

## THE BURNING QUESTION: APRIL

**Do you want a Virtual Boy?**

I don't think Virtual Boy is a very good idea. In fact, it will hurt Nintendo. Since most people can only afford one new gaming system, they will see the incredible (color) graphics of the Ultra 64 which costs a mere \$50 more, and ignore the one-color, awkward-looking Virtual Boy. C'mon Nintendo, get your act together. Cancel Virtual Boy, because you're about to make a virtual mistake.

**Gabe Green**  
Walnut Creek, CA

I don't know if you could say that I want a Virtual Boy, but I am curious. I don't even know if I'm going to have enough money for both the Ultra 64 and V-Boy.

**Scott Beck**  
Fond du Lac, WI

No. Right now I'm too busy playing RPG's on my Genesis and Super NES. Besides, the mono-chrome color is definitely a turn-off for me.

**Kathy Cramer**  
Heath, OH

OF COURSE! Who wouldn't want a Virtual Boy? You don't see Sega coming up with virtual reality games. I can't wait for it to come out. Same goes for Ultra 64. Uh, oh — here comes the warden. I better get off his computer before he catches me.

**Jason 'The Ripper' Connor**  
Harvest, AL

I definitely do not want a Virtual Boy! Why should I pay Nintendo \$200 for a so-called 'portable' gaming machine that displays only one color over a black background? I do like the controller, but other than that, it's crap. How the hell could they call that piece of \*\*\*\* a portable when its held up by a tripod?

**Sanjay Hegde**  
Seminole, FL

The technology is awesome, but only one color? Again?!? Next thing you know, there will be an "Ultra Virtual Boy" adaptor to play the games on the Ultra 64, in color! \$200 is too much (unless it has color). Maybe this is my opportunity to get rich by suing Nintendo for neck injuries from using Virtual Boy. Its design really sucks! Those folks trying it out at CES looked really uncomfortable!

**Louis Rios**  
Stanford, FL

Virtual Boy is gonna be cool! So, it only has one color — big whoop. That's still one more color than Game Boy had! Besides, the ultra-cool 3-D effect more than makes up for that! In fact, it doesn't just look 3-D, it is 3-D, and that's more

'D' than any other system comin' out! No, Nintendo's not paying me.

**Andy Wright**  
Bowling Green, KY

Virtual Boy has more than one color. It has several different shades of red. You are committing a sin to Lord Slippy.

**Zane Merritt**  
Dubuque, IA

I think \$200 is way too much to spend on a simi-portable, red-screen lookin', soon-outdated piece of crap. By the way, if I don't get this letter printed, I'll staple cats to my face and bungee-jump into an active volcano using your small intestine.

**Jason Frash**  
Cheshire, OH

I don't know if you could say that I want a Virtual Boy, but I am curious. I don't even know if I'm going to have enough money for both the Ultra 64 and V-Boy.

**Scott Beck**  
Fond du Lac, WI

I do not want a Virtual Boy! I don't think it's all that great. Instead of getting a Virtual Boy, they not wait for something better? Maybe something with color!

**Josh Estrada**  
Romance, AR

Virtual Boy sounds like a good thing to have. It's 3-D, and it will probably have good games. But before I buy it, that stand has got to go. If I play, my neck will be hurting for weeks.

**Keith York**  
Monrovia, CA

I want the Virtual Boy, even though it may just be the color red. Sure making it color would be even better, but just think about all those colors flashing into your eyeballs.

**Jasen Arndt**  
Rochester, NY

Hell no! The Virtual Boy isn't portable, has only one color, and how the \*\*\*\* do you use that controller? At only \$50 cheaper than Ultra 64, I'd be surprised if it sells four copies. Let's just say I ain't buying one!

**Stephen Mullins**  
Indian Head, MD

No, I don't want a Virtual Boy. Why? Because I want a Virtual Girl. Why is it called Virtual Boy and not Virtual Girl? Or just Virtual Portable Player? Hello! Girls play videogames, too! Plus it goes on a tripod and you can't even put it on your head!

**Bethany Stagliano**  
Scotia, NY

Do I want a Virtual Boy? Well... yeah, are you giving them out?

**Andrew Ahern**  
Acton, MA



## SAVE THE LAST DANCE...

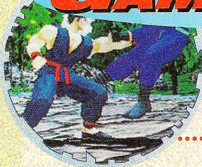
Hello, I am HABEEB THE TORTURER and I have a little story to tell you. It all started one day when I bought *Doom*. The game seemed fun at first but after a while it got boring. This boredom drove me a little bit "insane". I found myself trying to find more rewarding ways of killing zombies in *Doom*. Here's how I'd do it: first I'd shoot them about a hundred times, then I'd chop off their heads and do my ancient HABEEB dance. That's not all — I have a little game I play with zombies' decapitated heads. First I hang the heads from my ceiling, then I pull out a baseball bat and take a few swings at 'em. The first head to hit the ground wins! Now the trouble comes into my story. One day while I was playing my little game, my mom walked in and threatened to take away my *Doom* because she somehow noticed the heads hanging from my ceiling. So naturally I had to kill her. So I did, then I played my game with her head, too. Then my dad walked in and sends over some guys in white and they locked me up in this big, white, padded room with nothing in it but my computer and a baseball bat! I'm still in here and I have no zombie heads from *Doom* to play my little game with because they took it away. So could you guys send me *Doom* so that I can carry on with my harmless little game?

