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THE BATTALION

AGGIELIFE

Page 10

THE BATTALION

Tuesday, Jan

Time to Get Back Into the Swing of Things



Welcome Back Ags from
Dr. Malon Southerland
Vice President for Student Affairs and
The Division of Student Affairs
Here is to a GREAT Spring 2000
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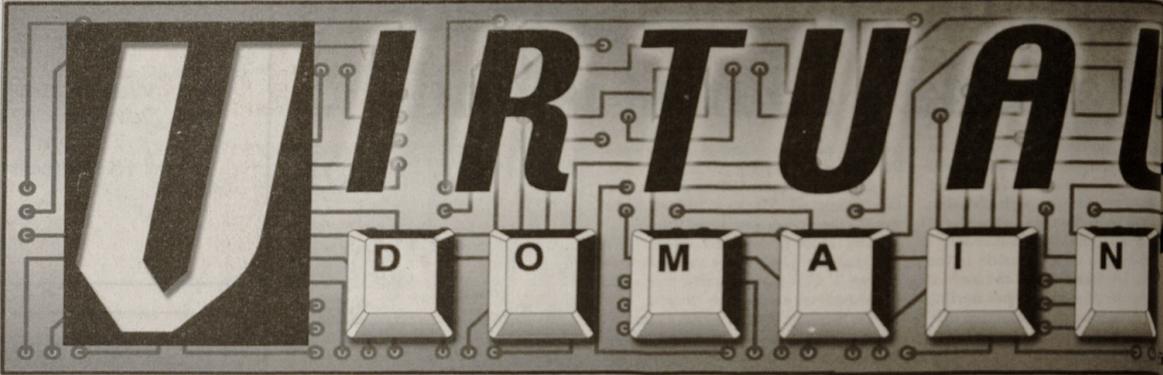
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Donkey Kong 64
System: Nintendo 64
Genre: Adventure
Developer: Rare

Creating Donkey Kong 64 is one of Nintendo's best moves since the introduction of the Nintendo 64. Nintendo has reinvented the classic arcade game with a polygonal, multi-character adventure game.

The first improvement was in the use of additional characters, each with their individual strengths and weaknesses. When the game begins, the player only controls Donkey Kong, but as the game progresses, the player must rescue more of the characters and then use them to solve some of the game's more challenging puzzles.

The second improvement is the addition of a variety of other playing options, including a multi-player setting in which two people can do battle against one another or play together against the computer.

Awesome graphics and challenging puzzles make this game more attractive to older gamers. The extremely smooth game play also leaves very little to be desired.

It could be argued that Donkey Kong 64 is just another in Nintendo's line of adventure games, which seem to have a lock on the market for attracting both young and old players. Yet, even when compared with such games as Zelda and Glover, Donkey Kong 64 still stands tall. Donkey Kong 64 is worthy of praise from even the most discriminating game player. (Grade: B+)

— Matt McCormick

Tomb Raider - Last Revelation
System: Playstation
Genre: Adventure
Developer: Eidos

When Tomb Raider debuted four years ago, it revolutionized the 3-D action-adventure genre and proved that three dimensional worlds could be maneuvered with ease. Before Tomb Raider, most three dimensional games that were not first-person games consisted of a repetitious pattern of finding switches and levers with which to control character.

Tomb Raider changed all that with Lara Croft, now a video game icon without and movie deal, corporate sponsorships and the following of most 13-year-old boys in the country, as well as others.

But Tomb Raider 2 and Tomb Raider 3 became successively worse than the first, becoming less creative and more frustrating.

Tomb Raider: Last Revelation is a step in the right direction and fun to play, but frustrating and complicated. The only learning curve present is the first level, which is required to start the adventure. After this, the game becomes as hard as the other game features.

The graphics and sounds are top notch as usual, bringing an incredible sense of game making the player feel as though they're trapped in an Indiana Jones film.

