

# Around the horn probes sports minds

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carried..." (MUTE) (0 points)

Aumiller: "The MVP has to be Kobe. (-) The Los Angeles Lakers live and die by Bryant. Without Kobe, the Lakers win 15 games a year. Don't hate the guy for something he DIDN'T do a few years ago. He is an unbelievable talent and is the only reason that his team wins. Averaging 31 a game? Please. Nash can pass and Dirk can shoot, but they have guys around them. (+)" (-1 Point)

Eggleston: "You have to go with Steve Nash. The crazy Canadian is putting up better numbers than he has in the past two years in which he won the MVP. (+) The league can't simply ignore this fact and give it to someone else simply because he won the award the past two years. Not to mention that Nash is the heart of the team. He makes everyone on the Suns better and the team struggles without him. (++) Dirk is a great, versatile player but I'm not convinced that he makes his teammates better. Kobe is a ball hog, plain and simply. The Lakers do badly with him out of the lineup simply because his teammates forget what to do with the ball when it is in their hands! (+) Nash is the man!" (4 points)

My Comments: "The only answers I'm buying here are Dirk and Nash. Dirk is having solid numbers, and his team is doing unbelievable things. On the other hand Nash is having his best numbers out of the last three years and he has won the award in the previous two seasons. Kobe scores a lot, we know this, but while he's doing this his teammates are forgetting how to shoot. That's a problem. Carroll, Tracy McGrady? Is this some form of joke? Seriously, I'm not even going to entertain that idea. T-Mac is a good player, but doesn't make the players around him better. Well, I lie, Yao Ming picks up all of the rebounds

from the missed shots that T-Mac launches. Seriously, Alzheimer's must be kicking in"

Question 3

Sarver: "Never. Fans go to NHL games for 3 main things. 1. Goals. 2. Hits. 3. Fighting (++) It's the most energizing part of the game. When two guys square off in front of 17,000 everyone is out of there seats screaming for a may-layer. It's a dangerous part of the game but so are crashes in NASCAR, you don't see that being removed do ya? (++)" (4 points)

Carroll: "They should never ban fighting. It's like banning bean balls from baseball and intentional fouls from basketball. (++) If they ban fighting from hockey it is just going to lead to more aggressive play, dirty hits, and more players injured. (+)" (3 points)

Aumiller: "I wouldn't mind if they did, but, if the NHL takes away fighting, it should switch to International rules completely. Increase the size of the rink while you are at. Implement "no touch" icing. Give the goalie back the ability to go behind their own net. Pick your best shooter for a penalty shot. Also, it keeps the shootout in the postseason. (++)" (2 points)

Eggleston: "No, now would be the worse time to change this rule. Fighting is an important part of hockey. Mostly because it brings excitement to a sport that can bore many people. (-) Plus, who ever heard of implementing a rule towards the end of a season? That would be simply ludicrous!" (-2 points)

My Comments: "I personally agree NHL should never ban fighting, but read the questions guys. If they're going to pass the rule now is the best time. Just think, if they don't ban fighting now, while the only people

who watch the sport are the true hockey fans, they will do it in a few years. Who knows, maybe hockey will become a popular sport again in a few years, then when they announce the "no fighting" rule, they'll be back to the drawing board."

Question 4

Sarver: "Jamarus Russell. The guy is a machine. He had an amazing pro-day down in Louisiana, running a 4.8-4.9 40yd (++) and he's the size of Daunte Culpepper, which we all know how good he was before the little boat-trip got his mind off of football. He has a cannon for an arm. If they were to trade the #1 pick they better get one hell of a quarterback from a team that they can build an offense around. That was there biggest problem last year was at quarterback; they did not have a consistent leader in the huddle (++) The defensive side they weren't too bad, but there offense was terrible. Keep your #1 Oakland. Get a real quarterback and get back to the old Black and Silver Football (+)." (5 points)

Carroll: "Trade down and get a later first round pick and a second round pick. (-) The Raiders need a lot of help, and this would allow them to grab two young players. If they do keep their pick they should take someone who will generate immediate success. (+) They can draft Jamarus Russell and hope that he's as good as the hype. (+)" (1 point)

Aumiller: "The Raiders can make 3 moves to help them. 1) Sign David Carr. (++) 2) Draft Calvin Johnson. (++) And 3) Trade Randy Moss for ANYTHING YOU CAN GET. Some GM looking to save his job will bite at that bait. (++) You can grab some solid talent for the amazingly talented half-effort player." (6 points)

