

# Excess all areas

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO THE CLUB SCENE

WELL the summer's well and truly over — not that we really had a summer in England. The smoking ban has been a real problem for those of us who have to freeze our nads off after being banished to the street. It has been hitting club land quite hard with promoters having to dream up all kinds of solutions to the problem. It has been hard for the clubs that are built underground or on the high street. We are just starting to see the casualties of this, with clubs closing up and down the country.

## Patches

Some have resorted to charging a pound to go outside for a smoke, on a one in, one out basis. Ridiculous! And even worse, some clubs are contemplating selling nicotine patches — maybe this could be a new line for all the out of work ecstasy-dealers as nobody seems too interested in pills since they got cheaper to buy than a pint.

The smoking ban has worked great for us at Back to Basics as we have a large garden area at the back, but I do feel sorry for those clubs with nowhere for their smokers to go. The summer seems to have flown by this year and we have seen the last of the festivals. But it seemed the best was saved until last, with that of course being Bestival. What a f\*\*\*ing awesome three days it was, with 28,000 people all being nice to each other.

The sun saw fit to shine, making it the only dry fest of the year — which shone through the attitude of the people there. I was invited on stage by Saturday's special guests Madness — and what a feeling it was to be up there! Big thanks to the boys for letting me join in their special brand of nuttiness.

The weekend saw many great acts, including the Chemical Brothers. Tom and Ed never let a festival down and Bestival proved to be a great warm-up for their triumphal Trafalgar Square gig the following night.

## Roadie

But for me, the highlight for has to be Primal Scream, who never ever fail to deliver. They are truly the last bastion of rock 'n' roll today. Suggs of Madness tried to point this out by invading the stage at the beginning of Primal's set — only for a very burly and very tattooed roadie to pick him up and "escort" him off-stage.

Meanwhile, Bobby Gillespie didn't move an inch from his perfect rock 'n' roll stance. This boy really knows how to hold a microphone! F\*\*\* your Pete Doherty's, Bobby is a true living rock god!

This week I'll be in Leeds at Back to Basics on Saturday night with Lisa Loud and Kriss Darang. I'll also be in London on Sunday at Public Life on Commercial Street, with Simon Rigg, Miss Digga and Lucy Hill. Hope to see you all there!

- Beero's top 3 tunes are:**
- 1 Laid Back Luke — House Trap, 2000 and One Mix (Stealth Records)
  - 2 Jona — Ashes and Dust (Resopal Records)
  - 3 The Youngsters — Third Knife (2020 Vision Recordings)

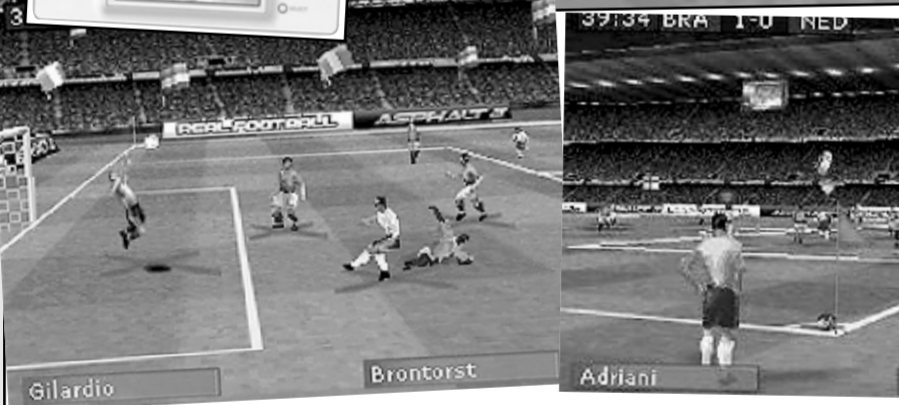
Dave Beer

# SATURDAY Sport REVIEW

# Game on!

## YOU CAN SWEAR AT THE EFFIN' REF

### REAL FOOTBALL (DS)



**KIDS** these days have no respect. They think they've got a God-given right to play violent head-chopping, limb-lopping video games. What these ungrateful little tw\*\*ts don't realise is that this had to be fought for in the dark days of the 1980s.

And the Martin Luther King of video game violence was *Barbarian*. This was a gladiator-style fighting game released in 1987 by a small British company called Palace Software. Same company which made that rosey British movie *Absolute Beginners*.