**Habeeb The Torturer**  
Littleton, CO

**BILL (aka Moogoo The Mangler) :**  
**Finally! One of my kind!!! Habeeb, my brother, my hourly prayers to Gazga go out to you in your hour of pain and imprisonment. I will dance the eldritch Moogoo dance on the highest minaret every full moon until the heathen sees the error of his ways and releases all of our brethren from the asylums. Soon will come The Cleansing and when the sky turns hell-fire red, Gazga will return. Until that moment, dance and dream of the many heads that shall hang from our shrines and how the crack of the Skullbats shall echo across all the realms of the 13 dimensions!**



# GAME GOSSIP



Hidee-ho, gamers! We're back with the world's most kickin' game gossip, so put in your mouth-piece and get ready for the punch!

## Nintendo: In Development

Nintendo continues to flex its marketing muscle with

**Donkey Kong**-licensed goods that include toys, Saturday morning cartoons, and breakfast cereals. Also look for a **Donkey Kong pinball machine** from Williams and a possible meal tie-in with McDonalds or Burger King. • Nintendo is also working on another Donkey Kong title tentatively called **Diddy's World**. The SG-rendered adventure will be a 64-meg Rare-produced game for the Super NES. • Expect to see a Super NES **64-meg Yoshi game** that is rumored to be the first true Mario-type game in years, and "will have a bigger impact than Donkey Kong Country" according to some inside sources. Nintendo is already advising its close friends to "get out of the way" and hold back on products that are planned for release around October,

Yoshi's targeted release date. • Also look for a new **Zelda game**, and **Ultra Mario Kart**.

Just what is the future of the Virtual Boy? Does it even have one?

Nintendo continues its platform-exclusive dance with licensees who want to develop for the Ultra 64. Potential licensees must sign an exclusive one-year contract, and even then Nintendo has remained very choosy. This has reportedly soured Nintendo's relationship with many of its former supporters, including such big guns as Capcom. What is Nintendo thinkin'? Sure, exclusive games are a great thing if you can get 'em, but Nintendo can't afford to just toss away heavy-hitters like that. Oh, well... • Late-breaking rumors

point to the possibility of a **\$160 Virtual Boy**. This would be a great move considering that practically 90% of the public's response to the machine has been 'no way'. At the original price of \$200, it's only marginally cheaper than the \$250 tag for Ultra 64 (and there's still a chance the U64 could come in as low as \$150). Which would YOU rather buy?

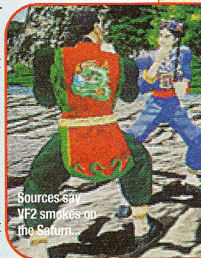
While all this negative press supposedly has Nintendo of America thinking twice about the V-Boy, Nintendo of Japan is pushing hard to get NOA to support it. Expect a formal announcement on the whole deal at the E3 show. • Finally, while only a select few licensees have **Ultra 64 development kits**, other companies that have been rumored to have kits include Evans and Sutherland, and two other aerospace firms who develop **virtual reality flight-sims**.

## This and That

Enix of Japan, the creators of Actraiser and Soul Blazer, are currently working on a **game called Genesis** that will mix the elements of both of the forementioned games with more of an RPG flavor. Enix may bring the title stateside along with **7th Saga 2**, a 32-megger for the Super NES. • Early indications show that **MK3** may end up suffering from Street Fighter syndrome. Already the game is getting thrashed on-line with netters complaining that it varies too much from the original premise. • Following right along with Sony Imagesoft's plans for

## Saturn Gets Sega's Full Attention

While some rumored shake-ups at Sega caused some 350 lay-offs worldwide and reportedly prompted many of Sega's Redwood City R&D guys to high-tail it over to Sony, Sega continues to forge ahead with its Saturn plans. **Virtua Fighter 2** is rumored to be very impressive on the machine, as well as the Saturn-original **Asial**, both of which will be Saturn exclusives. It has also been rumored that Sega has been calling developers and asking them to turn their attention away from 16-bit development and towards Saturn. Since plenty of Genesis games will be heading down the pipe anyway, Sega wants to make sure that Saturn is well-supported with tons of software.



Sources say VF2 smokes on the Saturn.

**Spawn**, Playmates is re-reading another Image comics title, Jim Lee's **Wild C.A.T.S.** Those who got an early peek at the title say it'll be one of the hottest titles of the year. • Finally, just for the record, while other game mags are 'breaking' the news with their 'exclusive' info on the **PlayStation 2**, a friendly reminder that GAME PLAYERS broke the same story SIX MONTHS AGO right here in this section. The PS2 will offer gamers extra memory and additional video features not included in the first rev of the PlayStation. This shouldn't stop you from getting a PlayStation now — the **PS2 won't be out for another few years**.

## Sony Vs Sony

First up is the rumor that several American **Sony CE execs have threatened to quit** their jobs if Sony of Japan won't allow them to bring the PlayStation into the states for less than \$300. • There are still discussions of a **PlayStation name change** rumored, and so far the leading candidate is '**PS-X**', the machine's original code-name in Japan. But while many insiders say that a name-change is imminent, **Sony CE has officially stated that there will be no change** at all. I guess we'll find out once and for all at E3. • No matter what the console is called, it's been rumored that the final version of the U.S. PlayStation will be housed in the exact same casing as the Japanese model, except it will be painted **black**. • The latest word from those in the know still pins the pins the machine's price somewhere **between \$249 and \$299**, that is, unless Sony of Japan decides not to allow it. They'd better...

