

Around the horn with Craig Dewalt: part 2

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Hello and welcome back for the second edition of Around the Horn with Craig Dewalt. In case you don't know the rules; I prepare a series of questions and ask four contestants for their responses. The four contestants will give their answers and be scored with pluses and minuses. If a comment is really good they can receive up to three pluses. If their comment is downright awful they can receive up to three minuses. If their answer is so terrible I will shut them up by putting them on mute. This time around, after the second question, 2 contestants will be eliminated and the remaining two will battle it out. The winner will then get their time to shine in the "Moment of Fame" section. Here is the second round of questions:

1. Do you think the recent decision about Pac Man Jones and Chris Henry was correct? (Pac Man: season-long suspension; Chris Henry: half-season suspension)
2. Buy or Sell? Donovan McNabb will lead the Eagles to its first Super Bowl win this season?
3. Buy or Sell? Mel Kiper and his job are overrated?
4. Which wide receiver would you rather have on your team? Randy Moss or Terrell Owens?

QUESTION 1

Sarver: "I agree partially on the decision by the Commissioner to suspend the players. Both players have embarrassed themselves and the entire NFL. (+) However I feel that Henry got off easier than Jones. Jones' suspension was appropriate. He shot a man (who is now paralyzed) (-) and had nine other run-ins with police which is embarrassing to the NFL and the Titans organization. For some reason though Henry only got a half season suspension. That decision, I feel, was completely wrong. He was arrested four times in the last 14 months and he only gets eight games. (++) Henry should be suspended the whole season. (+)" (2 points)

Carroll: "Of course it's correct. I'm tired of celebrities and athletes being rewarded for criminal behavior. (+) Ray Lewis being rewarded for his murder trial with a Super Bowl MVP has led to other players from the U to get shot. (+) Our role models should be held to higher standards, and athletes happen to be our de facto

role models. Charlie hustle's lifetime ban from baseball has had almost instantaneous elimination of gambling from baseball and other sports. (++)" (4 points)

Aumiller: "If anything, it isn't enough. The NFL has some serious character issues. "Star" players are getting arrested, violating the league's substance abuse policy, and testing positive for steroids (*cough Shawne Merriman*) WEEKLY. (+) Roger Goodell did what he needed to do and made an example out of these two, but it still wasn't enough. (+) I think there should be a rule in the NFL that makes you sit for the season if you get arrested. There are too many talented players coming out of the Florida Penal League, or the ACC and the SEC. (+) these guys, or oversized kids, are milking their talent to get around the law. (+) Pacman and Henry's punishment is just, even though I think they should be banned for life. (4 points)"

Eggleston: "The rulings handed out by the commissioner were spot on, except he wrote the wrong name on each form. (++) Chris Henry should have gotten the season-long suspension while Pac Man should have gotten half the year. I understand that Pac Man has been in numerous confrontations around the country; however, he has never been convicted of a crime. (++) The commissioner could have gotten his point across, which was that you don't need to be convicted to receive a suspension, by hammering out an eight game suspension. However, if Commissioner Goodell insisted on giving Pac Man an entire year, Chris Henry should have received the same punishment. Henry is a repeat offender. Ever since his career at the University of West Virginia, he has been in trouble. He has already served suspensions from the NFL and has been convicted twice, once for a DUI and once for providing alcohol to minors (He pleaded guilty to this crime by the

way). (+)

(5 points)

My Comments: "Sarver, Pac Man was around when the shooting occurred, but he wasn't charged with anything as far as him being the shooter. Pac Man has never been convicted for any crimes, Henry has. My simple ruling is that they should have been at least switched, if not more lengthy. Good answer Josh!"

QUESTION 2

Sarver: "Sell, as much as I dislike the Eagles, McNabb is true leader but I don't see them winning this year. (-) There are too many dominate teams in the AFC and too many up-and-coming teams in the NFC for the Eagles to go the whole way. Sorry Josh and Kris as much as you love your Eagles there is no way they are going to be winning their first championship this year! (++)" (1 point)

Carroll: "Sell. I'd even

THE WINNER'S CIRCLE



Josh Eggleston reads about his dominance over Sarver in the last issue of the Capital Times.



