

## Buzz Aldrin Beats Wired Mag Publisher at BrainBall

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Our photographer [Dave Bullock](#) caught Buzz Aldrin competing against Wired Magazine publisher Jay Lauf in a BrainBall match at Wired's [NextFest](#) at the Los Angeles convention center on Thursday. The game involves electrodes strapped to the players' heads, which can detect brainwaves that indicate the relaxation level of the player.

From the developer [Interactive Institute's site](#):

Instead of activity and adrenalin, it is passivity and calmness that mark the truly successful BrainBall player. BrainBall is unique amongst machines since it is not controlled by the player's rational and strategic thoughts and decisions. On the contrary, the participants are dependent on the body's own intuitive reactions to the game machine.

The ball will move forward and get the player closer to victory when he or she releases alpha and theta waves, which are released only during relaxation. The winner gets the ball across the opponent's goal.

You can tell by the concentration on Buzz's face here that his relaxation is not to be messed with.



**SOURCE:** <http://blog.wired.com/wiredscience/2007/09/buzz-aldrin-bea.html>