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Subject: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Kytten9](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 09:24:30 GMT

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My mother told me about this story that she had read in the British papers recently.

"The Mirror"[004] Snowly of The World of Warcraft (Xinhua) A young girl nicknamed "Snowly" died last month after playing the online game "World of Warcraft" for several continuous days during the national day holiday. Several days before Snowly's death, the girl was said to be preparing for a relatively difficult part of the game (namely, to kill the Black Dragon Prince) and had very little rest. She told her friends that she felt very tired. A big online funeral was held for Snowly one week after her death (see photo from The Mirror)

Apparently the story is the young girl who died hadn't actually eaten and had clocked the most amount of uptime on World of Warcraft, a week proceeding her death a young Chinese lad named his World of Warcraft character after her and was also dead by the end of the week.

This has lead to people looking at just how online or offline computer gaming has become an addiction.

This begs me to raise the all time question, just how addictive is computer gaming becoming?

For those of you who know me and my past, you will know I hate World of Warcraft because it was a resulting factor to the downfall of my marriage. But that said, I have on many occasion seen my brother play this game for 3-4 days straight with no sleep, and he looked yellow and ill for weeks afterwards, before WoW he did this with Earth and Beyond, I know in the past I actually passed out from playing online too much without rest.

I firmly believe this is an issue for some teenagers and even adults, but I wanna see if i'm not alone in my views:

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Lijitsu](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 10:16:29 GMT

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Oh god yes. Nobody should play like that. I'll admit that during FPS games I've neglected food for several hours, even when given food, but atleast I stop every once in awhile to keep from getting stomach pains from not eating, and cramps from not moving.

I'll also admit that I've had times when playing a game that I don't move from my seat for anything other then drink and bathroom breaks, but that's not nearly as bad as not eating for several days. I am sorry that a fellow gamer died, and I don't want to come off as an asshole, but that was ignorant of her. Neglecting food and sleep for a game, albeit World of Warcraft, is a very stupid thing to do.

Though I'm not really one to talk. 36 hour non-stop Halo marathon. I'm just glad I was the base defender, or else I would have wet myself a few times.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Scythar](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 11:27:59 GMT  
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Computer games stopped being "just games" the moment they went online and people started to interact with each others.

Sure, this sort of things could happen in single player too. Hell, I should know. I've had some Baldur's Gate marathons before. But I think it's not as bad when you don't have social pressure or a need to succeed in front of your friends.

The problem is that a human being can get addicted/obsessed to anything. Eating chocolate, cleaning, showering, hanging around with friends, gaming, eating, singing, looking below your bed each night, triple-checking that everything is ok before leaving the house...you name it. I don't think there is an easy solution. If you or the people around you don't acknowledge the problem, it's probably quite hard to stop.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Belski](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 12:00:18 GMT  
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i kindov know how that is...when i first got my laptop and stuff...i played ts for a long time, but quit, got rid of inter. and after a year o two got again and played ra2 nonstop -- (for about a week though)

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 12:16:45 GMT  
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There's a difference between being addicted and not actually knowing when to stop something. Snowly was a stage further than being addicted IMO. And how come NOONE was there to say "stop"?

I also had days I played all night long but when I got friggin tired, I went to bed. Now being married and all, I try to organise my online time. And it works out ok . She is very understanding...

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 13:30:47 GMT  
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Playing a game to the point where you die....pfft. Dumbass. I'm addicted to games, but not to the point where I will play even 1 day straight of games.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Renardin6](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 16:52:32 GMT  
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Losing connection with reality... Virtual funerals...

That's going far... Excuse me but, that's the better topic for that:

OMG THEY HAV3 NO LAIF!!!!11oneeleven!ç!115lo;lolo!ç!!!!!!looolololo1111nin e!

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [JPNOD](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 17:21:31 GMT  
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I can think myself into this really, not anymore though.

But in december 2002 and december 2003 I probably came pretty close Now I can controll myself playing Renegade.