Matthew Carroll, this week's winner of AFH shows his giddyness of being the chosen one.

short sell this one McNabb's recovery will be similar to Culpepper's, slow and painful for the fans. If anyone is going to lead this team to a Super Bowl it will be Westbrook and the stellar defense bolstered with the off-season acquisition of Takeo Spikes. (++)" (2 points)

Aumiller: "As much as it pains me to say it, I'm selling this one. I've been an Eagles fan since Cunningham, but even if they make it to the Super Bowl I don't think they can beat one of the superior AFC teams. (++) The Colts, Patriots, Chargers, and Ravens are tough teams to beat. My Eagles are an improved team, despite

home run hitter (Kevin Curtis). He also has a talented tight end in Smith, who is a quarterback's best friend. Not to mention that he has one of the most dangerous weapons in the NFL. (+) He is the second most versatile running back behind LT. Yes, his name is Brian Westbrook. However, the question mark for this team is the defense. The offense placed the team in numerous winning positions last year only to have the defense let the game slip through their hands. If the Eagles draft properly and add a veteran or two on the defense, such as a run stuffing DT, this team has the potential to run the table and get to the Super Bowl. Don't get me wrong, the best teams are in the AFC; however, the Eagles would only have to be better than that team I day! (-)" (-1 point)

My Comments: "Ladies and gentlemen lets get one thing clear. I do not like Donovan McNabb but my answer to this question isn't all biased. The man gets nervous and throws up during big games, literally. But lunch isn't all the man throws up; he also throws up INT's to defenders in pivotal points of the game. He also throws up his ego whenever another dominate force comes to play on offense. Despite what you may have heard about T.O. on TV, Donovan and T.O. didn't get along for one reason and one reason only. Donovan didn't want to lose his "poster boy" image. Why is he the "poster boy" anyway? What has he done? He has had numerous shots at winning a ring, can't get it done, and still keeps his job and support from the fans. Is it because he's a "class act" guy? You might think

what all those people say about losing Jeff Garcia, and will make it to the Super Bowl, but I can't guarantee a win. (-) (0 points)

Eggleston: "As a true Eagles fan, I have to buy this; however, I will note that McNabb is not the question mark of this statement. McNabb is being handed a power offense upon his return from his knee injury. (-) The offensive line is simply massive, averaging 331 pounds, and is stocked with a nice mixture of veterans and young talent. In addition, they had the chance to play together for a full season, which is vital for the success of an O-Line. They should keep McNabb off his back, which should lessen the likelihood of another injury. He has a young, up and coming receiving core that has all types of wide receivers, from the 220 lb possession guy (Hank Baskett) to the

DECISION TIME

After reviewing the scores Sarver is going to have to hit the road with his little 3 point showing. Yes Josh, it was a tie between you and Mr. Aumiller, but he bribed me with a Whatchamacallit candy bar and boy was it tasty, so Kris is moving on. The showdown is now between Kris "Thriller" Aumiller and Matt "Pops" Carroll. Aumiller is the bomb dropper, but Kris, Age=Experience. Watch out for Pops!

QUESTION 3

Aumiller: "Sell (-). He works for ESPN. They have an analyst for everything. If you are gonna can Mel Kiper, and the greatest hairstyle EVER (MUTE)" (-1 point)

Carroll: "Buy. The great prognosticator entered into the debate Ryan Leaf vs. Peyton Manning. (+++) He even had good words to say about Leaf. (+) He can be wrong, and allowing this man to single handedly drop Puz out of the early first round is a travesty. Puz should be an early first rounder and get paid like the stud he is. (++)" (6 points)

My Comments: "I'm not buying this for a minute, just like I'm not buying a word this man ever says. These players are athletes, not companies. Carroll, not sure what prognosticator means but bonus points for your eclectic vocabulary. How many times do you hear Mel Kiper talk some guy up, only to watch him fail? Ryan Leaf? Eric Crouch? Akili Smith? His jobs a joke. I honestly believe the guy posts options on a dart board and then simply toss the dart and make his predictions. Also, how many late rounders have proven to be studs. Tom Brady ring a bell? It doesn't take a genius to determine the best guys coming out of the draft. After about the top 3 picks, his predictions go out the window. The man, his job, and yes Aumiller his hair are all overrated. Best hair in the business goes to the Barry Melrose mullet."

QUESTION 4

Aumiller: "Being an Eagles fan, this is painful to bring back up, but I'm picking TO without thinking twice. (+) TO has a god awful image problem (see Roger Goodell in question #1), but he shows up to play. (++) He has more TD's, more yards, and doesn't quit on his team. (+) He doesn't leave a game early and doesn't take a play off when he feels like it. (+) Not too mention, who has been on a winning team lately?" (5 points)

Carroll: "This is tough because they are both great Wide outs and cancers in the locker room. I have to take Moss on this one though. I will note that he does quit on some plays and some seasons but the media circus that follows TO around will make even the best teams implode."

