

# Summer games prove worthy of time and money

Summer is coming to a close, and for the video game industry, this fall means two new game consoles. With the Nintendo Wii and the Sony Playstation 3 releasing in a few months, many developers are hard at work on their games for the new consoles' launch, which means that not many new games have been released over the summer. From the few that were released, however, here are the ones worth picking up:



Andrew Seal

**PREY (PC, X360)**

After more than a decade of being in development hell, 3-D Realms' long-awaited first person shooter was released in July. The story's main character is a man named Tommy, a Cherokee Indian who is caught between his ancestral heritage and his love for life "off of the reservation." All that changes when a massive alien bio-sphere ship begins to orbit the earth and abducts Tommy, his girlfriend Jen and his grandfather, Allen, along with most of their reservation. The story is well-written and has an excellent pace that will keep you up all night going "just one more level, just one more." The twist near the end is sudden and unexpected and a pleasant surprise — 3-D Realms did a superb job with this gem of a game.

**DEAD RISING (X360)**

This summer, quite possibly the only thing better than snakes on a plane could be zombies in a mall — and "Dead Rising" has thousands of zombies. Playing as photo-journalist Frank West, the player is air-dropped into a mall swarming with zombies, and has only a few scant days to figure out what has happened — or not.

**DEAD RISING (X360)**

"Dead Rising" at its core is a "sandbox"-type game, much like the "Grand Theft Auto" series. However, instead of jacking cars and running over pedestrians, it's using anything and everything in the mall to bash zombies and survive. The story is well-written and the voice actors are great, but sometimes you want to forget about trying to save those last few survivors and just do some good ol' zombie-bashing. You know, the kind where you use a tire iron or a stuffed animal.

**F.E.A.R. COMBAT (PC)**

"First Encounter Assault Recon," or "F.E.A.R.," was a first-person shooter released by Vivendi Universal in 2005. "F.E.A.R. Combat" is a stand-alone, free release of "F.E.A.R.'s" multiplayer from developer Monolith. After a simple registration to get a unique validation key and a long 1.07 gigabyte download, you can start playing

"F.E.A.R. Combat" right away.

It's a pretty traditional multiplayer FPS fare, with Capture-the-Flag, Deathmatch and Team Deathmatch, to name a few modes. What makes this free game shine, though, are the "slow-mo" modes. "F.E.A.R." was not the first to use the 'bullet-time' effect, or slowing down time around the player allowing them greater accuracy and faster response time, but it has certainly perfected it. The 'slow-mo' modes allow the use of this effect in multiplayer, which creates some truly devastating battles.

**TITAN QUEST (PC)**

Long for the days of old playing "Diablo II" all day, slaying massive mobs of monsters and collecting items? Then pick up "Titan Quest." It plays just like "Diablo II," but instead of a dungeon-and-dragon motif, Ancient Greece is the setting.

Get stuck on a particular part of the single player game? Recruit a few friends to help because single player integrates seamlessly into multiplayer mode over the Internet or LAN. This game had a few stability problems when it was first released, but a recent patch has eliminated them, making "Titan Quest" one of the best games released this summer.

**CHROMEHOUNDS (X360)**

Nothing can beat roaming around a massive, persistent online environment in a gigantic mechanized robot, blasting away enemies and helping along friends, can it? Not Chrome-hounds' single player, for sure.

The single player plays almost like a training mode for online, which is where this game truly shines. With voice chat over Xbox Live and thousands of ways to customize your mech, or "hound," as the game calls it, make sure you and a few friends each own this game to maximize its potential. However, if you don't have Xbox Live, don't even bother with it — the lackluster single player will have you terribly bored within a few hours.