The difference is people who play games 24/7 and don't do anything ofcourse its not a good thing but people who use drugs and all that kind of shit are more of a problem to the society in my opinion.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [bigejoe14](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 18:13:06 GMT  
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What you didn't hear about was that when she died they found socks stuffed with fecal matter and empty coke bottles filled with urine in her room.

This is bullshit. I feel no remorse for this womans death. She let herself degrade like that on her own and it's her own damn fault for her death. I can't believe how fucking stupid people can be. It just blows my mind.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [luv2pb](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 18:20:01 GMT  
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IF that is true its very sad but I'm sorry if you don't have enough brians to shut the damn GAME off to get some food and sleep then the world was done a favor. And where the fuck were the

parents??? They should go to jail for child neglect.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 20:36:18 GMT

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Yeah, no pity. I've never been able to play a game for more than a couple hours without having to log off and look at something else for a while. Though one time in Matrix Online I was taking some newbies out doing hardcore XP runs. I must have played for 6 hours straight. My neck muscles were so sore after that for months. I really need to go to my chiropractor and have him fix this.  
\*rubs neck\*

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Renx](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 20:49:08 GMT

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Maybe they should add something that doesn't allow anyone to be logged in for more than x amount of hours per day?

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Hydra](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 21:06:08 GMT

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People just need to use more self-control and have a sense of responsibility for their own actions nowadays.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 21:16:49 GMT

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I'm just glad that I have a lot of control over myself when it comes to gaming. Even though I love playing games, I don't play them frequently. Even when I got Half-Life 2, I played it for maybe two to three hours a day for six days until I beat it. Now I rarely play it (except for Garry's Mod). I only spend about four hours a week in Garry's Mod. It's extremely fun and pretty addicting, but just like any other game or mod, I can't stand playing for a long time... it just gets boring for a while if I play after a certain period of time.

MMORPGs are dangerous though, and a lot of times I'm afraid to play them. I despise World of Warcraft though, it doesn't appeal to me at all. The only MMORPG I have really played (for about a month) was Face of Mankind. It's addicting, but I didn't waste too much time on it. But, when I once tried the Star Wars Galaxies trial, I was just plain addicted for the whole trial period. I spent about half of the day on it every day. I never bought it though.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Ma1kel](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 21:31:29 GMT  
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This is even patheticer then the farmer who was killed by a cow when he was milking the cow.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [bigjoe14](#) on Thu, 10 Nov 2005 22:28:25 GMT  
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Renx wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 15:49 Maybe they should add something that doesn't allow anyone to be logged in for more than x amount of hours per day?  
They are actually making something like that for future games. But still, it's pretty messed up that we even have to make something like that simply because people can't control themselves.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Kytten9](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 00:33:59 GMT  
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bigjoe14 wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 17:28 Renx wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 15:49 Maybe they should add something that doesn't allow anyone to be logged in for more than x amount of hours per day?  
They are actually making something like that for future games. But still, it's pretty messed up that we even have to make something like that simply because people can't control themselves.

It's not about control is it.....these people don't realize that what they are doing is sociably unacceptable because no one has told them so.... You don't know you have a problem until someone points it out to you, if no one questioned what she was doing was wrong then she would not have bothered to question it either.

Addictions make people lose their grip on reality, like anorexics look in a mirror and see a fat person, and everyone else sees a skeleton, People have to be shown they have a problem and then admit they do, before they can start to get better or even stop what they are doing.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [YSLMuffins](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 01:50:58 GMT  
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Kytten is right. We need to look through their eyes. And even better than what RenX said, there should really be a watchdog or something to check up on people that play for so long. Or have a buddy system.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Sniper\\_De7](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 03:44:16 GMT

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You can't compare playing video games non-stop and being anorexic. The reason why anorexic is a problem is because people are too concerned about their appearances (peer/social pressure) and get too carried away. If you really had an addiction for a game you should stop it before it starts getting too out of hand, and that would be your fault if it does. It's your own responsibility to eat/sleep/drink/etc. No one should have to tell you to do this. Though it baffles me why no one would say anything, it is still her fault

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [warranto](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 03:51:19 GMT

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if it comes down to it being a true addiction, then it wouldn't be her fault. Addictions are such that the individual can't help but do what they are addicted to. To compare it to smoking, sure some can stop "cold turkey", however the majority of people who want to quit have to go through a lengthy process of lessening their dependency on it. The scary thing is, you can never really tell that it is an addiction until you are addicted. And even then, it may be difficult for some people to admit it.

