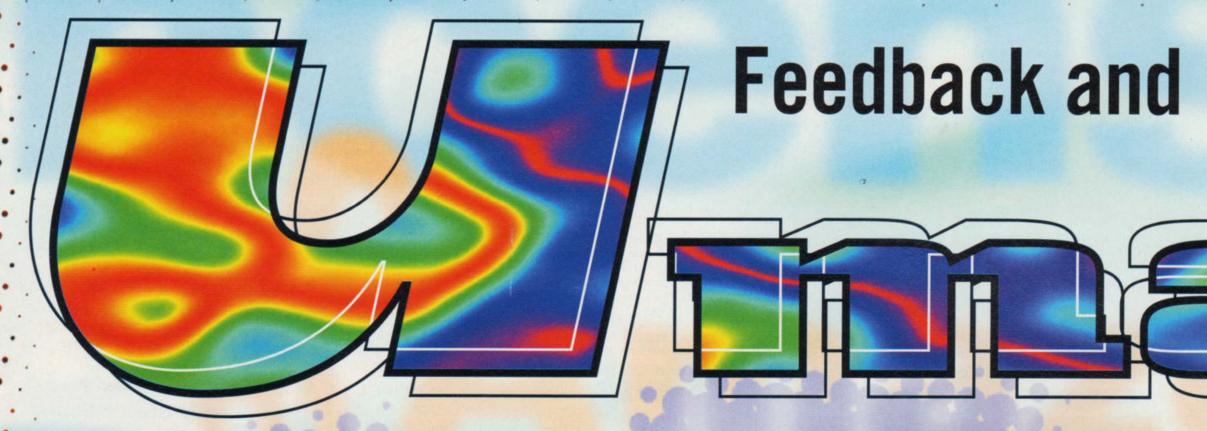
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We're Doomed

I have just read the review of the 32X version of Doom and feel that I must correct a statement made by yourselves. You state that the combined cost of a Mega Drive, a 32X and a Doom cartridge is less than the cost of a Jaguar and Doom. What? A Mega Drive costs £80, a 32X £170 and Doom £50. I'm no maths wizard but I believe this comes to a hefty £300. A Jaguar can be bought for £200 and Doom: Special

> Edition for £50, coming to a total of £250. I hope you will bring this error to the attention of your readers and suggest that you buy a new

This point aside, the magazine seems to be developing into a decent, reasonably priced read. Greg Brown, Norwich

calculator.

Now what's this game then, eh? Nah, it still escapes me...

Hold your horses

I'd like to put my money on the table now and say that the PlayStation is the horse to back. The Ultra 64 is the only other horse running. But these consoles will only become mass market over here in a couple of years or so. I doubt if we'll get anywhere near the prices the Japs or Yanks enjoy. We always get the 'It'll only cost X amount when launched here' tale, but it's always porkies. The 32X, Jaguar, SNES, Mega Drive and 3DO all came in at more than expected. Why not enjoy the current models for a couple of years and then get the Next Generation when they've

come down in price with a greater choice of software? Martin R Wilson, Yeovil

Well, if we all had that attitude, the Next Generation would never become established. It wouldn't be profitable for software houses to move to the new consoles, and the video game market would become stale. Okay, it's not quite as serious as that, but with the PlayStation's UK launch date now rumoured to be nearer Summer '95, with a price certainly around the £250 mark, things are looking up.

We've enjoyed the current models for a couple of years already and we'll continue to enjoy them, but it's healthy to have an interest in the future. U

Well, Greg, you weren't the only one to notice this slight dip in the Ultimate high standards of accuracy. But the 32X version of Doom would only be of interest to people with the existing Mega Drive, who are thinking of expanding their hardware system.

That way it would

be cheaper to buy

(particularly using the

a 32X and Doom

Wycombe

money-off vouchers), rather than a Jaguar and Doom: Special Edition. That's our excuse, anyway.

Playing hard to get

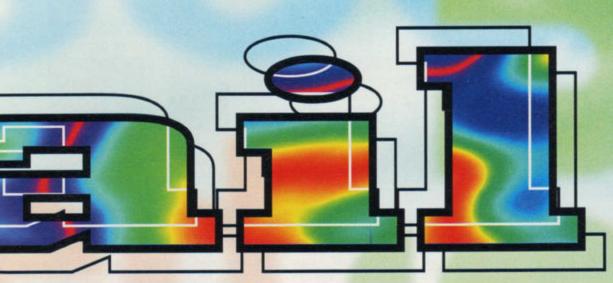
Your first mag was top stuff and on reading it I have decided on getting a Sony PlayStation. But on ringing around various importers I found that some were

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other white noise



charging around £600 for an import machine when you say it will only cost £250 or under, here in England. Why such a big price tag?

Also, what game will be free with the machine and have you a date for a release here in the UK?

Gareth Carter, Blackburn

As you might have read in previous issues of *Ultimate*, the PlayStation effectively sold out before its release date in Japan, so importers have tended to have a tough time getting reasonable numbers of the machines over here.

The few machines

that are available

have been in such

demand that sadly

they can get more or less what they want for them. The same was true of the original SNES imports. It's true that some companies are charging ludicrous amounts, but obviously there are people who are prepared to pay anything.



▲ Can you wait until later this year for Ridge Racer in your home?



▲ How could we forget our old friend, the humble Mega Drive?

Oh, and at the moment, Ridge Racer is being given away with the stand-alone machine by many importers.

Mega handling

I would like to
congratulate you
and your staff on
the best
computer games
magazine that
has hit the UK
market in years.

Issue two was very

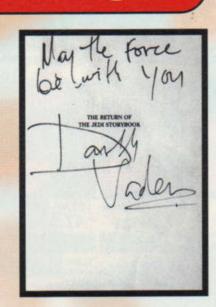
impressive, but one small point in question is why there is so much emphasis on Atari, 3DO and the SNES, with the poor old 16-bit Mega Drive getting left on the hardware shelf?

Anonytown

I know that the 32X and Saturn are more powerful machines, but the Mega Drive is a brilliant console and the control pads are easier to

Something Amazing 2

o sooner had issue three stormtroopered its way onto the shelves than Darth Vader's (a.k.a. Dave Prowse) autograph plopped onto our doormat. A UFG T-shirt and copy of Earthworm Jim are now the property of Aaron Baker, Liverpool. Keep sending them under-a-quid amazing things to the usual address. Prizes beckon...



handle than the SNES ones with their stupid controls on the sides.

Ray Hammond, Cheltenham

Shucks, thanks, we's a gettin' all embarrassed. We Er... 64-bit do cover good old consoles? U Mega Drive games when they're particularly impressive (and Mega CD software), but there's so much exciting stuff happening with the more powerful machines at the moment that we haven't given them as much coverage. Don't agree with your pad theory, though. After a few hours bashing away with even the spiffing next generation Saturn pads, your thumb tends to feel a touch tender.

both the Saturn and PlayStation
will be around the same
price, both have an

Um... any chance of reducing the

price, both have an impressive amount of software currently in development and, well, both have two tremendous games to accompany their launches. It's probably a

good idea to wait and see more software before making your decision, though. U



▲ This could become a reality. Stop laughing at the back. You just wait...

What's best?

And just wait until you experience

those little PlayStation lovelies. II

Congrats on the release of your excellent mag. I believe you're the best. Now, at the moment I have a Mega Drive. Which new generation machine do you suggest I buy ering the price, the

considering the price, the amount of software, the price of software and lastly, the quality of software?

Elia A Christopher, Cyprus

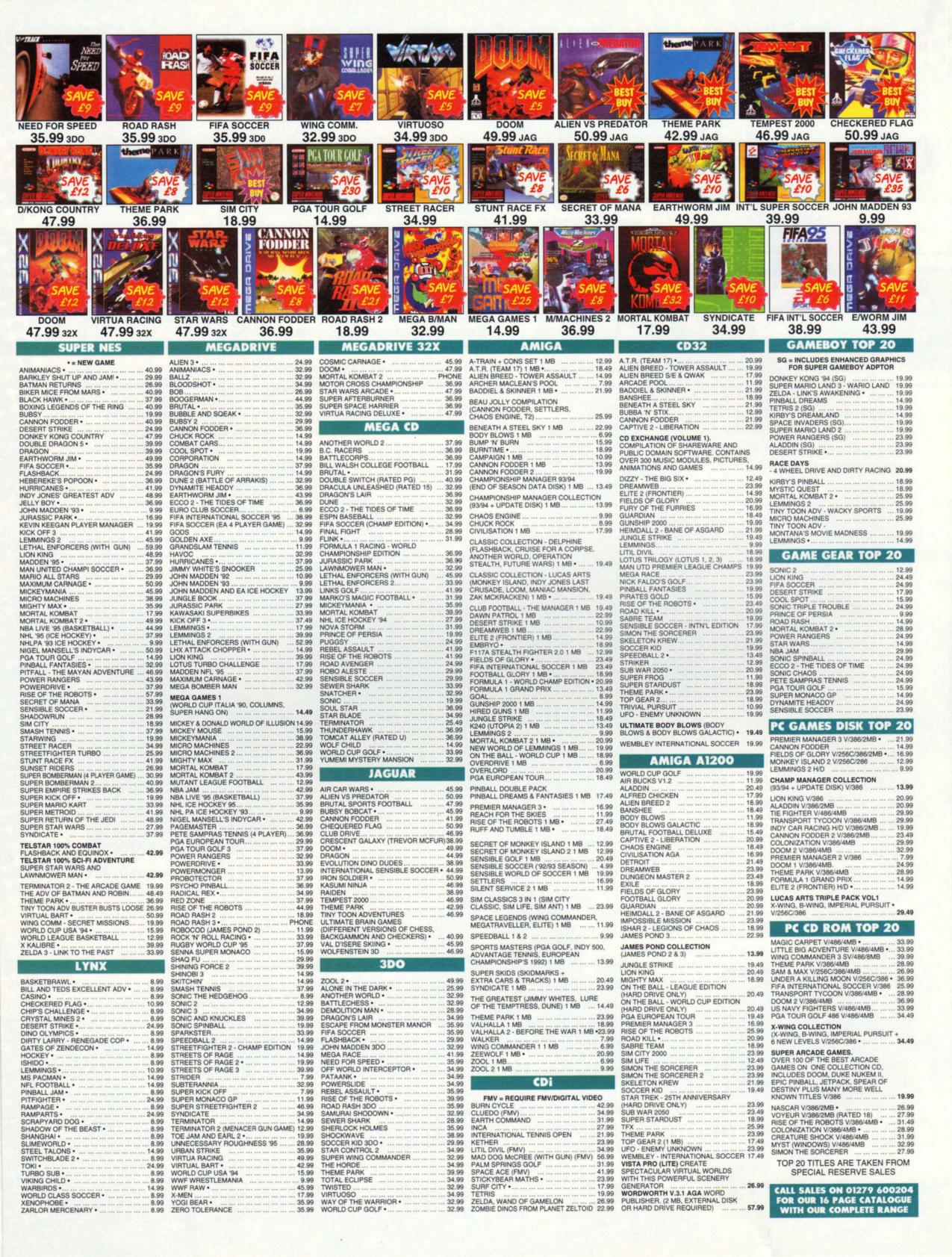
Panic!

I did a survey in my class the other day. The question I asked everyone was:

"Are computers taking over the world?"

The results were:
Yes - 22, No - 11.
What do you think we should do?
Allen Kelly, Glasgow

Panic, most likely.



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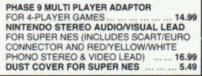


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Reverend Pete's Pious Pulpit

y, my, my, my, my. My. Things have been exploding in the world of 32-bit organs this month. Not content with seeing the gusset-soaking *Ridge Racer*, I managed to procure a feisty young copy of the jubilant *Motor Toon Grand Prix*, purely for the good of God you understand.

And verily, I felt tainted, for it did not quite whip me into a frenzy like the *Ridge* did. Although, I must admit I enjoyed playing in Jean's Garden and the duo fun of Raptor and Raptor left me feeling an old man. I'm obviously not up to a bit of pumping the wheel of pleasure as much as I used to.

But flagellate me jolly, the wristaching spurts of joy to be swallowed in the glorious Toh Shin Den are a salty marvel, that's for sure. Pleasure rippled over my slender frame. caressing every follicle and cleft. It is a joy to behold, though my freinds who carve these very pages inform me that it's 'not quite up to the playable depths of Virtua Fighter on the Saturn'. Tosh and piffle. The young, athletic boys who attended my fund-raising skinny dip held at my very own vicarage lapped it up. But alas and alack I do have a few doubts...

