computer. It takes a different approach to the usual full screen display. Up and down scrolling is used to track the ball and the action. There are four screens worth of bumpers, flippers, and roll-overs. A tilt feature is provided, and two people can play at once with one controlling the ball and tilt, and the other handling the flippers. This game has to be played to be appreciated.

The other game that gets special mention is Synapse's version of *Zaxxon* for the Commodore 64. *Zaxxon* captures the full simulated 3-D effect of the coin-op version. Graphics are easily the best of any of the home computer versions of this classic arcade game, and there is even a fourth fortress that must be penetrated. The 3-D graphics never looked so good.

Encounter is a new Atari game that puts the player inside a tank for a futuristic look at tank warfare. This is a no frills approach to shoot-'em-up game play.

Another new Atari title, *Rainbow Walker*, leaves the world of violence behind and allows you to control a cute little elf. Hopping onto squares—gray ones that turn into rainbows—seems like a peaceful pastime. Lightning, tornadoes and other hazards turn this game into a delightful test of skill.

Synapse also announced a swinging new game for both the Atari and Commodore 64 computers. In *Quasimodo* you are accused of stealing the castle jewels and must elude the castle by swinging from bell to bell inside the bell towers.

Texas Instruments

As might have been expected, Texas Instruments introduced no games at the show for their 99/4A. Their focus was on other types of games, such as hand-held learning devices and children's games, with names like Speak & Math, Speak & Spell, and so forth.

T & F Software

T & F Software showed an imaginative game, *Leafer Madness*. As a cat-

Jet Star

erpillar, you must climb up to the top of a plant to metamorphose into a butterfly. Caterpillars eat leaves for energy, insects get in the way, and you encounter various other impediments. We know it sounds silly, but it's fun to play.

T & F also showed *Spogo,* a Q*bert type game, with fifteen different screens. The player hops around changing the colors of platforms, while avoiding bouncing balls. In *Jet Star*, a shooting game, you are a flying "jet man" named Captain Twinkletoes, who must capture all the minerals in an unfriendly planet while avoiding the enemy.
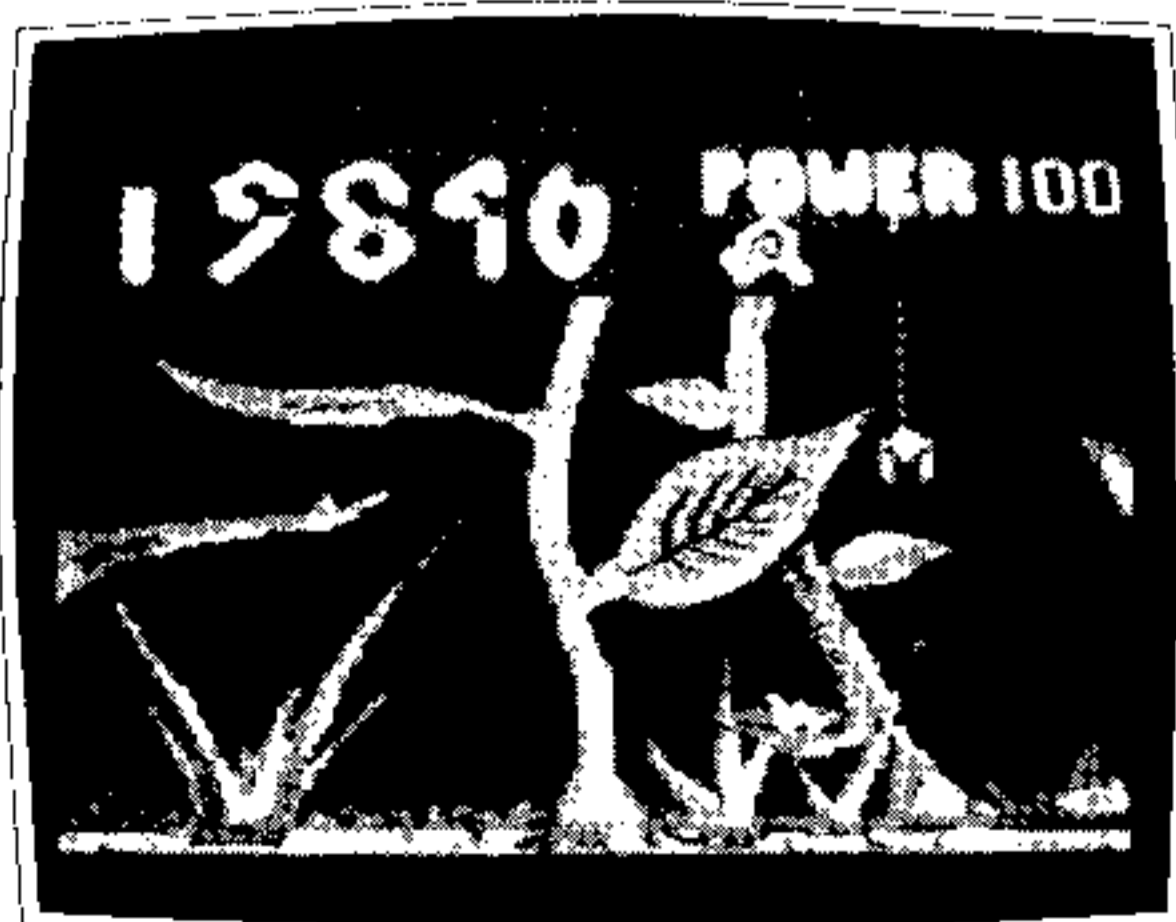
Thorne EMI

Thorne EMI introduced *Computer War*, a strategy game. The player shoots at aircraft before his bases are bombed. An overall strategy screen shows the location of the bases (for Atari, Commodore 64, Vic 20 and TI 99/4A).

