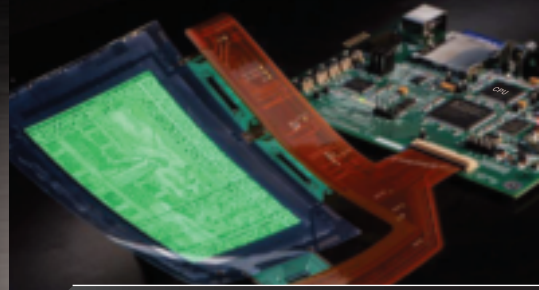# CPU®

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Intel LANFest Winter

Come In From The Cold, Get Shot

As 2013 came screeching to a halt, there were a couple of great LAN events that took place, and of course we couldn't let them pass without a look at some of the cool, zany stuff that took place.

Intel LANFest Northwest Fall 2013

For starters, on Friday, Nov. 15, LANFest Northwest kicked off at Intel's Aloha, Ore. campus, starting at 6 p.m. and running through Sunday, Nov. 17 at noon. The event went off without a hitch and packed in more than 40 hours of tournaments, contests, and LAN-related hijinks. Also, the Aloha facility's café was selling bacon pancakes for breakfast on Saturday, which means breakfast alone was worth the trip.

If you live in the Portland area (or even within travel distance), you should know that the LANFest team has been dropping hints about a new facility for events in 2014. We don't have much more info than that, except that the team is looking for a way to grow the event beyond the current 120-participant limit. Keep an eye on lanfest.intel.com for more information as it becomes available.

Intel LANFest InfernaLAN Fall 2013

Another Intel facility in DuPont, Wash. was the venue for LANFest InfernaLAN Fall 2013, just three weeks after LANFest Northwest. InfernaLAN is one of the coolest events on the LANFest schedule: In addition to 36 hours of PC LAN gaming, InfernaLAN provides attendees with a console gaming area, a tabletop game room, a fully equipped stage where Rock Band and Guitar Hero lovers can show off their mad skills, and more tournaments, contests, and games than you can shake a stick (of DDR3) at. Did we mention basketball and minigolf?

We also had a CPU-Intel LANFest Case Mod Contest at the event, and our winner was Eric Randall, whose "Matt's Tribute" mod was detailed in the "Mad Reader Mod" feature and on the cover of our February 2013 issue. This time around, Eric's work was mostly of the interior variety, as he explored the space inside a Corsair Carbide Series Air 540.

Eric's competition didn't go quietly, though. Tony Nicholas built a pretty nice rig inside a SilverStone Raven RO2, but decided he needed to turn it up to 11. So, he tore it down, painted the case, and rebuilt his system with custom cooling and custom cables, cut to fit and hand-sleeved. He was kind enough to provide us with before-and-after pics so that you can see the effect modding can have on even an already attractive and powerful system.

Gamestar's Corsair 900D is a tower of power, with a GeForce Triple SLI setup and . . . wait, are those Christmas colors? Well, this was early December, so good on ya, Gamestar!

Rob Loescher had this 700D for about five years before he decided to do an "end of an era" mod and give the faithful rig a full-blown complement of custom cooling gear.