

WIN!
SECRET
TRICKS, CODICES, AND STRATEGIES
VIDEO GAME
VIDEO CASSETTE TAPE — SEE PAGE 16

SUPER NINTENDO PREVIEW IN THIS ISSUE — NINJA GAI DEN 2

NINTENDO • SEGA • ATARI • TURBOGRAFX-16 • GENESIS • GAMEBOY • LYNX • ARCADES

ELECTRONIC GAMING MONTHLY

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OF THE HOTTEST NEW GAMES

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NEWEST GAME SYSTEMS

GAME MAPS

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MONSTERLAND, LEGENDARY AXE,
COMMANDO, AND
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KONIX 16-BIT

FIRST LOOK AT THE MULTI-SYSTEM

NUMBER 3
DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 31, 1989

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GAME OF THE MONTH

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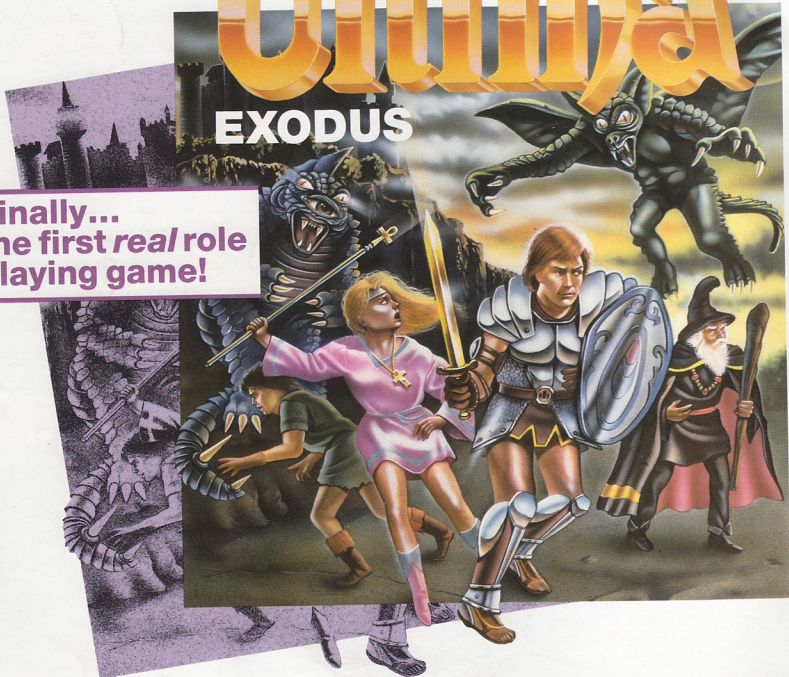


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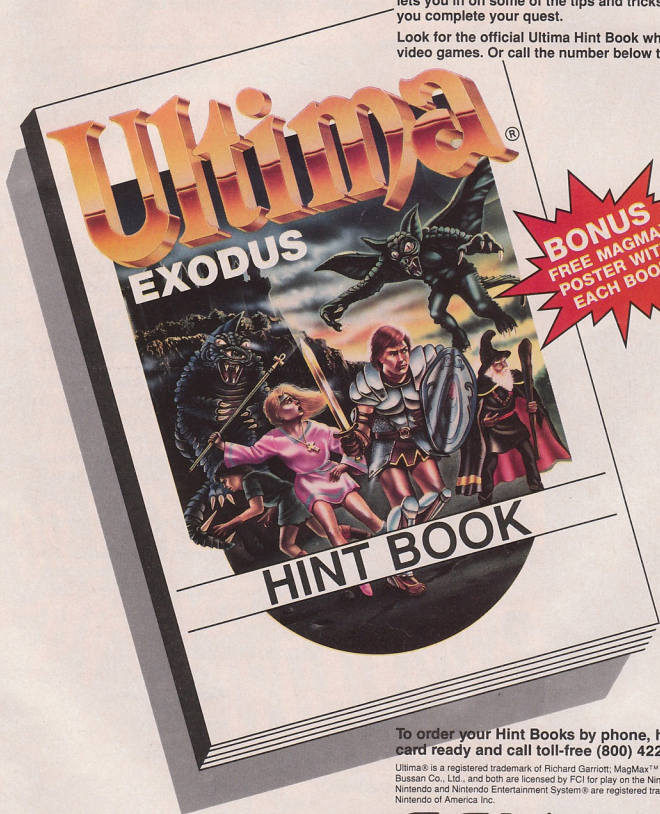
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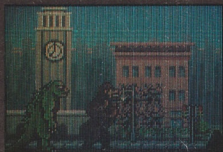
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First photos of the Konix 16-Bit Multi-System. The first U.K. game machine uses disks rather than carts!



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Atari introduces a color hand-held

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The only video game review column that lets four top notch game players call the shots and tell it like it is! Look for Nintendo reviews of P.O.W., Friday the 13th, and Sega reviews of King's Quest, and Rastan. EGM also brings you the first critical observations of new 16-Bit and hand-held games including Super Thunder Blade, Legendary Axe, and Super Mario Land!

Next Wave 18

The future has plenty of thrills in store for you and EGM has all of the new games for all the game systems! Check out our previews of new Nintendo, Sega, and TurboGrafx-16 games! Keep your eyes peeled for the first photos of Acclaim's Double Dragon 2: The Revenge, American Sammy's Twin Cobra, and our super special preview - Ninja Gai Den 2!

16-Bit Gaming - English Style 30

First previewed in EGM's '89 Buyer's Guide, the Konix Multi-System is finally unveiled! Don't worry - we've got the photos of this new machine as well as game screens that show exactly what the system can do! Get the complete scoop as well as secret info on when the Multi-System may make a state-side appearance!

Top Secret! 34

We've got game tips galore from our in-house gang of video game busters, the U.S. National Video Game Team, as well as from undercover agents like you! Check out the hot stuff on new games like Rastan for Sega, Guardian Legend for Nintendo, and Altered Beast and Thunderforce II for Genesis. We've also pieced together SNK's P.O.W. and Sega's WonderBoy in Monsterland as part of our special Game Maps series!

Atari and Epyx Team Up 70

The Epyx color hand-held game system now wears the Atari name! How does the color screen and heavy-duty hardware compare to Nintendo's black and white GameBoy? You'll get all the facts, including game screens and the first pictures of the unit, in this EGM exclusive!

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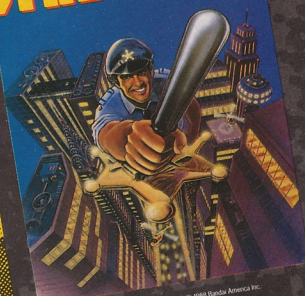
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE



WILD BOYS



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insert coin

WE'VE GOT IT ALL!

With the introduction of the new 16-Bit game systems from NEC and Sega, as well as the GameBoy black and white and Atari color hand-helds, many of you may be left wondering, "With all of these great new game systems finally out, which one do I choose? Which has the best software support? Which has the most to offer me?"

Don't worry, because EGM is here to give you the answers! No matter what system you're interested in, we've got the first word on the latest developments, new games, and secret playing tips. Beginning with this issue, Electronic Gaming Monthly is devoting 100% of its editorial space to video games and related products. Not only will you find new columns that specifically address every game machine on the market (like Turbo Champs, Outpost: Genesis, and GameBoy Club), you'll also get insightful reviews and previews that are guaranteed to tell it like it is and give you the opinions of top notch players like yourself!

We are also expanding our tips and tricks sections to include these new game machines! In our "Top Secret" column you'll find new tricks, codes, and strategies for the new systems as well as the Nintendo and Sega. We've also increased the number of Game Maps in this issue, featuring color strips on P.O.W. for the Nintendo, Wonder Boy in Monster Land for the Sega, Commando for the Atari 7800, Super Mario Land for GameBoy, and Legendary Axe for the TurboGrafx-16!

Even though we've broadened our editorial focus, you can still turn to EGM for the latest info from the world of video games. We want to make sure our readers are on top of absolutely everything that's movin' and shakin', and to do so we've hooked up with some of the most popular gaming mags from around the world! This instant access to gaming news allows us to give you advance word on upcoming games and developments that you won't find anywhere else!

Just turn to page 18 to see what we mean! We've got pictures of the long-awaited sequel to Double Dragon called appropriately enough, Double Dragon 2: The Revenge and a super sneak preview of Ninja Gai Den 2! Flip to page 30 and check out the first photos of the Konix 16-Bit Multi-System game machine and find out when this new console may be in the U.S.! And, if that weren't enough, we also have an exclusive sneak peek at the Atari/Epyx color hand-held game system - including some fantastic game screens that must be seen to be believed!

When you get EGM it doesn't matter which system you own or plan to own. As long as you like video games we cover it all!

Steve Harris
Editor

P.S. Don't despair computer gamers! EGM has a special surprise coming just for you, very soon...

BAD DUDES MAKES DOUBLE DRAGON PALE BY COMPARISON

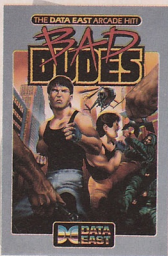
Ask anyone who's played them both in the arcade. Bad Dudes is clearly the game of choice. It's no contest.

BAD DUDES has better graphics. Better action. Better playability. From the arcade to the Nintendo to computer formats, you can count on a better game with BAD DUDES. And we're even available on more systems than they are.

The joystick play is incredible—fast, smooth and responsive. And the game play and graphics of the home versions are amazingly true to the arcade original.

Check it out for yourself. The martial arts excitement of BAD DUDES makes Double Dragon play like a dinosaur. One soon to be extinct.

BAD DUDES. From Data East. Now available on Commodore, IBM, Tandy, Amiga, Atari ST and Apple II personal computers and the Nintendo Entertainment System.



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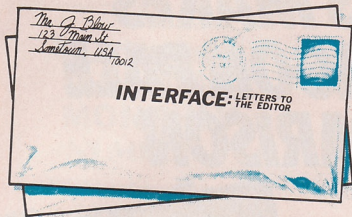
Double Dragon Arcade: © 1987 TAITO AMERICAN CORPORATION



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Got a problem? Filled with praise? Open up your mind and become a star in the pages of Electronic Gaming Monthly! If your letter impresses us enough we'll put your name in lights (well, actually in black ink) for thousands to see! Send your video gaming escapades to us at Sendai Publications, Interface-Letters to the Editor, 1920 Highland Avenue, Suite 300, Lombard, IL 60148.

PLEASE, NO MORE NINTENDO!

I must say that you people at EGM sure put out a top-notch mag. I would like to know, however, why it seems that EGM is shifting to more of a Nintendo magazine, instead of more or less equal coverage of Sega, Nintendo, and other game systems. In my opinion, Nintendo has enough mags of its own on the market already and I buy EGM because I know that it covers all machines.

Lastly, why is EGM starting to cover computer software? There are very few mags that cater to gamers, and even fewer that are worth talking about. Let the hackers buy their own mags and focus your energy on us, the few, the proud, the video gamers of America!

Christian Logan Batty
Corporal, US Army
Ft. Lewis, WA



NEC's P.C. Engine - the forefather to the TurboGrafx-16 is currently the number one selling system in Japan!

already coming true! Turn through the pages of this issue and you'll find nearly a dozen pages on the Sega Master and Genesis systems, including game reviews, previews, and even special game maps for Super Wonder Boy in Monster Land! True, you will find more Nintendo info, but it's not because we favor one system over another (we love 'em all), it's just because of the volume of games and products released for the NES as compared to the Sega machines.

We also love computer software, but beginning with this issue we've decided to turn Electronic Gaming into a 100% video game magazine! This means you'll read even more about the latest developments on all the hottest systems! Don't worry computer fans, because we've got some nifty surprises coming just for you!

IT'S NO CONTEST!

I just received your second issue and have to tell you it looks like dynamite! I love the changes you've made in your reviewing format and the game tips and maps were totally rad! I also enjoyed reading about the new game systems. You guys seem to know about everything before any other magazine - that's what makes you guys the best! How about some more information on the new Genesis and TurboGrafx-16 game systems?

Rob Williams
Libertyville, IA

(ed. - Wow! Now here's a letter you won't find in Nintendo Power! Seriously, thanks bunches for the comments Christian! It's you, the gamers, who ultimately make this mag what it is. Without your valuable input, Electronic Gaming just wouldn't be the same! You do make some interesting observations and most of your pleas for additional Sega coverage are

(ed. - We're glad you like our new style, Rob. We'll continue to develop the magazine one step at a time, making it better with each issue.

You can now look forward to reading about the Genesis and TurboGrafx-16 in every issue of Electronic Gaming. Regular columns devoted exclusively to these two super machines will report on all the latest developments, provide in-depth reviews on new games, and supply the best game tips, tricks, and maps around!)

LOOKING FOR GAMEBOY

I am writing to ask for more information on Nintendo's GameBoy system, and the Epyx color hand-held system. What I would really like to know is the release dates for both units. I already have 133 games for the NES and 52 games for the Sega, but I really want to get a hold of these two hand-helds.

Linda Chinvington
Ventura, CA

(ed. - Wait a second. Let me get this straight. You have 133 Nintendo games and 52 Sega games? I bet you also have an empty wallet or did you hit the jackpot on Wheel of Fortune or something? Anyway, you can turn to page 40 in our second issue for the complete scoop on the GameBoy, including release dates, prices, games, etc. The Epyx portable system is now the Atari portable system, however, with the two companies teaming up to take the GameBoy on head-to-head! Turn to page 70 for details)

WHERE'D THE P.C. ENGINE GO?

A couple of weeks ago on MTV I saw them talking about the TurboGrafx-16 from NEC. I thought NEC had the P.C. Engine. Can you clear this up?

Eddie Ricchi
Cambridge, WI

(ed. The TurboGrafx-16 and P.C. Engine are one and the same. The system was repackaged and renamed for the U.S.)

continued on page 27

STEREO



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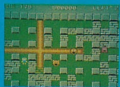
Milon's Secret Castle

If you think you have played the hardest of all video games, try this one. Each level has a different challenge, the higher the level, the tougher the challenge! Can you beat the monsters? How many coins can you collect? Are you ready for the challenge of your game playing career? This is it!!



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ELECTRONIC GAMING REVIEW CREW



P.O.W.

Type: Action Release: 09/01
Levels of Play: 4 Difficulty: Avg.



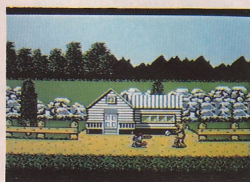
P.O.W. is SNK's new arcade-warfare epic, that follows in the footsteps of Double Dragon. You control a Prisoner of War who must escape the enemy compound, traverse various hazards, and eliminate the enemy strongholds.

All of the action is played out in front of a highly detailed dual-scrolling background. Secret rooms offer additional dangers and power-up weapons that can aid you in your battle!

Can you escape the enemy?

Friday the 13th

Type: Action/Adv Release: Now
Levels of Play: 4 Difficulty: Avg.



Jason, that unstoppable killing machine that thrives on teenage bodies, makes his Nintendo debut in this action/adventure contest from LJN.

As a camp counselor you must protect the little kiddies wandering about while fending off the attacks of old Mr. Hockey Mask himself. Gather up all of the children and make your way out of Camp Crystal Lake before it's too late - or you may find yourself facing Jason one-on-one!

S
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E

The publisher/editor of Electronic Gaming is into the shooters and action/adventure titles. Steve has blasted his way through Twin Eagle and P.O.W. for the Nintendo as well as his newest favorite - Ghouls and Ghosts for the Sega Genesis.

P.O.W. is not an overly complex or diverse game, but it does have great graphics and play. The game would get repetitive if it weren't for the constantly changing environments and cast of characters. The lack of a 2-Player option is missed but it doesn't detract from the superior nature of this game.

Friday the 13th could have been an excellent game, with blood spurting and knives slashing. What we get instead is another boring Goonies II rip-off that is just plain dull. The graphics are sub-standard and the whole game is slow and tedious to play. This game could turn even Jason's stomach.

E
D

Ed is a big fan of the Sega Master System and RPGs like King's Quest, Montazuma's Revenge, and Spell Caster. He's now playing the 16-Bit systems heavily and is exploring the deepest regions of Dungeon Explorer for the TurboGrafx-16.

Another war game from SNK. Nothing spectacular here, just a good solid game. Punch and kick lovers will have their hands full with a formidable enemy and challenging end-of-level Bosses. Other than Double Dragon 2, this is the best kung-fu type game this fall.

A very poor game that displays little of what an action/adventure game should contain. The action portions of play are sparse, the adventure offers little challenge, and the whole thing is topped off with graphics that are just plain bad. Friday the 13th is not very enjoyable at all.

D
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N

Donn enjoys all kinds of games ranging from the most action-packed shooters to the most difficult RPG entries. He's recently mastered Data East's Bad Dudes and Blazing Lasers for the Turbo, and is now working on Twin Eagle from Romstar.

Good translation of the arcade. Has above-average graphics and game play and the difficulty is just about right (it stays challenging through all four levels). It's not hard to pick up but you won't finish it right away.

They've got to be kidding. The graphics are sub-par and the game play is average at best. There needs to be more substance for a game like this to succeed. None of the game elements (the action, the quest, etc.) deliver any real punch.

J
I
M

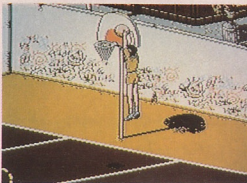
A great all-around gamer, Jim has beaten over 200 games for the Nintendo, Sega, and 16-Bit systems. His current favorites are Sega's Captain Silver, SNK's P.O.W. and Guerrilla War for the Nintendo, and Super Mario Land for the GameBoy.

P.O.W. has great background graphics and a very addictive play mechanic that is similar to Double Dragon. The game levels do get a bit repetitive, fighting the same enemies over and over again (with an occasional scuba diver thrown in). The end Bosses are also too easy.

Friday the 13th's game play is just awful. The graphics are plain and you don't need to apply any strategy to beat the game. Just wear down Jason and, in the process, wear yourself down. A real loser.

Hoops

Type: Sports Release: Now
Levels of Play: -- Difficulty: Easy



Hoops is the latest addition to Jaleco's line of sports-related video games. Hoops is, as you probably could guess, a basketball simulation that concentrates more on good arcade-style interaction than statistical or true-to-life realism. As opposed to other basketball entries for the NES, Hoops represents "blacktop basketball" between two players one-on-one or teams going two-on-two. A variety of different characters, each with a host of strengths and weaknesses, help elevate the strategic elements of the game as well.

I like Hoops a lot! It doesn't bog down in a countless number of sub-screens to achieve that "realistic touch", nor does it bother to restrict you to 5 member teams and shot clocks. It's laid back approach, along with some nice graphic close-ups and other supporting features, make it highly playable.

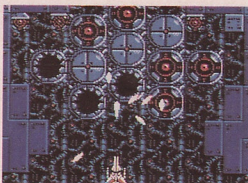
This isn't Double Dribble and it isn't meant to be. Hoops' half-court basketball makes for tighter play and strategy becomes more important. The chalk mark score keeping on the playground wall is a nice touch. Double Dribble is still the best, but try Hoops for a new type of basketball.

I like the setting of Hoops - on an asphalt court instead of an arena - and the surrounding graphics are drawn very well. It does become difficult to tell who has the ball when all the characters are close together, but other than that this is a very good basketball game with a nice slam-dunk close-up.

Hoops just doesn't have enough variety. You play 30 games of basketball and each one is about as difficult as the next. The graphics are more cartoony and the dribble sequence was done better in Double Dribble - a game that was out two years ago!

The Guardian Legend

Type: Action Release: Now
Levels of Play: Difficulty: Avg.



Long ago an alien race sent a vast planet hurtling straight at the Earth. Loaded inside of this renegade world were a cargo of evil alien lifeforms. Deep within the planet there exists a self-destruct mechanism that must be reached before it reaches Earth. To complete this mission, you must travel between the labyrinths below the surface of the planet and warp to deeper mazes via your star ship. It's up to you to protect the Earth and become the Guardian Legend!

I like Guardian Legend as a shooter that dishes up a little more than blast-em-up booms and bangs. Including some action/adventure elements, even if the second half of the game is slightly average, helps elevate the whole title to a much higher level. A good follow-up for Zanic fans.

Guardian Legend is a shoot-em-up Blaster Master clone that is only average at best. The verticle scrolling flying sequences add variety to an otherwise non-spectacular game. Nothing real original here, but Zanic fans should enjoy it.

While it has good intentions, Guardian Legend takes a simple theme and draws it out into a repetitive quest with a shooter in between. There's little challenge or substance in these adventure scenes. This one would have been better as a pure shooter (see the Top Secret code in this issue for a code).

Guardian Legend is similar to Zanic but is really two games in one. The maze scenes aren't hard but they are long. The flying sequences are also easy with all of the difficulty wrapped up into the Boss confrontations. The game does do a good job of bringing the two separate play themes together.

