Notes From Planet Cray



November's "IMAGE":



Really late issue long overdue, but here it is, for completion's sake. But the deck list, accessories, and box opening in this issue really did happen around Nov. 2024...

Fortunately, none of that really changed over the ~8 months. The rest of it is just bits and pieces of things + a new page of 'Antithesis of a Deva'.

Honestly, now is probably a more important time to show people an ACTVAL Ezel premium deck than back then.

- Tempest
@dragon 8 blade

PLATINUM BLADE Premium format Gold Paladin

Not a lot of changes from last time I posted it in the zine (Dec. 2022) but it has been a while and the deck is still doing great.

I'll focus on the new additions /changes here, and for the rest you can read the previous zine.

https://heyzine.com/flip-book/d88147fdde.html

The main unique feature of the deck is still the 'triple platina drive', although unfavorable scenarios and matchups often force a different play.



Notable additions:



Teudor and Kinarius both help with deck consistency and primary and secondary attack extension (respectively). Once again, Kinarius also acts as a defensive option.

Sajess is a convenient unit for closing the gap when your opponent gets a damage trigger. He also digs 1 more card deep for the purpose of trigger stacking alongside Platina's skill. Being a grade 3 also helps a bit with fulfilling the soul requirement for Platina's full skill (blind soul charge and Aglovale). The first skill works defensively too; He's 10k shield if opp gets a trigger.





3x Blazing Lion, Platina Ezel (V) 2x Incandescent Lion, Blond Ezel (V) 4x Bluish Flame Liberator, Percival (V) 2x Divine Knight of Deeply-laid Strategems, Sajess 💃 4x Flame Wind Lion, Wonder Ezel (V) 3x Fast Spear Knight, Teudor 🧩 2x Knight of Daylight, Kinarius (V) 🚣 2x Oath Liberator, Aglovale (V) 1x Knight of Excision, Diorruing 💥 4x Crimson Lion Beast, Howell 2x Sacred Twin Beast, White Lion 2x Fast Chase Liberator, Josephus (V) 2x Additional Angel A - New 1x Crimson Lion Cub, Kyrph 4x Bard of Heavenly Song, Alpacc [F] 3x Gold Garnish Lion [C] 3x Scarface Lion (V) [C] [Sentinel] 1x Halo Shield, Mark (V) [D] [Sentinel] 4x Clarity Wing Dragon [H] 1x Spiritual King of Determination, Olbaria [0] 2x Golden Dragon, Spear-X Dragon 1x Golden Dragon, Brambent Dragon 2x Absolution Lion King, Mithril Ezel 3x Master Swordsman of First Light, Gurguit Helios 1x Golden Knight of Prosperity, Idvarious 1x Golden Knight of Links, Celtis Winner 2x Golden Beast, Sleimy Flare 2x Golden Dragon, Sanctified Dragon

1x True Liberator of Healing, Ellise

1x Harmonics Messiah



Speaking of OT ...

Olbaria?! Why?

- on a defensive check or a noncheck, OT type doesnt matter.
- on offensive check, this is the OT that grants the most power to remaining rear guards, and power is the main thing the deck lacks.
- Amartinoa is very funny, but the infinite attack combo actually leads to death of the user more often than death of opponent.
- Valnout, Merid, and Nyx do not address the deck's weaknesses or add to its power.
- Idosfaro has diminishing returns in later game when it's more likely to be checked.

How likely is it to be checked on the Platina + Spear-X drive? Well, a lot of factors are hard to account for but...

50 card deck

T0: -1 FVG, -5 opening hand

21-28 depleted

T1: -1 draw, -1 FVG draw, -1 if drive check going 2nd T2: -1 draw, if superior riding -3 for soul charge and

ride w/accel 2, -1 on drive, -4 more if Spear-X, for calls and drives

calls and drives

T3: -1 draw, -1 ride Platina +accel 2, -2 Spear-X call Assume having taken 2-4 damage

Assume Kinarius, Teudor, Lion, Percival, etc have removed 1-2 cards from deck

~25 cards remain

IF the OT is still in the deck, and we can dig 6 cards with Platina's drive (+1 if Sajess is on board), the chance of checking the OT is around...