Anyway, my beautiful young dreamy things, I must be off to play with my hard drive. Yes! I have my own PC, donated to the umbrella-like care of God by the local electrical establishment. What a steamy little number it is. 60 000 000 bits of bytes. Or something. I can't wait to have a blast on *Doom* though. I'm desperate for a bit of pump action...

Glars

UK Cart Chart

1	FIFA Soccer '95 (MD) Electronic Arts
2	Donkey Kong Country (SNES)Nintendo
3	The Lion King (All formats)Virgin
4	Micro Machines (MD)Codemasters
5	Mortal Kombat 2 [All formats]Acclaim
6	Earthworm Jim (All formats)Virgin
7	Cool Spot (All formats)Virgin
8	Jungle Book (All formats)Virgin
9	Mortal Kombat (All formats)Acclaim
10	Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker (MD)Virgin

4



▲ The *Mortal Kombat* duo: still fighting to keep a top ten spot.

▼ FIFA International Soccer: kicking the all other CD's into touch.



UK CD Chart

FIFA International Control	
	The state of the s
Rebel Assault	US Gold/Marubeni
Mega Race	Electronic Arts/Mindscape
	Virgin
	Virgin
	Electronic Arts
Microcosm	Sony/Psygnosis
	Electronic Arts/Bullfrog
Magic Carpet	Electronic Arts/Bullfrog
Rise of the Robots	Mirage/Time Warner

Japanese Top Five

1	Super Peach Boy Legend 3	Hudsonsoft
2	Romance of the Three Kingdoms 4	
3	Super Donkey Kong	
4	Ridge Racer (P/S)	
5	Virtua Fighter	



US Top Five

Donkey Kong
Country: those
Americans just
can't get enough.



1 Donkey Kong Country.......Nintendo
2 John Madden NFL Football '95 (MD)EA
3 Lion King (SNES)Virgin
4 Final Fantasy 3 (SNES)Squaresoft
5 John Madden NFL Football '95 (SNES)EA

Ultimate babes

1	Elizabeth Hurley	Sex on a stick
2	Kathy Lloyd	
3	Sandra Bullock	
4	Sheryl Crow	
5	Phoebe Cates	



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Atari's Jaguar addon to rival Saturn and PlayStation.

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Well, babes on FMV
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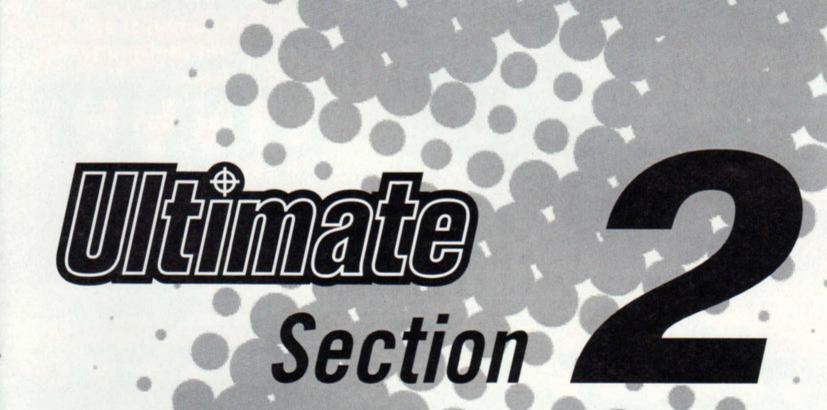
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Jag CD



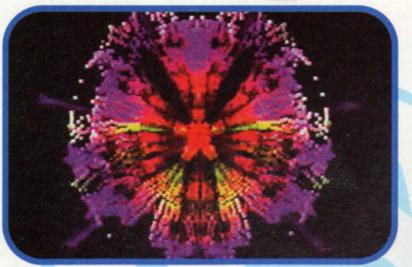
A 64-bit console without a CD player? Nah! Atari have finally come to their senses and launched a CD add-on for the Jaguar.

Ds are cheaper to produce than carts. Such are life's little mysteries. It seems pretty damn logical, therefore, that if Atari have any hope of competing with Sony's PlayStation and Sega's Saturn, they need to add a CD bit to the Jaguar.

Well, they have. At the Computer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, the people who brought you the Jaguar, put on display their first Jag add-on.

The CD player plugs into the top of the Jaguar and plays CD-based Jaguar video games as well as the standard audio CDs. It's a double speed player, and one thing's for sure, the add-on will be dead cheap. Out in the States for a mere \$149.99, we're hoping to see it hit the shops here for £150. There is little doubt that Atari are going for the "best value in the gaming market" type of marketing line, and it looks like that's what they have achieved.

The Jaguar CD will be packaged with Battlemorph (the much awaited sequel to Cybermorph) and the Virtual



▲ This is the 'amazing' Jaguar light show.
 ▶ Blue Lightning will be a different flight experience.



These are the games to come

The Jaguar CD comes with Battlemorph, the sequel to Cybermorph, with even more underwater worlds and underground tunnels to explore. You have to use the various formations of the War Griffon - fighter, tank and amphibious - to gain the edge over your enemies.

In the other 'starting-up' game Blue
Lightning, you get to fly your chosen plane
for the United Nations against a UN bloke
turned bad (you know the type we're
talking about). You basically have to design
flight plans and do all sorts of ducking and
diving to destroy enemy bases and depots.

Sounds like another Jungle/Desert/Urban
Strike battle scenario.

Atari are also following in Electronic
Arts's footsteps with the statistics-packed
CD sport sims such as Brett Hull Hockey,
CD League Bowling and Jack Nicklaus
Golf. Expect to see a whole load more

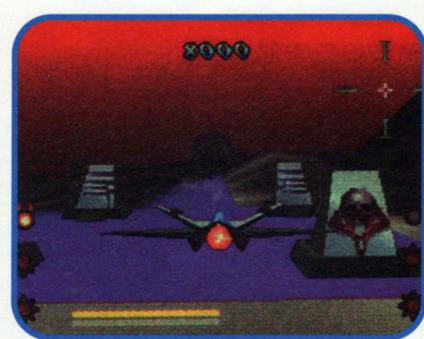
sports games following on the CD.

The other 'big' titles (remember, 'big' does not necessarily mean 'good', especially when talking about film licences) to look out for are *Demolition Man, Creature Shock* and *Highlander*. Watch this space for more news in the future.



◀ Robinson's Requiem is just one of the many Sci-Fi adventure games to appear on the Jag.

> The Jaguar CD add-on comes with Battlemorph, the sequel to the classic Cybermorph.



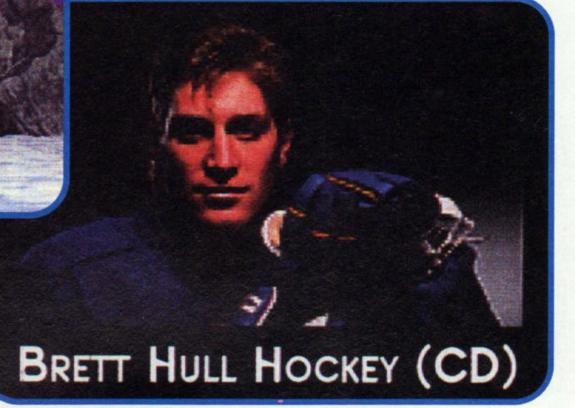
ROBINSON'S R

Light Machine (VLM) which Atari seem to be extremely proud of. The VLM is simply a light show that comes on when you play an audio CD - and there are over 81 patterns, yep, you can count them if you want.

Thumbs up for the price, but we'll wait to see some of the games in action before we judge the machine. Watch this space for the first previews.

▲ In Blue lightning you get to choose from eight high-performance combat aircrafts. Not bad.

Ice Hockey is the fastest sport around, and we're pretty sure that the Jaguar CD can reproduce the speed.



eat about

Some of the other games that'll hit the Jaguar CD in 1995

Title	Game Category	Expected		
Vid Grid	Down-the-pub puzzle music video game	1st Quarter 95		
Space Ace	Space shoot-em-up	2nd Quarter 95		
Soul Star	Science Fiction Action game	2nd Quarter 95		
Redemption	Adventure game	2nd Quarter 95		
Freelancer 2120	Science Fiction Adventure game	2nd Quarter 95		



▲ Battlemorph's underground



2. The other one in Double Switch (in the red dress), that isn't Debbie Harry.

Double Switch is a top title for babes. Not only are there the two students, but there's also Samantha in the red dress. After her early show of distress which is immediately endearing, Sam (to her friends) shows what a strong lady she is and the sort of woman you could happily settle down with as she sets out to solve the mystery and get the baddies.

Babe factor: 🖁

(there are 9 of us here and everyone said they'd give her one, so I guess that comes to 9)

3. The Lass in Dragon's Lair

Much like Jessica from Roger Rabbit, or indeed Bugs Bunny when he dressed like a girl bunny, nobody likes to admit that there's a cartoon character that they could possibly find remotely attractive, but this lass could've been drawn uglier, couldn't she? I blame the artist myself. Obviously a bit of a lonely lad. Doesn't get out much. Or is it me? Don't you wonder sometimes, eh?

Babe factor: (dodgy)

4. DiSalvo from Ground Zero Texas

Spunky lady! The way she looks at the camera and tells you that you've got to buck up your ideas or she's going to disable you always manages to make me growl. A very serious woman, but with a heart of gold beneath that cold and hard-as-nails exterior.

Babe factor:

(mainly for that stare)

1. Deborah Harry

Definitely one here for the older games players. Okay, so she may look a bit, how can I put it... old? But ask any male over the age of 25 about Deborah Harry and sit and watch them as their eyes cloud over and they start frothing at the mouth and roll around the floor clutchingthemselves.



Babe factor:

Fire Land Control of the Well, babes

A s soon as it was discovered that the advent of CD software could bring you cinematic sequences (or Full-Motion Video, as we like to call it), software publishers were quick to realise the obvious attractions of the female 'star'. We here at Ultimate have no

5. The barmaid in Mad Dog McCree

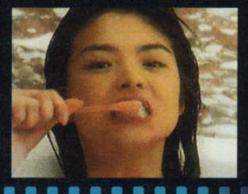
It's not difficult to impress the women from the wild west bars; kill a few folk, shoot all the bottles in the bar and order a bottle of whiskey without saying thank you, that'll usually do it. After shooting folk liberally in this bar, your success is almost guaranteed with this lass. Cowgirls are slack like that.











10. Sharon Stone in The Black Hole!!!

Fantasy in which you have to gain access to the forbidden temple of stone. Sharon plays a temptress and shows

flashes of... brilliance. In the opening sequence (that's enough innuendo - Dave).

Babe factor: 1



on FMV anyway

problem with that whatsoever, so we decided to celebrate this discovery with our own guide to the 10 finest 'actresses' to be found computer screens me, the research nightmare. So, in n particular order, or with regard for chauvinistic

restraint...

6. The bathroom victim in Night Trap

When you think of Night Trap, you tend to immediately think of the poor girl stood in front of the bathroom mirror, happily combing her hair without a care in the world. That was until a couple of vampire monsters leap out of the shower and attach probes to her neck. Bit of a shame, as she was a tad on the fit side.

Babe factor:



10. The strict one in the boiler suit from Shockwave

Good breeding, well qualified, confident, and definitely not a tart. Sometimes even us Ultimate boys

like to be dominated and nobody does it better than the bossy lass on the monitor in Shockwave. No spring chicken and she could do with getting some sun, but still a babe.



Babe factor:

8. The 'ladies' in The Sheriock Holmes CDs

Plenty of Victorian 'ladies' that seemed to fall into two categories. They were either barmaids (another glass of frothy ale, sire?) with a strange Cockney/American accent, or er, how can I put this, ladies who worked strange hours...um. Lovely, every one.

Babe factor:



(mostly for the wonderful costumes)

7. The riding chick in Tom cat Alley

Much like the movie Top Gun, there had to be a highly attractive woman around who pretended to know everything about planes, but only applied for the job so she could get off with loads of pilots. Okay, so you don't get to see her face much because it's covered up with a helmet and mask, but it's all in the eyes...

Babe factor:



(it might be higher if we ever get to see her face)

Is this cool?

The state of the s

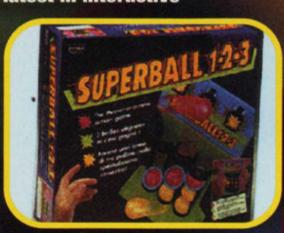
or far too long gamesplayers have been labelled as sad, obsessive, anorak-wearing speccy-twats with sofas stuck to their bottoms. It ain't so. Playing videogames is a cool thing to do.

n an attempt to prove that it's cool to play videogames (as if proof were needed) we will dispel some popular myths so that you can come out of the bedroom and shout "I play and I'm proud". The case for the defence...

