WAZA

FIGHTING GAME COMMUNITY UPDATES

May 27, 2025 - Newsletter #8

FGC Highlights

This week in the Fighting Game Community:

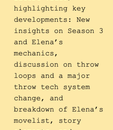
GUILTY GEAR -STRIVE- Season Pass 4 Playable Character #3 [Unika] Trailer

Unika's gameplay trailer for Guilty Gear Strive was released today, confirming her launch on May 27, 2025 (Pacific Time). She will be available to Season Pass 4 holders after applying the update. Her release also includes two new battle stages: New Dawn, A Future Unfolding and In the Name of Peace.

Tekken 8 Armor King & Fahkumram Trailer

During Combo Breaker 2025, Tekken 8 revealed that Armor King will be the next DLC character, following a full trailer showcasing Fahkumram. Fahkumram will release on July 7, 2025 (early access) and July 10 for all players, aligned with the U.S. Pacific time zone.
His launch coincides with the v2.03 update, which includes balance adjustments, the new Pac-Man stage, and additional cosmetic items. Armor King's release is scheduled for Autumn 2025, though a specific date has yet to be announced. Fahkumram will have four total costumes, including his base outfit.

Combo Breaker crowd live reaction to Armor King Announcement



Sneak peak of Elena's Gameplay + Season 3 Tech Updates

Rooflemonger breaks it all down in his latest video, highlighting key developments: New insights on Season 3 and Elena's mechanics, discussion on throw loops and a major throw tech system change, and breakdown of Elena's movelist, story elements, and costume variations. Early community reactions suggest the gameplay tech updates are on the conservative side, but still noteworthy.

Tournaments

Combo Breaker 2025 Results

Combo Breaker 2025 marked its 10th anniversary with a thrilling weekend of competitive fighting games from May 23 to 25. The event featured over 20 official brackets, side tournaments, and special exhibitions, drawing players worldwide to compete across major, niche, and classic titles.

Major Tournament Highlights

Street Fighter 6: Shin "Leshar" Moon-sup secured his first major title after an impressive lower bracket run, culminating in a 3-2 victory over veteran Hiromiki "Itabashi Zangief" Kumada. This win grants Leshar a direct invite to Capcom Cup 11.

Tekken 8: Han "Mulgold" Jae-gyun triumphed over top contenders ATIF and Knee, earning 560 points toward the Tekken World Tour. Since the top three already qualified for the Esports World Cup, the remaining top-eight players received the event invites.

Fatal Fury: City of the Wolves: In the game's major debut, GO1 showcased dominance by winning 12 consecutive rounds, including two 3-0 sweeps over SNK legend Reynald in the grand finals, securing an invite to the SNK World Championship 2025.

Guilty Gear Strive: Claire "UMISHO" Harrison completed her trifecta of major wins (Evo, CEO, and Combo Breaker) by defeating Jack in consecutive grand final sets, earning a spot in the 2025/26 ARC World Tour Finals.

Granblue Fantasy Versus Rising: Xerom clinched their first major victory since CEOtaku, securing a place in the upcoming ARC World Tour Finals.

Under Night In-Birth II: Izayah "BigBlack" Davis successfully defended his title, maintaining his dominance in the scene.

SF6 TOP 8

1. DRX|Leshar (Mai, Ed, Terry)
2. DFM|Itabashi Zangief (Zangief)
3. DualKevin (Rashid)
4. Mouz|EndingWalker (Ryu)
5. 2G|Blaz (Ryu)
6. RB|Bonchan (Akuma)
7. SR|JAK (Juri, Mai)
8. DFM|Go1 (Chun-Li)

TEKKEN 8 TOP 8

1. DNF|Mulgold (Claudio, Feng)
2. Falcons|Atif (Anna, Dragunov)
3. DRX|Knee (Bryan)
4. T1|Edge (Hwoarang)
5. Varrel|Pinya (Raven)
6. TM|Arslan Ash (Nina)
7. DRX|LowHigh (Bryan)
8. Varrel|Rangchu (Panda, Lidia, Kuma)

Fatal Fury CotW TOP 8

1. DFM|Go1 (Marco)
2. AG|Reynald (Kain)
3. ONIC|NYChrisG (Hokutomaru)
4. RB (Gato)
5. T1|ZJZ (Hotaru)
6. CAG|Fenrich (Kain)
7. FW|GamerBee (Kain)
8. WBG|Poongko (Gato)

Community

Sajam - Developer Communication to the Community Doesn't Last Forever

Sajam discusses how the Tekken community is quick to rally around trending complaints, comparing them to *Smash Bros.* fans in their passionate responses. He highlights how, unlike other games, the release of *Tekken 8* Season 2 sparked intense backlash, prompting Bandai Namco to issue an emergency patch, apologize, and promise future updates. Sajam reflects on the challenge developers face in maintaining a close connection with fans while avoiding overcommunication that can lead to heightened expectations and backlash.

Maximillian Dood on MK Franchise and Dev Burnout

MaximillianDood sympathizes with the MK1 devs and stresses they need a break to reevlaute and start fresh. He highlights how MKX benefitted from this by incorporating elements from Injustice 1

About Us

Thanks for joining our newsletter! Fighting games have been our passion since we first played Super Turbo on the SNES and we're still just as obsessed today. We're excited to share our love for this evolving community with fans around the world. We understand how crazy and busy life gets and how quickly updates come and go-that's exactly why we created this passion project, to help FGC fans stay connected without missing a beat!

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