



Few events have gone to the extent of getting a celebrity down to host and Chris Barrie of *Red Dwarf* and *Tomb Raider* certainly sounded suitable. It was clear that the emphasis was being placed on media and spectators, they wanted the show to be packed. With a huge Imax cinema at their disposal who wouldn't?

It was not until the 7th that the first map of the event was released, barely two weeks before the event itself was due to take place. The feedback almost immediately from playing the maps forced the mapper (my apologies for not being able to remember the name) to make a few changes. He changed the bomb spot and a few other details and on the 12th/13th released the second version of the map. There was not much difference but perhaps it was a little better compared to the first version.

I find it very odd though that a science museum so insistent upon anti-terrorism measures would want a terrorist/counter-terrorist map based upon their location.

I played this map a bit on one of the Infinity-eServers and it looked nice, I did not know if it was accurate or not but it was clear a lot of time and effort had gone into it. However, when you model a map after a real location you have to account that the architect never planned the location to have a gaming map based on it, so unlike other maps it is not evenly balanced.

Shortly before this a simple Q&A article appeared on the Four-Kings website which revealed some more information. Due to time constraints there were to be two groups of four and a knockout stage using maxrounds 7 was to be implemented. At WCG we had to limit it to maxrounds 8 and even that placed too much importance on the pistol round. I have not seen maxrounds 7 used since the UKCSL days.

So already the event came under a lot of criticism - if it had not been for the large amount of prize money the event would likely have been boycotted. Soon after this Nick from Intel Masters posted a piece explaining why all the decisions had been made and that it was basically beyond his control. Another interesting factor of this event was that no one ever seemed to be in control of anything and always referred you to someone else online.

In the build-up to the event rules changed, Intel caved under the pressure and said that the usual professional maps would be used as well as the custom science map. However there was no word on the maxrounds rule until late on. They also changed their rule on substitutes and allowed up to two per team, but the prize money would not be changing.

On the 12th December, nine days before the event was due to take place, they released the final layout. Including the seedings:

- 1. Infinity-eSports
- 2. Does Not Compute
- 3. ClanONE
- 4. omg!

Unseeded

- 6. Erm:cs
- 7. Uninspired

- 8. Illu
- 9. North and South

The maps were released and included a mixture of usual and custom through the group stages, Aztec in the semis and de_sceince in the final.

The day before the event I heard from Greg Edwards that the plan was now to use maxrounds 12. Whether they announced this officially or not I cannot say, however it was starting to look like this was going to be a good tournament. Top teams competing, Clan ONE, Uninspired both looking to challenge Infinity-eSports for the £5,000 top prize. Erm:cs, ONE and IES had been practicing at various VGA LAN centres the week before obviously giving them a slight edge, it would be interesting to see how this rubbed off. All in all quite a chequered history but things now finally seemed sorted for a great event with many CS players coming down to watch.

What I have not mentioned so far are the spectator tickets and VIP passes for the event. These had to be collected for by sending off an e-mail to PCGamer. The VIP Tickts had to be won.

21st December 2002 – The Intel Masters Competition

I woke up at 7:00am (a lie-in compared to my 3:00am start for CPL EU Quals) and was due to meet UKTerrorist star-player Jack "b0p" Grimsdell at Crawley station on the train at 8:59am. We were then due to meet Ian "Duellist" Cairns at Victoria station at 9:45am and Eagle outside the national science museum between 10:00 and 10:30am.

Chatting to b0p on the train was quite interesting, it's weird as the only thing you can talk about with another CS players is CS. I could barely believe he was just 15, he looks a lot older. We met up with Duellist on time and got to the National Science Museum at 10:20ish, Eagle was nowhere to be found, so we assumed he had already gone inside rather than wait outside and we wondered in.

The Science museum is pretty big, I must admit to day dreaming my way through most school trips to museums and not being at all interested in the other stuff. Duellist seemed a bit giddy at all the big wheels and ancient mechanical stuff. The phrase "kid in a sweet shop" seemed to be quite appropriate.

The Science museum were quite strict on baggage, they searched our bags at the entrance (not that efficiently) - "do you have any sharp objects?" "No" "OK, move on."

Later down the museum we had to hand our bags and coats in at a cloakroom. That was a bit annoying but understandable and we made our way through to the welcome wing. If you had played the custom map at all you recognize it immediately. It looked much like the map I would really like to congratulate the mapper for his accuracy, if they was any difference I would say that the map made it look a lot bigger.

We wondered around for a while before being informed we had to wait until 11:00am until we could be allowed

upstairs to see the first show. It was while sitting down waiting that I met up with Coderz, probably one of my best mates online, he had come down the night before and stayed in a hotel. Coderz does not always impress me with his ingenuity but he had 4 different player passes. He had gone up to the same lady four times and said he was four different people. He had passes claiming he was in clans like Illu, omg and even tR. None of the admins checked to see if Twisted:Reality were actually attending the event.

After this I saw Greg and Dan (Dartagnan and Danfrag/lucking) and found the players marquee area, quite nice, free food. I strongly believe free food makes the players enjoy the event much more as long as they don't take advantage of it. I was informed at this stage the event was running around 2hrs behind schedule and I-eS were currently 11 – 1 up against omg!. The rest of I-eS came down shortly after that and then when they went back up again I simply sneaked up with them. I would like to state now that throughout the whole event including the extra VIP party afterwards I did not show anyone a single ticket or pass. The name of the game here was simply to talk your way into anywhere you wanted to get to.

Once I got up to the players area I saw many familiar faces, DK finally into the adminning scene, Oppie with the 4K RTCW team, even Brorjace who's been strangely absent for a few LANs - nice to see him back in action.

Looking at the setup it seemed fairly decent, blocks of six computers always useful if one goes down, however there was no separation between the spectators (people standing around) and the players themselves. You could sit right behind the player talking to him the whole time if you wished. Also fade to black was not on, and you were allowed to talk when you're dead. This is something they definitely should have sorted before the tournament.

All in all the tournament did not seem to be going too badly, which is what I thought until I spoke to DK. DK is never one to hold back his thoughts on anything... at all... ever. I won't repeat exactly what he said for obvious reasons, but basically when he arrived slightly late that morning they had not even finished setting up the network and were running way behind. The event was being plagued by continuous computer problems and everything was just being delayed further and further.

After watching Infinity-eSports win the 2nd half against omg! I went back downstairs with Stu 'lil' Harriman to look around and see what else was going on. To put it simply, not a lot.

We had to talk our way back upstairs and were allowed into the back route of the Imax cinema to watch the first show hosted by Red Dwarf star Chris Barrie. At the World Cyber Games I got to see a lot of these shows and because of that this did not really compare, but for a newcomer I guess the shows could be quite entertaining. The main problem is that these things are directed at the target audience of the spectators off the street and the hardcore gamers. For me I found the whole thing in general, especially the commentating a bit too "n00b-friendly" for my tastes. At first they explained all the terms from "n00b" to "rocketfagz whore"? Something tells me that the

commentators from TSN who were flown in from the U.S were mainly into Quake 3.

What was interesting when they were commentating on the game between I-eS and omg! (on demo by the way) was the terms they had changed. Terrorists became the "Spy team" the Counter-Terrorists became the "Security Forces". The "spy team" had to plant the "hacking kit" which could be prevented slowly if the "security forces" started unhacking it or if they had a "anti-hack kit". I'm not really mocking it, well perhaps a little, but I can see their reasons for not wanting to use the proper terrorist terms.

Most of the commentating was not actually on the game but seemed to be explaining what was going on the whole time. As I looked around most of the audience were gamers themselves and would of known how the game works, but every show they were always explaining.

The shows themselves typically consisted of a ten minute introduction followed by a video clip of one of the games (you know those intros that come with the games) and then about 30 minutes of watching one game or another. The problem with this was that because of the technical problems of the tournament it was so hard to watch a live game, so the audience usually ended up watching demos or later on in the day watching people from the audience simply playing on the computers on the stage. I feel sorry for the poor commentators who flew so far to commentate on this, it was a bit unfair on them. Not really anyone's fault just the result of several technical problems.

Doing the first show Stu found it fairly amusing to be watching himself in first person mode on such a big screen, also the way the commentator pronounced Harriman. I noticed that the Imax cinema itself was about 1/3rd full, which strikes me as strange because many more people would have attended but the tickets would only let you in to one show. You could have been told get more tickets every hour for the next show.

When this one had finished we went back out into the player area to find out the next game had still not yet started. In 3 hours they had managed to play 2 games and they had been trying for the last hour and 20 minutes to get the next game started. Was this all technical? Or did poor organisation have anything to do with it?

Once the Uninspired versus erm:cs game had been played (erm winning 13 – 7, much to their delight) Infinity-eSports were told they would still not be playing in the next game so had a while to wait yet. It is hard to believe that their plan was to play only one game at a time. Especially with the time constraints.

I believe that they should of accounted for the setup time and other delays when planning out the schedule for the tournament. Perhaps including Warcraft 3 limited their computers a bit too much, either way it was a serious problem and the time was not their friend.

It was during the next show that James (Lithium) phoned me and needed to get in to the event. So I met up with him and basically we did nothing for ages. We met up with Sujoy while trying to find the player area without having to go up the main escalator. We eventually found it only to be stopped by a security guard. Fortunately he understood that me, Lithium and Sujoy played for Infinity-eSports and had not received our player passes for the event yet and let us in.

It was at this stage that the event organizers had decided to change the format of the event due to lack of time. They changed the Counter-Strike tournament to 8 team single elimination. Everyone was pissed off, especially erm:cs who had managed to beat Uninspired earlier. I would say they lost out more than anyone else. Omg! certainly benefited from it all and luckily for them took advantage of that later on in the event.

It was at this stage I some people started jotting down a few comments on my notepad, this quickly caught on and I came out with about 20 or so, here's a couple:

Teppum - "Fucking Wank, I could do it better blindfolded" Protex - "Disorganised shambolic farce" Some erm guy - "Pratty PCs" Donkey - "f**king Intel Masters is shit, myers rocks" Tmc0r - "thup guyth"

FSK - "Wanky Computers!"
Unknown - "S**t overheating computers, not

enough planning went into this, Tepp is penfold COOL" **KhAoS** - "The organisers are f**king jokers" **Messiah** - "It has been a highly education day out

Messiah - "It has been a highly education day out, fun for the whole family. Just a shame if you're a gamer who came to play in a tournament for money then you'll be disappointed cos its s**t!"

As you can see aside from a few rather bizarre comments this tournament really wasn't going according to plan. I remember a few of the CS players begging Sujoy to sort it out and run the event. This was shortly before Sujoy and Xenon did a couple of interviews.

It was also around this time that my boredom hit rock bottom and I did some exploring. I managed to find a secondary route into the players area meaning you would not need to go past any of the usual security guys who wanted player passes. It was simply a disabled escalator taking you up to the second floor and then you simple go down the steps into the area.

At this time I was texting Antmoo on my phone everything that was going on at the event, sadly there was not that much to report so apologies for the lack of coverage.

Eventually the games started to be played, Does Not Compute outplayed North and South 13 – 3, Infinity-eSports ripped apart Illu 13 – 1, ONE beat erm 13 – 1 and shock of the night was omg! defeating Uninspired 13 – 1. No one is really sure quite how omg! achieved such a feat but they certainly had a very good game, or perhaps Uninspired were still shaken up after losing to erm:cs earlier, either way a great result for omg! The area seemed to be emptying around now, a lot of people just got bored and went home.