Stealth ATF

Type: Simulator Release: Now
Levels of Play: 08 Difficulty: Avg.



Konami's Top Gun was one of the most successful Nintendo games of all time, and now Activision is hoping to cash in with an airplane combat simulator of their own. While Stealth ATF (for Advanced Tactical Fighter) doesn't have the hot name, it does offer air-to-air combat action in eight "hot spots" around the world. You must take off, clear the skies, and land before you take too much damage. Get into trouble and go into stealth mode to become invisible to enemy radar. Lock on and fire!

Stealth ATF is not a bad game, it simply has too many rough edges. The take-off and landing sequences are nice, but the overall game is not very realistic. The ground terrain looks the same at 500 feet and 50,000 feet and the music is terribly annoying. It's too bad, this one could have been a winner.

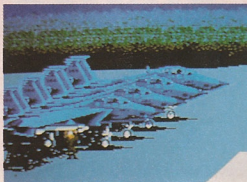
For hard-core flyboys only! Contains After Burner-like 360 degree rolls for excitement and a "through the cockpit" view. Not a whole lot of variety through the multiple levels of play, but it's the best one available now.

Stealth doesn't require you to do much more than keep your plane in the air and shoot. There's not much strategy and not a lot game play. The only reason to keep going is to see what the different back-grounds and landing scenes look like.

I had a couple of problems with Stealth ATF. The landscape graphics always look the same (so much for simulations) the sounds are not much better than 2600 beeps and whines and the "Stealth" mode hardly affects the game at all. It does have a barrel roll, but not much else.

Airwolf

Type: Shooter Release: Now
Levels of Play: 20 Difficulty: Avg.



Based on the television show of the same name, Airwolf puts you in command of a super-duper copter that's loaded with special abilities and armed to the teeth with all kinds of weapons!

You must confront an enemy force in a number of different scenarios including horizontally scrolling levels that pit you against land-based forces as well as first-person head-on attacks against squadrons of war planes.

Thundercade

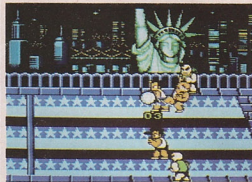
Type: Shooter Release: 08/15
Levels of Play: 4 Difficulty: Avg.



Hop into a super-charged motorcycle and ride behind enemy lines in one of the wildest shoot-em-ups ever! You must guide your motorcycle-riding hero through a variety of hazards and around the superior firepower of the opposing forces! The action scrolls vertically and constantly introduces new and different characters as well as plenty of power-up opportunities.

Super Dodge Ball

Type: Sports Release: Now
Levels of Play: -- Difficulty: Avg.



Super Dodge Ball reproduces all of the challenge and excitement of the backyard game up to the professional level in a challenging contest of skill against some of the nastiest video athletes around.

Based on a little-seen Taito coin-op, this American Technos-developed title provides multiple options, lots of action, and an interesting ranking system that elevates good players through the ranks of the Super Dodge Ball leagues. A very unique sports entry.

Airwolf tries to give something to everyone and, in the process, comes out looking a little bit tired. The first-person/side play mechanics don't mesh very well - even though there are some nifty transition screens. Airwolf isn't overly bad, but neither one of the game levels are spectacular.

Despite the fact that the graphics in Thundercade are slightly murky, I still found the action in this shooter to be above average. There's a lot of hidden items to discover in Thundercade, which gives the game some of the same overtones that made Super Mario such a hit. Not fantastic, but good.

Super Dodge Ball is not exactly your mainstream kind of game, but in this case that's not a negative. While the action may seem repetitive at first, the inclusion of special attack techniques brings a new dimension to the play. SDB has rough graphics and is fairly easy, but it does have some merit.

What a disappointment! Level after level of the same exact thing. The advanced levels are much harder than the early ones. The fighting sequences aren't impressive, nor difficult. Airwolf just goes to show that great names don't always mean great games.

This one's a sleeper - there's much more than meets the eye. A very good vertically scrolling shooting game. The power-up side-car weapons are hidden, and finding them adds to the challenge of the game. Thundercade moves fast and is loaded with action. Definitely worth a try.

CSG Imagesoft has cooked up a sports game that doesn't have attractive play mechanics or cool arcade-style play or much of anything to boast about. The game suffers from bad flicker, repetitive game play, and a lack of interesting features. This one got boring very quickly.

Good concept that is too repetitive. There are extra sequences and new goals like taking on the enemy control tower and rescuing hostages, but that's not enough variety to elevate this one above average. I did like this one better than Stealth ATF, but it could have had better graphics and play.

The graphics in Thundercade could have been a lot better, but despite their bland nature this game does have good game play. The action is short-lived, however, and it doesn't take very long to reach the end of the game. A decent translation of the arcade original.

Graphically this game is O.K., but it's much too easy with the "Power" throws. They enable you to wipe out the opposing team, even on the hardest settings, with very little effort. Although it's different from the coin-op version, the ease of play detracts from its overall appeal. Worth looking at, however.

The game opens with some cool still pictures that explain the story, but there's not much else to rave about after that. There's not much depth to play - the game has little action and it's difficult to control the helicopter in the side-view stages. Airwolf just didn't hold my interest at all.

Thundercade is filled with hidden power-ups and lots to do, but the game just doesn't deliver a big punch. The game play is very active and the game has a two-player feature which is nice, but the graphics are limited and it's sometimes hard to tell who's shooting at who. O.K., but not awesome.

I liked Super Dodge Ball a lot in the arcades and I like it even more for the Nintendo. It's a fun game that unfortunately is a little easy thanks to awesome "Power" throws. The graphics and sounds are decent, but the gameplay makes up for any shortcomings. Super Dodge Ball is different - but good.

King's Quest

Type: Adv./RPG Release: 08/01
Levels of Play: -- Difficulty: Hard



Do you have what it takes to relieve King Edward from his throne?

To prove it you must uncover three magic objects that have been hidden across his kingdom. During your quest to retrieve these three objects (a magic shield, mirror, and chest of gold), you'll encounter strange people and monsters in far-off lands. Use your thinking cap and deductive reasoning to figure your way around the obstacles in your path.

Remember, poor Edward is waiting...

Rastan

Type: Action Release: Now
Levels of Play: 7 Difficulty: Avg.



Grab your trusty battle axe and head into battle!

Rastan, based on the arcade favorite, pits you against a vile collection of monsters out to stop you from reaching the lovely Princess who is being held captive in some of the darkest regions of the kingdom. It's your job to stop the Dark Lords of Semia and return the King's daughter back to her royal chambers!

Super Thunder Blade

Type: Action Release: 09/01
Levels of Play: 4 Difficulty: Avg.



The Thunder Blade attack helicopter is back in this souped up version of the arcade classic!

You take command of a chopper armed to the teeth with guns and rockets. Go into battle over enemy terrain and fight some of the most deadly machines ever displayed in a video game. The action is broken into two different levels with first-person "coming at ya" attacks on enemy cities and overhead battles against Boss vehicles.

I'm not a big fan of adventure/RPGs, and King's Quest doesn't do much to change my opinions. There is a bit more interaction required than in similar fare, but solving puzzles will never substitute a good laser and invading alien armies.

Rastan is a fine game for the Sega 8-Bit, but it gets difficult to control the lead character in some areas. It offers up plenty of mindless fun, however, and is the best of its kind for the Master System.

STB just isn't what a 16-Bit game should be. It's not offending, but the graphics, while detailed, don't move in smooth progression from the background to the foreground. The worst thing about STB, however, is how it controls, with poor response that is slow and sluggish and makes the game tedious.

Similar to the computer game of the same name. 76 different screens with noun and verb commands selected from a list. Not very difficult for the experienced player, but a fun quest game for the average player.

A slightly better-than-average action game. Stabbing anything that moves and timing your jumps carefully is all the strategy you'll need. The not-so-hidden forever continue (see this issue) allows you to polish off this game in one sitting.

Genesis promises arcade graphics and STB comes close. In fact, no home machine can do a better job. While better than the 8-Bit, STB is still not perfect. On coming objects increase in size in coarse steps, but detailed shapes add some luster. STB plays well and shows what the Genesis can do.

King's Quest is a pretty good all-around game. The quest portion of play is challenging enough to keep you occupied and the overall control sequences add some depth to an otherwise straightforward adventure title. This one won't appeal to shoot-em-up fans, but it will make you think.

Rastan has a pretty standard theme that's not expanded much here. The graphics and play are good, but there is some flicker in certain areas that's a bit of a distraction. The best action game available for the Sega.

Although the dual level game play is adequate, the graphics are too choppy and there is an abundance of screen flicker. I thought the 16-Bit processor would have cleared a lot of these problems up, but unfortunately STB is plagued by the same drawbacks.

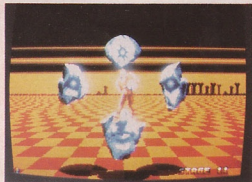
A nice change from the typical RPG. The computer doesn't choose who hits who which opens the door for more action. King's Quest requires more interaction and creates a game that demands thought plus skill. Good play time with a password function that will be used frequently.

The game play in Rastan is decent and close to the arcade, but the graphics are too small and detailed for its own good. It's hard to maneuver in some areas because of the characters' sizes.

Awesome graphics! Harder than the arcade or 8-Bit versions of Thunder Blade, but also a lot better. The controls are sluggish, but the graphics more than make up for any minor problems in play. STB makes the 8-Bit Thunder Blade look like a 2600 game!

Space Harrier 2

Type: Shooter Release: 9/01
Levels of Play: 13 Difficulty: Avg.



Back in the Fantasy Zone again! Space Harrier 2 represents one of the first titles available for Sega's new 16-Bit Genesis system. Just like in the previous Space Harrier adventures, number two has our jet-pack hero flying over 13 new levels of play, complete with new settings a whole new cast of bad guys.

Space Harrier 2 concentrates on showing off Sega's hardware abilities, with smoothly scrolling beasts attacking from the various alien backgrounds.

Space Harrier 2 looks good and plays good but it's still Space Harrier. There's 13 more levels of play, but instead of throwing in some new features, Sega has done little more than rewrite the original using the advanced graphics and sounds of the Genesis. Not bad, but it could have been better.

Like Super Thunder Blade, Space Harrier 2 is better than the original and looks great on the Genesis. It also plays well with considerably less screen flicker than the 8-Bit version. Plenty of action and super stereo sound.

Great game! Space Harrier 2 is a good sequel to the original that offers the same type of shoot-em-up thrills with highly detailed 16-Bit graphics. The only negative is that the game is too similar to the first, without enough variety or new features thrown in to make it better. Outstanding nonetheless.

Space Harrier 2 takes off right where the first game ended. The graphics are definitely better the second time around, and the backgrounds help compliment the alien settings. The only complaint I have is that the game is easier and shorter than the 8-Bit Harrier.

Vigilante

Type: Shooter Release: 11/01
Levels of Play: 5 Difficulty: Easy



You're the Vigilante, out to keep the streets of New York safe for the peaceful and law-abiding. Your turf is a hard place to live, but the gangs have learned respect for your fighting abilities.

Now a new gang has come to town and kidnapped your girl! You must combat the various members and Bosses of this rival gang as you work your way through the five different rounds of play. Highly detailed scrolling graphics and plenty of punch-kick action await!

While Vigilante is an incredibly faithful translation of the arcade original, and probably the best looking game available for the TurboGrafx-16, it suffers from being too easy. When you throw in three continues it lessens the challenge even more. With only five levels it's not hard to beat.

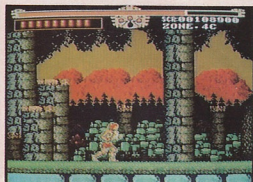
Similar to the arcade version - but that isn't saying a lot. Not a hard kick and punch game and definitely not the NEC's finest. Great graphics alone does not a good game make. Nothing special, nothing bad...just average.

This is an outstanding translation of the arcade version, with great graphics and sounds. The game play is good but with nunchucks and auto-fire you're almost invincible! Add three continues on top of the easy play and you get a fantastic game that isn't too hard to beat.

A good translation of the arcade title. There's not much to the game play - it's the same stuff we've been going at since Kung-Fu Master came out. The graphics are great, but the theme hasn't expanded much beyond its new looks.

Legendary Axe

Type: Action/Adv Release: 09/15
Levels of Play: 6 Difficulty: Avg.



In Legendary Axe you become a warrior on a mission to save your love from the vile clutches of an evil cult that intends to sacrifice her to the devil. With your magical axe in hand, you set out to rid the land of this menace and rescue poor Flare.

In addition to boasting dual scrolling graphics, lots of power-ups, and even some secret rooms, The Legendary Axe also contains several different play techniques and a varied cast of crazed cult worshippers. Stand your ground mighty warrior, Flare is depending on you!

The Legendary Axe is one of my favorites! It combines an excellent theme with some of the best graphics and sounds ever seen or heard in a home video game. The execution is brilliant, the many power-up options welcome, and the entire game a joy to behold! Highly recommended!

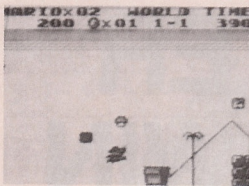
This is how Rastan should have been done. Offering multiple paths, an attack meter that takes time to build, and numerous hidden pitfalls, Axe is not as easy as it appears to be. It's hard, but fun, and with only 3 continues, remains challenging. This should be the first game purchased for your TG-16.

One of the best action/adventure games I've ever seen. Great detail in the game characters and backgrounds create an excellent setting for numerous encounters that occur with enemy monsters and creatures. Plenty of variety keeps you on your toes throughout the entire contest.

A great game! Legendary Axe is really Rastan with better graphics. The game play is good and is supported by highly detailed creatures and tunes that constantly change. There's a lot of variety and just the right amount of difficulty. Legendary Axe is everything you could want in a game.

Super Mario Land

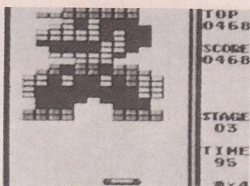
Type: Action Release: 08/01
Levels of Play: 12 Difficulty: Avg.



Super Mario is back and he's got a new mission ahead! In this GameBoy rendition of the regular Super Mario Bros. arcade game, Super Mario must rescue the Princess Daisy from a whole new cast of nasty characters that include exploding turtles, spear-throwing bees, stone faces, pogo men, upside-down killer plants and more! Don't worry, because help is on the way! Grab a mushroom to power-up, a flower to fire, and a star to become invincible! And, when you think it's all over, go to the bonus room and win up to 3 free Marios!

Alleyway

Type: Action Release: 08/01
Levels of Play: 32 Difficulty: Avg.



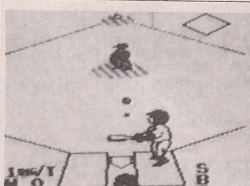
Inspired by the classic Break-Out and Arkanoid games, GameBoy gives us Alleyway, a whole new brick-bashing challenge that features a multitude of unique play mechanics.

Besides deflecting a lone block-busting ball of a wall of bricks, you must also contend with scrolling fields, falling tiles, and bonus screens that look just like characters from Super Mario Bros.!

Progress to higher levels of play and more bricks are added, your paddle is out in half, and the speed increases.

Baseball

Type: Sports Release: 08/01
Levels of Play: -- Difficulty: Easy



Step up to the plate and dust yourself off for a full nine innings of video baseball! Thanks to the portable GameBoy, you can take the stadium with you. All the sights and sounds of the real game are captured on the GameBoy's two inch screen.

In addition to the pitching, batting, and fielding, you can also play manager and select the line-up from several available teams. You can also change batters and pitchers when necessary. It's all here in a small but powerful new cart.

Even though it's in B&W and on a 2 inch screen, Super Mario Land is a fantastic game that is, above all, very fun to play. There are loads of things to discover and all new worlds to chart. It's a bit short (only 12 screens), but there's enough challenge here to highly recommend this one.

Alleyway is perfectly suited for the GameBoy. It's also a very good game that combines some new features (like scrolling blocks and bonus rooms) with the original Break-Out theme. Power-ups would have been a nice addition (a la Arkanoid), but as it stands Alleyway is good - but a bit long.

GameBoy Baseball, while boasting some nice looks, is a base on balls. It's not good, but it's not bad either. Many of the most important Baseball elements are missing and the whole thing is way too easy against the computer. The Video-Link mode makes it slightly better, but not tremendously.

WOW! Mario's back and now he's portable! Easily the best GameBoy cart, Super Mario Land should be your first purchase. Pipes, hidden coin rooms, and 1Ups - they're all there, just waiting to be discovered. It's Super Mario Bros. all over again and it's fantastic!

It's Breakout or Arkanoid - nothing special and definitely nothing very exciting. Worse than average game play and not worth buying. Save your money for the better games which will be coming soon.

GameBoy plays a good game of Baseball despite its size. The screen follows the ball (and the action) by scrolling in any direction. The game play and graphics are good and are familiar to anyone who's played an NES baseball game. It doesn't have a lot of bells and whistles, but it's good anyway.

Like Super Mario Bros. for the NES, Super Mario Land is filled with the same kind of running and jumping action. There are loads of secret things to uncover, and new screens that add to the Super Mario theme. This is the best GameBoy game I've seen so far.

Alleyway has a good theme that seems to die in mid-bounce. The scrolling bricks are a nice touch, but after playing it a few times you start wondering when it will end. It simply goes on and on. True, the patterns change, but there's not enough variety. A perfect design for the GameBoy, though.

GameBoy Baseball is adequate for the system and has some nice graphic features, but is lacking some play mechanics that tarnish its rating. A lack of certain features make this Baseball play like Little League.

A great GameBoy game! Excellent scrolling graphics make Mario Land look and play just like Super Mario Bros. All the bad guys, mushrooms and other features from the original are here, along with new characters, 1Ups, hidden coins, and more! A portable Super Mario Bros.!

A portable Arkanoid without the weapons. While it has scrolling boards and bonus boards, there is really nothing special about the game. It's just another paddle game that's screaming for power-ups or some kind of enhancement.

A copy of RBI Baseball for the NES and every bit as good. You can change batters, pitchers, control your fielders, and throw the ball around very easily. GameBoy Baseball also has some nice features like a scrolling stadium and crowd.

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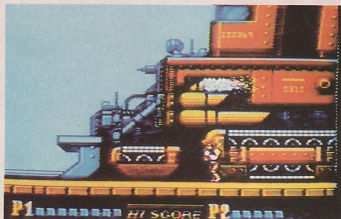
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DOUBLE DRAGON 2: THE REVENGE



Marian is dead!

The evil Shadow Boss and his agents are out to settle the score for the thrashing you gave them in the original blockbuster. After killing Marian, your one and only love, they knew that you'd come after them with everything you've got!

This time, it won't be so easy. There are nine levels to fight through and a whole new gang of stronger and smarter thugs to beat. This time, however, you can bring a friend since Double Dragon 2: The Revenge is a two-player cooperative game - just like in the arcades!

Double Dragon 2 is also loaded with all-new martial arts moves such as the Cyclone Spin Kick, and Back Kick. With these new techniques you might have a chance against the somersaulting mad men from the Shadow Boss' evil gang. This game is more than just another kung-fu kick-em-up, however, with strategy playing an important role in your quest to reap revenge!

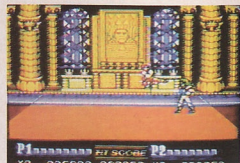
There are now nine new levels of action and suspense, not to mention the graphically striking intermission sequences which set up the climactic ending of the game (a la Ninja Gai Den). You'll have to work your way through walls filled with disappearing ledges, where timing is critical, and past conveyor belts and rotating gears that push and pull you in different directions above pits filled with deadly spears.

Double Dragon 2 may seem like a nightmare since you'll often find yourself confronted by gang members who seemingly appear and disappear at will. You'll also encounter an illusion of yourself that is equally skilled in the martial arts. And don't forget the Shadow Boss himself - your toughest opponent and the ultimate warrior! Is this new master of illusions really as strong as he seems? More importantly, is Marian really dead or is this another one of the Shadow Boss' evil tricks?

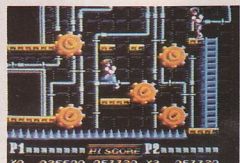
Find out for yourself when Double Dragon 2: The Revenge hits store shelves in late 1989 (or possible early 1990). But be warned: there are three entirely different endings in this game, depending on which of the three skill levels you choose, and it will take a superb player to find out what really has happened to Marian. Watch out for future issues of Electronic Gaming for a complete review on this incredible Double Dragon sequel, including more photos and game maps.



ALL NEW CHALLENGES - *Double Dragon 2 is filled with surprises and packed with punch and kick action!*



OUTSTANDING GRAPHICS - *Battle your way through nine highly detailed game screens!*



TWO PLAYER COMBO - *Now you can play Double Dragon the way it was meant to be played - with a friend!*

TWIN COBRA

Twin Cobra is an outstanding translation of the coin-op mega-hit that represents American Sammy's first strong entry into the Nintendo Entertainment System sweepstakes. Twin Cobra is more than just another action game, it was the arcade title voted "The Best Shooter of 1988" by the U.S. National Video Game Team! High honors for a game that is destined for the video game Hall-of-Fame!