Eggleston: "If I'm the Raiders, I take Jamarus Russell hands down. The

quarterback is the most important member of the team. Granted, teams have won championships with great defenses, such as the Ravens and Buccaneers (++) however, both of those teams had steady quarterbacks that could manage a game. The Raiders don't even have that, so Russell has to be the pick. (+) But, don't be surprised if the Raiders pass on him. That's right, you heard it here first. Remember, the Raiders and owner Al Davis has always liked to make a splash in the league. This is the same team that drafted an overweight, overrated punter in the first round of the 2000 draft and passed on the likes of Chad Pennington and Shaun Alexander. (+)" (4 points)

My Comments: "Jamarus Russell is a solid pick, but the obvious pick. I like the creativity of Mr. Aumiller. Pick up a guy like David Carr, draft Calvin Johnson (the best player in the draft), but give Randy Moss one more try. The guy has proven he can play with the best of them, but here of late has had a lack of motivation. With a new QB, and some help at the other wide out, this offense can instantly receive a face-lift. Josh, good job including the Buccaneers in your answer, bonus points for you!"

Question 5

Sarver: "Tough question but simply an easy answer. Carroll is very accurate and has a great on base percentage, only one problem, baseball requires most players to play the field too (++) Carroll doesn't do that, Aumiller does. You build your team around the man who can do both, crush homeruns and prevent them when a runner rounds third. Hell the Cardinals did it last year around Pujols and the Red Sox did it around Ortiz (-). They both played the field. When's the last time a team has won a championship around a DH (that would Designated

Hitter for you non-baseball people)" (0 points)

Carroll: "If Matt Carroll were five years younger I would build around him. However, since he has aged in his later days he has blown out his arm. (+) Therefore, I would select Kris Aumiller, the two-way option. On a side note, Matt Carroll currently has better power numbers and doesn't go on slumps with excessive amounts of strikeouts. (++)" (3 points)

Aumiller: "Well, power hitters don't grow on trees. However, Matt Carroll has just as much power as I do. Then again, I would pick myself based on me playing five more years than "Pops." (++)" (2 points)

Eggleston: "You have to go with a kid like Kris Aumiller. Power hitters are necessary for any baseball team to be competitive. Don't get me wrong, base percentage is an important stat; however, a kid like Aumiller has the ability to change an entire game numerous ways from a single swing of his bat or simply with his presence being in the on deck circle. (++) Plus, my inside sources tell me that Aumiller is an amazing catcher. Got to go with the dual threat! (+)" (3 points)

My Comments: "Tough pick because of what both athletes bring to the table. Carroll's swing will make you cry, Aumiller's bombs leave you running for cover. Difference here is the dual-threat of Aumiller. Sarver what are you talking about saying that the Cardinals and Red Sox build their teams around Pujols and Ortiz. Look at there rosters, they're up and down good teams! Carroll...you're my boy, well more like my grandpa, but I have to go Aumiller on this one. On a side note, both players have fan clubs on Facebook. Aumiller's Thrillers and Carroll's Crew. Check them out!"

FINAL RESULTS


Ladies and gentlemen the results are in. Finishing in first place with 14 points is Josh "Lights Out" Eggleston. Kris "Thriller" Aumiller finished in a close second with 13 points. Matt "Pops" Carroll and Matt "Sarv Money" Sarver tied for third with 12 points. Well Josh, it's time for your moment of fame.

## MOMENT OF FAME


"As an NFL guru, I have been anxiously awaiting the NFL Draft on April 28 and 29. However, over the past few months, I have seen a huge injustice accruing. The stock of Paul Posluszny, our fellow classmate and soon to be Penn Sate Alum has been steadily falling. Some mock drafts have Puz being taken in the mid to late first round; however, some have him falling into the second round. That's right, the best linebacker every to play at Linebacker U might not even be taken in the first round of the draft. In fact, some teams have him ranked as a second or third round pick. You may ask why Puz's draft stock is falling. The answer is that NFL teams have some questions about his knee and that he did not do anything flashy at the NFL Combine. Puz put in a solid performance at the combine; however, none of his workouts were considered outstanding. In today's NFL so much emphasis is placed on these workouts while an athlete's accomplishments on the field are sometimes forgotten. Puz may have not run the fastest forty or shuttle, but he is a relentless linebacker that provides leadership in the locker room and is a class act outside of the stadium. Whether he goes early or late, Puz will prove to be one of the great, young linebackers in the NFL." - Josh Eggleston

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