After this set of games I met up with divvur and went to go see another show, but this was not the ordinary show, instead they had random people from the audience playing on the computers at the front of the stage and the

commentators covering that. The problem was a lot of them had not changed their names from when the women were using them earlier and the commentators kept saying their names which got the UK womens team more and more annoyed. Also certain people deliberately trying to annoy them did not help (Team-UK | tmc0r *ahem*).

It was after that show that all the people just hanging around the player area were booted out to the players marquee. Usually I would moan about something like this, but actually the hospitality was quite nice in there. We were given food and drinks, we watched the HLTV game of I-eS vs dNC (13 – 0) and it was generally OK. At about 7:15 we were allowed back into the museum for the special VIP party. They did not even bother to check that a) Everyone had VIP tickets b) Everyone was 18+.

Intel Masters VIP Party

I would not really call the event a party just the people that happened to still be there at 7:15pm onwards getting rewarded with free food and drink (alcohol). The food was rather fancy sort of stuff, not what you expect at any of your mates' parties. Luckily you did not need the VIP tickets or proof of age to get in.

At this event the UK girls team were meant to be playing the PCGamer writers on the main stage. However for one reason or another this just did not happen. This meant that the UK women's teams were just waiting around for ages doing a few interviews from 8am – 11:00pm, I feel sorry for them.

I was sitting with Divvur, Duellist, b0p and Protex ready to watch the final between ONE and I-eS, apparently ONE had a few problems setting up and as everything was rushed to get the game started on time I am not sure that all of these problems were properly addressed.

Anyway the game started and I-eS quickly assumed control showing everyone that they were putting their experience of this map to good use. They dominated the pistol round as Counter-Terrorist winning easily, then they took round after round without a response from ClanONE. Several rounds came close, but as much as everyone claims I-eS only win because of their teamwork, the individual shooting demonstrated was usually the deciding factor.

I think ClanONE believe that the commentator was giving away their positions a few times, I did hear him say a few thing which he perhaps should not of, the main problem here is that the commentator was watching the game in real time spectator mode and not through hltv with a delay like how should have been. However he was generally cautious.

In the 12th round ClanONE rushed a stairwell with all five and broke through I-eS' defenses to take their first last and only round as Terrorist. Now it was Infinity-eSports' turn to prove that they could accomplish a similar result.

Infinity-eSports got fairly lucky on the pistol round, I can't remember how, I'll have to watch the demo. They won the pistol round and the next one easily meaning they won the game. After this they played on for another 10 rounds simply because there was a big audience there. Neither

team was really interested and just wanted the game to end so they could go wherever it is that they wished to go.

Right after the game had finished I went up onto the stage to talk to the guys, Chris Barrie was interviewing the commentator I believe on why he thought Infinity-eSports won so easily. No-one on the stage was paying that much attention. Greg Edwards seemed especially pissed off, and from what I heard he left the event without even saying goodbye, could explain a lot given recent news of his removal.

After the CS game I did not stay to watch the RTCW or Warcraft 3 games, I believe 4kings won the RTCW and Tillerman the Warcraft 3 event. I went back down and had a bit to eat (some rather weird food) and spoke to the usual people for a while before leaving the event by myself at around 10:00pm to get to my brother's 20th party that night.

Thieves

As most of you are probably aware, and I have not yet mentioned this, accusations of stealing have been flying around everywhere. So who was responsible? Everyone already knows about James (Lithium) who had the guts to unscrew a PC and remove the graphics card. I don't honestly believe he did this for the card but more as a joke. Would he have kept the card if he had gotten all the way home? Perhaps, but it was not like he tried to hide it too well. As for all the arguments that have followed, who knows, but basically yes the rumours about Lithium's endeavors are fairly true. But he is most definitely not a hardcore criminal. This was an incident blown out of all proportions, and should any talk of this should be taken with a pinch of salt.

As for the NOLF games, as I looked there was a box of the "no one lives forever" game. This box was completely unguarded and about 10 copies were scattered around the desk. They looked like giveaways for the teams to be fair. I am not going to name who exactly took up to 10 copies and put them in their bag as Christmas presents, he definitely knows who he is, but needless to say yes some people did take some copies. Thankfully most of the teams simply gave them back when asked, I believe this is because they simply weren;t aware they weren't giveaways.

DJOscar

The night before the event I had been sitting in IRC chatting away when someone spammed that this guy from csradio would be prank calling a few CS players, so I joined the channel #cs.radio and tuned in to see if it was anyone I know. After about two hours I had really gotten into the channel, Oscar was a great DJ and knew exactly how to carry the audience.

During that Friday show DJOscar did several crank phone calls two of which were to fairly famous UK CS players (Greg Edwards, Doug Wright).

DJOscar phoned Greg up (pretending to be from Intel) and informed him that Clan One couldn't compete at the Intel

masters competition because of rumours that they cheat. At first Greg started getting fairly pissed off and explained that One are a LAN team and cannot cheat. Then someone told him it was a guy from IRC and he said " f^{**} ck off ya c^{**} t" and hung up the phone.

Later that night when Oscar phoned Doug, being Infinity-eSports, no-one told him that it was a crank and Doug started panicking that Infinity-eSports weren't allowed to play tomorrow.

Anyway the point being it was rather funny when Oscar met these two people in real life. Nothing happened, but you can imagine the humour in it all:).

Intel Masters - Conclusion

Looking back on the event there's so much more they could of and should of done to improve the event. They seemed to be lacking in every factor except prize money. I will give the admins some credit as a lot of those problems were technical but they should definitely of checked out the computers beforehand to ensure that everything was working fine. If they did not have time for that then they should have found some way to ensure that something like this would not happen.

It also seems to me that the admins were giving the teams too much time to setup. Maybe again this was all a result of technical hitches, but still when you only play 7 games in 8 hours, there's a problem somewhere.

Restarting the tournament after games have been played is definitely not acceptable. That was plain unfair on the teams that have already played and won a game. They may have been short on time but they should have been able to play 15 games in the 9 hours they had left available to them.

There were some good things about the tournament. Chris Barrie made a fairly decent host, he did not quite cater for the hardcore gaming audience but did really well under the circumstances he was faced with. Free food, this is always a plus in any LAN gaming event. The location itself was pretty good, middle of London, and the gaming area made for good use of communication and setups. What they very much needed was like a big wall chart was viewable to everyone to see what was going on. A lot of people, especially the spectators, just came watched some games then left, even paid £5 for this privilege.

Obviously I'm biased but this is also taken from a majority of people that were at the event: If Intel were to hold another Masters competition, they should pick a different location and let a company like the VGA, Multiplay, or another company with a lot of experience in running gaming tournaments do the event.

Also seriously consider the exact location and plan for who you think will be attending, especially on the spectator side. Overall I think this event will be remembered for the bad points rather than the good points which is a shame considering the amount of prize money that was at stake. If Intel continue to support gaming events in the UK then

hopefully we can expect to see them learn from this experience and develop their methods in the future.

Comments

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decrepit Croydon	n1 myers
02:34 24/12/2002	hardnut's a legend [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Smiffeh Game2XS.Monkey Magic 02:45 24/12/2002	was funny when my PC restarted restarted itself for the 3rd time in the ONE game :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
G 03:03 24/12/2002	I READ IT ALL! took me ages, sounded like an 'ok' event :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Bace 03:17 24/12/2002	you read it all gg [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 07:13 24/12/2002	Diff between CPL/WCG/MPUK, they get atleast a week to setup stuff, networks, tests comps etc, Intel Masters staff got umm 12 hours? so we had no sleep and everyone was lucky to get a game. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 07:14 24/12/2002	Like to see th em try setup, and do well in 12 HOURS YEAH MEIGHTS [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
TeppuM Online Multiplayer Gaming 07:24 24/12/2002	They were a bit inexperianced at running a LAN of this statue, but if they were to run another, I'm sure they'll learn from their mistakes, and run a much better event, at the end of the day everyone walked away with money, no-one went home emptyhanded. Just a shame they couldn't get it right the first time, my comment may have been a little harsh, but i'd been waiting 7hours to play a game at that point [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Kwak 10:07 24/12/2002	Yeh, Rich you know my vision I think intel could have done much bttr by taking like a few gamers, and let them help `m out but intel had a tight schedule. I`m sure that they gained loads of experience and things well go better next time. I really like their game show although that sufered from pausing games and stuff. And a

	bit competition between VGA - Intel is good I reckon. I enjoyed the event, meeting loads of nice lads. etc. etc.
	Do not forget atleast Intel sees the potential of esports. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:11 24/12/2002	Yeah pb that was kinda my job but they didnt listen, was up all night lifting PC's and setting up networks and stuff so q: [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
TeamUK tmc0r 10:21 24/12/2002	whathup myersh ??
10.21 2 1/12/2002	they come up to me after had a go at me they didnt actually ask why i never found out :: i mean its not like im not TeamUK !£\$>!""£%J\$£"\$£" [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Tazzle 10:21 24/12/2002	Well played, nicely balanced review of the whole thing. Hrhr about lithium :D [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 10:24 24/12/2002	i just got an email from Nick Knupffer(the program manager from the event) asking people to return a stolen laptop, which wasnt property of intel, but of one of the admins, i think its a f***ing disgrace that someone would steal that, hope whoever did gets shot [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:24 24/12/2002	was there not a lack of internet at the event aswell? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:25 24/12/2002	Agreed, us admins put time and effort it, i know we could of done alot better, but it wasnt to be, so people thought it would be fun to just tax some admins laptop? WATCH IM GOING SOLDIER ON THAT PERSON AT SOME LAN [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
tmc 10:25 24/12/2002	gen, y would u want internet at a lan gaming competition, what u gonna do, join by 32 🚉: [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 10:27 24/12/2002	hltv adz? u dumb little midget :D [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:27 24/12/2002	kinda puts a bad name on gamers, some1 goin into a tourny pc and stealing a 300 quid gfx card. after these people have just spent a fortune setting up the event and providing prive money, as for a laptop that isnt funy,

	some1 should be arested for that. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:27 24/12/2002	innit u fag 8) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:28 24/12/2002	Yeah gen its a f***ing disgrace, but there just f***ed up geeks [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 10:29 24/12/2002	no offence to lithium, but so should he, if u went into a shop and stole a 300 quid radeon, u would be arrested for it, the situation is no different here, its still theft at the end of the day [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:35 24/12/2002	really shows how gratefull you are :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Tazzle 10:36 24/12/2002	If someone had been able to unscrew a pc cover, remove the graphics card and simply walk out of the museum then intel deserved it. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 10:38 24/12/2002	so tazzle your saying if u walk into a shop, and the graphics card is sitting on a shelf, with no protection, then its ok to take it? try telling that to the court wen u get arrested [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:38 24/12/2002	f*** off, what a f***ing lame perspective to have "of they dont try and stop you stealing somin, then it is ok to steal it" [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:39 24/12/2002	Tazzle intel where f***ing giving away enough money let alone ppl stealing there stuff? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:40 24/12/2002	if some1 unscrewed my case at lan, infact i dont have a case on my side. so if some1 just reached into my comp at a lan and robbed my gfx card while i was sleeping, the s*** would hit the fan a promise u :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Tazzle 10:40 24/12/2002	Oh come on, it's like walking into a police station and steal a gun. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 10:41 24/12/2002	With the police station giving them away? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Tazzle 10:43 24/12/2002	If intel couldnt protect such an obvious act in such a public place then when's next masters? I'll have one of those please.