Myth 1

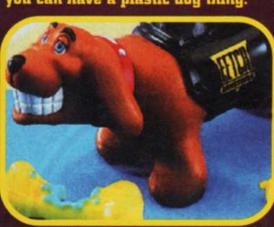
The games themselves are sad

The people who think games are crap are usually those that have never played them, or who think that Space Invaders is the latest in interactive



▲ "Hey mum, forget new technology this is what I want for my birthday".

▼ Who needs *Virtua Fighters* when you can have a plastic dog thing.



entertainment. These are the same people who in the name of nostalgia blather on about what great fun Operation and **Connect 4 are and probably** how tasty powdered egg was in the war. They're talking toss. If these people were actually offered the choice between playing FIFA International Soccer and Subbuteo, or Mean Bean **Machine** and Connect 4, they'd forget nostalgia before you could say Kerplunk and get themselves consoled up. Games such as Ridge Racer would blow their minds.



▲ This looks RUBBISH. Not at all cheap and nasty. I want tack!

Myth 2

Playing games is sad

just normal individuals who have a healthy interest in the technological forefront of entertainment. Like anything, as long as people aren't obsessive about their interest and do things in moderation, then there isn't a problem. Playing games, however, is more stimulating for the brain than

So if you are going to spend hours in front of the TV make sure you're playing games rather than just staring at soaps. As a form of relaxation and escapism games are also an excellent way to wind down and forget any niggling worries, rather than be reminded of them such as in watching Eastenders.

Myth 3

Games have no relevance to real life

n many respects games can be very good training for real life. I'm not saying that if you were attacked by an axe-wielding martial arts expert that a few games of Mortal Kombat would see you right, but games do create an awareness, especially in the case of simulations.

Games are also great for improving reflexes and hand-eye co-ordination and perhaps most importantly of all are a great introduction to new technology.

With the next generation games, it is only a small step to CD-ROM technology and beyond.



▲ You're walking along and someone comes at you. What do you do?

Myth 4

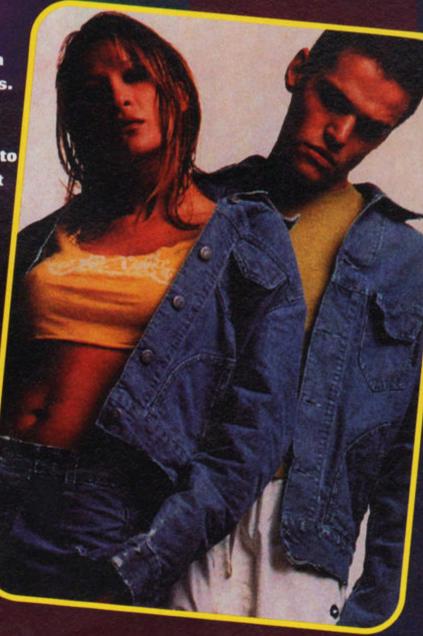
Festering anorak-wearing speccy-twats

This is the myth that the mainstream media perpetuates perhaps more than any other, that games players are dirty, smelly, spotty, fat speccy-twats who wouldn't know what fashion

was if it kicked
them in the
knackers with a
pair of Cat boots.
It is a myth that
mags such as
ours are happy to
go along with at
times because
our readers are
aware of what
total and utter
rubbish it is.
Just like their

Is he cool?
Is she cool?
Are they cool?
In fact, yes,
they are.
Gamesplayers
are cool.

taste in games, the gamesplayers are normal members of the public who are aware of the latest trends in fashion and happy to dress in their own individual styles.



Myth 5

Gamesplayers are all Billy no-mates'

onely and unable to communicate? Not us. Admittedly in the past, the one-player platformer has had a spell of popularity which lead people to believe that's what we wanted. The dominance of beat-'em-ups-which have to be shared to be enjoyed properly show that games players prefer competition with other

players. And as technology improves the ability to have four-player, eight-player and even more-player games will give the multi-player capacity that gamesplayers have always wanted. From sport to beat-'em'ups through puzzle games, the ability to take on all of your mates will eventually become a reality. Hurrah!

Myth 6

Games encourage violence

Dahmer never played
Doom. The three convicts on
the run in the Isle of Wight
were not picked up playing
Virtual Fighter down at the
local arcades. Fred West did
not own a gameboy. Shit
happens and it isn't games
related in the slightest.
There is a minimal level of
violence in games, and what
violence occurs is of an
accentuated cartoon nature

which is far outweighed by actual violence shown on television or video. The games only create a level of awareness they do not brainwash people. Kids no more think it's alright to hack off someone's head with a stunning death move, than they think hedgehogs are blue.

Blaming videogames for societies problems is a convenient media-device and one which has little or no substance to it.

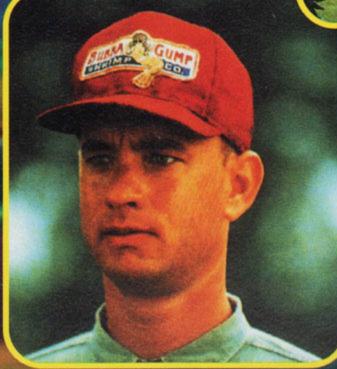
Myth 7

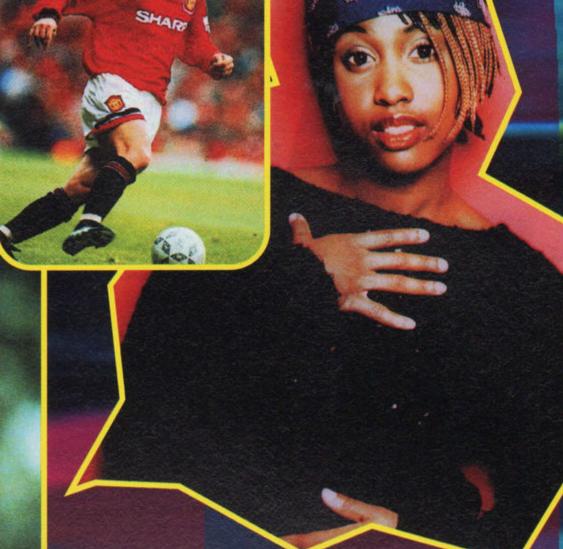
➤ Football, along with other sports, is part of games culture.

Gamesplayers have no other interests

ames are just part of a whole culture that exists for people in this country and in addition to games the gamesplayer is generally interested in music, video, cinema, books, sport, bands and indeed everything you'd expect of normal people. Evidence of this can be seen in the wealth of cross-over and promotional tie-ins that exist around games. The involvement of bands such as PWEI and **Primal Scream in games** soundtracks, the number of games converted from film licences or fronted by sports stars. It can also be witnessed in the coverage that games magazines are giving to other

forms of entertainment, which has long been done in Japan where games are even more deeply ingrained into society.





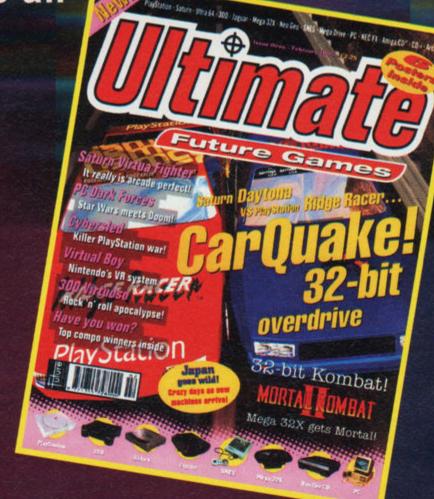
▼ Films are often turned into games. Not this one though. ▲ There is a big crossover between music and games.

Myth 8

The mags they read are all the same

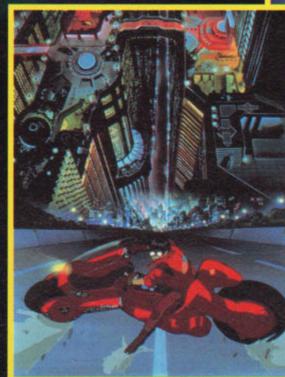
We think not.

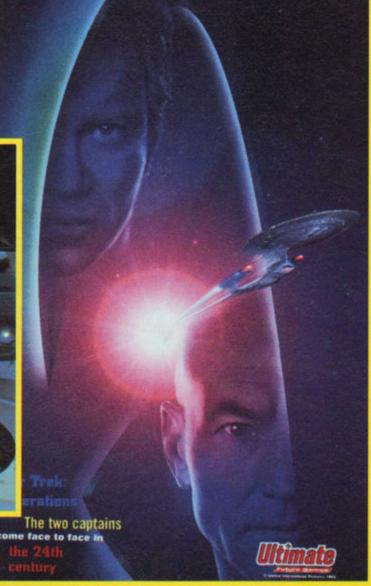




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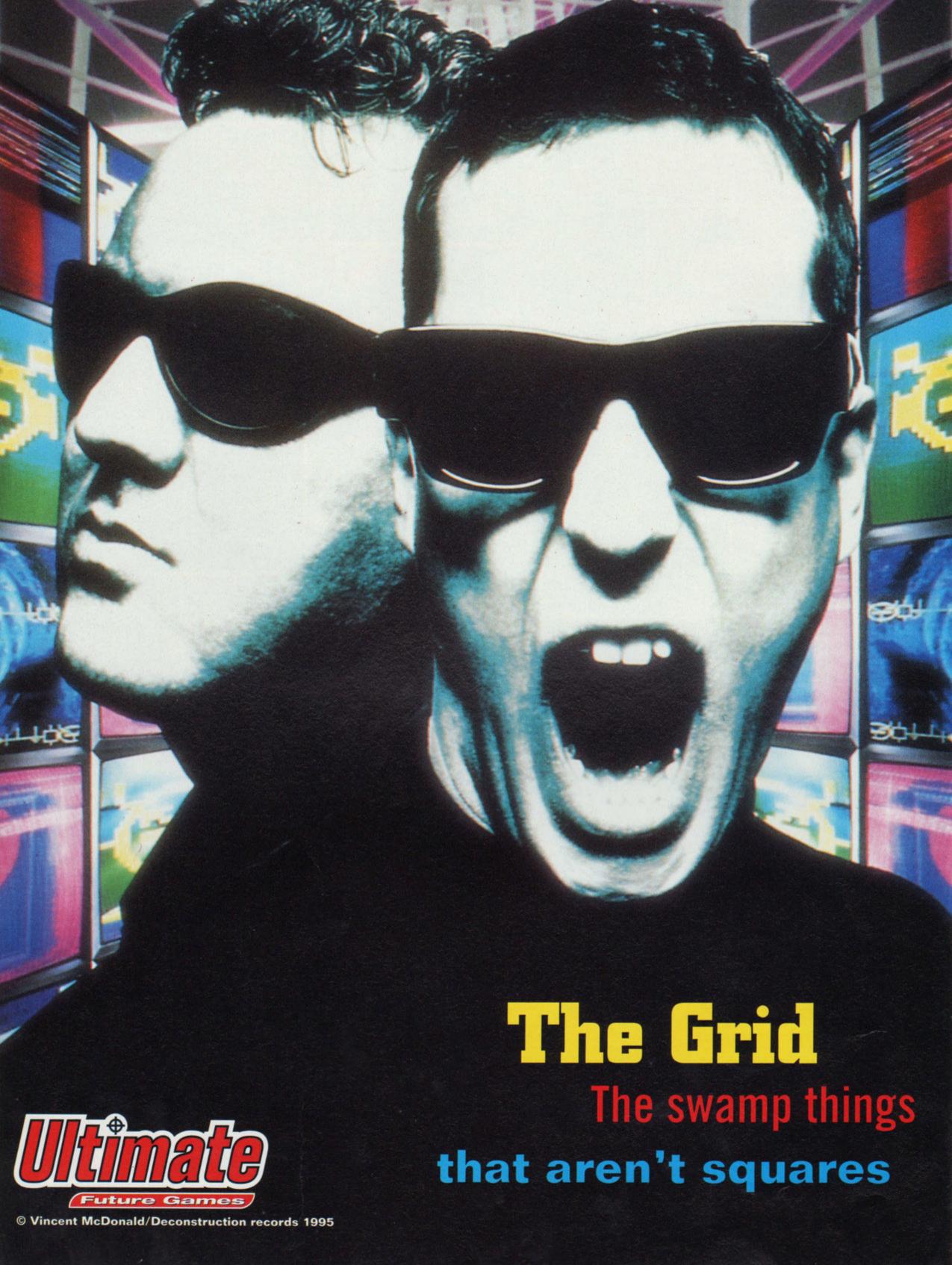