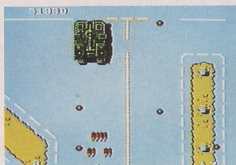
The premise is simple and straightforward: guide an attack chopper into enemy territory and lay waste to everything in sight! But what may first seem like nothing more than another run-of-the-mill shoot-em-up quickly becomes an intense battle involving a wide array of power-up enhancements, bonus point incentives, and high-tech hardware mean enough to blow similar types of games out of the sky!

One of the best features in Twin Cobra are the different weapons that can be collected. Occasionally an enemy transport helicopter will appear on the scene to release a special capsule when destroyed.

This capsule will slowly shift through four different colors, with each new color representing a different kind of weapon for your attack copter! You can choose between missiles, wide beam, side beam, and machine gun! Different areas require different



Grab the Power-Ups to energize your chopper and increase your weapons!



Take on the Boss tank on level one!

weapons and learning the best power-ups to use is just part of the challenge in the game! You can also improve your existing armament by capturing the

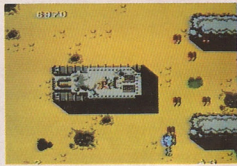


enhancement symbols that are also released whenever an enemy transport is gunned down!

Also at your command are special "Bombs" that both protect and destroy. Whenever one of these super-weapons is released, a tremendous explosion appears around the blast radius, inflicting incredible damage on the enemy and eliminating any of the missiles that may be heading your way. You must be careful, however, since you are only given a limited number of bombs per chopper.

Supporting this hard-hitting game play are some of the best arcade-quality graphics ever seen in a Nintendo game! The vertically scrolling playfield floats by smoothly, introducing new and more deadly terrors as you infiltrate the enemy territory. All of the game characters are rendered in an equally outstanding fashion, with an abundance of graphic flair and realistic, arcade-quality, animation.

Twin Cobra is a dynamite game that is certain to rip up the American charts in the same way that it is currently commanding a high profile in the Japanese game rankings. A perfect blend of high action shooting, risk-incentives, secret bonuses, and spectacular graphics practically guarantee this title a place in our Top Ten. Keep your eyes tuned to Electronic Gaming for more info on this hot new game, as well as maps and layouts that show all of the firepower that this title is packed with! TC is a hit!



Uncover the golden stars - these turn into big points if you get to your ship.

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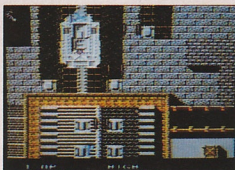
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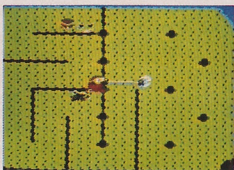
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Sky Shark from Taito
Take to the skies to blow the enemy away on land and in the air!



Dig Dug 2 from Broderbund
Dig Dug is back and in big trouble! Help him get off the islands!



Duck Tales from Capcom
Guide Scrooge McDuck through multiple levels of action!



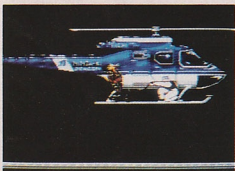
Holy Diver from Irem
A fantastic Castlevania-type game loaded with hidden surprises!



Robocop
Take justice into your own hands as you become a law-enforcing cyborg!



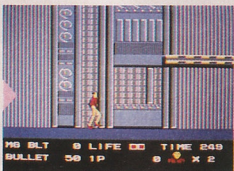
King's Knight from Square
Part action, part adventure, this shooter has several unique features!



Bad Dudes from Data East
Take to the streets for gut-punching excitement in this arcade conversion.



River City Ransom from Technos
Another clever Double Dragon rip with text and adventure overtones.



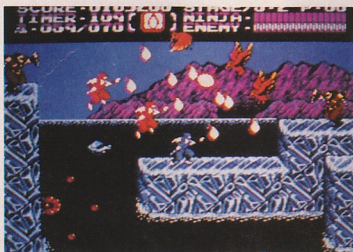
Rolling Thunder from Tengen
Become a secret agent, stop a terrorist organization, and save the girl!

SUPER SNEAK PREVIEW...

NINJA GAI DEN 2

Set for release in Japan around Christmas time, and due in the U.S. in 1990, Tecmo introduces the fantastic sequel to the award-winning Nintendo mega-hit!

In the second chapter of the Ninja Gai Den story, Ryu must confront an all new cast of creatures while solving a puzzling mystery. This game is packed with hidden surprises, special options, and much more! Look for more photos and info in EGM No. 4 next month!



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Team USA is on its way to a Cinderella success story in the Super Dodge Ball World Cup Championships. From out of nowhere, this scrappy bunch of rookies is advancing to the final round of competition. But, seven powerful teams still stand between Team USA and their ultimate challenge; the long awaited grudge match with the undefeated, defending

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ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

Sega's

ULTIMA IV

The computer mega-hit is coming to the Sega Master System this Christmas. Utilizing a full 4 meg of memory, Ultima IV, like its computer cousin, stands to be the most challenging RPG cart ever offered for an American game system. In this quest you must gather the courage and spirit to become an Avatar of Truth. This challenge will prove your worthi-

ness but you can't do it alone. Along the way through the many villages and towns, you must gather a party of other brave adventurers and together set out to follow the magical path to Avatar. Surprises, puzzles and other challenges are around every turn as your quest takes you through one of the largest mazes ever created!



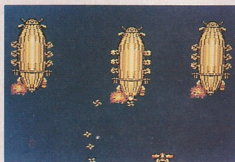
Ultima IV, the latest triumph of Richard Garriot (better known as Lord British), invites you to experience the very best that RPGs have to offer.

Sega's

SCRAMBLE SPIRIT

Based on the arcade game of the same name, Scramble Spirits takes you off into the skies on an impossible mission. You've received orders to blow up an enemy base which is offering strong resistance to allied ground forces. The odds against success are a thousand to one as the enemy mounts a strong defense with tanks, artillery, and heat-seeking

missiles. Your weapons are minimal, but at your disposal are a small fleet of bombers, and an unlimited supply of bombs and ammo for your on-board machine guns. Scramble Spirits offers constant and intense aerial/ground combat action in the great Sega coin-op tradition.



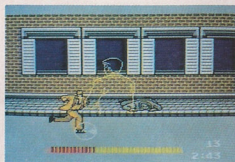
Power your way through multiple enemy defenses in this 8-Bit attempt to capture the sleeper coin-op of last year.

Sega/Fabtek's

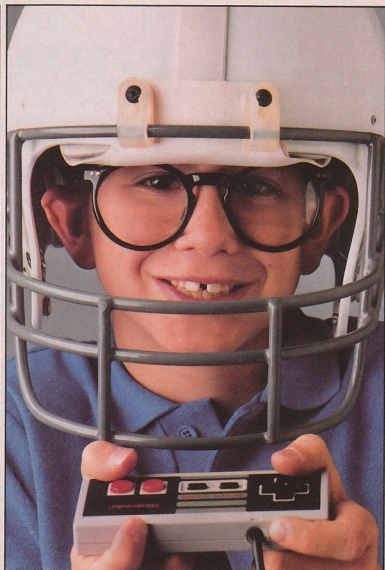
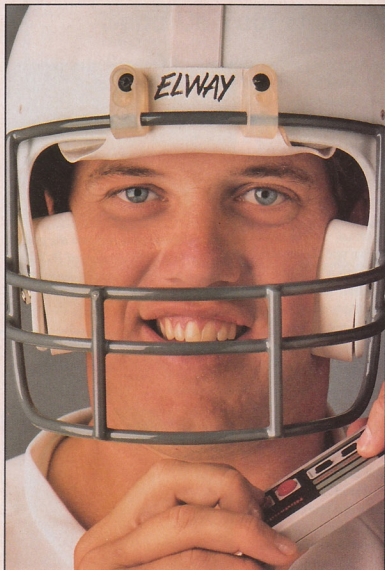
DEAD ANGLE

Adapted from the Fabtek arcade game (which was loosely considered to be a sequel to Empire City 1931), it's you against the mob. Here's your chance to clean up the country, one city at a time. Besides eliminating the biggest crime lords in the country, your mission is also a personal vendetta against the gangsters who have your main squeeze hidden some-

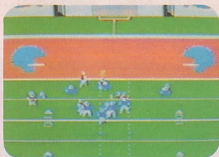
where in one of the nation's largest cities. Armed with a machine gun and a bad attitude, you head down deserted streets and through dark alleys in search of the crime kingpins. It's constant action as gangsters continually pop out of buildings, from behind barrels, and from seemingly out of nowhere!



From behind your hero's silhouette comes an overwhelming number of gangsters and other vile types. Can you survive their attacks?



One great quarterback



It's third down and a long four to the first down that will stop the clock. No time-outs left. The weak side linebacker is lined up inside his defensive end. They're coming!

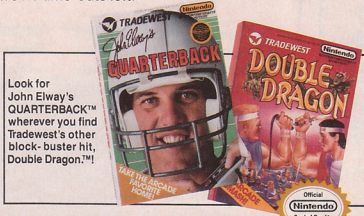
You check-off the play at the line of scrimmage and call for a quick pass to the tight end. He breaks it for a T.D.!

It's not the Super Bowl, it's the super new video football game for Nintendo Entertainment Systems, John Elway's QUARTERBACK™. So real you see the game like a quarterback does, from the line of scrimmage. You call the plays, you beat the blitz, you make it happen.

deserves another.

Named for the quarterback who twice won the AFC Player of the Year Award, this is the game cartridge made for every kid or grownup kid who ever wanted to play the game as well as John Elway.

Get it now before time runs out. Remember, you have no time-outs left.



Look for John Elway's QUARTERBACK™ wherever you find Tradewest's other block-buster hit, Double Dragon!™!



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NEC's

R-TYPE

The arcade sleeper that has found new life on home video game screens is presented in its finest form yet! The TurboGrafx-16 version of R-Type contains all of the high-intensity shooting and power-up options of the coin-op, along with the most detailed graphics and animation of any home R-Type ever seen!

For those of you unfamiliar with

the R-Type scenario, the game places you in the middle of an intergalactic invasion! Ruthless forces from the Bydo Empire will use all the means at their disposal to thwart your efforts. You must defend the Earth with your special fighter which comes with a number of unique functions and can be enhanced during battle.



Stop the Bydo and reclaim the galaxy! The TurboGrafx version of R-Type is the best yet, with outstanding graphics, sounds, and game play!

NEC's

DEEP BLUE

Get ready for one of the most intense horizontally scrolling shooters available for the Turbo! Disguised as an Angel Fish, you command a powerful attack sub with one mission: stop the mutated sea population from taking over the Earth oceans!

This is no easy task, even though your ship is equipped with a powerful pulse laser that can be sup-

plemented by capturing implements left behind by friendly fish. You can even increase the power and duration of your shots for more effective attacks.

Each alien fish attack concludes with a Boss confrontation that features a cast of huge sea creatures! Pass this challenge and you move to higher rounds of play.



Watch out for the creatures of the deep! These sea monsters hold incredible challenges that even the most seasoned game player will find hard to overcome!

Namco's

DRAGON SPIRIT

Adapted from the excellent, yet seldom seen, coin-op quarter-muncher, Dragon Spirit is faithfully translated onto the TurboGrafx-16, retaining the same graphic elements and game play that made the title so much fun to play in the arcades.

You step into the shoes of a knight who has been transformed into a powerful fire-breathing

dragon! You must guide the dragon around various hazards while eliminating the enemy with your dragon breath and special bomb weapon.

During your battle you can hatch the dragon eggs that appear to release various power-ups. These capsules can increase firepower as well as add up to three dragon heads!



Take to the skies and control the destiny of a Prince who fights for good in the form of a fire-breathing dragon.

(Continued from page 8)

Send Us Your High Scores!

We're looking for a few good video game players to add to our monthly high score club! Do you have what it takes to beat the best? All you have to do is send us your high scores on an official registration form, along with a photo of the game screen that clearly shows your high score. For more information and FREE registration forms, send a SASE to the U.S. National Video Game Team's High Score Club, c/o Sendai Publications, 1920 Highland Avenue, Suite 300, Lombard, IL 60148. Turn to page 78 for the latest listing of the Club's high scores.

LOVE THOSE TIPS!

Electronic Gaming is an excellent magazine. I liked your new Top Secret section, and the 16-Bit review best in the last issue. I conquered four of the games that were featured in issue number two thanks to you!

Mike Dunn
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Without your tips and hints, a lot of people would get frustrated and get rid of what they thought was a bad game. Keep up the good work!

Jackie Fields
Edgewood, MD
(ed. - We're glad you like our tips! We have a staff of players who tear through each new game that comes along to find the best tricks and codes. Combined with the tips you send in, our Top Secret section has some of the hottest power-ups you can find!)

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gaming gossip

...Sega debuts Genesis...Atari gets Epyx hand-held...New Super Famicom release dates...16-Bit system update...
Double Dragon 2: The Revenge suit settled...Castlevania for GameBoy...P.C. Engine 2 to be completed this year...

...Oh no! Say it ain't so! The Sega Master System, after making new overtures to attract third-party licensees, appears to be losing their main third-party contributors, namely Activision and Parker Bros...While we're on the subject of Sega, Quartermann has an all-new appreciation for what their 16-Bit Genesis machine can actually do. Although there isn't much that can be labeled daring or unique, carts like Ghouls and Ghosts are so good they have to make Nintendo cringe! With third-party titles coming soon, Genesis has the goods to be a great system...

...Just prior to CES Atari worked out a deal to get the Epyx hand-held for an undisclosed number of cookies. This portable game machine (which uses an 8-Bit processor and 16-Bit graphics chip), first discussed in the May EGM, has incredible good looks and some nifty hardware functions like internal scrolling. It remains pricey (\$149.95), however, and third-party support is questionable...The Acclaim-American Technos-Tradewest lawsuit over Double Dragon 2 has been settled. Tradewest keeps the original and gets the computer and licensing rights to number 2. All's well that ends well I suppose...Romstar's new NES entries will include a new Bowling simulation and the Rally Bike coin-op sleeper from Taito...Naughty, naughty Capcom! Your Viper game looks good but it bears more than a passing resemblance to a well-known Atari arcade piece called Rolling Thunder! You should be ashamed of yourself!...Mike Yamamoto of American Sammy is a genius! Not only has he snapped up the NES rights to Twin Cobra, he also has Silkworm and Pyros on the way! What a guy!

...Nintendo turned their back on the 16-Bit Super Famicom during the CES and focused all of their attention on the GameBoy. The Nintendo propaganda machine never looked better than at the 8:00AM press conference that announced the new unit. Nintendo's mascot, Mario, explained to the audience that 16-Bit systems are not really the wave of the future and that there is no need for their introduction at this time because the NES is powerful enough for today's game players. Yeah, right! ...The best of the new GameBoy games is Castlevania from Konami...Although Nintendo backed down from their 16-Bit Super Famicom system, Quartermann has it from well-informed sources that the most powerful of all the 16-Bits will be released in Japan either in November, next February, or next July depending on the success of their Dragon Quest IV. Nintendo doesn't want to take the steam out of their most successful series of RPG titles by unveiling the Super Famicom prematurely...

...The super Namco 16-Bit that my main man and editor of EGM Steve Harris wrote about last issue almost became the P.C. Engine 2! A feud between Namco and Hudson (the designers of the original P.C. Engine and the Japanese Famicom), however, called the deal off. NEC has instead opted for a new 16-Bit of their own which will use many of the same elements found in the original P.C. Engine (TurboGrafx-16), but will have enhanced graphics and sound capabilities...

Nintendo's highly touted Dragon Warrior (Dragon Quest) isn't that special at all. Go play Ultima from FCI and you'll practically get the same game!...Their Tetris isn't all that good either. The Tengen version, which is based on the Atari Games coin-op, is far superior in execution and options...The Tengen version of Tetris may be hard to find since Nintendo has taken legal action to keep it off the shelves...Is Data East doing the Bat Man coin-op?...Congratulations to Sunsoft dudes and dudettes Joe, Rich, and Wendy who've gone off to start their own game company called Pixel - thanks for the subscription too...

...Quartermann movie reviews - Indy's last crusade was a good story that had no punch, Star Trek V was a disappointment, (I've seen better episodes of "The Next Generation"), Ghostbusters 2 was amusing and had some kick special effects, The Abyss isn't a Terminator or Aliens but it is very good, and Batman is the best - bring on the Smylex!...In related movie/game news, Bandai has elected not to do Star Trek V as a video game. I don't blame them - what kind of Star Trek game can you make without space battles and gun fights? I've got it! It's a musical! You get Kirk, Spock, and McCoy to sing "Row, row, row your boat" in unison!...On a happier note, Bandai WILL be doing the video game version of Dick Tracy. Can't wait to see Madonna on a Nintendo screen...Activision has the rights to the Abyss, but at this point there are no plans for a game - c'mon guys, if you've got it - use it! Well guys and girls, keep out of trouble, say "NO" to drugs, and read your gaming mags. What more could you want out of life?...

QUARTERMANN

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From NEC

NEC's new state-of-the-art super game system will be here soon, but thanks to your pals at Electronic Gaming, you can be one of the first to play this revolutionary new machine - absolutely FREE! Simply fill out the contest reply card and send it to us. One lucky gamer will win a Turbogراف 16 and games! Enter today!



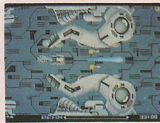
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Victory Run



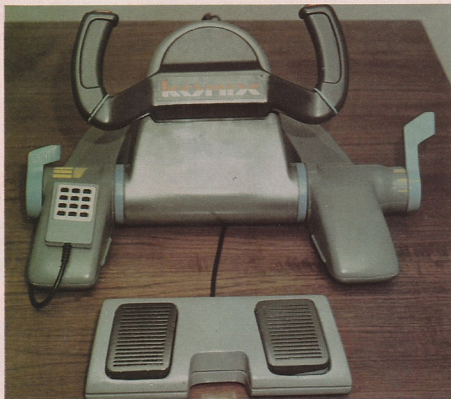
R-Type



LAST CHANCE TO ENTER - TIME IS RUNNING OUT

Rules: All entries must be received by August 31, 1989. Sendai Publications Inc., or the staff of EGM assume no responsibility for postal service mistakes or other events which could delay or prevent your submission from reaching our offices. No relatives of the EGM staff may participate in this contest. Limit one entry per person please. The selection of the games as well as the delivery of the Turbogراف 16 system depend on NEC's production schedules. Void where prohibited by law. Now stop straining your eyes and enter!

16 - BIT SYSTEM PREVIEW



After the July issue of Electronic Gaming Monthly previewed them, and the Summer Consumer Electronics Show introduced them, the video game world has been buzzing about the latest in gaming technology: 16-Bit systems. While the new high-powered game machines unveiled at CES (NEC's TurboGrafx-16 and Sega's Genesis) created quite a stir, new attention is being focused onto a segment of the console market that is still eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Nintendo 16-Bit Super Famicom and Namco 16-Bit "Super" system. Much of that interest is being directed at the first 16-Bitter developed outside of Japan - the Konix Multi-System.

The MultiSystem (previously code named the "Slipstream") is England's contribution to the "next generation" game system wars. While their number one weapon may not carry a name as familiar as Nintendo or Sega, the unit that Konix has created seems to have

a lot of the power that will be necessary to go up against the big guns. Beyond its lightning fast processor, the Konix Multi-System also has a multitude of additional features that include an interchangeable controller system that provides physical feedback during play, a simulator chair, and games that work on disk rather than carts.

The MultiSystem itself is blue and black and has been described in the British gaming press as "a toilet seat with handlebars"! The system embraces the controls as part of the entire package in an effort to provide a more hands-on appeal, giving players more feedback than a typical flat pad.

Controls

One of the MultiSystem's most unique features is an interchangeable controller system that allows you to change the controller as easy as you change the

The first 16-Bit game system developed outside of Japan, the Konix Multi-System captures true 16-Bit gaming in a package that is unconventional yet powerful. Get the full story on this exciting machine and its future here in the U.S.



The MultiSystem simulator chair is definitely the unit's most interesting add-on, but poor reaction (it moves painfully slow) could kill it.

joystick for one game, then switch to a steering wheel, and then reconfigure the joystick into the shape of handlebars for the next. There is also an arcade-style simulator chair that rocks and rolls to the movements of the system's joystick. A high price tag makes the chair questionable however.

Under the Hood - Looking at the Power Behind the MultiSystem...