Genics thed0n 10:45 24/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] well hope some1 either gives u a good spanking or phones the cops [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Tazzle 10:48 24/12/2002	Going by what myers said it shouldnt be too hard to convince the security im actually a technician going to fix the gfx card. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
vip Online Multiplayer Gaming 10:49 24/12/2002	myers are u forgetting the only 2 teams omg have lost to at lan events are ONE and I-es, we were not lucky to beat ui as we have done it before at wcg And vs ies craigs pc randomly crashed 6 times and he had no sound for loads too? and i crashed 2 times and had no sound for half the game but we just got on with it. If we got to compete in the semis then final/3+4 playoff i think we could have shown people why we are are a good team. Sarge m0rph craig and gideon are all great players so give us some credit. :D Just wanted to say hi to all the people that i met and stuff :DDD have a lovely christmas! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 10:51 24/12/2002	sumit is teh sex [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 10:53 24/12/2002	no wonder craig was telling me not to get a radeon and an intel cpu :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
vip Online Multiplayer Gaming 10:54 24/12/2002	haha and another thing if any of the 4 seeds have to choose a team to play, ui wouldnt be that team cause frankly they are class so we didnt get it "easy" or nowt. Raiders gotta stop touching me up tbh! OBI = teh best [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Kwak 10:55 24/12/2002	ur all moaning but if I think no1 says no if I would ask them if they had a good time at the event. I sure had and the party thing was cool:-)
Antmoo	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] gj myers, nice read
10:58 24/12/2002 Kwak 10:59 24/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] cpl and eg. the vga qualifiers are only good so well organised because of the experience they

	got, and I`m sure the organisation learnt enough. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Kwak 11:00 24/12/2002	and remember wcg korea last year? It was a farce, and look what they done this year, one of the best events around! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Antmoo 11:01 24/12/2002	i'm they will learn from their mistakes, hopefully they'll have the courage to try again :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
vip Online Multiplayer Gaming 11:02 24/12/2002	what PB WHAT!!!!! yeh overall i enjoyed it but it was frustrating [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
omg! craig Online Multiplayer Gaming 11:05 24/12/2002	myers u really seem to think u know it all, however plz tell me how its a complete shock how we beat ui. Like vip said we have now consistently done well at lan, and im sure the ui guys didnt expect to just walk over us. Anyway i think you should get over your fetish of being so great at getting past all the security, which lets face it any maggot like yourself can get past, and also get out the kitchen with your tea a bit more and actually see whats going on. This article just seems to me to be written by someone who pld a part in running wcg and just wants to rip his event to pieces to try look clever, when its clear to everyone bar yourself you just a t**t. so get your snotty little nose out the air. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 11:07 24/12/2002	craig u go girl! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 11:08 24/12/2002	that time of the month again craig? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
callous Specster 11:09 24/12/2002	nice read ta myers :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
swl 11:10 24/12/2002	reading the latest comments, the word arrogant comes up in my mind [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
KaN North & South 11:11 24/12/2002	got to add this
12.11 2 1/ 12/ 2002	it was
	13 - 6 North & South vs dNC
	North & Journ vs and

	not 13 - 3
	thats what the lads are saying anyway lol [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 11:13 24/12/2002	yea it was 13-6, i was 'adminning' that game :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
kirium 11:13 24/12/2002	haha, love it craig!
11.13 24/12/2002	i ditto everything you said too, we(omg) gave ui a right bashing in the wcg as well so dont see how the hell it could have been a 'shock result' [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 11:19 24/12/2002	u really that p***ed off because i said omg! beating ui was a shock? ui took gg into overtime at cpl quals and nearly beat them, many people were expecting ui to win the event thus making them the favourites. Not many peopel at all expected omg! to win as our poll shows thus omg! beating ui was a shock. I'm not saying omg! are a poor team they're an amazing team with a great lineup and a lot of potential.
	I'm not trying to rip this event to pieces i included both the good and bad points, however with so many technical problems people tend to notice them more. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Havors 11:20 24/12/2002	I spoke to the organizers and promotors for quite a while after the event and a lot of you have no idea what time effort and money went into the tournament.
	The only thing that went wrong was the cpu's overheating. They had everything else right but due to the cpu's it all went to c**k.
	There whole aim of the tournament was to get alot more 'joe public' interested in pro gaming aswell as promote there new chip.
	Alot of things will be done different next year so hopefully it'll be a top tourny.
	I doubt the very first CPL went very smoothly so its not really

a suprise what happend at the masters. Personally the venue was excellent but i think due to expenses and a bit of moaning by the science museum it'll be a diff location next year. (hope its not) Its got the potential to become our very own CPL so I for one hope it becomes a regular event. We need it tbh. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Genics nice way of promoting a new chip...overheating:) 11:21 24/12/2002 [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] omg! craig could see how it may have been a suprise to some, but 11:22 24/12/2002 just saying how did we do it takes the p***. Im sure if ui had been CT 1st woulda been a different game, but they r a top team and nice guys aswell, after wcg my opinion wasnt to good of them cos of the way they stomped off and that, but they are sound. it was a good win for us shame we couldnt play the other games aswell but nm. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Havors 13 - 6 with 4 players may i add 11:23 24/12/2002 dNC top lads btw but we won the drinking games 0/ [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Obi the chips werent overheating, it was the fact q-tech cant build a pc for s***. they used cheap psu's, which werent good enough to power the system, and thats why there was so many random restarts etc on the machines [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] kirium aye, from what i heard 11:25 24/12/2002 everyone who went had a great time was just a pity about the computers c**king up (which happened and is just one of those things). omg werent at the cpl qualifiers so you cant say just cos ui had a good performance there that they're a more favoured team then omg. the only fact which you had to go by was that omg gave ui a bashing the last time they met and from that are gonna be faves to win (again).

	and i dont give a s*** about the stupid poll, people who said ui were gonna win are just damn right stupid. IeS were always gonna win this event and anyone who couldnt see that are muppets. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Havors 11:26 24/12/2002	nah m8 intel guys said it was an internal saftey device in the chip. there wasnt enough coolage and the neon lights just cooked the PC. Notice how they were more stable with the lights and the side panels off? :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
m0rph Infinity-eSports 11:27 24/12/2002	eheh, well I gotta say I find the scoreline to of even surprised me. After ui showing how good they r at cpl i expected it to be a tight game, but we did prepare for nuke and pld it v some top european teams. We never doubted we were capable.
	All the teams have off days but I would disagree with the result being a 'shock'. We've done it before.
	Personally I'm happy to go into a tournament as least favourites to get anywhere (which we always are seemingly) because theres no pressure on us, and I must admit I do grin to myself when I can look at the predictions being oh so wrong about my team:> [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 11:27 24/12/2002	doesnt matter who is the fav team etc. omg! > ui on lan, as proved in the 13-1 crushing of ui aswell as beating them at wcg. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Smiffeh Game2XS.Monkey Magic 11:28 24/12/2002	was kinda s*** how i paid £200 to play one game : [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan ONE 11:28 24/12/2002	i read a post last night by petethehair (one of the mian admins of the event) and he said it was due to the crap psu's [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
m0rph Infinity-eSports	/sighs,
11:30 24/12/2002	I'd of thought, by now, hav would be put a on leash and be

Obi		prevented from posting. mate you f***ing smell. everytime i dip my head in the toilet and inhale the odours of sweet excrement I think of u. xx [Comment: Report IP: Logged] alex i always expected omg to
Clan C	DNE 24/12/2002	come third, cos u r a quality team, u personally suck tho :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Hav 11:30	ors 24/12/2002	pfft u admins had less clue than chris barrie ;)
		obi smells [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
	ph y-eSports 24/12/2002	hello my name's obi HELLO [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan (11:31	DNE 24/12/2002	hello my names alex [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Hav 11:31	ors 24/12/2002	omg m0 your nose is to close to ur arse! i had numerous people come upto me and say that m0rph guys stinks of s*** man!! ;P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
	ph y-eSports 24/12/2002	I stuck my nose up in the air and it found ur scent immediately. I looked over and I could see the air turn yellow around ur rectum area [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan (11:33	DNE 24/12/2002	hav ur the one who stinks m8, jay told me everyone ignores u at work cos ur such a stinky f*** [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
	ph y-eSports 24/12/2002	LOL i 2nd that [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan (11:35	DNE 24/12/2002	have a wash m8, it is christmas afterall:) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Hav 11:36	ors 24/12/2002	right ur both gettin slaps!! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan (11:39	DNE 24/12/2002	bring it u stinky b*****! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Hav 11:39	ors 24/12/2002	i have alovely smell about me! :P
		teh ladies love it.
		it repels homos like urselves. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Obi Clan C 11:42	DNE 24/12/2002	didnt know women were going for the s*** smell now, need to change my cologne [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
fsk0 11:50	r 24/12/2002	the only problem with the tournament was the pc's over heating like i said in an

	of the admins, or so forth, but the people who supplied the pc's, no time to test them either, if it wasnt for half the pc's being faulty and restarting them selves due to over heating, the tournament would've been great! DK was the top man there, he did so much s*** for everyone the tournament wouldnt of happened without him, at the end of the day I was about ready to collapse as im sure every other admin was, the stress of it all was too much for little ol' me :([Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Spacette 11:50 24/12/2002	tbh obi u do need to change your cologne because craig told me this morning he wants you in his stocking on xmas morning. said he particularly loves your aroma :S [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
RavOr Croydon 11:52 24/12/2002	f***ing f***s im going soldier on all of u [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Rav0r Croydon 11:52 24/12/2002	i mean fsk :/ [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
zu1u 11:53 24/12/2002	allow multiplay to run the event, lol, multiplay looks like their toilets tbh [Comment: Report IP: Logged]

earlier article. It wasnt the fault

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Few events have gone to the extent of getting a celebrity down to host and Chris Barrie of *Red Dwarf* and *Tomb Raider* certainly sounded suitable. It was clear that the emphasis was being placed on media and spectators, they wanted the show to be packed. With a huge Imax cinema at their disposal who wouldn't?

It was not until the 7th that the first map of the event was released, barely two weeks before the event itself was due to take place. The feedback almost immediately from playing the maps forced the mapper (my apologies for not being able to remember the name) to make a few changes. He changed the bomb spot and a few other details and on the 12th/13th released the second version of the map. There was not much difference but perhaps it was a little better compared to the first version.

I find it very odd though that a science museum so insistent upon anti-terrorism measures would want a terrorist/counter-terrorist map based upon their location.

I played this map a bit on one of the Infinity-eServers and it looked nice, I did not know if it was accurate or not but it was clear a lot of time and effort had gone into it. However, when you model a map after a real location you have to account that the architect never planned the location to have a gaming map based on it, so unlike other maps it is not evenly balanced.

Shortly before this a simple Q&A article appeared on the Four-Kings website which revealed some more information. Due to time constraints there were to be two groups of four and a knockout stage using maxrounds 7 was to be implemented. At WCG we had to limit it to maxrounds 8 and even that placed too much importance on the pistol round. I have not seen maxrounds 7 used since the UKCSL days.

So already the event came under a lot of criticism - if it had not been for the large amount of prize money the event would likely have been boycotted. Soon after this Nick from Intel Masters posted a piece explaining why all the decisions had been made and that it was basically beyond his control. Another interesting factor of this event was that no one ever seemed to be in control of anything and always referred you to someone else online.

In the build-up to the event rules changed, Intel caved under the pressure and said that the usual professional maps would be used as well as the custom science map. However there was no word on the maxrounds rule until late on. They also changed their rule on substitutes and allowed up to two per team, but the prize money would not be changing.

On the 12th December, nine days before the event was due to take place, they released the final layout. Including the seedings:

- 1. Infinity-eSports
- 2. Does Not Compute
- 3. ClanONE
- 4. omg!

Unseeded

- 6. Erm:cs
- 7. Uninspired

- 8. Illu
- 9. North and South

The maps were released and included a mixture of usual and custom through the group stages, Aztec in the semis and de_sceince in the final.

