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Good Luck on Finals! Congratulations Class of '99

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Wipeout 3

Genre: Racing Developer: Psygnosis Playstation

Wipeout has always been a fun Playstation series and the newest title does not disappoint too much.

The biggest drawback of Wipe-out is the lack of available tracks to race. There are only four main tracks and secret extra tracks must be found. The tracks in Wipeout 3 are better than those in the previous two titles of the series. Some are dark and confusing and others integrate vertical elements into the courses well.

It is easier to crash against the walls in this version than in Wipeout XL, and this new version does have a split screen two-player op tion, excellent visual design and a killer soundtrack. There is also an elimination game which is a battle royale between racers

Wipeout 3 still delivers fast and fun futuristic sled racing that is miles ahead of the competition. But because of the limited number of tracks available to the player at the beginning of the game, this one is more of a renter than a keeper. (Grade: B-)

Thousand Arms Genre: RPG/Dating Simulation Developer: Atlus

Playstation

Thousand Arms must be one of the most interesting video game concepts ever released. The game revolves around a stereotypical RPG engine with a twist — a major part of the game is becoming a gigolo

The main character, Meis, is a sex-starved warrior and blacksmith who hits on any female in sight. In order to create a more powerful sword to fight enemies with, Meis must "forge" better weapons by using the females found in the game. A female who finds Meis adorable will forge a better weapon for him to use against the various monsters in the game.

In order to get the female to like Meis, he must date them, buy them presents and put up with all their nagging, just like real life dating situations. The pseudodates take place at designated "date spots" where Meis and the female engage in conversation, which in relationship terms means listening to the female ramble on and selecting the correct response from a predeter-- Kyle Whitacre mined list of approved phrases

When prompted with tion, Meis has a choice swers to give (if only real this easy). The player also option of thinking over his while having all his friend in with their opinion on response — a luxury all n

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in real life. If the date is a success, macy level between Meis female increases. If thed intimacy decreases. The pect of the game is fun, a swering questions blatant during dating can havehi

consequences. Sound funny? Datingg ready a fad in Japan, hav limited success in the Un States. The missing elem lence and weapons, shou the thing to garner Thous the mass audience Sony

The game is typical RP characters fight randomb with monsters while sear ancient relics and saving However, the game is ver in nature, with almost allo tions in the game containi libidinous reference.

Thousand Arms is fun nal. Players should try it, i the unique experience of simulation. (Grade: B+)

A = instant classic D = don't buy it

B = a cut aboveF = burn in effigy C = average

Messud unveils new novel to critical pro

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Claire Messud is a novelist descended from "pieds-noirs," French Algerians from colonial times. She spent her own childhood in the United States, Australia and Canada and studied at Cambridge University in England.

Messud has led an interesting life in the material world, but an even richer one inside her mind. Author of two acclaimed novels, she is 33 years old and a read-

er and storyteller for nearly as long.
"It's all I ever wanted to do," she said, seated on a garden bench behind her apartment building. "As a

ing a childhood friend and we were talking membered that I had made up this story abo to Mars. And she looked at me and said, 'Idid for a week after that!'

Messud's first novel, When the World Was came out in 1994 and was a finalist PEN/Faulkner Award. Her current novel, The has received strong reviews and was include The New York Times' and Publishers Weekly this year's notable fiction.



German Week

Coordinated by The International Center at the George Bush Presidential Library Complex Texas A&M University

German Week commerates the ten-year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. A week-long festival of activities has been planned to promote German culture and provide a better understanding of the Cold War, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany.

> All programs listed are free and open to the public. For more information call 862-6700.

Exhibit of German Embassy Designs by A&M Architecture Students **Bush School Lobby**

Dec. 6-10 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Interactive Exhibit on Media and Government by A&M Journalism Students The International Center

Dec. 6-10 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Brown Bag Jazz Concert by the Sidewinders sextet

Langford Art Gallery

Dec. 7-8 12 - 1 p.m

MSC Flag Room "German Architecture" Photographic Exhibit Presented by the College of Architecture

Dec. 7 - 9 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Concert of Great German Masterpieces by the Western Arts Trio Rudder Theater

Dec. 7

7:30 p.m.

Community Day at the Museum (Free Admission) George Bush Presidential Library Dec. 8 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m

German Contemporary Art Exhibit J. Wayne Stark Gallery

Through Dec.18

"The Wall" Photographic Exhibit Presented by the L.T. Jordan Institute and the Goethe Institute 223 J MSC

Through Feb. 15

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