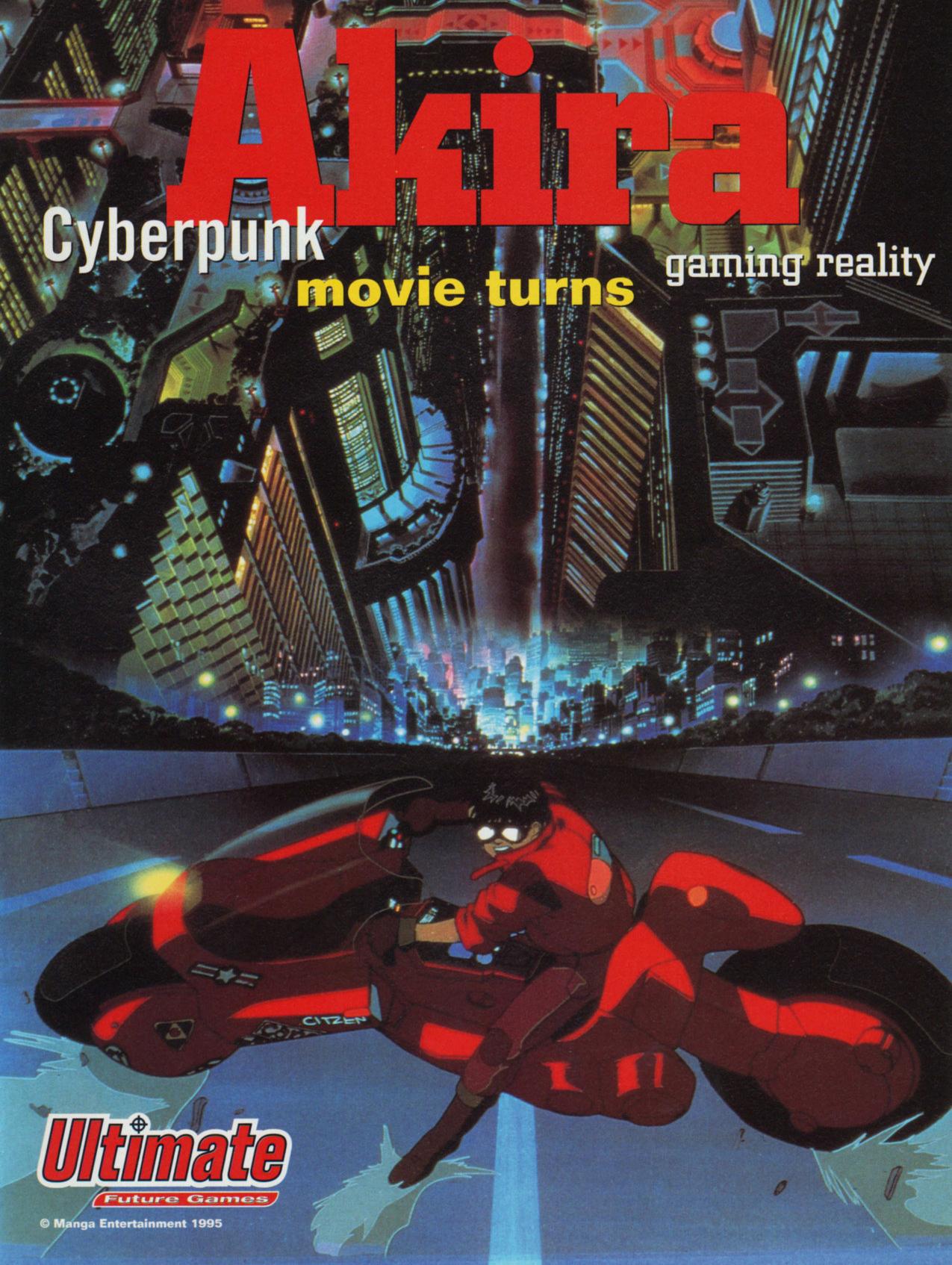












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Death and

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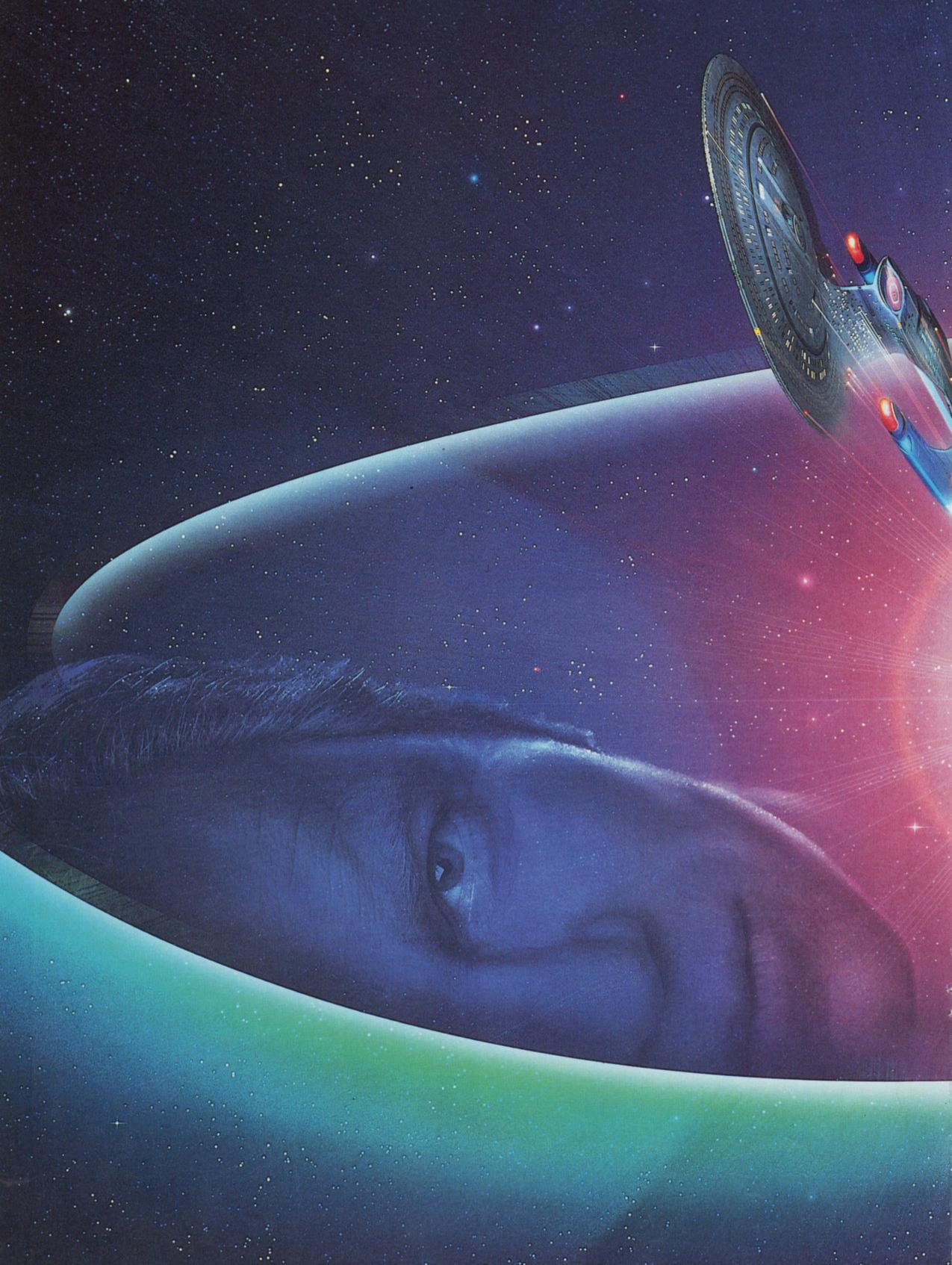
© Josh Kirby 1995

US sci-fi

box-office smash



© Guild Film Distribution



Star Trek: Generations The two captains ome face to face in the 24th

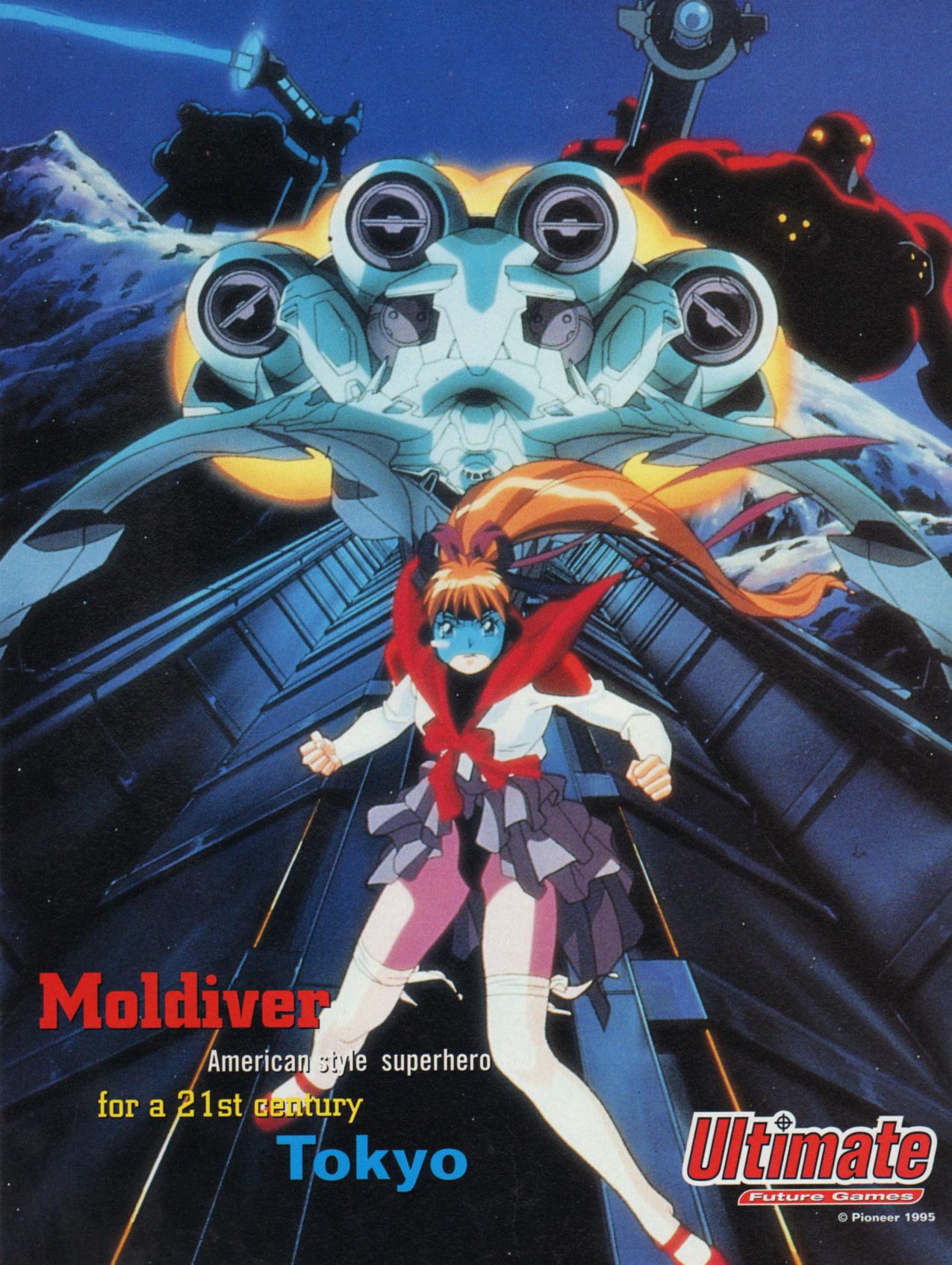


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Console wars)

Shoot-'em-up Which Next Gen system show

The oldest and biggest slice of video game pie is served up by Shoot-'em-up. You'll find a variation on the blasting theme on every console, so where does a window shopper start?

You need only look 3DOwards for a wealth of titles, many aren't too rich in quality, though. Peel away an impressive outer layer of the FMV-saturated

Shockwave, a second skin of the epic Wing Commander 3, and you're left with the pith of Mad Dog McCree, Burning Soldier and Virtuoso. The likes of robot fest Belzeriun and arcade conversion Starblade could well sort out this 'fab intro, flabby gameplay' imbalance soon.

3DO's arch rival, the Jaguar, is a smaller shooter, but tends to have a fuller barrel, especially if you fancy an in-

yer-face frenzy. Wolfenstein,
Alien versus Predator and the
toppest console version of
Doom all make an appearance.
Then there's Tempest 2000, a
game worthy of the title
'classic', not to mention
Cannon Fodder and Iron
Soldier. Okay, so we'll mention
them. Don't know if it'll be
able to match the PlayStation
and Saturn once they're up
and running though.

