

Video game systems battle for buyers

By Chris Jacobs

As time passes, things change. With the video game industry, this change has become hard for many to deal with, mostly financially. Right now there are three different competitors in the race for the king of the video game hill. Those three competitors are Sony, Microsoft, and the old but not forgotten Nintendo. If you're like many gamers this year and simply don't have enough money to buy all of the next-generation systems, here's a little guide to help you with your decision.

PLAYSTATION



Final Fantasy X - Playstation

Of all three systems, PlayStation 2 has the most games. With backwards compatibility, a player can play all old PlayStation games on

the new console.

PlayStation 2 has been out a year longer than both Nintendo's GameCube and Microsoft's Xbox, giving it many more titles made for it than both systems can hope to have available any time soon. However, does this necessarily mean it has good games? The answer is yes. The system is currently the home for titles such as Metal Gear Solid 2, Grand Theft Auto 3, and Final Fantasy X.

Having games like GS2 that magazines such as Game Informer can be quoted saying, "Without a hint of doubt, this is the greatest game I've ever played," doesn't hurt Sony's chances. The retail price of \$299.99 may be a bit heavy for gamers.

XBOX



Halo- Xbox

Xbox, Microsoft's dark horse, is the most powerful home gaming console ever released. However, a lack of future titles and third-party support may cause it problems in the future, as many Japa-



nese developers have pulled the plug on this new system. With games such as Halo and Dead or Alive 3, Xbox has indeed shown it not only has to power but the games to back itself up. The unit retails at the same price as PlayStation 2.

NINTENDO



Super Smash Bros-Nintendo

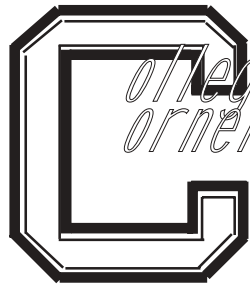
Nintendo has always been a favorite of many when it comes

down to the games, but many question if their new system, the GameCube, is powerful enough to compete with PlayStation 2 and Xbox. However, Corporate Vice President of Sega Enterprises Yu Suzuki can offer some good advice when it comes to a systems power.

"The ideas of the creator and the game play itself are more important because anyone will be able to have good graphics." A gamer familiar with Nintendo knows they are famous for phenomenal game releases such as the Zelda and Mario series.

Not only do they have this on their side, but their unit retails at \$199.99, a hundred dollars less than the other two competitors. Those with light pockets will find that much to their pleasure. However, it can't play DVDs, and while those already with a DVD player may not think that matters, those looking to get a package deal will be disappointed.

So when deciding which system to buy this year, just remember that while Bill Gates may say, "(Xbox) is a breakthrough device," that there are two other systems out there with enough power to please as well, and they just may be able to entertain much more than Microsoft's black box.



UW-Madison offers top academics in ideal town

By Ashley Ginascol

The college corner will focus on one college a month, selected from a list that the guidance office supplied of schools Antioch graduates frequently attend. This month the University of Wisconsin at Madison will be highlighted.

Type of school: Public
Tuition: \$13,920
Total cost: 22,200
City type: Urban
Total enrollment: 33,966

For those looking for a college that is fairly close to home, yet not within distance of an unexpected visit from parents, the University

of Wisconsin, Madison is just the place. Located in Madison, Wis., it offers not only a prime distance, but also a high standard of education. There are 133 undergraduate majors to choose from at this scenic campus. The male to female ratio is 47% men, and 53% women. The average GPA of

students is a 3.74 on a four point scale. Also offered is individual time with faculty because the student faculty ratio is 14:1.

Though this is a very selective school academically, it also has a

high standard for athletics. UW competes



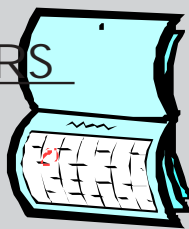
STROLLIN' ON STATE: UW-Madison sits in a city that offers students a good time and graduates possibilities for job placement.

COLLEGE SENIORS

1. Parents should be filing their taxes now, preparing to fill out Free Applications For Federal Student Aid form. (FAFSA)
2. Send in housing requests to top choice schools.

JUNIORS

1. Reminder that Feb. 9 is the ACT.
2. Register by March 1 for the April 6 ACT.
2. Register by Feb. 23 for the March 31 SAT.



Georgetown Furniture and Bedding

Quality Furniture at a Discount price
 395-5800
 1 mile south of Rt. 173 40732 N. Rt. 83 Antioch, IL.

Printing & Promotional Products with a Creative Touch



Impressions Count

High Speed Copy Service
 Color Copies
 907 Main Street • Antioch
 395-2445

We've Been Your GARDENING for 44 YEARS

FLORAL ACRES
 Randy
 Phone: (847) 395-1211
 "Still the Biggest & Best Full Service Floral Shop in Years Same Location - 100% Satisfaction - 5-Floral Designers On"

Since 1979
 Mars Cleaning Service
 Windows • 395-6465
 • Water & Air Purification Products
 • Tile, Stone and Wood Floors
 • Rental/Sale Clean Up • Janitorial
 • Carpets • Odor Problems

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
 AUTO HOME BUSINESS HEALTH LIFE
 Brad Ipsen
 509 Lake Street
 Antioch, Illinois 60002
 Phone: OFF. 847-395-8828
 FAX 847-395-7580
 WI ONLY 800-392-8828