The day before the event I heard from Greg Edwards that the plan was now to use maxrounds 12. Whether they announced this officially or not I cannot say, however it was starting to look like this was going to be a good tournament. Top teams competing, Clan ONE, Uninspired both looking to challenge Infinity-eSports for the £5,000 top prize. Erm:cs, ONE and IES had been practicing at various VGA LAN centres the week before obviously giving them a slight edge, it would be interesting to see how this rubbed off. All in all quite a chequered history but things now finally seemed sorted for a great event with many CS players coming down to watch.

What I have not mentioned so far are the spectator tickets and VIP passes for the event. These had to be collected for by sending off an e-mail to PCGamer. The VIP Tickts had to be won.

21st December 2002 - The Intel Masters Competition

I woke up at 7:00am (a lie-in compared to my 3:00am start for CPL EU Quals) and was due to meet UKTerrorist star-player Jack "b0p" Grimsdell at Crawley station on the train at 8:59am. We were then due to meet Ian "Duellist" Cairns at Victoria station at 9:45am and Eagle outside the national science museum between 10:00 and 10:30am.

Chatting to b0p on the train was quite interesting, it's weird as the only thing you can talk about with another CS players is CS. I could barely believe he was just 15, he looks a lot older. We met up with Duellist on time and got to the National Science Museum at 10:20ish, Eagle was nowhere to be found, so we assumed he had already gone inside rather than wait outside and we wondered in.

The Science museum is pretty big, I must admit to day dreaming my way through most school trips to museums and not being at all interested in the other stuff. Duellist seemed a bit giddy at all the big wheels and ancient mechanical stuff. The phrase "kid in a sweet shop" seemed to be quite appropriate.

The Science museum were quite strict on baggage, they searched our bags at the entrance (not that efficiently) - "do you have any sharp objects?" "No" "OK, move on."

Later down the museum we had to hand our bags and coats in at a cloakroom. That was a bit annoying but understandable and we made our way through to the welcome wing. If you had played the custom map at all you recognize it immediately. It looked much like the map I would really like to congratulate the mapper for his accuracy, if they was any difference I would say that the map made it look a lot bigger.

We wondered around for a while before being informed we had to wait until 11:00am until we could be allowed

upstairs to see the first show. It was while sitting down waiting that I met up with Coderz, probably one of my best mates online, he had come down the night before and stayed in a hotel. Coderz does not always impress me with his ingenuity but he had 4 different player passes. He had gone up to the same lady four times and said he was four different people. He had passes claiming he was in clans like Illu, omg and even tR. None of the admins checked to see if Twisted:Reality were actually attending the event.

After this I saw Greg and Dan (Dartagnan and Danfrag/lucking) and found the players marquee area, quite nice, free food. I strongly believe free food makes the players enjoy the event much more as long as they don't take advantage of it. I was informed at this stage the event was running around 2hrs behind schedule and I-eS were currently 11 – 1 up against omg!. The rest of I-eS came down shortly after that and then when they went back up again I simply sneaked up with them. I would like to state now that throughout the whole event including the extra VIP party afterwards I did not show anyone a single ticket or pass. The name of the game here was simply to talk your way into anywhere you wanted to get to.

Once I got up to the players area I saw many familiar faces, DK finally into the adminning scene, Oppie with the 4K RTCW team, even Brorjace who's been strangely absent for a few LANs - nice to see him back in action.

Looking at the setup it seemed fairly decent, blocks of six computers always useful if one goes down, however there was no separation between the spectators (people standing around) and the players themselves. You could sit right behind the player talking to him the whole time if you wished. Also fade to black was not on, and you were allowed to talk when you're dead. This is something they definitely should have sorted before the tournament.

All in all the tournament did not seem to be going too badly, which is what I thought until I spoke to DK. DK is never one to hold back his thoughts on anything... at all... ever. I won't repeat exactly what he said for obvious reasons, but basically when he arrived slightly late that morning they had not even finished setting up the network and were running way behind. The event was being plagued by continuous computer problems and everything was just being delayed further and further.

After watching Infinity-eSports win the 2nd half against omg! I went back downstairs with Stu 'lil' Harriman to look around and see what else was going on. To put it simply, not a lot.

We had to talk our way back upstairs and were allowed into the back route of the Imax cinema to watch the first show hosted by Red Dwarf star Chris Barrie. At the World Cyber Games I got to see a lot of these shows and because of that this did not really compare, but for a newcomer I guess the shows could be quite entertaining. The main problem is that these things are directed at the target audience of the spectators off the street and the hardcore gamers. For me I found the whole thing in general, especially the commentating a bit too "n00b-friendly" for my tastes. At first they explained all the terms from "n00b" to "rocketfagz whore"? Something tells me that the

commentators from TSN who were flown in from the U.S were mainly into Quake 3.

What was interesting when they were commentating on the game between I-eS and omg! (on demo by the way) was the terms they had changed. Terrorists became the "Spy team" the Counter-Terrorists became the "Security Forces". The "spy team" had to plant the "hacking kit" which could be prevented slowly if the "security forces" started unhacking it or if they had a "anti-hack kit". I'm not really mocking it, well perhaps a little, but I can see their reasons for not wanting to use the proper terrorist terms.

Most of the commentating was not actually on the game but seemed to be explaining what was going on the whole time. As I looked around most of the audience were gamers themselves and would of known how the game works, but every show they were always explaining.

The shows themselves typically consisted of a ten minute introduction followed by a video clip of one of the games (you know those intros that come with the games) and then about 30 minutes of watching one game or another. The problem with this was that because of the technical problems of the tournament it was so hard to watch a live game, so the audience usually ended up watching demos or later on in the day watching people from the audience simply playing on the computers on the stage. I feel sorry for the poor commentators who flew so far to commentate on this, it was a bit unfair on them. Not really anyone's fault just the result of several technical problems.

Doing the first show Stu found it fairly amusing to be watching himself in first person mode on such a big screen, also the way the commentator pronounced Harriman. I noticed that the Imax cinema itself was about 1/3rd full, which strikes me as strange because many more people would have attended but the tickets would only let you in to one show. You could have been told get more tickets every hour for the next show.

When this one had finished we went back out into the player area to find out the next game had still not yet started. In 3 hours they had managed to play 2 games and they had been trying for the last hour and 20 minutes to get the next game started. Was this all technical? Or did poor organisation have anything to do with it?

Once the Uninspired versus erm:cs game had been played (erm winning 13 – 7, much to their delight) Infinity-eSports were told they would still not be playing in the next game so had a while to wait yet. It is hard to believe that their plan was to play only one game at a time. Especially with the time constraints.

I believe that they should of accounted for the setup time and other delays when planning out the schedule for the tournament. Perhaps including Warcraft 3 limited their computers a bit too much, either way it was a serious problem and the time was not their friend.

It was during the next show that James (Lithium) phoned me and needed to get in to the event. So I met up with him and basically we did nothing for ages. We met up with Sujoy while trying to find the player area without having to go up the main escalator. We eventually found it only to be stopped by a security guard. Fortunately he understood that me, Lithium and Sujoy played for Infinity-eSports and had not received our player passes for the event yet and let us in.

It was at this stage that the event organizers had decided to change the format of the event due to lack of time. They changed the Counter-Strike tournament to 8 team single elimination. Everyone was pissed off, especially erm:cs who had managed to beat Uninspired earlier. I would say they lost out more than anyone else. Omg! certainly benefited from it all and luckily for them took advantage of that later on in the event.

It was at this stage I some people started jotting down a few comments on my notepad, this quickly caught on and I came out with about 20 or so, here's a couple:

Teppum - "Fucking Wank, I could do it better blindfolded"

Protex - "Disorganised shambolic farce"

Some erm guy - "Pratty PCs"

Donkey - "f**king Intel Masters is shit, myers rocks"

Tmc0r - "thup guyth"

FSK - "Wanky Computers!"

Unknown - "S**t overheating computers, not enough planning went into this, Tepp is penfold COOL"

KhAoS - "The organisers are f**king jokers" **Messiah** - "It has been a highly education day out, fun for the whole family. Just a shame if you're a gamer who came to play in a tournament for money then you'll be disappointed cos its s**t!"

As you can see aside from a few rather bizarre comments this tournament really wasn't going according to plan. I remember a few of the CS players begging Sujoy to sort it out and run the event. This was shortly before Sujoy and Xenon did a couple of interviews.

It was also around this time that my boredom hit rock bottom and I did some exploring. I managed to find a secondary route into the players area meaning you would not need to go past any of the usual security guys who wanted player passes. It was simply a disabled escalator taking you up to the second floor and then you simple go down the steps into the area.

At this time I was texting Antmoo on my phone everything that was going on at the event, sadly there was not that much to report so apologies for the lack of coverage.

Eventually the games started to be played, Does Not Compute outplayed North and South 13 – 3, Infinity-eSports ripped apart Illu 13 – 1, ONE beat erm 13 – 1 and shock of the night was omg! defeating Uninspired 13 – 1. No one is really sure quite how omg! achieved such a feat but they certainly had a very good game, or perhaps Uninspired were still shaken up after losing to erm:cs earlier, either way a great result for omg! The area seemed to be emptying around now, a lot of people just got bored and went home.

After this set of games I met up with divvur and went to go see another show, but this was not the ordinary show, instead they had random people from the audience playing on the computers at the front of the stage and the

commentators covering that. The problem was a lot of them had not changed their names from when the women were using them earlier and the commentators kept saying their names which got the UK womens team more and more annoyed. Also certain people deliberately trying to annoy them did not help (Team-UK | tmc0r *ahem*).

It was after that show that all the people just hanging around the player area were booted out to the players marquee. Usually I would moan about something like this, but actually the hospitality was quite nice in there. We were given food and drinks, we watched the HLTV game of I-eS vs dNC (13-0) and it was generally OK. At about 7:15 we were allowed back into the museum for the special VIP party. They did not even bother to check that a) Everyone had VIP tickets b) Everyone was 18+.

Intel Masters VIP Party

I would not really call the event a party just the people that happened to still be there at 7:15pm onwards getting rewarded with free food and drink (alcohol). The food was rather fancy sort of stuff, not what you expect at any of your mates' parties. Luckily you did not need the VIP tickets or proof of age to get in.

At this event the UK girls team were meant to be playing the PCGamer writers on the main stage. However for one reason or another this just did not happen. This meant that the UK women's teams were just waiting around for ages doing a few interviews from 8am – 11:00pm, I feel sorry for them.

I was sitting with Divvur, Duellist, b0p and Protex ready to watch the final between ONE and I-eS, apparently ONE had a few problems setting up and as everything was rushed to get the game started on time I am not sure that all of these problems were properly addressed.

Anyway the game started and I-eS quickly assumed control showing everyone that they were putting their experience of this map to good use. They dominated the pistol round as Counter-Terrorist winning easily, then they took round after round without a response from ClanONE. Several rounds came close, but as much as everyone claims I-eS only win because of their teamwork, the individual shooting demonstrated was usually the deciding factor.

I think ClanONE believe that the commentator was giving away their positions a few times, I did hear him say a few thing which he perhaps should not of, the main problem here is that the commentator was watching the game in real time spectator mode and not through hltv with a delay like how should have been. However he was generally cautious.

In the 12th round ClanONE rushed a stairwell with all five and broke through I-eS' defenses to take their first last and only round as Terrorist. Now it was Infinity-eSports' turn to prove that they could accomplish a similar result.

Infinity-eSports got fairly lucky on the pistol round, I can't remember how, I'll have to watch the demo. They won the pistol round and the next one easily meaning they won the game. After this they played on for another 10 rounds simply because there was a big audience there. Neither

team was really interested and just wanted the game to end so they could go wherever it is that they wished to go.