Unlike the Sega Genesis or NEC TurboGrafx-16, which both use the more common 6502 and 68000 processors to power exceptional graphics and sounds, the MultiSystem uses a chip that is more familiar to PCs. The Intel 8086 inside the MultiSystem does its job well, however, running along at a zippy 12 MHz (as compared to the Genesis' 7.6 MHz and the Turbo's 6MHz). The 8086 does little of the actual game processing; instead it parcels the work out to other specially designed chip sets. At the heart of the machine are two such

chips, one for the graphics and one for the sound. Inside these ASIC (Applicaton Specific Intergrated Circuits) chips, the MultiSystem games come to life!

The graphics chip can produce 9 million pixels per second, enabling the system to theroretically change the screen 87 times per second in high resolution mode. This chip set also makes it possible for the system to draw rectangles, lines, and 3-D vector-like graphics in the hardware, making the programmer's life much more care-free.

The machine has a palette of 4,096 colors and several resolution modes, including 512x200.

As far as the audio portion of play is concerned, the MultiSystem is equally impressive, with a sound chip that Konix compares to the Yamaha DX7 synthesizer (used in some arcade games). It also has the ability to play games in stereo through headphones.

The MultiSystem also out guns the competition in the fight for memory with 256K (over the Genesis which comes in with 64K), which can be expandable to 1.5 Meg.

Games

Since more is known about the MultiSystem machine itself, as opposed to any of the great game titles that may be near completion, it is hard to get a true feel for what the potential of this system might be. Although many companies have signed on to be part of the Konix game plan, most openly admit that they will have trouble getting any MultiSystem product out the door by the end of the year.

Third-party support is almost exclusively comprised of computer companies and development teams at this point, including Electronic Arts, Mirrorsoft, System 3, Palace, Thalamus, Llamasoft, Logotron, Linel, and big European names like US Gold, Ocean, and Electrocoin.

Whether or not these companies can get their hands on big-name arcade titles (traditionally the life blood of any good game system - and something that's very difficult to do in Nintendo's shadow) remains questionable. Supporting a 16-Bit system with computer games hardly seems like a wise move, but in the U.K., computer soft is definitely the favored medium when it comes to gaming. This appears to be the MultiSystem's first long bridge to cross. The MultiSystem will have to have a hot game that shows off the sys-



The MultiSystem disk drive has continual disk access which has been criticized by many who see frequent breakdowns and pirated programs.

tem's abilities with outstanding game play. After all, Super Mario Bros. has helped sell more Nintendo Entertainment Systems than any other piece of software, and without this same type of support, the MultiSystem will die an ugly death in the face of competing 16-Bit consoles.

MultiSystem in the U.S.

While Konix has loose plans at this point to attack America and Japan after the MultiSystem launch in Europe, a high price tag - around 199 pounds (\$350) for the system, two games, a joystick, and a disk drive - and an inadequate library of games could eliminate Konix before they get started. Unless they get started right away, Konix will have a lot of trouble putting a dent in the armor of the big name competition.



This steering wheel attachment is just one of the controllers that can be used to modify the system to the game.



This driving demo is one of the few screen images that have been projected by the MultiSystem. Future games will hopefully hold more promise.

Many thanks to our gaming friends over the ocean at Game Machine magazine in England for additional information and assistance in compiling this article.

INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK



By Edward Semrad

A New Legend is Born...

Undoubtedly one of the strongest line of Nintendo games began three years ago with Gradius from Konami. This intergalactic epic went on to become the role model for countless numbers of similar shooters in the years that followed.

Based on an arcade quarter-sucker called Nemesis, which was also from Konami, Gradius quickly became the number one space game for the NES. Multiple power-ups, smoothly scrolling backgrounds, and a relentless enemy told why.

Like all blockbusters, Gradius spawned a sequel entitled LifeForce (a slightly different version called Salamander was released in Japan). This souped-up version of Gradius introduced two-player combat and a whole slew of new attackers and Boss invaders. But, unknown to most, LifeForce was not the last chapter in the Gradius saga.

First previewed in EGM number 2, the third installment of the Gradius conflict, Gradius II, is by far the best! It has nine new levels of play, more powerful Boss attackers, and huge animated environments that are filled with evil, danger, and endless challenge!

Long gone are the small characters that pestered you in previous Gradius invasions. Gradius II is filled with enormous Bosses and equally outstanding dual-scrolling landscapes that are bristling with guns!

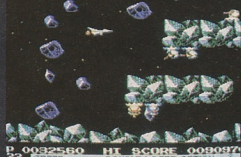
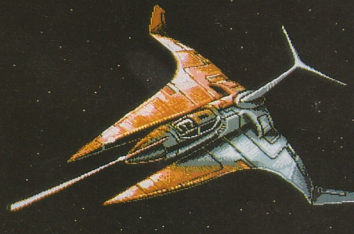
Many of the Gradius II playfields are so intricate and involved, you'd swear you were playing a 16-Bit game! Now you can control more options, gather



Take on the Stone Face attackers!

firepower, and even adjust which weapons you wish to use during one or two-player simultaneous battles!

While Konami has not announced the release of Gradius II for anytime in the near future, let's all keep our fingers crossed and hope that this future classic makes its way across the Pacific. It's a dynamite game that packs in all new sights, sounds, and game play into a theme that is now legendary!



GRADIUS II BOSS INVADERS...CAN THEY BE STOPPED?!?



The Firebird guards the entrance to the new Gradius empire!



The Alien Cyclops attacks you ship in several different ways!



The Mecha-Skull fires long bursts of high energy that are extremely deadly!



The Crystal Ships fires high-powered lasers and uses crystal arms to attack!



The space brain will advance using deadly tendrils! Aim for the eye!



This alien attack ship uses its spinning arms to destroy your fighter!



The alien energy sphere is one of the deadliest of the Gradius II invaders!



Blast your way through this attacker's defenses before he blasts you!



The alien's Supreme Commander waits for you at the end of your mission!

POWER METER SELECT



WEAPON SELECT

Prior to going into battle with the Gradius II aliens, you can custom design your star fighter to suit any of your needs. You must choose one of four Power Meters that will remain positioned at the bottom of the screen for the entire game. While all of the meters contain Speed Up, Option, and Force Field, you can select Power Meters that contain different weapons such as Missile, Laser, and Ripple, as well as new power-ups like the Spread Bomb, Tail Gun, Photon Torpedo, 2-Way, and more! This is just one of the many features unique to Gradius II!

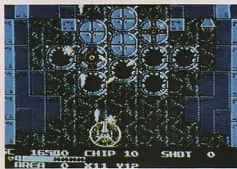
SUPER MARIO BROS. 3 WATCH

The Superest Super Mario of them all is now out at arcades in Nintendo's Play Choice system and rumors have it that the game will be unveiled sometime next year on the NES to combat NEC and Sega's new 16-Bit game systems! We'll keep you posted and let you know exactly when the number one Nintendo game of all time is set to be released on these shores!



Tricks of the Trade

SPECIAL TIPS, PLAYING TECHNIQUES,
STRATEGIES, HIDDEN POWER-UPS,
LEVEL SELECTS, AND CONTINUES...



GUARDIAN LEGEND

No Adventure Scenes

To skip the adventure scenes that break up the outer-space shoot-em-ups, type in TGL and spaces for the rest of the positions. Now the game is a straight shooter - you'll warp from one flying sequence to the next!

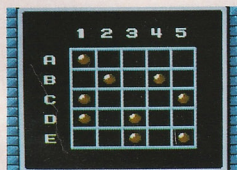
Dan MacArthur



RASTAN

Unlimited Continues

To do this trick, wait for the words "SEGA MASTER SYSTEM" to appear, then hold buttons one and two down, while pressing the pad down and diagonally to the left. The word Rastan should appear in blue, letting you know the trick has been



MEGA MAN 2

Password Warp

To start your battle inside Dr. Wily's hideout, input this code during the Password screen:
A - 1, B - 2, B - 4, C - 1, C - 5, D - 1, D - 3, E - 3, and E - 5. You'll also be completely powered-up for your final battle against the deadly Doc!

RUSH 'N' ATTACK

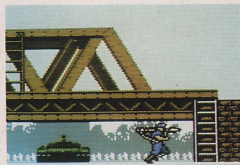
Super Glitch

This trick won't improve your score and award 30 free men, but it's interesting and fun to watch.

To perform the trick, you must first acquire the bazooka weapon. Secondly, you must proceed to an area with a ladder.

Now here's where some skill and timing is helpful. As you approach the ladder, shoot your bazooka in the air while simultaneously jumping so that you land on the ladder (you should land on the ladder in an upright position). After doing this you should move slowly up and down the ladder, avoiding enemy soldiers, until the man is in the bazooka-firing position.

Keep moving up and down until the character begins to change shape. The hero's head will turn into a large rectangular mess. Then it will turn into a small explosion, big explosion, and finally a pile of numbers. You must have two shots left in the bazooka for this trick to work.



ICE HOCKEY

Super Puck

This trick is similar to the "no goalies" tip printed in May. This hint will speed the puck up so that it never stops. During the player, speed, and time select screen, hold both the 'A' and 'B' buttons on both controllers and press 'Start'

Scott Fletcher
Medfield, MA

while the buttons are pushed. Now the puck will never stop when you hit it after holding the 'B' button.

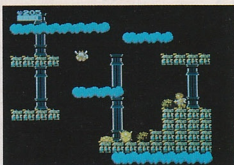


KID ICARUS

Secret Continue

To resume play from the same position and with the same implementations that you had when your game ended, simply press 'B', 'A', 'B' on controller number one before the title screen appears.

Carlos Flores
Chicago, IL



ADVENTURES OF LINK

Experience Booster

This is a helpful trick that will help novice players get some quick experience with very little trouble at all! First of all, one of the three games stored on the cartridge must have already completed the first adventure and be battling the second quest. For the other Links to receive this free boost, the Link who has already finished the first quest needs to go through one of the palaces. When that Link's experience begins to go up, after you have set the crystal in the statue's forehead, press 'Start' on controller one, then press 'Up' and 'A' at the same time on controller two. The 'Continue' or 'Save' option will appear. Select the 'Save', then choose another Link to use. Upon starting his first quest, the other Link's experience will start going up and continue to raise many levels!

Walter Garey
Phoenix, MD

NINJA GAI DEN

Super Sound Test

There is a menu screen in Ninja Gai Den that will let you hear all of the different sound effects. When the title screen says "Tecmo Presents 1989" press and hold down and to the left on controller one, then hold the 'Select' button and 'A' and 'B' buttons. Press 'A' to start and 'B' to stop sounds.

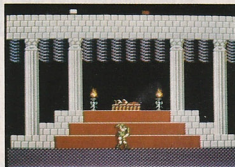
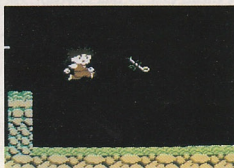


KID NIKI

Secret 1-UP

Whenever a Boss is defeated, a scroll will appear. If you hit this scroll with your sword when the first and last digits of your "Time Remaining" counter match, the scroll will turn into a free man!

Milton W. Kuo
Houston, Texas





THUNDER FORCE II

Special Menu Screen

Thunder Force II is filled with a wide variety of challenges that are spread out over multiple levels of play. Unknown to most, however,

there is a special screen built into the game that allows you to adjust the difficulty of the game in a number of different ways.

To initiate this trick, press and hold the 'A', 'B', and 'C' buttons while turning the Genesis system on. Keep all three buttons pushed down and press the 'Start' button when the title screen appears. You will find yourself in a special menu table that allows you to adjust the starting level (1-5), the difficulty (Training - which is played one level at a time, Normal, Hard), and other options that include a sound test.



BOMBERMAN

Pasocodo Ending

To warp straight to the highest levels of Bomberman (stage 50), use this special code and be prepared to see Bomberman's real identity:

FECPIANNMJGKGIDJABA

Sammie Bagley
Comanche, Texas

ZILLION

Invincibility

Zillion is a difficult action/adventure, but with this special tip you can plow through the game without any trouble at all! To become unbeatable, go to room C-3 and get caught in the elevators between floors. After doing this, move your character and touch the laser barrier nearby. When the floor of the elevator falls through and your power meter hits zero, your character will be able to proceed without the fear of getting hit and dying.

Ethan Brown
West Wilmington, CT



BASES LOADED

No Ejections

There is a way to keep players from being thrown out in Bases Loaded. If you get hit by a pitch and charge the mound, rapidly press the 'B' button and continue to push it until the next batter comes to the plate. Now, when you go to look at the lineup, you will not have lost the batter who should have been ejected.

Maney Merckle
Moxahala, OH

This trick is a bit difficult to do, but it changes Ultima completely!

First of all, this trick works best when you have no other characters in any of the three registers.

Start by erasing all of the registers, clearing all of the names from the character select screen, and then choose the first register and give it a name.

You'll then want to select "Create". Once the "Ready-Made" or "Hand-Made" prompt appears on the screen, select the "Ready-Made" option. Next, select the first four characters,



ULTIMA

Full Power + Japanese and Latin Text

but don't give them any names (press 'Reset' instead). When the "Start/Continue" appears on the screen, choose the "Continue". The four characters will appear and they will have several unusual

items (like 99 Sun Swords). As the game begins the three other characters will die. When this happens you will find that many things have changed, like the addition of Latin for the spell names! You will also be able to use both kinds of spells but only a limited number of times. **NOTE:** You cannot finish the game with this trick!





Shanghai Secret Game

Unknown to most, a secret game, similar to Concentration, is built right into every Shanghai cart! To access this special game, press 'Pause' at least ten times during the title screen. Select 'Game' at the top of the screen. When the menu appears, choose 'Start Solitaire'. When the next menu is displayed, go to the prompt that lets you load the stored patterns. From the stored patterns sub-screen, move to 'Secret Game'. In this hidden contest, all of the tiles are face down and you must select two tiles that match to remove them from the board.



The Guardian Legend Special Sound Test

To enter a secret sound test mode in The Guardian Legend, hold both 'A' and 'B' on controller one and turn on the game!



CRIME BUSTERS

Game Designer Screen and Power-Up

Hold the 'Option' button down while turning on the power. The screen should remain black. Push the 'Select' key for half a second, and then release the 'Option' button. If this is done properly, the title screen will appear. Start the game as normally and on the 1-2 player select screen you must next hit the lower-left blue tack that holds the 'Z' poster up. If this is done correctly, the game will return to the title screen with the names of the designers shown. Start the game again and you will now be able to skip the driving scenes by pressing the space bar. This trick will also affect the game in other ways, like adding brand new characters that you normally don't see. Santa Claus will also appear on every screen now! Look for plenty of other surprises as well!

Jim Zalewski
Hamtramck, MI

Tengen's TETRIS

Turn Any Block into Red Block

Tengen's version of the game Tetris is the best there is (except for the Atari Games coin-op), and with this little trick you could find your Tetris scores soaring!

The quickest way to big points is to score a "Tetris" - the elimination of four lines of blocks simultaneously. The only way to rack up a Tetris is to have plenty of bricks already on the screen and, if the computer is nice, a long red block will appear to neatly fit down a one block wide opening.

Now you can always be sure of getting a Tetris with this tip that changes an existing block into a long red brick! When a block is falling, press 'Start' to pause the game, and then push Up, Up, Down, Down, Left, Right, Left, Right, 'B', and then 'A'. A long red block will replace the existing block at the top of the screen!

ALTERED BEAST

Secret Menus

In the 16-Bit version of Altered Beast for the Sega Genesis, you can change the game by accessing three different menu screens. In addition to a sound test, you can change your altered shape for each round, select the round, difficulty, length of power bar and number of men as well. All tricks must be set up before turning the Genesis on. Hit 'Start' to enter the secret menu screens.

CHANGE YOUR ALTERED EGO:

Press the pad Down and to the Left while holding all three buttons.

PLAY SELECT MENU:

Hold the 'B' button.

ROUND SELECT:

Adjust Play Select menu then hold 'A'.

SOUND TEST:

Press the pad Up and to the Right while holding the 'A' and 'C' buttons.

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STRATEGY GUIDE



P.O.W. is SNK's latest video game blockbuster! Based on the 1988 arcade mega-hit, Prisoner of War follows a lone warrior on a mission to eliminate the savage dictators who hold an entire country hostage. You must contend with all kinds of enemy soldiers and weapons as you master your punching, kicking, and shooting skills. We'll walk you through each intense level of play, and show you exactly what to do to reach the explosive conclusion! This issue deals with the first two levels - be sure to get the next issue for maps to the rest of the game...

LEVEL ONE



KNUCKLES



ARMOR



BREAK OUT!!!

The first three huts hold special power-ups and even more enemy troops. The first building contains the Brass Knuckles, the second one has Body Armor, and the third hut contains a Life Supplement.

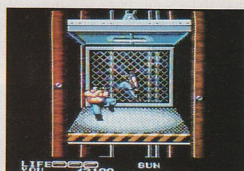
BOSS VILLAINS...Can You Face Their Challenge?



Boss One - An attack helicopter hovers at the end of level one. Enemy troops will appear, some with knives and some carrying grenades.



Boss Two - The supply Captain waits with gun and grenades in the warehouse. He shoots a 4-shot burst and tosses grenades when you approach.



Boss Three - A large enemy Boss waits in the elevator. He rushes from one side of the elevator to the other, inflicting great damage if you get in his way.

P.O.W.TM

PRISONERS OF WAR

STRATEGY GUIDE

POWER-UP FOR GREATER ADVENTURE

During your missions you will be invited to enter enemy buildings, trucks, and caves. Inside these special rooms you will discover additional troops waiting. If you defeat all of the bad guys in a room, however, you will be rewarded with Brass Knuckles, Armor, or Life. While the Knuckles don't noticeably alter the game play, you should **ALWAYS** fight for the Armor (which deflects enemy gun and knife attacks) and the Life Supplement only when your current health meter is low. Along the way you will also encounter certain enemy characters carrying grenades, knives, and machine guns. If you overpower these foes, they will usually leave their weapons behind!



LIFE



Be careful when entering the warehouses. Your visibility will be limited and oncoming attackers harder to see.

BATTLE ON!!!

P.O.W. SUPER TIPS!!!

Successfully escaping the enemy stronghold and reaching the allied extraction point requires quick fists, fast feet, and plenty of skill. There are several playing techniques, however, that can help you reach the goal safely!

In the first two levels you should familiarize yourself with where to find the Armor power-ups, which provides invaluable shielding from enemy gunfire and throwing knives.

When you encounter the scuba divers in the water portion of level two, remember that the enemy will always attack from behind. When you see a diver emerging from the water, immediately turn and punch.

You should also work on the jump-kick, which helps in dealing with the mad motorcyclists and the Level Two Boss.

CLIMB TO GREATER DANGERS! AND DUAL SCROLLING !!!

LEVEL ONE

Continued



GET THE NEXT
ISSUE OF EGM FOR
THE EXPLOSIVE
CONCLUSION TO
P.O.W.

Armor



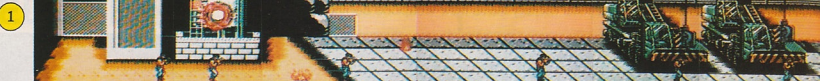
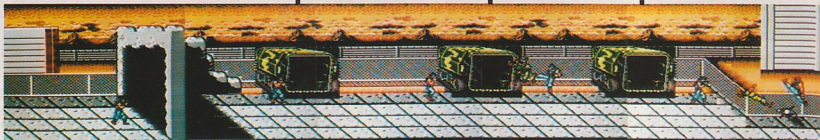
Knuckles



Life



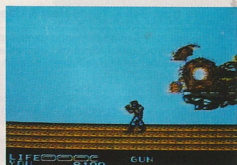
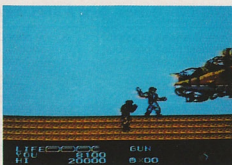
LEVEL TWO





ENEMY ATTACK HELICOPTER

The first Boss you will face is a gigantic troop chopper that will hover directly over your position. You must punch or kick the grenade-throwing enemy infantry that appears (knife-wielding troops will also appear) from the copter, pick up the grenades they drop, and then return fire with four grenade hits.



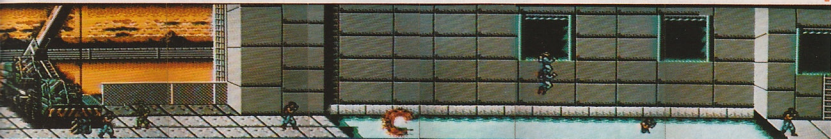
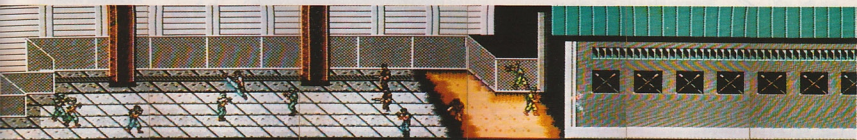
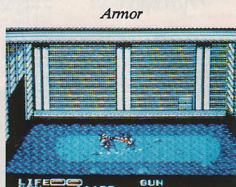
LEVEL ONE BOSS

LEVEL TWO BOSS



RESUPPLY GENERAL

The level two Boss demands talented hand-to-hand combat. The Resupply General will fire his machine gun whenever you are far-away, and will drop grenades at your feet whenever you are near. Stay close to the General, jump-kicking into his face whenever he drops a grenade. When he fires his gun, jump and they will miss.



