

# Video Review

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THE WORLD AUTHORITY ON HOME VIDEO

CBS Labs  
Test Reports  
plus  
Tape & Disc  
Reviews

**EXCLUSIVE: FIRST LAB TESTS OF NEW  
PIONEER VIDEODISC PLAYER**

*Special  
Fall Preview:  
What's New?  
What's Tapeable?*



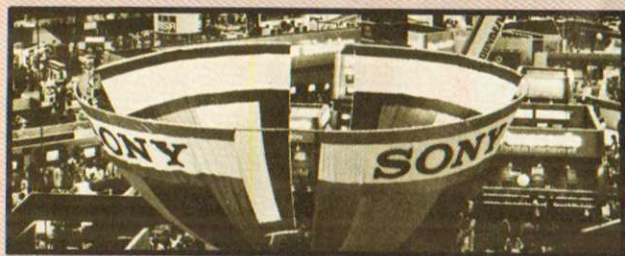
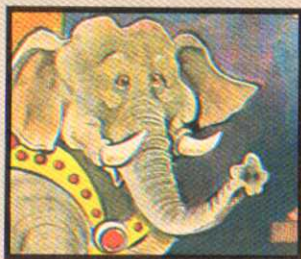
*A New Way Every  
Day to Use Your VCR*

*The Care and Feeding of Your Tapes*



SEPTEMBER 1980  
CONTENTS

# Video Review®



## FEATURES

**Videodiscs—Straight Talk About the Three-Way Race** The "Videodisc Derby" is heating up—with changes in the lineup around every turn. Bob Angus examines the pros and cons of all the entries, to help you come out a winner. Also: a sampler of available videodisc programs . . . . . **48**

**A New Way Every Day to Use Your VCR** If you think VCRs are only for taping off the air or playing movies, you're not getting your money's worth out of your equipment. There are literally hundreds of ways to use a VCR. This first of a series details a few that may be for you . . . . . **52**

**The Care and Feeding of Your Videotapes** Videocassettes can last a lifetime—or they can become unplayable in no time flat. Why? Marc Wielage reviews some moneysaving do's and don'ts . . . . . **54**

**Direct It: Brian Eno Tells You How** The avant-garde video artist, composer and producer offers some unusual advice on taping your own "video art" . . . . . **60**

**Critics' Choice: Tape 'Em Cowboys** Over 400 western movies, serials and TV programs are now available on videocassette or disc. William K. Everson, author of The Westerns, sorts out the best for your video library . . . . . **93**

## SPECIAL 1980-81 FALL PREVIEW

**What's New From the Networks?** A home videotaper's guide to highlights of the new season's top broadcast programming . . . . . **56**

**What's Coming on Cable?** Cable and pay TV are out to top the networks with a range of programming vastly different from broadcast TV . . . . . **57**

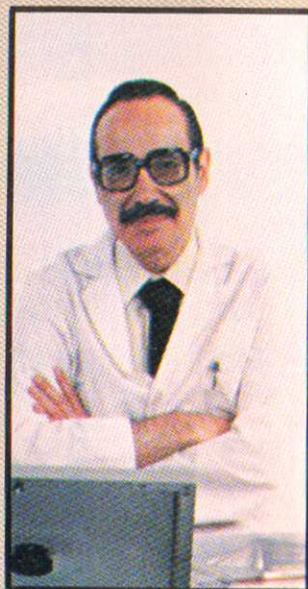
## REVIEWS

**Equipment Exclusive:** CBS Technology Center tests Pioneer's new VP-1000 videodisc player. Three other test reports: General Electric 19-inch color TV and two new VCRs from JVC and Quasar . . . . . **32**

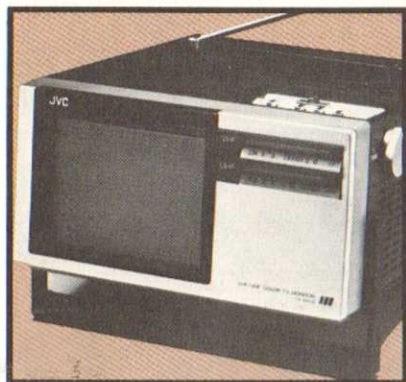
**Programs** Andrew Sarris on Steve Martin and Ed Sullivan . . . Rex Reed on To Be or Not To Be and The Man Who Fell To Earth . . . John S. Wilson on Duke Ellington . . . William K. Everson on The Defenders . . . Elissa Hoden Guest on March of the Wooden Soldiers . . . David Hajdu on Woodstock . . . Bob Angus on opera . . . an ex-con on Scared Straight . . . Al Goldstein on two Xs . . . plus 200 new capsule reviews . . . . **66**  
**Contest Winners** for June's "Pick the Phony Flick" . . . . . **75**

