



Crimson Ink

Thomas Klise/Crimson Multimedia

OUR 61ST YEAR

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GREETINGS, AND HAPPY ALMOST-FALL!

This month's highlights include EA Sports FC 27, Hot Wheels Infinite Rush, The Blood of the Dawnwalker, Trails in the Sky: 2nd Chapter, and The Grinch 2: Saving Christmas, a strong lineup to move us into the fall. Video game customers can log on to crimsoninc.com to view and download the complete list of new releases in the September Library Report. Warning: it's pretty extensive!

A quick scheduling note: after Labor Day (Monday, September 7), our office returns to its regular hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Oh summertime, we miss you already!

With the new school year underway, it's also a great time to set up a standing order program. You set the parameters (consoles, ratings, budget) and we'll ship fresh titles each month. You will keep the collection up-to-date with new guaranteed-to-circulate titles and still have time to attend to programming and patrons. To get started, [download the form here](#) and send to kristin@klise.com.

Enjoy these late summer days!

Molly Klise, President
Thomas Klise/Crimson Multimedia



NEW RELEASE HIGHLIGHTS



EA SPORTS FC 27

The long-running soccer franchise formerly known as FIFA kicks off a new season with Kylian Mbappé back on the cover and a career mode that finally rewards players for actually playing well. The headline addition is "dynamic potential," which ties a player's growth directly to how they perform on the pitch, rather than locking talented rookies into an arbitrary ceiling the way past games did.

Off the pitch, FC 27 leans into storytelling with a new hub area called The Grounds, where Mbappé and franchise mainstay Alex Hunter act as mentors in a mode that borrows the narrative style of EA's old "The Journey" campaigns. Add a reworked transfer market with buy-back clauses and smarter AI-run rival clubs, and this is a solid pick for sports fans and career-mode tinkerers alike. Rated E.

P4-EA260955	PlayStation 4	\$70
P5-EA260955	PlayStation 5	\$70
SW-EA260955	Switch	\$60
S2-EA260955	Switch 2 (Game-Key Card)	\$70
XX-EA260955	Xbox X	\$70



HOT WHEELS INFINITE RUSH

Fans of toy cars and wide-open racetracks have a new destination this month. Infinite Rush trades the loop-the-loop tracks of its predecessor, Hot Wheels Unleashed 2, for four full islands to explore, race across, and generally cause chaos in. Over 150 collectible vehicles are on offer, from souped-up muscle cars to a few Ferraris thrown in for good measure, each grouped into classes with their own quirks.

Full cross-play means friends can race regardless of which console they own, and up to four players can share a screen locally. Between the livery and track editors, there's plenty here for patrons who like customizing as much as racing making it a good bet for kids and car enthusiasts of any age. Rated E.

P5-PL260913	PlayStation 5	\$50
S2-PL260913	Switch 2 (Game-Key Card)	\$50
XX-PL260913	Xbox X	\$50



THE BLOOD OF THE DAWN WALKER

For patrons craving something darker, this action role-playing game drops players into Vale Sangora, a fictional 14th-century kingdom in the Carpathian Mountains ruled by an ancient vampire named Brencis, who taxes the local humans in blood. Players take on the role of Coen, a "Dawnwalker" caught between a silver-poisoning curse and vampiric powers, racing against a 30-day clock to save his family.

What sets Dawnwalker apart is its day-and-night structure: quests can be tackled differently — sometimes with entirely different outcomes — depending on whether Coen approaches them by daylight or under cover of dark. It's a moody, choice-driven RPG best suited to older teens and adults who enjoy vampire fiction with real narrative weight behind it. Rated M.

P5-BA260929	PlayStation 5	\$70
XX-BA260929	Xbox X	\$70



TRAILS IN THE SKY: 2ND CHAPTER

Longtime fans of Japanese role-playing games have been waiting a long time for this one. 2nd Chapter continues the story begun in last year's remake of Trails in the Sky, following series favorites Estelle and Joshua as they journey through the kingdom of Liberl and come face to face with the shadowy Society of Ouroboros, whose plans threaten to bring calamity down on the whole region.

Built by genre veterans Nihon Falcom, the game keeps the series' classic turn-based combat while filling out its world with a reported cast of roughly 500 characters. Patrons new to the Trails series will get the most out of this one by starting with 1st Chapter first, but for anyone already invested, this is a must-play continuation of one of the JRPG genre's most beloved sagas. Rated T.

P5-GH260930	PlayStation 5	\$60
SW-GH260930	Switch	\$60
S2-GH260930	Switch 2	\$65



THE GRINCH 2: SAVING CHRISTMAS

Just in time for the holiday hold list to fill up, the reformed (mostly) Grinch is back for a family-friendly 3D platforming adventure. This time around, he and his loyal dog Max set out on a mission to build Who-ville the best Christmas tree it's ever seen, exploring familiar spots like the Grinch's Cave and Mt. Crumpit along the way while collecting ornaments and working through lighthearted platforming challenges.

With local co-op letting a second player jump in as Max, this one is built for sharing a couch and a controller, making it an easy recommendation for families and younger patrons looking for a cheerful, low-stakes game to ring in the holiday season. Rated E.

P4-UI260950	PlayStation 4	\$40
P5-UI260950	PlayStation 5	\$40
SW-UI260950	Switch	\$40
XX-UI260950	Xbox X	\$40

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