

Plug into software, videos

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STAFF WRITER



Software, videos and other high-tech gifts have exploded in popularity in recent years.

There are many popular computer games and software this holiday season — the trick might be getting your hands on them before they sell out.

Nintendo 64 is a big seller at Media Play, which has a new location in Livonia on Plymouth Road across from Wonderland Mall.

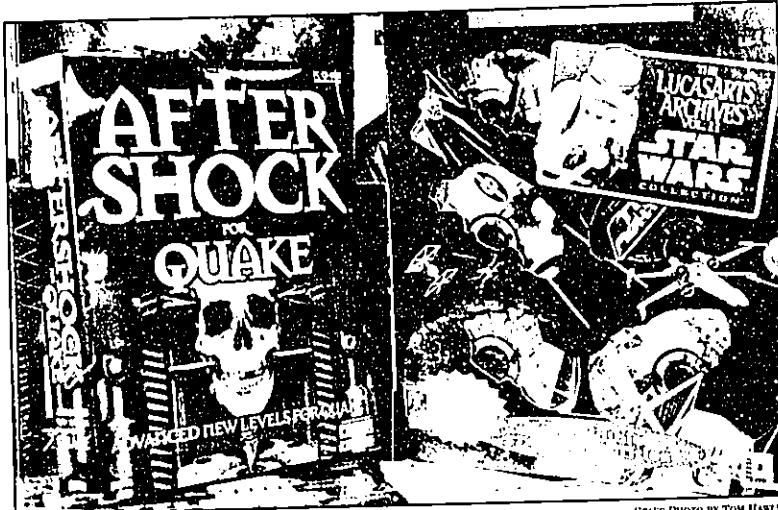
Other items expected to be popular are Madden 97, on professional football, and NHL 97, National Hockey League software.

For those who want to organize their personal finances there's Quicken Deluxe for Windows.

Duke Nukem is a 3 dimensional computer game. The front of the package touts: "Prepare yourself for total meltdown."

The Rand McNally TripMaker 1997 for the travelers in the family helps in planning trips with mileage calculations.

Another big seller in the computer



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HARLEY

market is the interactive video with music, including the new release by the musician formerly known as Prince.

Barbie software is hot with the younger set, with the fashion designer and storyteller versions available.

"Those have been really hot," Emily Kriszt, sales lead in the Media Play software department, said.

Basically anything for computers is a big seller, Kriszt said. "Computer stuff is just booming."

Sweet on software: Computer owners will like gifts of computer games and software available at many local stores.

PlayStation base units, selling for about \$200, are also big with the computer game set, Kriszt said. Other popular computer games are Lighthouse

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