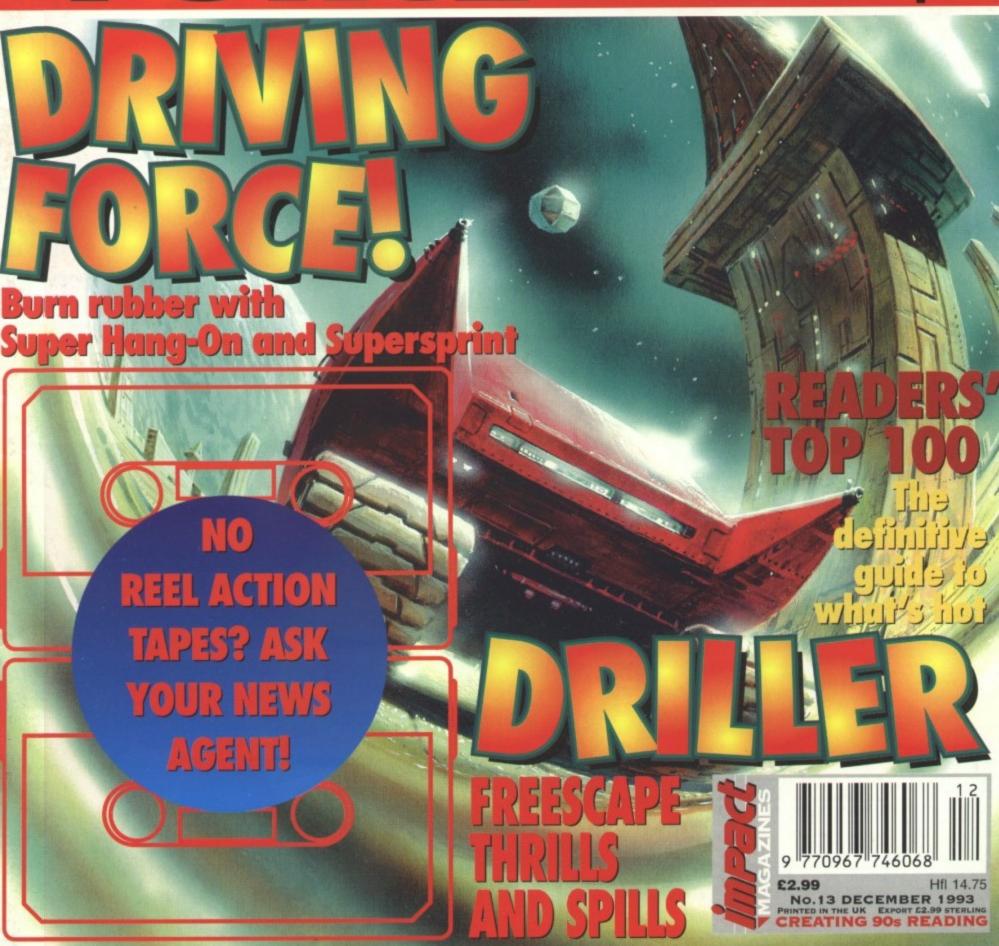
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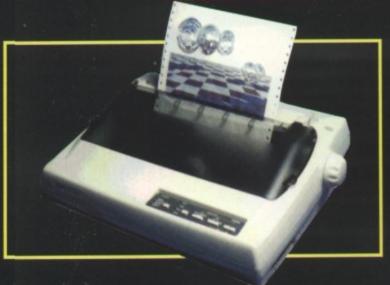
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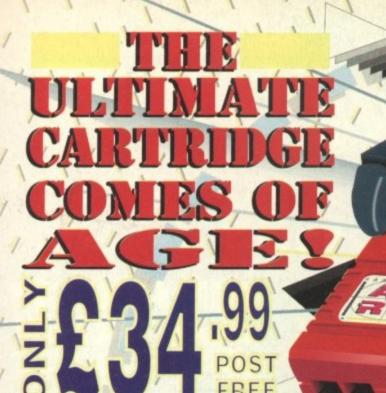
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COMMODORE

ISSUE 13

DECEMBER 1993

RAVE REVIEW

Touchdown score a touchdown with the niftiest sports sim' on the market.

16

WARLD CLASS RUGBY

6 WHAT'S HAPPENING?

News — what's that? Lucky there's the charts to fill up a bit of space, eh!

24 MANGRAM'S MAILBAG

Who gives a damn what you think? Not Lloyd, that's for sure.

THE MIGHTY
BRIAN

The speccy git aids a few more troubled techies.

THE GAMES

So that's how you do that. Well I never...

34 MEXT

Bumper feature on some astounding bits 'n' bobs coming your way at a great rate of knots.

48 THE TIPSTER

The tips section to end them all! Eight whole pages packed with cheats for every occasion.

E TURES.

GAME DIARY OF A

Jon Wells with more on his two new babies.

I wonder if he's got his parallax sorted out yet?

READERS TOP 100

The best C64 games ever, as voted by you — but only if you bothered to fill in and send Issue Ten's survey, mind.



BACK TO THE FEATURE

36

A new decade and the Commodore scene's as ripe and billowing as ever.



57

READERS' AWARDS

Your chance to voice opinions on the best worst and most froody C64 releases of the year.

First he beat up Conan, then he got off with Red Sonia and he didn't even make a map. Carambu!

Mail order madness. Cheap rates for all manner of C64 goodies.

A day in the life of FORCE folk.

Down on the farm poor old Buttercup the cow is unhappy — her udders are swelling out of control and she fears they may explode. Meanwhile Mary the milk-maid's just got the new CF and is locked in her garrett playing those natty covergames, and who can blame her? KERFLOOP! 'Uh oh,' cried Mary, 'there goes Buttercup.'



Save the planet in stunning 3D. The first game incorporating Freescape and a 96%er to boot.



\room, vroom. It's time to burn some rubber...



The Tipster here, now listen — I handle the cheats in this mag and that John Wells is taking a blinkin' liberty...



...although, should you prefer to do so from a more top-down perspective, Supersprint more than provides...

Twenty Sci-fi games in one pack from Prism.



Supreme simulation from Microprose now on budget.

Rugby made fun - wow!

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C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

6 NEWS

efore you read any further, turn to the centre pages. Got that? Intrigued? Yup, our next issue is set to be something special... but you'll have to wait to find out why. But hey you're hardly short changed this month either, what with our two fast-paced racers and the innovative Driller. We've also got the much-awaited Readers' Top 100 and a bumper eight pages packed with the best tips this side of tipsville... and, of course, all your other favourite regulars. Heard of a machine called the Mega CD? Did you know that the C64 — in terms of software sales — is currently 1.6% ahead of Sega's expensive Megadrive add-on? It's true, you know. Did you also know that the C64 is also ahead again, in software sales - of the Atari ST, Spectrum, Apple **Macintosh and Amstrad,** among others? But how long will it be until the C64 really begins to tumble? Who cares! I certainly don't. You see, what I do with C64s is smash them with a mallet, set fire to the pieces and throw them at passers-by. Really, I do... (Miles here, just to assure you that James doesn't really do that. The real reason he's irate is because he can't get past the fourth level of Mayhem in Monsterland. I can — just watch. Hmmm, yes, just that little bit across there, up a bit here, collect that there and... badgers! Pass me that lighter, James. I'm gonna torch me a C64... useless piece of junk, blither!)

May The Force Be With You!

James Price

James Price Editor GOOCHY GAMES

ith the cricket season well and truly over, Audiogenic have seen fit to announce the forthcoming release of Graham Gooch's World Cricket on the C64 - there's no accounting for the software house's sense of timing sometimes, eh? Still, it's a conversion of the moderately well received Amiga game released a few months back. Though graphically attractive, it hardly pushed the more powerful machine so there's no reason to suppose a C64 conversion shouldn't stand up pretty well. It could even be better as the Amiga version had one gaping flaw, in that bowling down the leg side at a certain pace scored a wicket every time — the computer batsmen, flatly refusing to take a swing at the ball, would stand gormlessly as

it flew past them into the sticks. Once you discovered the correct angle the computer teams could be all out for nought time and again - quite realistic if you selected to play against England but hardly making for compelling matchplay! The C64's lacking a worthwhile simulation of the popular village green pass-time (shurely 'pastime' - Ed) but Graham Gooch might just be the man to change that. Whether it's out for a duck or scores a century, we'll have a full review in a future innings... ahem, issue.



BUDGET BARGAINS

n possibly the least funny press release this side of Spectravideo, Future Zone—a fast-growing chain of software shops—have announced their intention to sell new (and old) Kixx and Hit Squad titles—my, no-one's ever done that before, have they? Anyway, these will be packaged in what's known as 'blister packs'; a piece of cardboard with plastic moulded to the front, containing the game. Just what difference this—and the fact that they're '...presented in Future Zone's own corporate colours'—will make is beyond us, but were pleased to see they're stocking C64 titles.

WHO! THE TEA

JAMES PRICE o 'Hey,' said James. 'I've done loads this month, me.' When questioned further as to what exactly he'd done loads of, it soon

became blatantly apparent — he'd been playing Mayhem. 'Look, there's nothing wrong with enjoying yourself, is there? I mean, it's not as if my playing of Mayhem affects anyone else, is it?'

npossibly the least funny press release this side of Future Zone, Spectravideo havejust informed that 'this delta is a belter' - referring to, of course, their £15.99 Delta Ray joystick. Our professional COMMODORE FORCE opinion is that, while it's great for flight sims and the like, the Delta is sadly lacking in other respects. It's too bulkyto play Mayhem in Monsterland with, too cumbersome for Off Road Racer and as for Street Fighter 2 well, the game sucks regardless, and we can't see that any joystick would make a difference. We reckon the Delta's a sound second purchase if you're looking for a leeling of 'weight' while playing Stunt Car Pacer or something. but remember

FAIR COMMENT

he All Formats computer fairs have been going for a while now, with over 100 events staged over the past four years, considered by the organisers to be ...an established, successful, integral part of the computer industry' - rather like COMMODORE FORCE, you could say! Bearing that in mind - and especially with their huge line-up of events during and after Christmas we thought we'd give you a special address to write to. Anyone who sends a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Maple Leaf, Stretton-on-Fosse, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9QX will receive 50 £1 off vouchers, including the dates and locations of forthcoming venues. With events occurring in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and throughout England, there's sure to be something happening near to you. Oh, and as they cover pretty much every computer - including the virtually dead 'n' buried Spectrum - we reckon there'll be loads of C64 stuff there. Hurrah!

DONG-WHAT? AND THEIR TRICKS



the old

adage and try before you buy...

MILES GUTTERY

Agggrrhh! I can't take it any more,' screamed the Hairy One. 'That infernal Price sits playing Mayhem all day,

sits playing Mayhem all day, leaving me to do all the writing, picture sourcing, phonecalls... well I've had enough. Where's Lloyd's number gone...' 00

LLOYD MANGRAM

o 'You can burger off, young man, said Lloyd to Miles. 'If you think for one second that I'm doing anything more than the letters pages, you've got another thing coming.' 'But I'll pay you all the money you'll ever need,' replied Miles. Lloyd, not surprisingly, was impressed. 'Six pounds?' he enquired.

TOP TWENTY

The reappearance of the ageing Super Monaco comes as a bit of a surprise this month, with Robocod looking a hot contender for the top spot. But when's that infernal Street Fighter 2 going to stop selling?



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It's another blinding month in Freebieville - two 96% plus smashes and both well worthy of the acclaim. Unfortunately these aren't games you can just wade into and play straight off, no sir. You'll just have to read the instructions first ...

(CLIMB) 03:56:40 00000000 78 88 ANGLE-15° STEP -250 EXTEND -1

elcome to Freescape! If you haven't experienced the freedom offered by the system now's your chance — it's the closest you'll come to virtual reality on a C64, that's for sure. The story goes something like this...

The planet of Evath is orbitted by two moons, Mitral and Tricuspid. For many years the minerals of Mitral were mined by an Alien race known as the Ketars who've since left. As a result of all the drilling, dangerously large gas build-ups have formed under Mitral's surface. This wouldn't have concerned anybody except that scientists have discovered a meteor on direct collision course.

All this train and like stone from the sold disk talling to be delighted by the sold disk talling and the sold disk talling and the sold disk talling and the sold disk talling talling the sold disk talling the sold disk talling talling the sold disk talling talling the sold disk talling ta Should it hit the explosion of gas build-ups would be so great as to knock Evath out Gennes on diet diller of its orbit, wiping out the entire population.

The only way to avoid



this global catastrophe is for someone to travel to the stricken satellite with the necessary equipment and release the gaseous pockets via carefully positioned drilling rigs Guess who that is.

Your mission begins on the surface of Mitral. At the controls of your mining probe you need to locate

and tap gas pockets in each of 18 sectors. Your main problem is actually finding where to drill — 50% of dormant gas needs to be released before a sector is deemed secure so starting your operation as near the centre of each build-up is vital and remember you're only allowed one drilling rig per sector so make it count. Only experience will teach you where best to place your rigs but keep an eye for tell-tale structures or just use trial and

To help in your mission you may come across abandonned aircraft which can be

used to scout the surrounding area. Should you locate one, dock with it by positioning the probe directly beneath it - to return to the probe land above

Your probe is not invulnerable! Beware of falling off cliffs as well as automated

- 1. VIEWING WINDOW
- 2. TRANSPORT INDICATOR
- 3. MOVEMENT/ATTACK INDICATOR
- 4. PLAN VIEW
- 5. ANGLE TURN
- 6. STEP SIZE
- 7. VERTICAL EXTENSION (PROBE ONLY)
- 8. ENERGY REMAINING
- 9. SHEILD STRENGTH
- 10. X, Y CO-ORDINATES
- 11. VERTICAL HEIGHT
- 12. COUNTDOWN
- 13. SUCCESS RATING
- 14. OPERATIONAL LIGHT INDICATORS
- **15. SIDE VIEW**
- 16. MESSAGE DISPLAY
- 17. AREA INDICATOR

defence systems left behind by the Ketars. Both the probe and aircraft are armed with lasers to take out hostile defences but be quick — those Ketar laser beacons are pretty swift. Also watch out for 'Skanners' — flying probes which are almost certainly dangerous. Oh, one last thing — all movement and action costs energy. Replenish your supplies by finding and absorbing scattered rubicon crystals.



O A DRILL

CONTROLS

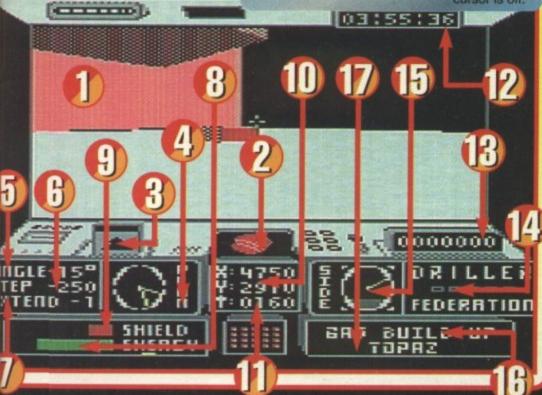
Movement and lasers are via a joystick, with additional key-controls as follows;

P....Look up
L...Look down
....Tilt right

AIncrease angle of rotational movement ZDecrease angle

I and fall
I and fall
and fall
and fall
for here you can save your game or
abort the mission if you so wish.

.....Turns the cursor on and off while in movement mode. You can't fire if the cursor is off.



WRAP EM IN

guaranteed to fit snugly in appropriately-sized cases. Hosanna!

DRILLER SUPERSPRIM EVSY LIMES

RELIGION WE

COMMODORE

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What do you mean your tapes don't work? Have you switched on your computer? Have you adjusted the heads on your datassette? Have you taken the tapes off the front of the mag first? If all else fails DON'T send them to us. Post any faulty tapes to: I Think This Ore's Broken, Ablex Audio Video, Harcourt, Halesfield 14, Telford, Shropshire TF7 4QD.

ŏ AD U GY UPLICATION and eureka! Game Heaven awaits Worries — just pop 'em in an envelope
Video I td Harcourt Halesfield 14

CTIONS

Eyes down and pedals to the metal in this implistic

The first game to utilise the astonishing system, and an utterly playable game to boot.

SUPER SPRINT OOO EASY LIVES

the pace of this superb SUPER bike-based thriller. Can Racing thrills with this DODG on you cassette you stand HANG-ON 6 D recorder, and eureka! Game Heaven awaits! UPLICATION INSTRU CTIONS simultaneously, press play 'em in an envelope

There's something of a racing tinge to the tapes this ish. Whether you prefer to do your rubber-burning on two or four wheels it matters not — all aspiring Nigel Mansells/Barry Sheens/Boy Racers are well catered for with a couple of landmark racerollas.

The engines growl, the competitors eyes

narrow, you'd better read on to find out what's what...

ho's ever wanted to feel the wind in their hair? Imagine climbing into the saddle of huge motorcycle, the exhilaration of flying around tight corners at incredible speed, not knowing whether or not you'll still be on the road come the next bend. Almost losing control but wrestling the monster to heel just in time for the next hair-pin. Sounds pretty exciting, huh?

Well, now you to can experience such thrills 'cos this issue we're giving away a free Harley Davidson motorbike. Just peer twixt pages 48 and 49 and you should see your wonderful prize in all its glory... er,



hang about - that's all a complete lie actually. What we have, however, is the next best thing;

ould this be the definitive plan-view racing game we wonder? At any rate we're sure there ain't many who've not heard of it. It's been copied numerous times — the most recent incarnations worthy of a mention are Ivan 'Iron Man' Stewart's Super Off Road and Zeppelin's Carnage. Though both were, perhaps, technically superior, they didn't quite have the charm. So COMMODORE FORCE gives away another slice of gaming history. To qualify you need to finish ahead of any computer controlled cars and also look out for special icons appearing on the track. Collecting spanners allows you to boost your car's performance between races, there's also point bonuses. Not everything you encounter along the way is good, mind! Oil slicks send you into a spin, muddy patches slow you down and beware of the floating storm cloud. Coming into contact with this mini tornado throws the car temporarily out of control.

Four different courses are on offer -

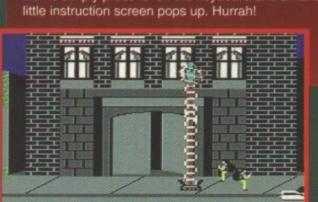
select the one you wish to race by moving the steering wheel on the appropriate screen. Also watch out for the jump on track two - hitting it too slowly can result in a nasty tumble

Three cars are involved in each race, one or two of which can be human controlled. If a two-player game's selected you then get the choice of full game with a computer drone involved or just straight head to head (meaning you don't have to worry about disqualification).

The whole game's joystick controlled with fire to accelerate Now, see you down in the pits!



here's a definite Reel Actiony feel to the cheat prog this month, with ISS, Artura, Park Patrol, Rampage, Ghostbusters and Krakout all getting the treatment. There's also one or two neat little music hacks and the usual bits and bobs of news. If you're in any doubt as to how the program works simply press '8' on the keyboard and a handy



TTU'S DE ENERGY- ON!

