



'Ere! Is that a bike chain you're hitting me with? Better watch out or CARL will give you a good clonking with his dustbin lid!

River City some where, some time, some trouble. Slick — the meanest mobster in the whole damn town — has decided to take over the entire city, starting with the university. It's up to Alex and Ryan to beat him to within an inch of his miserable life.

But wait! Slick's nabbed Ryan's girlfriend. Will this stop the lads? — not on your life!

Mystical humour

Street Gangs is a one or two player game similar in format to *Mystical Ninja* on the SNES. The heroes wander the streets and into shops in search of hassle and a good scrap. It's a riot to play with a good mate. Laugh, I nearly bought a round!

Particularly enjoyable's the interaction between the two characters. There's endless fun clouting your partner accidentally/on purpose! You're attacked constantly from all sides by foes of varying strength armed to the

teeth with chains, clubs, knuckle dusters and dustbins. Kick and punch them until they drop their weapon then pick it up and save it for a rainy day (or a good brawl).

Ark shell butties

Enter shops to buy anything from coffee to exotic Ark shells. Each purchase increases the level of your character's four attributes — stamina, agility, power and energy. You start the game with a bit of money — if you want any more you have to mug the muggers!

Unfortunately two bad points mar what's otherwise an exceptional game.

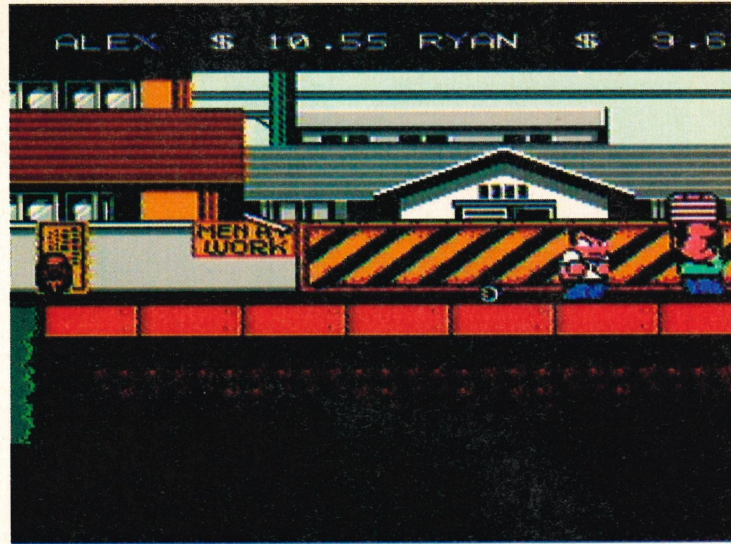
The collision detection's very poor (in some places the bottom half of the character disappears) and positioning the characters on-screen is very tricky,

leading to frustrating control problems.

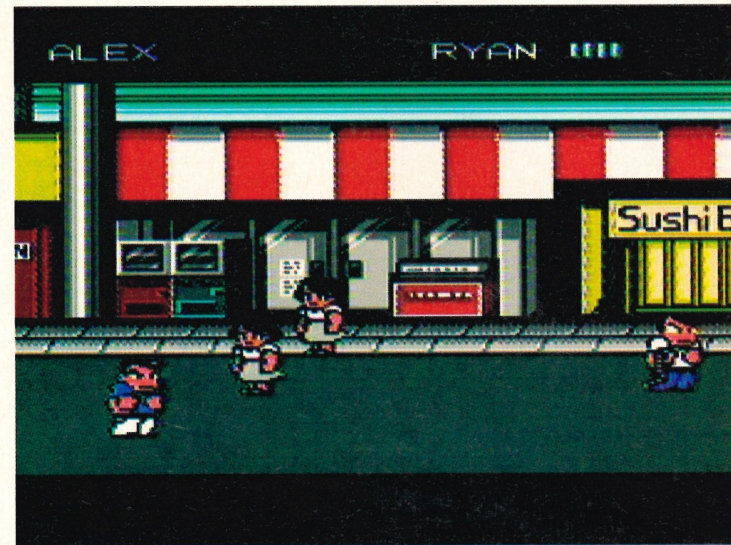
There are some hilarious touches to *Street Gangs* — try picking up your opposition and hurling them about the screen for a laugh!