Right after the game had finished I went up onto the stage to talk to the guys, Chris Barrie was interviewing the commentator I believe on why he thought Infinity-eSports won so easily. No-one on the stage was paying that much attention. Greg Edwards seemed especially pissed off, and from what I heard he left the event without even saying goodbye, could explain a lot given recent news of his removal.

After the CS game I did not stay to watch the RTCW or Warcraft 3 games, I believe 4kings won the RTCW and Tillerman the Warcraft 3 event. I went back down and had a bit to eat (some rather weird food) and spoke to the usual people for a while before leaving the event by myself at around 10:00pm to get to my brother's 20th party that night.

Thieves

As most of you are probably aware, and I have not yet mentioned this, accusations of stealing have been flying around everywhere. So who was responsible? Everyone already knows about James (Lithium) who had the guts to unscrew a PC and remove the graphics card. I don't honestly believe he did this for the card but more as a joke. Would he have kept the card if he had gotten all the way home? Perhaps, but it was not like he tried to hide it too well. As for all the arguments that have followed, who knows, but basically yes the rumours about Lithium's endeavors are fairly true. But he is most definitely not a hardcore criminal. This was an incident blown out of all proportions, and should any talk of this should be taken with a pinch of salt.

As for the NOLF games, as I looked there was a box of the "no one lives forever" game. This box was completely unguarded and about 10 copies were scattered around the desk. They looked like giveaways for the teams to be fair. I am not going to name who exactly took up to 10 copies and put them in their bag as Christmas presents, he definitely knows who he is, but needless to say yes some people did take some copies. Thankfully most of the teams simply gave them back when asked, I believe this is because they simply weren;t aware they weren't giveaways.

DJOscar

The night before the event I had been sitting in IRC chatting away when someone spammed that this guy from csradio would be prank calling a few CS players, so I joined the channel #cs.radio and tuned in to see if it was anyone I know. After about two hours I had really gotten into the channel, Oscar was a great DJ and knew exactly how to carry the audience.

During that Friday show DJOscar did several crank phone calls two of which were to fairly famous UK CS players (Greg Edwards, Doug Wright).

DJOscar phoned Greg up (pretending to be from Intel) and informed him that Clan One couldn't compete at the Intel

masters competition because of rumours that they cheat. At first Greg started getting fairly pissed off and explained that One are a LAN team and cannot cheat. Then someone told him it was a guy from IRC and he said "f**ck off ya c**t" and hung up the phone.

Later that night when Oscar phoned Doug, being Infinity-eSports, no-one told him that it was a crank and Doug started panicking that Infinity-eSports weren't allowed to play tomorrow.

Anyway the point being it was rather funny when Oscar met these two people in real life. Nothing happened, but you can imagine the humour in it all:).

Intel Masters - Conclusion

Looking back on the event there's so much more they could of and should of done to improve the event. They seemed to be lacking in every factor except prize money. I will give the admins some credit as a lot of those problems were technical but they should definitely of checked out the computers beforehand to ensure that everything was working fine. If they did not have time for that then they should have found some way to ensure that something like this would not happen.

It also seems to me that the admins were giving the teams too much time to setup. Maybe again this was all a result of technical hitches, but still when you only play 7 games in 8 hours, there's a problem somewhere.

Restarting the tournament after games have been played is definitely not acceptable. That was plain unfair on the teams that have already played and won a game. They may have been short on time but they should have been able to play 15 games in the 9 hours they had left available to them.

There were some good things about the tournament. Chris Barrie made a fairly decent host, he did not quite cater for the hardcore gaming audience but did really well under the circumstances he was faced with. Free food, this is always a plus in any LAN gaming event. The location itself was pretty good, middle of London, and the gaming area made for good use of communication and setups. What they very much needed was like a big wall chart was viewable to everyone to see what was going on. A lot of people, especially the spectators, just came watched some games then left, even paid £5 for this privilege.

Obviously I'm biased but this is also taken from a majority of people that were at the event: If Intel were to hold another Masters competition, they should pick a different location and let a company like the VGA, Multiplay, or another company with a lot of experience in running gaming tournaments do the event.

Also seriously consider the exact location and plan for who you think will be attending, especially on the spectator side. Overall I think this event will be remembered for the bad points rather than the good points which is a shame considering the amount of prize money that was at stake. If Intel continue to support gaming events in the UK then

Comments

Page: 1 2 3

Iol, if that was an amd event the cpu's wouldve set alight, they get hot enough in a cool room let alone a room as hot as that was a [Comment: Report IP: Logged]		
the cpu's wouldve set alight, they get hot enough in a cool room let alone a room as hot as that was [Comment: Report IP: Logged] Loxam Lite 12:01 24/12/2002 weren't the cases them new global win ones though? the allu ones. [Comment: Report IP: Logged] think so yea, i read some reviews of globalwin cases, they r meant to be s***, the fan on the side of the case does f*** all apparantly [Comment: Report IP: Logged] Loxam Lite 12:06 24/12/2002 They should of had nice custom made cases thb: http://www.bit-tech.net/article/98/ :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged] Nerf Clan ONE 12:52 24/12/2002 They should of had nice custom made cases thb: http://www.bit-tech.net/article/98/ iP [Comment: Report IP: Logged] Nerf Clan ONE 12:52 24/12/2002 Think you're being a little harsh on Myers. The shock wasn't that OMG beat UI, the shock is that they did it so convincingly in that particular game. In that respect I agree with him. It stems from the fact that ui went in as one of the favourites, with the Winter CPL just 3 weeks before and therefore fresh in the mind. Nobody is saying OMG aren't a quality team (except Obi, cos he can't type properly :P). [Comment: Report IP: Logged] Toomy from hero to zero in 3 weeks	Clan ONE	
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		from hero to zero in 3 weeks [Comment: Report IP: Logged]

Spacette 13:00 24/12/2002	I of course knew omg would beat ui:D and if they had pld one they would have beat them too:P not that i am biased or anything:D [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Raider theb0g 13:27 24/12/2002	omg! u guys had a great game at intel, not take that away from you, but PLEASE stop bringing up the wcg game saying u walked us easily with no praccy. If u watch the game u can see that toomy and pun arent even bothering [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Spacette 13:33 24/12/2002	2 players not even bothering :S does not make sense to me , why would 2 players go to something like the wcg and not even bother to play as well as they could ? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
CyRus 13:35 24/12/2002	does it matter? he won 25k [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
omg! craig Online Multiplayer Gaming 13:42 24/12/2002	dave we havent said we walk over ui anywhere, only fred did who left omg a while ago but did play for us at wcg. We know u guys r good as has been said and on a different day woulda be a different result. We are just pointing out that just cos we didnt go to cpl we got discounted altho we have a good record on lan. And knowing the uk scene everyone will now say ui aint v good then next lan you will prob go rape everyonejust pointing out the fickleness of the UK scene:) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Eagle 13:46 24/12/2002	I've been wondering why people thought omg would lose to ui to be frank. :o Anyway good report myers, AND WHY DIDNT YOU WAIT TEN MINUTES YOU IMPATIENT
	GIT :x [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
b0p^ 14:08 24/12/2002	nice read myers ;] [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Smittins 14:09 24/12/2002	been offline for 3 days
	whats all this malarkey then :] [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Data 14:22 24/12/2002	nice read myers. however meationing things such as OMG! beating uI came to a shock im sure could of been put differently. good report however, shame i couldnt get

down there dispite having VIP tickets 📝:(As for the event i here from several sources including other ukcsa staff members down there, that it was a complete shamballs, so didnt miss much. i dont agree with people slacking off mpuk though, about the tournaments. As a senior admin for mpuk i can say it is infact a hell of a job to run + organise a tournament, especially a cs tournament. lol, i did queiry Nick about its attitude to running and organising the tournament in the interview, but he assured us all that intel staff members were on top of things and had everything under control 🗼:) [Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Del`

Sniper's Alley 14:34 24/12/2002 Good post Myers - sounds like it wasn't too bad from your perspective, as you saw on my column it was crap from a plain spectators perspective. If I'd had a players pass or stayed till the VIP thing I'm sure I would have had a better time though:)

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

DArtagnan

Infinity-eSports 14:34 24/12/2002 I wasnt p***ed off, i was just upset, my leaving didnt have anything to do the ONE guys, it was do to with myself:([Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Raider

theb0g 14:46 24/12/2003 ok craig, cool:)

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

I-eS|Luck1ng 14:47 24/12/2002

always at uk events other clans have "pc problems". now, i must be THE worst person that has ever touched a pc, (i.e when i tryed to plug the moniter into the printer port at gd,) and i never have any problems at these lans... so wtf are you lot doing to your pcs?

as for the event after the problems at the start most things where sorted and it went oki, 1 thing you guys have to remember is that intel are not running the event for gamers!!?? there running it for pr and the jo public, to get cs into the main stream.

so rather than whining allill the time at how crap the lans are

	cos you didnt win =], just look at why they run the events.	
	have a good xmas [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 14:52 24/12/2002	dan didn't ur comp crash 3 times in korea? :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
vip Online Multiplayer Gaming 14:53 24/12/2002	i love ui specially dave :D omg never said anything bad about ui, so dunno wot ur chattin bout dave, we think they are good Shaddup! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
MiG 14:54 24/12/2002	W dont pay £120 to travel there just for some publicity stunt, using w**k pcs. I'd expect an INTEL event to have some knowledge or understanding about pcs. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
Loxam Lite 15:09 24/12/2002	Rofl plugging into the printer port, classic:P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
NoToRiOuS	sounded ok	
2 COOL 4 SKOOL UKTerrorist 15:13 24/12/2002	tho id like to see AMD swoop in and do an AMD masters ;0 [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
Genics thed0n 15:17 24/12/2002	lol, is such a crime that such a computer ilitarate fool can be so good at cs :P	
	and mig surely u realised u was spending 120 quid to be knocked out 1st game anyway? :P	
Smiffeh	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] there was 3 games originally	
Game2XS.Monkey Magic 15:20 24/12/2002	fool and we were doing well against ONE before they restarted the tournament	
Scara North & South 15:20 24/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] f***ing w**k report made by a f***ing dickhead that all he did all day was sniff about team uk girls (so did docker mind :D dtill not sure wether it was spacet or spaceshirt he was on about hehe). Eventually the games started to be played, Does Not Compute outplayed North and South 13 – 3.	
	It was 13-6 and the game was a complete nm for us lemmy only been in the server for about 5 whole rounds so virtually played 4vs5 all game.	
	Pull ur head out yer arse stumpy!	

