

EA's gone mad in March

BY BLAKE ARNOLD

With the college basketball season in full swing, the video games that correspond with it are hitting the shelves. One such offering from EA Sports is March Madness 2002 (available on PS2).

This game plays superbly well with smooth animation and responsive controls. The skill of the players in real life has been programmed into the game giving it a definite feel of realism. You can't just take a no name team and beat a powerhouse like Duke or Kentucky without computer assistance.

This game is easy to pick up and play with intuitive controls (square=steal/pass, circle=shoot, triangle=block) on the standard PS2 controller, but it does have enough depth in the gameplay to hold even the hardcore gamer for an extended period of time.

The only downside I can find with March Madness is the lack of a dynasty mode which has been a staple on all previous editions of the game, allowing you to build you

Game
graphic
not
available

own team from scratch and through the years lead them to a national title. This shortcoming could be counteracted with the inclusion of the ability to simulate a season. This too, has been neglected, leaving an otherwise perfect game lacking and forces me to score it as a 6 out of 10.

Only buy Madness if you love basketball games and can live without the dynasty or season modes. I recommend a week-long rental from Blockbuster as sufficient fare.

'Remember' what life really can be like

BY MACKENZIE LAMB

Pop sensation Mandy Moore stars in a romantic love story, *A Walk to Remember*. Most definitely this movie can be classified as a major chick flick, but with Valentines Day right around the corner, it could be handy.

Moore plays Jamie Sullivan, a preacher's daughter growing up without a mother. She's a senior but, the focus of her fellow classmates' jokes. Moore participates in the senior play with one of the starring roles in her hand. Also forced to star in the play, by the school's principal, is Landon Carter, played by Shane West.

Landon is a popular, admired, senior who has a passion for mischief. His passion soon leads him to select one of two choices: school expulsion or starring in the play and community service. So near graduation, option two is an easy pick.

After rehearsing lines together Landon soon realizes he's fallen for the peculiar Jamie Sullivan, surprising not only himself but every-

Shane West and Mandy Moore star in *A Walk to Remember*.

one else, as well. Landon's love causes him to lose the popular image and so-called friends. He focuses on Jamie and tries to make her every dream come true but the love of his life has an ulterior secret that she isn't ready to expose.

A Walk to Remember is a per-

fect representation of how life can change once you meet that special one and how dreams can come true. Love is about learning to let go and learning to believe. On a scale of one to ten, one being the least, I'd easily give this movie eight bright shining stars.

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