Round 78 - Prepared For

Audio recording: https://zerohour-productions.net/recordings/insertcredits/R78%2017%20Apr%202020.mp3
Multimedia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ad6mh2rlUog

Show index

Adam

Music
- DusK - Stormbringer - Guild Wars 2 (OC ReMix)
- PirateCrab - Kuwanga Banga - Mega Man X (OC ReMix)

Topics
- "Popular" weird and entirely false rumor: Cooking Mama Cookstars pulled from Nintendo eShop after discovery that it secretly mined cryptocurrency, causing Switch systems to overheat and shut down - developer (Office Create) now suing publisher (Planet Entertainment) over "unauthorized" Switch launch
- Riot Games' new class-based shooter *Valorant* (available in limited beta _only_ from Twitch drops of other beta players) discovered to install a kernel-level driver (Ring 0, full admin) called Vanguard for the purposes of...anti-cheat
- More cancellations / shutdowns from pandemic - Indie Megabooth shutters all operations indefinitely :(
- Sony reduces PS5 production, citing cost / promotion issues

Personal gaming
- Noita (now complete)
- Savage Vessels (now complete)
- CrossCode (now in progress)
- ZeroRanger (Shmup Book Club, Jan-Mar)
- Guwange (Shmup Book Club, Apr-Jun)
- Parodius (Shmup Book Club, Apr)
- Assault Android Cactus (*)

Ad-hoc design
- Spy Hunter-esque endless...runner, etc?
    - Always moving in some proscribed direction
        - Not quite on rails (free movement on a given path), but…
        - Always want to make progress in a direction other than "behind you"
    - Branching routes - 2-4 choices at intersections
        - Choice determines backdrop / terrain / features of next set of sections
- Ever-encroaching mass of...something behind you
    - Game over when caught
    - Have some leeway to surf on the edge of it, one-time-use ability to boost forward to escape

- Gets faster / less affected by sudden turns as the run progresses

Shane

Music

- [Sir_NutS, Sadorf - With Heart and Soul - Final Fantasy VII](#) ([OC ReMix](#))
- [Emunator - Flow State Undercurrents - Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time](#) ([OC ReMix](#))

Topics

- *Final Fantasy VII Remake* releases to well-deserved fanfare, earning a Metacritic score of 88 as of this morning
- Console inventories at retailers across the world are cratered as COVID-19 drives high demand for home entertainment
- Sales of the Nintendo Switch and *Animal Crossing: New Horizons* vaults Nintendo's stock to a 52-week high of $55.10/share
- China bans sales of *Animal Crossing: New Horizons*; suspected of quelling social uprising through players' use of the design systems in the game to promote Hong Kong's liberation
- *Minecraft with RTX Beta for Windows 10* finally released on Thursday, 16 April, accompanied by a new Nvidia driver released on Wednesday, 15 April

Personal gaming

- *Final Fantasy XII: The Zodiac Age*
- *Final Fantasy XV*
- Benchmarks??

Ad-hoc design

TITLE:	*Integration*
GENRE:	3D Puzzle/Platformer/Dungeon Crawler
PLAYERS:	1
INPUT METHOD:	Keyboard/Mouse; Controller
GRAPHIC STYLE:	Semi-realistic
AUDIO STYLE:	Ambient/Electronic
POV:	1st- or 3rd-person
STORY:	In a dazzled haze, you awaken, finding yourself locked in a tall room filled with futuristic technology. As you attempt to find your way out, you come across a dusty switch in the far corner of the room. With nothing better to try, you put your weight into actuating the switch, and a panel in the wall falls, revealing a peculiar slate -- your first glimmer of hope at finding your way home
HOOK:	Throughout the course of navigating the mazes in the game, the player must obtain artifacts of differing powers to control or manipulate distant objects in creative ways in order to traverse the mazes and uncover thrilling secrets
INVENTORY:	Incomplete data log; a growing list of artifacts found throughout the course of exploration
MECHANICS:	Use the data log to fill in knowledge gaps and record your findings, and with the artifact tools you find, navigate the many mazes and labyrinths that comprise the pyramid you find yourself in
OBJECTIVE:	Reach the very top of the pyramid to escape to safety

Tony (not in attendance)

Music
- [Tune in with Chewie, Joni Fuller - Clockworks - Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword](#) ([OC ReMix](#))
- [Black Ace - TEYANDEE! - Kyatto Ninden Teyandee](#) ([OC ReMix](#))

Vlad

Topics
- Rick May, voice of Peppy the Hare and Andross in *Star Fox 64* and Soldier in *Team Fortress 2*, passes away from COVID-19 at the age of 79
- Nintendo Switch retail stock likely to remain few and far between until June, rumors of a new dual-display Switch based on firmware release
- Folding@Home project reaches combined processing power of 2.4 exaFLOPS, new open-source client in the works

Personal gaming
- Super Animal Royale
- DDR (Just getting started)
- Smash Ultimate (Working through World Of Light)
- Bastion (Just started)