	[C	
Conscript classified 15:50 24/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] Wasnt Chris Barrie in Britas Empire, what a tv program! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 15:54 24/12/2002	*sigh* actually i didn't speak to jewelz in the uk girls team as i would of liked. She's a good friend of mine, i don't think that is yet a crime. I spoke to her for about 10 mins in the whole day.	
	Scara if you think you can write a bettet report then plz do so, i can't wait to read it, until then don't moan about this one. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
Raider theb0g 16:18 24/12/2002	dan, the reason u dont have any problems is because all admins bend over backwards to make sure everything is great for i-es, whereas others just get told 2 deal with it, ies get it fixed [Comment: Report IP: Logged]	
GLoBaL.ChiLLaGe 16:19 24/12/2002	Absolute disgrace. From what I gather the event didnt go too well, but really, it deserved to be s***. ya act all leet, and wanna 'reprazent!' CS, yet the 'big names' in the 'community' go an rob a 200quid gfx card, or a poxy 30quid game. No doubt a hint of this was trying to look cool. But really your just a bunch of f***in idiots. Seriously, your beyond me. And whoever robbed that laptop, I sincerely hope you get charged, and f***edroyally Pfft Maybe one day youll learn a some respect, and have that silver spoon removed from your ass's scutty t**ts.	
GLoBaL.ChiLLaGe 16:26 24/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] Just to add to that, the people who did act civilised, and had a s*** time, Its a shame, and thanks to the half inchers, i think the next event (if it happens) will be just as bad, if not worse. Unless those people who robbed, actually feel remorse, and not do it again Im sure Intel wont be arranging	

an event in the UK just yet People act like t**ts online, but to act them offline is quite amazing. I actually thought 'esports' were going somewhere in this country, but to be blunt. It wont, certianly not in the forseeable future, due to complete arses who think they have the right to steal... [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] lol at the stealing, sounds like twist good fun event wise. Although 16:29 24/12/2002 for the teams and the competition. Sounds like a real big cheese up. sorta GG. Hopefully happen again somtime soon. Sept theyll learn from there mistakes. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] who is stu? 16:42 24/12/2002 [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] assumin he means lil stant0s 16:43 24/12/2002 [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] ozboyinlondon Hi all, 16:49 24/12/2002 not a gamer (except for work but thats nothing compared to you guys/gals). Went to the event and was disappointed that not many games were being played, that noone really knew what was happening scores wise (big board thing would have been great) and that no many "joe public" turned up. However, do hope Intel persevere with it, its probably a good test to see how dedicated they are to the gaming community. Its probably fun to bag them but they have the budget to really put professional gaming on the map. So maybe its better for constructive criticism. Get behind them and point out what was wrong and what to do to fix it. That way next year it will be a better event. Criticise them and degrade them (and steal from them) and you wont being seeing that type of money for a long time. My major problem was the timing of the event, the saturday before Xmas.. way too much competition.. the science

museum was rather quiet as everyone was shopping. Also, they have to ensure next time that they have much more time to test the computers etc. possible future venue... millenium dome? anyway,foodfor thought.. all I'm saying is that although it didn't pan out as a great success, it can bein the future andits up to you gamers to ensure that it is. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] **Genics** are they planing on a 2nd one? form all the comments this has 16:53 24/12/2002 been implied alot :P [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] personally I enjoyed the event, **Spacette** 17:08 24/12/2002 We did not even get to play our match at all, the whole day all we got was a mess about on the computers in the imax, and some interveiws to promote girl gaming, but even tho the timing was messed up by all the pc's that kept crashing ect... Was a good atmosphere most people were in good spirits, of course some were disappointed. I was disappointed myself at not getting to own pc gamer guys ;) shame about all the theiring that went on , i had not realised so many things had been stolen, but I hope they will put the event on again next year, and of course I would love to be involved again but if not I will still be there to spectate, hopefully they will sort something out so that we can see some of the games tho because it was difficult to find out the scores of the first games especially. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Stu as in hard townie boy Easty 17:09 24/12/2002 from Disturbed. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] KhAoS

you sat on the good pc's dan, the ones that didn't overheat, there were huge problems with the majority of the pc's on 1 side hence them having to only play 1 game at a time. I'm sure you would have been angry if you're pc rebooted itself every 2 minutes like what happened for omg! and ui. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Pski [quote]possible future venue... millenium dome?[/quote] yeh great idea! Even the organisers wouldn't mind anyone bombing that. [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] lol, the dome would rock, what is in it these days anyway? 17:52 24/12/2002 [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Oh another thing about the Eagle 17:54 24/12/2002 event, for all normal spectators who couldnt blag their way through into the players area (ie me :() it was boring. Everyone else had a good time. What that guy was saying about professional gaming in uk never gonna happen, i can see what he's talking about. Every event something, usually quite a bit, gets nicked. Not great image really.... [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] I-eS|Luck1ng how can i always get the good 18:09 24/12/2002 pcs?

	maybe its the name? =] [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Q 18:12 24/12/2002	did eagle tell any funny jokes in real life? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 18:22 24/12/2002	yeh they must be atracte to the name and want to impress youdanfag:) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 18:29 24/12/2002	maybe u got a lucky name?GEDDIT!!! :D:D:D: [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
DArtagnan Infinity-eSports 19:07 24/12/2002	what a classic! :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Scara North & South 19:21 24/12/2002	Scara if you think you can write a bettet report then plz do so, i can't wait to read it, until then don't moan about this one.
	Got free reign to say its s***e when wot u writes s***e and totally wrong! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 19:26 24/12/2002	well i think myers has beatin you on the old Enlgish Gramer(spelling) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
RoadKill meatyballs 19:29 24/12/2002	"Comprehensive" Report. Give credit where its due, he did spend god knows how long writing that up, well done.
	However - covering Lithium's steal is laughable. "He did it as a joke" - to be fair, I bet whoever linched the laptop would use the same excuse if he/she was caught.
	Its nice to see competition below ONE and I-es, in the form of ui omg! dNC and erm:cs, perhaps in half a year or so, cs lifespan permitting, the UK will have a good top 4 or 5 clans all fighting for the top spots in LANS. Much better than past years where clans have gone, looking for second spot knowing that 4K/i-es would win comfortably. On the "I-es can shoot as well as use good tactics" comment Myers made. OK, of course I-es players have great aim, otherwise they wouldn't be where they are, won what they have, and be in the team they are. Just that's taken for granted, and pulling off complex tactics is seen to be

	more difficult and therefore gets greater respect. Bring on the next UK LAN [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Messiah Game2XS.Monkey Magic 19:36 24/12/2002	i think u missed a 'tbh' genics [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Havors 19:42 24/12/2002	scara has a point tho hey myers!
	people only want to know what the event was like not what time u got up, what u had to eat and how much u suck I-eS arse.
	and i think ours isnt the only score u got wrong also.
	you in college myers? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 19:55 24/12/2002	:D [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Kwak 20:22 24/12/2002	scara is cool q:D [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 20:24 24/12/2002	no mess i didnt. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Havors 20:33 24/12/2002	:) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Messiah Game2XS.Monkey Magic 21:09 24/12/2002	tbh you did tbh genics tbh [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 21:15 24/12/2002	tbh, where is ur christmass spirit? grumpy c**k [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Eagle 00:44 25/12/2002	MERRY CHRISTMAS NUB NUBS! :o now, pantomime next weekyay o/ [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
stant0s 01:50 25/12/2002	luck1ng, its not about luck, its about the way people see each other, respectlol, but i dunno. but im sure u do? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
GLoBaL.ChiLLaGe 01:53 25/12/2002	Q 17:09, 24/12/2002 Stu as in hard townie boy Easty from Disturbed.
	Quote
	Hahahaha! hahahahha! haha, hahaha, hahaaaaaaaaa! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
stantOGC 01:54 25/12/2002	same people? I think so [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Scara North & South 04:20 25/12/2002	tbh tbh had a laugh with i-es blokes in the marquee and kwak's old school and cool u cloggy bassa :)

	poor grim had to put up with docker p*** heeed tho on the bean bags :P
	[Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Scara North & South 04:28 25/12/2002	p.s. he suks on jeepathon [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Spacette 12:48 25/12/2002	was docker p***ed ? I spoke to him at the end of the day at intel he seemed straight to me ;)
fsk twisted Reality 13:58 25/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] pc's on both sides restarted themselves, Keiju's restarted itself and i think teppums, but everything over-heats when near teppum, like myself;x [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Havors 14:50 25/12/2002	just to confirm docker was bent and p***ed.:) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Spacette 15:22 25/12/2002	I knew he was bent ;) It was him being p***ed that surprised me ;p No need to confirm him being bent tho havors , I heard he has a thing for u :P [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Chief 17:16 25/12/2002	After helping run this event, and loosing a large amount of sleep trying to get it setup, I find the attitude of many of the CS Players below that level anyone would expect from "the cream of the crop". Alot of the abuse simply comes down to not winning. If you arnt good enough to beat the opposition, loose gracefully and enjoy the rest of the event - just think, there may be people out there with less tallent (if you can call it that) and more sportsmanship who could have come - but are sat at home. I know there were massive technical problems with the computers, but that dosnt excuse the response "Im gonna go harase the CS Server Admin and Complain (yes TEPPUM im talking about you.) - I mean WTF? what do you expect me to do? pull up a chair, hand you a beer and say "sorry for wasting your time sir?". Bollox. As for people stealing property, that is just pittyfull. You do not have the right to steal anything - even if you feel you have had your entire day wasted and

want compensation. I was quite happy to call up the police and have them search everyone for any property that was not theirs - I had my own property there, the last thing i was expecting was for you lot to go and steal it.. but you stole a staff members laptop. I mean... wtf, you want more events that reward money for cometing in computer games and you repay the organisers with theft. No, if anything intel will re-think their attitude towards you and say "no, they dont deserve this money". At the end of the day its in your own interests to help make things run smoothly.

Anyway, Congratulations to I-eS for winning, and all the clans who participated without causing a fuss... (ie, not teppum).

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

TeppuM

Online Multiplayer Gaming 18:10 25/12/2002

Chief, I asked you who to complain to, and you said you, if you get the chance of coming top4 taken away from you, and then subsequently being forced to wait 7 hours to play a game, dont you think you'd be pretty p***ed too?

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Smittins

18:15 25/12/2002

Alot of the abuse simply comes down to not winning

guess PCs randomly restarting was neither here nor there then

i find your attempt at chicaning the criticism and trying to blame it on poor sportsmanship amusing

i suppose Dels poor spectator experience was cos he didnt win too? :)

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Genics

thed0n 18:26 25/12/2002 Cheif makes alot of good points, maybe you should listen to him instead of all acting like imature c**ks;x

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Krondar

18:28 25/12/2002

"Alot of the abuse simply comes down to not winning"

Don't be so dumb. At every competition there is just 1 winner and everyone else doesnt win. It's not like in other

competitions everyone is a winner ffs. Everyones saying its s***e cos it was basically not good. If the pcs couldnt be tested for saturday 21st december then the competition should have been run a week or 2 later so that the damn pcs could have been tested, you dont see this stuff happening at other events. mainly i think the worst thing was for spectators. we werent allowed at the player area so we didnt know anything that was going on at the competition. there was no scores anywhere and the show at the imax was like totally separate to the competition. it wasn't a bad show, kinda dumb a lot of the time but rimmer was cool. i should have stayed at home if i wanted to watch the competition because i saw practically 0 by being at the science museum.

and you cant suddenly go blame 1 guy that stole a laptop for the whole event going wrong. sure that guy is a dick and he deserves everything he gets but then you go around blaming all cs players because one teef stole a laptop. wtf, that doesnt suddenly make all the other s*** ok.

basically stop blaming the players, i heard straight from them all of the crap that was going on and thankfully the stuff you see on these forums is really toned down and they're generally being nice about most of the stuff that went wrong at the event. its not the players fault that this event was such a flop.

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Genics

thed0n 18:34 25/12/2002 come on guys it is christmass! share the love :P

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

TeppuM

Online Multiplayer Gaming 18:40 25/12/2002

also i don't really see how you can base it just on me chief, there was alot more people complaining than me, and from what I could see the "game admins" weren't being consulted at all when the players discovered there was no quickswitch/dynamic crosshair there was uproar, and I heard

alot of players were refusing to play, when I asked you if we could change it in the config, you said it would take too long, when it's a 1minute process, and you said we wouldn't be allowed to do it.. yet 20minutes later you changed your mind, and let the game admins login for us and change the configs as i've said before in the thread, what i said was probably pretty harsh due to the long wait i'd had, and at the end of it we werent really bothered in winning we just wanted to go home, thus we let one pick map etc i'm hoping there will be another with more preparation, because it's alot of money in it, and it would be a very good event if run properly

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Pathetic 19:48 25/12/2002

It just goes to show the UK isnt ready for support with progaming. Nobody seems to deserve it.