## COMMUNITY | Bike Sharing program will go on hiatus for fall semester to fix bikes

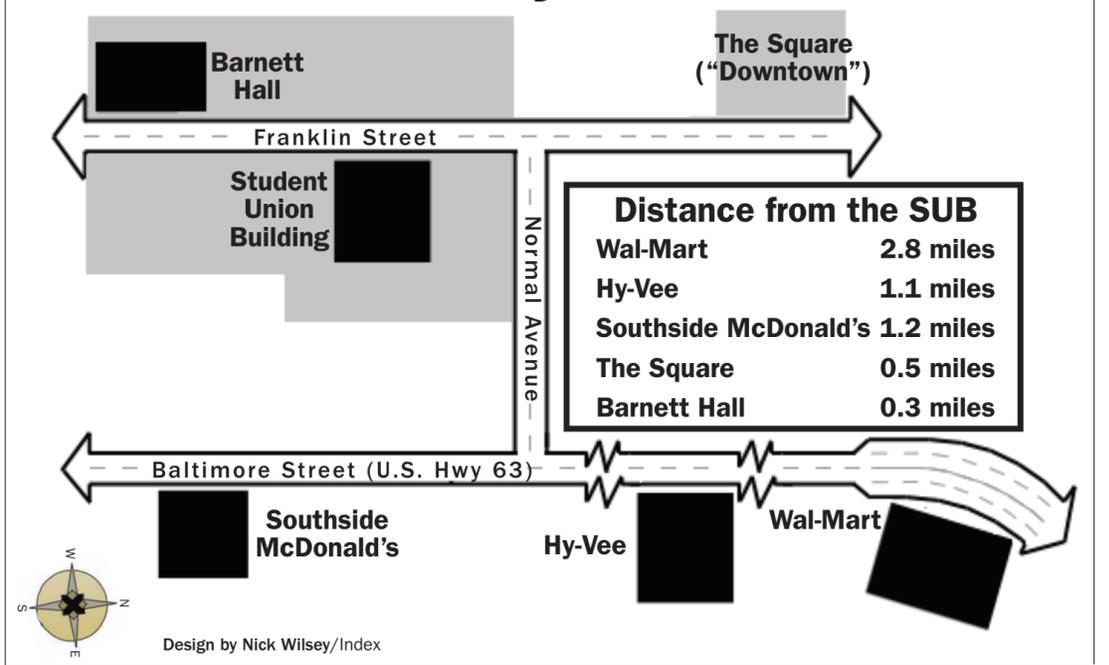
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 don't have access to bikes or couldn't bring their bikes here."

Phillips said she is in the process of trying to get a place on campus to serve as a workshop and storage space for the program this semester. Phillips said she has her sights set on a house that is currently being used by the fine arts division as studio workspace. The house has a

garage that could function as the workshop, Phillips said.

Once they find a space, Phillips said they plan to get nonprofit status so the program can accept monetary and bike donations. With the help of volunteer bike mechanics, Phillips said she hopes the program can someday offer classes in basic repair and lend more bikes to students.

## Kirksville by bike or foot



## BIKING | Three lessons for biking safety

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"One of the most important things you can do is keep your tires inflated, lubricate your bike and chain often and if you do your own work, change your cables often," Guess said.

Keeping tires pumped to the correct pressure can make riding easier, he said.

"Tires are porous, so they're going to lose air constantly," he said. "If you're riding a lot, it makes sense to pump them up before every ride, but you could probably get away with once a week."

Tires that are underinflated make the rim of the wheel more vulnerable, Guess said.

"Say for instance you hit a pot hole you didn't expect," he said. "If you have lots of air in the tire it will act as a buffer, if not, it will compress to the rim, and you'll get a pinch flat. It also increases the likelihood you'll knock your wheel out of alignment."

In general, mountain bike tires should be inflated to 60 psi, while comfort and hybrid bike tires should get 80 psi. Road bike tires typically are inflated to 100 psi or higher, Guess said. The correct air pressure should be printed on the tire.

"You need a good pump," he said. "Either a floor pump or a frame pump, which fits on the bike itself," he said.

Guess said another important part of bike care is lubricating any moving part including the chain and pivots using a good bike lubricant.

"You want to stay away from WD40," he said. "It's vegetable based so it tends to gunk up. It attracts a lot of dirt, especially on the chain."

If a chain is dry or rusted or makes a rattling sound, Guess said it's time to reapply a lubricant.

"Often chain lubricant is applied too liberally," he said. "It's easy to assume the outside needs lubrication, but it's the inside of the chain that needs it. You can spray it on as liberally as you want, but it's important to wipe it off once it's had a chance to seep in."

