



Review

Garden City High School Sugar Beet
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Vice City lives up to its predecessors

Mark Wells
Staff Writer

Last year *Grand Theft Auto 3* was released for the Playstation Two, and has since revolutionized the video gaming industry. *Grand Theft Auto 3* combined concepts from various aspects of video games into one megagame that blew away the traditional console gaming standards. It was also extremely violent, sparking controversy, and banned throughout the world, including the entire country of Australia. The game created a virtual city where it is possible to steal cars, blow things up, and cause general havoc. The amount of damage caused is directly related to the amount of

police chasing you. Rockstar Games is back again this year with the latest installment of the *Grand Theft Auto*



series, *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City* for the Playstation Two. Set in the 1980's, you play Tommy

Vercetti a member of the mafia, who has just been sent to *Vice City*, which bears a striking resemblance to real life Miami, to set up a crime ring. Problems arise from the start, and Tommy ends up owing the mob several thousand dollars. The rest of the game is spent gaining back the money you lost, by completing various missions for bosses, and eventually becoming a powerful crime boss yourself. Missions range

from stealing a tank from the U.S. Army, to providing security for a fictional 80's rock band, Love Fist.

Vice City plays, and looks better than it's predecessor. It improves in several key areas, and the outcome is a much better game, without changing the original formula.

One of the most obvious differences in *Vice City* is the incorporation of Motorcycles. There are now three types of motorcycles to acquire, a dirtbike, a street racing motorcycle, and a powerful Harley Davidson. The motorcycles add a great deal of game play to an already good game. Motorcycles go places regular cars can't, and players can be hurled from them if they run into

a solid object. Helicopters have also been added to the line up of vehicles, and add even more depth to the game play.

As you progress through *Grand Theft Auto 3* you get bigger and better hideouts, places to store cars and such. *Vice City* expands on this idea, and makes it possible to buy properties. Once bought, you can complete missions for the property, and it will earn money for you. The taxi company requires you to take out a rival taxi company's cabs, and Sunshine Auto's requires you to deliver various models of cars. Other properties available are a print shop, and a downtown night club. *Vice City* has more weapons, more missions, more cars, and

more area than *Grand Theft Auto 3*, resulting in an overall better game. The level of violence may be too much for some concerned parents, but if you like *Grand Theft Auto 3*, you'll love *Vice City*.



James Bond lives on another day

Travis Hudson
Staff Writer

Gadgets, hot babes, amazing cars, and enough stunts to feed an army (what?), these are the elements that can make up any Bond film. And this past weekend it was no different as yet another installment in the James Bond series was released. This one deemed *Die Another Day* puts Bond (played by Pierce Brosnan) up against a rich girly-man with a diamond and ice fetish and another very strange looking guy with some expensive acene.

Starring in this movie we have Brosnan returning for another shot as the role of Bond. He does a mighty fine job in my opinion,

nothing compared to former Bond, Sean Connery, but he is still a cut above the rest. What is a Bond movie without a Bond girl? *Die Another Day's* Bond girl comes in the form of the beautiful, academy-award winning actress Halle Berry who played an American NSA agent named Jinx. Our baddies in the movie are Zao (played by Rick Yune, renowned for blowing up that amazing Eclipse in *The Fast and the Furious*), Gustav Graves (played by Toby Stephens), and an ice queen named Frost (played by Rosamund Pike).

Our conflict in this film is when Graves buys/creates essentially a giant magnifying glass in the sky that can beam extremely

hot rays of light onto the earth, as if the humans are ants. And then of course Bond along with Jinx must stop Graves from destroying the earth.

Along with the normal baddies and goodies we once again see the usual Bond cohorts. Bond's boss M (played by Judy Dench) has her share of scenes



along with the ever-so-popular Q (John Cleese) is back with a entire array of new gadgets. One of the gadgets is so amazing it even deserves its own paragraph.

Q introduces a new car to Bond. Being a Bond film I automatically knew there was going to be an amazing car, but this car rocks my socks. It is an Aston Martin that has

a cloaking device. Q describes it as hundreds of cameras placed around the outside that replicate the images that should be where the car is located. Along with the active camouflage there is the usual features such as rockets, guns, spike gripped tires, mini-SAM missiles, and of course the ejector seats.

The majority of the story takes place in a remote section of Iceland. Graves has a sort of ice fetish and since he is a rich girly man he bought himself an ice palace to host his world premier of the giant magnifying glass. The ice sets are quite amazing even the giant ice swan in each of the guest rooms of the ice palace that serve as the beds.

One of the cons about this movie is of course the amazingly unrealistic stunts. At one point Bond decides to para-surf on a chunk of metal that he broke off of a vehicle to escape a massive hot beam of light that is chasing him down to burn him to a crisp. I think the Bond series needs to clash with the reality show series. Instead of having him wake up next to a gorgeous lady and then go save the world, he needs to wake up next to some old hen and then go shower, shave, and read the paper like the other 99% of America.

Die Another Day is a definite must see because Aston Martin cars are amazing and Halle Berry is hot.

Survivor: The final challenge Team Tsunami celebrates their survival

Megan Moser
Editor

It was pretty cool to get dressed up and carted around town in a limousine. We were extremely proud to have won, and extremely excited to get a free night on the town, so we decided to go all out. The boys wore suits and ties, and the girls wore formal dresses. The boys looked great.