Money spent on setting the tourney up with prizes e.t.c, sure, things went wrong, but then immature childish w**kers go and steal? I find it sad.

Pro-gaming in the UK is just a pipe dream. wont happen anytime soon, why should money be spent supporting clans when they steal from tournements like sad tramps off the street.

Lithium, ur a fat, sad, useless little tosser. Likely the other pricks who stole the laptop/games whatever are too.

Go back to your council estates.

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Del` Sniper's Alley 19:55 25/12/2002

TBH smittins I pwned hard the other spectators with mac10, I don't think you could say I didn't win ;D

You should have seen them lol, none of them even brought guns or kevlar with them, was easier than a UK2 server. M-M-Monsterkill!!

[Comment: Report | IP: Logged]

Add comment

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Few events have gone to the extent of getting a celebrity down to host and Chris Barrie of *Red Dwarf* and *Tomb Raider* certainly sounded suitable. It was clear that the emphasis was being placed on media and spectators, they wanted the show to be packed. With a huge Imax cinema at their disposal who wouldn't?

It was not until the 7th that the first map of the event was released, barely two weeks before the event itself was due to take place. The feedback almost immediately from playing the maps forced the mapper (my apologies for not being able to remember the name) to make a few changes. He changed the bomb spot and a few other details and on the 12th/13th released the second version of the map. There was not much difference but perhaps it was a little better compared to the first version.

I find it very odd though that a science museum so insistent upon anti-terrorism measures would want a terrorist/counter-terrorist map based upon their location.

I played this map a bit on one of the Infinity-eServers and it looked nice, I did not know if it was accurate or not but it was clear a lot of time and effort had gone into it. However, when you model a map after a real location you have to account that the architect never planned the location to have a gaming map based on it, so unlike other maps it is not evenly balanced.

Shortly before this a simple Q&A article appeared on the Four-Kings website which revealed some more information. Due to time constraints there were to be two groups of four and a knockout stage using maxrounds 7 was to be implemented. At WCG we had to limit it to maxrounds 8 and even that placed too much importance on the pistol round. I have not seen maxrounds 7 used since the UKCSL days.

So already the event came under a lot of criticism - if it had not been for the large amount of prize money the event would likely have been boycotted. Soon after this Nick from Intel Masters posted a piece explaining why all the decisions had been made and that it was basically beyond his control. Another interesting factor of this event was that no one ever seemed to be in control of anything and always referred you to someone else online.

In the build-up to the event rules changed, Intel caved under the pressure and said that the usual professional maps would be used as well as the custom science map. However there was no word on the maxrounds rule until late on. They also changed their rule on substitutes and allowed up to two per team, but the prize money would not be changing.

On the 12th December, nine days before the event was due to take place, they released the final layout. Including the seedings:

- 1. Infinity-eSports
- 2. Does Not Compute
- 3. ClanONE
- 4. omg!

Unseeded

- 6. Erm:cs
- 7. Uninspired

- 8. Illu
- 9. North and South

The maps were released and included a mixture of usual and custom through the group stages, Aztec in the semis and de_sceince in the final.

The day before the event I heard from Greg Edwards that the plan was now to use maxrounds 12. Whether they announced this officially or not I cannot say, however it was starting to look like this was going to be a good tournament. Top teams competing, Clan ONE, Uninspired both looking to challenge Infinity-eSports for the £5,000 top prize. Erm:cs, ONE and IES had been practicing at various VGA LAN centres the week before obviously giving them a slight edge, it would be interesting to see how this rubbed off. All in all quite a chequered history but things now finally seemed sorted for a great event with many CS players coming down to watch.

What I have not mentioned so far are the spectator tickets and VIP passes for the event. These had to be collected for by sending off an e-mail to PCGamer. The VIP Tickts had to be won.

21st December 2002 – The Intel Masters Competition

I woke up at 7:00am (a lie-in compared to my 3:00am start for CPL EU Quals) and was due to meet UKTerrorist star-player Jack "b0p" Grimsdell at Crawley station on the train at 8:59am. We were then due to meet Ian "Duellist" Cairns at Victoria station at 9:45am and Eagle outside the national science museum between 10:00 and 10:30am.

Chatting to b0p on the train was quite interesting, it's weird as the only thing you can talk about with another CS players is CS. I could barely believe he was just 15, he looks a lot older. We met up with Duellist on time and got to the National Science Museum at 10:20ish, Eagle was nowhere to be found, so we assumed he had already gone inside rather than wait outside and we wondered in.

The Science museum is pretty big, I must admit to day dreaming my way through most school trips to museums and not being at all interested in the other stuff. Duellist seemed a bit giddy at all the big wheels and ancient mechanical stuff. The phrase "kid in a sweet shop" seemed to be quite appropriate.

The Science museum were quite strict on baggage, they searched our bags at the entrance (not that efficiently) - "do you have any sharp objects?" "No" "OK, move on."

Later down the museum we had to hand our bags and coats in at a cloakroom. That was a bit annoying but understandable and we made our way through to the welcome wing. If you had played the custom map at all you recognize it immediately. It looked much like the map I would really like to congratulate the mapper for his accuracy, if they was any difference I would say that the map made it look a lot bigger.

We wondered around for a while before being informed we had to wait until 11:00am until we could be allowed

upstairs to see the first show. It was while sitting down waiting that I met up with Coderz, probably one of my best mates online, he had come down the night before and stayed in a hotel. Coderz does not always impress me with his ingenuity but he had 4 different player passes. He had gone up to the same lady four times and said he was four different people. He had passes claiming he was in clans like Illu, omg and even tR. None of the admins checked to see if Twisted:Reality were actually attending the event.

After this I saw Greg and Dan (Dartagnan and Danfrag/lucking) and found the players marquee area, quite nice, free food. I strongly believe free food makes the players enjoy the event much more as long as they don't take advantage of it. I was informed at this stage the event was running around 2hrs behind schedule and I-eS were currently 11 – 1 up against omg!. The rest of I-eS came down shortly after that and then when they went back up again I simply sneaked up with them. I would like to state now that throughout the whole event including the extra VIP party afterwards I did not show anyone a single ticket or pass. The name of the game here was simply to talk your way into anywhere you wanted to get to.

Once I got up to the players area I saw many familiar faces, DK finally into the adminning scene, Oppie with the 4K RTCW team, even Brorjace who's been strangely absent for a few LANs - nice to see him back in action.

Looking at the setup it seemed fairly decent, blocks of six computers always useful if one goes down, however there was no separation between the spectators (people standing around) and the players themselves. You could sit right behind the player talking to him the whole time if you wished. Also fade to black was not on, and you were allowed to talk when you're dead. This is something they definitely should have sorted before the tournament.

All in all the tournament did not seem to be going too badly, which is what I thought until I spoke to DK. DK is never one to hold back his thoughts on anything... at all... ever. I won't repeat exactly what he said for obvious reasons, but basically when he arrived slightly late that morning they had not even finished setting up the network and were running way behind. The event was being plagued by continuous computer problems and everything was just being delayed further and further.

After watching Infinity-eSports win the 2nd half against omg! I went back downstairs with Stu 'lil' Harriman to look around and see what else was going on. To put it simply, not a lot.

We had to talk our way back upstairs and were allowed into the back route of the Imax cinema to watch the first show hosted by Red Dwarf star Chris Barrie. At the World Cyber Games I got to see a lot of these shows and because of that this did not really compare, but for a newcomer I guess the shows could be quite entertaining. The main problem is that these things are directed at the target audience of the spectators off the street and the hardcore gamers. For me I found the whole thing in general, especially the commentating a bit too "n00b-friendly" for my tastes. At first they explained all the terms from "n00b" to "rocketfagz whore"? Something tells me that the

commentators from TSN who were flown in from the U.S were mainly into Quake 3.

What was interesting when they were commentating on the game between I-eS and omg! (on demo by the way) was the terms they had changed. Terrorists became the "Spy team" the Counter-Terrorists became the "Security Forces". The "spy team" had to plant the "hacking kit" which could be prevented slowly if the "security forces" started unhacking it or if they had a "anti-hack kit". I'm not really mocking it, well perhaps a little, but I can see their reasons for not wanting to use the proper terrorist terms.

Most of the commentating was not actually on the game but seemed to be explaining what was going on the whole time. As I looked around most of the audience were gamers themselves and would of known how the game works, but every show they were always explaining.

The shows themselves typically consisted of a ten minute introduction followed by a video clip of one of the games (you know those intros that come with the games) and then about 30 minutes of watching one game or another. The problem with this was that because of the technical problems of the tournament it was so hard to watch a live game, so the audience usually ended up watching demos or later on in the day watching people from the audience simply playing on the computers on the stage. I feel sorry for the poor commentators who flew so far to commentate on this, it was a bit unfair on them. Not really anyone's fault just the result of several technical problems.

Doing the first show Stu found it fairly amusing to be watching himself in first person mode on such a big screen, also the way the commentator pronounced Harriman. I noticed that the Imax cinema itself was about 1/3rd full, which strikes me as strange because many more people would have attended but the tickets would only let you in to one show. You could have been told get more tickets every hour for the next show.

When this one had finished we went back out into the player area to find out the next game had still not yet started. In 3 hours they had managed to play 2 games and they had been trying for the last hour and 20 minutes to get the next game started. Was this all technical? Or did poor organisation have anything to do with it?

Once the Uninspired versus erm:cs game had been played (erm winning 13 – 7, much to their delight) Infinity-eSports were told they would still not be playing in the next game so had a while to wait yet. It is hard to believe that their plan was to play only one game at a time. Especially with the time constraints.

I believe that they should of accounted for the setup time and other delays when planning out the schedule for the tournament. Perhaps including Warcraft 3 limited their computers a bit too much, either way it was a serious problem and the time was not their friend.

It was during the next show that James (Lithium) phoned me and needed to get in to the event. So I met up with him and basically we did nothing for ages. We met up with Sujoy while trying to find the player area without having to go up the main escalator. We eventually found it only to be

stopped by a security guard. Fortunately he understood that me, Lithium and Sujoy played for Infinity-eSports and had not received our player passes for the event yet and let us in.

It was at this stage that the event organizers had decided to change the format of the event due to lack of time. They changed the Counter-Strike tournament to 8 team single elimination. Everyone was pissed off, especially erm:cs who had managed to beat Uninspired earlier. I would say they lost out more than anyone else. Omg! certainly benefited from it all and luckily for them took advantage of that later on in the event.

It was at this stage I some people started jotting down a few comments on my notepad, this quickly caught on and I came out with about 20 or so, here's a couple:

Teppum - "Fucking Wank, I could do it better blindfolded" Protex - "Disorganised shambolic farce" Some erm guy - "Pratty PCs" Donkey - "f**king Intel Masters is shit, myers rocks" Tmc0r - "thup guyth"

FSK - "Wanky Computers!"
Unknown - "S**t overheating computers, not

enough planning went into this, Tepp is penfold COOL" **KhAoS** - "The organisers are f**king jokers" **Messiah** - "It has been a highly education day out

Messiah - "It has been a highly education day out, fun for the whole family. Just a shame if you're a gamer who came to play in a tournament for money then you'll be disappointed cos its s**t!"

As you can see aside from a few rather bizarre comments this tournament really wasn't going according to plan. I remember a few of the CS players begging Sujoy to sort it out and run the event. This was shortly before Sujoy and Xenon did a couple of interviews.

It was also around this time that my boredom hit rock bottom and I did some exploring. I managed to find a secondary route into the players area meaning you would not need to go past any of the usual security guys who wanted player passes. It was simply a disabled escalator taking you up to the second floor and then you simple go down the steps into the area.

