

MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by dndgamer - 2012/04/25 21:31

I Just read where Monte Cook has left the design team of WOTC for what he says are "...differences of opinion with the company".

My take on it; Monte did not want to compromise his vision of what the next "D&D" system was to be versus what WOTC's true intent is...commerce! My opinion is he did not want to be associated with a D&D product that was anything less than a great system. Unfortunately, big business has other things in mind...more dollars!

Here's the thread...

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by patoumonde - 2012/04/25 21:57

Interesting, the site is down right now. Must be important news :)

Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Lordannilhus - 2012/04/26 00:02

Mmh, that is a little bit worrying for the next D&D.....

We will see.

Thanks for the news

Soon

Lord

Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Stefan - 2012/04/26 02:15

I'll be flying out to Seattle next week to playtest it using some Dwarven Forge terrain...so I remain optimistic...at the very least, it is still friendly for miniatures...

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by jericho - 2012/04/26 07:51

That is some worrisome news. It must have been a big difference of opinion considering he moved his whole family to a different state just to lead the design team.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Ninthgoose - 2012/04/26 07:53

WOTC focus has been on profit, or so it feels to me. Monte going, is not going to help change that I suspect.

DnD5th will probably go in a similar vain to 4th edition, ie a complete system change, to ensure that everyone has to go and replace their book stocks.

The release intervals for everything, be it mobile phones or rpg systems are constantly falling.. its the pressures of big business and global marketing trying to constantly increase profit percentage.. the problem is, WOTC have now begun to loose the player support.

As someone who loved 3rd edition. I have finally decided to update to pathfinder, as it means my book collection remains relavent. I won't be investing in 5th. In fact I still play Chivalry and Sorcery, a very old RPG, along with MERP.

If a system works, it works. The problem is, that does not sell millions of new copies, which a company like WOTC needs. So they have to re-invent for re-inventions own sake to sell new material.

Piazo seem to have a different market focus, or at least a greater empathy for their customers, so it seem to me who has only just started looking at their pathfinder product. That is probably why it is quite so popular. A good customer relationship is important. WOTC seem to have just constantly ignored their customer base.

I didn't want a roleplaying game that mimics a computer game. So I wouldn't touch 4th edition. I don't wish to forced into buying millions of books, just to be able to play a game. I want one core rulebook! But with the option to buy other supporting books "if" I want too. If I feel that a game has been purposely designed to force you to buy newer and newer books, ie the way GW do, then I will look else where.

It would be nice to think that 5th edition will be a superb rule set and will help promote and expand the roleplaying market to another new generation in the way 3rd did. But I will free admit I am highly scepticle.

Stephan, I hope the play test goes well and its worth the flight out there. Hope you won't mind sharing your views if your allowed too on your return.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Thraug - 2012/04/26 10:27

Stefan wrote:

I'll be flying out to Seattle next week to playtest it using some Dwarven Forge terrain...so I remain optimistic...at the very least, it is still friendly for miniatures...

This is fantastic news, in more ways than initial apparent. First, you get to play 5e, yeah! Second, and one that is revealing, WOTC has at least a rudimentary grid system module in place to play. Great news all around, except for the Monte part, even though I didn't agree with his game design philosophies it's sad to see him go.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Harneloot - 2012/04/26 12:14

I have to admit that upon hearing this news my hope & interest in 5e took a huge nose dive. I have lots of respect for Monte (his Ptolus setting is INCREDIBLE) and the fact that WoTC (really Hasbro, lets not forget) wanted things in the new system that Monte did not, and he felt strongly enough about it to part ways with WoTC, immediately makes me think the worst. Sure, I'll still try it out, but I am a lot less hopeful at this point. (and it would have to be super-duper to get me to switch back from pathfinder)

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by jericho - 2012/04/26 13:16

Harneloot wrote:

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I pretty much feel the same way. I prefer Paizo's business model, customer service, and quality. Even if 5E was somehow better I would still be loyal to Paizo - I would just play another game.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by granpappy77 - 2012/04/27 09:50

I have a pretty wide gap in my time playing (junior high with 2E, then the past few years with 4E) so I pretty much missed the edition wars and all the history that goes with it. I liked some of Cook's ideas as they were presented on the WotC site during 5E's development, and I didn't like some others.