*Barbarian* was dynamite. It was the first game in which you could chop off your opponent's head. It was the money shot and a weird little ogre creature who looked similar to Wayne Rooney — would walk on and kick the dismembered head across the screen. Seminal stuff.

The game was advertised with scantily-clad Page 3 girl Maria Whittaker and the bloke who went on to become Wolf in *Gladiators*. It was like crack cocaine for teenage nerds. *Barbarian* became the tabloid newspaper's whipping boy. They wanted it banned. It represented the sexism and mindless violence of video games. And naturally, it went on to sell a shed load.

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

- Maria Whittaker got married to the Rebel MC.
- Wolf lives in New Zealand and runs a children's indoor playground.

BARBARIAN (SPECTRUM/COMMODORE)

**THIS must be a first — a game that encourages you to tell it to f\*\*\* off. It's a beautiful thing.**

What happens is you're playing a match. You do a Robbie Savage-style medieval foul, the referee minces up and starts fingering his pocket for a red card.

Then you're given a chance to "influence" the little Hitler's decision by shouting abuse at him through the DS mic. "I got the ball you stupid f\*\*\*ing c\*\*\*. Send me off then big bollox, I f\*\*\*ing dare you." That kind of good-natured appeal to his senses.

And if you give him the right amount of abuse he'll bottle it and give you the yellow instead of a red. It's the kind of refereeing that Alex Ferguson must have wet dreams about. The ref even tells you off for being "too shy" if you don't abuse him enough. He's a sick puppy.

It's a bit of a daft gimmick but the game itself isn't bad. It's a definite Peter Crouch — looks ugly but does a decent job. The way it lets you ping the ball around is satisfying and it's arcadey without being too unrealistic. It's got all the Premiership and most international teams but it's not properly licensed so the players have been renamed by a dyslexic.

**OVERALL: Championship**  
**BETTER THAN:** Attending anger management  
**WORSE THAN:** DS version of Pro Evolution Soccer  
**FACT:** David Beckham appears in this game as Beckham. Well done. Says it all.

### TOP 5 MISSING REAL FOOTBALL FEATURES

- Player knacker adjustment
- Realistic pitches with auto-generated dog shit
- Accurate hangovers with pitchside vomiting
- Activate a quick getaway and avoid paying subs
- A post match replay system which turns taps-ins into 30-yard drives



### JUMPERS FOR GOALPOSTS

**1987** FOOTBALL: Liverpool breeze the First Division but get beat by Wimbledon in the FA Cup Final.

David Pleat resigns as manager of Spurs following curb crawling accusations. MUSIC: The Smiths disband. Neighbours actress Kylie Minogue releases her first single *The Loco-Motion*. U2 record *Where The Streets Have No Name* video on LA rooftop. NEWS: TV weatherman Michael Fish tells viewers not to worry about strong winds shortly before Britain is battered by a hurricane which cause more than £1 billion damage.

### SKATE (XBOX 360)

NEVER understood skateboarding. It reminds me of those speciality circus acts they used to have on *The Paul Daniels Magic Show* — a couple of scrawny Belgians in spangly outfits riding around on unicycles and all that.

And I feel a bit sorry for skater dudes — that's the lingo. It's like they've backed the wrong horse. All their mates are out drinking cider and studying porn while these rosy-faced kids hang around shopping centres in their ridiculous baggy trousers. They spend their formative years either flat on their arse watching the board skid off into the distance or in the queue for casualty. It's just too f\*\*\*ing hard — and dangerous. I'd rather my kids took drugs.

Or alternatively lock them up in their room with some pizzas, a bucket, toilet paper and a copy of *SKATE*. It's f\*\*\*ing great, actually.

### Tricks

It shows that if you take away the pain, endless misery and general disdain of normal society, skateboarding can be a good laugh.

Skateboarding in games has been dominated by the Tony Hawk franchise for years. They've shovelled endless remakes of the essentially the same game out and they always sell a shed load. But just like Tony Hawk's receding hairline, they're really starting to show their age.

*Skate* is a lot less cartoony and more of a simulation. It's a game that treats you like an adult. You can't instantly do double back flip McTwisters or whatever the f\*\*\* they're called. You have to really work at it. But when you do pull off a trick, it's a proper buzz.

And even if you can't be arsed doing the tricks and stuff, it's just really relaxing to glide around the environment and listen to the clickety-clack of wheel on concrete. **OVERALL: Baggytastic**  
**BETTER THAN:** Tony Hawk  
**WORSE THAN:** Cider and porn  
**FACT:** *Skate* is also a type of fish which lays its eggs in a horny case known as a mermaid's purse. That's true that is.