-

computer wizzkid with more talent than a small cafe in Amsterdam? Then Reel Action could be your springboard to fame, fortune and endless coffee. If you've written a game worthy of our most excellent tapes, send it in with this form to: James and Miles' Second-Hand Tape+Disk Scam, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW.

Utility used (if any).....

IMPORTANT

Please sign this declaration;

This program is submitted for publication by COMMODORE FORCE. It is wholly my/our own work and I/we agree to indemnify Impact Magazines (UK) Ltd against any possible legal action should copyright problems arise. This game is not being considered for publication by any other magazine or software house and I/we will let you know in writing in the event of this happening.

Signed

Date.....

You must include this form. Unfortunately, we can't return tapes/disks, so make sure you keep a copy yourself. Oh, we were joking about the scam bit, honest!



Super Hang-On's a rip-roaring race game in sizzling 3D with only one aim in mind — to come first! One of the first 'into the screen' affairs to really work, SHO is hell for leather from start to finish. Don't believe me? You'll soon be eating humble pie. Remove the tape from the cover of you magazine, insert it squarely in the datasette and prepare to be convinced, o ye of little faith. Before heading out onto the highway you'd be

well advised to make a note of the following

(Joystick in port 2) Forward Accelerate Break Back Steer left Left Right Steer right Fire Turbo boost











RED LAP

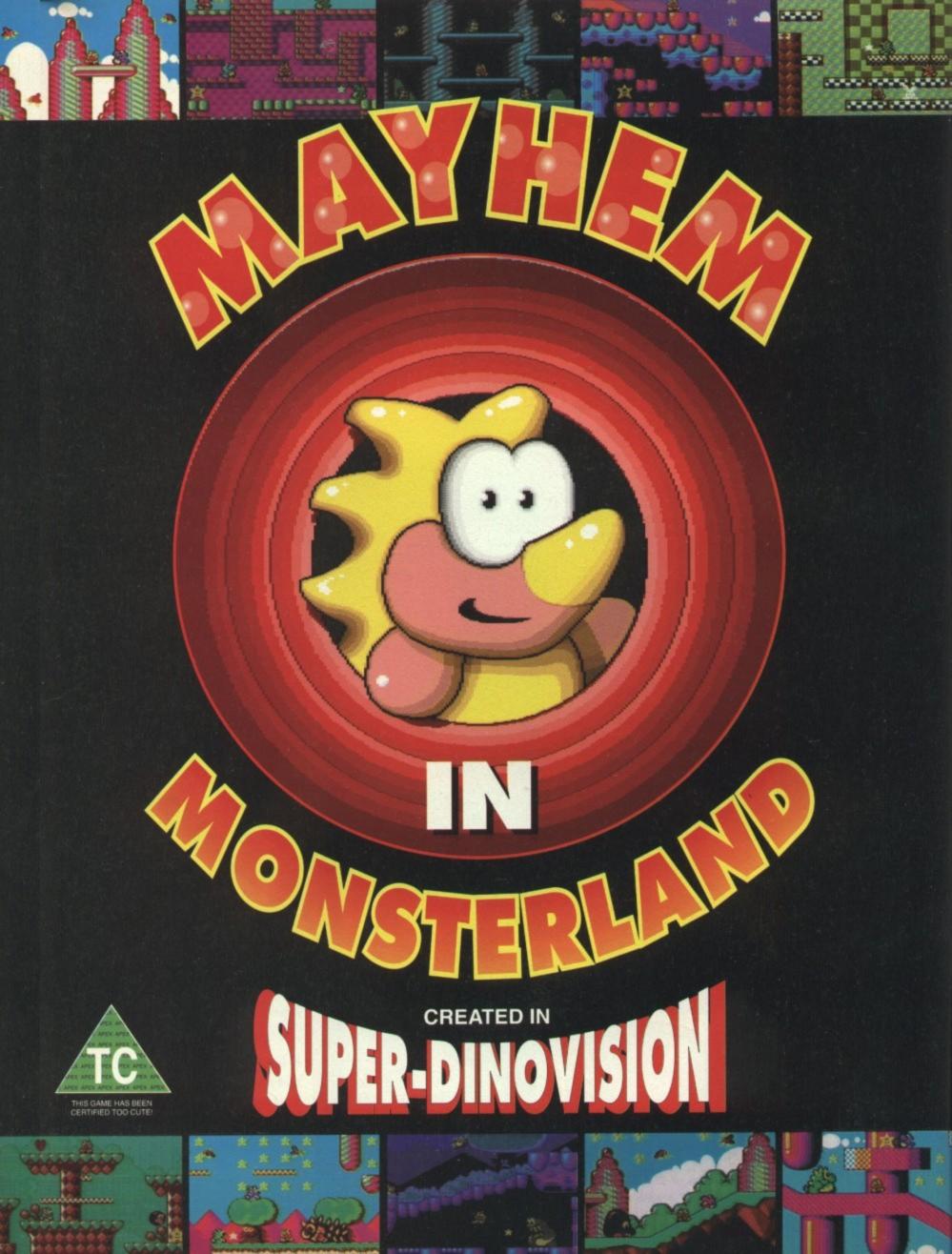
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C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

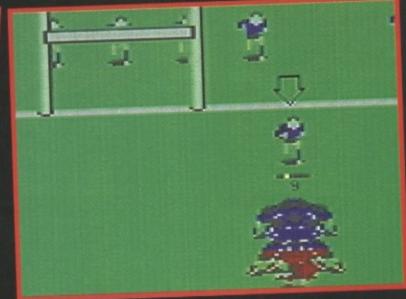






RAMERENEW

TEAMS
.AND
.OUR
OUR
Y COMPUTER



tournament based on the very one that occurred during 1991, quelle surprise. The match itself is World Class Rugby's main strength; it's not half bad, balancing realism and authenticity with arcade playability. Once the players have run out onto the pitch, the match begins with one side kicking the ball to the other. Once they've done that, the other team catch it and try to run to the other end of the pitch, passing it when required. However — and more often than not — the other team tackle the player with the ball, leading to something we qualified types refer to as 'a bit of a scrap'. This, like the occasional scrum (a similar type of scrap, but organised by the referee) can be won by rhythmic joystick waggling. The winning team has the ball thrown back to a guy standing behind and waiting (coward) who then passes, kicks or runs with the ball to create a counter-attack. Should the ball go out of play or a penalty be conceded, a tactics screen pops up, allowing the player to choose a computer-controlled set piece. These can be stopped at any point during



their execution, but it's an idea to let the CPU get on with for a while — more often than not, these moves confuse the hell out of the opposition. Ignoring a great deal of other occurrences, scoring results in a bit of a cheer from the crowd, and the award of a conversion. This is where a guy steps up and attempts to kick the ball through the goalposts. Should he manage this act of skill and physical exertion, an

 Other than football, team sports have inexplicably never really lent

themselves to computer translation until now. World Class Rugby is packed with well-presented options. All the teams from 1991's World Cup are included with full world cup, international league or friendly matches. Control is intuitive with complex passing movements very easy to achieve, though tackling can be a little tricky until you learn to allow for the inertia on running players. The way they pick up speed rather than taking off at full whack is very realistic - as is the fact the further they run, the more they tire. There's no zig-zagging up the pitch time and again for easy individual tries; real team-work's required. Add to this a good array of set pieces and you get a remarkably faithful representation of the sport. World Class Rugby's seven skill levels will keep you busy — even level nought provides a fair challenge but check out the two-player mode for truly fraught head-to-

headers. An essential game for even the most un-rugbyish of peeps (like myself).

additional two points are added to the original four awarded for the try. Oh, and the ball can only be passed backwards...

But I don't want a shower...

Heh heh. After possibly the worst description of Rugby ever, I suppose I'd better tell you just how well *WCR* implements it all. Obviously, a basic knowledge of the sport is helpful, but *WCR* is so well-written, it's accessible to both fans of the sport and the uninitiated alike. It's tricky at first — I was soundly beaten in my first three matches, and obviously, I blamed it on my joystick — but its clever difficulty curve and wealth of options make for much lastability.

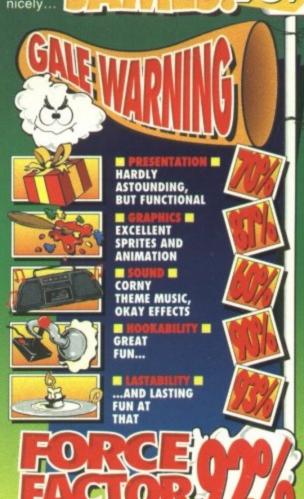
Cosmetically, it's excellent — its sprites are well-defined, pitches suitably coloured and although the pre-match

presentation and options are a little on the spartan side, they serve their purpose. But hey, I've not got to the best bit yet. Generally, sports games are far better if played against a computer opponent, especially when the computer opposition no longer present an adequate challenge. WCR's two-player mode is one of the best I've come across. There's also the fact that you can invite as many people as there are teams to participate in a massive

there are teams to participate in a natiournament. Well, I suppose I'd better wrap this review up by saying something along the lines of 'World Class Rugby — what a smart game, and cheap too!'.

Yeah, I think that sums it

up very nicely...



C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

18 FEILURE

The votes are in After complaining about our top 100, these are the games

After our Top 100, we gave all you C64 owners the opportunity to vote for your favourite games. After seemingly endless hours of compiling your preferred games, we've come up with this — the best indication of what's hot and what's not for the C64. Read on and learn...

THE GREAT ESCAPE

enton Design's isometric adventure scored highly with Spectrum reviewers, but suffered the indignity of a 'port' across to the C64. Despite the inevitable monochrome graphics and slow pace, The Great Escape's strength of design and gameplay ensured a welcome reception from C64 owners and magazines alike. Its semi-sequel, Where Time Stood Still, was mysteriously never converted — a shame, as it took the best ingredients of Escape and added more. This is one of the few instances when Spectrum owners can justifiably gloat...



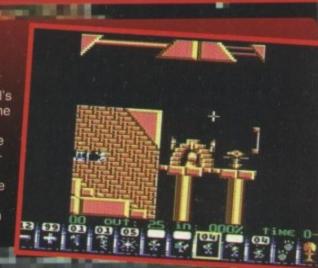
THE SIMPSONS

f you knew just how many letters we receive moaning about consoles and their games, you'd perhaps appreciate the irony of Bart VS the Space Mutants' popularity. A conversion of an ageing NES game, it mixes platforms, puzzles and gaudy colours to great effect. It's a little on the tricky side — younger gamesplayers would be advised to steer well clear — but now available on The Hit Squad label, it's a bargain.

| 100 GOLDEN AXE | KIXX |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| 99 NICK FALDO'S GOLF | GRANDSLAM |
| 98 THE GREAT ESCAPE | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 97 AIRBORNE RANGER | KIXX |
| 96 ARKANOID | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 95 BATTY | REEL ACTION |
| 94 BUGGY BOY | ENCORE |
| 93 NOBBY THE AARDVARK | THALAMUS |
| 92 PARADROID | RACK-IT |
| 91 RETROGRADE | THALAMUS |
| 90 SALAMANDER | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 89 TETRIS | MASTERTRONIC |
| 88 THE BARD'S TALE | ARIOLASOFT |
| 87 WINTER GAMES | EPYX/US GOLD |
| 86 3D CONSTRUCTION KIT | INCENTIVE |
| 85 BART VS THE SPACE MUTANTS | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 84 BOULDERDASH | FIRST STAR |
| 83 BUG BOMBER | KINGSOFT |
| 82 CASTLE MASTER | INCENTIVE |

LEMMINGS

top 100 is all very fine and well, but could never represent everyone's personal choice. However, it's not difficult to doubt certain individual's strength of mind (and their preferred titles) when the as-yet-unreleased *Lemmings* receives enough votes to put it at number 79. Okay, it's a strong title — everyone's been looking forward to its arrival — and granted, a couple of (admittedly excellent) demos have been in circulation, but for it to receive so many Top 100 votes before its release does rather suggest a few of our readers are running on a low-watt bulb...



best. Read on...

ENCORE 81 COMMANDO CODEMASTERS 80 DIZZY

PSYGNOSIS 79 LEMMINGS

MASTERTRONIC 78 MANIC MINER

77 OPERATION WOLF THE HIT SQUAD

76 PARK PATROL REEL ACTION EPYX 75 PITSTOP 2

THE HIT SQUAD 74 R-TYPE

REEL ACTION 73 RAMPAGE

72 SEUCK **GBH**

71 SUPREMACY VIRGIN

70 TURTLES 2 **IMAGEWORKS**

THE HIT SQUAD **69 BATMAN: THE MOVIE**

68 GHOSTS 'N' GOBLINS ENCORE

67 KLAX THE HIT SQUAD

66 PLATOON OCEAN

65 SPINDIZZY REEL ACTION

64 THE UNTOUCHABLES THE HIT SQUAD

63 TRIVIAL PURSUITS THE HIT SQUAD **62 WORLD CLASS LEADERBOARD US GOLD**

THE HIT SQUAD **61 WWF EURO RAMPAGE**

ZEPPELIN **60 ARNIE**

59 DIZZY: POTYF CODEMASTERS

58 EXILE AUDIOGENIC

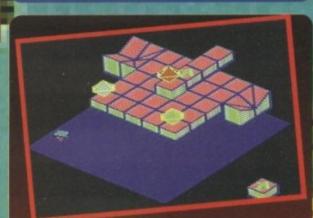
REEL ACTION 57 FIRST STRIKE

56 GREAT GIANA SISTERS RAINBOW ARTS



SEUCK

ensible Software's unique game-maker is perhaps the most easy-to-use and powerful utility the C64 has ever know. The real beauty of SEUCK is that it can be used to create as many different variations on the shoot-'em-up theme as its users' imaginations will allow — well, nearly. It's popularity is such that our offices are constantly bombarded with efforts moulded with it, and certain individuals have created add-on utilities to enhance end results with. Then there's Alf Yngve.



SPINDIZZY

ossibly our most controversial covertape game to date, Spindizzy has provoked an equal amount of positive and negative responses — or so our mailbag would suggest. Half of you feel its original 98% rating was welldeserved, with everyone else disputing that, quite vocally at times. Still, we like it, always have done and anyone who reckons it doesn't deserve its 'king of its genre' crown is a banana



EXILE

ď

ne of the best arcade adventures ever and certainly the most atmospheric sci-fi effort, Exile is an astounding achievement, both in terms of complexity and depth. Playing is believing; it rivals its Amiga counterpart in almost every respect. Clever use of inertia and intelligent opponents ensure that Exile doesn't disappoint in the action stakes, while mindteasing puzzles do just that.

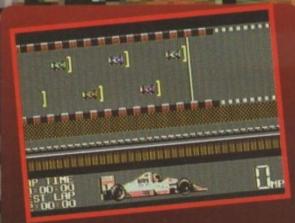
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STREET FIGHTER 2

kay, so which tasteless hype victims voted for this? The SNES cart (in particular, the Turbo edition) is one of the few console games worth every penny — possibly the best coin-op-conversion ever. The C64 version, however, is bug-ridden, far too easy and suffers from the worst multiload this side of Turbo Outrun - but we suppose that, at least, was inevitable. To be honest, it looks as if the game was rushed to facilitate its hype-riding arrival in time for frantic Christmas buying... but that's just an opinion of ours, and we don't mean to upset anyone. No really, we don't...

onsidering the original arcade machine's massive memory and custom chips, it's remarkable that Special FX's C64 conversion is a great deal more playable — and we're not kidding. The coin-op was perhaps a little too tricky for its own good, and, if the truth be known, a little bland compared to a great deal of its contemporaries. Midnight Resistance is easily one of the best shoot-'em-ups the C64 has ever known, missing only the two-player option of the Amiga and original version.





SLICKS

CodeMasters were praised from the rooftops after releasing the superlative Micro Machines on the NES and, more recently, the Mega Drive and Amiga. Slicks, despite its more conventional Formula One type approach, is as near as you'll get to that on the C64. It even incorporates Micro Machines' simplistic but utterly addictive head-to-head mode, where two human competitors attempt to race each other off screen. Slicks is one of the few CodeMasters games we've seen that could've justifiably been full-priced; full credit to them for releasing it on budget.

| 55 MAGICLAND DIZZY | CODEMASTERS |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 54 TURBO OUTRUN | KIXX |
| 53 CRYSTAL KINGDOM DIZZY | CODEMASTERS |
| 52 EMLYN HUGHES | TOUCHDOWN |
| 51 HUDSON HAWK | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 50 IMPOSSIBLE MISSION | US GOLD |
| 49 MERCENARY | NOVAGEN |
| 48 MIDNIGHT RESISTANCE | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 47 TERMINATOR 2 | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 46 WIZBALL | OCEAN |
| 45 WWF | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 44 LAST NINJA 3 | SYSTEM 3 |
| 43 RODLAND | KIXX |
| 42 SLICKS | CODEMASTERS |
| 41 SMASH TV | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 40 STREET FIGHTER 2 | US GOLD |
| 39 SWIV | KIXX |
| 38 TEST DRIVE 2 | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 37 TURBO CHARGE | KIXX |
| 36 TUSKER | KIXX |
| 35 ARMALYTE | KIXX |
| OA DADDADIAN | MIAA |

BARBARIAN

34 BARBARIAN

ortal Kombat? Pah. Barbarian was providing gore while MK was barely a gleam in an accountant's eye. In fact, its entertaining decapitation scene (and, ooh, some other violence as well) led to a ban on sales in Germany, despite the utterly cartoony and unrealistic manner of it all. Strangely (although equally confusingly) was the partial uproar over Barbarian's advertisement campaign, featuring a scantily-clad (but suitably covered) Maria Whittaker, and what we reckon to be Wolf from Gladiators as the 'hunky' (bleaurgh!) male. Some people, eh?





KIXX

TURBO OUTRUN

he first Outrun game was a disappointing conversion, the third an impressive finale for the series, but the second? Let's just say that, here at COMMODORE FORCE, we're not keen on it. It's graphically excellent, sounds good and even plays well, but possibly the most crippling multiload ever — even on disk — ensures extended play is a frustrating. stop-start affair.

GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS

Truly excellent games manage to excel in every respect, with one aspect nearing ground-breaking. *Ghosts 'n' Ghouls'* soundtrack is utterly astonishing, adding so much to the game's playability it's untrue. It's this atmospheric accompaniment that adds extra dimension to *Ghouls'* superb playability. Anyone with half a mind has to concede that it borrows from its predecessor heavily, but that's a fault of the coin-op, not the conversion. But where are Software Projects — its programmers — now? The last thing we knew they were working on *Gauntlet 3*, another mysterious disappearance...