Although the Saturn and PlayStation are both still nappy soilers where blasting fun's concerned, Demolition Man is soon making an appearance on both, as is Raiden. We're sure to see Virtua Cop join Panzer Dragoon on the Saturn at some stage, while the PlayStation gets Philosoma, Cybersled and Doom 2. It certainly looks very promising for both at the moment. And us!

Battle of the COTISOIES

Ultimate is here to tell you

Beat-'em-up which of the new consoles see

...And the winners is...





2 Contender



3 Punchbag



orifice, that's what we say. And where better to hear the twang of sinewy tendon and see the pump of gristle-like muscle than on the Saturn, with the highly acclaimed Virtua Fighter and the promising Van Battle. The prospect of Virtua Fighter 2 makes it all the more appealing.

But arcade smashes Tekken

ld you shoot your wad on?

...And the winners is...



Pump action









Dark Forces heads for the 32-bits along with loads of first person hell.

This is it. The cards are on the table, all available stray cats have been neutered. Once and - let's face it, probably not - for all, Ultimate attempts to aid you in your next generation console quest.

Above, below and beyond you'll find each gaming genre laid bare, exposed to your probing. Under each category you'll find the top three consoles money can buy. And in the meaty world of consoltainment, we expose which one's the nut rissole.

which one you should buy

ms a load of old Eubank?

and Darkstalker will ultimately hit Sony's home system and back up the superb Toh Shin Den. And what about the Street Fighter compilation disc? The term 'shit hot' springs to mind.

Don't count out the 3DO either, with Super Street Fighter 2 Turbo and also Samurai Shodown (admittedly hiding the shocking Rise of the Robots. Way of the Warrior and Shadow amongst others), Trip Hawkins'

system could be a contender. Its only handicap being the pad. It's too clumsy and bulky for the impish dexterity required in a spot of one-on-one.

The poor old CD-i ends up with Beaty yolk on its face. The clumsy Rise of the Robots and Final Fight oriented Mutant Rampage really don't follow **Queensbury Rules. The 32X** only just keeps its head above water with MK2 and the

questionable quality of Cosmic Carnage.

But if you're not too bothered about the gloss of the Street Fighters or Virtuas, but flip for a touch of fisting in a big way, then the only machine for you is the Neo Geo CD. An extraordinary amount of classic titles and a back catalogue of SNK classics ripe for conversion. It's the machine beat-'em-ups were made for.





▲ NEO GEO's quantity or Saturn's quality? The decision is yours

(Console wars)

Platform An assortment of console chocolate

A II the next generation consoles seem to be leaving the platform genre well alone at present. Not a bad thing. It's been working very hard of late and needs a rest.

The Jaguar's currently the machine with the most, including Zool 2, Bubsy

and Operation Starfish.

Not so Next Gen you might say, and you'd be pretty much spot on, but the cute fest Rayman will eventually arrive... some day we're promised, as it will for the PlayStation.

The 3DO is more or less stuck with *Soccer Kid*, but the intriguing lizard-filled *Gex* should arrive in a couple of

months, while the 32X should at some point in the near future see the japery of a cunning little grasshopper called *Tempo*, not to be confused with the BBC TV Japanese female concentration camp serial *Tenko*. Even the CD-i is left with the very simple vertical-hopping antics of *The Apprentice*. A poor showing indeed. Ho hum.

Going on current and nearfuture software though, the Saturn's looking the best bet.
The fabulous-looking but much too short Clockwork Knight and hotly anticipated Shinobi X certainly bode well for the future, especially with Sega's track record in this area.

At least for now the next generation video game arena is safe from the threat of fluffy villains and pumpy jumpy. And the world is surely a better place for that. Amen.

Driving Sim A litter of fresh, steaming pigle

...And the winners is...

1 Gives us the horn

2 Greased nipple

3 Brakes like the wind







There's no question about it. Alright, perhaps a smidgeon of a question. If you want fast, compelling, Tarmac-tearing fun, then the PlayStation's your man with the 'best thing ever', Ridge Racer. Then there's Motor Toon GP, Cosmic Race, Race Drivin', plus a conversion of

Strategy Gorge yourself on the greasy, fat sa

This section covers all those games that require a nugget of thought from the player's brain. Well, failing that, a tiny, tiny bit of logic. Well, they're not driving games anyway.

Juggling its swollen assets like Barbara Windsor in the aerobics scene of Carry on Camping we have everyone's

favourite black box, the 3DO.
Already, Star Control 2, Theme
Park, Gridder and Outer World
have graced its circuitry
(admittedly, some with less
finesse than others), but with
the prospect of the 11th Hour7th Guest puzzle carnival, the
ubiquitous Myst and Flashback,
it's really turning into a thoughtsoaked machine. Pity about
Jurassic Park, Interactive and
Dragon's Lair. Shameful stuff.

You'll also be shovelling the likes of Syndicate, Theme Park and Flashback into Atari's black cat. Even the CD-i makes an attempt at being the rubbery plug in the bath of liquid brains, with its thought-provoking Voyeur and the dinosaur-cloqged Lost Eden.

The future, however, rests with the Saturn and PlayStation. Sim City 2000's worming its way Segawards, to

back up the oriental quirkiness of Rampo and Wan Chai Connection, while the Sony system gets a rub down with the chamois mind sponge thanks to A Train, Geom Cube (very strange) and Crazy Cross (a Columns-style effort from Konami). It's doubtful whether all the 32-bit strategy games will appear in this country though. Some of them are just that bit too bonkers like.

s. Which one's the apricot cream?

...And the winners is...

- 1 Mooning at the masses
- Hung like a horse
- 3 Close, but no cigar









▲ CD-i's Apprentice and the cutesome Rayman. Mmm, platforms.

s. Who's the little runt?

Ridge Racer 2 on the horizon. Why look elsewhere?

Because of Need for Speed on the 3DO, that's why.

Arguments have raged on whether this can really be pitted against the likes of Ridge Racer. It's more like a sim than a true bladder-filling arcade-style burn up – the cars really do act in a manner faithful to reality.

There's also Road Rash but

apart from Electronic Arts the majority of the software (Crash 'n' Burn, Off World Interceptor etc.) hasn't really lived up to expectations.

Don't forget about Sega's
32-bit infant though. Okay,
okay, Gale Racer is the sweat
juice matting the hair in the
driving sim armpit, but when
Daytona USA, Virtua Racing
and, hopefully, International
Rally arrive, this could well over

take (arf arf), the competition.

But that's a long way off. Oh,
and the 32X has Virtua Racing

Deluxe and Super Motorcross.

If you fancy them.

To be honest, the Jaguar's lost this battle with the disappointing Checkered Flag and Club Drive, but hey, the war's only just getting interesting. PlayStation is currently the console that's burning rubber.





Yes, the 3D0's had a few, but look at Ridge Racer. Lush. Phwoar. Blimey.

usage that is Strategy...

...And the winners is...

















▲ 7th Guest was a big hit on the CDi, and then there's 32-bit Tama.

Console wars)

RPG So come on Mr Console, who's afraid of the

e've all seen them, with their stunted growth and yellowing facial hair. RPG lovers, the flashing number crowd. But we all need a bit of adventuring now and again. Which system suits your tastes?

Well, at the moment next generation RPG's are a bit thin

on the ground. Like sheets of morning mist, you might say. If you were of a poetic bent. The 3DO has the Doom perspective of Dungeons and Dragons game, Slayer, alongside the appalling Powers Kingdom, but the 32X and Jaguar are even less appetising, with no adventuresome games whatsoever. Yet. The CD-i has the spooky cybernightmare of Burn: Cycle, but the others,

including the totally unrecognisable Zelda games, involve simply sitting through cartoons more than anything that involves action.

The Saturn will undoubtedly be inundated in the near future, but at the current time only Magical Knight, Reiaasu and Virtual Hydelide are at any stage of completeness. Sony's box of tricks is already in overdrive, with Crime Crackers,

King's Field (formerly Labyrinth) already on Japanese shelves and the huge 'F' quests of Falkata and Fujimaru just around the corner.

There's no doubt that the power at the programmers disposal means that these two systems have the ability to produce some astoundinglooking, mind-boggling epic quests, that go on forever. Blimey it's exciting.

Sports Sim It's a simple question of sport. W

...And the winners is...

Textbook stuff, lovely

Promising young talent Great Mills Division







traight to the point, no beating around the bush. The 3DO, thanks once again to the EA connection, is the sportsman's machine. With the American footy of *John* Madden, the goalscoring hi-jinks of FIFA and *Striker*, it really hasn't any competition where turf team games are concerned. A

Ullusiui Elementary, my dear Watson

II these decisions were based on the software scene as it stands and how it'll shape up in the near future. They will undoubtedly change as . time goes on, and what appears distinctly black and white now, is sure to become greyed. Boundaries are constantly being

pushed back by the new consoles. The 3DO certainly makes a healthy appearance in every gaming area, but it's had a fair amount of time to gain a foothold. Both the Saturn and the PlayStation have software reaching a finished standard, and even by next week

they could well top every category. They certainly have the power to do so. The Ultra 64 console is nowhere near a reality yet, but it's sure to be good. Bloody good.

It's all a question of sacrifice. Are you prepared to slaughter quality for quantity, clearly illustrated in the beat-'em-up dilemma? Generally we aren't so fanatical about a game genre that we'd buy a system purely for one type of game. Most of us like to vary our gameplaying. Even too much Street Fighter can be a bad thing. Like lard.

So taking everything the average person looks for in a console into account, the ultimate machine has to be... not saying. But the 32-bit Generation's where it's at.

e friendly fairy folk?

...And the winners is...

1 Highly polished



Silly pointy shoes











▲ Okay, okay, Burn: Cycle isn't a true RPG, but Slayer on the 3DO is.

ho's the Partridge then, eh?

splashing of golf games
(some only obtainable
on import at the
moment) and the Let's
Play series of
instructional films
(again, US only) also
make it a viable
proposition, and the
into-the-screen
basketball strangeness
of Slam City shows it is
already expanding into
other different areas.

But every system seems to have a golf-sim these days. Except for the Jaguar, which will have to wait until the CD add-on arrives before we see Jack Nicklaus Golf. In the meantime it's left with the likes of Brutal Sports Football, Sensi Soccer and Val d'Isere skiing, all tinged with a hint of retro it has to be said.

Even the 32X is succumbing to the great god of Dimpled Ball, with Scottish Open and – gulps

down Oxygen in preparation – Golf Magazine's 36 Great Holes starring Fred Couples.

The Saturn and PlayStation are trailing in the egg and spoon race at sport-sim school, with similar baseball games and, yes, you've guessed it, golf titles, but Sega could pull a bunny from the hat with their super sexy Saturn Soccer, while Boxer's Road on the PlayStation looks a polygon punch orgy.





▲ Yes! FIFA on the 3DO and, er, Val • d'Isere on the Jaguar. Er... yeah!

CD-i

Okay. From the recommendations given here, Phillips' assault on the videogames market may seem to have been launched from behind a very blunt end, and to the hardened game hunter, it really doesn't have enough quality games. But it really is an attractive proposition for the home entertainment enthusiast, with its expanding catalogue of CD film titles, and it's fit-ontop-of-the-VCR quality.



16-BIT*TER*?

Lest we forget the SNES and Mega Drive.
They've had a longer innings than the
English cricket team, but the whip's had its
final crack and the gaming fluid's running
dry. This Autumn they'll have to stand aside
for the 32-bit playthings. But in the
likelihood that they'll get even cheaper,
they're not dead yet. Oh no, Vicar.