**Lesson 2: Bike Laws**  
 Donna Bailey, instructor of mathematics, said she daily takes her bike out and rides the half-

mile to campus, like she's been doing for the past 20 years.

"I'll run into town for errands," she said. "It's an excuse to get some exercise. I like the gasoline savings and the fact I'm not polluting the environment."

Bailey said that although she's aware of the laws about bicycles, she sometimes sets a poor example for students.

"I always tell my husband if it's convenient for me to be a vehicle, I'll use those rules," she said. "If it's convenient for me to be a pedestrian, I'll use those rules."

In a business district, bikers are prohibited from riding on the sidewalk by Missouri statute 300.347. Police Capt. Tim King, of the Kirksville Police Department, said he sees a lot of bicycle violations on the Square. King said he also sees people biking the wrong way on a one-way street. Violations like these often lead to accidents, King said.

"[The accidents are] not where someone comes up behind the bicyclist or meets the bicyclist but where the bike came off of the side of the sidewalk and runs into a car," he said.

King said the KPD officers don't always stop the bicyclists who violate Missouri Statutes, however, if he sees people biking unsafely, he will stop them.

"If we've got someone who's whipping around cars, ... if we see someone who buzzes past us and goes through the intersection, those are the ones we're going to stop," King said.

King said bicyclists who improperly secure their bikes by attaching them to utility poles will have their locks cut and bikes hauled away.

Bailey said she usually doesn't worry about locking up her bike because she doesn't think anyone would want the rusty piece of equipment she rides throughout the year.

However, she has had experience with a disappearing bike before. Bailey said one time she rode her bike to the bank where

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she parked it out front but didn't secure it. When she returned a few moments later, it was gone.

"I wasn't in there very long," she said. "I went out, and it was gone. I looked up and down the streets."

Bailey never reported it to the police, and a few months later she saw her bike again.

"The city had an auction where they sold bikes," she said. "That afternoon my neighbor came home with two or three bikes. ... One of them was my bike."

### Lesson 3: Preventing bike theft

Every other year, the Kirksville Police Department lines up hundreds of bikes at the courthouse for an auction. The bikes, many rusted and falling apart, rarely bring in much money, said Laura Guy, director of finance for Kirksville. These are ownerless bikes that are stolen and ridden for a while, then dumped, Sgt. Leon Shears, a Department of Public Safety Officer. Shears said he estimates that two bikes have been stolen each week in the past year.

"It doesn't sound like a whole lot on a weekly basis, but over a year that's over 100 bikes," Shears said.

According to campus crime logs, 22 bikes were stolen in 2005. In 2006, 12 bikes have been stolen so far, four of them in August. Many bikes that were reported stolen were not properly secured, Shears said.

"We find that people have just gotten on them, then ride them a short distance and then dump the

bike," he said. Shears said last year they arrested a student who had decided to take an unsecured bike for a ride.

"He stole a bicycle that was very expensive, and he crossed the monetary limit, and it was actually a felony," Shears said.

Stolen parts are another frequently reported crime. Shears said often tires, seats and handlebars are stolen from bicycles that were chained up.

"Usually what we find is the young people from Kirksville itself will come onto campus," Shears said. "They're the ones we find taking the parts."

Shears said they have a good rate for recovering the bikes. Students can register their bikes with the campus police department and with the Kirksville Police Department, which can aid the recovery process if the bike is stolen. The Police Departments provide a sticker with a specific number on it to be placed on the bike and they record the serial number.

Students should keep track of their bikes to prevent thefts.

"We've had several people who report their bikes stolen, and the obvious question is 'When did you last see it?' and if they say two months ago, that doesn't help," Shears said.

The best way to prevent theft is to invest in a quality lock. Todd Guess, service manager at Cyclextreme Bicycle Warehouse, said U-Locks offer better security than a cable lock.

"The most secure way is to remove the front wheel and run the U-Lock through the frame and front wheel," Guess said. "The U-Locks are a solid shackle of metal, [while the cable locks] are a series of smaller links that can be cut more easily."

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Please welcome Dr. Boling to the Women's Health Center and Northeast Regional Specialty Group. Dr. Boling has spent his career in the Kirksville area but has recently become a member of the medical staff. He is now accepting new patients and old friends to the new Women's Health Center.

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