Having *any* key member leave abruptly during development doesn't seem to bode well and makes me wonder if this new edition will contain some half-baked Cook ideas (never finalized to his visions due to his departure) that might make the game seem uneven.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Arcarius2001 - 2012/04/27 09:51

jericho wrote:

Harneloot wrote:

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I pretty much feel the same way. I prefer Paizo's business model, customer service, and quality. Even if 5E was somehow better I would still be loyal to Paizo - I would just play another game.

I will continue my support of Paizo, even if 5e proves a success. Paizo has really carried the weight as far as I am concerned. If Pathfinder hadn't come out I think most of us would still be playing 3.5 or moving away from DnD. Pathfinder IS DnD to me.

Concerning Mr. Cook, Monte made reference to some upcoming news on his livejournal site. That piques my curiosity at least as much as the first hint of 5e.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Arcarius2001 - 2012/04/27 09:56

Stefan wrote:

I'll be flying out to Seattle next week to playtest it using some Dwarven Forge terrain...so I remain optimistic...at the very least, it is still friendly for miniatures...

Any time you get to play DnD with Dwarven Forge is a good time. As for combat grids etc, you can totally play 1e or another "gridless" system with Dwarven Forge. The terrain still rocks!

Have a great time in Seattle, Stefan!

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by David Wasilewski - 2012/04/27 12:04

I won't be getting hysterical about this. Monte leaving is not good but we don't know why so its all speculation really. It might have been internal politics or it might be that D&D will stink in Monte's view - we just don't know. I wish him the best.

I'll buy the 'core' D&D 5.0 books. If I like it I'll buy more, if I don't, I'll stick with 4th or might finally migrate over to Pathfinder.

Is there a Pathfinder 2nd edition on the horizon? They have so many additional books to the core now that there must be a need to tidy up and/or consolidate the rules, character classes etc?

Dave

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Endar - 2012/04/27 14:36

David Wasilewski wrote:

Is there a Pathfinder 2nd edition on the horizon? They have so many additional books to the core now that there must be a need to tidy up and/or consolidate the rules, character classes etc?

Dave

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I hope really that there is not any 2nd edition at the horizon!!

one of the main reason for many players to move to Pathfinder was that We were tired of continually buying the same core rulebooks.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by jackattack - 2012/04/27 14:40

Also bear in mind that Mr. Cook has been a patron of this very forum, and a supporter of DF. This is a

friend of some forum-goers, and at least an acquaintance of many others.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by morgar - 2012/04/27 16:15

There is not a lot of rules addons for Pathfinder. The player book and bestiaries are the only book I use, and it is enough (I have some other but it is just for the collection).

Hope Pathfinder will make an effort on background and find game designer as good as Monte cook (Ptolus....)I am not very fond of the universe, world history and country design are the weakness of the game.

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Re:MONTE COOK LEAVES WOTC!!

Posted by Shadox - 2012/04/27 22:42

So to chime in with my \$0.02 worth...

I only just found out about 5th edition last weekend. I was excited by Monte joining the team. However being apart of Big Corp America is very difficult for a creative person to be successful in big business. I work in one of the largest companies if not the largest in the world. I am a number. Although locally I have won many awards for success and even nationally have won awards I am still just a number in a small division amoung 40 other divisions, which each of the top 37 divisions are over a billion in size and could stand on their own as a company. That is the reality of corp america. And why IMHO it is so amazing what Apple has done the last 10 years. Sorry I digress. I am only making assumptions but I would say that something major has changed in the process, direction of the project, or plans. I personally only know Monte through blogs and his dungeonaDay which I am a big fan. Whatever 5th edition was going to be a major design decision has been made with monte leaving. I do not know if that is a good thing, bad thing, or just a thing. I will hold out to make a decision. I was a big Ad&d, 2nd Ed person. When 3/3.5 came out I got back in touch with friends I had not spoken to in almost a decade at that time and we began gaming again 1x a month flying around the country to do so. We played for years like that. We tried 4th ed and had trouble with it. We like a lot of the concepts but it just did not feel like a game we would enjoy better than a new game, Pathfinder, that we had found. A lot of that was due to teh negative press 4th ed got and our predetermined opinions before we tried it. Since then we have been playing Pathfinder and enjoying it. We will try 5th ed to see if we like it. I can tell you one thing, not knowing what it will be, we thought we already liked it because of Monte. Monte leaving will be hard to ignore when we try 5th ed.

Sorry for the big post.

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