

GIF News Issue #17

November / December 1991:

Closer look at AdLib Gold, Windows 3.1 news, Wing Commander II Built-in cheat, Police Quest III, WordTris, Internet sites, new releases for various computers.



Hsiao & Hunter, Inc.
publishes GIF News
bimonthly, 6 times a yr.

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Microsoft Windows

* Microsoft Windows 3.1 is currently still in beta testing. Release date is now around 1st quarter 1992. Among the various features include TrueType font technology and "Embedded Objects". If you have a logo inserted in a document file and you modify the logo with Paint, the new updated logo will also appear in your document.
* Word for Windows Ver. 2.0 release date should be available by Christmas. It will carry a brand new look.

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Qmodem Goes Commercial

Mustang Software, Inc., developers of WILDCAT! BBS software, has acquired The Forbin Project's Qmodem telecommunications package. Starting Jan. 6, 1992, the distribution and ownership of Qmodem will belong to MSI. The current version of Qmodem is v4.3 and while quantities last, it will still remain shareware at \$30. In January Qmodem v5 will be available through retail channels and mail order houses and will carry a retail price of \$99. v5 will incorporate many new features, and current registered owners of Qmodem will be upgrade to the new version for \$35 before March 1, 1992. MSI recently acquired TOMCAT!, SLMR, & TNet Network message processor.



NOTE: THE ADLIB GOLD DOES NOT LOOK LIKE THIS



The new AdLib Gold Music Synthesizer Card should be released very soon in time for Christmas. If everything goes well, we will be bringing you a full fledged review of the card for our special December holiday issue. Among features of the AdLib Gold include: A memory resident control panel that will allow you to adjust all volume controls as well as bass and treble, which does away with having to reach behind the computer for the volume knob. Plus there will be three add-on daughterboards. The Surround Sound add-on enhances the sound by adding stereo depth simulation, artificial reverb, echo, and more. The PC Telephone Answering System connects to your phone, and the SCSI add-on is for owners with the model 1000 who want a CD-ROM drive.

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The Gamer's Corner

Wing Commander

Are those Kilrathi Cats too tough to beat? Origin has been kind to those who are about to give up - a built-in cheat. To engage the cheat, from DOS type wc2 Origin (and be sure to capitalize the O in Origin). Now, when you're in battle, lock on a target and press ALT-DEL and the target will be destroyed. Press ALT-INS and all enemy fighter targets will be destroyed. This cheat works for the original, secret missions, and Wing Commander II.

If you've finished Wing Commander II, do not delete the game just yet from your hard drive. Special Operations Disk #1, 2, & 3 will be released. The first one will introduce 2 new confederation ships and 1 Kilrathi. You will be able to fly the "Crossbow" which is like a broadsword but much more maneuverable. The storyline revolves around a mutinous group of Confederation pilots that you must fight. Future operations disks will involve "Space Pirates" as well as more Kilrathi political intrigue.

Amiga owners might be happy to learn that a European software house is developing Wing Commander I for Origin.
----- More Gaming News on Page 3

The Gamer's Corner (Continued)

New Releases from Europe

Thunderstrike fans, prepare for Thunderstrike II, with better graphics, an expanded story line, and new fractal-generated shapes. Available for PC, Amiga, & Atari ST.

Heimdall is an arcade game where you must prove yourself as a viking in order to learn the secrets to the three Universal dimensions. Available for the Amiga, with a PC version following.

From the company that brought Stealth Affair and Future Wars, Delphine is releasing a new game called Another World. A particle accelerator experiment goes wrong, throwing you into an alternate universe. The interface is the similar to Delphine's other adventure games. Available for PC, Amiga, & ST.

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Net News

GIF News welcomes the latest Internet accessible BBS, IDS (see ad on Page -2-)
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NASA news - 128.158.13.250
Song lyrics - 192.33.33.22
Internet Relay Chat - 128.2.54.2
Access nationwide libraries - 128.109.157.30 (login: bbs)

To: AA,
Thanks
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WORDTRIS™

The next installment of the 'Tris series brings us WORDTRIS. Every 'Tris game involves placing pieces to build something, and now you place letters to form words. This game is more enjoyable, easier, and more flexible than the last installment, Faces. Among its features include: excellent sound-

board support (especially Sound-Blaster owners) which features digitized sound during the game, and a different song at the beginning of each level. Background screens look beautiful in 256 colors on a hi-res Mac II screen, and the 256 color VGA screens look quite nice too. The game allows single player, competition, cooperation, and head-to-head modem/serial link play. Overall, this game will be a definite winner if you are a Tetris fan.