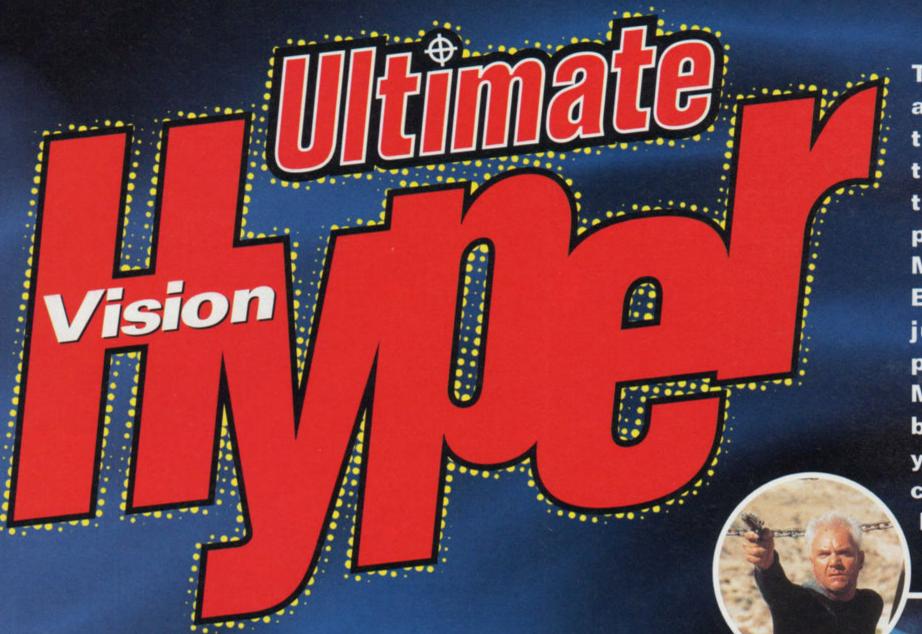
PC

Could this earn the title of Ultimate Games
Machine? Hmmm. It's certainly got the
variety stuffed in its array of ever-expanding
softs. It really is a haven for simulations and
golf games, but is weak on the platform and
beat-'em-up stock. Oodles of games are
already drifting from hard
drive to console. And this is

drive to console. And this is the birth place of *Doom*, for flip's sake.

You're going to have to spend a fair whack of dosh on your hardware if you're after the quality stuff though.





There's no messing at Ultimate, we're the media whores that get straight to the point with our pithy reviews. More tasteful than **Barry Norman's** jumpers and perkier than Mariella Frostrup's breasts, they tell you everything you could possibly know about what's worth watching.

Star Trek: Generations

Starring: . . . William (Wiggy) Shatner, Patrick (Wigless) Stewart, Malcolm McDowell

Director: David Carson Certificate: ..PG

hey boldly came. They boldly went. Then they boldly came back on the big screen with new

widescreen guts to boot. Yep, Star Trek is the phenomenon to Patrick Stewart. that refused to die. Now we're onto the eighth film, and it's the last one to star

▲ Captain Picard leafs through his photo album and wistfully remembers having a full head of curly hair.

the original crew.

Well, actually, it only features three of the original

crew, Scottie, Chekov and good old James Tiberius Kirk. And only the Cap'n survives further than the first half hour.

Because, you see, this is the first film to feature the Next Generation crew, and Kirk sort of hands over the baton of responsibility

Yeah, so if you're a Star Trek fan it's, like, a great,

> momentous occasion, but is it any good as a film? Sure is.

It's got just the right blend of action, humour and daft sci fi ideas. And there are some truly spectacular special effects. If you've ever enjoyed any episode of any brand of Star Trek,

you'll love this.

Okay, it gets just a tad too schmaltzy in places (this is Star Trek, after all) but things don't stay too serious for long.

Not the best in the series. but not far off. And ten zillion times better than Stargate.





▲ Malcolm McDowell tries desperately to find out where the Captain gets his natty outfits from.



▲ "Someone's had it away with my Boney M's

Greatest Hits tape". Kirk ponders another mystery.

▲ Whoopi Goldberg is rumoured to have demanded a massive fee for the film, simply because of this hat.



▲ Captain Kirk doesn't last too long into the film, but still manages to get a spot of horse riding in.

True Lies

Arnie returns with a bang after a couple of duff movies. Next he did Junior.

Starring: . . . Arnie Schwartzberger, Jamie Lee Curtis and Rosanne's old hubbie

Director:James Cameron Certificate: ..15

ust-rent video of the month Cas long as you're over 15, otherwise it's the must-get-your-mum-torent vid of the month - we know you have the ways and means to watch the best).

After the financial disaster of the not-that-bad-really Last Action Hero, Arnie needed a hit. And by teaming up again with Terminator 2 director Cameron he got it. In a big way.

Arnie stars as a secret agent whose wife thinks he's just a

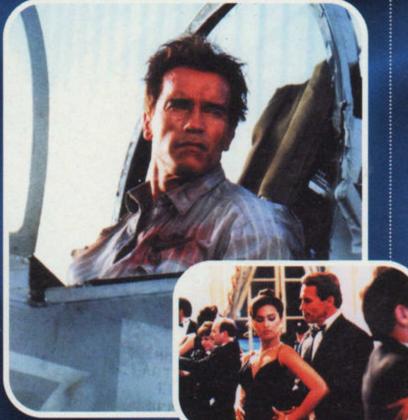
boring salesman. She then starts to go out with a bloke who says

> he's a secret agent but isn't. And then some international villains and their nuclear

devices turn up to complicate matters even further.

The result is a no holds-barred action flick in which the stunts just keep getting bigger. The big finale, involving a fight on (yes on) a Harrier jump jet is awesome.

If you didn't see it at the movies, don't miss your chance now. If you did, see it again.





O Superb stunts Soft in the middle

wesome

Jean Claude

Van Damme may have found the role he was born for. He is set to star in a film called Afterlife, about some bloke who's had a brain transplant...

A Hannibal the Cannibal to get

his teeth into another movie...

Show Reel

that he never wanted to play the role again,

Anthony Hopkins is considering appearing

as Hannibal Lecter in a follow up to Silence

Despite rumours

of the Lambs ...

The big baddie

in the next Bond film, Goldeneye, will be played by Robbie Coltrane. Oh yes, a very big baddie. The role of M. James Bond's boss will be played for the first time in 17 Bond movies by a female. Dame Judy Dench will take the role, which some say is prompted by the fact Stella Rimmington is currently the head of MI5.

After the success

of films like The Addams Family, The Untouchables and The Fugitive, more '60s TV series are being geared up for big screen remakes, including The Avengers, The Prisoner, Captain Bilko and (horror of horrors) The Brady Bunch...

Jim Carrey

of Mask and Ace Ventura fame is starring as The Riddler in the latest Batman film Batman Forever due to open here in the summer. Tim Burton produces rather than directs this time, with Joel Die Hard Schumacher taking the reigns. Val Kilmer replaces Keaton as the Dark Knight to complete the list of changes. Should still be a corker though, watch this space for our Ultimate preview coming soon.

No Return of the Jedi

From January 31 1995 Fox Video will have ceased production of the Star Wars trilogy, and have no plans to release the tapes in the foreseeable future. So if you haven't got yourself copies of these great three films, then get your hands on them quick...

Street Fighter 2 Movie

Starring:Guess

Director:Er, sorry, couldn't translate

his name

Certificate: ...18... probably

on't get too excited. This isn't the muchtouted, Kylie Minogue/Van Damme movie, but an anime version of the world's favourite fist-fest.

Er, actually, do get excited. Y'see, it's hard to believe that

the live action film could be as much fun as the animated carnage on display. This really does look like the game come to life.

To tell the truth, we haven't got a clue whether the plot's up to much, because the version we saw was straight from Japan, and we watched it without the safety of subtitles. But there isn't much dialogue anyway. It's action action all the way.

> All the SF2 characters are in there (except Akuma - shame) and they all do each of their moves and battlecries on cue. Visually the film is so seriously smoking it's likely to come with a government health warning.





A Ken does his nine times table using his fingers and that TV ad to help him.



▲ T-Hawk - he does his bird thing and his other thing but not in this.



▲ Blanka sinks his teeth in deep as he takes Zangief from behind. Red faces all round though!!

Feature

This world isn't always a hop, skip and jump along the run-of-the-mill platform game of life.

It can be

Mortal Kombat

out there and knowing all the right moves is the only way to survive.

Console

yourself with

the thought
that some
people are more
unfortunate than you could
imagine... Games Spaz dipped
into the sorry pile
of post at UFG,
to help with
all those
embarrassing
bedroom anxieties
and joystick worries.

You thought you had

problems...

Very normal bloke

Dear Games Spaz, My friends have lately started commenting on my don behaviour and I Dear Games Spazi at

Ny friend laughed ay did

My the other day did

me the admitted Sex

when what is it and

was what is it know why. It all in my Link-from Another norm
-Zelda costumo started when I first went to school It had taken me two weeks to was. What is it, where can i find make and so l A Divvy, Cumbria was upset, especially when Sper says ...erm. err. they laughed at my well, ha-ha, it's a little yellow furry thing, Yes. I think. And green tights and you can find it in Krusty's Super long hair. They also

Fun House, level 6. In the simply for not eating when basement, I think. was saving amoney. went on every day for three months while was saying up for about her and Serial Killer 3. cannot wait to although I lost six home so that I can stone in weight I felt

fine. Also my teachers were teachers were worried that I had a worried that I had a sleep disorder, as I sleep disorder, as I occasionally fell asleep i

Sthere of think lam

What should know this

Saddgett, Swindon

Sactly what you mean, but if

Suggest you tell your friends

Games Spax says I know

What about Chun Li. Not bad. I

Saithful to Stick it and stay

thing on you can have

Sthere of think lam

Saithful to Cammy. Who needs

class.
This is rubbish as I
This is rubbish as I
regularly stay up to
five o clock in the
five o clock

Games Spaz says . I think
you're a perfectly well adjusted
young man and a credit to
society. Well done.



Next Month

Scorchin

mell the burning flesh within Ultimate Future Games next month thanks to our scorchin' preview of the Saturn's hottest shoot-emup. Panzer Braugon.

the PC FX, comes under the UFG critical eye and we also look at the games they are planning for us in 1995.

Saturn's hottest shoot-emup, Panzer Dragoon.

Videogaming sek

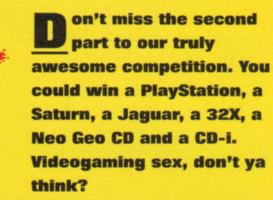
Hae

The Ultimate Map of the Gaming World

Itimate Future Games
redraws the map of the
world as we know it - who else
would dare to reshape the
Earth, making Japan bigger
than the whole of the African
continent? Not to be missed!

he UFG PlayStation is red hot and plays host to Myst and the puzzle-tastic Pop and Twinbee.

Win £2,000 worth of kit!



DOWER





n the Saturn, we're going kickin' with Saturn Soccer and Shinobi X.



ind out how to play Killer Instinct with the Ultimate guide to all the moves and cheats you need.



nd that's not all. With our cut-the-crap reviews, hottest news and fresh view on videogaming culture, you can't afford to miss the next issue of UFG!

March 1d Thursday



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Kasumi Ninja ... Dragon ...
Club Drive ... Sensible Soccer
Alien vs Predator...

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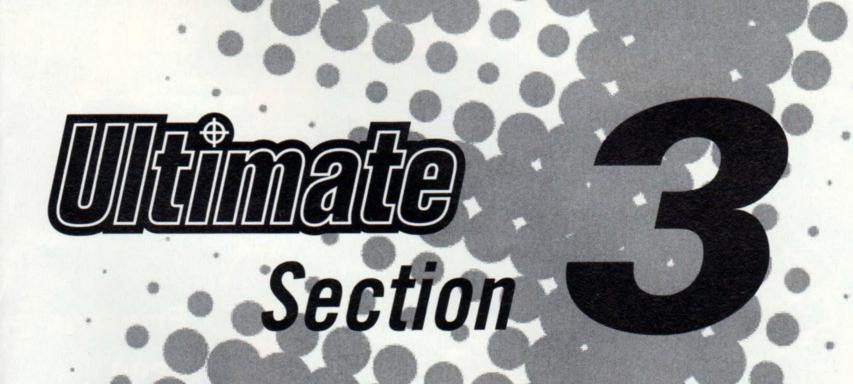
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Reviews

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Toh Shin Den	PlayStation	76
Unirally	SNES	94
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Points of view

PEED OOOKIIZH

THE WORLD

Four varieties of viewpoint are on offer in *Motor Toon GP* (with a front version of all four also available). All these also work when the car turns into your character – this happens randomly after passing through lines of diamonds.

DOO KIIZH



145.87



Gramul Prix

kitten called

PlayStation ● Sony ● £55 Import

Flopsy



The most important trait for any video game reviewer is that their ability for piercing judgement cannot be blinded by spiffing graphics, perhaps missing that slight weakness in gameplay. Well, maybe, second only to their strong tea-making instinct. That ability certainly gets tested when

Raptor & Raptor

waltzes into the office and plonks itself straight into the gaping lips of our beloved PlayStation.

Its cuteness is so damn infectious. It isn't so sickly

Its cuteness is so damn infectious. It isn't so sickly sweet that huge hairy lumberjacks would be embarrassed to be seen with a pad in their hands, in fact the most macho chopper-wielding of onlookers will be begging for a turn. But once the visual anaesthetic has worn off, I'm afraid the niggling toothache of doubt starts to nag at the happy smile of loveliness.