## DEPARTMENTS

- Viewpoints** Richard Ekstract keeps you posted . . . . . **8**
- Letters** Gays protest porn review . . . . . **10**
- Video News** by David Hajdu. A video potpourri . . . . . **14**
- Video Views** by Bob Angus. Sound off on video noise . . . **16**
- What's Coming** A blockbuster new product . . . . . **18**
- Looking Ahead** by Bob Gerson. A special report on the Summer Consumer Electronics Show . . . . . **20**
- New Products** This month's hottest hardware . . . . . **24**
- Q&A** Experts answer your questions . . . . . **26**
- Games** by Phil Wiswell. A video-game game . . . . . **30**
- Broadcast TV** What's worth catching this month . . . . . **96**
- Humor** More of the wholly fictitious history of television . **104**



**JVC**  
**Portable Television**  
**CX-610 \$449.95**



JVC has introduced a portable color TV monitor designed with the videotaper in mind.

The 9.7-pound set is equipped with input terminals for a video signal so videophiles can preview and replay their on-location product for color and picture composition.

The unit runs off "D"-size batteries, rechargeable battery pack, car or boat battery and AC current.

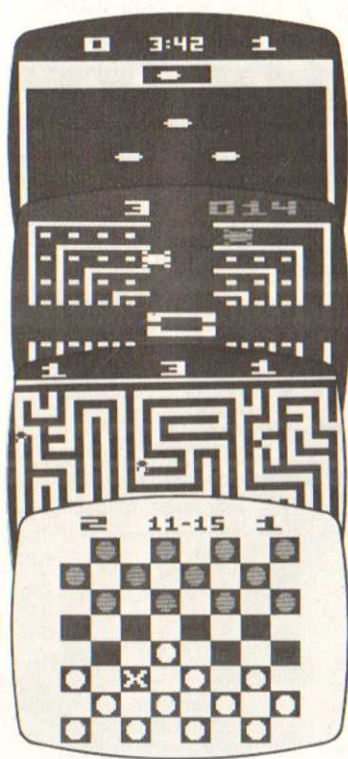
Optional accessories include a carrying case, battery case, rechargeable battery pack and car adapter. □

**ATARI**  
**Video-Game Cartridges**  
**Maze Craze**  
**Video Checkers**  
**Championship Soccer**  
**Dodge 'Em**

In a first for video-game cartridges, Atari's new Championship Soccer (designed by a Soccer coach) features a "scrolling" playing field that gives users the impression of hovering over the playing area as they follow the ball.

Maze Craze is a chase game with players pitted against a computer foe. Repeated plays won't give users any advantage, because there are 256 different ways to get lost.

Video Checkers is the classic rainy-day game with nine levels of computer difficulty. And Dodge 'Em is a video-game version of the television movie *Duel*, with a player-driver attempting to avoid oncoming computer cars. □



**SONY**  
**VCR**  
**SL-5800**

A new head has given Sony's latest Betamax features usually

associated with professional models.

The "Double Azimuth" video head offers "Variable BetaScan," allowing the user to search backward and forward at any speed from 5 to 20 times normal by remote control.

The head also provides improved freeze frame, variable slow motion and single-frame advance by virtually eliminating noise bars. The Beta I/II/III unit features a 14-day, 4-event programmable timer, automatic tab maker and logic-controlled function keys. □



**QUASAR**  
**Handheld Computer**  
**HHC**

It's almost a Univac in your hand. Quasar is offering a handheld computer that is comparable in many functions to desktop models several times its size. It even interfaces with a TV screen.

The palm-sized terminal is the backbone of Quasar's "Micro Information System," a wide-ranging array of miniaturized computer hardware.

The HHC weighs less than one pound and can be used as a world clock with an alarm, stop watch, calculator, memo recorder, learning aid, reference library, telephone directory, handheld game, language translator and information processor.