## ++ GAMING NEWS ++ GAMING NEWS ++ GAMING NEWS ++

### TINY TEARAWAYS

SEXY telly MILF Dr Tanya Byron is really worried about us gamers.

She thinks we're all f\*\*\*ed-up from childhoods spent playing too many video games. But like Jodie Foster in *Silence Of The Lambs* she's bravely entering the prison compound and wants to know what has made us all into such depraved and dangerous monsters. Here's her e-mail: [Byron.Review@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Byron.Review@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk). Quick, before you kill someone.

### GAME OVER

The grim reaper doesn't carry a scythe any more, he carries a Nintendo Wii remote control. Apparently the console is becoming massively popular in nursing homes, especially in America, with Nintendo Wii bowling leagues being formed.

## Unlucky for your elf



### WORLD OF WARCRAFT

SOME new research out reckons that every single day gamers devote 440,000 hours to slaying goblins and pixies in *World of Warcraft*. 440,000 f\*\*\*ing hours!!! Makes you think. What could be achieved if all that time was put towards doing good. Like knitting hats for tramps or clearing s\*\*\*te out of canals. Together we could make a beautiful tomorrow.

## ALBUM REVIEWS



**THE HOOSIERS, *The Trick To Life***  
FOLLOWING on from the huge success of their singles *About Ray* and *Goodbye Mr A*, The Hoosiers' debut album *The Trick To Life* will not disappoint.

Filled with upbeat treats, as well as glimpses of a darker edge, the album contains standout tracks like *Run Rabbit Run* and *A Sadness Runs Through Him*. Irwin's powerful vocals influences ranging from The Cure through to Supertramp, laced with some early Genesis.

**VARIOUS, *Radio 1's Live Lounge***  
THIS much-anticipated album is a unique selection of tracks from the legendary Live Lounge sessions on Jo White's lunchtime show on BBC Radio 1.

The best bands in the world have visited Jo's studio at the BBC to record one original song and one cover. These tracks are brought together on one album for the first time, including Will Young's memorable reworking of Outkast's *Hey Ya*, Jamaica tackling Linkin Park's *Numb* and Sugababes toning down Harli's *Living For The Weekend*.

**ORSON, *Culture Culture***  
FOLLOW-UP to Orson's platinum selling album, *Bright Idea*, the Hollywood band provide more of the same in this collection — only with bigger guitars, louder drums and even more contagious hooks than their smash single *No Tomorrow*.

*Culture Culture* promises Orson's default pop spirit while leaning towards a more raw, live sound.

It promises to be a ballsy, party record, drenched with pop hooks and shower-friendly melodies.

## SINGLE REVIEWS

**TAKE THAT, *Rule The World***  
THE lads return with an appropriate title for the band behind one of the biggest comebacks in pop history.

*Rule The World* includes an 18-piece string ensemble and Gary Barlow on lead.

And the title could be an omen for the 90s four-piece because the track features on the soundtrack of forthcoming fantasy blockbuster *Stardust*.

**FREEMASONS FEAT. BAILEY TZUKE, *Uninvited***  
CLASSY dance track from the masters Freemasons.

This time they come out with their own track, featuring a soaring melody, an eerie piano riff, and a driving dance beat.

Tzuke provides a haunting vocal to make this the club hit of the moment.

## DVD REVIEWS

**LOST: THE COMPLETE THIRD SERIES**  
THE suspense, secrets, and fear continue in these 23 episodes of the hit US series.

The puzzle pieces of the Others, the Dharma Project, and how the island seems to know the survivors of the plane crash continue to keep fans hooked in series three.

This collection includes more clues that take viewers deeper into the mystery, including never-before-seen flashbacks.

**HORROR SEQUEL TO ONE OF THE GORLEST horror films ever made.**

Director Eli Roth takes the helm again, with a tale of rich Yanks paying loads of money to torture helpless back-packers in deepest Europe.

The body-count is higher, and the amount of fake blood goes off the scale, but really, haven't we seen all this before?

**DIRTY DANCING 20TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTOR'S EDITION**  
YES, it's two decades since Patrick Swayze first wiggled his hips on screen.

No doubt your missus still binges on about how *Dirty Dancing* is her favourite film — so get in her good books by bagging this special edition DVD.

There's always the totty to check out as holiday makers at a camp get down and dirty with each other.