11 TURRICAN



THE ADDAMS FAMILY

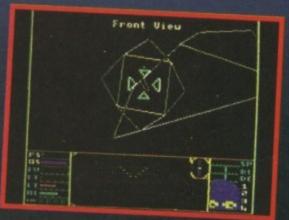
t's excellent on the SNES, Amiga and, more recently, the Mega Drive, but we've never rated C64 Addams Family highly. Perhaps it's the difficulty level, awkwardly positioned restart points, dodgy collision detection... pick a fault at random, and we'll have probably moaned about it. Despite our feelings for it, it seems you lot reckon it's a reet smart platformer — but we don't agree. Not at all, in fact. Complain as much as you want, we don't like it, we don't like it, we don't like it, and if you do, you've obviously not played Mayhem. So there.

| 33 NAVY SEALS | OCEAN |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 32 DOUBLE DRAGON 2 | VIRGIN |
| 31 SILENT SERVICE | KIXX |
| 30 DAN DARE | REEL ACTION |
| 29 GHOSTS 'N' GHOULS | KIXX |
| 28 LAST NINJA 2 | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 27 MYTH | KIXX |
| 26 OUTRUN EUROPA | KIXX |
| 25 THE ADDAMS FAMILY | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 24 CALIFORNIA GAMES | EPYX |
| 23 CONTINENTAL CIRCUS | MASTERTRONIC |
| 22 ELITE | FIREBIRD |
| 21 HEAD OVER HEELS | THE HIT SQUAD |
| 20 SLEEPWALKER | OCEAN |
| 19 FIRST SAMURAI | UBISOFT |
| 18 RICK DANGEROUS 2 | KIXX |
| 17 ROBOCOD | KIXX |
| 16 STUNT CAR RACER | KIXX |
| 15 GUNSHIP | KIXX XL |
| 14 RICK DANGEROUS | KIXX |
| 13 LOTUS TURBO CHALLENGE | GBH |
| 12 LAST NINJA | ALTERNATIVE |

HALL STATES

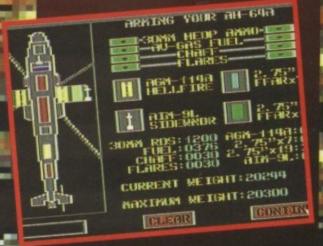
ELITE

o be honest, we're surprised to see *Elite* so popular. Even though it's undoubtedly one of the most absorbing games ever, it's getting on a bit — would you believe it was reviewed in the first issue of ZZAP! 64? With that in mind, we expected most people to have forgotten it — but credit to its lastability, to be rated this highly after the best part of a decade is an admirable achievement.



GUNSHIP

iles reckons this Microprose epic is the best simulation ever — for once, he's not wrong in the slightest. Both easy to use yet complicated enough to provide a lasting challenge, *Gunship* just can't be faulted. Oh, in all but one respect: on cassette, it's a dog. Multiloads are often the thorn in the side of many a sound concept, and *Gunship*'s many missions and presentation screens just don't lend themselves to lengthy tape access. Disk owners are advised to miss this at their peril, but everyone else... let's just say there are better things to spend your money on.



LOTUS TURBO CHALLENGE

reeted by astounded gasps and much amazement when released on the Amiga, this split screen racer is regarded by many as being the best of its genre. Enjoyable with one player, Lotus particularly excels when played against a human competitor — it's easily one of the best two-player games ever. Graphically sound, one of its best aspects is its speed, and even its multiload doesn't take the shine off the action.

KIXX

22 12/11/13

RAINBOW ISLANDS rguably the best coin-op conversion the

rguably the best coin-op conversion the C64 has ever know, Rainbow Islands oozes quality from every metaphorical pore. It's colourful, playable, large... to compare it favourably to most 16-bit games you care to mention would be doing the game the justice it deserves. Undoubtedly the best vertically-scrolling platform game ever, it also shows up Zeppelin's 'similar' Edd the Duck game as the pale imitation it is...

BUBBLE BOBBLE

ub and Bob seem to be popular with C64 owners; with Rainbow Islands and Bubble Bobble at numbers six and five respectively, you can but wonder how well the cancelled conversion of Parasol Stars — the third in the series — would have fared in this chart. Nevertheless, the now aging Bubble Bobble has one thing Rainbow Islands lacks — the two-player option of the arcade original. Playable as a solo outing, it's with the addition of a human assistant that Bobble



becomes less of a superb conversion, more of an essential addition to any self-respecting C64 owner's software collection.

TURRICAN 2

The original *Turrican* astounded C64 owners with its amazing graphics, sheer size and polish. *Turrican 2* does everything its predecessor did, only more so. As far as platform shoot-'em-ups go, it's by far the best — only a lengthy cassette multiload serves to slightly dampen proceedings.



CREATURES 2

nly rivaled in the graphical stakes by it's half-brother, Mayhem in Monsterland, Creatures 2 is utterly breathtaking. To use everyday superlatives to describe the cosmetic excellence of it just wouldn't do it justice — suffice to say it's technically one of the most accomplished titles ever. Sadly, its gameplay isn't quite up to the same high standard — it's a bit on the tricky side (read: utterly, utterly frustrating), and its cassette multiload... arrgggh! However, with the help of a cheat mode, those elusive later screens can be reached, and the game begins to live up to its potential.

BARBARIAN 2

arbarian 2 is a beat-'em-up with a difference — exploration. Traditionally, fighting games are linear affairs, offering a single screen or set route to travel and be violent on. However, Barbarian 2 is more of an arcade adventure, with things to collect, different areas to negotiate and, of course, things to kill. It's this departure from the norm that makes B2 so playable and, with four large levels to negotiate and its impressive array of opponents, there's a great deal to keep you occupied.

MICROPROSE SOCCER

onsidered by many as the best footy game ever — as well as being predecessor to the amazing Sensible Soccer — Microprose Soccer is the game that introduced the banana shot, not to mention weather conditions and action replays. However, it's not just a shallow collection of novelties — it plays a mean game of football, too. Interest and lastability are provided by various tournaments, while its two-player mode is almost infinite in its appeal.

IK+

K+ is the undisputed king of C64 beat-'emups. Whereas its predecessor and its nearest rival — Way of the Exploding Fist — involve one-on-one combat against either a computer- or player-controlled opponent, IK+ offers a novel twist — an additional competitor. Even while playing against a friend, this extra fighter presents complications, but a large selection of superbly animated moves can easily be put to good use. An excellent Rob Hubbard soundtrack complements the action, while the perfectly-timed sound effects almost bring tears to your eyes.

FLIMBO'S QUEST

olourful to extremes and replete with graphical excellence, *Flimbo's Quest* plays like a poor man's *Mayhem*. Despite this, it's still a more-than-worthwhile purchase, but be warned — in our opinion, it does become a little tedious after a while.

10 FLIMBO'S QUEST
9 MICROPROSE SOCCER

THE RESERVE AND PERSONS ASSESSMENT

KIXX

8 IK+

THE HIT SQUAD

7 BARBARIAN 2

REEL ACTION

KIXX

6 RAINBOW ISLANDS

THE HIT SQUAD

5 BUBBLE BOBBLE

THE HIT SQUAD

4 TURRICAN 2

KIXX

3 CREATURES 2

THALAMUS

2 THE BLUES BROTHERS

REEL ACTION

1 CREATURES

KIXX

THE BLUES BROTHERS

nd so to the runner-up! We were a bit chuffed ourselves having secured this for the covertape and by all accounts we were right. Perhaps it's not the most original game in history but what it does, it does brilliantly. Borrowing the best ideas from generations of platformers then wrapping them all up under such a strong license, the result — a near perfect arcade romp. Atmospherically detailed backgrounds, large levels, recognisable sprites packing heaps of character — The Blues Brothers has the lot. And we haven't even mentioned faithful renditions of a choice few famous toons yet...



CREATURES

he definitive reader's number one game of all time (by a pretty clear margin it must be said) is... CREATURES! Clyde Radcliffe - a small furry animal with attitude — is the hero faced with miles of superbly drawn and colourful, baddy-packed ground to cover Clyde himself has since become a true stalwart among C64 game stars, speaking eloquently at functions about the state of the software industry, hang-overs and anything else you care to mention. And, like a true gentleman, he remains down to Earth, refusing to let the adulation of superstardom go to his head. When we asked him for an interview to mark this occasion he very graciously gave us the following thought — 'Yeah, what's in it for me?' What a chap, what a bloke. After tugging our forelocks to the point of partial baldness we returned to the game that made it all possible. Imagine a world before torture screens, bad tempered demons and flame breath. You can't? Us

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Which computer(s), if any, do you own?



Another bumper helping of pages this month, with some of the best mail I've received in a while included — keep it up. The Snips have grown this

some of the best mail I've received in a vincluded — keep it up. The Snips have graissue — due to popular demand — but don't forget to write the longer letters as well! I'm looking forward to hearing your opinions on our Readers' Top 100 chart — do you agree with the rankings? Or do you beg to differ?

On with the mail...

C64's A 701BIE SHOCKER Dear Lloyd, My main dude! Ever since I began

My main dude! Ever since I began reading your magazine my good old C64 has had a new lease of life. If the C64's dead, then at very least it's one of the living dead. Some questions:

1) What are the full-price and budget release dates for Alien 3, Lemmings and Arsenal FC?

Alien 3 should be in the shops now, Lemmings will be out early December, while Arsenal FC... possibly never? Yep, I think that sounds about right...

2) Which is the best Robocop cart, 2 or

Apparently, Robocop 2 is the better — or so Miles tells me.

3) Is Predator on tape any good?

James insists it's a terrible game, but
ZZAP! gave it a 90%. To be honest, I'm
inclined to agree with him — it does
suck, and then some.

4) What's the best crowd view football

Probably Emlyn Hughes International Soccer — it's a flawed but playable

 We couldn't find a Zombie, so here's a picture of Miles...

offering. Personally, I reckon the 'crowd view' perspective has had its day — look at Grandslam's Liverpool and see why.

5) In Rick Dangerous 2, when I make Rick jump the background changes colour. Should I send the tape back and ask for a new one?

Of course — if you're sure it's the game that's at fault (and not your C64 or cassette player).

6) Which is the best — Turrican 1 or 2?

According to our Readers' Top 100,

Turrican 2 is. I'd recommend them both.

Thanks heaps. Life would be unbearable without your mag, especially since I went back to school.

Derek Wilson, Co Fermanagh

C64 a zombie? I knew the office smelt a bit strange... Hey! Who turned out the lights! Andy Peters, Sheffield

• There they go again! LM

I reckon James is far better looking than Miles.

James Price, Bridgnorth

● Eh?

How about a piccy of Wionna Rider? Or, failing that, Helena Bonham Carter?
Johnathan Lock, Glasgow

• Yeah, great idea. Can we have

CHEATS NEVER PROSPE

Dear Lloyd,

Harrogate

I'm wondering if you could help my son. We have a C64 and are finding it impossible to put in the cheats. How is this done? Which buttons do I push? Mrs Atkinson, Bishop Thornton,

● I'll hand you over to Miles — he's the Tipster...

LM

Er, thanks Lloyd, um, well! It depends on which cheats you mean. If it's pokes you're on about then chances are you'll need an Action Replay or reset cartridge. These come complete with instructions — check out Datel's advertisement for where to get 'em. For data listings, type in the

C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

Dear Lloyd,

I'd like to get my hands on the cassette version of Supremacy, but I've noticed that Software City have dropped it from their adverts. Can you tell me if I can still get it from them or, if not, where I can get it.

Also, will Elite 2 ever come out on the C64? Please help because I've been wanting to know the answers for some

Sam 'Bob' Robinson, Ross

You could try giving them a ring, but if that brings no joy, try patrolling local markets and car boot sales you never know your luck...

As for Elite 2, don't hold your breath... in fact, don't even entertain the thought. No C64 version is planned, and it's highly unlikely there ever will be. Sorry!

ME SACR



program exactly as printed then type

RUN and press RETURN, then rewind

the appropriate game tape and press

tape (have a look in your C64 manual

for instructions on how to do this) so

play. You can also save listings to

Vennesa Paradis as well.

James?

Miles doesn't exist. I know - I've consulted the stars... Damien

Ball. Surrey

· Look at his photos on page 66 and wish that was true... LM

The camera never lies, but James isn't a camera.

Miles Guttery. Eardington

What? LM

You're fired, Guttery as well as ugly... James Price, Bridgnorth

• Huh? LM



Dear Lloyd,

What's happened to the PD section? I'm not bothered about the demos (except those like Terminus) but how about reviewing some of the many utilities they have. I'm sure many would be interested.

I'm not sure if you realised, but you didn't have a 'letter of the month' in Issue 11. Did James loose it?

Who are Sid and Vic? There's not enough room in a '64 for one person never mind two!

Could you possibly give a list of what's on past Reel Actions (I missed Issues One to Five). How do we know what is worth back ordering otherwise?

I would like to suggest that James gets his eyes tested. There have been loads of typing, and other, errors since he became editor.

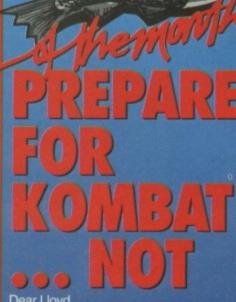
The Hermit, Radcliffe, Manchester

PS Keep up the good work. Your section is by far the most entertaining.

Yes, we will be featuring more PD at some point, but only if it's of the right standard. Issue 11 didn't have a letter of the month because, quite frankly, the large selection of letters we had at the time were crap. After consulting James, I decided to drop the award for that month. Of course, we could have made the point a little clearer ...

As for a list of Reel Action games give Database Direct a ring. Their number's on our Forcefield Plaza pages. Now go away.

PS I don't know if it's relevant, but James said for me to tell you to 'luck cough' - whatever that might mean. At least, I think that's what he said ...



Dear Lloyd,

I've had my C64 for five-and-a-half years now and in all this time I've been looking for a few games — as yet I've not been able to find them. So being the nice kind chappie that you are, I have a few

simple questions I'd like answered.

1) Where on this infernal earth can I get a copy of *Scrabble Deluxe*, *Deluxe* Monopoly and Risk?

Try one of the mail-order companies that advertise with us.

2) Are there any intentions to bring out Mortal Kombat on the C64?

Do fish sing about trees?

What makes your magazine to damdest C64 on the market?

I assume that's a compliment. It's

just one of those things, I quess...

4) In Issue 11, more specifically, the Top Ton article, why did you put a piccy of Monty on the Run alongside the caption for Barbarian (number 83)?

You want the real reason? Well, our designer Claire did a run-out of the Top Ton without Tiff files, meaning we didn't spot the error until we received the finished issue back from the printers. Now you know. However, if we had to allocate blame, we'd say it was Miles' fault. It always is...

5) Is European Rampage worth £10.99? Not when you consider it's being released on budget any time now...

Much appreciated Lloyd. John Borley, Basingstoke, Hampshire

PS I think the cardboard bag quite suits you, but it could do with a bit of brightening

I've never worn a cardboard bag! My paper bag does look a little on the drab side — perhaps I'll hang decorations off it for Christmas...

Oh, and if you're wondering why you've been 'awarded' the Kipper... let's just say we're sick of Mortal Kombat enquiries, okay?

cheats, appropriate instructions should be included in the tips text, e.g. 'On the hi-score table type...'. Hope that clears things up a bit, er, bye! Miles

you don't have to laboriously type it in

every time you play. For any other

No matter how hard we try, we can't please everyone with our tapes. Choosing them is a hit-and-miss affair as the following letters demonstrate...



Dear Lloyd,

First we had The Blues Brothers and then we had a two-pronged classic attack with Barbarian 2 and Dan Dare. Things went downhill with Ghostbusters, which was given 40% in ZZAP! Issue 90. Will we still be getting 96% and 95% rated games on Reel Action? If we do, the this can only make COMMODORE FORCE even better.

M Johnson, Whipton, Exeter PS Keep up the good work

Of course, we always try and get the best games possible. But Ghostbusters, despite its low rating (from James in the movie tie-in round-up) has been well received by other readers...

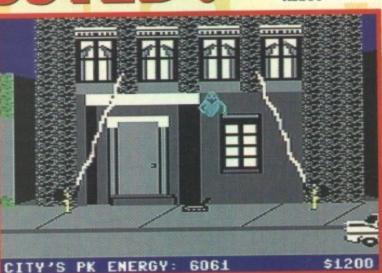


Guttery, Guttery, I know nothing of this Guttery! Giles Muttery, Eardington

Say what?

It's much better this time.

Mark Smith, Newton Abbot



Dooky Lloydo!

How ya doin'? I just dropped you a line to congratulate everyone at CF on your brill covertapes. I've been getting COMMODORE FORCE since issue eight and there's nothing I like better after a hard day at the quarry than to flick through the greatest publication in the known universe over a large brontosaurus pie. But, excellent though your mag is, there's something that's even better. When you promised us classic C64 games on the tapes each month you weren't kidding - I love them all, except Barbarian 2, a bit close to home if you ask me. Unfortunately my tale has a sad twist, Betty (my wife) claims I don't pay her any attention these days. The other night she set up a romantic, candle-lit dinner to celebrate our anniversary but ended up eating

Dear Lloyd.

Since I live in New Zealand, tape games are very hard to come by in shops. When I came across ZZAP! 64 two years ago, I had to buy it, with its attractive, eyecatching cover, the best screenshots I've ever seen, and the free tape. Now that the covertape games are getting drastically better I hate turning off my computer to have dinner! But in Issue Seven, you put Spindizzy on the covertape. How the hell did that game get 98%? It's soooo boring! I Ball I really loved, though I'm struggling over level 12 at the moment.

I have some questions.

1) Is it possible to have covertape games on Easy Lives programs?

If by that you mean pokes for the games, then yes, we have and

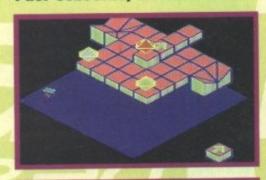
2) In Issue Six you gave a poke for Batty. I typed this in after resetting the machine, but after entering the SYS number, the game crashes. Is it the reset switch that stuffs it up?

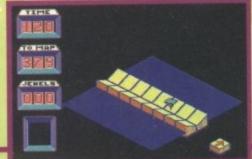
Are you sure it's the right type of poke you're using?

3) Why did you miss Activision's Labyrinth out in the movie round-up? Who can say?

Love the new coloured covertapes.

Paul Osbourne, New Zealand





We'11 sleep soundly with that in mind, I'm sure ... LM

I used to think I was Steve Shields but apparently I'm not! Nigel 'No relation' Havers, Bristol

• I used to think I was Lloyd Mangram ... L.M

These things were sent to try us. John Fields, Telford

 Apparently go. LM

Dear Lloyd,

Just a note to encourage the climbing quality of the covertapes. You have to admit back in the mists of time you gave us some real stinkers, but since about July things have got progressively better. Now for a couple of questions (I wouldn't want to break with tradition).

1) Who decides what games go on the tapes?

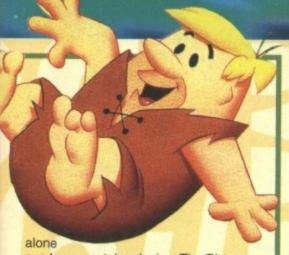
James does — and has since Issue Seven. Criticise them at your peril...

2) How come COMMODORE FORCE is so amazing?

Hey, who knows? Perhaps it's the dashing letters page guy! (dream on, Mangram - Ed).

Simon Deary, Leeds PS Up the Akkers (don't ask)!