The limo was provided by Star Limousines, and was one of the nicer limos I have seen. The chauffeur was great, and politely declined our request to hang out the sun roof on the grounds that he could be fined \$250. The limo was outfitted with a television, lights, CD player, and leather interior, and refreshments.

We drank sparkling apple cider in champagne glasses and pretended to be important for a while

before heading out to Applebee's. The group didn't have to wait long at Applebee's. They have a policy of not reserving tables, and weren't willing to bend it even for us. Even so, we were seated quickly. Apparently, they had



made an announcement that we were coming, because people kept saying, "Oh, are you the Survivor people? We heard about you." That was cool.

Dinner was pretty average. I had my usual Fiesta Lime

Chicken, which was good. And, as usual, we debated over whether to pretend it was someone's birthday so we could be sung to and get a free piece of cake. In the end, it became apparent that we were already making enough of a scene.

We didn't need to be more conspicuous.

The limo then rushed us off to the movie theater, where we were ushered in the back door. Outside, hoards of middle school kids oohed and aahed over us. We walked in like we were bigshots and didn't have to wait in any lines to watch *Die Another Day*. We took up the entire front row, and I was pleasantly surprised with Pierce Brosnan and his invisible car.

For those who consider doing future Survivor events, both the game and the prize were very cool, and well worth it. I would do it again in a heartbeat, because I had a lot of fun.

Home Movies always a good laugh

Annaleigh Curtis
Staff Writer

Every Sunday night at nine o'clock, without fail, I tune into Cartoon Network. At that time an amazing and wonderful show comes on: *Home Movies*.

Home Movies is a cartoon about Brendon Small, his family, and friends. Brendon is an aspiring director/producer/actor. He and his best friends Melissa and Jason make short films together every episode. His little sister can't talk yet, but she is always willing to be an extra in their movies.

They are constantly arguing about creative differences and how the movie should end. Of

course, all of them end with the same line; "and now it's time to pay the price". Once they made a movie called "Movie History" for the sole reason that they could say they made movie history.

When the three kids aren't making short films they are playing soccer for Coach McGuirk. He is always showing up in places where he is not really wanted. At one point he has to pretend to be Brendon's dad.

Also on the soccer team are two boys, Walter and Perry. They are probably my favorite minor characters on the show. Walter and Perry are always together and they provide some of the most memorable lines of the show.

Home Movies is something I

look forward to watching every week. The characters and episodes are very original and funny.

In one of the recent episodes a storm hits and Brendon's mom, Paula, has to get her book to her agent before he goes on a vacation. She gets stuck in a car with Walter and Perry. Wackiness ensues! Meanwhile, the kids decide whether they want to make a mockumentary about making a movie or a mock-making-of-a mockumentary movie, or maybe just the movie they want to make and mock.

I highly recommend that everyone and their dog watch *Home Movies*. I always get a good laugh or two or seven out of *Home Movies*. I give it four beets!

Audioslave held prisoner to lack of musical creativity

Tyler McMillan
Editorial Editor

I was pretty excited when I heard that the former singer of Soundgarden, Chris Cornell, would be teaming up with the remaining members of Rage Against the Machine to form a new band.

There hadn't been much happening with Tom Morello and the others since ex-RATM vocalist Zach De La Rocha left the scene a couple of years ago, so I had all but forgotten about the band when I heard that a new album was due out November 19th.

What I thought was cool about Rage Against the Machine was the way they made their rap-rock style of music with screaming political rants from singer Zach De La Rocha and a twist of funky, heavy guitar riffs from Tom Morello. They definitely defined their style, over and over again to the point that many of their songs were undistinguishable from the next.

Soundgarden continues to be an unforgettable band that contributed much to the grunge rock scene until their last album in 1997. They had been compared to band such as Seattle's Nirvana, but their songs showed that they had much more talent and depth.

The new rock super-group Audioslave released their self-titled debut album on November 19th featuring the talents of Chris Cornell and the remaining Rage members. Rage's producer suggested this alliance when the band was stuck with no direction with which to put their talent to use, resulting in pure rock piece of work.

The first song on the album, "Cochise," which is supposed about the Indian Chief Cochise who died free and unconquered, starts out in typical Rage fashion with a gradual buildup to the heavy, pounding guitar riffs produced by Tom Morello. Cornell's awesome rock voice came in answering my question, what would it sound like if Rage had a talented singer.

As the CD progresses, it becomes clear that Rage's style hasn't changed. Tracks like "Gasoline" and "Set it Off" still the same sound, if a bit toned down.

What is disappointing about this album musically is that Tom Morello seems to just be using the same riffs and guitar work that he used in previous albums instead of continuing to use his innovative technique to create new sounds. These licks are very cool, but get old when the same ones are used too many times.

Without Zach, the music in the way of vocals has lost its political edge, but has gained something else. Cornell's voice, as always, makes this album rock music in its purest form.

If there is any political message to be found on this CD though, it isn't nearly as blatant and

charged as Rage's works although the lyrics sometimes sing about religion. The last track on the album is called "The Last Light" and is probably influenced from old Rage songs.

All in all, this is an interesting piece of work. Chris Cornell teaming up with Rage Against the Machine to form Audioslave produced a great rock album. Check it out, but don't expect it to blow you away though. I give this three beets.



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