Moss's record of distraction pales in comparison to that of the TO circus. (-) McNabb may not be the most well adjusted but the Eagles were a sound team emotionally until TO came to town and almost single handedly turned a perennial NFC East champ into a 6-10 team needing to rebuild just to win the Wild Card while playing in the NFC Least Division. (++)" (0 points)

My Comments: "I'm a huge T.O. supporter so my answer is clearly T.O. Not because I'm biased, not because the man can rap, not even because he can do sit ups in his driveway and get national attention. I'm going to go with T.O. here because of what he does on the field. He's the best in the league when he's playing at 100%. Yes, we all hear about T.O. in the media. What size shoes he wears, what he got for Christmas, and how many sips of Gatorade he drinks until his glass is empty. Everyone says that T.O. craves the attention of the media. They say he is obsessed with it. Is it just me, or is the media obsessed with him? He never gets in trouble with the law, never breaks any league rules, yet he goes out week after week and produces. The man played with a broken ankle in the Super Bowl. He played with broken fingers and still led the league in TD's in 06-07, yet the man is the most hated wide receiver in the league. Randy Moss has served time in jail, knocked a traffic control officer to the ground by bumping her with his car, and smokes more marijuana than Ricky Williams. Ok, so not quite that much. As my boy Nelly would say, "Randy Moss says, I play when I wanna." T.O. is the easy answer here what he does on the field is unmatched, and his off the field problems don't compete with criminal acts and jail time."

FINAL RESULTS

Folks it appears that Matthew Carroll has dominated this edition of Around the Horn beating out Kris Aumiller 12-8. Ladies and gentlemen, before I allow Matthew Carroll his moment of fame, I would like to thank Joshua Eggleston for his cooperation and would like to congratulate him in advance for graduating from this fine University. I would also like to publicly apologize for my derogatory comments towards him in the last edition. I attended a game only to see a gold glove effort by the elderly left fielder. Mr. Carroll is indeed a two-way force. Now it's time for his Moment of Fame.

MOMENT OF FAME

Carroll: "After the last edition I felt my manhood was in question choosing the sometimes blind Aumiller over the now two way player and new 5 hitter Mr. Matthew Carroll. Many spectators would even say that on a rainy Saturday at PSU, Beaver I looked better behind the plate for the two innings I caught than the great Mr. Aumiller. I think we were all a little quick to judge the veteran talent that I possess. I think we all owe me an apology for last edition. I will start, sorry me, you are a better baseball talent than Mr. Aumiller. Sarver you owe me the biggest apology and as in South Park I will be waiting like the Reverend Jackson for my apology."

Blumberg: Beyond the classroom

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He is a people-person, which is why he enjoys his field so much, he said. It is intriguing to deal with "interesting people, who become so meaningful in my life," he said. Teaching for Blumberg is not a one-way street. He teaches his students, but, simultaneously, they also teach him.

Among the many classes he has taught at Penn State Harrisburg, some include management, organizational theory and design, and organizational behavior. Blumberg actually taught at this campus when it was only a two year college.

"Things changed so fast," he said. "But for the better."

His love for humanity shines through with his volunteerism in community organizations such as the American Red Cross and the Boy Scouts of America. Blumberg teaches CPR, water safety, swimming and how to be a lifeguard at the Red Cross, all of which he really enjoys. He

obviously enjoys working with children and teaching them like he does when he is at work.

And speaking of children, he has one son and grandson of his own. His son, who he and his wife adopted, is from Rhode Island. But he is a Pennsylvania native. Blumberg grew up in Philly and has been living in Hershey since 1998.

His hobbies include swimming and volunteering. But swimming is his favorite way to relax and to relieve any tension.

He describes himself as a teddy bear because it is cuddly, kind and likeable. A line he read from a book several years ago still stay with him.

"I ain't much God, but I'm all I got," he quoted. This describes him because he is always trying to better himself, he said, even though, he likes himself the way he is.

Blumberg's advice to students is to never give up. Quoting Oliver Wendell Holmes, he said, "A person not involved in passion of the times, runs the risk of never to have lived."

Blumberg's list of favs:

1. Food: Chocolate ice cream
2. Drink: Martini
3. CD: Dorango, sang by a Spanish opera singer
4. Traveled spot: Greece and Spain
5. Achievement: Paper he wrote on human behavior
6. Sport: Swimming. Hershey High School is his favorite team.