Progressively better? More than that, pal...



cos I was upstairs playing *The Blues Brothers* — I'd managed to get onto level four, after all! I handed her the joystick to which she responded by calling me something unrepeatable then walking out. That was two days ago and I've not seen her since. This is terrible — I'm rapidly running out of clean undies.

Anyway — keep it up, and how about a Flintstones game on the cover, eh?

Barny Rubble, Bedrock

That the British postal service have managed to get your letter to my good self does rather suggest you're not from Bedrock — although I must admit writing it on a stone tablet was a stroke of genius. Come to think of it, its delivery by brontosaurus wasn't a bad gesture. Either you're rich and desperate to impress me, or... who let that raptor into the office?

The lack of coverage would suggest... aggrrhh, it's the end! Mike Logan, Liverpool

Do be
quiet - and
stop
dribbling.

I reckon we need at least another 64 pages in COMMODORE FORCE. That way, I'd never run out of toilet paper. Peter Porter, Whichurch

• What a large bottom you've got. LM

BUSTINGS BRILLINGS Dear Lloyd,

1) The other day my friend came over to stay so we went straight upstairs to play on the computer. When he saw I had a C64 he almost screamed 'eeeek, it's an 8-bit'. I eventually got him to

play Ghostbusters (Reel Action 22) and he thoroughly enjoyed himself. The morale to this story? Anyone who hasn't got a C64, get one!

2) Is there anywhere that I can buy a game called Lazy Jones?

Lazy who?

3) I'm making a game called Einsten's Learning Fun — how can I make proper loading screens for it and will I be able to use Basic?

Write to Brian Strain.

4) Why does Brian Strain bother?

Because we pay him to, readers like

him and there's also the fact James and Miles couldn't answer a technical enquiry if their lives depended on it.

5) A tip. If you have Quatro Sports, load Pro Tennis Sim and when it asks you for the password, type in D2 and hit return — you'll access two new games!

Coo, fancy that.

6) Keep up the good work everyone at COMMODORE FORCE.

Of course.

Magnus Loutit, Steventon, Oxon

VE NO DOUBT WE'LL HAD I H.A. T.E. ARTURA

Dear Lloyd,

I was reading an issue of ZZAP! 64 when something caught my eye. The ZZAP! crew had reviewed the Star Pack compilation from Prism. The two games in question were Artura and H.A.T.E. which have recently appeared on your covertapes.

I thought your policy was to give us, the readers, top quality games, demos

etc. Why then did you let these two games grace the spools of your tapes? They had plain awful reviews. If you don't believe me, check out issues 45, 52 and 81 of ZZAP!. I'll quote the comments given to both games in Issue 81...

ARTURA

'The appalling Artura earned a measly 10% in issue 45. Yes, it really is that bad. It looks like an unfinished program that should never have seen the light of day. The armoured hero hobbles slowly through dull flickscreens, throwing axes at unvaried haddies.'

The reviewer finishes by writing 'It's all very confusing and totally unplayable.'

HATE

'...the aptly named H.A.T.E. (24%, Issue 52), a real disappointment from designers Vortex, creators of so many 3D



games. The isometric 3D is glitchy, and the game is a dull Zaxxon-style shoot-'em-up.'

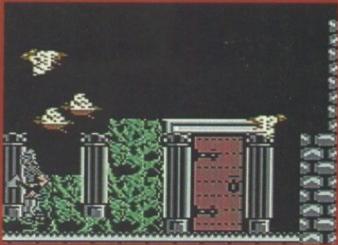
Why did you rave about these games in Issues Four and Five when past reviewers thought the games

were crap? Surely minds don't change that much?

Anyway, the magazine is brilliant and the games on the covertape are excellent now you have increased the price of the magazine. Sorry about the length of this letter, but I had a lot to say. Keep up the good work.

Chris Hodges, South Wales

As you'll well know, everyone likes different games. James always tries to include a fair selection of games, but you can't please everyone, can you? Perhaps if you knew how difficult it is to obtain the rights to half-decent games, you'd appreciate just how well we do. You see, all too often the rights have



reverted back to the programmer (usually missing, presumed drunk and unshaven) or they've been licenced to an obscure company in another country. There's also the fact that some companies feel that free games with magazines kill the software industry not surprisingly, in situations like these, they politely decline to enter discussions involving our Reel Action tapes and their software. Then there's the cost - how many games can our budget stretch to? Not many, where 95% and 96%ers are concerned. There are so many problems, it's a wonder we bother!

PLAN.

C-FORCE No. 13 DECEMBER 1993





Now I think you've only yourself to blame! What am I talking about? Well, after publishing the Top 100 games in COMMODORE FORCE you had a footnote included that urged us to write in and 'voice our opinions'. So by now I'd assume you've received a deluge of mail about the 'Top Ton' article. I can envisage it now; letter after letter about games that were left out, favourite games that were missing or the positions of

So why have I written in? Well, it's my opinion there have been some fatal omissions. Yes, yes, I can see you now, raising your hand and saying 'it's all a matter of personal taste'. So if I may just beckon your hand away for a minute and tell you what I think.

For a start, if I were to arrange a list of my favourite games, they wouldn't necessarily everybody's most popular games. As well as this, they wouldn't essentially the best titles written for the C64 — just that I have a preference for them and the reasons are entirely personal. Titles I would include would be Slap Fight, Hovver Bovver, Forbidden Forest, Hero, Spy Hunter, Trashman, Emlyn Hughes, Infiltrator, Championship

BUT / LIKE THEM ...

Sprint... the list could go on. I've enjoyed playing all the aforementioned games. I've deliberately chosen them because they didn't receive rave reviews, but nonetheless I'd rather play one these games than The Sentinal.

Before I go on it must be said that I do like the highly rated games as well (Spindizzy, Mercenary, Rainbow Islands) but I used obscure titles to prove my point.

If I had to make up a list of the best games for the C64—ie, those that create a new genre, employ novel graphical or musical techniques, or show of the C64's capabilities—I'd choose different titles. They probably wouldn't be my favourites, but I'd attempt to choose them unbiasedly. For example, I'd choose the Sentinal—a game I can appreciate but don't particularly like; Little Computer People—again, I can admire the concept but and on disk it works well, but on cassette surely a save game option should be added? Still, I'm not fond. Frankie Goes to Hollywood—this is a good idea but I hate it; Turrican 2—I liked Turrican 1 and can marvel at the size and graphics but I still don't like it overall. As for Boulderdash—I understand it's addictive to many, but again, I'm not fond.

I hope you can now see the differences I mean.

In essence, the games chosen by COMMODORE FORCE reflect a group of peoples favourite games — but I'd beg to differ if you were to say these were essential purchases for C64 users. I'm not slandering your chart — on the whole, it has many titles I'd choose myself — but where are *Impossible Mission 1* and 2? There were other titles 'noticeable by their absence' — the Epyx series, for example. Again, it's all down to personal tastes, but I would have thought games like *The Eidolon, Operation Wolf* and *Off Road Racer* would have been included...

One final point — Frankie Goes to Hollywood at number one? A very unusual choice as greatest C64 game ever — and one I doubt will be repeated in the reader's chart, along with Budokan, Aliens, Dark Side and Way of the Exploding Fist. Sadly, I think the readers' chart will be over-run with Dizzy, WWF and Street Fighter/warrior/ninja/warrior — oops went over the top a bit there.

I'm not saying any of these games are poor, it's just they'll probably

make up a large part of the chart.

That's enough for now — another controversial and entertaining issue has been read in sunny Surrey, and I wait patiently for Issue 12. Oh, and by the way — happy first birthday, COMMODORE FORCE!

John Kavanagh, Morden, Surrey

Of course, you're quite right. I hope this issue's Readers' Top 100 puts the record straight, but you must remember that, here at COMMODORE FORCE, we get to see a lot of games - and I mean a lot. That's why our chart's a little different to your average reader's - I'm not by any means putting us on a higher pedestal, but when you've seen as many different games as we have, you begin to appreciate the 'little things'. There's also the matter of sales figures - if a game sells a large amount of units, it's likely to get more votes than other, more superior games. Take Laser Squad for example - a classic, and undoubtedly the best of its genre, yet it received a measly 21 votes, too few to guarantee it a place in this issue's feature. How could something like The Addams Family be rated higher?

I agree — it is a matter of personal taste, but there are other factors. I look forward to receiving other letters on this matter...

LM

SANDI LIKE THA ONE!

Dear Commodore Force,

I was glad to see you put Frankie Goes to Hollywood at number one in your Top 100. I own a copy and I must admit it has got to be the best. I was surprised to see it — but why wasn't Blood Money included? Never mind. Now for some questions.

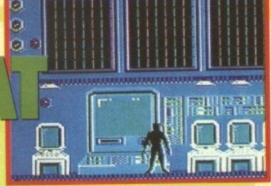
1) Could you put Golden Axe on Reel Action?

Could you send us a few thousand pounds to buy the licence with?

2) Why does every game have a sad ending sequence? Every game I've completed has had a crap ending!

There are decent ending sequences on some games, but I can't recall one right now...

3) What rating would you give Chuckie Eag 2?



Oh my god —
I think I'm
going to be
sick...
Someone,
Ludlow

• Ugh! All over the cover as well!



It's ben so long since I've seen it, I couldn't really say. As far as I can remember, it didn't have the charm of its predecessor.

Ross Veale,

Devon

Frankie Goes to
Hollywood is an
excellent game. I
didn't actually vote
for it to be number
one (yes, I did have a
hand in the chart!)
but it was close.

If that Guttery fellow thinks he's getting his hands on my letters pages, he's got another thing coming. He's becoming a minor dictator — the other day I caught him shouting at a wall with a huge false moustache attached to his top lip. When he saw me, the only excuse he could give was 'heh heh, like my Charlie Chaplin impression' before scuttling back under his desk. Anyway, keep the letters arriving — you can write to me at: Mangram's Mailbag, COMMODORE FORCE, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW. The more Guttery hate mail the better...

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| WORLD SOCCER | .2 |
| WWF | .3. |
| X TERMINATOR | .2 |
| ARCADE FRUIT MACHINE | 2 |

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Uglier than your average tipster, with more feeble gags than any episode of The **Benny Hill Show that** you care to mention... it's Proffesor Brian Strain! If it's a technical problem you've got, he's the guy to consult - or so he always tells us. What do all those little codes mean...



Dear Brian.

The sprites programme in Issue Eight didn't work. I get a data error in line 40.

Dean Fitzpatrick, (age 8), Dublin

Dear Prof.

Every time I try programming things just seem to go; wrong, even your sprites programme in Issue Eight won't work.

SR Kirk, Somewhere

Well, Dean aged eight and SR Kirk (are you related to James T?) there was a small prroblem with the program printed in Issue Eight. Line 40 should read as follows:

40 POKE VIC, 150: POKE VIC+1, 150: POKE

You should also bear in mind the following points when entering programs...

1) Make sure line numbers are entered with ZEROs and not LETTER Os. This applies to actual commands as well; POKE won't work if it's P ZERO K E

2) Don't miss out any punctuation.3) TYPE EVERYTHING IN! When you have a working version, save it to tape or disk, then change it!

4) Beware! Some programs contain strange symbols, the most common being a little 'hat' shape — this is actually the 'up-arrow' or 'exponenation' symbol found on the key to the right of the star on the keyboard.

Dear Prof.

I own a 1541-II disk drive and data-recorder. How do I transfer data from the cassette to the disk so that the disk contains everything on the tape? What I am asking is similar to you transferring the Reel Action cassettes onto disk

I would be very grateful if you can

Andrew Johnson, Bolton

Andrew's (may I call you Andy?) is one of a handful of letters asking the same thing - I think I'll kill several flying creatures with one smallish rock by only answering it once.

Our duplicators, Ablex, offer a tape-to-disk service. Send in the coupon from COMMODORE FORCE, and you'll get that month's Reel Action on disk. This is a valuable service, and one that disk drive owners should use. If you've got a disk drive, why not consider a disk subscription?

However, I WILL NOT TELL YOU HOW TO TRANSFER COMMERCIAL PROGRAMS FROM TAPE TO DISK! If you do this, you will be breaking copyright law as you are reproducing the material in another form. I apologise if yours is a genuine enquiry concerning a favourite game, but if you want the disk version, then buy it (always assuming there's one available).

Brian



Is the Star LC200 the best printer for my C64, amd will it work with the Advanced Art Studio and Mini Office 2?

Michael Maundrill, Selby

Deear Brian.

I have a Micro P Daisy Junior printer from Dixons arnd want to attach it to my C64. The connection on thre back is 36 pin (parallel). All I want it for is to write letters and print files concerning my hobbies. Anny information would be appreciated.

Clhris Odell, Oldham

Another pair of letters on the same topic? Or is; it just double-vision from drinking too much frrom the Scorelord's old drinks dispenser

(Vim's only 20p a cup you know.)? Anyway, eyes down and look in...

The Star LC200 comes with a Datel Centronics Printer Lead which will work with Mini Office 2 and Advanced Art Studio. This lead is available separately for £12.99.

Now, you could use this lead as well Chris, and Mini Office 2 would be perfect for you as it contains a wordprocessor and database for letters and information storage. Unfortunately I cannot give you any more information concerning the Micro P Daisy Junior (other than it's a daisy wheel printer). Try contacting CPC Ltd on 0772 555034 as they stock a lot of manuals.

Brian



C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

Don't let Steve Shields nail it to the ceiling. 'But

like it that way, he'll insist. 'You

can see right u

GUIDING LIGHT

All you would-be coders out there have no doubt been reading with interest the GAMES GURU column over the last few weeks. This month the Prof checks out a new book offering a more in-depth look at the art of programming.

or the last year my work has been sandwiched in a games review magazine - finally, I've decided to try my hand at reviewing. I've been sent the new GUIDE TO 6510 ASSEMBLER so let's start at the beginning .

MI.REZA claim that '..good programmers on the C64 seem to move onto more powerful computers. Pure aim is to replace them.' So, if you ever fancied writing a best-selling game, this book could be the first step.

In reality, your Commodore only understands machine code. The BASIC interpreter turns your BASIC programs into machine code. This means BASIC is slower. But why not write in machine code all the while? One reason is that machine code is not checked as it goes along; if you mistype a command, the computer will execute it and 'hang' or 'crash', meaning you'll have to start agaiin.

But what does this book teach you? First up is an introduction to hexadecimal, decimal and binary numbers - essential for dealing with mac:hine code. There is one other thing to learn - what machine code looks like.

To help you learn, an assembler/monitor is provided with the book; a very good idea that other book manufacturers should take note of. So once you've learned about the commands of data transfer, incrementing and decrementing values and how to run machine language from BASIC, check out the excellent sections on mathematics in machine code and the commands for 'branching' to another section of code and the 'flags' that help

The text is complemented by examples, diagrams, and tables, as well as a good set of appendices listing useful information. The style is clear and concise, unlike previous efforts I have seen which overload the reader with facts and figures. The comparisions with BASIC are also useful for the beginner. Congratulations to M REZA for producing a highly readable book and a valuable

If you want to find this book, don't look on the shelves of your local bookshop. Contact M REZA direct at 108 Warwick Rd, Birmingham B11 4QU. Enclose a SAE to receive more details, and mention that you saw it in COMMODORE FORCE! If you want a top quality assembler, try the 6510+ ASSEMBLER from HEX HEROES PD, 22 Woodend Lane, Stalybridge, Cheshire SK15 2SR. Send a blank 5.25" disk for a full catalogue.

One last thing; if there are any other companies out there who want their serious '64 products to be

COMMODOR

reviewed, send them to myself at the CF address. If you readers out there want help, or a review of any particular product, write in and we'll

organise it -

probably!

Another month, even more techie problems solved! Prove to my editor that this is your favourite part of the magazine and send me loads of letters

the serial port, fwoar!' Yeah,

Three ways NOT to treat

your Commodore 64

Also, do not allow the same **Steve Shields to** perform his famous handstand trick atop your C64 as squashing can result.



Never allow born again SNES-men near it. Here Miles valiantly protects our poor office 64 from the vicious turncoat Hayward — back you rotter!

A9 00 8D 20 D0 8D 21 D0 60 0 A piece of machine code, yesterday

It's very confusing isn't it? Therefore a system of mnemonics is used which helps us understand the commands. The above numbers actually mean:

- LDA #10
- STA \$D020 STA \$D021 0 RTS
- Amd for those who program in BASIC, here's a program that will achieve the same
 - 10 A=0
 - 20 POKE 53280,A
 - 30 POKE 53281,A
 - 40 END

Professor Brian Strain, Commodore Force, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW.

C-FORCE No.13 DECEaMBER 1993

Welcome one and all to the circle of enlightenment. Professor Brian Strain, fresh and rested from facility

Welcome one and all to the circle of enlightenment. Professor Brian Strain, fresh and rested from tackling all your previous technical problems, is once again here to tell YOU how to write games. I'll be starting this month with an in-depth look at characters, and also a little about how the memory of your Commodore 64 is organised — which is slightly better than the FORCE office!...

hen you switch on your Commodore 64 (or even your C128 in C64 mode), you'll see characters on screen — the built-in ROM character set. As discussed last month, this is split into 512 characters, 256 in uppercase/graphics mode and 256 in lower-case mode. But where is it? Even if you stare long and hard at the C64 Users' manual you won't find the answers. The ROM character set is stored in locations 53248 upwards.

But isn't that the same place we were POKEing to alter sprites? Yes, it is but the 64 knows that when you POKE or PEEK to those locations, you are altering the VIC chip (and also the SID chip, which handles sound). The ROM (Read Only Memory) character set is not affected.

To change the characters, you have to tell the computer to take its data for the character set from elsewhere. This is complicated by the fact that the C64's VIC chip can only look at 16K (that's a

quarter of the total memory). We need to tell it which of the four 'banks' of memory its information is stored in.

When you switch on, the computer is "looking" at bank 0 — the first 16k of memory. The screen is at locations 1024-2023, and the character data (2048 bytes of memory) is taken from locations 4096 and 6144 for upper and lower case respectively. This is an 'image' of the ROM character set that means you can always re-select it if things go wrong.

Take it from the top

We still can't alter the characters to make them look like we want to. The answer is to 'point' the computer to another section of memory by altering the 'video data pointer' which is in location 53272. This area can also alter the location in memory of the screen, but for now we'll leave the screen at 1024-2023, and tell the computer we want to place our new character data at locations 14336 to 16383. That gives us room for 256 characters.

Now, in many cases, we don't want to change every character, and having the existing characters would be helpful. So, the first job is to copy the ROM character set into RAM (Random Access memory) where we can PEEK and POKE new data whenever we

- 10 POKE 56334,PEEK(56334)AND254: REM INTERRUPTS OFF
- 20 POKE1,PEEK(1)AND251: REM CHARACTER ROM ON
- 30 FORI+0T02047:POKE14336+I,PEEK(53248 +I):NEXTI
- 40 POKE1, PEEK(1) OR4: REM ROM OFF
- 50 POKE56334, PEEK (56334) ORI: REM INTERRUPT ON

This short program copies the upper case set from ROM into RAM at location 14336. If you're using an Action Replay cartridge, you may notice a slight problem as it will interfere with the interrupts. Switch off, remove the cartridge and try again.