Your initial response when flicking through the selection screens will certainly be of the promising variety. With a choice of five cars, each blessed with different handling capabilities and speeds, an impressive array of tracks and some lilting cartoony music, 'things', unlike D:ream once promised, would be hard pushed to 'only get better'.

But up to a point they do.

The trouble is that it's rightly held in wide belief that good racing games succeed because of their sensation of speed, handling responsiveness and the race feeling they convey.

And that's where Motor Toon GP tends to trip up.

The sense of urgency and excitement that you get while slicing through the pack on the



Racer is far greater than you'll ever experience during any of the 13 tracks on offer here.

Even a simple measure such as putting a miniature map on screen would have helped cure this problem. As it is, you can't tell how close you are to the leaders or how 'up yer rear' the

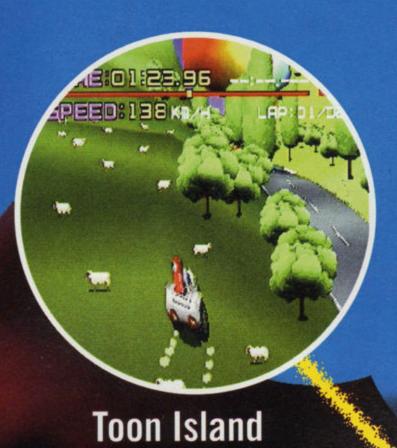
Even when you're flogging your buggy at 299 Kmh, the actual impression of velocity just isn't there, especially when you select the highest viewpoint that takes in all of the landscape. By the same token, the frame rate gives an incredible sensation of smoothness, but even that experiences 'slow-down' on occassions, the complex checker-board section a prime example.

Bashing into walls can also bring on an intense evacuation of smoke from the ears, as you There's no denying the entertaining elements though. When your car turns into the character you get improved acceleration. The Grand Prix tracks' design and scenery, particularly the stage though Gulliver House, are impressive to say the least (and 'effing top, vicar' to say the most). The jingly jangly tunes are superb and the replay facility which shows the entire race is also a welcome option.

But it's just not

Ridge Racer. And it just
ain't that exciting on its own
merits. We'll be seeing more
gorgeous-looking games, but
hopefully with playability.



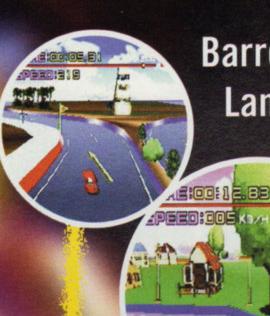


Plastic Lake





Gulliver House



Barren Land



Rock Playspot





Illusion Space

Jean Garden

MATCH COURSE



Strange Place



Princess Village

Glacier World





Penguin Kingdom

00:58:81 oa:p1;05





a like 'Drop Off'.

kick in

What's your pleasure, Sir? The purity of overhead, or the madness of sky? Choose wisely.

A taste of view pie.





▼ Shadows come detailed 'n'all.

OOM 32x: To get all the weapons, including the BFG, maximum mo and 200% armour press B and C together on the three-button ad or hold X and press C twice on the six-button pad. You can use

▶ Run Go loves a bit of showing off. Just look at the big lean. Bastard.

▲ Kayin and his mighty sword. He's probably the best all-rounder.

250 J.D.

RUNEE

the chops for

A Visually, this puts Virtus to shame.

Virtua Fighter?

PlayStation • Takara • £50 (Import)



▼ Just look through the pant things of Ellis. Yes, they're see-through!

A The normal viewpoint is still the easiest to have a bash in. No, it is.

A ppalling packaging and a text-stuffed intro mask the optic orgy pressed into the glossy, black depths of the Toh Shin Den disc. Phwooar! Itsthebestlookingthingever! 90,000 polygons per second, with added fingers and facial bits, show off the terrifying power lurking in every

Button-press your way through the scrolling story leight travelling

PlayStation.

fighters, some are at the

'Techno-rage' for glory, others
for love, blah blah blah), and
then it's your chance to
take a dip into the
ocean-sized option
screen. Forty

different pad

configurations, an assortment of camera views and choice of defence all quiver at the might of your selection power.

After picking your character, it's into one of the sumptuous arenas for a spot of knuckle fun. Each of the fighters comes armed with a rather impressive weapon, from the whip and heaving bosoms of Sofia, to Oriental OAP Fo's iron claws. Unsurprisingly they're also

riddled with special moves

means these are
rather too
accessible, ie. one
press of a
shoulder button is
all that's required.
They really do need
to be switched off
(they can be pulled off
he routine Street Fighter

using the routine Street Fighter fireball-type rotations).

Trouble is, there's a strong tendency to rely on these special attacks too often. Yes, they're stunning, but at the end of the day a really enjoyable beat-'em-up allows lots of close-up action (the wrestle-'em-up quality, to the Virtua Fighter combination of throws and punches a handy example). Toh Shin Den seems to concentrate

▼ The camera angles
 can be altered any time.

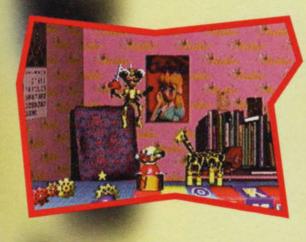








Utimate review sector





Pepperrouchau's Saturn Sega • £50 (Import)

▼ Out from a clock she pops,

Chelsea and her ruby cheeks.



Adventure

*Batteries not included





▼ Our hero is joined by another in a bloody battle for her love.



► After a brief bit of jabbing with his sword, Ginger carves a heart.



Story 7





Mes, in true National

Lottery fashion, it could be you. Our very own copy of Clockwork Knight could be

yours if you tell us how

you'd measure time without a clock. Send them

> answers to the usual addess.

ome on out, everyone.

It's alright, join the fun

We are free tonight! (Don't

tell anybody... secret,

secret). o Soga Enterprises Ltd

The best intros do not necessarily a good game make. Bear that in mind as you approach the next paragraph.

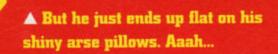
This, undoubtedly, has the best intro sequence of any game we've seen here at UFG.

After being
introduced to all the
miniature characters including
our hero, the moustachioed
Tongara de Pepperouchau, and
his clock-bound love-bun,
Chelsea, the plot unfolds (see
the story pictured at the bottom

of the page) with a tremendous effect-swelled build-up that George Lucas would take a shine to. Then the quest begins.

Well, the option screen appears. The trouble is it's only once you've played your way through the game, right up to the final animated finalé, that

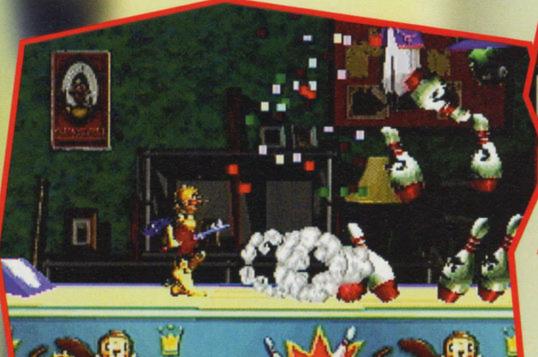
▼ Then our chum in the bronze has a pop, going to work on the target like a beaver.



▼ To top it all off, the toys turn all scary. They're possessed and that.



◄ In all the fuss, Chelsea has disappeared! She's been 'napped!



▲ Twirl your pecker to get

through these stripy gates.

you realise it doesn't quite have the epic quality of a quest. It

, frog's legs. We French, we do.

Kovin's a gorgeous name, and this is his bedroom. Yarse.

doesn't even reach the giddy heights of Platform Adventure Romp. It's slim. A Panatella, in fact. Only four end-of-level bosses and these are all of the spot-its-routine-and-stab-away-atit-type. There are also far too

> many continues, so play on easy level with maximum lives and like a dodgy curry you'll go straight through in one sitting.

Nobody could get bored of looking at the graphics though. The threedimensional aspect of the whole thing is breathtaking.

The scaling of the items that leap at you from the toy-strewn

backdrops is dreamily smooth, and the way that the viewpoint angle of objects changes when your character moves over and around them is very impressive. **Everything has a convincingly** solid feel about it. It's a pity then, that the character himself doesn't respond quite as well when he jumps.

Collect icons to boost your body count, use springs to reach higher platforms, feel the energy drain away as you touch water, aaah, there's something so familiar about it all. There really is nothing here to set the world on fire once you peel away the sheen of the visuals.

Even the shoulder buttons on the pad have been reserved for making the statistics move on/off the screen, but unfortunately it seems less of a case and more a disappointingly large set of

luggage, of Clockwork Knight being used as a vehicle for showing what pretty things the next gen Saturn can do rather than improving gameplay.

Look at me. Tm on the spine of giraffe looking so important. Cool

Premature

 Such a good looker Just not enough of it





than a dark shadow. At night

▼ After twating the Transformer, try this rosy chef.









◄ The final level monkey. Beware of his filthy jumps and his spin...





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POWER

Ultimate review sector



▼ There's a real arcade feel to International Superstar Soccer, which just takes the action of FIFA that bit further. Best footy on the SNES to date.

> The movement of sprites and the animation such as their shadows is great.



Top leather ball action in International Superstar Soccer



e're football bonkers in this country. And not least on our consoles. Before the arrival of Sensible Soccer and FIFA on the Mega Drive and SNES though, all football games were crap. Now, it seems that the goal posts have been moved, and every footy game needs to be at least as good as FIFA.

> International Superstar Soccer is. It's got much

◀▲The penalty sequences look superb, the animation is very much like watching real action.

SNES • Konami • £50

more of an arcadey feel to it than FIFA, and there's obviously more frames of animation. Watch your players lob, head, pass, dribble and shoot the ball in an unprecedented realism only surpassed by FIFA on the 3DO.

There are three difficulty settings, the medium one being already much more challenging than FIFA on any format, which is excellent as most footy sims are too easy, and only come into their own in two-player mode.

With plenty of tactics,

weather control, choice of stadia, 26 international teams and the best training option we've seen - which genuinely helps improve your skills, ISS is without doubt the best footy game on the SNES to date.



Damn it, it's Jammi



0 8 8 8

his is one-on-one street basketball with all the fashion and vocab that goes with the it.

As Roxy, the babe... or some other blokes, you need to score 21 points before the other player does. You both defend the same basket by

■ Roxy the basketball babe is one of a contract of the c the only reasons for playing Jammit.

pushing, shoving and jumping all over your opponent.

Flawed, sadly by a complete lack of any excitement whatsoever, some skill is required to bag the ball, but once you've sussed it (this takes very little time), you'll be scoring all the time. Yawn!

This is not what 3DO sports games are supposed to be like.

3DO • GTE • £40



O Roxy, the babe Poor animation





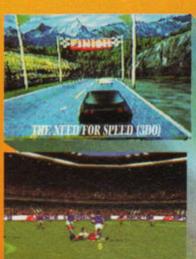
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HAUNTED MANSION (SATURN)









Who turned

Yep, it's the same game engine with all those angukar people.

out the lights? It's

Alone in the Dark 3

PC CD-ROM ● Infogrames ● £TBA

S o what are the improvements over the original two Alone games then? There are now difficulty levels, infinite saves, a map and three different death sequences. The

camera

ESPN National

Hockey Night Mega Drive

angles have been re-jigged, and the animation is faster. And every time you pick up an object, a 3D rendered image of it spins towards you. Apart from that, though, things remain pretty much in the usual Alone mould.

Except – well, you have played the original *Alone* games,

haven't you? You do

 ✓ Just look at all that detail. Phwooar, Missus. remember how you took control of a private dick called Edward Carnby, and ran him around a huge 3D set, killing baddies, solving puzzles, and generally admiring the fantastically realistic 3D world in which he existed? You do recall how the first game set new graphical standards, recollect how the second provided more of the same, and reminisce over the promise of an even better third and final instalment? Oh good.

The plot: your girl has been kidnapped and is currently being held in the Wild West town of Slaughter Gulch. As gameplay progresses, you'll venture through a prison, ballroom and Indian cave, will encounter magical shrinking potions and,



▲ Ooo look, a piece of track. It scares me does that track. Brrr.

one point, will even swap your body for that of a leopard.

Not as good as Ecstatica, maybe, but still great.



O Huge and exciting

Clooks dated





NFL Quarterback

with extra cheese and fries please?

Mega Drive ● Acclaim ● £TBA

t's SuperBowl time again, and to celebrate, we thought a good old gander at NFL Quarterback was in order. The problem with any Gridiron sim is that they always beg the question, "Why bother with a new game when there's Madden?" And it's so true.

NFL Quarterback's gameplay lacks the shear speed, looks and gameplay of Madden, yet it does have one thing going for it - the Simulation mode, where you take over a team in a historic match, and try to change the match. Apart from that it's...

