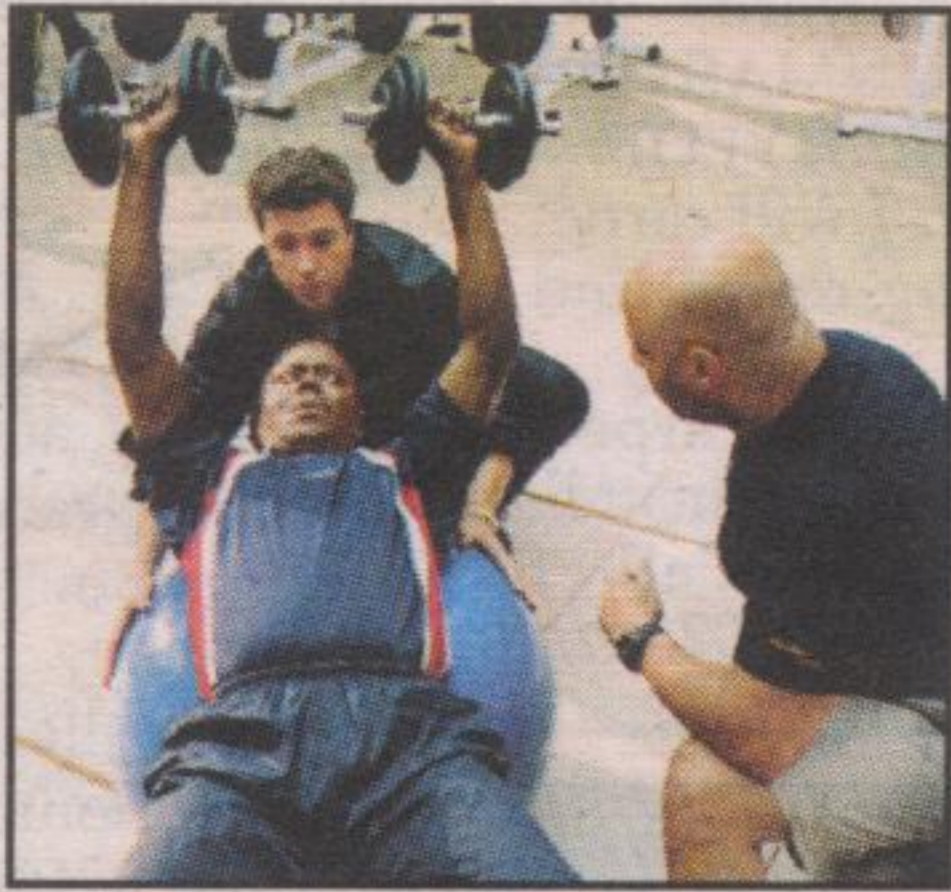


film reviews

Mr. 3000

By: LAURA COOK



Years of hard work and a jaded sense of sportsmanship has brought Stan Ross (played by Bernie Mac) to his early retirement after hitting his required number of hits to enter the hall of fame. Right in the middle of the Milwaukee Brewers race for the pennant, Ross leaves the team in a lurch and is never really forgiven by the fans or the team. After years of fame and fortune from his record career, three of Ross' hits are disqualified and his entrance to the Baseball Hall of Fame is sadly stopped.

Seven years after his retirement from the game, Ross decides to reclaim his title of Mr. 3000 at the ripe old age of forty-seven, and go back to the major leagues playing for the Brewers. Throughout his journey, this previously smug character turns into a sentimental player who coaches the younger players into playing with more 'old school' values. He rediscovers what it means to be obsessed with his boyhood love of baseball and manages to fall in love with an old flame (played by Angela Basset) along the way.

Despite the film's sport-centered plot, Stone manages to direct a relatively interesting comedy. Angela Basset's role in the story-line is what really makes the film come alive when the focus shifts onto her and Mac's relationship rather than simply Ross getting into the Hall of Fame. Other elements of the film that helped pass the time at some of the more dull moments included the fabulous sound track of seventies music and the several cameos done by Jay Leno, Tom Arnold, and the crew of Sports Centre. Besides these well-placed faces, audiences will also recognize numerous cleverly positioned product placements ranging from Gatorade to Viagra. Although this movie doesn't exactly meet my expectations of a comedy in a traditional way, the love story sub-plot combined with Mac's genuine sense of humor made up for any lulls in the film.

Microplay's 'Card Play for Charity'

By ANN KORNUA

It is not everyone who gives back to the community in which they live. Microplay of Milton, a video game store located at 393 Main street Milton, opened its doors in July of this year and has now made it their business to start giving back to the community.