If you're very clever, you can alter the 53248 to 55296, and you will now copy the lower case set. Be careful when you type this program in as ANY mistake could cause serious problems (just turn off, leave it off a few seconds and turn back on).

Taking a peek...

So, you've listened to three pages of waffle over the last two months about characters? You've tried the programs and want to see a little more? The following program allows you to look at the ROM character set we've just copied by typing in a number between 0 and 255. It will then enlarge the character by a factor of 8, and show you the numbers you need to use in the final program to re-display it. I hope you all understood that...

REONE

= 16

= 32 + 8 = 40

= 64+4=68

= 64 + 32 + 16+8+4=124

= 64+4=68

= 64+4=68

= 0

Every character's made up of pixels, but what are pixels and where do they go when the TV's turned off? Sinister!

PRINTCHR\$(147) 10

INPUT"SCREEN CODE (A=1)";C 20

AD=C*8:AD+14336 30

FORI=0T07:M(I)=PEEK(AD+I):NEXT 40

FORJ=0T07:FORK=7T00STEP-1 510

IF(M(J)AND 2†K) THEN PRINT"*";:GOTO80 60

PRINT" 7'0

NEXTK:PRINT:NEXTJ 810

PRINT:PRINT"DATA ";C 90

PRINT"DATA

";:FORL=0T06:PRINTM(I)",";:NEXTL:PRINT

PRINT:PRINT"PRESS A KEY"

POKE198,0:WAIT198,1:POKE198,0

You MUST use the previous program before using this one. If you find a pattern you like, write down the nine items of DATA.

You're on your

So, you've copied the ROM character set aind you want to add your own characters? Here's a little program that can help. Its DATA lines hold a few characters to demonstrate the technique. However, notice the special

way the DATA is laid out. On the first line comes the screen code - 1 is A,26 is Z, numbers are 48 (for 0) to 57 (for 9). Check your user guide for the complete list.

The second line is the 8 bytes that make up the 8 rows of the character. You can take this DATA from the program under 'TAKING THE PEEK...' or last month's program from Tony Rowe (which gives you the 8 bytes of data on-screen as you change the bits).

If you're really desperate, you could use graph paper and draw yourself an 8 by 8 square, shade in the dots and use binary arithmetic to work out the 8 bytes. Label the 8 boxes (from left to right) 128. 64.32,16.8,4,2,1. If a box is shaded, add the corresponding number. Work in rows across the grid so you are left with eight numbers eg the first and eight boxes on a row are shaded. That's 128 + 1 = 29 for

However you get the DATA, use it with this program to put the characters into memory at 14336.

RESTORE

READ SC 20

IF SC=-1 THEN END 30

FOR T=0 TO 7 40

READ D 50

POKE 14336+(SC*8)+T,D 60

NEXTT 70

GOTO 20 80

DATA 1 1000

1010 DATA 0,16,40,68,124,68,68,0

1020 DATA 2

DATA 0,120,72,124,68,68,124,0 1030

DATA 3 1040

DATA 0,124,68,64,64,68,124,0 1050

DATA 4 1060

DATA 0,120,68,68,68,68,120,0 1070

If you RUN this program, it will alter the letters A.B.C and D (screen codes 1,2,3, and 4). If you use the POKEs seen below, the character set will change so you see your new letters. There will be very little difference because you copied the ROM characters first. Try listing the program and you should see that the letters A to D are slightly different. So you can now enter 256 lots of DATA and get your own character set...

Poke it is!

Now, you should remember my description of the 'video data pointer' in location 53272. This tells the computer to look at the right sections of memory to find the screen and character data. We can change this to look at one of eight 'blocks' of memory. Each block of memory is 2K long - the size of your character set! So, we can work out what to POKE into location 53272 like this:

N=address/2048

POKE 53272,(PEEK(532732)AND240)ORN

This statement looks so complicated because it's 'masking' the value in 53272. This means that computer will still look at 1024 to PEEK/POKE to the screen, but it will know where our new character set is. So, using location 14336, after running the previous three programs, we can see the new character set by typing:

> N=14336/2048 (N will now be set to 7) (N will now be set to 14) POKE53272,(PEEK(53272)AND 240)ORN

Voila! Our character

set is on-screen and we're a step closer to writing our own games!



PEEKing and **POKEing now,** y'hear? Bye for now.

There'll be more on using characters next month,

and also our first tentative steps into using bit-mapped graphics. Write to me at:

Professor Brian Strain COMMODORE FORCE, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW.

I look forward to your letters of confusion, bemusement and admiration!

C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

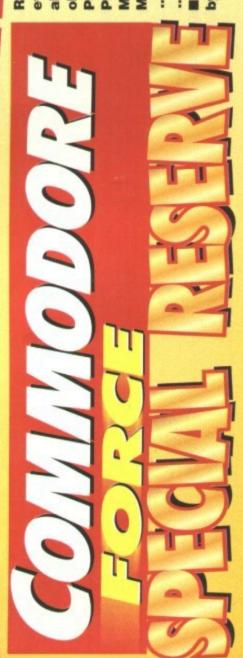
4 PET MONTH

Next month, COMMODORE FORCE go with supplying merely excellent co secured the rights to a game that is an incredi to write: ' and addictive game, and I've playe anything in years.' Another review the joystick long enough to enthuse fully deserves a place in any selfcollection.' The overall mark? A 'r before we forget — next month second greatest C64 game of a Christmas, after all...

COMMODORE FORCE, Issue 14 — or

s game crazy. Not content vertape software, we've spired a ZZAP! reviewer y challenging, compelling it more than I've played r tore himself away from '...a brilliant game, and especting games player's spectable' 96%. Oh, and we're giving away the I time. Well it will be

sale 16 December, 1993.



So the eighties came to a close and the C64 entered its second decade as one of the world's foremost leisure machines. Other events included the World Cup (birth of Gazzamania), and Will E

Other events included the World Cup (birth of Gazzamania), and Will Evans (reviewer on our sister mag — SNES FORCE) discovering the delights of black hair-

dye (birth of Kid Grunge). There were even a few games as well! MILES GUTTERY looks back... Poor old Op' T — An excellent but unreleased conversion.
Ocean's conversion of the all-blasting
Operation Thunderbolt was equally well-received, earning a whacking 92% but never

actually got released due to legal problems (or something). As it transpired a version of the game did eventually see the light of day, but it was far inferior and not worth bothering with. A big shame.

Not to be outdone, **Thalamus** pitched in with Retrograde — an outstanding scrolling shoot—'em-up featuring vertical and horizontal action as well as tunnel sections. Atmospheric, chunky graphics and mega-

frenetic play to deliver a highly polished blaster for all occasions.

Of course you have to take the good with the bad and **US Gold**'s disappointing conversion of

TIME: 494-03 SCORE: 003100

in good form with a classy conversion from US Gold. Ghouls 'n' Ghosts — sequel to the everpopular Ghosts 'n' Goblins — took the basic humour and runny/shooty gameplay of its predecessor, adding better graphics, a cool soundtrack and larger play area to explore. The way Arthur (the hero) lost his armour on first contact with a

he year 1990 kicked off

baddie, having to continue in his undies was always good for a laff — the gameplay arcade action at its simplistic, addictive best and as close to the original as you could wish for.

 US Gold set the pace for the year with a stylish sequel. Strider was BAD! Unnecessarily tight time limits and the omission of the huge guardians that added so much to the arcade machine (and other home computer variants for that matter) left gameplayers with a fairly large and graphically-pleasing but

SISOHO DISTRIBUTION OF RATING P22% AVAILABILITY

PUBLISHER
OCEAN
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
P22%
CF RATING
N/A
AVAILABILITY
O/10

PUBLISHER
THALAMUS
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED

944%
CF RATING
88%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

1100

PUBLISHER
US GOLD
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
42%
CF RATING
42%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
TYNESOFT
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
68%
CF RATING
AVAILABILITY
1/10

a :57

PUBLISHER
OCEAN
ORIGINAL
MAARK
RECEIVED
53%
CF RATING
38%
AVAILABILITY
3/10

munidane slash-'em-up. Speaking of disappointments, **US Gold** dropped another clanger with Michael Jackson's *Moonwalker*. After obtaining the license to the spectacular (or so I'm told)! film they turned what could have been an interresting theme into a boring plan-view maze effort. Later levels did vary a bit but playing through the liengthy and tedious first stage meant only the most persistent (or bored) players ever got to see them. Oh well...

February saw a belated *Beverly Hills Cop* tie-in but, five years on from the film, you could hardly say iit was worth the wait. Plenty of variety was provided by beat-'em-up, maze and 3D driving sequences but none had been given the necessary buffing to really bring out any sheen.

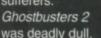


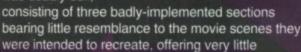
It looks a bitSpectrummy but it's not half as good.

From one let-down to another, **Taito**'s *Chase* HQ— one of my personal arcade faves — was done little justice by **Ocean**. Ported straight from the Spectrum (it was, incidently, pretty darned excellent on that machine), it ran slowly and jerked about in rather unpleasant fashion. Simply adding a splash of colour to the main sprite was never going to save such a mediocre racer and reviews of the time were quick to point this out.

Busted!

Activision's first outing of the year was another of the 'license without a game' syndrome sufferers.





Mindscape pulled their master stroke. Space Rogue took the trading and dogfighting of Elite and incorporated it into a complex RPGish adventure with heaps of sub-plots and missions to tackle. All wrapped up with smashing presentation it gained 97% and Stuart Wynne (then ZZAP! Ed) commented '...the best space game for any machine'. And the price for so much content — it was disk only, rats.

Space Rogue took the best bits

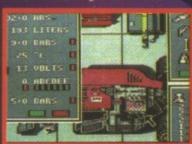
challenge to boot. In a day-saving manoeuvre,



Rogue took the best bits of Elite and made them better with more depth and character imteraction.

Activision continued their uninspired start to World Cup year with Fighter Bomber. Packed with nifty static screens and state-of-the-art filled polygon 3D, this flight sim offered zero playability. Once you'd tired of the impressive outside views the endless flying across barren landscapes towards a distant target that never seemed to get any closer soon had players reaching for the 'off' switch.

More commendable was 4th Dimension, which was not one game but four — **Hewson** rounded up some of the biggest names in C64 programming, including Graftgold (of Paradroid fame), Sensible Software, as well as a couple of unknown layabouts named John and Steve Rowland calling themselves Apex — I wonder whatever happened to them! The result was a pack of top-quality original games for the cost of a single full price release. Credit to **Hewson**, sadly no longer with us, for having the guts to do something a bit different.



Ferrari
Formula One
thundered out of
the Electronic
Arts pit lane
leaving reviewers
and players alike
gasping in its
exhaust fumes.

Converted from a ground-breaking Amiga game, FF1 didn't only allow you to race but to play about with all the mechanics and aerodynamics of a modern racing car with wind tunnel tests etc, and then take it out on an accurately-modelled representation of Ferrari's own test track to assess your modifications. When happy, a full 16 race Grand Prix season awaited with the ultimate aim of winning the driver championship. Convincing 3D and many well-presented options make this an experience no to be missed — if you can lay your hands on a copy, that

Of the 'blindingly simple yet devilishly addictive' posse, *Pipemania* made its appearance — a game that managed to achieve all the compulsion of the best

puzzlers without the normally attribute frustration factor. Somehow that 'nuvver go' feeling always ousted the temptation to say 'b*****r this' and chuck your telly out of the window. Fitting together different shaped bits of piping may not sound much cop, but you've not lived 'til you try it.

As summer dawned, the month of May yielded an inspired crop of games. Full price new releases averaged an incredible 88% in ZZAP!. The neolegendary *Turrican* came out top of the heap with 97% due to its array of weapons, speedy eight-way scrolling, snazzy graphics and absolutely *huge* play-field. An epic shoot-'em-up cum adventure in every sense of the word, *Turrican* has found its way into most software collections and rightly so—it's number 11 in the readers all-time top 100 this very month.

Equally impressive but rather different in approach was Castle Master. Using an improved graphics system you could view huge, solid 3D objects from an infinite number of angles with the whole thing running far quicker and smoother than previous Freescape outings. It remains to this day the finest Freescape game on the 64 and, though the find/use object nature of the puzzle-inspired play isn't everyone's pickled egg, it remains a milestone in software development.

Chuckles galore came with Fiendish Freddy's Big Top 'O' Fun in which you performed a series of comical circus acts and were then rated on your performance in each by a panel of barking mad

judges. When the laughs ran out however, there wasn't all that much to it — just another multieventer a la *The Games* series — and hefty multiload, even on disk, tended to break up the flow of play.



PUBLISHER
ACTIVISION
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
63%
CF RATING
30%
AVAILABILITY
2/10



PUBLISHER
E.A.
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
95%
CF RATING
95%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
EMPIRE
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED

94%
CF RATING
90%
AVAILABILITY
5/10

PUBLISHER
DOMARK
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
93%
CF RATING
85%
AVAILABILITY
2 / 10

PUBLISHER
MINDSCAPE
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED

89%
CF RATING
70%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

38



 Italia '90 was a dire footy farce consigned to the doldrums of delapedated crud.

Penalty!

And so, with the World Cup hoving rapidly into view, everyone braced themselves for the inevitable influx of footy games. The official license, World Cup: Italia '90 from Virgin, was pretty dire. Hardly remaining faithful to the game (each team only had six players for crying out loud) it didn't even feature a world cup tournament, just a knockout competition and unplayable game sequence. No amount of badges, T-shirts and World Cup paraphernalia included in the package could justify such twoddle. US Gold's Italy 1990 faired a little better. It wasn't up to Microprose Soccer standards but offered a fun, if limited kickabout. It would however have seemed far more at home on a budget label. Adidas Championship Football was Ocean's contribution to the occasion. It was different in that the ball didn't stick to your feet; instead, dribbling was done by tapping it in front of your player - more realistic, yes, but



• Italy 1990 was way superior to the official World Cup license but don't take that as a reccomendation.

impossible controls killed what could have been a neat game. Add to this the inability to play a two-player friendly (you could only play head-to-head if two human players were drawn against each other in the cup competition provided) and you're left with a big no-no. No wonder Gazza was crying!



 Adidas was the third big football rlease of the summer and kept up the trend of feebleness.

Taking the *Tetris* theme and elaborating on it was *Klax*. The screen was comprised of a 3D conveyor belt at the top upon which different coloured tiles rolled towards you. The aim was to catch them on a paddle as they reached the end and drop them to form lines, columns or crosses at which point they'd disappear. A fun game that added a new lease of life to a tired gamestyle.



Around the same time came Activision's attempt to convert Galaxy Force — a coin-op owing more to stunning graphics and speed than fun or original gameplay. It was a worthy attempt but its shallow and boring nature was thrown into sharp relief when stripped of the arcade machine's frills. Altogether more worthwhile



Time
 Machine
 a
 dream for any
 budding
 Dr Whos out there.

from the same company was *Time Machine* — a novel arcade adventure in which you had to travel through different periods of time doing this and that to alter the course of history. It was fun travelling into the past, completing tasks than going into the future to view the results of your actions. Another time traveller, but far less enjoyable was *Back To The Future Part II*. Its mixture of dull sub-games failed to capture



Marty McFly's time jumping adventures could have made a great game — they didn't.

the spirit of its cinematic inspiration and instead presented us with a turgid outing to be quickly forgotten. Then came Flimbo's Quest...



 Galaxy Force was superfast fun in the arcades. The C64 version had the speed but lacked the other.

PUBLISHER
RAINBOW ARTS
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
97%
CF RATING
94%
AVAILABILITY
6/10

PUBLISHER
RAINBIRD
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
649%
CF RATING
80%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
US GOLD
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
66%
CF RATING
53%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
VIRGIN
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
42%
CF RATING
20%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

Klax —

Tetris in

up your

3D? Make

own mind.

PUBLISHER
OCEAN
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
37%
CF RATING
37%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
DOMARK
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED

92%
CF RATING

82%
AVAILABILITY
1/10



narrow sections often left more to luck than anything else) a bit limited. Sure the tracks were attractive and truck animation very good but, well, everyone to their own I suppose.

Spam, spam, spam

And now for something completely different (soz folks, I couldn't resist it)! Virgin acquired the license to produce a computer game based on the



and a good, atmospheric soundtrack Golden Axe was (and most definately still is) totally without any kind of playability. One wonders what those old

ZZAPlers were on!

Another game showered with praise but, fortunately, rather more deserving was Lords Of Chaos from Julian 'Laser Squad' Gollop. He took the basic LS game design and incorporated it into a sword and sorcery saga with a number of wizards battling for control of a

mysterious

Though I personally preferred the gun-toting 'Aliens' inspired predecessor for storyline, the new game provided a massive challenge and novel new angle



• Good old Flimbo, just look at that parallax, or you could if this was a telly instead of a screenshot!

This hugely enjoyable cutesy-pie was to my mind somewhat underrated with the 80% it received from the ZZAP! team. Certainly the actual gameplay was pretty simple and varied little throughout but brilliant graphics and perfectly complemented tunes added oodles to the atmosphere.



• Iron Man's Supersprint update left more to luck than judgement.

From the sickly sweet of Flimbo to the excitement of monster truck racing, Ivan 'Iron Man' Stewart's Super Off Road was a heartily applauded update of the classic single-screen Supersprint-style race game. For my part I'm not overly sure why everyone raved so much as I always felt the repetitive and, at times, semi-uncontrollable action (four trucks jostling and bumping to get through

Jokes were conspicuously absent, as was playability.

8

Monty Python series, of all things. Ignoring John Cleese, Michael Palin and the others, the game was based around Terry Gilliam's abstract animations that appeared intermittently during the shows. Unfortunately all it boiled down to was a basic shooter with your character zapping various Gilliamesque oddities with tins of spam.

Visuals aside the game had little to do with the show and not much going for it otherwise.

November spawned perhaps the most overrated game in ZZAP! history. Golden Axe romped home with a rollocking 96%, the reviewers waffling on about '... great beat-'em-up action' and '... masses of moves' — is this the same game I've just been playing? I've just got to level four (there's five in all) using one move continuously. Despite reasonable graphics

96% — are you jesting.
 Knock off about 30 and you'll get a better idea of what Golden Axe offers.



PUBLISHER
ACTIVISION
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
93%
CF RATING
90%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

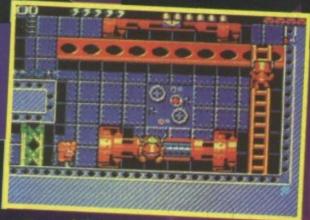
PUBLISHER
IMAGEWORKS
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
59%
CF RATING
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
SYSTEM 3
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
80%
CF RATING
89%
AVAILABILITY
3/10

PUBLISHER VIRGIN
ORIGINAL MARK RECEIVED
85%
CF RATING
65%
AVAILABILITY
3/10

PUBLISHER
VIRGIN
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
47%
CF RATING
47%
AVAILABILITY
1/10

PUBLISHER
BLADE
ORIGINAL
MARK
RECEIVED
91%
CF RATING
96%
AVAILABILITY



More of the same from Rick D — just as good as before, but tougher.