24% (28% w/1 Sajess)

Some additional math:

A rough calc of the chance of Platina's drive calling a free attack extension (beyond its inherent 3 extensions):

4x Wonder Ezel and 2x Kinarius means the deck is 6/49 on-call extenders (~12%), so across 6 'checks' the chance of hitting at least 1 is ~54%

The chance of calling an on-call countercharger is the same (4x Howell, 2x Josephus).



Random Lore Fun Facts:





Twins?

Shijimamaru's lore notes that he is an older twin brother, from a village on the edge of Dragon Empire. His village has some sort of superstition of twins being an ill omen, so his younger twin brother was exiled to a neighboring country shortly after birth. We are not explicitly told who the younger twin is, however, from context it is almost certainly Gallatin, of the Royal Paladins.

- "Neighboring country" geographically could only reasonably refer to Dark Zone or United Sanctuary.
- Both of them have innate 'sight' based abilities, and typically cover their eyes.
- '-of Silence' title in name.
- Both human (this is exceptionally rare among Murakumo units).
- Both are 'vanilla' units of their respective clan.
- Same illustrator.

Ogreshift

A forbidden art developed by Ildona that transforms the user's body. It is the predecessor to the Dragshift techniques used by the Dragwizards.

Unlike Dragshift, the transformations are irreversible. (In fact, it is noted in Morfessa's lore that earlier renditions of Dragshift had the same trait of permanence.)

Information relating to Ogreshift was deleted from Shadow Paladin records, presumably, to prevent anyone from further pursuing the technique.



Silver Wolf's Legacy

Dolbraig of the Skyfall Knights looks an awful lot like Garmore of the old Gold Paladins...

Well, it turns out the resemblance is more than aesthetic.

A legend among the knights claims that the will and the fighting techniques of the Silver Wolf were passed down from generation to generation, with Dolbraig being a recent inheritor.

The exact details, along with Dolbraig's face, remain a mystery.



References:

https://cardfight.fandom.com/wiki/Card_Lores:Knight_of_Silence,_Gallatin

https://cardfight.fandom.com/wiki/Card Lores:Stealth Rogue of Silence, Shijimamaru

https://cardfight.fandom.com/wiki/Card Lores:Dragheart, Luard

https://cardfight.fandom.com/wiki/Card Lores:Dragwizard, Morfessa

https://crayadventurer.wordpress.com/2024/07/14/unit-story-099/

BT12 - Binding Force of the Black Rings Looking back on an old set:



On complete impulse (and realization that the revenger trumpeter was over \$30) I ended up buying a sealed box of BT12. Yes, the original era. Limit Break and all that.

I just wanted to put down some random notes here, in no particular structure, mostly for anyone who wasn't playing vanguard back then.

- big archetype support set; revengers, silver thorn, liberators, eradicators, amon
- the set ratio back then iirc, was fixed at 3 RRR and 5 RR per box (don't recall what SPs replaced because I've never pulled one out of a full box)
- this was a set that I feel like was the 'beginning' of the later part of limit break era, if I had to make a distinction

Fun fact: of the main vanguards in this set,

- 3 of them have been my vanguard at some point (Raging Form, Dantalian, Master of Fifth Element)
- Another 3 are new forms of units whose decks I've played before (Dungaree, Luquier, Garmore)
- And 1 I almost built (Schwarzchild Dragon)



Etain introduces 'opponent turn retire' in Shadow Paladin (she and her V retrain are STILL the only ways to do so in the clan).

Foiling patterns for this set: RRR - splotchy irregular dot RR - smooth R - holo 'pinwheel' grid





Nation Image Glasses Chains - Pt Stoicheia (1) / Lyrical / Keter Sanc / Dragon Emp.









Next: Stoicheia (2) / Dark States / Brandt Gate