Currently available for PC & Mac



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POLICE QUEST III FROM SIERRA
THIS GAME IS MORE REALISTIC THAN EVER IN TERMS OF LIVING THE LIFE OF A POLICE OFFICER. A FANATIC CULT HAS MOVED INTO THE TOWN AND THEY ARE COMMITTING A SERIES OF GRUESOME MURDERS. IT'S YOUR JOB TO FIND OUT, AS DETECTIVE, WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE. BESIDES PLAYING DETECTIVE, YOU WILL ALSO LIVE THE ROLE AS A TRAFFIC COP, STOPPING SPEEDERS AND DRUNK DRIVERS. OVERALL, A COMPLICATED AND INTERESTING GAME.

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"YES, VIRGINIA, THERE WILL BE A KING COMMANDER III"

ROBO TRUCK

GN9111.TXT

GIF News

November 1991

Issue #17

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Release date: November 8, 1991

Dear GIF News reader,

Sorry for the week and a half delay of the release of this issue. It's been a busy month here with a new upgrade from a 286 12MHz to a 386-33MHz. Everything is running smoothly now. You may have noticed that this issue only has the month November on it. Does this mean GIF News has gone from bimonthly to monthly? Well, not exactly. We plan on releasing another issue in December

solely for review of products for the Holiday season. This includes games, hardware, software, etc. Be sure to look for it on a BBS near you. Starting January, GIF News will go back to being bimonthly.

Files in this archive:

GN9111-1. GIF	---	Page 1
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GN9111V4. GIF	---	Page 4 (256 Color page)
GN9111. TXT	---	This file
GN-DISKS. TXT	---	How to get .MOD files for Sound Blaster
GIFNEWS. ADS	---	How to advertise in GIF News
BACKISSU. TXT	---	Description of all back issues of GIF News

Thanks for taking the time to download this issue of GIF News. I really hope you like it. In this issue there are articles on: Mustang Acquisition of Qmodem, Windows 3.1 news, Wing Commander built-in cheat and information of the Secret Operations Disks, review of WordTris, new games coming out for various computer platforms, more handy Internet TELNETable addresses, Police Quest III, a closer look at the AdLib Gold, and more.

Again, GIF News can be freely copied and shared just as long as no modifications what-so-ever are made to this archive. If you enjoyed reading the past 6 or so issues of GIF News, please consider a small donation of \$5 to cover my cost of uploading GIF News long distance to BBS's across the country. Or instead, please upload GIF News to a couple of your favorite boards. Any bit of distribution helps.

Free advertising continues...read GIFNEWS.ADS for more details. Also, interested in megs of TrakBlaster .MOD files without the cost of downloading them long distance? Read the file GN-DISKS.TXT for an offer you can't refuse.

Special note to Internet readers: If you would like to be a GIF News subscriber, just send me E-mail and I'll add you to the mailing list. GIF News will be uuencoded and sent to you via E-mail. Many uudecoders exist for both unix and ms-dos platforms. If you can't unzip on your machine, let me know and

I'll send up the file in an LZH archive or a ZOO archive.

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gn91-11.zip <-- The gn stands for GIF News, the 91 represents the year, and the 11 is the month (November in this case).

So be sure to look for gn91-12.zip come December.

Several FTP sites you might want to look for GIF News are:

wuarchive.wustl.edu /pub/MSDOS_UPLOADS/gif-news

aix.rpi.edu /pub-write

saffron.inset.com /incoming/gifnews

ab20.larc.nasa.gov /incoming/amiga/Gif-news

I am happy to receive any comments or suggestions.

Please send them to any of the addresses below.