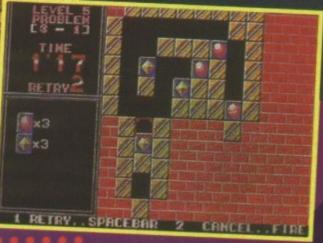
One familiar face made a welcome return towards the end of the year. The ever-intrepid Rick Dangerous returned in the sequel to, um, Rick Dangerous, called, double um. Rick Dangerous 2. Similar in design to Rick 1, the sequel had improved graphics and far tougher gameplay while retaining the humour and addictivity that made the original such a hit. The definitive platform/puzzle/adventure involving rough 'n' tumble explorer type in a hat/reaction game.

enamoured with it but playing it of late has gone some way to changing my mind. Graphics are well decent throughout the nine big levels and there's never a shortage of baddies, big and small, to waste. It's essential arcade action all the way. Equally well received was SCI - follow up to the immensely disappointing Chase HQ. Its cartridgeonly format was a brave and rewarding move by the producers, allowing nice inter-level presentation screens and speedy action without the hassle of pesky tape loading. Graphically impressive and atmospheric FX made it a truly worthy license though it would later be surpassed by the outstanding Outrun Europa.



Chase HQ's sequel was thankfully far superior to the Spec-port earlier that year.

In a rather different vein came Puzznic. A blend of logic and forward thinking made this a prince amongst puzzle games — sexy graphics and jingles simply providing icing on the cake. Spondicious! The big 'O's other effort - another puzzle outing - was rather less to write home about.





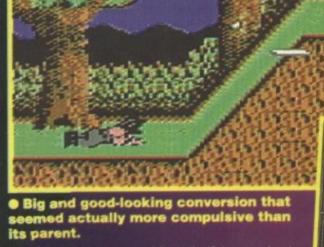
Sadly for Plotting, its arrival coincided with the far superior Puzznic. Plotting's decent graphics were from the mould of

Puzznic, unfortunately, the gameplay was not. Fun at first, the all-too-shallow 'matching the symbols' play lacked the compulsion and, as a result, the appeal of its big brother

After a long delay the C64 incarnation of Hard Drivin' spluttered and stalled into the shops aboard two compilations . It never actually got a standalone release and only seconds were needed to see why. The arcade sensation had been reduced to an uncontrolable, slow, jerky drive in which large, freescapey buildings staggered by with all the conviction of a blind carrot. Zzap! generously awarded 20%, but only through pity, I'm sure

One other little game snuck out in time for the Christmas rush. You may or may not have heard of it but it's a conclusive number one in this month's Reader's Top 100. Interested? Then turn to page 22 and be enlightened...

Phew! So there's the year 1990 in a nutshell well, five pages anyway. Good old '91 goes under the microscope next month and, blimey! We'll nearly have caught up with ourselves. Then what? A feature on what we think'll happen in 1996? Yeah, or no, in fact! Oh well, see ya...



As Christmas emerged from the future and sat itself firmly upon us, Ocean, who'd been uncharacteristicaly quiet over the year, leapt into life with three crackers. Midnight Resistance was converted from a playable arcade machine of the same name and really looked and played the part. Strangely I've never personally been over-

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PUBLISHER THALAMUS ORIGINAL

PUBLISHER DOMARK ORIGINAL

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 Once upon a time, air just combat wasn't dangerous - it was totally, totally dangerous. Flying around while other pilots pump lead into your plane... it'd be a bum way to spend an afternoon. These days, pilots can jump into a plane and pick off their opponents from a safe distance, and if they fancy dare-devil manoeuvres, they can go rent the Top Gun video. Personally, I wouldn't touch a plane with a barge-pole - for a start I don't possess such an object, and secondly I've no fetish for poking aircraft from a distance - but seriously, Stealth Fighter's not at all bad. I'm not a great flight sim fan, but I reckon this ranks just below Gunship which, in my books, makes it a very accomplished sim indeed...

After suffering the indignity of a few training flights 2nd Lieutenant Miles did return to active duty somewhat more aware of his own frailties.

Quietly does it...

A great variety of missions are available, from photo-reconnaisance to bombing ground targets or intercepting enemy aircraft. Successful completion of assignments leads to promotions and decorations. On your safe return you're given a mission score as well as a 'stealth rating'. This comes in percentage form and is supposed to give an idea of how well you utilised the aircraft's stealth capabilities, these being most effective at altitude with low throttle and all external weapon bays closed to minimise radar-visible surface

area. Stealth is used to get within sight of the target, but attempting a bombing

run at 35 thousand feet would be hopelessly inaccurate. Once in range there's no choice but to get low and practice some good,

old-fashioned seat-of-yourpants flying. If you get it right and hit your target on the first run, you can climb back to stealth altitude, leaving the enemy wondering what hit 'em.

Miss, and your only option is to come around for a second pass - however, the bad guys'll be ready this time...

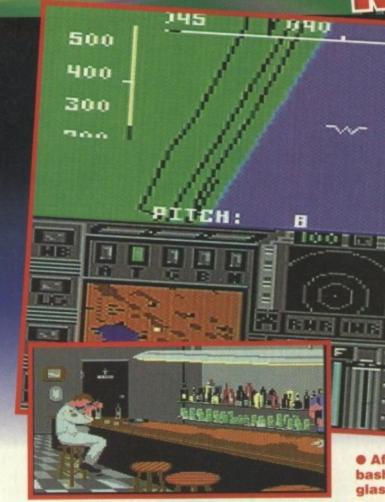
at first

some

tape

controls and large number of options, Stealth Fighter is shin-

500 Despite the innumerable keyboard 400 300 PITCH: DE LE SE Mission



diggingly easy to get into. Training missions get you started, and simple flight manoeuvres are easily mastered, with responsive controls. To get the most from a game like this you really need to play it quite extensively - gain experience and figure out your own tactics.

Un-flight simmy animals won't find the rather sparse wireframe graphics too inspiring, but those who've acquired the taste will find they serve their purpose in a satisfactory if workmanlike manner. After all, should a true simulation not rise above the need for pretty graphics? It's the depth that counts with these things, not cosmetic frills.

Originally a disk-only release, PSF was applauded loudly at the time and a regal nature still surrounds its name to this day. Playing the re-release on cassette may be off-putting at first, due to some hefty tape accessing. Until you get to grips with it there's a lot of untimely deaths; however, once you start getting competent the range and attention to detail on missions puts a little tape-hassle into perspective. Perseverance is the key but if you're sure true simulations aren't After a hard days commiebashing there's nothing like a nice, cold glass of lemonade to cheer you up (hic!).

AMEAAN

HARN

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your thing, then I'd advise you steer clear. It's the most realistic, detailed and playable game of its genre available for the C64, and will give many hours of enjoyment simply mastering the potential, and then...

135

ROLL:-106

BK

78

6K

GOOD TRAINING FACILITY TO GET YOU STARTED

A BIT BLAND BUT YOU HARDLY NOTICE

GOOD ENGINE START-UP EFFECT

EASY TO GET INTO BUT MULTILOAD MAY ANNOY AT FIRST

A VARIETY OF MISSIONS - SCOPE FOR EXPERIMENTATION

C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

44 REVIEWS

MENT 8

0 Prism, £19.99

Twenty games in one pack? Bargain or what? It's not as if the games are going to be old and dodgy titles previously

released by software houses to little critical acclaim, is it? JAMES 'NO, NO, NOT A COMPILATION REVIEW' PRICE reveals all...

spects of a Prism compilation:

1) Battletech. While undeniably an above-average RPG, it's time-consuming to play and — if you're reviewing it — write about. It also has an abundance of 'texty' bits with dialogue so tacky and cliched anyone with the slightest creative spark will cringe from start to finish. Its strange semi-3D perspective is all very fine and well, but when things are portrayed as being above the ground — to be a little clearer, something such as an arch — I expect to be able to walk under them. I'm also not a great fan of relentless disk access, especially when the purpose of it is to boot up the aforementioned text. As a whole, Battletech isn't bad, just flawed —

but there's a lot in it, and according to an individual in the office next to us, it's something of a classic once you've mastered it. Yeah, right.

2) Insipid shoot-'em-ups. The first of these is **Vengence**, a blaster so poor that any Alf Yngve **SEUCK** game you care to mention positively stamps on its mediocre (and metaphorical) head. **Mega Phoenix** too, despite its serviceable graphics and Maniacs of Noise soundtrack, is a sad offering. A conversion — I'm not sure if it's official or not — of the ancient coin-op, I can't see any attraction other than, okay, older gamesplayers might feel a bit nostalgic. I expect more than a **Space Invaders** variant these days.

Speaking of which, the ex-Logotron game **Starray** is rather reminiscent of *Defender*. The downer is, despite the sound concept, it's not half as good as it could've been. Get the similar but much more playable *Insects in Space* instead.

Whereas Vengence is of a lower quality than your average SEUCK game. Hades Nebula looks like

one — and a poor effort at that. Flickery graphics, dull use of colour and uninspired gameplay all combine to make it a game to play for five minutes before resetting.

VOLUME TWO

TWENTY SCI-FI GAM

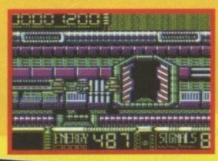
3) Obscure platform shoot-'em-ups. Future Knight fits this bill and, although it has its moments shows its age. Oh, and the many baddies that appear are largely unintelligent, particularly irritating and badly defined - I mean, balloons and ghosts in a sci-fi scenario? And what the hell is I. Alien supposed to be? At first glance it looks like a Xenomorph-type game, but with closer examination its lack of gameplay and failure to inspire excitement of any kind results in a confident leap towards the C64's on/off switch. Much better (but still lacking) is Denton Design's Eye of Horus. I've always been a fan of the Denton's creations — this month's Rave Review, World Class Rugby is one of theirs - but Eye just isn't gripping in the slightest. I can appreciate their attempt to make it different to the norm by researching the Egyptian Mythos on which it's based, and the graphics aren't bad either, but it falls way short of the mark in my opinion



Time Fighter: No! No! No!



My, what pretty colours!



Starray: lacking.



Space Aca





 A weird joystick waggling game. Space Academy is, in essence, Combat School without the charm, well-defined graphics or any other redeeming feature - of which, games of this genre have few - you care to mention. The lack of serviceable instructions in Prism's manual doesn't help either; having to guess what each section requires by trial

and error... ugh

y: cack.

5) Games that have received over 80% in previous reviews - all three of them. Technically the best game on the compilation, having been awarded 93% in its ZZAP! review, Cosmic Causeway is a disappointment. Despite its fast and technically superb graphics, it's an infuriating and unrewarding game, more a basic reflex test than essential arcade outing. Then there's Slayer, an old Hewson game I've not heard of until now and, quite frankly, it's not hard to see why. If I had to liken it to anything, I'd say it owes more than a passing nod to the

classic Zynaps, possibly even Armalyte, but without those essential ingredients that make shoot-'em-ups stand out from the crowd. Slayer looks and sounds well enough, but as they say, beauty's only skin deep. Steel, similarly, scores highly on cosmetics, but really - it's no game.

6) Time Fighter. It's utterly, utterly crap. I can't bring myself to write anything else about it. Now if Miles wrote that, I'd probably write loads of 'You're Fired — Ed' comments after it, or pass the text back to him and ask him to explain why the game's so bad, but with Time Fighter I could almost excuse anything. If you meet the programmers, tell them I said that, okay? Metaplex's coder deserves to lose pocket money for a week too - of all the games he (or, albeit highly unlikely, she) could have ripped off, why Nonteraquous? Amazingly, another game in this pack plays and looks similar, but owes more to Ocean's NOMAD than anything else. Still, it's nothing impressive, though mapping fans might go a bundle over it.

> 7) A game that allows you to blow up scenery. Lifeforce isn't particularly impressive, but almost every wall is

scarred in some way if shot. Attention to detail like that deserves praise; it's a shame Lifeforce's gameplay's not up to much, though

8) A loading problem. This review is being written just before our final deadline, and our copy of Jetboys won't work. ZZAP! 'awarded' it 52%, so I figure I'm not missing much..

9) Three ex-covertape games - Dark Fusion, Artura and H.A.T.E. — of which, Dark Fusion is undoubtedly the

So there you have it. Box Twenty: Sci Fi is — in my opinion — a collection of mostly old and consistently third-rate consider each title costs a mere £1, does its quantity and inexpensiveness

make it a bargain? Well / wouldn't buy it.

Jetboys: no comment.



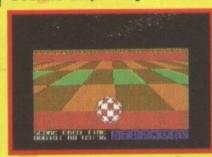




Artura: forever dodgy.



Cosmic Causeway: Hmmm.



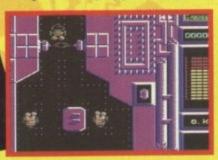
Eye of Horus: eh?



H.A.T.E.: aptly named.



Purple Haze, apparently



Megapheonix: How old?



Battletech: okay, sort of.



Dark Fusion: the best.



Future Knight: dated.



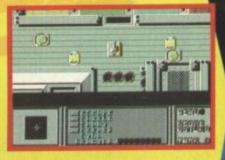
Hades Nebula: SEUCK off.



I Alien: oh dear.



Look at all those craters!



After a month of intensive programming, Escape from Arth and City Bomber are nearing completion. And contrary to popular opinion, it is all work work work — or so JOHN 'EASY LIFE' WELLS reckons...

've been extremely busy this month — what with Easy Lives, Breakthrough and this diary. Not forgetting Escape From Arth and City Bomber — that's why I'm writing this, isn't it? It's a classic case of having too much to do, but I'm getting there! Oh, if you've been wondering what's happened to Breakthrough, then don't panic — it's been delayed slightly. This is because of some new additional design that will make it more different than your usual blast.

If you remember, last month I completed Arth's background editor and enemy routines. This month I'm adding and improving the graphics, sprites and enemy attack waves — plus inserting the music and sound effects, amongst other things, to both games along with City Bomber's landscape editor...

While working on Arth's random enemy generator I came up with a new idea — why not include an option on the title screen to select either random or set enemies? This would make the game slightly easier on the set enemies. because they would always re-appear. Other parts I decided to randomise were the position of each ammo pod and the actual enemy sprite graphics — including the skyline. This makes the game more interesting as each time you start a new game something will always be changed. I'll also use this technique on the end sequence — every time the game is completed, something different will always happen; with this, perhaps

people will want to complete it again and again...

To progress in *Arth* you must search around the planet and find the beam switches — at this point you can turn a beam off by moving over the switch. This opens up a whole new system of locations in which you must find a new switch etc. There's a time limit in which you must escape (this is optional) and the energy bars for your lives and firepower are now in working order. A problem I came across while playtesting were the entrances. These can either be forwards or backwards and the gamesplayer could get confused; so to solve this, I've included various arrow pointers above each entrance.

The original graphics look a bit drab, so I've decided it's time for an overhaul. The skyline needs to be more effective — with the randomise feature in mind I came up with three different styles. The first is large mountains which fade into the black background, a forest-style skyline and finally a proper city skyline — which I think is the best of the three.

I've also updated the background graphics with new pipes, trees, buildings etc. To give the trees a bit more detail I made circles of light, this looks much better than the plain green colour. I've also used the RCM (Raster Colour Mix) technique on the buildings and other various parts in the game. More sprite graphics have been drawn, these will be used for the random feature and will be transferred to the existing frame areas. There are 16 different main enemies all together, with four large end of game baddies.

The music (which Paul has composed for *Arth*) has now been finished and is quite atmospheric—this includes title, high-score, in-game, end sequence and various other tunes. The in-game tune is fast, spacey and up-beat, suiting the game very well. I've got the sound effects sorted and these work well with the filter, but problems arise when they're played on the C64C. However, I've included a special option that allows you to alter

the sounds to

suit your machine.

The main part of the game is now complete—but high-score tables for each player need to be installed, along with extra presentation and the random end sequences. Other small pieces of code will be programmed: for example, a colour toggle mode to change multicolour backdrops or sprites and volume controls will be enabled. Although these won't add to the playability of *Arth*, they'll mean the game has more features—in my opinion, this adds a little something special.

And the City Bomber work? The first thing I had to write before continuing any further game design was the landscape editor. This had to be totally compatible with the object editor, so a new set of special pointers had to be made. These would need to be stored and read by both editors. From this point, the landscape editor began to take shape. It took a couple of days to finish, and it works in a similar way to Arth's screen editor. You can toggle through the main objects and store them in a 16x255 char window - which holds the main chars and colours. Each object is then also stored in a three pointer memory bank, for vertical and horizontal positions plus the object number. A plot routine needs to be

programmed next, to store

the level back into the main landscape window. The amount of memory saved for each level is huge — it's taken up less than I ever expected — so I'm quite pleased with it. Now I can start putting things together — the main crafts slowly loses height, so if you come into contact with any buildings you'll lose a

life. When this happens another craft appears at

the top and the whole process starts again. I'm using this





















in a world exclusive I can now reveal that **James Price is** none other than... MOOMINTROLL it's true! I'd suspected all was not as it seems with old Jimbo for a while, but in

the absence of irrefutable proof I was forced to hold my tongue, until now. That pale complexion first aroused my curiosity and immediately I understood his strange affinity for baggy, untucked T-shirts — could it be to cover a rotund, Moomin-like belly? In a controlled reactionary experiment I mentioned in passing that I'd just happened to see the Sand Lion about. Visibly alarmed, the

relaxed **Editor did** scuttle away, glancing back over his shoulder and has since been cowering behind the desk of our erstwhile stable-mate Steve Shields. That's when he made his final mistake. In an attempt to cheer himself up he began to sing a little song - 'All small creatures should wear bows in their tails' he chirruped! With the final piece of the puzzle in place I believe it my duty

normally

f you want to go ghost busting without going ghost bust, try entering your name as ANDY with the account number 777 for enough cash to buy a very large amount of equipment indeed. The only problem with this cheat is that it doesn't allow to complete the game properly - but it's worth a



t seems many of you had problems with line 3 of Issue 11's Ocean games had Well, with a bit of ingenuity (and a word with Brian Strain) I've managed to sor out - replace line three with:



3FOR X=384 TO 411 : READ Y C=C+Y: POKE X,Y: NEXT 4IF C<>2740 THEN PRINT "DAT ERROR": END

You'll have to re-number the subsequent lines (four becomes five, five becomes six etc)

ause the game (RUN/STOP) then type the appropriate password from the following list to skip that level.

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3 Level 4

Level 5

Level 6 Level 7

Level 8

MY NUTS ARE FROZEN OH MY SORE BUM **BLOODY BEARS YUK SARDINES** JDF RULES **BART WAS HERE** HI HOMER

SOD IT

to report these sinister

make of them what

findings -

you will.

ome people do find this Ocean/Hit Squad spectacular a bit difficult — but no more...