IT'S ABOUT GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

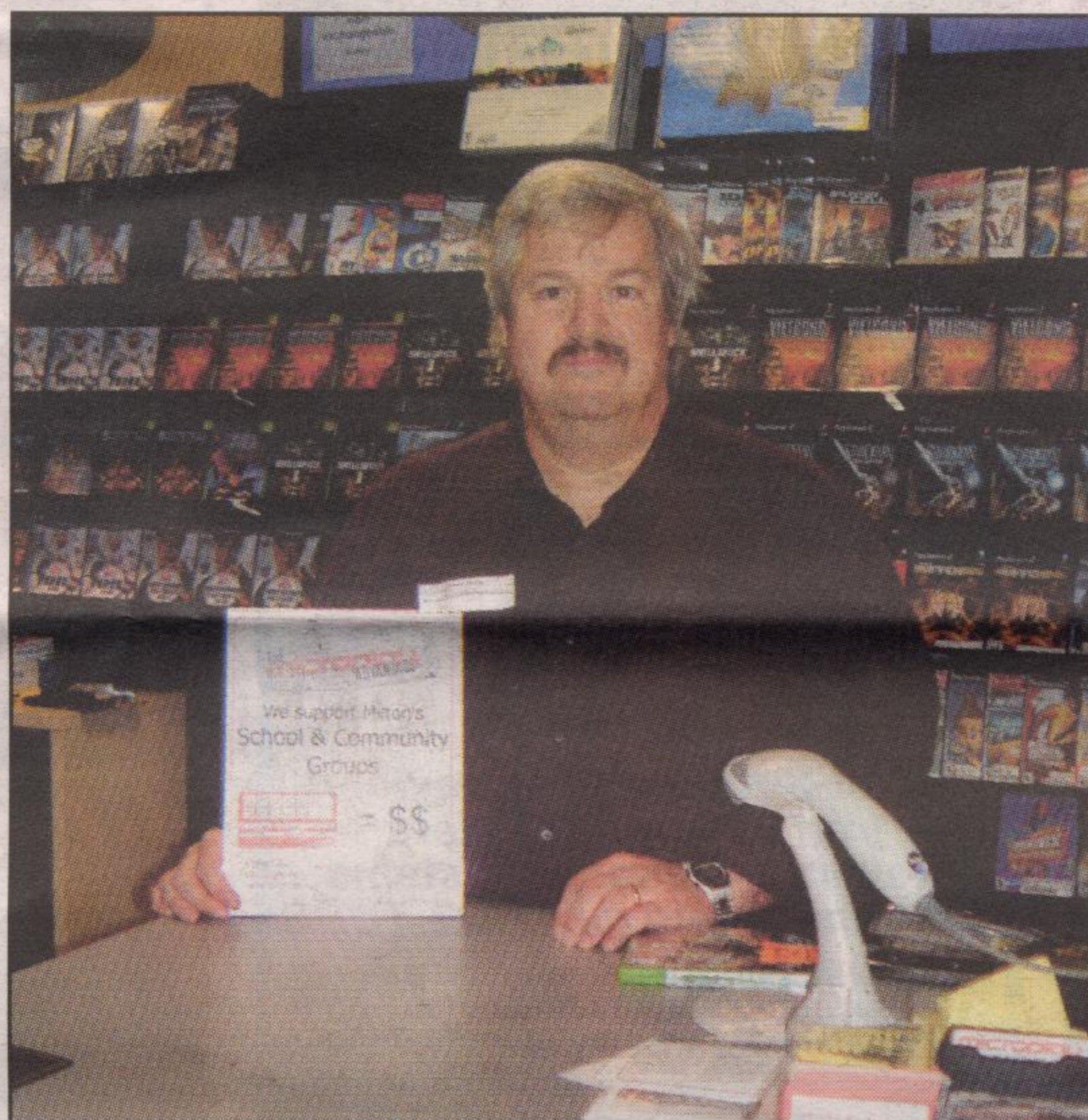
"Card play for Charity" is about giving back to the community. Patrick Tierney, owner of Microplay established an idea to donate \$100 to a charity of someone's choice after a person turns in 20 of their frequent player cards. These are cards that could be used to rent a free game after having rented 10. "It's a way to say thank you to our customers and to help others. It's a

win-win situation." Patrick explains.

Besides offering a way to give back to the community, Microplay opens its doors so that kids of all ages can come together in a healthy environment to participate in competitions in the store. A competition with a game called Halo will take place soon after store hours. It will be a 5 week tournament with 4 gaming stations throughout the store with prizes and the naming of a grand champion. Another idea Patrick has is a sports league night where kids can come in and play new and featured sports games with friends and family in a safe environment.

Patrick says that "We are still pretty busy getting started, but we think this charity program is one that we can implement right away."

Even a small thing like renting video games can help out your local school or organization.



Patrick Tierney, owner of Milton's recently opened Microplay displays his plans to give back to the community with his Card Play Charity drive.

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