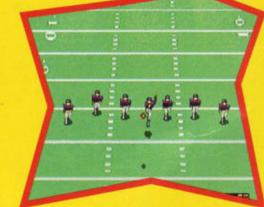


Blimsy, it's one of those move things. Hurren for them!

✓ Please move along, there is nothing to see here.







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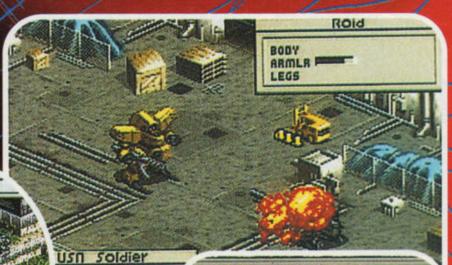
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Mobile suits and explosions. You just can't beat them.



▲ ► Dramatic Simulation RPG' is the tag line used to promote *Front Mission*. Very catchy. Like gonorrhoea in fact if you 'get in' with the wrong crowd, So watch yourself...

Front Mission

limey it's big. And it's bursting with explosions, strategy and a great steaming stool of RPGness. Front Mission becomes a reality on February 24 thanks countries and Australasia have to Squaresoft, and judging by their pedigree it should be something special.

The story will undoubtedly drag you in, kicking and screaming if it has to, with its tense, thrilling plot, the

development of which is totally at the whim of your in-game actions. The setting is one of the Earth's possible futures, where the South East Asian formed the Oceania Community Union (OCU) and who aren't too keen on America and Canada, now the United States of the New Continent (USN). And now (cue exagerrated, gravelly video-trailer voiceover) they're

The futuristic landscapes have been superbly designed. Top stuff.

all set for a war, curiously confined to an island in the centre of the Pacific Ocean.

There's a cast of nutty characters that would certainly be more at home in the X-Files. And you meet them during the isometric perspective combat sequences, with the gorgeous amount of weaponry at your disposal.

Should be a very big title to watch out for...

Machine.....SNES

Publisher....Squaresoft

Developer...Squaresoft

Release.....24th Feb (Import)

Status98% complete









RPG news

field of dreams

King's Field, the PlayStation's first-person perspective role player, has been the recipient of a warm reception in Japan after the disappointing and frankly rather dull Crime Crackers. The dungeon setting may reduce its appeal a little (it's nothing we haven't seen a hundred times), but the smooth animation and orchestrated soundtrack lift it from the ordinary. We'll have a review of this potential classic very soon.

Lady love your game

Tired of being a bloke? Fancy being a bird for a spot of action? Well, put down that skirt and drop that bra, 'cos role playing feminism's about to spill out onto a SNES near you (if you happen to live in the Far East that is).

It's not a particularly new trend as leading 'lady games' are always raising their heads in Japan (particularly on the PC), but due out in April '95 is the isometric (ie. three-quarter 3D) viewed Lady Stalker. There are a couple of games in this mould lined up, and all have that



▲ We're unlikely to get a go' of the Princess over here

Equinox-type feel to them.

Next up there's Princess Minerva, with loads of brightly-coloured, scantily-clad maidens romping around castle-strewn landscapes. But you can be sure it'll never see the light of day over here. Ah well,

Trigger happy

Chrono Trigger fever, not unlike the sort of fever caught in a Louisiana swamp, is as infectious as ever. The game hasn't even hit Japanese stores yet, but already Chrono Trigger collector cards are available very similar to the Dragon Ball Z collector cards.



▲ 18 of the shiny cards are available to collect so far...

Ultimate review sector



➤ Hanzo's back with the new Squeeze of Heaven.

Samurai Shodown 2

TOP

Mmmm,

Neo Geo CD • SNK • £55

smells like a sequel...

▼ Yep, you can still hack at the bamboo in this section. Top stuff, eh?

V tham tham's plush wilderness

s bloody great, Vicar.

characters, one missing chap and a brace of bruising moves later, the second

instalment of the Shodown saga slams into the NEO GEO CD like a wild boar on heat.

It's just great.

Tam Tam, the Incan
Avenger has had
his collar felt by the
style police, his
jiving arse ousted in

favour of four flavoursome challengers, including Cham

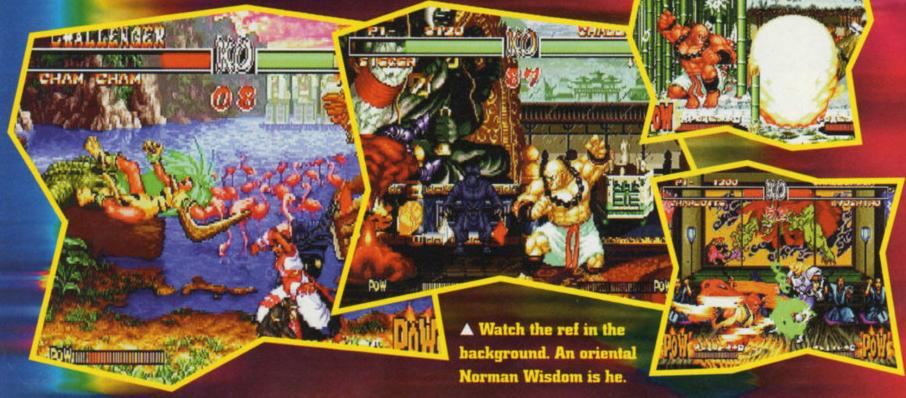
Cham, the shonky forest maiden, with added monkey.

Each of these new kids
come with their own superbly
detailed background (no
surprise there), while each of
the original characters' have
had theirs vastly improved.
Scaling and animation is still
stunning, while the variety of
moves: basic, methods of
mayhem, and those allimportant, ahem, 'Weapon
Smashing Waza's', provide
variety not really seen before
on the Neo Geo CD.

POW

It's no wonder this was, and still is, big in Japan. Even the miniaturisation moves from the coin-op are in here. Pointless and fun. But admittedly, some of the special special attacks are incredibly demanding of the dexterity in your thumb.

This may not be much of a technological leap, but it sure does provide more beat-'em-up treats than a bag of chunky doggy chocs. The lack of a proper versus mode and the irritating accesses are a pain, but its sense of humour had our laughter juice flowing.





Loading times. Aaaargh



AGUAT

TELEGAMES



A fast, flowing sports game that after a few goes becomes compulsive to play

Gamesmaster

A real rough and tumble game with lots of action

Gamesworld

Gamesmaster 83%

Merc Rating 92%

The intense action doesn't stop until the very end

Electronic Gaming

It's effortlessly playable and great fun to boot **Gamesmaster**



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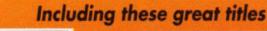
* Desert Strike not ed in the price

£27.91



DESERT

STRIKE





'Bubble Trouble'

to waste the energy to jump to the next section. When all the deposits have been collected, the

Most of the above available from - Chipps Computer Stores : Silica Shops : Microcentre : Raven Games : Intermediates :

Bolton Computer Centre: Major Catalogues: All good game and computer stores.

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Ultimate Brain Games Powerful multilevel chess, backgammon and checkers games (Mar 95)



Operation Starfish Huge action-packed platform game (Mar 95)



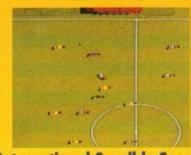
Wild Cup Soccer Who said soccer was complicated?



World Class Cricket 1 or 2 player world class action (Mar 95)



Casino Royale Loose your money at roulette, blackjack, poker. Spend hours playing bridge plus other games (Mar 95)



International Sensible Soccer The first and one of the best soccer games for your Jag (Feb 95)

Utimate review sector

Can you feel the force of be all that fel fur of their terms of the force of their terms of the force of the

burn very
brightly. It must
be all that feline
fur of theirs.



or have you felt it enough times already?

PC CD-ROM • Electronic Arts • £55

There are three things that are likely to cross your mind whilst playing Wing Commander 3. "These full motion video cut-scenes are great," you'll remark as your eyes bulge at the awesome

Dick MANIAE

film sections. "Isn't that Luke
Skywalker from Star Wars, and
Biff from Back to the Future?"
you'll ponder in crosscharacterisational shock. And,
once you get into the actual 3D
shoot-em-up bit, your line of
thought is unlikely to be anything
other than "blimey". "Blimey"
you'll think as you blast your
first Kilrathi ship into oblivion,
or as you actually fly inside the
belly of an Imperial Destroyer.
if you haven't played the

■ Aah, the boys in blue. And beige. Not forgetting the girls. And that good Kilrathi chap. first two WC games then
the graphics will literally
blow you away. As will
the amount of fun you
have. The interactive
bits give some strategy
element to the game,
and the shooty bits are
some of the most
adrenaline-pumpingly
ever. You really can't
avoid loving it.



Ultimately

Stunning

O Breathtaking graphics
O Not very original. Still, eh?



▲ Wahay, it's Lukey Luke Skywalker!
Well, it's Mark 'Ham pie' Hamill
anyway. He turns up a lot in his
stubble and blue boiler suit. Maybe
he'll procure next year's
FMV Oscar?

ANUS ANUS

▲ Do more stunts to gain extra boosts. Impress us with yer trickery.

RACE 8: 16:4

WIPEOUT ___

MUS CO

▲► Wipeout indeed. For if you don't land correctly, you don't collect any reward. No matter how tarty you are.

From the people who brought you Lemmings Tribly heads the SNES fast track

MA, the people who brought you Lemmings, and er... anyway, brought you Lemmings, have been signed up as a Nintendo

signed up as a Nintendo developer. This caused a bit of consternation at Ultimate, because



SNES • Nintendo • £TBA

Lemmings was great, but there were no other DMA projects to gauge it against.

Unirally is a departure then for DMA, in that it's a straight-forward, fast action racing game. In one or two player

mode, the name of the game is stunts. Go as fast as you can, perform as many tricks as you can, and beat computer or human opponents.

Fast and smooth yes, but spectacular? No. Unirally is

all about individual skill. There aren't that many tracks, but you can play them differently each time. Hardly the most exciting product of all time. Good, yes, but don't believe the hype.





prize pic-word!!!!

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All the clues in this crossword are visual. The arrows next to the visual clues show you where to fill in the answers. The answers might be the whole name of a game, part of the name, or maybe even something else (we'll tell you what) .

When you've completed the whole grid, either cut it out, photocopy it or list all the answers, then send it off to us at: **Ultimate Future Games, Pic-Word** (March), 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2BW to arrive here by March 10th 1995.

All correct entries will be placed in a half-full septic tank, and the winning entry will be drawn by someone we don't like very much without the aid of rubber gloves.



WENTE 1-11

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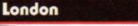
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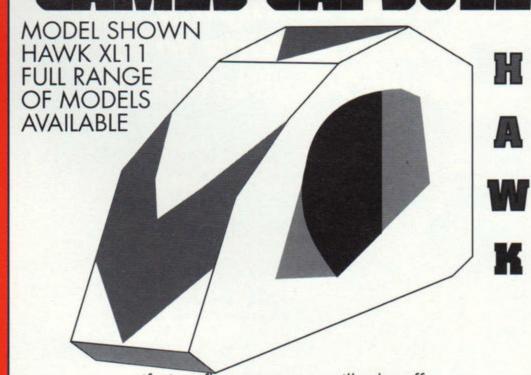
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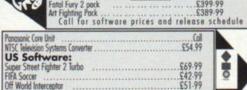
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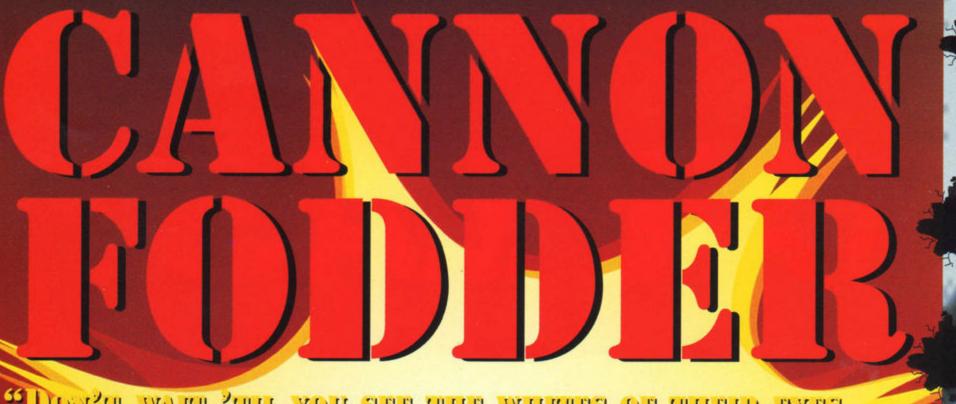
Brian the archivist (a nice man with ginger hair).

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