Thanks for your support,
Eric Hsiao
Editor-in-chief of GIF News

How to reach me:

US Mailing Address #1

Eric Hsiao
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***** Please send to this address between 9/1/91 to 5/1/92) *****

US Mailing Address #2 (reach me quicker between dates

Sept. 1, 1991 to May 1, 1992)

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Issue #	Date	Description
-----	----	-----
01	Nov/Dec 1988	Reviews of Leisure Suit Larry II, Fire Power, and Sentinel Worlds, a short autobiography of Hsiao & Hunter, Inc.
02	Feb/Mar 1989	Virus protection safeguards, review of Police Quest II, "Are MS-DOS Games Getting Better" editorial, game hints to Leisure Suit Larry 2.

03 1st Are	May/June 1989	Industry news, Space Quest]II[review, annual Sight & Sound Awards, "Taito Games Terrible" editorial.
04 Rad driving Lombard the of	July/Aug 1989	Nintendo Game Hints (Super Mario Bros 2, Racer, Karnov), Reviews of 4 different simulation games (Vette, Test Drive 2, Rally, F40 Pursuit Simulator), Review of game Caveman Ugh-Lympics, a short overview Lotus 123 Release 3.
05 For of	Nov/Dec 1989	Review of Maxis' Sim City, the new Tears Fears CD "Seeds of Love", and a review Sierra's Manhunter II.
06 Sierra's music &	Jan/Feb 1990	A Look back at the eighties, review of the Colonel's Bequest, and a overview of cards (AdLib, GameBlaster, SoundBlaster, Roland), the best VGA games.
07 Good?" BBS Crimewave digitizing	Mar/Apr 1990	"Do Sound Cards Really Sound that editorial, a profile of the Channel 1(tm) in Cambridge, MA, review of Access' and Bitmap Bros' Xenon II, look at

sounds.

- | | | |
|----|---------------|--|
| 08 | May/June 1990 | Detailed look at the VGA and VESA
video
the
standard, the Ultima VI built-in cheat,
World of Amiga show in New York City. |
| 09 | July/Aug 1990 | Request for BBS distribution sites,
Computer
card,
Industry News, a look at the Sound Blaster
a review of Spectrum Holobytes' Faces game. |
| 10 | Sept/Oct 1990 | Review of the games Atomix & Puzznik, a look
at
v. 42
Battlechess II and future game releases,
& v. 42bis - what their advantages are. |
| 11 | Nov/Dec 1990 | Look at the TrakBlaster program, new
Flight
games
Lane,
a
Simulator scenery disks, Reviews of
Spellcasting 101 and Jones in the Fast
the Amiga Video Toaster by NewTek, Being
Game Designer for Electronic Arts. |
| 12 | Jan/Feb 1991 | V. 32bis standard, XGA, LaserDiscs,
the
to
of
controversial Lotus-Equifax CD-ROM CD, "Boo
Disney Software" editorial, FD-Format, review
the game Hard Nova. |
| 13 | Mar/Apr 1991 | Look at Workstations, BBS' s pay business
rates |

on their phone lines, JMPlayer review, Amiga 24

bit graphics, the first VGA page ever.

14 May/June 1991 The Prodigy STAGE.DAT controversy, review
of

Audio

TrakBlaster v2.0, MediaVision's Pro-

Spectrum, Amiga News, Review of Lemmings.

15 July/Aug 1991 The PC Expo in NYC, look at Creative
Labs'

game

Voice Edit program, hints to the adventure

Alley,

Time Quest, a review of the game Armor

News

Internet News, and the first-ever GIF

contest.

16 Sept/Oct 1991 Sound Blaster Pro Vs. AdLib Gold, "High
Prices

News,

for Game Software" Editorial, Internet

Contest Winners Announced.

17 Nov/Dec 1991 Closer look at AdLib Gold, Windows 3.1
news,

Police

Wing Commander II Built-in cheat,

new

Quest III, WordTris, Internet sites,

releases for various computers.

GN-DISKS.TXT

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.MOD files at your service

Can't seem to find any boards in your area with alot of TrakBlaster
.MOD files? Wish you had more, but don't want to spend the lengthy

time to download them from long distance boards? If you're like me, after listening to the TrakBlaster program play music, you swore you would never go back to .ROL or .CMF files again. Well, I have a solution to those people who want more, but can't find more. I have amassed about 10 megs of .MOD files, and would like to share them with you.

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Eric Hsiao
Editor of GIF News

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