

HOT AT THE ARCADES



By Manny LaMancha

Daytona USA

(Sega)

Virtua Racing steered the evolution of arcade driving games, and now Sega has taken another leap with its latest racer, Daytona USA. Daytona combines the high-octane action of Virtua Racing with Ridge Racer's sheer realism to

create an incredibly intense trip around the track. You won't see an empty spot on the 50-inch screen: Detailed trees and fences line the course, as well as buildings, animated animals, and signs. Although VR's polygon graphics were revolutionary, Daytona goes a step further with its slicker-looking, texture mapping graphics.

But you're not there just to look at the sights. Like VR,

Daytona gives you three tracks to choose from, with increasing levels of difficulty and high-octane excitement. Daytona's steering is much more sensitive than VR's, and skids are much harder to recover from.

Word is that Williams is working on an amazingly realistic driving game to answer Sega's volley. Until then, you'll spend a lot of time in this driver's seat.

Thanks to C. A. Robinson of Los Angeles, California, for helping us get detailed looks at Daytona.

Get behind the wheel...



...or behind the car!



You'll flip over this racing game!



By Lawrence of Arcadia

Alien vs. Predator

(Capcom)

Just when you thought that every egg was squashed, every chest burster busted, and every Queen dethroned, along comes Capcom with a new Alien game, and this one makes the others look like child's play.

In this three-player game, you can choose to be one of four characters: a Warrior Predator, a Hunter Predator, Lt. Linn Kurosawa, or Major Dutch Schaefer. Each character has their own special moves and screen-clearing tactics, which are reminiscent of Final Fight.

You'll waste a variety of different aliens (such as Warriors, Slammers, and Arachnids) with their own moves, and even the Queen Alien herself.

The graphics, sound, and controls all kick acid. The QSound audio is a feast for the ears, and the fairly simple controls (stick-and-move) are a welcome relief for your thumbs.



PROTIP: If you're the Predator, find the Super power-up that enables you to fire your shoulder cannon without overheating the gun. Then just stay in a corner and whale away.

Don't mistake this game for a simple walkie-sockie, though. There are tons of different moves, and the only way to find them is sinking your quarters in and practicing. If fighting hordes of alien intruders sounds like a job you'd enjoy, then Capcom has your work cut out for you.



ALIEN vs. PREDATOR



This time it's war!



PROTIP: Jump and shoot at the Queen, but watch out for her claws.

Alien vs. Predator By Capcom				
Graphics	Sound	Control	FunFactor	Challenge
5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	INT.
Available now	Side view	Multiscrolling		
Action/adventure				
3 players				