However frustrating the game may be, fans of the Tomb Raider series will be delighted with this latest Tomb Raider game, which will hopefully not be the last notch adventure gaming as we know it. (Grade: B)

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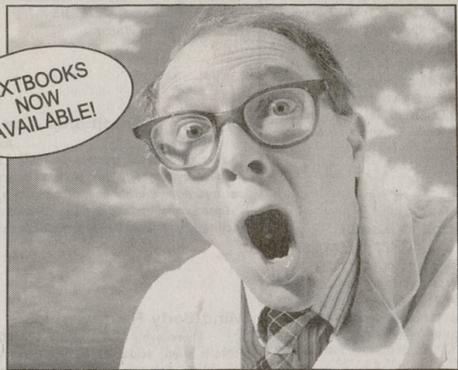
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Televangelist back, plans new network

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Fallen televangelist Jim Bakker is back in the pulpit, preaching mercy, forgiveness and understanding and planning a new TV network.

Bakker and his first wife, Tammy, were the first couple of televised religion until he was convicted in 1989 of defrauding followers of \$158 million.

"Some of you hate me. I can tell," Bakker said to more than 2,700 people gathered Sunday at the First Assembly of God Church. "How many of you want to go to heaven?"

As people raised their hands high in the air, Bakker pointed into the congregation and said, "You've got to love me."

Bakker, 60, said he is planning a new 24-hour network with fellow minister and former football star Reggie White.

Actor Kirk Douglas returns to movies

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — Kirk Douglas said his new film *Diamonds* is "my most important movie" because it was a triumph over the stroke he suffered in 1996.

The 83-year-old actor got a standing ovation Sunday from 650 people as he

People in the News

introduced *Diamonds* during the Palm Springs International Film Festival. It was a homecoming of sorts for Douglas, who sold his desert home after the stroke.

"You know, when you have a stroke, you must speak slowly to be understood," Douglas said to the crowd. "And when you speak slowly, people listen."

Douglas plays a stroke victim in *Diamonds*, his first movie since his stroke. "I thought I would never make another movie unless silent movies came back," he said, drawing a laugh.

Racine, Wisconsin celebrates film

RACINE, Wis. (AP) — About 250 people gathered in a Racine movie theater for the Midwest premiere of a *Map of the World* and a chance to meet Jane Hamilton, whose book the movie is based on.

On the party menu: cider from Ela Orchards, the apple farm run by Hamilton's husband. Hamilton lives and writes on the orchard, in near-by Rochester.

A *Map of the World* is the story of a Chicago couple — played by Sigourney Weaver and David Strathairn — who leave the city for farm life.

The movie made its Los Angeles debut Dec. 1 and was shot in

Canada. The premiere, a fund-raiser to renovate the Rochester public library, cost \$50 a person.

Bening defends Beauty's character

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — Annette Bening says she really worked hard to make her *American Beauty* character likable.

On paper, the actress said, all the film's characters seemed unlikable.

"I just felt for her," Bening, a Golden Globe nominee for best actress in a drama, said during Saturday's gala kicking off the Palm Springs International Film Festival.

"I always feel a little bit like that, like I'm fighting for whomever I'm playing, but particularly in Caroline's case because she's so flawed and so imperfect," the actress said. "I think that's why I loved her."

Ohio representative father of twin girls

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Rep. John Kasich and his wife are the parents of twin girls.

Emma and Reese were born Sunday at Ohio State University Medical Center. They are the first children for the Ohio Republican and his wife, Karen.

"Karen is doing great, and the

babies are doing great," Kasich said.

The twins were not due until last month. They are expected to stay in the hospital for several days until they gain weight.

Carlton Brooks, 66, and his wife, Emma, 44, were born at 4 pounds, 5 ounces and 4 pounds, 5 ounces, respectively.

The run looked for a little while, but before the excitement of the twins' arrival, the excitement of the twins' arrival.

NEW YORK (AP) — How did Letterman do? Well, he kept up with the football game to joke about it.

Letterman, host of "Late Show with David Letterman" on CBS, was in a private room at New York-Presbyterian Hospital recovering from heart surgery.

"I spoke to Dave on the phone show producer Rob Burnett Sunday. I asked, 'Dave, how do you feel?' and he said, 'Better. Jimmy Johnson.'"

Johnson was coach of the Miami Dolphins. He quit Sunday after his team was hampered by the Jacksonville Jaguars in a National Football League off game.

Letterman, 52, had emergency quintuple bypass surgery. Preter tests showed that one of his arteries was clogged.

His doctors said that he was pleased with his progress and he might be able to go home



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