Liberator is a Defender-like scroll to-the-right, shooting game. The player's rocket ship flies over rivers, ships, and bridges, cities and mountains. The goal, of course: to destroy enemy ships.
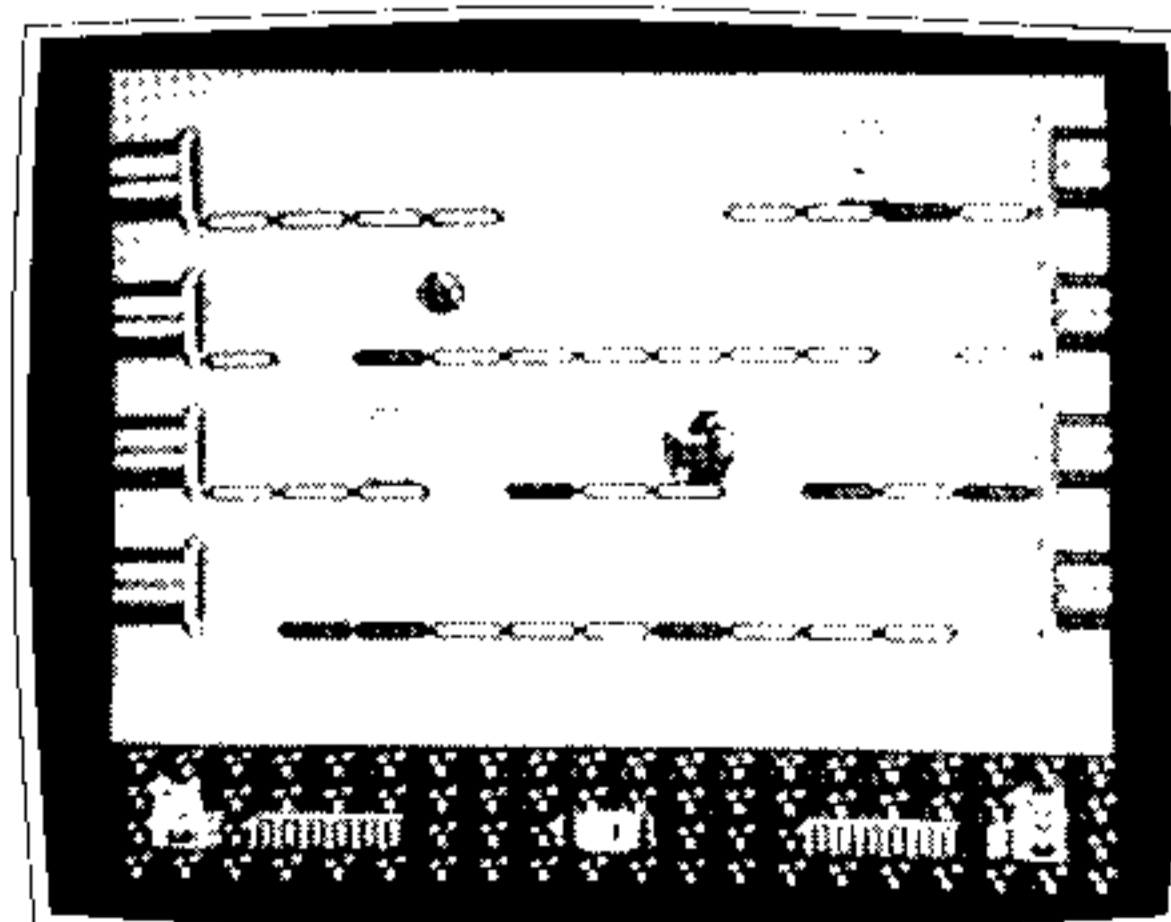
Also from Thorne are two games called *Mini Madness* and *Submarine Commander.*

Tigervision

Tigervision announced several game titles for various computers. The following games are available for Texas Instruments 99/4A, Atari, Commodore 64, and IBM PCjr computers and list for

$29.95. Two space theme shoot-'em-ups are *Espial* and *Sky Lancer.* You are an attack pilot flying over a gigantic star ship in *Espial*. In *Sky Lancer,* you are abandoned in space without your ship.

The other new Tigervision game is a demolition derby of sorts. You are in the middle of the action with *Super Crush.* Best avoid the oil spills, flying tires and other cars or you will get caught in a super crush.

If there was any theme of the game offerings at this year's Winter Consumer Electronics Show, it was that all of the great titles are migrating to all of the machines, and companies like Electronic Arts, Synapse, and even Atari, are pushing the limits further out on quality game software. █

Companies Mentioned in This Article	Reader Service Number
Activision 2350 Bayshore Frontage Rd. Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 960-0410	467
Adventure International P.O. Box 3435 Longwood, FL 32750 (305) 862-6917	468
Amiga Corporation 3350 Scott Blvd., Bldg. 7 Santa Clara, CA 95051 (408) 748-0222	469
Broderbund Software 17 Paul Dr. San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 479-1170	470
CBS Software One Fawcett Pl. Greenwich, CT 06836 (203) 622-2503	471
Creative Software 230 East Caribbean Dr. Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (408) 745-1655	472
Datamost 8943 Fullbright Ave. Chatsworth, CA 91311 (818) 709-1202	473
Datasoft 19808 Nordhoff Pl. Chatsworth, CA 91311 (818) 701-5161	474
Electronic Arts 2755 Campus Dr. San Mateo, CA 94403 (415) 571-7171	47

Leafer Madness

Spogo