

LSSU Laser Tag

Contributed by Amy Pachla
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On Thursday October 18, The Smith Agency, Inc. operating out of Grand Rapids came to the Lake State campus to host an afternoon of Laser Tag. Chris Lloyd showed up in his big white truck and turned the conference rooms in the Cisler Center into an alien battlefield. Pounding music, "day-glo" spray paint, disco lighting, and colored camouflage barriers stretched across all four conference rooms and spilled into the hallway outside.

The event, arranged by the LSSU Student Activities Board, started with the sign up table, a "do it yourself" sugar cookie decorating bar. From there, students waited their turn and listened to the music coming from the battleground. Along with the waiting students were a few who had already had their turn and were just there to have fun and hang out. "It was a blast," said sophomore Adam Fischhaber. "The best Activities Board has done in a while." Junior Ben Zappa agreed, calling the event, "a hit with the students."

Chris Lloyd, the onsite TSA On Tour game-master, said that the most players allowed at once per ten minute game was six (or three on three if the teams are even), but the teams don't have to be even. The event was free to both students and staff, and of staff members showing up for their turn at combat, he shrugged and said, "It's inevitable." No staff members, however, were positively identified at the event.

The Compass managed to embed a reporter for a particularly interesting match, four students, playing three on one. Within three minutes, the one had made nearly ten hits on his as-yet scoreless three opponents. Yes, the journalist was mistakenly fired upon once or twice, but the threat of being hit by blinky lights was nothing compared to the excitement of watching criminal justice freshman Jeff Ferrell thoroughly "pwn" the opposing force, nursing sophomore Krista Willette, fire science/paramedic freshman Miles Ouimette, and forensic chemistry freshman Jonathan Davis, to the timeless licks of Hendrix's "Purple Haze" cranked up to eleven.

As the four came out of the combat zone, sweating, panting, and ready to eat the offered sugar cookies, they had nothing but praise for the event. "It's sweet," Krista said. "It wasn't what I expected. It was a lot more fun." The others agreed, also admitting that they pretty much expected the whipping they got from the CJ major. Jeff himself gave credit to the Activities Board, saying, "It's cool how the school gets this stuff for the students to have fun."

Activities Board no doubt has more cool, fun stuff in the works for the students. To find out what's coming up next, or to make requests and suggestions for future events, fun, and games, contact the Activities Board in the Student Life office at 635-2756, email stuact@lssu.edu, or visit their website at www.lssu.edu/studentlife/assembly/aboard.php.