It's the loss of grip on reality that does you in. It happens, except you do not know that it happens, nor do you care while you are in the grips of this loss of reality.

It MAY end up being her fault, if it was simply by choice, and nothing to do with a loss of reality, but until that is proven it would be difficult to place the blame on her.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Lijitsu](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 05:52:10 GMT

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warranto wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 22:51 if it comes down to it being a true addiction, then it wouldn't be her fault. Addictions are such that the individual can't help but do what they are addicted to. To compare it to smoking, sure some can stop "cold turkey", however the majority of people who want to quit have to go through a lengthy process of lessening their dependency on it. The scary thing is, you can never really tell that it is an addiction until you are addicted. And even then, it may be difficult for some people to admit it.

It's the loss of grip on reality that does you in. It happens, except you do not know that it happens, nor do you care while you are in the grips of this loss of reality.

It MAY end up being her fault, if it was simply by choice, and nothing to do with a loss of reality, but until that is proven it would be difficult to place the blame on her.

Nobody say shit about addictions in response to this! We've had one of those threads before, and it won't happen again.[/offtopic]

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 06:03:17 GMT

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Where exactly were the parents with this? You can't seriously tell me that the parents never gave her food or demanded she leave the computer. I also can't imagine that the parents would put up with the smell of urine and fecal matter coming from her room because she pissed in bottles and shat in socks. That's just going way too far, and I put a lot of blame on the parents for this. I don't know how old this girl is necessarily, but I'm doubting she was any younger than 13 and, if that's the case, she should have known better. She could very well have had a problem and not noticed it even up until the very end of her life. Regardless, refusing nourishment is just plain stupid. Whether or not this story is true, this definitely touches on a serious subject that hasn't been in the public eye enough.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Tunaman](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 07:48:12 GMT

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That's sad...

I can't see how people can actually play that long. I've played renegade for hours at a time, sometimes when I'm playing at night, it'll be 3 or 4 before I realize what time it is and go to bed, but I frequently hide my guy in a corner to go use the bathroom and/or get some food so I can eat while I'm playing. Otherwise, I start getting cramps and headaches. And once I have those, I can't do much, especially play an fps.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Scythar](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 09:50:07 GMT

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Perhaps obsession is a better word.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Kytten9](#) on Fri, 11 Nov 2005 14:21:27 GMT

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Scythar wrote on Fri, 11 November 2005 04:50 Perhaps obsession is a better word.

Obsessions in my opinion are more dangerous than addictions anyway.

But I dunno where her parents were, having said that, if she was a teenager (which I believe she was) then do you think she paid them any attention? I mean I see you guys and girls talk about your parents on here as if they don't mean what they threaten and you can just ignore their



rantings, she may well have done the same. My parents would have cut the plug to the pc and cancelled the internet though. They may actually do that soon, since my brother no longer lives here, they see no need for the internet....apparently I don't figure into their equations...but oh well.

I can't play Ren for more than 2 maps recently anyway, unless my friends are on, then I may play longer.

---

Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Renegade](#) on Sat, 12 Nov 2005 16:32:32 GMT  
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\*tear\*

I can relate i have 4 marathons i do a month.

Renegade marathon lasts 32 hours.

CS marathon lasts 18 hours.

Matrix lasts god knows, long time.

Spongebob (DONT SAY A GODDAM THING) lasts 6 hours.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Sat, 12 Nov 2005 19:10:09 GMT  
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"cheeky"Spongebob (DONT SAY A GODDAM THING) lasts 6 hours.