CARL 81%

There are some hilarious touches



Men at work? Aren't they an awful Australian group! This is no time for pop trivia — Alex is about to get a crate on the head! Best bet here's to ... Erm... RUN!!!!



Welcome to the mall. You can't kill anyone here but you might get a hot date with one of the babes. What d'ya fancy? Back row of the pictures — Bambi alright?!



Oil You with the bin on yer head. I know it says trash pick-up but that's taking it a bit too far! Ever thought of a career as a bin man — sorry! Refuse collector!!



'Listen mate, get on my shoulders and I'll give you a lift upstairs — you let one go though and I swear I'll punch your lights out!' Oh! The joys of teamwork!



Street Gang



Combining beat-'em-up action with strategy sections, this 8-bit title struck me as a younger version of the brilliant SNES game *Mystical Ninja*, and is a similarly impressive achievement. Apart from a few sprite flickers, an occasionally dodgy control system and some slow gameplay, *Street Gangs* was absorbing and great fun. I particularly enjoyed smashing Nick over the skull with a bicycle chain or pulverising Carl with a baseball bat. More to offer than your average beat-'em-up and definitely one to keep an eye out for.

CHRIS 80%



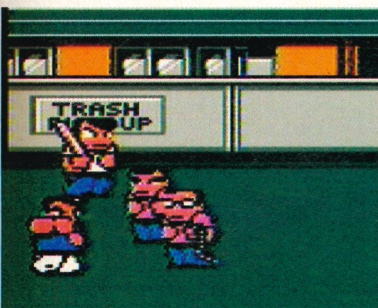
Okay, give me a Big Mac, large fries, chocolate milkshake and an apple pie to take away - what d'ya mean you don't speak English!



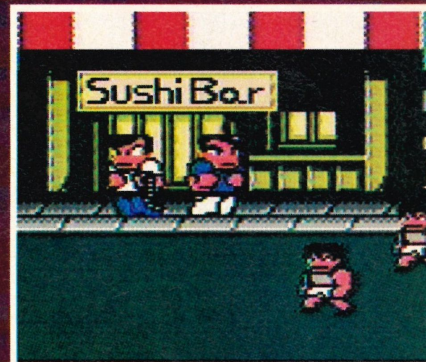
We'll try again. B-I-G M-A-C...Oh! This isn't McDonalds...Ermn Sorry!!!!



After a hard day's scrapping Alex and Ryan love a bit of shopping. Restore energy in the cafe or buy a book from the newsagent - you may find a clue!

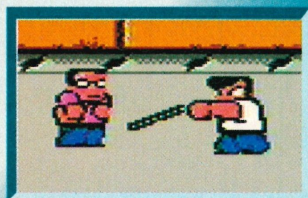


It's time to empty the trash! Smash the ugly dude over the skull with the baseball bat. Who's that guy with the bicycle chain? - nice glasses!

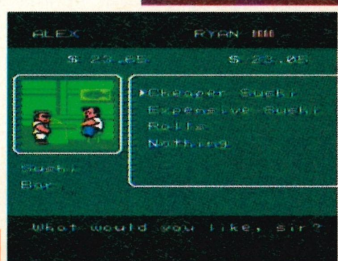


Above: You keep a look-out, smash the window with me bike chain!
Left: What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this? Fancy popping down this dark alley with me and me mate?

FORCE FAX



If in doubt pick up anything lying about to chuck at the bad guys - even your pal. But whatever you do, always start the day with a coffee!



■ **Producer**
Infogrames
■ **Players**
1 or 2
■ **Price**
£39.99



N-RATING

VISUALS

83

Very basic but smooth and very colourful

SONICS

67

Average FX, slightly better BGM. Nothing to write home about

PLAYABILITY

86

Top quality gameplay, best in two player mode

LASTABILITY

80

Large playing area and lots to do - should hold it's appeal

FORCE

81

Great beat-'em-up and a chance to nail your best mate!

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