- POKE X=380 TO 446 : READ Y : C=C+Y : POKE X,Y : NEXT
- IF C<>7656 THEN PRINT "DATA ERROR" : END POKE 157, 128 : PRINT CHR\$ (147) : SYS 380
- DATA 032, 086, 245, 169, 032, 141, 084, 003, 169, 146, 141
- DATA 085, 003, 169, 001, 141, 086, 003, 096, 023, 001, 026
- DATA 072, 169, 000, 141, 253, 019, 141, 215, 019, 169, 234 DATA 141, 228, 181, 141, 229, 181, 141, 230, 181, 169, 173
- DATA 142, 060, 040, 169, 087, 141, 096, 010, 169, 165, 141 DATA 097, 010, 169, 090, 141, 098, 010, 104, 173, 032, 208 DATA 096

- END







t's been a month of discovery for sure. After the revelation of James' true identity it turns out that Doctor Who lives in Leicester and goes by the name of Chris Wharton, and his TARDIS is not a phone box at all, but a small envelope. The envelope in question plopped through the door with the barest hint of a sound but when opened yielded a mass of tips the proportions of which I had not believed possible. So Chris, for your time travelling exploits you're this months winner. Strange how there were no cheats for Dalek Attack,

lug the joystick into port one and move it around in circles for several rotations, then press fire a few times. Now plug back into port two and press SPACE to skip levels



rouble with T'yunguns? Don't get into a fizzy — these passwords'll see you get a little further.

Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 Level 7 Level 8 Level 9 Level 10 **RDNUHCCMGU EDOUTIOCKO HDPFUVLCCM ODQMFUVLIC** MEBHETPIAG **LECGODTRHK NEDGFLDVRL** OEFVHAGHLY PEGTTHIGLD



remember playing this loads on the Spectrum — a bit easy if I may say so. On the the other hand the C64 version's different heap of compost. Here's a plateful of time and energy.

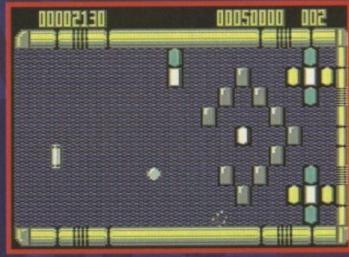
- FOR X=368 TO 438 : READ Y : C=C+Y : POKE X,Y : NEXT
- IF C=8571 THEN POKE 157, 128: SYS 368
- PRINT "DATA ERROR"

 DATA 32, 86, 245, 169, 32, 141, 84, 3, 169, 134, 141, 85, 3, 169
- DATA 1, 141, 86, 3, 96, 72, 77, 80, 72, 169, 96, 141, 147, 172
- DATA 141, 104, 173, 169, 32, 141, 38, 247, 169, 163, 141, 39, 24, 7, 169
- DATA 1, 141, 40, 247, 104, 173, 32, 208, 96, 72, 169, 96, 141, 36 DATA 117, 141, 147, 168, 169, 173, 141, 125, 176, 141, 236, 167, 76, 158, 1

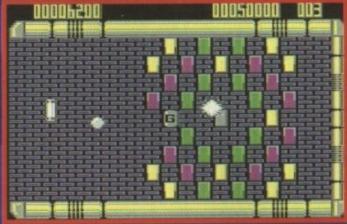
athew Gibbons from Grimsby reckons he's a bit smart having worked out these AR pokes, and guess what - I

| and the ringitt de right. | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Barbarian 2 | POKE 35441, 165 | |
| | POKE 37742, 165 | Lives |
| ■ Defenders Of The Eart | hPOKE 7280, 173 | |
| | POKE 15972, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Rainbow Islands | POKE 29508, 189 | Lives |
| ■ Creatures | POKE 15596, 60 | No collis |
| | POKE 15596, 13 | Collision |
| | POKE 7328, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Bubble Bobble | POKE 1240, 189 | Lives |
| ■ Batman — The Movie | POKE 4866, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Stormlord 2 — Deliverance | POKE 42339, 173 | Lives |
| Strider 2 | POKE 33762, 165 | Lives |
| ESWAT | POKE 6156, 173 | Lives P1 |
| | POKE 6132, 173 | Lives P2 |
| ■ Exolon | POKE 7427, 173 | Lives |
| | POKE 5650, 173 | Grenade |
| License To Kill | POKE 8448, 173 | |
| | POKE 11565, 173 | |
| | POKE 14730, 173 | |
| | POKE 15185, 173 | |
| | POKE 33056, 173 | |
| | POKE 63142, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Elvira | POKE 2195, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Bombuzal | POKE 5490, 173 | Lives |
| ■ Sanxion | POKE 14142, 173 | Lives |
| Roadrunner | POKE 43241, 165 | Lives |
| ■ Ghostbusters 2 | POKE 2261, 173 | Lives |
| Chase HQ | POKE 36702, 173 | Turbos |
| | POKE 61247, 0 | Time |
| ■ Gremlins 2 | 4237, 173 | Lives |
| | | |

ions s on



obert Smith of Hyndland, Glasgow has this incredibly simple infy lives cheat for Issue Seven's Breakout game. All you need to do to get lives in innumerable numbers is enter your name as 'C' on the high score table.



he game the word 'tricky' was invented for. This list should put the smile back on Gomez's face

REM ADDAMS FAMILY CHEAT

FOR X=271 TO 327 : READ Y: C=C+Y : POKE X,Y : NEXT IF C<>5919 THEN PRINT "Data Error" : END

INPUT "INFY LIVES Y/N"; AS: IF AS="N" THEN POKE 314, 206

INPUT "INFY CREDITS Y/N"; B\$: IF B\$="N" THEN POKE 319, 206

POKE 157, 128 : PRINT CHR\$ (147) : SYS 271 DATA 32, 86, 245, 169, 32, 141, 84, 3

DATA 169, 1, 141, 86, 3, 96, 87, 65

DATA 90, 72, 169, 32, 141, 121, 5, 169

DATA 53, 141, 122, 5, 169, 1, 141, 123

DATA 5, 104, 173, 32, 208, 96, 72, 238 DATA 32, 208, 169, 173, 141, 1, 49, 169

DATA 173, 141, 83, 45, 104, 173, 32, 208

DATA 96

If you're still having probs then here's a complete solution. Just add water and stir 'til the mixture reaches a similar consistency to boiled blu-tac... or something.

In door, left (bottom of screen), in door, left, left, get key, right, in door, right, left (top of screen), left, in door, right, right, get key, left, left, in door, right, in door (bottom of screen), left, left, left, in door, get key, in door, right, in door (top of screen), left, rescue Pugsley, right, in door, right, right, down, right, in door (bottom of screen), right, right, in door, right, rescue Lurch, left, in door, left, in door, left, in door — level complete.

Carts at the ready... and... RESET!

Golden Axe

C-FORCE No.13 DECEMBER 1993

POKE 8524, 173

POKE 13158, 173

NB The Golden Axe pokes

must be re-entered on each level.

Lives

the title sequence. Now, during the game,

wen Kelly from Cork sent in a rather excellent technicolour solution to this isometric oriental offering but, due to lack of space, I've been unable to squeeze it in. However, here are his cartridge pokes for each level. The first poke is for lives, the second for

Level 5POKE 35771, 173
POKE 44707, 173

Level 6 POKE 36879, 173

POKE 45788, 173

POKE 34444, 173 POKE 43049, 173

Level 7

Level 1 POKE 37456, 173 POKE 46594, 173

Level 2 POKE 36690, 173

POKE 45218, 173

Level 3

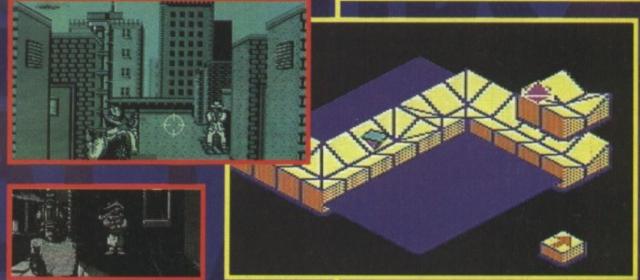
POKE 31852, 173 POKE 40153, 173

Level 4POKE 35481, 173
POKE 44925, 173

Thanks muchly Owen — you're well 'n' truly in

ow this is what I call a varied multi-section

you can press F5 for more time, F7 for an movie tie-in of high quality energy top up or the left arrow key while Type TECHNIQUE during paused to skip levels.



Right, left (top of screen), in door, right, in door, left, in door, right, right, down, in door, left, down, right, right, right, in door, right, right, in door, right, in door (right hand side), in door (top of screen), left, down, left, left, left, left, left, in door, right (bottom of screen), in door, left, left, get key, right, right, in door, up, left (top of screen), in door, left, left, rescue Morticia, right, right, in door, down (left hand side), in door, right, right, right, up, right, in door, in door (bottom of screen), in door (left hand side), left, left, left, in door, left (top of screen), left, left, up, right, in door, up, left, left, in door (bottom of screen), right, right, right, right, in door, right, right, in door - level





Right, right, right, in door, left, in door, right, right, right, down, left, left, in door, down, left, in door, left, left, in door, left (top of screen), left, left, in door, right, right, up, rescue Granny. down, left, left, down, get key, up, in door, right, right, right, left (bottom of screen), left, left, down, right, in door, rescue Thing, in door, up, right, in door (left hand side), left, right (top of screen), in door (top of screen), left, left, in door, left, left, rescue Wednesday - game complete. Hurray!

hat pesky Glaswegian tips merchant Robert Smith's been a right busy little sausage this month; what with his Krackout cheat and this listing for the outstandingly gob-smacking Spindizzy.

A=679 10

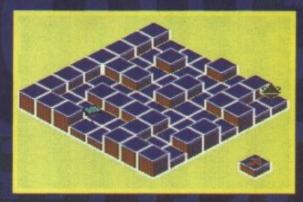
READ B : POKE A,B : A=A+1 20

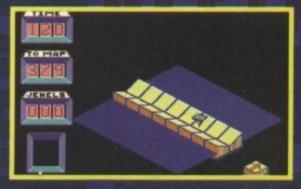
IF A<>255 THEN 2 40

SYS 679 : LOAD 50

DATA 120, 169, 52, 133, 1, 162, 6, 189,

7, 8, 157, 0, 223, 202, 16, 247, 169, 55, 70 DATA 133, 1, 88, 96, 255





52 FLAMBURG

THE LAST NINJ

f that infernal Shogun's still at large, here's a little prog that should help you remedy the situation.

3 POKE 649, 0 : I=579 TO 640 : READ A : POKE I, A : C=C+A : NEXT I

FOR I=31722 TO 31735 : READ A : POKE I, A : C=C+A : NEXT I : IF C=8876 THEN SYS 579

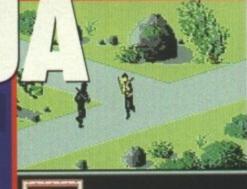
5 PRINT "ERROR IN DATA"

DATA 198, 157, 78, 41, 3, 169, 0, 162, 1, 168, 32, 186, 255, 32, 189, 255, 32, 213, 255, 120, 136

DATA 140, 21, 3, 169, 128, 141, 237, 2, 238, 119, 244, 238, 120, 244, 169, 166, 141, 20, 3, 108

DATA 20, 3, 162, 121, 142, 178, 3, 206, 179, 3, 76, 81, 3, 169, 197, 141, 135, 120, 76, 191, 3, 12

9 DATA 0, 0, 169, 49, 141, 159, 2, 169, 234, 141, 160, 2, 96



14001105

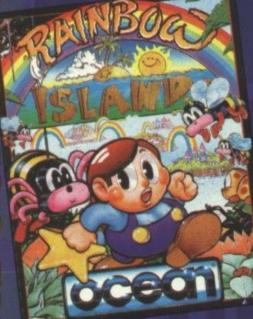
ENEMY

using

HOLDING-

FOLIER - LIEMPORRY NINA

uter than cute and more colourful than a packet of Dolly Mixtures — Rainbow Islands is an all time classic no-one should be without. Here's a nice, easy way to gain infy lives or credits — unfortunately, for the disk version only;



Load the game by typing LOAD "CODE",8 and RETURN then when the cursor appears type POKE 28435, 189 and RETURN for lives or for credits POKE 16868, 173: POKE 18522, 173 and RETURN. Type RUN to start.



GKEAI GIANA SISTERS



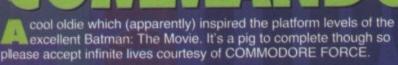
There aren't all that many copies of this fine little number around, as Nintendo saw to it that Giana's rather too Marioid antics were quickly withdrawn. Still, if you're lucky enough to have it heres a nifty way to skip to the next level — just hold down M, A, R, I, N (?!) while playing.



GIBERNO DE

fine but frustrating shoot-'em-up, this. Wouldn't it be neat if you could access a cheat mode when the going gets tough? Well just try re-defining the keys as Y, G, R, O and see what happens...





- 1 FOR X=525 TO 580 : C=C+Y : POKE X,Y : NEXT
- 2 IF C=5093 THEN POKE 157, 128 : SYS 525
- 3 PRINT "DATA ERROR"
- 4 DATA 32, 86, 245, 169, 24, 141, 208, 8, 169, 58, 141, 209, 8, 76, 1, 6, 8
 - DATA 72, 77, 80, 169, 45, 141, 40, 16, 169, 2, 141, 41, 16, 76, 0, 16
- 6 DATA 169, 58, 141, 183, 3, 169, 2, 141, 184, 3, 76, 168, 3, 169, 16, 5, 141
 - DATA 94, 29, 141, 188, 86, 76, 0, 5



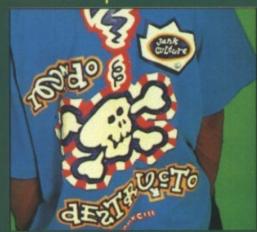


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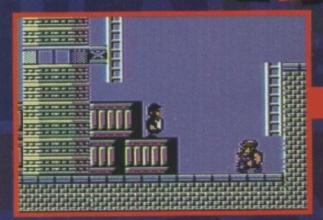
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54 FLATE TES

seem to recall that some months ago (under the previous tips regime) a map and solution appeared for level one of this succulent little wombat. Well here's a full solution for levels two through to five — after all, we couldn't let those orphans down...

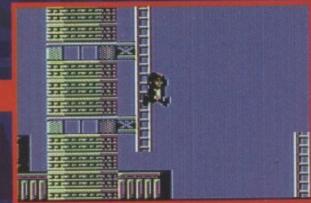
ME BUESE



LEVEL TWO

alk right, duck the gunman's bullets and climb on the large boxes, get the records, jump right, up the ladder, jump left and get the records. Now go to the right-hand edge and jump right, head right to the edge and jump right onto the large boxes. When the gunman stops firing go right onto the next large boxes, get the records and go to the edge, jump right, get the records, go right onto the next step, left, get the records.

Go right, up right, right, up right, get the mystery bonus (a question mark symbol), right, get records, up right, get records, up pipe, right, get crate, Go left, kill workman, right, get crate, right, down, ladder, kill workman, right, get crate, kill gunman, get records, left, up ladder, left, kill workman, right, get crate, left, kill workman, left, up first ladder, right, get records, at the edge jump right to avoid



the spikes, dodge the mystery bonus, go to the edge, jump right, avoid mystery bonus, go right and stand on the edge, jump right, right, up ladder.

Jump right, get crate, right, kill workman, walk right to the edge, walk off the edge but pull left on the joystick as you do so, crawl left, get crate, throw it, get hat and shades, right, walk off edge, left, up ladder, left, jump left, on conveyor belts: when you reach the edge jump left to avoid spikes, climb up the stairs, when the workman is to the right you should jump left, get records, climb railings, get records, jump to get the records above you.

Go left, when the gunman's to the right climb the railings, jump left, avoid or get the mystery bonus, get records, get microphone, right, when workman is left go up the railings (on the right-hand side), jump right, get records, jump right, jump right, avoid '?', right, jump workman, get bonus.

Go right till end of workman's patrol, jump left,



jump right, get heart, right, right, get records, up ladder, climb steps, up right, climb steps, when gunman above is to the right you should jump left, up ladder, swim left, up ladder, right, the springs at the bottom make you jump high so just pull right on the joystick, slide down, right, slide down etc (until the end), down ladder when the gunman's to the left, climb big boxes, up ladder, down pipe, up right, get red flag.



LEVEL THREE

o left, down ladder when knight is right, left, get box, right, kill guard, right, down ladder, right, up ladder, right, jump cop, right, jump guard, right, get records, left, up ladder, jump and pull joystick right when in the air, jump and pull joystick right when in the air, jump right, right, slide down edge, right, right, crawl left, get records, crawl right, jump gunman, crawl right, get records, slide off edge, right (pull left when in the air), get crate, kill guard (when you can see him), crawl left, left, down ladder, right, get crate, left, down stairs.

Left, up ladder, kill guard, left, here there's a door with a lever up/right, jump at level, left, down ladder (all the way), left, get records, crawl left, down steps, left, down wall ladder (watch out for the laser on the wall), right, down wall ladder, left get records and jump spikes, left, up stairs, get records, down the left side of the stairs, get records and jump spikes, left, up stairs get records and jump spikes, left, up stairs get records, down left side of stairs, get records, up stairs, get records, up ladder, right, get records, right, up ladder, up ladder, left, get record, (the bonus is a minus 20 pointer but can't be avoided).

Get record, jump at pink lever, right, down ladder, get record, down ladder, left, down ladder,

right, down stairs, right, up stairs, down right-hand side of stairs, jump spikes, up stairs, down right-hand side of stairs, right, jump spikes, right, up wall ladder, left, up wall ladder, right, up step, right, crawl right, right,

up ladder, right, up step, right, crawl right, right, up ladder (only half way) then go left, crawl left, up ladder, left, jump left, left, down ladder, crawl left (avoiding bullets and missing laser), up ladder, left, down step, get records, left, down left-hand side of hole (pull right before bottom), right, when rat is on the right go down ladder, right, jump on the table, when rat is left go right and up the ladder.

Right, down ladder, get crate, right, up ladder, kill guard, right, get records, down ladder (pull right at

bottom), down ladder, left, up ladder (when guard is left), left get crate, kill guard, left, in first door, avoid both bonus', left, get records, right, out of shop, left, go in second shop, left, go in second shop, crawl right to avoid broken record, get bonus, right crawl left, out of shop, left, down ladder (pulling right at the end), right, jump spikes, right, jumps pikes, right, jump spikes, right, crawl right, right, down step, jump rat, up step right (up to edge of spikes), jump to get records, left, up ladder, left.

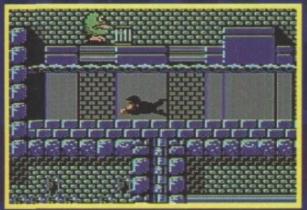
Jump guard, left, jump on table, jump on

Jump guard, left, jump on table, jump on platform above table (avoiding laser), jump right, climb on table, up, right to the part where the wall below you is thinner than the rest of the wall.





DIE S



LEVEL FOUR

o down the ladder, grab the crate and kill the green blob, jump down the hole into the water, swim over to the ladder and get out.

Continue right, kill the blob and move into the ladder, climb up and collect the records, dive down the hole, swim right to the door then go up the ladder, pick up the crate and jump out of the open gap onto the railway. Chuck the crate at the workman, move left over the trains until you reach the end.