The unit is compatible with a range of Quasar information-system peripherals, including a programmable random-access memory, telephone modem for accessing information banks, mini-printer for hard copies and television display adapter.

The device can also be used with any of the 28 Quasar memory capsules, offering users 19 language, four business, two game and three information modules. □

**ALLSOP**  
**Video Head Cleaner**  
**Allsop 3 \$29.95**

This latest VHS head cleaner utilizes a nonabrasive imitation-chamois pad and special solution to



clean audio and video heads, pinch roller and capstan.

An optional replaceable cleaning cartridge sells for \$8.95. □

# A video game game



Phil Wiswell

Video is only half of video games. And most video-game players love any kind of good game as much as they enjoy home video.

So here's something special for video fans, game fans

and video-game fans—a game about video games. It may not be as futuristic as Space Invaders or as fast-moving as Pong, but you'll probably find this multiple-choice quiz about video gaming just as challenging and fun. Answers on page 102. Now, let your joysticks cool off, pick up a pencil, and good luck!

**1. The first home-video game was introduced in 1972. It was called:**

- (a) Odyssey
- (b) Iliad
- (c) Pong
- (d) Ping

**2. A video-game or computer chip is:**

- (a) A silicon wafer that combines resistors, diodes, capacitors and transistors into a single electronic part
- (b) A toasted cheese snack for video-game buffs
- (c) A semiprecious-metal plate on which a logic circuit has been carved
- (d) Something off the ol' main-frame block

**3. Match these video-game companies with their systems:**

- |              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Atari    | 1. Intellivision         |
| (b) APF      | 2. Professional Arcade   |
| (c) Bally    | 3. MP 1000               |
| (d) Magnavox | 4. Video Computer System |
| (e) Mattel   | 5. Odyssey <sup>2</sup>  |

**4. The first video-game system to use interchangeable cartridge programs was made by:**

- (a) Sears
- (b) J.C. Penney
- (c) Fairchild Instrument Corp.
- (d) The Burry elves

**5. A "dedicated" video game is one that:**

- (a) Sticks with its master through thick and thin
- (b) Is not programmable
- (c) Has a built-in video screen
- (d) Incorporates the user's custom instructions

**6. Who has earned the nickname "King Pong"?**

- (a) Stanley Simbal, winner of the first "Video Olympics," held in San Francisco in 1979
- (b) The inventor of the first video game, Andrew Kazdin
- (c) Nolan Bushnell, co-founder of Atari
- (d) Guinness Book of World Records' Hungarian video-game champ Gyorgy Ligeti

**7. Zero Beat is:**

- (a) The first musical game cartridge
- (b) Jack Kerouac's novella about Greenwich Village, despair and video
- (c) The final instant a video-game player has to initiate a command
- (d) A result of shifting the frequency in video-game/computer programming

**8. Atari inventors work in a secluded laboratory to create new game ideas. Where is it located?**

- (a) The Sierra Nevada
- (b) 100 miles southwest of Phoenix
- (c) The Bronx
- (d) Ronald Reagan's barbershop

**9. What does ROM stand for?**

- (a) Roll Off Memory
- (b) Read Only Memory
- (c) Right On Machine
- (d) A programming language based on Roman numerals

**10. A yig device is:**

- (a) A '50s "video game" which was essentially a clear plastic screen
- (b) A discriminator
- (c) In computer language, a scrambler for reprogramming
- (d) In computer language, a tool for tickling your opponent in the tuchus

**11. Which of the following games is not available as a video-game program?**

- (a) Pachinko
- (b) Skiing
- (c) Horse Racing
- (d) Mah-Jongg

**12. The computer chip that runs most video-game programs is about the size of:**

- (a) A microdot
- (b) A postage stamp
- (c) Your little toenail
- (d) Orson Welles

**13. What company licenses all its sports cartridges through national sports associations such as the NFL and the NBA?**

- (a) Atari
- (b) Magnavox
- (c) Bally
- (d) Mattel
- (e) Nabisco

**14. Which company provides a "Fire" button on both right and left sides of its joysticks for the convenience of left-handed players?**

- (a) Mattel
- (b) Magnavox
- (c) APF
- (d) ADA

Phil Wiswell is Games Editor of Video Review and Associate Editor of Games magazine.