1

2

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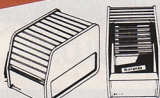
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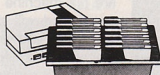
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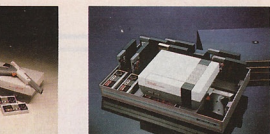


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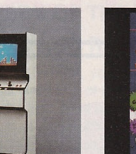
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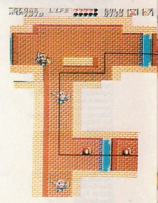
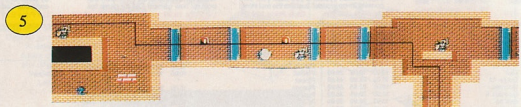
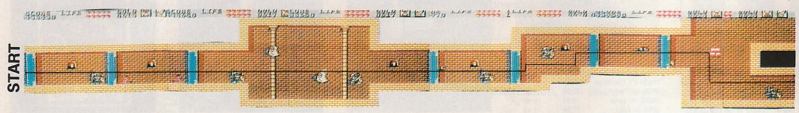
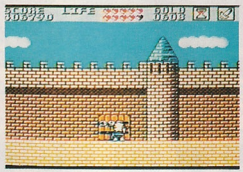
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Ballet Figh	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
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Baseball Stars VIII	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars IX	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars X	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars XI	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars XII	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars XIII	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
Baseball Stars XIV	10.90	29.99	42.99	Gunthor	10.90	19.99	29.99		
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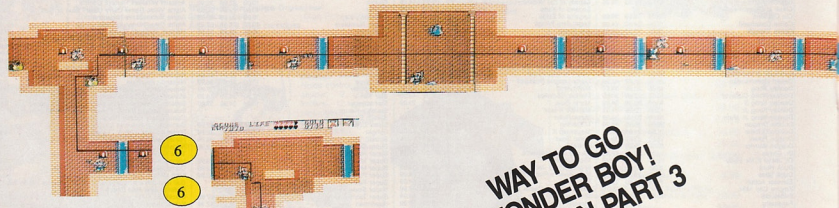
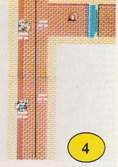
WONDER BOY IN MONSTER LAND



WONDER BOY IN MONSTER LAND'S INCREDIBLE LEVEL 12 MAZE

Wonder Boy in Monster Land is extremely challenging, but none of the previous levels can prepare you for task that you'll face in the last round of play. You must find your way through this maze of hallways and rooms, without making a wrong turn, before you can confront the evil fire-breathing dragon that waits for your arrival.

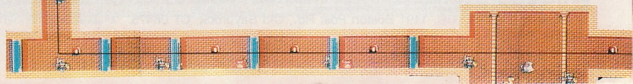
These maps will allow you to track your progress and always know which way to turn. Follow the yellow line to reach the dragon's lair and finish the game!



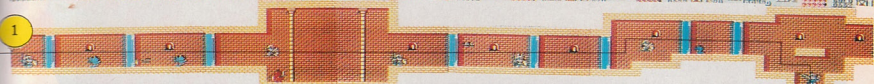
**WAY TO GO WONDER BOY!
SEE 'YA IN PART 3**

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...

Once you've mastered the dangers of Monster Land, be prepared to defend Wonder Land again in Wonder Boy 3, which continues from the same place this game ends!

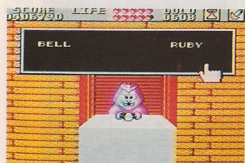


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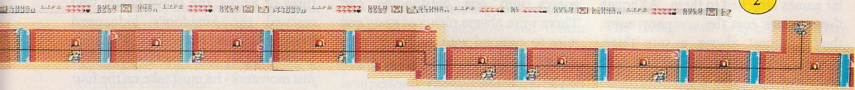
THE MYSTERY OF THE MAGICAL BELL AND RUBY!

As you enter the level 12 maze, you will encounter a shopkeeper who offers you a choice of a magic Bell or a magic Ruby. If you choose the Bell, it will be hard to kill the dragons at the end of the round, but you will hear a chime every time you take the right course in the maze. Choose the Ruby instead and use these maps to plot your path! Now your fighting ability is increased and the dragons are easier to slay!

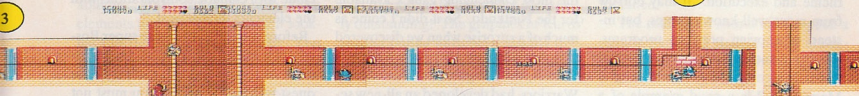


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2



3



4

7

THE MEKA DRAGON'S SURPRISE!

When you finally fight your way through the level 12 labyrinth, the Meka dragon has a deadly surprise waiting for you! While you may be prepared to take on the mighty flames of the beast, you will face not one, but **TWO** monsters who are both intent on stopping Wonder Boy once and for all!

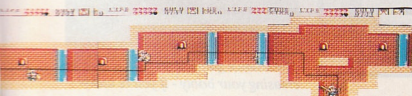
5

To defeat these nasty creatures, make sure you choose the Ruby at the beginning of the round (if you do not they will be very difficult to destroy). Be sure to avoid their on-coming fire balls and use the sword against the dragons' head. To destroy the green dragon, you must get in close, jump, and hit his weak spot at least three times. To kill the blue dragon, you must strike his head at least 16 times. Remember, the more powerful your sword and shield, the easier it is to kill the dragons.

END

GOOD PLAY!

7



Game of the Month



The U.S. National Video Game Team

Traditionally, the most popular home video games are usually adapted from arcade super-hits or have million dollar names attached to them. Although these games cost the company more, they're almost always a sure thing, especially if the game has the high profile of a Double Dragon or After Burner.

Occasionally a game will appear, however, that is totally unique both in theme and execution. It may borrow from more well-known games, but instead of copying previous programs, the new game expands on the concept to create a completely original delight. Mega Man 2 is a good example of a game that, on the surface, resembles a dozen other action/adventure battles. It isn't until the game is examined closer that it truly shines.

One of the most successful original titles to ever debut on the Nintendo Entertainment System was Acclaim's *Wizards and Warriors*. Combining play elements from both

from different fantasy and action/adventure titles, *Wizards and Warriors* masterfully molded the two gaming genres into one outstanding cart. There were always plenty of nasty enemies to contend with, and a different quest (find the specially colored key) to be solved in each round.

For its time, *Wizards and Warriors* had exceptional graphics, animation, and sounds and it still stands as one of the most challenging games available for the Nintendo. So it didn't come as much of a surprise when we discovered that Acclaim, together with Rare and Coin-It, the designers of *Wizards and Warriors*, had developed an all-new sequel to their swords and sorcery epic.

Entitled *Ironsword: Wizards and Warriors 2*, the follow-up to the original blockbuster continues the adventures of Kuros, the brave knight who rescued the kingdom's kidnapped Princesses in the first game. This time around Kuros must battle more than just monsters - he must take on the four elements of Wind, Water, Fire, and Earth! Each of the game's four levels are built around these themes and conclude with climatic confrontations with the elements themselves!

Before you can battle these super Bosses, you must first traverse an assortment of rooms and catacombs. Your quest will not be easy! You must not only collect the treasures and gold to build up your score, you have to find the armor, helmets, and swords that increase your fighting strength. Some of the treasures include magical spells that can be used against the enemy and to help find the correct way through the game's enormous play area.

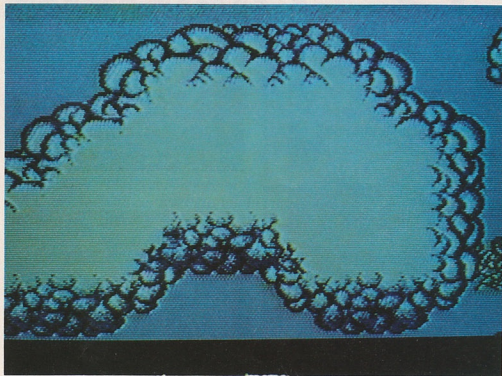


The map helps chart your progress through the different game levels



The chance game is an easy way of increasing your booty - if you're lucky!

LEVEL ONE



Each level also contains a special character who helps you along in your adventure. These friends give you various incentives and assist you in locating the objects that you need to complete each round.

Ironsword leads up to a confrontation with a group of flying apparitions that possess quick moves and powerful abilities. Make it through each of the elements and you'll find yourself looking the Big Bosses in the face! You must rely on all of the powers you have

collected through the first four levels if you are to successfully eliminate the threat of the final Boss and return peace to the land once again.

In addition to boasting game play that is superior to the original Wizards and Warriors (and even better than many other recent action/adventure games like Simon's Quest), Ironsword has several supporting features that are equally outstanding! The graphics in Kuros' second outing have been slightly finetuned and look even better than before!

BOSS

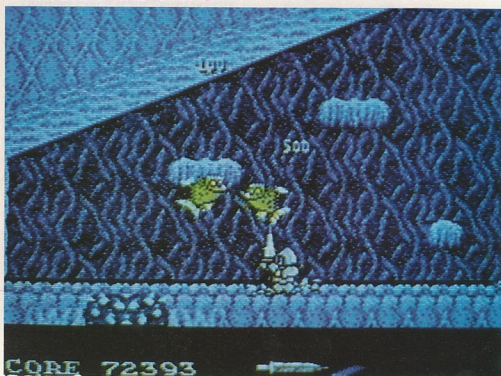


FRIEND

The background graphics are sharp and defined, with extra attention going into the construction of each level. Ironsword also has new characters, like the Bosses and Friends, that, despite being very large, are well drawn and animated. Even Kuros himself is more detailed!

The music and sound effects pack a dandy punch as well! To add atmosphere to the game, the new background

LEVEL TWO



BOSS



FRIEND

LEVEL THREE



music is constantly changing and has an eerie tone that sets the mood for the whole game.

Ironsword is rounded out with a status/select sub-screen that gives you instant access to all of the weapons and spells that Kuros has collected. It also maintains scores and passwords in a separate area that doesn't intrude on the rest of the game.

Ironsword: Wizards and Warriors 2 is an excellent sequel that captures the charm and adventure of its predecessor

and expands upon its positive virtues to include brand new features like armor and weapon power-ups, spell casting, passwords and more! All of these features, combined with the enhanced graphics and sounds, make Ironsword one of the most welcome Nintendo Entertainment System games in a long time. Kuros looks better than ever in this terrific follow-up to Wizards and Warriors - a game definitely deserving of the U.S. National Video Game Team's "Players Seal of Approval"!

LEVEL FOUR



BOSS



FRIEND



Find the spells hidden along the way that will help you in your quest!

BOSS



FRIEND

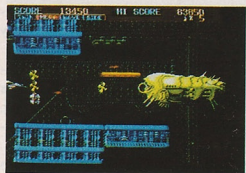
BEHIND THE SCREENS

"Technically, the TurboGrafx-16 and the Sega 16-Bit are exceptional machines. Graphics and game play are arcade quality. What is missing is the library of good software from third-party companies.

Capcom has and will continue to support GameBoy with our software, but I am not at liberty to mention exact titles. It will be a game that is NOT currently on the market and it will fit the technical parameters of the GameBoy system.

The Atari hand-held is a nice unit: price and play seem fine. Atari's Lynx vs. Nintendo's GameBoy in the retailer and consumer respect, however, leaves Nintendo winning by a landslide."

Joe Morici
Vice-President
Marketing and Sales
Capcom, USA



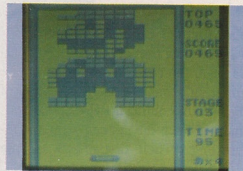
Thunder Force II for Sega Genesis

"When will we see 32 bit graphics? The point is not the number of bits, but the entertainments value of the system. The biggest component of value in game play is graphics. Why? Because games are about fantasy - about fighting the good fight, driving the fast car, or rescuing the pretty Princess. The more real the fantasy is, the more entertaining. That's why we like to see movies in 70mm Dolby THX and not Super 8. What 16-Bit graphics really means is a next generation of game machines with better graphics, better sound, and better game play."

Ken Wirt
Assistant Vice-President
NEC

Behind the Screens is a new regular feature to Electronic Gaming Monthly that asks leading industry personalities to provide us with their opinions and insights into some of the hottest topics and issues facing the video game world

This month we've collected the thoughts of leading game designers and executives regarding the four new game systems (Sega's Genesis, NEC's TurboGrafx-16, Nintendo's GameBoy, and Atari's Lynx) planned for release later in the year. Find out how these heroes of the video game galaxy feel about the new machines and which ones they'll be supporting...



Alleyway for Nintendo's GameBoy

"The 16-Bit game graphics are fantastic, but I don't think that they will greatly affect Nintendo's market share immediately. Nintendo has built a very strong base, and the demand for new software for the Nintendo system will not change drastically because of the 16-Bit games. FCI is looking forward to continuing to develop innovative software for the units already on the market, including the GameBoy, for the next several years."

Liz Hamburg
Coordinator
FCI



Keith Courage for NEC's TurboGrafx-16

"I was very impressed with both the TurboGrafx-16 and Genesis. My only reservations about the Genesis is if Sega will be able to make games that are "fun", i.e. better quality play, than what they currently have with their 8-Bit machine. It seems that NEC has more titles.

Bandai plans to develop for GameBoy and the titles should be announced soon. The Atari hand-held seems better graphics-wise, but its price point and game play are suspect."

Bert Schroeder
Product Manager
Bandai America

"We welcome all new hardware developments because they show the consumer that home video gaming is here to stay and that it will get better and better in the future. The new Sega and NEC machines look promising and we feel GameBoy will be a big smash this fall. The new Atari machine looks great and plays well. We'll be watching its progress carefully."

Emil Heidkamp
Vice-President
Konami

"While the Genesis is capable of great graphics and sounds, they need more games - and great games - to attract market share.

"I feel that CD-ROM is the wave of the future - I hope NEC handles it right with their TurboGrafx-16 machine. I hate the TurboGrafx-16 name!

"The hand-helds are interesting, but they won't replace the TV games. The GameBoy is a great take-it-with-you toy. The Atari hand-held has great color and graphics, but they'll need to have lots of super games and marketing to beat Nintendo. The battery life is also a problem."

Tom Sloper
Product Manager
Activision

NINTENDO™ PLAYER

David White

NINTENDO EXPANDS HORIZONS

Now that the Nintendo Entertainment System has penetrated such a high percentage of American homes (one-in-five by the end of the year, according to Nintendo's estimates), it is now in a position to broaden its horizons and tap into markets that extend to other areas of gaming and even non-gaming functions. Witness the recent partnership between Nintendo and AT&T, who plan to turn the NES into a communications terminal that will allow anyone to purchase stocks, buy airline tickets, and do other "over-the-phone" services. This is just one of the many directions the Nintendo will inevitably head (as it has in Japan) in the months and years to come.

Besides courting the telephone service, however, Nintendo has big

plans for the NES. While games will always be a big part of the Nintendo battle plan, the executive powers-that-be apparently want to sustain the life of the NES by coming up with peripherals that will keep the system fresh and interesting. Their first offering is the NES Satellite multi-player peripheral.

The Satellite, which was designed by Coin-It, enables gamers to enjoy, for the first time, multi-player (we mean 3 and 4 player combo titles) simultaneous games that offer enhanced competition and additional options.

The Satellite comes in two parts. One receives signals and is attached to the sys-

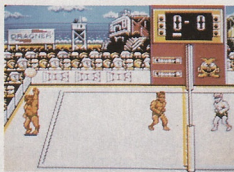
tem, while the multi-plug adapter works as a remote and can be placed anywhere in a room up to 20 feet away.

A line of specially developed games are being produced that take advantage of the Satellite and its unique abilities. Among the first releases already in the work are:

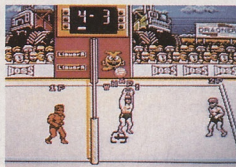
Super Off Road - Tradewest's translation of the Leland arcade super-hit is faithful in almost every bouncing, jumping detail - including the four player racing options!

V'Ball - Adapted from the American Technos arcade sleeper, V'Ball challenges you to a volleyball tournament against some of the nastiest beach dwellers around.

Play Action Football - Standard rules with player-versus-player options.



V'Ball



V'Ball

Four player games are a reality thanks to the Satellite! Multi-gamer arcade titles like V'Ball and Super Off Road, as well as Nintendo's Play Action Football, can now be enjoyed by 4 players simultaneously!



NES Satellite



FACT-FILE:

Manufacturer: Tengen
Machine: Nintendo
Cart Size: 2 Meg
Number of Tracks: 7
Theme: Driver
Difficulty: Average
Number of Players: 1 or 2
Available: July, 1989

Steve Ryno

RACE FOR YOUR LIFE!!!

Straight from the arcade and into your home comes Super Sprint! In the Tengen home version of this coin-op classic, you go up against super-powered drone cars as well as other players (with an optional two-player combo mode) in a race to reach the checkered flag! Seven different tracks, which get progressively more difficult as obstacles are added, must be lapped four times. As long as you stay in the lead you proceed to the next race. Along the way you can retrieve power-up wrenches which can be cashed in for enhanced tractions, speed, acceleration and points. It's all-out fun from beginning to end, and is guaranteed not to disappoint fans of the arcade masterpiece.



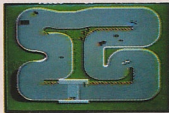
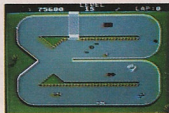
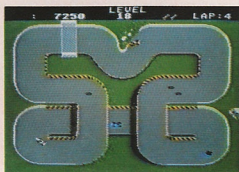
THE SUPER SPRINT RACE TRACKS

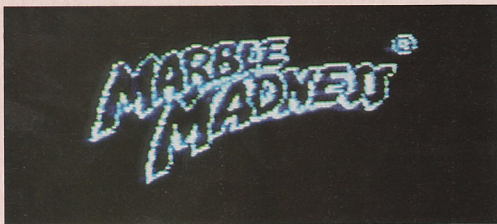
Different strategies must be employed to beat the competition in each race. Always take advantage of the short cuts that exist in some of the rounds (4 and 5) and be sure to avoid the obstacles that appear in later rounds of play!

COMPLETE ALL SEVEN TRACKS AND RACE AGAIN!

POWER-UP

During each race, two gold wrenches will appear at various locations around the track. By collecting these items, you can increase the performance of your vehicle by enhancing your traction (for tighter turns), acceleration, speed, and points!





FACT-FILE:

Manufacturer: Milt-Brad
Machine: Nintendo
Cart Size: 1 1/2 Meg
Number of Levels: 6
Theme: Maze/Reflex
Difficulty: Average
Number of Players: 1 or 2
Available: Now

Steve Ryno

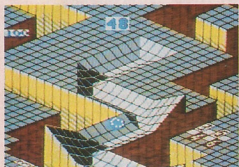
Get Set for the Craziest Maze Race Ever!

In the Milton Bradley Nintendo version of this Atari Games arcade classic, you must maneuver a marble over, around and through some of the most insane three-dimensional mazes ever created. You must also contend with an odd assortment of equally absurd creatures that range from "steelies" that knock you off course to acid pools that disappear floors!

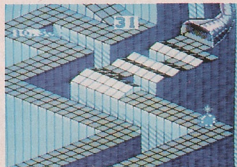
In your quest for the goal line which rests at the end of each course, you can take advantage of a number of traps and short-cuts that can cut your track time in half. That's important since you receive a hefty bonus at the end of the game's sixth level for quick hands!

Marble Madness is a good looking translation of the quarter-munching coin-op (masterfully animated and

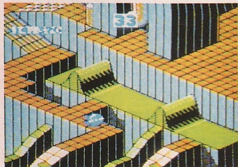
programmed by Rare over in the U.K.) that also captures many of the game's features like a two-player simultaneous mode. True, some of the secret short-cuts and tricks are missing from this version, but the pseudo-3-D visuals, snappy audio, and originality found in Marble Madness greatly outweigh its short-comings. A bit short (there are only six levels), but fun nonetheless!



Practice Race - Learn the basics! A straightforward warm-up with no enemies and a single 'S' turn. Use the jump off of the ramp in the last turn to gain additional bonus points by landing on the numbers!



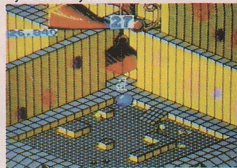
Beginner Race - At the beginning of this course you'll encounter your first 'steelie'. He'll try to knock you off, but get past him and you'll face marble munchers who will try to devour you!