At this time I was texting Antmoo on my phone everything that was going on at the event, sadly there was not that much to report so apologies for the lack of coverage.

Eventually the games started to be played, Does Not Compute outplayed North and South 13 – 3, Infinity-eSports ripped apart Illu 13 – 1, ONE beat erm 13 – 1 and shock of the night was omg! defeating Uninspired 13 – 1. No one is really sure quite how omg! achieved such a feat but they certainly had a very good game, or perhaps Uninspired were still shaken up after losing to erm:cs earlier, either way a great result for omg! The area seemed to be emptying around now, a lot of people just got bored and went home.

After this set of games I met up with divvur and went to go see another show, but this was not the ordinary show, instead they had random people from the audience playing on the computers at the front of the stage and the

commentators covering that. The problem was a lot of them had not changed their names from when the women were using them earlier and the commentators kept saying their names which got the UK womens team more and more annoyed. Also certain people deliberately trying to annoy them did not help (Team-UK | tmc0r *ahem*).

It was after that show that all the people just hanging around the player area were booted out to the players marquee. Usually I would moan about something like this, but actually the hospitality was quite nice in there. We were given food and drinks, we watched the HLTV game of I-eS vs dNC (13 – 0) and it was generally OK. At about 7:15 we were allowed back into the museum for the special VIP party. They did not even bother to check that a) Everyone had VIP tickets b) Everyone was 18+.

Intel Masters VIP Party

I would not really call the event a party just the people that happened to still be there at 7:15pm onwards getting rewarded with free food and drink (alcohol). The food was rather fancy sort of stuff, not what you expect at any of your mates' parties. Luckily you did not need the VIP tickets or proof of age to get in.

At this event the UK girls team were meant to be playing the PCGamer writers on the main stage. However for one reason or another this just did not happen. This meant that the UK women's teams were just waiting around for ages doing a few interviews from 8am – 11:00pm, I feel sorry for them.

I was sitting with Divvur, Duellist, b0p and Protex ready to watch the final between ONE and I-eS, apparently ONE had a few problems setting up and as everything was rushed to get the game started on time I am not sure that all of these problems were properly addressed.

Anyway the game started and I-eS quickly assumed control showing everyone that they were putting their experience of this map to good use. They dominated the pistol round as Counter-Terrorist winning easily, then they took round after round without a response from ClanONE. Several rounds came close, but as much as everyone claims I-eS only win because of their teamwork, the individual shooting demonstrated was usually the deciding factor.

I think ClanONE believe that the commentator was giving away their positions a few times, I did hear him say a few thing which he perhaps should not of, the main problem here is that the commentator was watching the game in real time spectator mode and not through hltv with a delay like how should have been. However he was generally cautious.

In the 12th round ClanONE rushed a stairwell with all five and broke through I-eS' defenses to take their first last and only round as Terrorist. Now it was Infinity-eSports' turn to prove that they could accomplish a similar result.

Infinity-eSports got fairly lucky on the pistol round, I can't remember how, I'll have to watch the demo. They won the pistol round and the next one easily meaning they won the game. After this they played on for another 10 rounds simply because there was a big audience there. Neither

team was really interested and just wanted the game to end so they could go wherever it is that they wished to go.

Right after the game had finished I went up onto the stage to talk to the guys, Chris Barrie was interviewing the commentator I believe on why he thought Infinity-eSports won so easily. No-one on the stage was paying that much attention. Greg Edwards seemed especially pissed off, and from what I heard he left the event without even saying goodbye, could explain a lot given recent news of his removal.

After the CS game I did not stay to watch the RTCW or Warcraft 3 games, I believe 4kings won the RTCW and Tillerman the Warcraft 3 event. I went back down and had a bit to eat (some rather weird food) and spoke to the usual people for a while before leaving the event by myself at around 10:00pm to get to my brother's 20th party that night.

Thieves

As most of you are probably aware, and I have not yet mentioned this, accusations of stealing have been flying around everywhere. So who was responsible? Everyone already knows about James (Lithium) who had the guts to unscrew a PC and remove the graphics card. I don't honestly believe he did this for the card but more as a joke. Would he have kept the card if he had gotten all the way home? Perhaps, but it was not like he tried to hide it too well. As for all the arguments that have followed, who knows, but basically yes the rumours about Lithium's endeavors are fairly true. But he is most definitely not a hardcore criminal. This was an incident blown out of all proportions, and should any talk of this should be taken with a pinch of salt.

As for the NOLF games, as I looked there was a box of the "no one lives forever" game. This box was completely unguarded and about 10 copies were scattered around the desk. They looked like giveaways for the teams to be fair. I am not going to name who exactly took up to 10 copies and put them in their bag as Christmas presents, he definitely knows who he is, but needless to say yes some people did take some copies. Thankfully most of the teams simply gave them back when asked, I believe this is because they simply weren;t aware they weren't giveaways.

DJOscar

The night before the event I had been sitting in IRC chatting away when someone spammed that this guy from csradio would be prank calling a few CS players, so I joined the channel #cs.radio and tuned in to see if it was anyone I know. After about two hours I had really gotten into the channel, Oscar was a great DJ and knew exactly how to carry the audience.

During that Friday show DJOscar did several crank phone calls two of which were to fairly famous UK CS players (Greg Edwards, Doug Wright).

DJOscar phoned Greg up (pretending to be from Intel) and informed him that Clan One couldn't compete at the Intel

masters competition because of rumours that they cheat. At first Greg started getting fairly pissed off and explained that One are a LAN team and cannot cheat. Then someone told him it was a guy from IRC and he said " f^{**} ck off ya c^{**} t" and hung up the phone.

Later that night when Oscar phoned Doug, being Infinity-eSports, no-one told him that it was a crank and Doug started panicking that Infinity-eSports weren't allowed to play tomorrow.

Anyway the point being it was rather funny when Oscar met these two people in real life. Nothing happened, but you can imagine the humour in it all:).

Intel Masters - Conclusion

Looking back on the event there's so much more they could of and should of done to improve the event. They seemed to be lacking in every factor except prize money. I will give the admins some credit as a lot of those problems were technical but they should definitely of checked out the computers beforehand to ensure that everything was working fine. If they did not have time for that then they should have found some way to ensure that something like this would not happen.

It also seems to me that the admins were giving the teams too much time to setup. Maybe again this was all a result of technical hitches, but still when you only play 7 games in 8 hours, there's a problem somewhere.

Restarting the tournament after games have been played is definitely not acceptable. That was plain unfair on the teams that have already played and won a game. They may have been short on time but they should have been able to play 15 games in the 9 hours they had left available to them.

There were some good things about the tournament. Chris Barrie made a fairly decent host, he did not quite cater for the hardcore gaming audience but did really well under the circumstances he was faced with. Free food, this is always a plus in any LAN gaming event. The location itself was pretty good, middle of London, and the gaming area made for good use of communication and setups. What they very much needed was like a big wall chart was viewable to everyone to see what was going on. A lot of people, especially the spectators, just came watched some games then left, even paid £5 for this privilege.

Obviously I'm biased but this is also taken from a majority of people that were at the event: If Intel were to hold another Masters competition, they should pick a different location and let a company like the VGA, Multiplay, or another company with a lot of experience in running gaming tournaments do the event.

Also seriously consider the exact location and plan for who you think will be attending, especially on the spectator side. Overall I think this event will be remembered for the bad points rather than the good points which is a shame considering the amount of prize money that was at stake. If Intel continue to support gaming events in the UK then

hopefully we can expect to see them learn from this experience and develop their methods in the future.

Comments

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Alex-\ 20:32 25/12/2002	Myres you really are a gimp , does it take practice to be so good at it ? [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Slider` eSports.Edge 00:48 26/12/2002	o/ I actually got bored reading the comments after the 5th one, as people decided to turn it into a 'write-your-own-bible' competition [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 12:52 26/12/2002	thanks for pointing that out mr.obvious :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Chief 21:36 26/12/2002	I would also like to point out that Roweb had nothing to do with the organisation or running of the Intel Masters event. Myers, please correct this. It was NOT Roweb, it was another company. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 02:09 27/12/2002	there was def some ppl from roweb there :) [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Scara North & South 15:17 27/12/2002	Oh also we were seeded 7th not 8th Myers. /me shakes his head
DK Stalk Confront Engage Eliminate 15:40 27/12/2002	[Comment: Report IP: Logged] You'd be well aware of people from ROWEB being there mMyers as Lithuim, who in your eyes is nothing to do with i-es when hes caught stealing, won a ROWEB LAN tourny with yourself, liq, lil, doug. Quite clearly showing the HE IS part of i-es and hes a thieving little s***e. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Genics thed0n 17:11 27/12/2002	rofl [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Marc 22:53 27/12/2002	DarkKnight 15:40, 27/12/2002 You'd be well aware of people from ROWEB being there mMyers as Lithuim, who in your eyes is nothing to do with i-es when hes caught stealing, won a ROWEB LAN tourny with

	yourself, liq, lil, doug. Quite clearly showing the HE IS part of i-es and hes a thieving little s***e.
	Team was - me , doug , stu , dan , pb , greg
	lithium + myers didn't play [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist	scara coming into the event n@s were not seeded at all
12:53 28/12/2002	DK, i never said Lithium was or was not part of I-eS, and me and Lithium did not play at Roweb. Muppet! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Smiffeh Game2XS.Monkey Magic 14:22 28/12/2002	ye they changed the seedings on the day which i thought was very nice of them [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
DK Stalk Confront Engage Eliminate 16:02 28/12/2002	Not only are you an annoying speech impaired greasy faced t**t, you're a liar aswell. As you know quite well you spoke to me saying Lith isn't really ies. You also made another comment about him being listed on the members section, saying 'dont take that to seriously'. Again implying hes not really i-es.
	TIT! [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
DK Stalk Confront Engage Eliminate 16:04 28/12/2002	The roweb lan team I took from a picture taken, showing the names I listed holding the winnners prizes, no sign of greg, so maybe I'm wrong. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]
Myers Saviour of UKT UKTerrorist 02:58 29/12/2002	lith doesn't play for i-es, simple as that he runs infinity-eserversnow i'm sure even you can understand this dk it really aint that complicated. As for roweb, yet again, and quite shockingly may i add, you are wrong!. The picture was basically those of us still around at the time.
	Dan, greg and pb went home early and roweb needed to do a presentation so me and james went on there, teppum nearly did too:). And resulting to personal
	insults?wow aren't you mr.mature gamer. [Comment: Report IP: Logged]

Divvur Rah, what a report, I get mentioned twice yet all I did was sit there! From a spectator point a view, it wasn't that great until we reached the final, which was a lot of fun to watch! (Duellist and myself were Oooing and Ahhhing at every shot). It would have been a lot better with a normal map tho. Then they gave me free drink, so really it wasn't all that bad! Tho I did have to beg for a VIP ticket, which in the end wasn't checked! As it is, my own VIP tickets arrived in the post on the Monday morning after the event! Anyway, I give it a Spectator score of: *** (Tho 1 star is for the free drink and another for the cool free optical mouse keyring which lights up) Anyway, now thats over with, you can go back to reading unrelated rubbish! /me tickles u all [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] u begged for a VIP Myers ticket?...more like i asked protex to give u one he had spare:) [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Well technically yeah, but that Divvur 14:23 30/12/2002 didn't sound as dramatic! [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] sean why don't you all get real jobs and stop complaining!!! u had the chance of winning a s***e load of money to sit on your arses and play games... and u complain... bunch of t**ts [Comment: Report | IP: Logged] Page: 1 2 3

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