

PITTSBURGH

May through August

Member's Monday

# **UARTERLY PHASER** Aprily 2003 - Issue # 23

# What's Going On?

Still your #1 location for the hottest laser tag action this spring, Laser Storm Pittsburgh stays open in even the HARSHEST weather for your convenience. Many new members will be receiving their Quarterly Phaser for the first time. Remember, you can view any and all of the past publications at www.laserstorm.org. These back issues contain a variety of information that anyone would find appealing, especially a Laser Storm member! We have added a summer special for all the members. Members Monday will offer \$2 laser tag games every Monday from 6:00 - 10:00 PM. Your membership must be current. Expired members are not eligible. This offer will be available for the months of May through August.

Laser Storm Pittsburgh is one of the only arcade facilities in the North Hills that has Soul Calibur 2, the hottest fighting game out there today! With the passing of Tekken Tag, Soul Calibur promises to be even better with 5 modes of play! There's original Arcade mode, a special 4-minute Practice mode, Time Attack, Survival, and the most popular Conquest Mode. In Conquest mode you are a soldier in 1 of 4 different armies (user selectable). You will fight 8 consecutive battles, and based on your performance you gain a certain percentage of the World Map. Once your army has completely consumed the other armies and the World Map is all 1 color, the Conquest is over and the characters are scattered randomly among the 4 armies. Then you can start with a new army with a new legion of allies. You can continue your Conquest easily with your special name and password. Your character learns and adapts to how YOU play the game so when someone else is playing, they could actually fight YOUR character while you aren't even there! Right now "Ricodiablo" has the highest number of wins (over 1163) and has made it to the "Hall Of Legends".

Spring into the action at Storm!

### Member Birthdays

Greasy Italian

Smokin 57

**Drew Carev** 

Black Plaque

ErmacsSoul

Matrix

Masl

Mushu

Flash

Zeke

Fox

Zero

Fatman

Finitexistence Cheesie Poofman Warpath Ultimate Darkain

CHAKO C cubed The King **Fantasy** Cassanova

BigZes **Dove Master** Darkzero Black Plague 2

Xavier Red Dog

Storm Attacker

Fice-Dragon Zalgax **Black Coffee** 

March Orange Destroyer Spike

The Dark Juggalo Crusher Nomad Kirby Armageddon Andro Xero Jet 2049 Hidden Darkness

Pure Form Silent Stalker Dwarn Flying Spleen

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Present this Coupon to Receive your Storm Card Current membership status req'd

### MEMBERS ONLY W MEMBERS ONLY W MEMBERS ONLY W MEMBERS ONLY

### 3 on 3 Tournaments

The 6<sup>th</sup> monthly 3 on 3 tournament was held at Laser Storm Pittsburgh on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 p.m. These were some of the most intense and fun games we've had all month. Only the devoted, the skilled, and die-hard players participate in these action packed events! Saturday night's tournament had a skill level cap of 150, meaning you and your teammates' skill levels couldn't exceed a combined total of 150.

The new reigning Top Gun Champion is Justin "Phoenix" Ragghianti. He won this prestigious title after a tough battle against Nate "Sphinx" Brailer. This is the first time someone else other than "Nut" and "X-Caliber" has won. Good job Justin!

The 3 on 3 double elimination tournament began immediately after the Top Gun, with a total of 7 teams. Having a skill level cap keeps all the teams relatively even, so every game was close, with a deciding factor of about 1 or 2 base hits (5 to 10 points).

As the tournament progressed, the team "Nasty Olive Cheese" stood undefeated. This team consisted of Shaler residents Brian "FryGuy" Sehrer, Joe "Zalgax" Danielewicz, and Wexford resident Mike "Fish" Fisher. The returning champions, "We're Thinking", who lost their second game of the evening to "Happy Days", had to fight their way through the losers bracket to meet up with "Nasty Olive Cheese" in the last game of the night. The "We're Thinking" roster was: 3 time Top Gun winner Chris "X-Caliber" Warman, 2 time Top Gun winner Matt "Nut" Stroud, and combined with Joe "Nails" Morgan made formidable adversaries. To claim the Championship, "We're Thinking" would have to beat the first place team twice. Despite feeling the fatigue of the last 3 games "We're Thinking" would upset the first place team with an unexpected win! However, "Nasty Olive Cheese" would prevail as the new Champions after an extremely close game.



**Top Gun Winner**Justin "Phoenix" Ragghianti

3 ON 3 SHOOT OUT



Champions
Joe "Zalgax", Brian "Fryguy", Mike "Fish"

### Regional Tournaments

The January Regional tournament in Austintown, OH was one of the most fun tournaments all season. This arena has been inactive in the tournament scene for the last 2 years at least, due to lack of interest by the local players. Most teams showed up around 8 p.m. on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>. The arena was completely dismantled and a new design that most players agreed on was erected. The tournament began about an hour late, but ended around the usual time. "Legacy" was finally able to take 1<sup>st</sup> over "Undisputed", with the Ohio team "Deliverance" in at 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This event in particular seemed to get exceptionally positive reviews, probably in response to the change of scenery. Players get tired of the same arenas over and over.

The February tournament was pushed back to March 1<sup>st</sup>, and for several reasons none of the regular Pittsburgh teams attended. There was , however, a group of 5 players who banded together to make the trip to Wickliffe, OH. This arena runs on the old 3.1 system, so our players ventured in a bit unprepared. Despite the obvious advantage of the Michigan teams, they still managed to take 3<sup>rd</sup> in a tournament that no one expected them to even place in. Congratulations to "Fish", "X-Caliber", "Zustin", "Nomad", and "Cassanova".

Jester's Court in Warren, OH was the site of the March tournament just this past week. "Legacy" maintained their 1<sup>st</sup> place slot, with "Oblivion" in at 2<sup>nd</sup>, and "Undisputed" fighting for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Though Pittsburgh failed to take home 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> like they planned, at least the #1 team is still a home team. Pittsburgh teams will continue to practice, and hopefully step it up in the future to prepare for the Regional Finals sometime in May. It is very likely the next tournament will be in Michigan, so get your 3.1 skills ready players!

## Arena Design Contest

Have you ever been playing Laser Storm and thought to yourself, "I could make this arena much cooler." Well now's your chance to implement YOUR ideas in our next arena. Just visit www.laserstorm.org/pitt/map.html.

This will take you to an area where you can print out your own arena map template. Then, draw your design (preferably in pencil) and turn it in at Laser Storm. Once all of the submissions have been received by the deadline of May 24th, the best arena will be chosen by Commander himself. The winner will have the bragging rights to the next cool arena design. Multiple submissions are accepted, no purchase necessary, but you do have to be a member!





### Winter League '03

League play has been a regular occurrence at Laser Storm for the last 7 years. The competition just keeps getting more and more fierce, and there is no better way of training yourself to be at the "Regional Player" level.

"National Rules" have been implemented for the first time ever in a league season strictly for the purpose of preparing for the National Tournament in Westminster, Colorado. The differences may seem subtle, but playing by National Rules is a lot more complicated than one might think.

The playoff season concluded with "The Cheater" as the Champions. However, "The Little Big Ones" put up a tremendous battle. The Little Big Ones won the first game 123-99. With victory only 1 game away The Cheaters would win the second game of the match. The Cheaters won the coin toss and chose their winning side. The stage was set for the tie breaking game. The Cheaters can from behind to win the Championship. All the players were exhausted after the high tempo of the game. The competition was fierce, the action fast paced, and the excitement overwhelming. The Championship awards were then provided at the League Player's Banquet that followed.

Be sure to sign up for the next season as soon as possible. The start date is scheduled for May 19th.

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