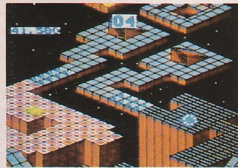
Intermediate Race - Take it easy as you guide your marble through the maze at the beginning of this round. When you near the goal, enter the wave and you'll be carried to the entrance of the goal!



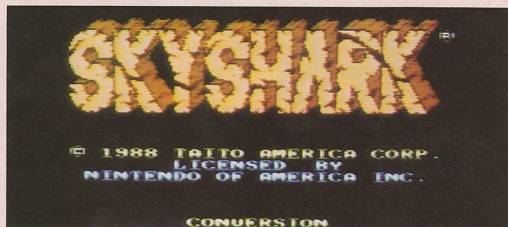
Aerial Race - Look out for the numerous drops and pitfalls! Use the catapults to progress to other parts of the course, and work your way to the bottom, avoiding the pistons that can launch you into the air!



Silly Race - Everything you know is wrong! This level is plagued by reverse gravity that causes your marble to roll up steep hills with ease! Be sure to squish all the minitures for extra time at the first plateau



Ultimate Race - A compilation of all the levels! When you reach the end of the Ultimate Race, be sure to maneuver across the disappearing path slowly at the same rate that the blocks appear.



FACT-FILE:

Manufacturer: Taito
Machine: Nintendo
Cart Size: 1 1/2 Meg
Number of Levels: N/A
Theme: Shooter
Difficulty: Average-Hard
Number of Players: 1
Available: September

Steve Harris

Blasting its way from the arcades to the Nintendo is Taito's new high-action aerial shooter, Sky Shark - one of the hottest looking and most challenging Nintendo games to appear in some time!

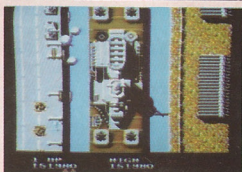
You take to the skies on a mission behind enemy lines. You must repel an impending invasion of opposing fighters, tanks, gunboats, carriers, transports and more! The enemy is armed to the teeth with more firepower than you can imagine, and it's all pointed at you!

Unlike some shoot-em-ups, Sky Sharks is loaded with plenty of challenge and a variety of options. While

blasting away at the enemy armada, set your sights for flying formations that occasionally fill the screen with warplanes. Knock these convoys out of the sky for special weapon power-ups that enhance your plane's performance as well as your score! Blow 'em out of the sky with guns or bombs - the method of destruction is up to you!

But wait - the Sky Shark excitement doesn't stop here! Look for issue number four for more info on this great new game. We'll have the game mapped out and guide you through difficult parts of play. We'll also print some wicked tips that will have you well on your way to crushing the enemy for good!

BOSS ATTACKERS



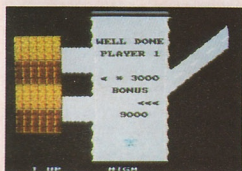
USE YOUR CLUSTER BOMBS!

Whenever things really start to heat up you can resort to your ultimate weapon: the Cluster Bomb! These super-powered explosives can terminate the bad guys with a touch of a button! Although they're limited, you can retrieve new bombs by destroying certain enemy attackers (like freight trains).



BATTLE ON SKY SHARK!

Make it through the enemy gauntlet of planes, bombers, ships, and tanks and you'll find yourself coasting in for a perfect three-point landing! Rack up big bonus point for remaining cluster bombs and the take to the air for even greater challenges!



SEGA M•A•S•O•T•E•R•O•S

Ed Semrad

ARCADE AND RPG ACTION ROUND OUT '89

Arcade action and role-playing are the two directions which Tonka plans to emphasize during the second half of 1989.

Tonka is putting the majority of their bucks behind older coin-ops that enjoyed little or no distribution in the U.S. Among these titles are *Dead Angle*, *Scramble Spirit*, and the current arcade smash, *Golden Axe*. Some of the unknown commodities looking for a wider audience on the Sega Master System include the Japanese shoot-em-up import, *Cloud Master*, the pirate adventure, *Captain Silver*, and the less-than-explosive action contest, *Dynamite Dux*.

For role-playing fans, Tonka is concentrating on several titles this Christmas, led by none other than *Ultima IV*! Boasting the largest resident memory of any U.S. cart (4 Meg), *Ultima IV* will undoubtedly raise the standards of RPG games to all new heights. Expect to see fantastic graphics, an awesome

soundtrack, and a challenging quest that will make *Phantasy Star* seem like child's play! This hot game will come with a battery back-up so you can save up to five different games! Another title, *Spell Caster*, will offer similar RPG thrills in a package that combines

Tonka will also be adding *Walter Payton Football*, *Tennis Ace*, and *Super Golf* (all with battery back-up or password options for season-long play), as well as the unusual *Nightmare Basketball* (monsters and demons square off on the court!!!)



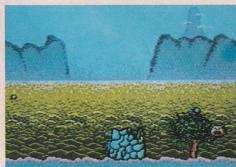
Nightmare Basketball



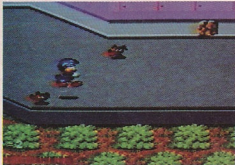
Wanted

both action and adventure elements in one game.

The long-awaited *Wonder Boy 3: The Dragon's Trap* will begin right where *Monster Land* ended, with plenty of new adventure and lots of surprises!



Cloud Master



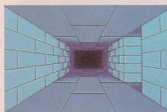
Dynamite Dux

Sega's Questionable Third-Party Support

Third-party game support, an area which Sega has desperately tried to improve, appears to be faltering. Both Activision (*Cyborg Hunter*, *Bomber Raid*, *Rampage*, and *Galaxy Force*) and Parker Bros. (*Carmen Sandiego*, *King's Quest*, and *Montezuma's Revenge*) have unofficially discontinued involvement with the Sega Master System for a variety of reasons. Absolute Entertainment, however, is in the process of making final changes to their Sega titles, *R.C. Grand Prix* and *James Bond*, for a possible December ship date.

Experience a New Phantasy...

Attack! The galactic tyrant Lassic hurls lightning bolts at you. But your magic blade responds with a blast of blue fire... and your team of adventurers is about to join the battle!



Welcome to the worlds of Phantasy Star, Sega's newest adventure role-playing video game. Phantasy Star is full of traps and treasures, magic and monsters, not to mention dungeons and

towers so real you'll want to wipe the slime from your boots... and



recoil from dragon fire!

Phantasy Star features space travel to three worlds, a magician's dream book of spells, 16-level dungeons, and more monsters that you can cremate with a laser gun!



And Phantasy Star also

includes a built-in memory so you can save up to five separate adventures!

Phantasy Star is just one of eight adventure role-playing video games for the Sega video game system.

Look for MIRACLE WARRIORS™ and LORD OF THE SWORD™ coming soon!



Sega's

Phantasy Star™

The Next Wave in Video Gaming.



SEGA[®]
FROM TONKA

SPELLCASTER



The action sequences are populated by evil creatures and terrible dangers!



This is just one of the many Boss monsters you must face in your quest!

STORY

You're Kane Tensen, a brave fighter who dreams of becoming a great and noble warrior! After joining the Summit Temple, where the ancient arts of battle are taught by mystics endowed with strange powers, you've learned how to call down the strengths of the gods! With these new powers you can fly, cast lightning bolts, and balls of fire! After many years of training, you finally attain the rank of Mystic Warrior.

Now the attacks have begun. Evil armies of humans and nightmarish creatures have started to plunder the countryside. Daikak, the wise leader of Summit Temple is sending you on a nearly impossible mission to rid the world of these creatures and restore order to the land. Are you good enough to become a Spellcaster?

PASSWORD SCREEN

To continue the quest from the same point that it ended, use the handy passcode that's displayed at the end of every game. This will return you to battle with the same enhancements and at the same location you previously occupied.

SUB-SCREENS

As you progress through the action and adventure scenes, you'll uncover a number of offensive and defensive power-ups, as well as spells that can be used in various situations. All of these items can easily be accessed via the option screen.



FACT-FILE:

Manufacturer: Sega
Machine: Sega
Cart Size: 4 Meg
Number of Levels: N/A
Theme: Adventure/RPG
Difficulty: Easy
Number of Players: 1
Available: September

Ed Semrad

FIND WEAPONS



DO BATTLE!

SOLVE PUZZLES!



BECOME A SPELLCASTER

TEXT SCREENS

As you pursue your quest to become the ultimate warrior - a Spellcaster - you must use your powers of intellect and strategy. As you listen to conversations, use items that you've uncovered along the way, and conjure spells. Solve the puzzles and gather clues from the different people you encounter!

ATARI ADVENTURE

Ed Semrad

More Games Scheduled for 1989

One of the problems that the Atari 7800 has faced since the very beginning is a lack of quality software with the strong titles and game play of its main rivals - the Nintendo Entertainment System and Sega Master System. While superior to the NES in many ways, the 7800 never planted its roots firmly in the high-action arcade titles that helped Nintendo soar to prominence in the latest video game resurgence. Instead, the 7800, as well as Atari's sister systems - the 2600 and XE - have relied heavily (too heavily) on translations of computer software and bad sports simulations to support the machine. While some of these tit-

Tower Toppler), many were not up to par and there was little in the way of standard arcade fare to choose from.

All of that's going to change soon, now that Atari has opened a new software development facility to run independently of their Sunnyvale headquarters. Based in the Chicago area, this group of designers, producers, and programmers plan to deliver video game thrills like we've never seen before!

While the new office will continue to work with development houses across the country to assist in the programming of new games, Atari will begin aggressively seeking arcade names and creating better original game concepts that contain more of the standard game elements (power-ups, Bosses, etc.) that previously were absent from Atari games.

The development group appears to be paying off already. In the next months, Atari will be introducing an abundance of new arcade-inspired titles led by **Ikari Warriors**, **Comman-**

do, **Mat Mania**, and **Xenophobe**. A long list of original entries, from the intense shooter **Planet Smashers** to an update of their classic Breakout game called **Off the Wall** should help as well.

Some of the most promising Atari games on the way include:

Radar Lock (2600) - After Burner-style shooter from designer of Solaris that is heavy on guns and missiles and even comes with the 360 barrel roll!

Planet Smashers (7800) - Fast-action alien invader saga with mega power-ups, big Boss characters, and lots of shoot, shoot, shoot!

Double Dunk (2600) - Two on two basketball for the 2600! Double Dunk is one of the best 2600 sports games to appear in a long time.

Shooting Gallery (2600) - One of the first games to work with the 2600 light gun. Straightforward, but fun.

Ikari Warriors (2600, 7800, XE) - Guide your jungle warriors through some of the deadliest video game territory! Based on the arcade mega-hit, **Ikari Warriors** looks like dynamite!

No matter how Atari's looked in the past, the opening of their new software development building shows that the company is trying to move in the right direction! Landing more coin-op names would help, but for now we'll have to remain content with the new games on the way.



Xenophobe, the multi-player arcade smash from Bally, is coming soon for the 7800 and XE. All the alien-bashing excitement is there, including independent screen views, power-ups, and more! The best game ever made for the 7800!

MAKE ME A WINNER!!!

Please enter my name in the Electronic Gaming Monthly "Watch and Win" give-away! I understand that ten winners will be drawn at random from all of the submissions received and each of these lucky gamers will receive a copy of the SECRET VIDEO GAME TRICKS, CODES, AND STRATEGIES video cassette tape from MPI Home Video! ENTER MY NAME TODAY!

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Rules: All entries must be received by September 15, 1989. Sendai Publications Inc., and the staff of Electronic Gaming Monthly assume no responsibility for postal service mistakes or other events beyond our control which could delay or prevent your submission from reaching our offices. No relatives of the EGM staff may participate in this contest. You may enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be sent separately. The ten winners will be chosen at random by judges appointed by Sendai Publications, Inc. Each winner will receive a copy of the Secret Video Game Tricks, Codes, and Strategies Volume One for play on VHS machines only. The decisions of the judges is final. Void where prohibited by law.

Place

Stamp

Here

**ELECTRONIC GAMING MONTHLY
WATCH AND WIN VIDEO GIVE-AWAY!!!
c/o SENDAI PUBLICATIONS, INC.
1920 HIGHLAND AVENUE
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A TALE OF TWO COMMANDOS...Nintendo vs. Atari

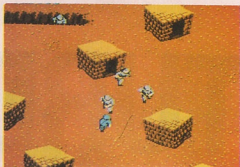
Even though it was released in arcades way back in 1985, *Commando* is still an all-time favorite of players everywhere, especially at home!

The Nintendo version of this all-time classic is made by Capcom, the company that developed the game in the arcades. While similar to the coin-op, the NES version also introduced us to underground bunkers and secret rooms.

The Atari 7800 version of *Commando* shares this feature, but enhances the

play mechanics even more by throwing in a knife (which enables you to kill the bad guys by walking into them without loss of life) and machine gun (rapid fire action)! All of the intermissions and four areas are present as well.

Produced by John Skruch and developed by the programming powerhouse, Sculptured Software, *Commando* is one of the best games ever made for the 7800. A definite must-have buy for 7800 owners starved for big names!



The Atari 7800 Commando shares much in common with its Nintendo counterpart - but is better in many ways!



ATARI
7800

STORY

You're Super Joe - ace army specialist in charge of covert operations. In what is undoubtedly your most difficult assignment ever, you must infiltrate an enemy compound and rescue your kidnapped comrades.

It's not going to be easy! Armed only with a machine gun and a satchel of grenades, you must storm the enemy armies with expert shooting skills and blast past their heavily fortified headquarters!

Along the way you must uncover hidden passageways that lead underground. Here you will find prisoners being guarded by even more ruthless soldiers!

Can you escape the enemy's grasp and return alive? The fate of your countrymen rests in your hands!



Go after the enemy commander when you reach the end of each level for a cool 2,000 bonus points!



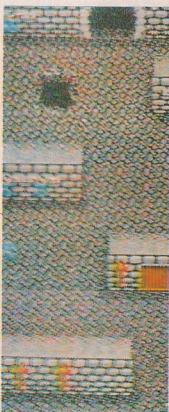
Save the prisoner from the clutches of the enemy soldiers. Wasting both bad guys awards 1,000 points!



Look for new options like the knife and a machine gun for rapid-fire play.



START



Throw grenades to uncover hidden passages.

**CLEAR THREE
MORE AREAS
AND YOUR
FIRST MISSION
IS OVER!**

TURBO CHAMP

Steve Harris

THE TURBOGRAFX-16 CD-ROM

First looks at the latest video game technology and the games it plays...

When most people think of peripherals they think of joysticks or light guns or 3-D glasses. NEC, however, has something very different in mind with their ultimate in video game add-ons - the TurboGrafx-16 CD-ROM (Compact Disc - Read Only Memory).

First and foremost, the CD-ROM greatly enhances game memory, allowing the main TurboGrafx-16 unit to produce play that is more complex in both graphics and interaction. One CD game can hold the same amount of information stored on over 2,000 regular Turbo-Chip cards and at a cost that is less than a regular card-based game.

The CD-ROM unit can also access the disc-based games throughout the course of play. This not only expands the scope of the games, but makes it possible for the machine to perform ad-

ditional abilities like reproducing real music, sound, and even human voices directly off disc. The TurboGrafx-16 CD also has a special adapter that plays music from existing CDs in addition to projecting visual images that are programmed on to the discs!



CD-ROM GAMES

Although the CD-ROM player and interface (which is needed to plug the unit into the main TurboGrafx-16 sys-

tem) will be available shortly after the release of the console, the number of games expected to be released will be slim initially. The first of the batch includes *Fighting Street* (a translation of the popular Capcom coin-op, *Street Fighter*), *Y's* (adventure game that's previously been available on the 8-Bit Sega), *Monster Lair* (action/adventure), and *Darius* (an underwater shooter with incredible graphics and sounds). Also rumored to be in the works are CD-ROM versions of Cinemaware's *Defender of the Crown* (complete with English narration and orchestra music) and the animated coin-op/computer hit, *Dragon's Lair*. While other titles are also under con-



Fighting Street, the CD-ROM version of Capcom's *Street Fighter*, is one of the first releases for this new add-on.



Cinemaware's Defender of the Crown is also rumored to be coming under CD development.

(Continued on page 73)



There's
still
time
to
prepare
your
nervous
system.

The higher energy video game system.



THE LEGENDARY AXE

By Donn Nauert

THE GREATEST ACTION/ADVENTURE OF ALL TIME!

One of NEC's first releases for the new TurboGrafx-16 is The Legendary Axe, an action/adventure entry that is absolutely brilliant! Everything about this new game, from the graphics to the sounds to the game play, is exceptional in both design and execution.

Your enemy in Axe is the evil Jagu cult made up of a wide variety of nasty

Jagu thugs, monsters, and possessed animals. Using your super weapon, an axe called "Sting", and your ability to jump over obstacles and dangers of all kinds, you must overcome the Jagu threat and save your main girl.

While you may recognize the play mechanics and overall theme of The



Legendary Axe, the game breathes new life into this familiar theme with graphics and play that rival the best the arcades have to offer. A definite must-have for all new Turbo owners!

JAGU IDOLS AND POWER-UPS

Throughout the game you will discover the valuable Jagu idols. Created by the Jagu cult, these miniature statues can be destroyed to reveal a number of helpful power-up items and weapon enhancements. In addition to the Crystal Container, the Jagu idols will also reward you free men and other bonuses such as these...



WING

This power-up enhances the speed of your attacks. When Gogan is energized with the Wing, he can strike faster and more often!



LIFE RECOVER

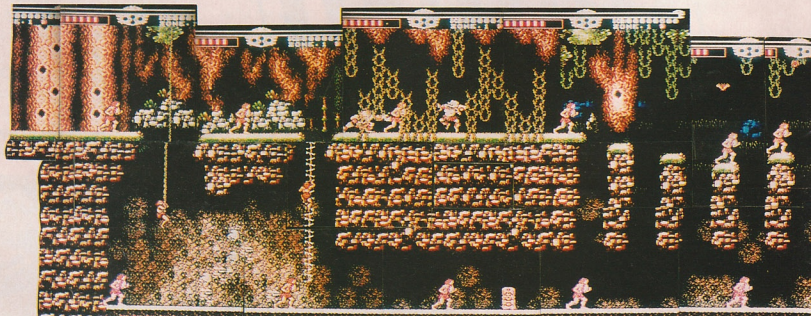
These power balls come in 3 sizes and replenish Gogan's health to different degrees. Large capsules return 7 units, medium returns three, and small returns one.



CRYSTALS

The red and blue crystals that are often found in the Jagu idols award bonus points of 1,000 and 5,000 respectively.

LEVEL ONE
CONTINUED



GIANT SPIDER

When you descend below the surface in the first level, you will encounter an enormous spider that fires poisonous webs at Gogan! To destroy the spider you must strike it repeatedly. Each attack will wear the spider down and chop its legs off one by one - eventually revealing a number of power-ups!

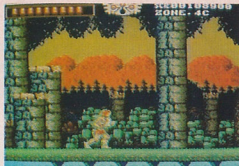


THE BATTLE BEGINS!

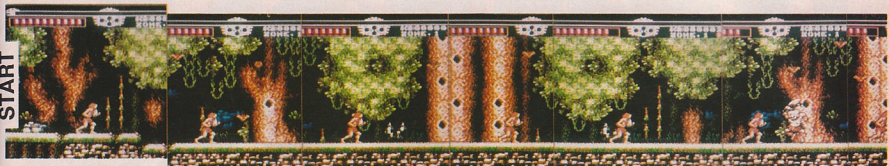
You're Gogan, the childhood friend of Flare, a young girl who has been sacrificed to the Jagu cult. Armed with your Legendary Axe, "Sting," and the knowledge and powers of over a dozen different forms of martial arts, you've set out to destroy the Jagu and their masters while saving poor Flare from a fate worse than death!

Despite your strength and bravery, this battle will not be easy. The Jagu followers are also well versed in fighting skills and will even use black magic to make the animals turn on you!

You will face incredible odds as you journey through six lands of action and adventure. You may even face Jagu himself! Push ahead warrior!



This is just one of the many high resolution landscapes you will fight upon



CRYSTAL CONTAINER

Power-Up Your "Sting"
Battle Axe By Collecting
These Valuable Items

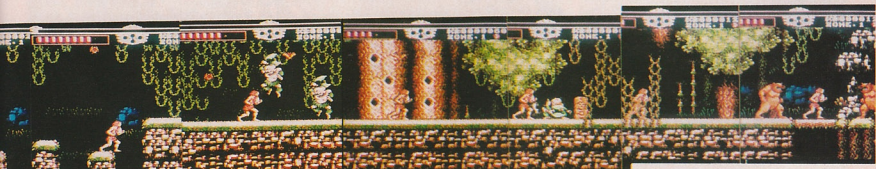
In your quest to defeat Jagu and rescue Flare, you will discover certain Jagu idols yield this special weapon enhancement! Once you retrieve the Crystal Container, your attack strength (represented by the colored bar at the top of the screen) will increase by 25%. By storing up this power after every swing of "Sting," you can build up more energy and inflict additional damage. Get the Power Gauge to full and the screen will explode with energy!

