

SPECIAL FEATURE!



From Aero to Zero in three generations!

The Sunsoft Sillers have been in the gaming business for three generations. David Siller's father Ray Siller, Jr. was in the coin-op arcade business, giving the second generation Siller an appetite for the gaming business.

David Siller took the coin-op knowledge he gained from his father and became the national sales and product manager for Nichibutsu USA. During his time with the company, he worked on Moon Cresta and Crazy Climber. Now at Sunsoft he is the vice president of product development, and

he has introduced his son Justin to the workings of a successful video game company. Last year the two combined efforts to bring Aero the Acro-Bat to life on the screen for the world to see.

At a time when gamers were sequel crazy and used to big-name licenses being attached to a less-than-

mediocre game, the Sillers came up with an original gaming license, Aero, and with Sunsoft's help, it worked.

David Siller explained his vision of Aero to his son Justin, who came up with a visual look for Aero and interpreted his father's vision to create the Aero character and bring Aero to life on paper.

"As I was conceptualizing the characters for my father I felt that Aero needed an adversary on his own level," Justin Siller explained. "I wanted to create a kamikaze, no-nonsense character with his own unique personality. A character who would take risks and crash his way through things."

Justin put his thoughts on paper—Zero evolved from there starring in his own video game on the Genesis and Super NES.

A word about the creator

All of the drawings of Zero on this page were done by 21-year-old Justin Siller. He's been in the gaming business working with his father at Sunsoft for the past two years, and already has an impressive resume. Among other projects, Siller was a character designer on Aero the Acro-Bat and Aero the Acro-Bat 2. More recently, he acted as the designer/creator/producer of Zero the Kamikaze Squirrel and as the producer of the Sylvester and Tweety game that is coming out on the Super NES from Sunsoft. Siller is also the co-producer of the Punky Doodle coin-op from Sunsoft.

An avid video gamer, Siller has been playing video games all of his life. Additionally, he is currently taking film and computer programming courses at California State University in Northridge. In the future, Stiller hopes not only to produce games but also to learn the limitations that programmers are up against when they create games.

"The more I know about the programming involved in creating games, the more well-rounded I will become as a producer."



ZERO

The Kamikaze Squirrel