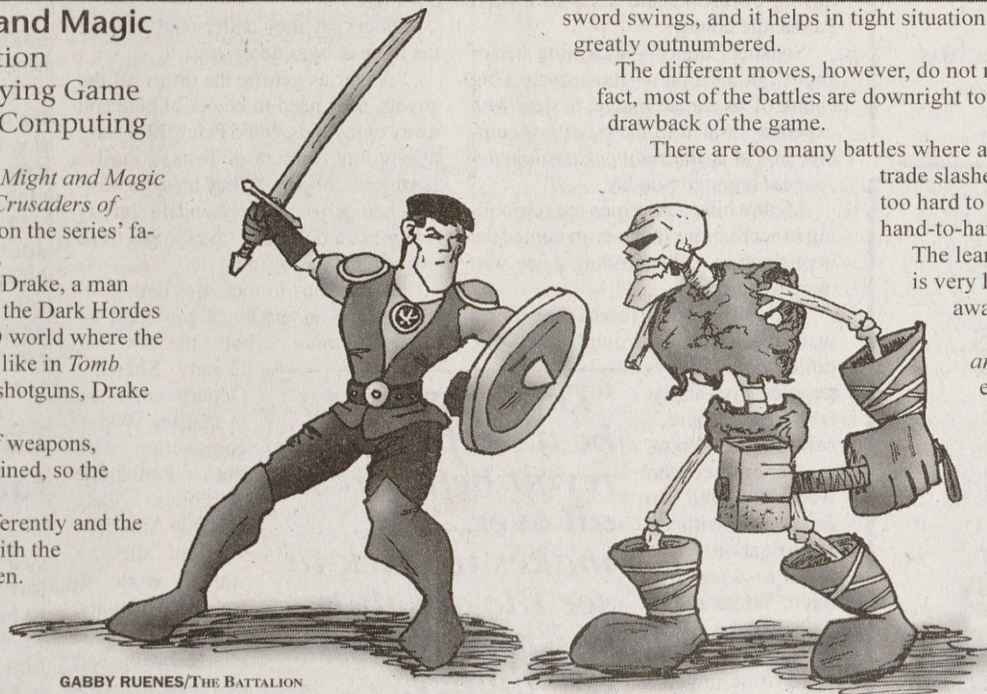


VIRTUAL DOMAINS

Crusaders of Might and Magic
System: Playstation
Genre: Action/Role Playing Game
Developer: New World Computing

Gaming fans have enjoyed the *Might and Magic* series for many years now. *Crusaders of Might and Magic* puts a new spin on the series' familiar world of sword and sorcery. The player assumes the role of Drake, a man who lost his family as a boy when the Dark Hordes attacked. The action is set in a 3-D world where the character is followed from behind like in *Tomb Raider*. But instead of pistols and shotguns, Drake is armed with swords and magic. The game has a wide variety of weapons, spells and magic that can be obtained, so the gameplay is kept interesting. Each weapon handles a bit differently and the character becomes more skilled with the weapons if he uses them more often. The same goes for the different spells he can cast. The gameplay in the game is nice with a good array of different

sword swings, and it helps in tight situations when the player is greatly outnumbered. The different moves, however, do not make the fights easy. In fact, most of the battles are downright tough. This is the main drawback of the game. There are too many battles where all the player can only trade slashes with the enemy. It is too hard to avoid being hit during hand-to-hand battle. The learning curve on this game is very high, and that can turn away many gamers. Any fan of the *Might and Magic* games would enjoy the chance to see the series in 3-D. The game can also appeal to any gamers who enjoy a good dungeon romp. Just be ready to practice before getting far in the game. (Grade: B-)



GABBY RUENES/THE BATTALION

— Gabby Ruenes

Author Kesey creates film about '60s counterculture

PLEASANT HILL, Ore. (AP) — For Ken Kesey, digital technology has made it possible to finish what LSD started back in the psychedelic '60s.

Working in a cluttered motel-room-turned-studio near his Oregon farm, the author and an old friend, Ken Babbs, have just completed the first installment of a movie on their 1964 LSD-fueled bus trip across America — he trip immortalized in Tom Wolfe's book *Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*. Kesey, best known for his novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, had always intended to come out of the bus trip with a movie, *Intrepid Traveler* and his *Merry Pranksters Look for a Kool Place*. Despite recruiting a Hollywood film editor, however, he could never get the audio in sync with the pictures. Powered off the bus generator, the tape recorder had speeded up and slowed down when the bus died. "It finally just broke our back," said Kesey, now 64. Until now.

Babbs' son, Simon, and Kesey's son, Tom, transferred the film and the audio to a digital editing rig. With modern software and a turn of a knob, the sound pictures came together. Like Frankenstein's monster, *Kool Place* lives.

"When people ask what my best work is, it's the bus," Kesey said. "Those books made it possible for the bus to become."

Kesey had used the profits from *Cuckoo's Nest* to buy the old school bus and take his friends — known as the Merry Pranksters — to New York for the World's Fair and a party for his second novel, *Sometimes a Great Notion*. The trip soon turned into more, for them and in the public imagination. Kesey, who had tasted LSD in government trials, wanted to share it with the masses. A pitcher of LSD-laced orange juice was a staple of the bus refrigerator. The Pranksters put on LSD parties known as Acid Tests. (The drug was legal then; by 1968, half the states had criminalized it.)

The bus, nicknamed *Furter* and painted in psychedelic colors, became a counterculture icon. "I thought you ought to be living your art, rather than stepping back and describing it," Kesey said. The bus is "a metaphor that's instantly comprehensible. Every kid understands it. It's like John Ford's *Stagecoach* with John Wayne in the driver's seat just like Cowboy Neal." Episode one scopes in on Neal Cassidy,

the wheelman from Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, who piloted the bus while turning out a stream of rhythmic rap-babble.

