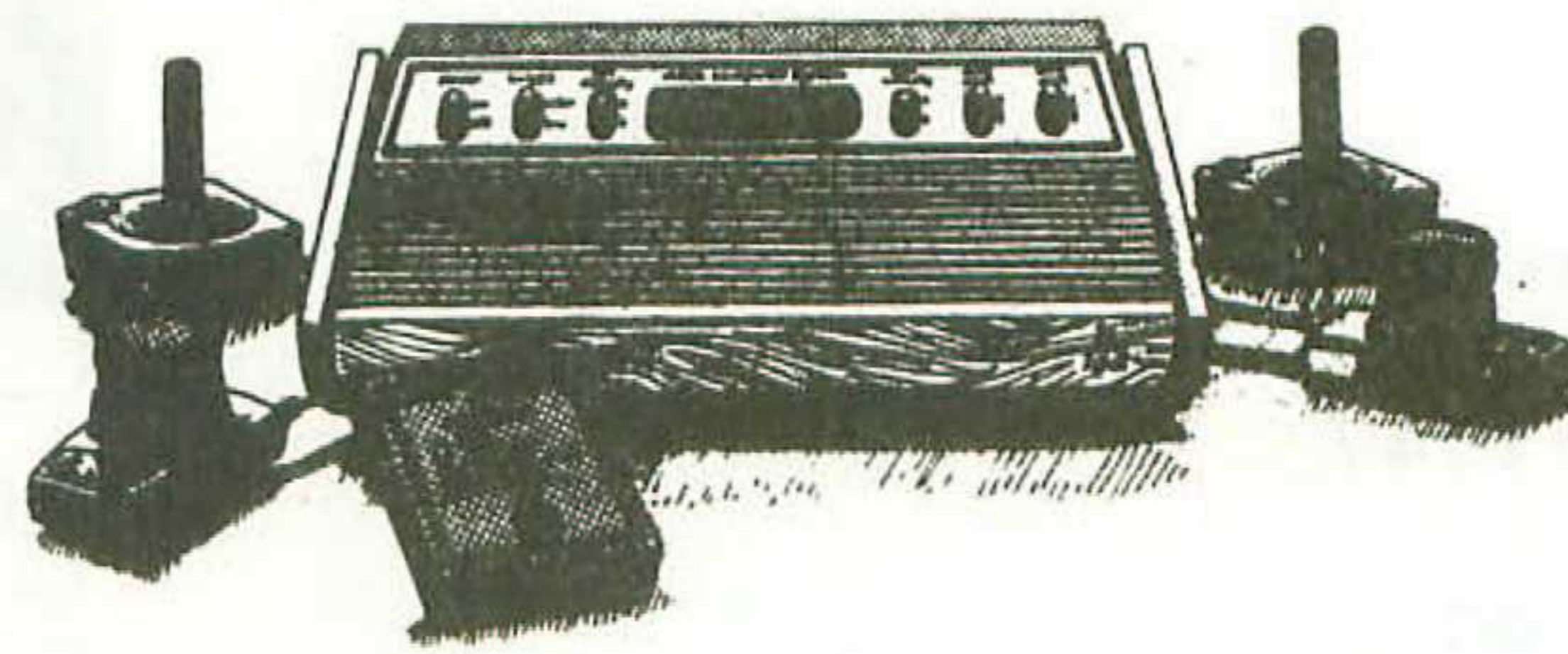


# VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM UPDATE...



By now many of the previously announced VCS cartridges should be available in your area. These include ATARI's OTHELLO(tm), Video Pinball(tm), and the un-announced Missile Command(tm). From Activision, Freeway(tm) and Kaboom!(tm) are soon to be released this summer, and two new games just announced, Stampede(tm) and Ice Hockey will be available in December of this year.

Ice Hockey is described as a realistic video version of the fast moving game, and with Activisions great graphics, I'm sure it will be. Stampede doesn't quite sound like your everyday game cartridge... you're supposed to be on a horse attempting to rope down all sorts of critters... this sounds interesting!



Also of course, the Warlords(tm) cartridge from ATARI is due for release the end of June. I've seen an arcade version of this and it looks pretty good. Asteroids(tm) is due in July/August. Games announced for the second half of 1981 from ATARI include a version of Super Breakout(tm) for the VCS, 'Haunted House' (you got me... maybe on the idea of their Adventure cartridge?), Turret Gunner (don't know much about this one either), and Steeplechase, which is based on their arcade game of the same name. The latter is available exclusively through most SEARS stores now, along with another game, Stellar Track.

Many of A.N.A.L.O.G.'s readers own ATARI's VCS and the response to this column has been good, so it will remain a regular feature. One question that pops up fairly often is to whether the VCS cartridges can or will function in the computers. The answer to this is NO (at least for the time being). The interfacing formats are different between the two and you'll probably burn out the game cartridge chip if you put it in a computer cartridge, so I wouldn't attempt it. It's possible someone is working on a 'compatibility' module right now... □