Fall through the platform and head down the tunnel to the left — the other route is far more difficult. Anyway, you'll now find yourself in a room with seven doors. The two

lowest switch between each other, the next up contains a heart and a green blob, the one up and to the left can't be opened and the right hand one switches between the top door. The final door has three rooms.

The first contains a few records, collect 'em and slide down into the water. Collect the poster, records and mystery bonus then go up to get the extra life. Go to the ladder, get the heart if required, walk right, go up the ladder and down the other side, get the crate and jump into the water. Get to the ladder on the other side and climb up onto the platform. Kill the baddies and get the flag.



LEVEL FIVE

o right, dodging the dog on the way, climb the ladder, dodge baddy and get mystery bonus and records. Kill the workman to gain access to the roof, don't bother with the crane. Climb the ladder, run right and jump off the edge avoiding the fire and mystery bonus'. Go up the lift on the right, onto the second lift and onto the platform. Climb up the purple wall and climb the four ladders, get crate and jump onto the left hand platform, kill baddy, go up ladder and get another crate. Climb the next ladder and run to the right jumping before you touch the wire and you'll land on a new platform.

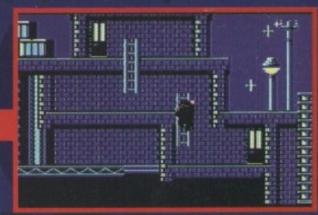
Go right and collect the concert permit, jump onto the purple wall and walk to the other side. Kill baddy with one of the crates then go right and jump up three platforms to find a heart. Fall back down then go down the ladder with a crate and kill the baddy. Go down two more levels then down the ladder and down again, then down the last ladder and jump off to the left. Jump the gap and make your way down the steps and platforms to another ladder, pick up crate on the left, climb down ladder, kill baddy and go right. Go up the lift and jump into the little room and collect the records. Get the crate then climb the ladder and kill the last baddy. Go to the top of the lift on the left and jump up three platforms and on the furthest one you'll find an extra life. Climb the purple wall where you're faced with the third lift. Go up to the top and get the flag.

down, right, jump right, right, up ladder, get amplifier, down, left, jump left, left, jump left, climb on table, jump, left, up ladder, climb on springy bed (makes you jump very high), at the top of the jump go right, right, get crate, kill cop, right, climb on table, jump right, right, climb on springy bed, right at the top of the jump, right, down, down, down, left, down wall ladder, left, down wall ladder, right, down wall ladder, right, climb step, right, climb wall ladder, right, jump left, jump left (avoiding laser), jump to climb ladder, jump right, jump spikes, down ladder, pull left or right at the bottom and get the red flag.









EVELSIX

o right and kill the guard and policeman with the two crates. Take the third crate and go down the lift, go right at the bottom and kill the policeman, carry on right and fall off the edge of the platform. Climb back up left taking a crate and and go left to the lift. Go up and left to the door just beyond the policeman. Go down the two ladders and enter the second door, walk down the steps onto the stage.

Wahey! The orphanage is saved, the band's back together and the game is well and truly completed.

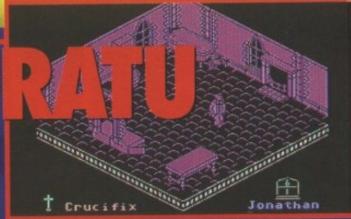
ith an army of adoring fans and other assorted ventilation gadgetry Paradroid occupies a well deserved place in the C64 hall of fame. To turn off the collision detection, before loading type SYS 63278 and hit RETURN, then press play. When the 'FOUND Paradroid' message pops up type in the pokes below, always remembering to press RETURN after each.

POKE 961,32 POKE 962, 128 POKE 963, 208 POKE 53376,169 **POKE 53377,2** POKE 53378,141 POKE 53379,226 POKE 53380,111 POKE 53381,169 **POKE 53382.138** POKE 53383,141 POKE 53384,225 POKE 53385,111 POKE 53386,96

Now just enter SYS 849 to load the game and walk unhindered through those baddies to your heart's content.

y now you'll no doubt be stuck somewhere in last months scary covergame. To get you on the way here's a few hintettes to make progress a trifle less awkward.

Check the fireplaces around your starting location until you find the boots - these offer protection against the spiders that scuttle around the floor. The sword, found hanging on the wall in the dining room, can be used to kill the bats, probably the most annoying nasties you come across - fire or space makes them eating steel. Also, being in possession of the sword makes you invulnerable to attack from dogs.



Food tops up your energy meter, you'll find quite a lot hidden in fireplaces in the cellar. The deeds to the house can be found in the cellar opposite the crypt door. To get to the cellar it's best to go in through the library and leave via the kitchen. When you've found the deeds, use the key on the front door to escape.

There — that should make things a bit clearer.



f you own a reset cartridge and a copy of this classic mazerama read on — if not you can read on anyway though it won't achieve all that much. Reset when asked to rewind side two and enter the following pokes.

POKE 41021,189 POKE 44373,185 POKE 44381,185 POKE 47658,189 POKE 47666,189 POKE 48514,189 POKE 48524,189 POKE 50357,189 POKE 50367,189

POKE 50814,189 POKE 50824,189

These'll give you unlimited health. Or you could try POKE 4862196 which stops the baddies attacking you, or even POKE 49009,96 to stop them killing you. SYS 32768 starts the game and suddenly a hundred and something levels look somewhat easier going.

oadrunner action with hilarious results — that's Star Paws for you. Here's an Acme type-in listing for anyone lightweight enough to need it.

- FOR I=10497 TO 10526 : READ A : POKE I,A : C=C+A : NEXT I FOR I=512 TO 519 : READ A : POKE I,A : C=C+A : NEXT I : IF C=3988 THEN SYS 10505
- 3 PRINT "DATA ERROR
- DATA 169, 2, 141, 5, 84, 76, 1, 82, 198, 157, 169, 0, 162, 1, 168, 32, 186, 255, 32, 189, 255, 32
- DATA 213, 255, 78, 215, 8, 76, 32, 8, 169, 96, 141, 186, 23, 76, 0, 16



ow can you describe that which defies description? Just play it — after all, that's why it's there. No matter what the game however, it's always a chore playing through already-completed levels to get back to where you were after dying. Well, although there's no clue to this in the game, you can restart your game of Wizball on the highest level completed at the current sitting by just typing the level number on the title screen.

Badgers — no more space, hodey-hoo! I'm off to the kingdom under the desks now, where my new second in command — the evil Gronk — and I sit planning our conquest of COMMODORE FORCE and the destruction of Moominkind. Back in the real world I'm afraid an inexplicable fear of fruit may necessitate alterations to the battle plan. Moominprice is this very moment constructing a garland of fructal magnificence

to ward me off oranges, prunes, Aarah... no James, not the pomegranate seeds. I'm outta here — but I'll be back for my tips. You can reach me at:

The kingdom under the desks, The Tipster, COMMODORE FORCE, Impact Magazines, Shropshire SY8 1JW. Ludlow,

Address

Beefier than BAFTA, bigger than BPI and more ogglesome than the Oscars, not to mention Johnathan King-free — it's the COMMODORE FORCE Readers' Awards! If you think you know what's what, when and why in the glamourous world of the C64, here's your chance to have a say. This garlour occasion will take place in the glitzy pages of a future issue — just enter your votes in each of the following categories and return this form (or a photocopy) to COMMODORE FORCE Readers' Awards, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW. Every release of 1993 is eligible for votes be that a re-release, covertape game... you name it, as long as it saw the light of day this year, it'll be counted. Also, to add a little interest, we've a few mystery prizes floating around the office for ten entries drawn out of a hat... so get scribbling and sending, folks.

Ace Arcade Adventure

0000000000000

 Not to be confused with platformers - adventures should include a choice of routes as well as puzzles to solve



Most Brazen Beat-'Em-

 SFII could be in with a chance, due more to lack of competition than personal merit. But do any other brawling games cut the mustard?



Prodigious Platformer.

 Rodland was pretty nifty but don't forget Mayhem — it's a bit special, then there's Trolls...



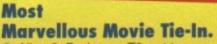
Sublime Sport.

 With the excellent Liverpool, Emlyn Hughes and World Class Rugby appearing, this could be a tight category.



Radical Racer.

 Zeppelin's Truck Racing was a blast, but check Outrun Europa's superfast 3D, or maybe the manic Turbo Charge.



 Alien 3, Darkman, T2, not to mention Reel Action's Blues Brothers I know which one gets our goat... ahem, vote.



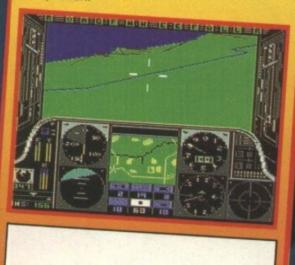


Best Graphics.

Forget playability, what does it look like?
 Perky parallax, crazy colours. Eyeballs apopping's what it's all about.

Salubrious Simulation

 Which sim has kept you beavering away 'till the early hours? Gunship's got to be a hot contender, with the more recent Project Stealth Fighter providing more than a little



Dungball Of The Year

 It's fun time. If you've blown your quids on a real stinker, tell the world.



Supreme Software House.

 Who's given us the most pleasure over the past twelve months. Zeppelin and The Hit Squad have been pretty busy but Ocean have to be in with a shout after signing off with their outstanding Sleepwalker conversion.

Perplexing Puzzler.

• What's caused you the most hair-loss? E-Motion, or just maybe Lemmings. In fact anything which puts brain-bending ahead of fire-button dexterity.



Best Music

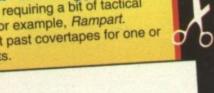
 Anything attributed to the great Jeroen Tel is guaranteed a fair hearing — let your ears do the talking.

Saucy Shoot-'Em-Up.

 SWIV, Smash TV, in fact any gun toting massacre you care to mention. Everyone's fave genre.

Stormin' Strategy.

• Games requiring a bit of tactical thought; for example, Rampart. Check out past covertapes for one or two beauts.





Top Arcade

 Basically a category for anything which doesn't fit elsewhere, eg Seymour -Robotcop



Best Game Overall.

 This is the big one. Which release finds itself head and shoulders above the rest. Last month saw three late contenders emerge but they're up against some pretty stiff competition from those cover-mounted corkers.



Right, get 'em in mine's a pint Becks... oops, sorry! I mean send off yer votes and, well, that's it really. Go hire a tuxedo and we'll see you at the ceremony.

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Make a statement

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Meet an old friend you haven't seen for years

Make a record

Throw away your watch

Dance the dance electric

Phone someone von

Go for a day without speaking

Write to Mother Teresa

Turn your radio up full blast Every day at the same time stop and think about something wonderful Go and see Ryan Giggs

Say a prayer every night

Have a day without TV

Get your nipple pierced

Read a page from a book by Charles Dickens Ring 071 700 3100 and tell London something it needs to know

Play football in the street

Tune your radio to Kiss and pull the knob off

Believe in yourself

Eat a pineapple

Write the alphabet backwards

Learn something new every day

Plant a tree

Take a picture of your back

Begin something you've always wanted to begin

Talk to a child about the future

Think purple

Stare at the clouds for a full ten minutes

Buy a book on Jeff Koons

Teach a child to read

Buy Marvin Gaye's 'What's going on

Tell someone a secret

Put your change into a bottle for a year and give it to charity

Hug someone of the same sex

Visit Great Ormond Street Hospital

Go to the market and spend 10p

Help someone today

Make everyone at work a cup of tea

Take a friend to the zon

Go on holiday and don't take any luggage Wallpaper the inside of your car

| Take a bath in milk Climb a tree Shave your head Shave your head Clean your near got on before In a bus you never got on before In a bus you never got on before Clean your near What a million pounds Stup saying no for a whole week Carry a flower all day Carry a flower a while week Carry a flower a wall week Carry a flowe |
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GANGE AND THE STATE OF THE STAT

Greetings once more, and welcome to my column. I got the arty bug this month so I've been out doing some wood carving.

What I mean is I've been going out into the woods and carving up whatever I find — goblins, adventurers, squirrels,

Anyway, I've
not got much
space this
month so let's
cut the
waffle!

BASH'S MAILBAG

he first weary and footsore adventurer to write in for help this month is Sean Barrett of Co Cork who's stuck in Theseus And The Minotaur Pt 2. He keeps getting killed by the Centurions in King Mino's Palace and doesn't know what to do with Hecale. nor can he find the arrows to kill the Harpies. You should GIVE FOOD to Hecale and the arrows can be found just SE from where you kill the Gorgon.

is stuck with Energen Enigma. He is having a devil of a job trying to lower the bridge, repairing the boat and opening the portcullis. Problem is that everything has to be done backwards. Richard. You can lower the bridge but only from the other side. You turn the handle from the well to lower it. Same thing goes for the Portcullis. The boat can be repaired if you find the tin behind the waterfall and fill it with tar from the roots of the tree. Actually the river can be crossed if you POLE VAULT across!

■ Des Hooper of Salisbury writes that he is on the point of chucking Nythyhel out of the window as it is driving him batty. The problem seems to be aeronautical. He boards the plane.

wears the parachute but can't get off the plane as it keeps crashing every time — the plane that is not his computer! Oh Des! You've been provided with a parachute to give you a clue — what you have to do. as you have a rather unreliable pilot, is to GET PARACHUTE, WEAR PARACHUTE, SIT, OPEN DOOR, JUMP and PULL CORD. With luck you should end up in the middle of a ploughed field with a nice friendly farmer to chat to.

- And The Minotaur and wants to know how to kill the Centaurs. Well, actually you don't need to kill them. You can rescue Ariand me anyway. If you are wearing the Lion Skin you will be protected from their arrows. Shane is also stuck in Coyra The Warrior Sage as he cannot rescue the person murmuring under the rubble. What you need is a stout timber to prop up the rafters you'll find just what you need if you examine the entrance to the Meeting Hut just north of the crumbling hut.
- Katherine Garfield of Portsmouth is stuck at the altar in Black Knight. She also wants to know how to open the trapdoor in the Great Hall. Well Katherine, you should push carving/angel and you will hear a click, then LOOK ON ALTAR to find a recess has opened. If you are holding the Lance you should be able to open the trapdoor. Katherine is also having trouble freezing to death in Dracula's coach in Dracula. What you need to do is to use the cross the woman gave you after hypnotising you earlier. When you are told that it is getting cold you should, LOOK AROUND, LIFT SEAT, EXAM DOOR, REMOVE CROSS, INSERT CROSS TURN CROSS, OPEN DOOR, EXAM HOLD and you should find some nice warm blankets to snuggle into
- Well folks, that's all the mail we have room for this issue. Keep writing in and please don't forget to enclose a stamped self addressed envelope if you want a personal reply. See ya next month.

CONTACT POINT

■ RIVER SOFTWARE, 44 Hyde Place, Aylesham, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 3AL. Cheques etc payable to MR J A Lockerby

DARK TOWER

River SoftwareTape or disk£2.50

s we've come to expect from adventures produced by Jack Lockerby, this one is well written, thoughtfully programmed and vastly entertaining. Puzzles can range from fairly easy to the downright devious but you are provided with a couple of magical items that should prove most handy along the way. One of them in particular might take a bit of figuring out before you know how it can be used - but that's all part of adventuring isn't it?

Just remember these items have to be found within the starting locations of first.

When you enter the adventure proper you might be forgiven for thinking you've manded in the heart of a maze but this isn't so. It's just that the adventure starts within a forest and things can get a little confusing until you get your map sorted out. You'll also meet a most curious white horse — he could do with a bit of investigation later on, perhaps.

Once you manage to get into the Dark Tower you'll find it's either a mapper's dream or nightmare depending on how much you enjoy mapping. Believe me — unless you get each level sorted out on paper you won't make much progress as ascending and descending that spiral staircase to the different floors is highly disorientating.

Examine everything carefully
— especially the archway with
the runes as there are loads of
little hints along the way to help
you out. One thing's for sure,
you're going to have a terrific
time sorting out those Orcs and
recovering all the treasure. You
might think your troubles are
over once you've done all that
— not so. Getting back to the
Monastery is almost as difficult
as getting to the Dark Tower in
the first place!

FORGE TY

bashful — just put quill to parchment and write to Bash at COMMODORE FORCE, Impact Magazines, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1JW enclosing an SAE if you'd like a personal reply. Right, I'm off to kill

That's it for this month.

If there's any game

you're stuck on don't be

Right, I'm off to kill another carpet — this one's starting to dry out!

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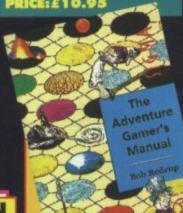
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66 FEITTE

You've seen drawings of us at COMMODORE FORCE, but never have you had the pleasure of seeing us... well, 'in the flesh' you could say. (?!) So, here's your chance. If you realised the danger certain members of the crew were in attempting to get a shot of James, you'd appreciate this filler — sorry, feature — a whole lot more...

I'm an editor, me, and I hate photos, okay?

Guttery — staff
writer and renown
crasher of cars. You see,
it's not that he means to do
it, but people must insist on
doing inconsiderate things —
like driving on the same road
as him, for example. Just
how long his 'thank god, my
car's knackered but I'm
fine' luck will keep up
for is a mystery...

FORCE is the greatest, and I should know — I'm the queen, no, king, of England. So buy it or I'll get my guards to take you to the Tower of London. Only muckin' — I'm really Milo Jackson, CF's best Mini driver. And wrecker.

● Shh... or he'll hear us.
You see, what our editor
doesn't know is that we're
changing what he
originally wrote in order to
reveal the truth. That is...
he's simply the best editor
we've ever had the
pleasure of working with!
An excellent companion, a
talented writer, the lot.
And if that's not true, then
my name's not James...

• It's strange... possibly the most unusual trait we've ever encountered. You see, whenever there's a camera about, Lloyd totally vanishes. It's almost as if he didn't exist in the first place. This is the best shot of him we've got — or, more specifically, his bag...

I mean, we've got to have another photo of me, haven't we? I'm the best looking out of the team, so, one day soon, the flatplans will be mine! That James character will be banished from the pages forever! Oh yes...

is Andy. He's our new Editorial Assistant. He can do some amazing disappeared tricks, you know. Ask him to take some screenshots or source a few pictures and whoosh! he's gone. We'd describe him as a pickled egg short of a picnic, but realistically speaking, he couldn't get the hamper out of the car

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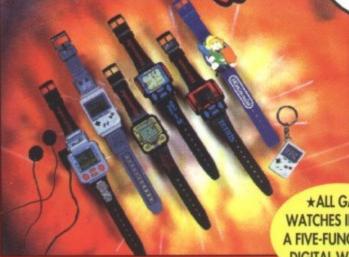


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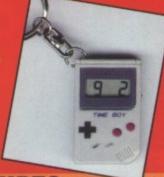


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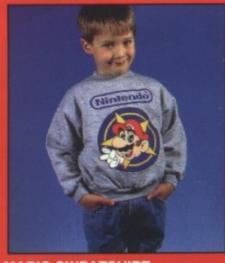
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