"It's what keeps this from just being 'what I did on my summer vacation,'" Kesey said. "We are keepers of the flame of Cassidy."

The Proust-quoting Cassidy, who had only a ninth-grade education, was a bridge between the Beats and the hippies. He died along a Mexican railroad track in 1968. Kesey said his cinematic inspirations are Bergman and Fellini, but *Kool Place* is more like home movies. The story would be unclear without Wolfe's book. But the images create an intimacy that makes the characters seem forever young, at a time when gas cost 28 cents a gallon. Episode one opens with an older Kesey and Babbs in lab coats, finding a key to a vault.

"I'm scared," Kesey said. "I don't blame you," said Babbs. They open the vault and take out the films. The flick of a switch starts the clickety whirr of a projector.

In California oilfields, a highway patrolman pulls them over but never suspects these college kids dressed like Tommy Hilfiger are packing LSD and marijuana. In Arizona, the bus gets bogged down in the sand by a river.

In Houston, Kesey visits pal Larry McMurry, and the Pranksters lose one of their number to a bad trip. In New Orleans, they jam with a piano player in a bar and get thrown out of a blacks-only beach.

Kesey is offering the film in video episodes in signed psychedelic boxes painted by him and Babbs on the motel bathroom's floor and sold on his Web site, Intrepidtrips.com.

"We're the people who planted the seeds," Kesey said. "Whether it's artistically valid or not, we have to cultivate the crop." "You compost it long enough and stuff will grow out of it," said Babbs, a Vietnam helicopter pilot and longtime Prankster.

Aaron Kipnis, a professor of clinical psychology at Pacific Graduate Institute who says the Pranksters turned him on at an Acid Test, said he is eager to check in with them again.

"I can't say whether it was the substance or the people, the environment or the time, but it moved me from being a street punk to being a spiritual seeker," he said.

"We are keepers of the flame of [author Neal] Cassidy."

— Ken Kesey
Author

ATTENTION MUSICIANS:



Auditions for the University Symphonic and Concert Bands are happening now!

For information or to schedule an audition please contact:

Dr. Tim Rhea
Adams Band Building
845-3529
trhea@tamu.edu

New Graduate Course on Environmental NGOs!

Register **NOW** for Fall 2000

REN 689: Leadership Development and Management for Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Learn about Career Opportunities with Environmental NGOs, and their roles in Sustainable Development Research, Education, Action Programs, and Legislation

Topics will include:

- Philosophy and Development of NGO Leadership
- Roles of NGOs in Sustainable Development Decision-making
- Grant-writing and Fund-raising
- NGO Stakeholders
- Technical Skills for NGO Personnel
- Environment-related Knowledge
 - Management
 - Financing

For more information, contact:

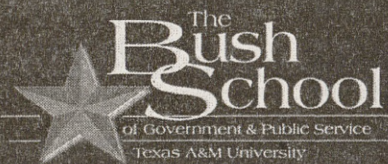
Dr. Doug Loh
Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management
Phone: 979-845-1551
Fax: 979-845-9749
Email: loh@tamu.edu

MILES MOVING & STORAGE

STUDENT DISCOUNTS
LIMITED STORAGE SPACE

778-MOVE

Aggie owned & operated • Class of 2000



U.S. INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

MAY 29 - JULY 3, 2000

As part of its new Certificate Program in Advanced International Affairs, the George Bush School of Government and Public Service will offer a masters level course this summer, "U.S. Intelligence and National Security." The instructor for the 3 hour credit course is Professor James Olson, CIA Officer-in-Residence. Scheduled for Mondays through Thursdays from 5:30-7:30pm, the course provides an in-depth understanding of how U.S. intelligence operates (espionage, covert action, satellite systems, signals intelligence, etc.) and how it contributes to national security.

You do not need to be a current graduate student at Texas A&M to register for this course or to begin the new certificate program. For more information call Nikki Jones at (979) 862-3469 or email njones@bushschool.tamu.edu

The Advanced International Affairs Certificate at the Bush School...Check it Out

Student Counseling HelpLine
Week Days: 4 PM to 8 AM
Weekends: 24 hours a day
845-2700

Volunteers Needed!
ALL MAJORS WELCOME - INTERVIEWING NOW
Call Susan Vavra at 845-4427 x133.
The HelpLine is a program of the Student Counseling Service, a department in the Division of Student Affairs.

EPICURES CAFE

CASUAL GOURMET
DINE IN * CARRY OUT * CATERING

2319 Texas Avenue • College Station • (979)695-0985

- * 3 culinary graduates on staff
- * Custom Sandwich Bar & Deli
- * Dine in for lunch or dinner
- * Private banquet room
- * 42 domestic & imported beers
- * Sunday Champagne Brunch
- * Carry out menu

Graduating Seniors Only

ENGL 210 & 301
Forcing Days - 2000

Summer I, II, and Fall

Wednesday, May 3
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Thursday, May 4
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Summer I

Monday, May 29
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Summer II

Wednesday, July 5
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Fall

Monday, August 28
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Bring confirmation from your academic advisor on letterhead.

224 Blocker

Got Problems?

MSC ICONS \$12

MSC ICONS \$12

See Dr. Drew and Adam at **LOVELINE**

APR. 29 - 8PM
G.ROLLIE WHITE COLISEUM
GREAT SEATS AVAILABLE
MSC Box Office

Brought to you by MSC ICONS with assistance from:

The views expressed are not necessarily those of Texas A&M University, The Memorial Student Center, MSC ICONS, or MSC Town Hall.

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification, three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.