BOSS GUARDIANS

Defeat the Six Bosses
that Hold Flare Captive
and Restore Peace!

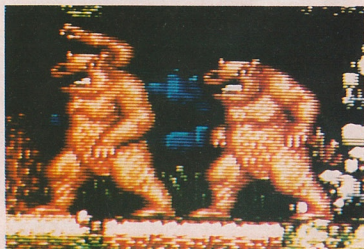


At the conclusion of each of The Legendary Axe's six levels of play, you will encounter one of the Boss guardians of the Jagu cult. Each of these battles leads up to the climactic confrontation with Jagu himself, the leader of the Jagu cult and the demon who holds Flare hostage. You must fight your way into Jagu's palace and destroy this monster once and for all! But be careful, there are even greater surprises waiting those who reach Jagu!



BATTLE THE GRIZZLY BEARS!

At the end of the first level of play, you will come face to face with your first Boss attackers: two Grizzly Bears who have been turned into vicious killers by an evil Jagu spell! Since the Bears appear from opposite sides, concentrate your attacks on one Bear at a time. After each hit, the Bears will take a short jump (which you should walk back from), long jump (which can be ducked), then another long jump, followed by two short jumps.



CONTINUES

Remember that you can continue up to 3 times after your first game ends.

OUTPOST:

GENESIS

Steve Harris

GENESIS SIZZLES AT CES!!!

A Dozen New 16-Bit Game Titles Debut at Summer Show - Will the Momentum Continue?

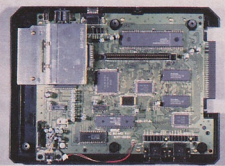
Sega of America shocked the video game world during the opening of the Summer Consumer Electronics Show (CES), when their 16-Bit Genesis system was officially unveiled with over 15 different games available! This instantly put to rest rumors that the unit would not have the software support necessary to carry the 16-Bit heavyweight.

Beyond the bright lights and slick PR

were an abundance of outstanding titles. Since NEC was absent from the main show floor, Genesis had the spotlight all to itself - and did it shine! In addition to performing demonstrations on the new Tele-Genesis modem baseball game, Sega knocked everyone off their feet with more than a dozen games ranging from early Mega Drive

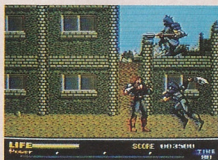


Altered Beast - The 2-meg action title comes with the Genesis system.

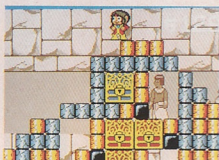


Blood and Guts - A look at the Genesis brain uncovers two processors: a 68000 to handle the new 16-Bitters, and a Z-80 to play 8-Bit Sega games!

games like *Space Harrier 2*, *Super Thunder Blade*, *Altered Beast* (which comes with the system), and *Alex Kidd*, Sega showed many new games that have never been seen before like *Super Hang-On* (race a motorcycle around the world), *Rambo 3* (a Commando-style scrolling shooter with intense graphics), *Red Belt* (karate kicker from Activision), *Forbidden Worlds* (two player combo action that is similar to *Side Arms*), *Tommy Lasorda Baseball* (great looking and playing baseball cart that tracks the other 26 teams while you play through the season), *Soccer, Golf, Hydlide Special* (RPG), *Last Battle* (scrolling kung-fu action), *Thunder Force 2* (multi-level horizontal and vertical shooter), *Hollo Fighter*, and the incredible *Ghouls and Ghosts* - a game which we would dare label the "Best Home Video Game Ever Made"!



Last Battle

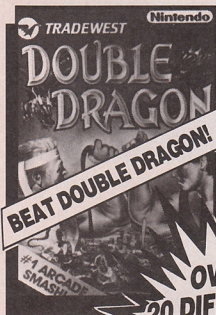


Alex Kidd in the Enchanted Castle

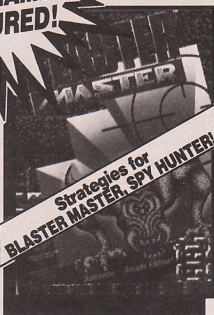
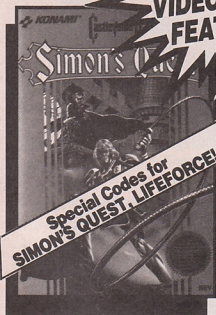
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Now armed with over a dozen solid games, Sega will begin their assault on the game-playing public this September with five to ten titles. Another twenty are in development and have planned release dates that could put as many as 30 Genesis carts into stores by the end of the year! While the true number of titles (from both Sega and third-party sources) will more than likely be closer to two dozen, Sega's ability to deliver more than just a half dozen games makes the entire system much more alluring than a month ago.

Now it's up to Sega to continue to produce games that are of the same exceptional quality as the new titles released at CES. Since NEC has a vast library of games that are already completed for the Japanese P.C. Engine (which could easily be translated onto the TurboGrafx-16), Sega is shifting both its Japanese and American operations into overdrive in an effort to continue the flow of software on a steady basis. Combined with an aggressive licensing strategy (see accompanying story), the Genesis has been elevated

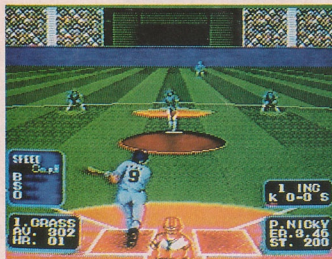
from an outstanding piece of hardware, to a spectacular game machine!

Expandability

Genesis can be expanded in several ways. The first add-ons to be available include the Tele-Genesis modem (see story on next page) and the Power Base Converter that allows you to play existing 8-Bit Sega carts and cards! This \$40.00 adapter plugs into the Genesis cartridge slot on the top of the unit, acting as an instant interface between the 8-Bit game and the Z-80 on the main



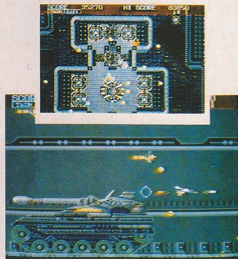
A glimpse of the outstanding - The Genesis version of Ghouls and Ghosts is incredible in every way! It's a virtual carbon-copy of the coin-op sequel to Ghosts and Goblins and a testament to what this fantastic system can do!



Tommy Lasorda Baseball



Golf and Soccer

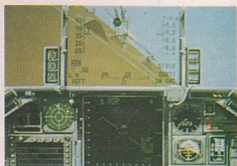


Thunder Force II

Genesis Third-Party Game Support...

One mistake that Sega's determined not to repeat is a lack of third-party game support for their new 16-Bit console. Although the 8-Bit Master System is only now starting to attract outside developers like Activision and Absolute, Sega is taking a much more aggressive stance for the Genesis. At this time there are 20 third-party companies signed on, with many more coming on board very soon according to our sources. The companies that have announced

their involvement with Sega and the Mega Drive/Genesis project include arcade names like Capcom, Data East, Taito, Toileco (Sammy), Namco, Sunsoft, Sigma, as well as independent developers like Asmik, NCS, Techno Soft, MicroNet, Treco, Dempa Publications, Activision, and HBS Co. It must be noted that some companies (like Capcom on Ghouls and Ghosts and Forgotten Worlds) will only be licensing their games to the system - not marketing them.



Falcon will be coming soon for the Genesis from Spectrum Holobyte



Phantasy Star 2

computer board. What type of effects this will have on the Sega Master System are questionable, but it's nice that Sega has considered the legion of loyal followers their 8-Bit unit has attracted. The downward compatibility of the Genesis is really another one of the system's stronger features - with the adapter it can now play close to 100 games!

Future Games

Now that the Genesis has shown that it can punch out award-winners (Ghosts and Ghosts got EGM's award for Best Game of Show at the recent CES), we'll have to keep a close watch on what the company plans to do for an encore to their CES spectacular. Since most of the games that we were given an advance peek at in our offices have not even been released in Japan yet, it would appear that Sega's played their entire hand. We have discovered, however, that Sega is rumored to be releasing Genesis versions of their popular coin-op hits **Turbo Out-Run**, **Golden Axe**, **After Burner**, **Fantasy Zone 2**, and **Power Drift** (although the last three may not be released in the U.S.). Other hot games, which may be released through third-party sources, include **Football**, **Omega Fighter**, **Atomic Robo-Kid**, **Cyberball**, **Phelios**, as well as the long-awaited sequel to Sega's number one 8-Bit game - **Phantasy Star 2** - a six-meg, battery-back-up extravaganza that brings RPG gaming into the 16-Bit world.

With games like these you can't go wrong and Sega knows it! They're on course with a system that knows no limits and has the ability play exciting games like we've never seen before - except in the arcades of course!

TELE-GENESIS:

The Future of Video Games?

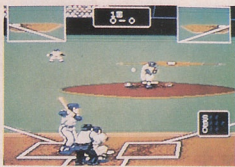
One of the Genesis system's most interesting attachments being offered with the Genesis unit is without a doubt the Tele-Genesis game modem that was shown for the first time in the last issue of Electronic Gaming. This new device allows you to instantly "link-up" with a friend across town or across the country and play games head-to-head!

Here's how it works: In Tele-Genesis Baseball (the only title announced for the modem) for instance, you may control the pitcher and have your own view of the action from over the pitcher's shoulder, while your opponent on the other end of the line takes command of the base runners and batter from his perspective behind home plate. Each player maintains control over his team while facing the strategies and techniques employed by another person instead of the computer.

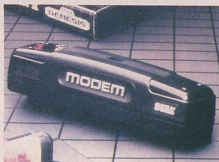
Sound intense? You bet it is! Although modem games have been around forever on computer systems and networks, this type of player-to-player interaction has never been available before for a game system.

Examining the Unit

The Tele-Genesis peripheral is roughly nine inches long and plugs into the nine-pin expansion port on



Only the special Tele-Genesis Baseball game will work with the modem system.



back of the Genesis system. From the modem there is a cord which is fastened to a dual line connector which then plugs into the telephone jack.

Tele-Genesis Gaming

The main question surrounding Tele-Genesis is one of feasibility. We can tell you that the Tele-Genesis peripheral does indeed work, but with a rumored three to four second lag in information transmissions. The prototype unit's baud rate is 1200, which prohibits large volumes of data from being relayed at a high speed.

The other problem with Tele-Genesis is price. Before you can throw your first pitch on Tele-Genesis Baseball, you must have two Genesis owners who each have the modem attachment and each have Tele-Genesis Baseball - you're looking at at least a few hundred dollars, not to mention the long distance bill if your opponent is out of the city.

The real future of the Tele-Genesis may be a games network where players can call in locally to play games from a master computer. While Sega emphatically denies any such direction for the modem, several sources indicate that this may be in the works.

As a game machine, the Tele-Genesis just doesn't pass initial tests. A lack of compatible software narrows its appeal and state-to-state play seems like little more than a high-priced headache. Other applications may be found for the unit, however, so early impressions may be unfavorable - but not completely negative.

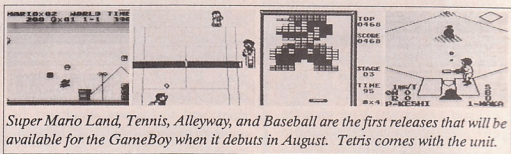
GAMEBOY™ CLUB

David White

NEW GAMES AND SUPPORT FOR GAMEBOY

The Summer CES saw the official unveiling of the Nintendo GameBoy Compact Video Game System. After the first photo of the unit was shown in the May issue of Electronic Gaming, interest in the portable cartridge-based game machine has increased. Reaction to the system at the show was extremely enthusiastic to say the least.

Although the Atari color hand-held, which was obtained from Epyx just days prior to the show, diverted some of the excitement away from the GameBoy, Nintendo stayed in the spotlight with a list of nearly two dozen GameBoy licensees and some exciting third-party games. Some of the first titles developed after the initial five include *Ghostbusters 2* from Activision, *Castlevania*, *Motocross Maniacs*, and *Grid Iron Gladiators* from Ultra, a fantasy-RPG from Square called *Saga*, an untitled puzzle game from FCI that challenges players to move boxes in patterns, and a game that resembles *Kid*



Super Mario Land, Tennis, Alleyway, and Baseball are the first releases that will be available for the GameBoy when it debuts in August. Tetris comes with the unit.

Kool from Vic Tokai. Other carts include a *Pinball* game and *Shanghai* game developed by HAL, *Hyper Lode Runner* and *Karateka* by Bandai, *Nintendo Golf*, *Lock-n-Chase* from Data East, and a *Mickey Mouse* game (soon to be available in Japan) from Kemco that follows the same basic plot as their *Bugs Bunny NES* game. An American release may see the game character slightly modified from a mouse to a rabbit.

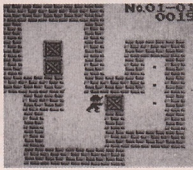
With this broad line-up of games coming soon, and even more under development, GameBoy is fast becoming a fantastic game machine. While it might not have a color screen or 16-Bit resolution, it does play games (and an abundance of them) very well!



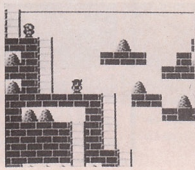
HAL's Pinball and Shanghai



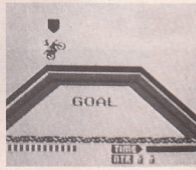
Nintendo's Golf



FCI's Boxle



Bandai's Hyper Lode Runner



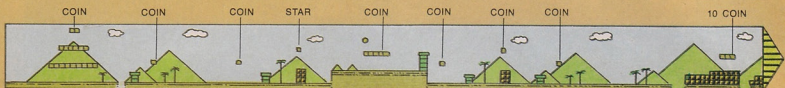
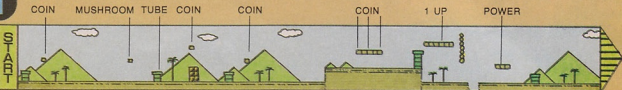
Ultra's Motocross Maniacs

STUDY THESE MAPS TO BEAT THE FIRST WORLD IN SUPER MARIO LAND!!!

WORLD 1

1

Level 1 is the pyramid desert! Jump for the high door at the goal line!



GOAL



Watch out! The turtles turn into bombs after Mario stomps on them! Hunt!



The mushroom men are easy to dispatch - just jump on their heads!



Fly buzz about and can land on Mario! Jump or run under!

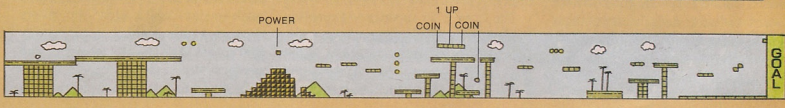
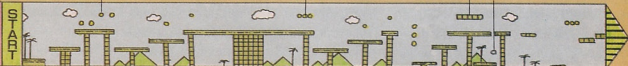


The pipes hold deadly surprises like this killer plant! Look out Mario!

WORLD 1

2

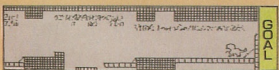
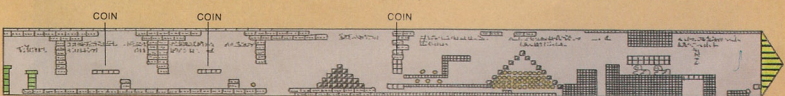
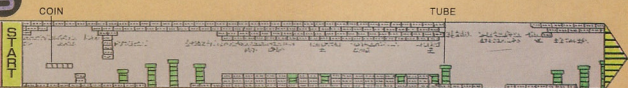
Level 2 is filled with dangerous leaps! Don't let Mario fall off a ledge!



WORLD 1

3

Level 3 is the interior to King Lion's pyramid! Look out for falling stones!



GOAL



Bees are armed with deadly spears which they throw at Mario!

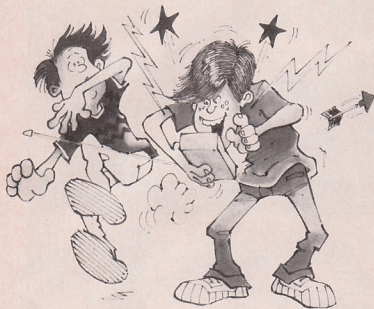


King Lion is the boss of the first World. Jump his fireballs and shoot!



The Princess awaits your rescue at the end of World 4-3!

POCKET ARCADE



Atari and Epyx join forces to take on GameBoy with a portable system of their own! It has more features, better graphics, and best of all -

COLOR

Ever since Electronic Gaming reported the first information on the top-secret Epyx hand-held game system last year, the video game industry has been buzzing over the possibilities of portable gaming. A cartridge-based game machine that can go anywhere seemed to have definite advantages over the pocket games that used permanently burned LCD displays and could play only one game.

Before Epyx could get their system completed and out the door, however, the gaming super-powers at Nintendo stepped in with a hand-held of their own. The Nintendo GameBoy (EGM Vol.1-No.2) blew us away with solid game play in a compact package that includes smooth scrolling, NES-quality sounds, and decent black and white graphics (with variable levels of shading) on a dot matrix screen. GameBoy also has other features such as the Video Link, which connects two GameBoys for head to head play, and a standard Nintendo flat pad controller built-in to the unit itself!

While all eyes were turned toward Nintendo, however, Epyx quietly finished their portable game machine, code-named Handy, and struck up a super-secret deal with Atari Corpora-

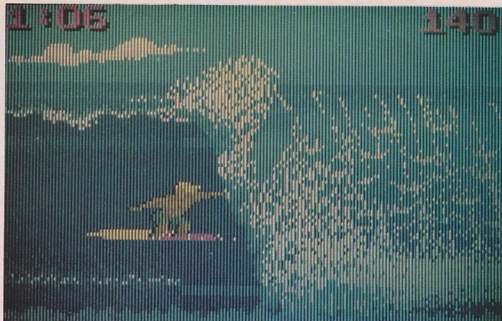
tion to build and distribute the world's first color hand-held as well as assist in game development. The new Atari-Epyx alliance enables Atari to go head-to-head with GameBoy and show off the next generation of portable gaming today!

The Lynx is far superior to GameBoy in many ways. The most noticeable difference between the two systems is the delivery of the screen images and game action. While GameBoy uses a 2" black

and white LCD screen that has several different levels of shading, the Lynx has a 3 1/2" full color TV-quality monitor that can produce dazzling displays in over 4,000 colors! The Lynx also has a higher level of resolution (the 160x102 screen looks like an Amiga since the screen is much smaller) which allows the system to create highly detailed arcade-quality characters and backgrounds. The graphics chip employed by the system gives the Lynx games the same look and



Designed and developed by RJ Mical, the wizard behind the Amiga computer, the Atari/Epyx portable game machine is more advanced than most full-sized systems!



California Games - The Epyx computer classic holds true to form on the LYNX! Packaged with the system, California Games contains all the surfin' and skatin' adventures from the original game!

feel of the new 16-bit systems! It's really that good!

The Lynx hardware is also far superior to the Gameboy. In fact it's far superior to just about any 8-Bit game system in existence, including the Nintendo and Sega. Not only can the system duplicate the scrolling features of the GameBoy, it also has scaling and zoom functions that are usually found only in high-tech arcade games (not even the Genesis and TurboGrafx-16 has these abilities!) This means that the Lynx will be able to produce exciting first-person perspective games like After Burner and Pole Position, where game characters and backgrounds start out small in the background and increase in size as distance is covered, with relative ease. Several Lynx games already take advantage of these functions with incredible results!

GameBoy boasts of multi-player games that allow players to go head-to-head simultaneously with two systems and two game carts. A special Video Link adapter cord allows the GameBoy to do this. The Atari machine has a similar device called a Com-Link, but instead of just two gamers, the Lynx can connect an unlimited number of players together and, best of all, needs only one cartridge to fuel all of the systems! The system does this incredible feat by downloading information from the cartridge and stor-

ing it in the Lynx brain. As the playr progresses, the machine accesses the game code. In some instances the unit may not be able to handle all of the game levels, so a certain amount of "updating" may be necessary. This is small drawback, however, when you realize that only one person needs to buy a multi-player game for everyone to enjoy. That's pretty generous!

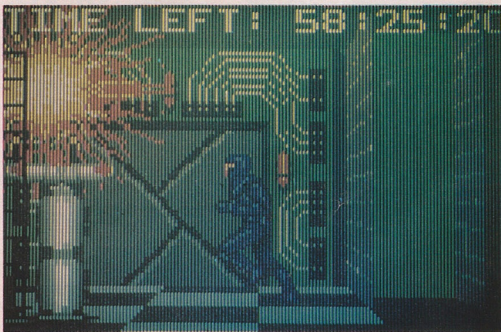
The Lynx system itself is black, very sleek in appearance, and larger than the Walkman-shaped GameBoy. The game

controls are familiar; a flat pad is located on one side of the machine while two pairs of buttons flank the game screen in the center of the unit. The extra pair of "A" and "B" buttons are part of another one of the Lynx's interesting features. By activating a special "Flip" mode, you can flip the screen image upside-down, turn the entire system upside-down, and enjoy the games as a leftie! There's also a sunshield that makes it easier to play with the Lynx outside. The Gameboy suffers from the opposite problem: its display isn't backlit and thus requires all the light it can get!