Sounds like personal problem, lol.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [kevin414141](#) on Sat, 12 Nov 2005 22:26:46 GMT  
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my mom starts yelling at me when i play 4 more the 3 hours, i usually play less than that thought because i juss git 2 damn bord

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [bandie63](#) on Sun, 13 Nov 2005 12:52:51 GMT  
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kevin414141 wrote on Sat, 12 November 2005 18:26my mom starts yelling at me when i play 4 more the 3 hours, i usually play less than that thought because i juss git 2 damn bord



That's exactly what happens to me, just without the shitty grammar.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction

Posted by [Arcane1](#) on Sun, 13 Nov 2005 17:51:08 GMT

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bigejoe14 wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 12:13 What you didn't hear about was that when she died they found socks stuffed with fecal matter and empty coke bottles filled with urine in her room.

This is bullshit. I feel no remorse for this womans death. She let herself degrade like that on her own and it's her own damn fault for her death. I can't believe how fucking stupid people can be. It just blows my mind.

Wow. (and no pun intended) That's really bloody harsh. That is totally unrepentingly harsh. So everyone that dies or suffers from a drug (prescribed or otherwise) or alcohol addiction deserves it and that attitude? Anyone that suffers from anexoria, bulemia or other psychopsiological problems deserves scorn? Damn.

Here's a little insight for you:

There has been a massive amount of research done showing that external stimuli, especially of the high-intensity type that interactive RPGs supply cause heavy upswings in adrenalin production. Just like people that are "adrenalin junkies" in sports, stock trading and other high stimulus activities get addicted, so can a gamer. Once addicted to one's own adrenalin and endorphins it is similar to a heroin habit.

ie. You're fucked.

Now, the fact that her parents or someone didn't get involved or intervene is another issue altogether. But the real physical addiction is one that she had (I would bet) ZERO control over after a certain point.

Ever live with an anorexic? or a bulemic? I lived with my girlfriend (anorexic) and her friend (bulemic) and I was the alcoholic that loved to cook. Yep that was pretty fucked up, but it is a good p[oint of humor. After she left (the bulemic) we had to clean out garbage bags, the lawn sized ones, of empty cookie, snack, everything packages and vomit where she would binge and purge.

Like the girl that died, after your mind goes so far out, that behavior becomes "rationalized". That is one incredible thing about humans, we can adapt and accustom ourselves to damn near any situation that we need to to survive. Soldiers do it all the time, acclimate themselves to become more effective. Hell, they are trained to do it well. Unfortunately it can kill us too.

Speaking of adapting... maybe some day ask me about riding a motorcycle from Pheonix, AZ to Normal, IL in mid-January, the last half of the trip at below zero.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [SCOTT9](#) on Sun, 18 Dec 2005 15:43:02 GMT  
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i admit it i am addicted to renegade and my pc but not i will play till i die sought of thing i do come off it to eat and drink and play with my 20week old pup

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [Renx](#) on Mon, 19 Dec 2005 22:30:05 GMT  
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At my peak I would even play renegade in the morning before school. That was when I was averaging like 500 (laddered)games per month.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Mon, 19 Dec 2005 22:39:40 GMT  
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YSLMuffins wrote on Thu, 10 November 2005 19:50Or have a buddy system.

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [terminator 101](#) on Tue, 20 Dec 2005 06:04:25 GMT  
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Off topic:  
icedog90, could you describe the Gari's mod? I want to try it, but I have no idea what it will be. Have you tried Natural Selection? That mod can be pretty good(for the first 20 minutes)

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2005 07:40:54 GMT  
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[http://gmwiki.garry.tv/index.php/What\\_can\\_you\\_do%3F](http://gmwiki.garry.tv/index.php/What_can_you_do%3F)

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Subject: Re: Computer game addiction  
Posted by [cypher909](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2005 17:55:04 GMT  
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Renx wrote on Mon, 19 December 2005 17:30At my peak I would even play renegade in the

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morning before school. That was when I was averaging like 500 (laddered) games per month. I used to get up at 4am... damn i was dumb.

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