LYNX GAMES

As a game system, the Lynx is extraordinary, but how many games will it have to play and are they any good?

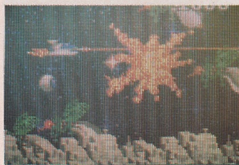
Epyx currently has finished six games for the Lynx that all borrow from familiar themes or recognizable titles. Among the first games, which will retail for \$19.95, are Epyx's Impossible Mission and California Games (which comes with the system), Monster Demolition, Blue Lightning, Time Quests and Treasure Chests, and The Gates of Zendocon. All



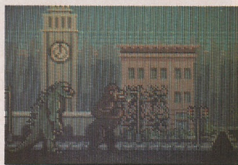
Impossible Mission - Take on the criminal droids in this Lynx translation of one of Epyx's all-time favorites. Spectacular scrolling screens and animated sequences make this the best Impossible Mission ever!

six have fantastic graphics and play and who off the system's abilities to their fullest. In *Impossible Mission*, for example, you can proceed to different levels by walking through doorways which quickly zoom forward as if you're walking down a hallway. The effect is very well done.

Although several big guns have expressed interest in the Lynx future games for the system are a bit more questionable. Both Epyx and Atari are pledging to support the system with inhouse development, but third-party support remains unknown at this point.



The Gates of Zendocon - *Zendocon*, our favorite Lynx game, has great *Gradius*-like action and super scrolling. Lots of options and power-ups, as well as a wide variety of attackers make *Zendocon* a definite "hit"!



Rampage - This game can easily be described as "Super Rampage"! You and a friend control ferocious monsters who wreak havoc on a scrolling city skyline. It's a borrowed theme, but it looks and plays great!

PRICE

With all of the fantastic goodies loaded into the Atari Lynx, the price is much higher than any existing game system. The \$149.95 retail price tag (which gets you the Lynx, the Com-Link, a carrying case, sun shield, power supply, and California Games) brings the Lynx close to the same level of the 16-Bit systems that will be released about the same time as the portable machine in September. The Lynx games are around the same price as the GameBoy carts (which list for \$24.95), but the higher cost of the main unit may tempt some who want the thrills of hand-held gaming to retreat to the less explosive and lower-priced GameBoy.



Blue Lightning - In this *After Burner*-inspired shooter, you take control of the fastest warplane in the world. You must fly through the enemy defenses to reach specified target areas. A bit repetitive, but there are some nifty effects.



Time Quests & Treasure Chests A blend of action and RPG with shades of *Gauntlet* thrown in for good measure! In *Time Quests* you pass through an assortment of locations on your way uncovering the *Star Gem* - a stone of eternal life!

THE FINAL WORD

In addition the price factor, the Lynx must also contend with GameBoy's legion of licensees as well as the highly popular Nintendo name. While there's no comparison between the stems or their ability to play games (Lynx wins hand down), the real winner will be the machine that plays hot arcade properties and home favorites. In the end you will have the final word whether you want to play a full-color game of original design (there are some negotiations going on for big arcade names on Lynx - but nothing is finalized), or a black and white version of *Castlevania* or *Super Mario*.

LYNX VS. GAMEBOY

Direct head-to-head comparison usually yield the most revealing information about competing products, and the Lynx vs. GameBoy is no different. While each unit has its own strengths and weaknesses, one appears as the better machine while the other looks like it will have better software support.

	GAMEBOY	LYNX
PROCESSOR	8-Bit Z-80	8-Bit 65C02
PRICE	\$89.95/\$24.95 Games	\$149.95/\$34.95 Games
GAMES	5 plus 20 in development	6 plus ? in development
BATTERY LIFE	Up to 20 Hours	Up to 5 Hours
MULTI-PLAYER	Up to 2 Players/2 Carts	Up to 16 Players/1 Cart
COLORS/RESOLUTION	160 x 140	4,096/160x102

sideration, more attention is currently being focused on games compatible with the base unit, at least during TurboGrafx's initial launch. This type of move is dictated more by numbers, since it often costs as much as \$100,000 or more to develop a new video game, and if there are only 10,000 potential customers for a particular piece of software, it becomes difficult to absorb all the costs. Once more CD-ROM adapters are in the hot little hands of Turbo Champs, the system will undoubtedly attract a wider range of products.

LOOKING INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL

What does the future hold for the TurboGrafx-16 CD-ROM? Since the games slated for immediate American release don't really take advantage of what CD-ROM can actually do, it stands as little more than an entirely separate \$399 game machine with



slightly enhanced abilities. The CD-ROM games are of the same exceptional quality as their other Turbo titles, but if NEC could create a line of games that were unique in some way that made the CD-ROM absolutely necessary, then the CD system would definitely be more attractive.

As an all-around enhancement to the TurboGrafx-16 system, the CD-ROM peripheral holds tremendous potential. Some of the software currently available for the unit in Japan (like No-Ri-Ko, which follows the adventures of a Tiffany-ish rock star, complete with music and text) is interesting and offer fresh new ways to enjoy video games. Whether or not NEC decides to expand the scope of the CD-ROM in this fashion could spell the difference between success or failure in the U.S.

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The Mega Drive/Genesis Powers Up!

Hot on the heels of the blockbuster introduction of Sega's latest and greatest gaming system, Genesis, EGM has discovered that Sega is developing several peripheral for their Mega Drive (the Japanese version of the Genesis) which may appear in the U.S. sometime soon!

While Sega is focusing their attention on the Tele-Genesis modem system over here, we have been told by reliable sources that the company is also working on a disk drive (which plugs into the side expansion port) and a keyboard that can elevate this grandmaster of game systems into a full-fledged, and very powerful, personal computer!

In addition to computer thrills, Sega has also developed a light pen tablet and software to run a variety of paint programs and other drawing utilities!

Although these add-ons are rumored to be very close to finished for the Mega Drive, it is uncertain when we'll see similar attachments for our Genesis. For a sneak peek at these prototype peripherals, however, just take a glance to the right!

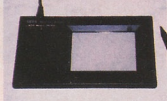
First Photos of New Gadgets Increase Genesis-Excitement!



Mega Drive Disk Drive



Mega Drive Computer



Mega Drive Light Tablet



P.C. Engine 2 Update - LCD Engine Adapter Coming to U.S.?

As interest in the P.C. Engine continues to skyrocket in Japan (now the number one selling system) and American players eagerly await the arrival of our version of the system, the TurboGrafx-16, our crack team of undercover fact-finders has discovered that NEC has even bigger plans waiting for video game players. One catch though: we probably won't see these new advances for at least a year if not more!

Pleased with the response they have received to their P.C. Engine in Japan (which has sold a modest 1,500,000 units), NEC have given the go-ahead to a new game system that will

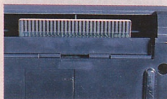
The Mega Drive - Genesis expansion ports hold many different possibilities, including modem games, computer upgrades, and more!

employ true 16-Bit technology (the P.C. Engine-TurboGrafx-16 use 8-Bit processors and special graphics chips to achieve their high-resolution visuals).

Labeled the P.C. Engine 2 by engineers close to the project, the system will reportedly have a new spec that will blow away the competition. NEC made the move to upgrade their existing system before the release of Nintendo's awesome Super Famicom.

NEC were rumored to be in negotiations at one point to acquire Namco's sensational 16-Bit Super System and call it the P.C. Engine 2, but problems between Namco and Hudson, the designers of the P.C. Engine hardware who have a big stake in the future of any P.C. Engine product, were rumored to killed the deal. Now NEC is working to get a final system completed before the end of the year.

While on their way to conquering the 16-Bit systems, NEC has also decided to take on GameBoy, Atari and anyone else with a special LCD screen attachment for the current P.C. Engine that gives it the ability to become completely portable. Details of this device are sketchy, but this type of portability may be difficult to implement with the TurboGrafx-16. Since the P.C. Engine can fit in your hands and the Turbo is the about the same size as a Sega Master System, this type of peripheral may be prohibitive.



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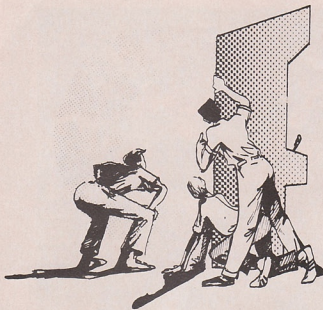
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AT THE ARCADES

Atari Games'

ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE ROBOT MONSTERS



Bidding for recognition by the Guinness Book of World Records for the "Longest Title for an Arcade Game," Atari presents *Escape From the Planet of the Robot Monsters* (EPROM for short). Don't get me wrong, this innovative game has merits that extend far beyond the length of its title, not the least of which are its comic book-style graphics and popular science fiction theme.

In the game you have been selected as a member of an interplanetary S.W.A.T. team. Your mission: to transport all hostages back to ship, destroy all robots, rid Planet X of the evil reptilons, and find and rescue Professor Sarah Bellum (very clever!)

A map at the beginning of the game, and between sectors, charts your pos-

ition. Viewed diagonally from 45 degrees overhead, the most common sector type is the high-tech Robot Factory inhabited by a plethora of enemy robots including Cyber Guards armed with a lethal shot and Orbs that will quickly track you down with their sensors if you stand in one place too long. Here you must touch the human slaves working feverishly at computer terminals to transport them back to the mothership while fighting your way through several levels of the factor; destroying robots, ducking close shots, and eating food for added strength. You must also collect the green gems left behind by smoldering robots for increased ray gun power and find bombs that will help when the going gets too tough. The only exit to the sector is via the

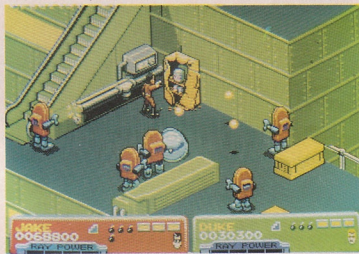
transporter. Giant Evil Reptilons inhabit other sectors and will require some sharp reflexes and accurate shooting to destroy. In other areas, you must guide your spaceship through a maze of space canals (which look something like the mazes in *Paomania*) to earn an extra life and a chance to

choose one of three paths toward your destination.

The game play is similar to the Atari classic, *Gauntlet*. You can choose to simply blast your way through the factories or be patient and take a more strategic approach toward attacking the enemies. Two-player simultaneous action is also featured. And again Atari has included the subtle details, such as a clever animations sequence as you slip off the edge of a level in the Robot Factory (you gotta see this one for yourself!) and a Top 40 High Scoreboard. Furthermore, the music and cabinet art, including the unconventional shape and size of the title marquee, greatly enhance EPROM's appeal. The only weaknesses in the game are a map that's difficult to read and canal mazes that, while graphically entertaining, are not particularly challenging.

EPROM is a strong alternative to the oh-so-typical punch and kick titles littering the arcades and a definite must for *Gauntlet* fans who were disappointed with *Xybots*. EPROM's comical nature should appeal to just about everyone, although comic book readers and anyone who thinks "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes" should have won Best Picture may find it even more exciting! EPROM reinforces Atari's creative genius and innovative approach to arcade game design.

Perry Rodger



Escape from the Planet of the Robot Monsters is swash-buckling fun with great graphics and Gauntlet-style play!

THE LEGEND CONTINUES...

Earlier in the '80's, Williams Electronics struck gold with their innovative and original pinball powerhouse, Black Knight. Now Williams is ready to strike again with the long-awaited sequel to this all-time classic called, appropriately enough, Black Knight 2000!

Designed by Steve Ritchie, the Wizard of Willaims who's delivered time and again with blockbuster like High Speed and F-14 TomCat, Black Knight 2000 is packed with innovative features that are guaranteed to challenge beginners and pros alike! Black Knight highlights a special multi-level playfield with two-ball Double Knight's Challenge and three-ball Multi-Ball action!

The main playfield Lightning Wheel controls over 16 different scoring opportunities and bonus rewards, while the Skyway Ramp takes the ball up, down, and around the multi-level playfield, awarding Extra Ball, Hurry Up, and Skyway Bonus when lit. Consecutive U-Turns increase in value to 250,000 points and spelling W-A-R during two-ball play earns skillful players a cool one million points!

A new innovation that's completely unique to Black Knight 2000 is the amazing King's Ransom! By spelling out the word R-A-N-S-O-M, which appears on the backglass, play-ers have the opportunity - for the first time in the history of pinball - to ignite a super special twenty seconds of play in the "Light Everything On The Playfield" mode which delivers mega-points! During this time, all major scoring features are activated, including all multipliers, W-A-R lanes, Extra Ball, the upper playfield Drawbridge targets, the Jackpot, and the Skyway Ramp! In addition, the player cannot lose the ball during this Ransom sequence. If the ball drains another one will instantly appear in the plunger



The action and excitement doesn't stop there! Black Knight 2000 also introduces a new feature to the world of pinball called "Loop Champ". When a player beats the number of consecutive loops on the upper playfield, an Extra Ball is awarded and the player can enter his or her initials in the game displays in the same manner as the high scorers do! Another first for Williams!

Supporting the exceptional game play are magnificent backglass and playfield graphics, orchestrated sound effects with synchronized speech that all add to the atmosphere of this outstanding pinball creation!


Black Knight was a fantastic game, but Black Knight 2000 is even better, with all of the proven play features and all new incentives that are definitely landmark innovations in the world of pinball! Steve Ritchie once again shows that he is the master of the silver ball! Black Knight 2000 is one of his greatest triumphs and, with all of the new goodies that have been thrown into the game, stands as one of the most solid and playable pins to appear in some time!

Exceptional pinball games are a Williams trademark, and Black Knight 2000 only reinforces their position as the premiere designer of number one machines. We can only wait to see what Willaims has in store for us, and what new innovations Steve Ritchie will unleash on the pinball public with his next creation!

(Williams is now offering high-quality Black Knight 2000 T-Shirts! Look for their ad and order form in this issue of Electronic Gaming Monthly!)



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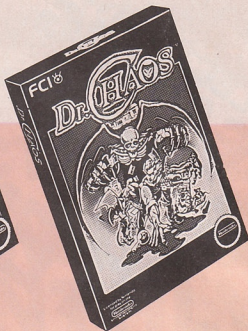
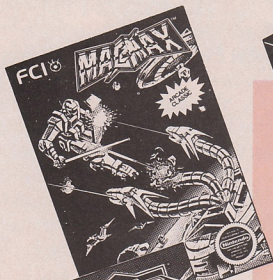
HIGH SCORES

Effective June 1, 1989

After Burner	Sega	Jeff Yonan	9,704,000	Fremont, CA
Alien Crush	TurboGrafx	Steve Ryno	75,629,000	Lisle, IL
Altered Beast	Sega	Brian Sanderson	22,900	Chatanooga, TN
Altered Beast	Genesis	Steve Ryno	69,700	Lisle, IL
Bad Dudes	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	277,900	Austin, TX
Blazing Lasers	TurboGrafx	Donn Nauert	13,330,700	Austin, TX
Bubble Bobble	Nintendo	Larry Erickson	1,080,900	Columbia, MO
Contra	Nintendo	Jim Hernandez	6,553,500	Fremont, CA
Double Dragon	Nintendo	Jim Hernandez	128,350	Fremont, CA
Double Dragon	Sega	Matt Gockel	67,800	New Orleans, LA
Ghouls and Ghosts	Genesis	Steve Harris	498,500	Lombard, IL
Gyruus	Nintendo	Larry Erickson	653,240	Columbia, MO
Ironsword	Nintendo	Jim Allee	229,850	Milwaukee, WI
Karnov	Nintendo	Ralph Mendes	534,500	New York, NY
Keith Courage	TurboGrafx	Donn Nauert	Finished	Austin, TX
Legendary Axe	TurboGrafx	Steve Ryno	598,300	Lisle, IL
Marble Madness	Nintendo	Steve Ryno	76,800	Lisle, IL
Mega Man	Nintendo	Brent Walker	357,200	Austin, TX
Mega Man 2	Nintendo	Steve Ryno	Finished	Lisle, IL
Missile Defense 3-D	Sega	Mark Rezapanski	637,000	Seattle, WA
Ninja Gai Den	Nintendo	Jim Allee	681,000	Milwaukee, WI
Out Run	Sega	Danny Lee	54,249,160	San Jose, CA
Paperboy	Nintendo	Mark McCormick	69,000	Hedrick, IA
P.O.W.	Nintendo	Steve Harris	89,900	Lombard, IL
Q*Bert	Nintendo	Mike Nichols	219,820	San Francisco, CA
Rampage	Nintendo	Leslie Ford	81,900	Galveston, TX
Rampage	Sega	Mike Nichols	324,990	San Francisco, CA
Robowarrior	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	701,800	Austin, TX
Silkworm	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	1,386,380	Austin, TX
Sky Shark	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	1,037,560	Austin, TX
Space Harrier	Sega	Bill Day	7,266,990	Des Moines, IA
Space Harrier 2	Genesis	Steve Ryno	14,301,000	Lisle, IL
Spy Hunter	Nintendo	Mike Dean	147,500	Miami, FL
Star Soldier	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	3,932,600	Austin, TX
Twin Cobra	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	1,335,600	Austin, TX
Twin Eagle	Nintendo	Donn Nauert	805,000	Austin, TX
Vigilante	Sega	Jim Allee	12,900	Milwaukee, WI
Vigilante	TurboGrafx	Steve Ryno	14,500	Lisle, IL
Wizards and Warriors	Nintendo	Jim Killy	639,500	Huntington Beach, CA
Zanac	Nintendo	Jeff Yonan	15,197,360	Fremont, CA

For information on how to submit a high score to the U.S. National Video Game Team, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

U.S. National Video Game Team's High Score Club, c/o Sendai Publications, 1920 Highland, Suite 300, Lombard, IL 60148



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ELECTRONIC GAMING TOP TEN

THE BEST OF THE BEST!!!

They do it for movies, they do it for music, so now Electronic Gaming is doing it for games. The following list of video games, computer games, and arcade games have been compiled by various sources that track the success of games. The ratings are based on player popularity and receipts from locations around the country. How many of your favorites are listed below?

As of June 1, 1989

NINTENDO VIDEO GAMES

1. Ninja Gai Den (Tecmo)
2. Super Mario Bros. 2 (Nintendo)
3. Ultima (FCI)
4. Operation Wolf (Taito)
5. Adventures of Link (Nintendo)
6. Simon's Quest: Castlevania 2 (Konami)
7. Tecmo Bowl (Tecmo)
8. Adventures of Lolo (HAL)
9. Bubble Bobble (Taito)
10. Friday the 13th (LJN Toys)

SEGA GAMES

1. Rastan
2. Rampage (Activision)
3. Vigilante
4. Phantasy Star
5. Time Soldiers

ATARI GAMES

1. Crossbow (7800)
2. Secret Quest (2600)
3. One-on-One Basketball (7800)
4. Desert Falcon (7800)
5. Solaris (2600)

ARCADE GAMES

1. Hard Drivin' (Atari Games)
2. Off Road (Leland)
3. Operation Thunderbolt (Taito)
4. Mechanized Attack (SNK)
5. Arch-Rivals (Bally/Midway)
6. Turbo OutRun (Sega)
7. Strider (Capcom)
8. Narc (Williams)
9. Chase H.Q. (Taito)
10. Final Lap (Atari Games)

The Video Game and Computer Game Top Ten ratings were compiled from game distributors, retailers, and players around the country, and are based on total number of units sold. The Arcade Top Ten is based on the earnings opinions of game operators and is reprinted with permission from RePlay magazine - the coin-op industry's leading trade magazine.

DO YOU PLAY VIDEO GAMES??

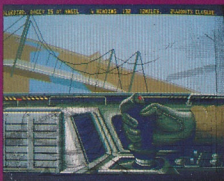
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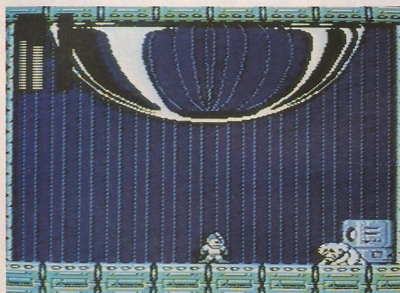
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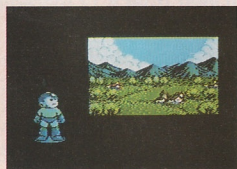
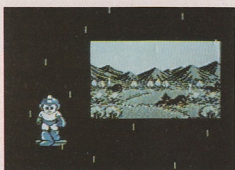
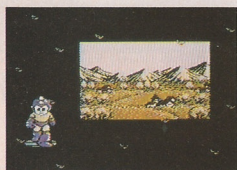
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