

Around the horn with Craig Dewalt

AROUND THE HORN: King of Kings Tournament

With Craig Dewalt Ladies and Gentlemen, with two articles left in my college career I regret to inform you that Around the Horn must officially come to an end. Over the course of two semesters I have brought sports news and fierce competition to the table, in a creative article known as Around the Horn with Craig Dewalt. As a special gift to you, the reader, I am returning all of the past ATH contestants and letting them loose in the King of Kings Tournament Edition. The first round of action will feature Matthew Carroll vs. Matthew McComas; Charles Kupfer (the PSU Harrisburg sports guru) vs. Matthew Sarver; and Kris Aumiller vs. Joshua Eggleston (Around the Horn alumni member). The winners will face off in a three way bout in round two of the winner's bracket. The losers of round one will face off in a three way bout in round 1 of the loser's bracket. From there, the winner of the second round of the winner's bracket will wait for its opponent in the championship. While he is waiting, the winner of the first round of the loser's bracket will face off against the two losers from the winner's bracket to declare the champions opponent. From there the winner of the loser's bracket would have to defeat the winner's bracket champion twice to take the title.

In case you don't know the rules; I prepare a series of questions and ask the contestants for their responses. The 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. After each question one person will be eliminated. The winner will then get their time to shine in the final "Moment of Fame" section.

Let's meet the contestants: The number one seed belongs to Mr. Matthew Carroll. Carroll is a business student, known for his business casual appearance. He is known for his cocky yet sophisticated style, which has been very impressive. He is 2-4 lifetime, with a .25 win percentage. His two career wins earn him the number one seed.

The number two seed belongs to Mr. Charles Kupfer. Kupfer is the Penn State Harrisburg sports guru. He is known for his unique, yet incredible dress style and his idolized hair. He teaches Sports History and has an eclectic range of sports knowledge. He is 1-0 lifetime, with a 1.00 win percentage. His impressive amount of sports knowledge, and win percentage earn him the number two seed.

The number three seed belongs to Mr. Joshua Eggleston. Eggleston is a Penn State alumnus who specializes in football knowledge. He is soft spoken but hard hitting when arguing sports. He is 1-1 lifetime with a win

percentage of .5, which earns him the number three seed.

The number four seed belongs to Mr. Kris Aumiller. Aumiller is known for his modeling career and his Colgate smile. He specializes in baseball and football knowledge, but can find the stats to help him with others. Aumiller is 1-4 in his career with a win percentage of .2.

The number five seed goes to Mr. Matthew "Sarv Money" Sarver. He is known for proposing to women in front of church congregations and sweet talking senior citizens. He is 1-5 lifetime with a win percentage of .17. He has been on a hot streak lately with a string of good answers.

The number six seed goes to Mr. Matthew McComas. He is known for his impressive dance skills which include "Beat It" and jazz. He is 0-4 lifetime with a win percentage of 0, but don't let that fool you. He has a wide array of sports knowledge.

Let's go to the first round of action:

CARROLL (1) VS. MCCOMAS (6)
Question: "Who is the best QB (skill-wise, with Super Bowl wins not included)? Marino, Montana, Elway, Favre, Manning, Brady?"

Carroll: "To start off the question, we need to define what makes a QB the best, and if we're not counting championships then we might as well not count wins or any records. When you're a top QB in the NFL you command the highest of salaries and in sports that means that the money you get is taken from a pool that could go to players at other positions. (+) Peyton Manning has learned this first hand. If you want the weapons then you better use them because your defense might be a sieve so you better make up for a poor defense with overpowering offensive on thing that despite Marino's lauded stats (2nd in career completions 4967, 1st in yards 61,361 and 2nd in TDs 420) could not overcome. (-) Favre the gunslinger may have the intangibles and records but his career INTs of 273 rank him first as of the beginning of the season, this carelessness eliminates him. (++) Peyton Manning is great but not yet the greatest to wear the horseshoe on his helmet as Johnny Unitas may still be the greatest Colt of all time and Brady needs a few more years and possibly a separation from Belichick before he becomes one of the greatest of all time. (+) This leaves us with Elway and Montana and in head to head competition Montana wins 55-10 in Super Bowl XXIV. (-)" (2 points)

McComas: "Dan Marino is the best quarterback, especially given his era, team, and injuries. (+) Tom Brady is not listed in the record books yet and Joe Montana and John Elway are scarcely listed. Elway is also the most sacked quarterback of all time, at 516, while Montana is considered great because of his Superbowl wins, which we are not taking into account here. (+) Peyton Manning does not currently hold any career records, while Bret Favre is starting to break records, but Favre has also thrown more interceptions than any other

Kupfer: "I'm sorry, what's the question? I mean, there really isn't any doubt, is there? Randy Moss is playing like he came down from a higher league. (+) Chad's being Chad, which means he's selfish and good -- but on a mediocre team. (+) TO's hot for a hot team. (+) But Moss? He's the most explosive offensive force on the most dominant team. Case closed. It's Moss. (-)" (2 points)

Sarver: "With the off field issues aside or not I would want the

provide contact to Moss you take him out of the game because he hates it. T.O. has had his run-ins with the media, and has been the center of controversy on teams, but he continues to go out game after game and give it his all, 110%. Moss is a close second, but T.O. is the man."

EGGLESTON (3) VS. AUMILLER (4)

Question: "You're starting your team, which RB do you want? Emmitt Smith, LT, Barry Sanders, Marshall Faulk?"

Eggleston: "You have to go with LT, but Marshall Faulk is an extremely close second. In today's NFL, you need your running back to be a pure dual threat, both running and catching. (+) LT gives you that and has even thrown for 7 TDs in his career. Marshall gives you the same threat; however, LT has reached all of these accomplishments with less around him. (+) Marshall, at his best, was in St. Louis when is was surrounded by an MVP caliber Quarterback and two very good receivers. LT has excelled through most of his career without an outstanding quarterback and with a very small threat of a passing game. (++) Emmitt and Barry are two of the best of all time; however, they were known as pure runners. You have to go with LT, who has 128 TDs in his short NFL career. (+)" (5 points)

Aumiller: "Barry Sanders. In all 10 years he made the Pro Bowl. (+) He

never missed 1000 yards (even in the season that he only played 11 games). (+) But, more impressive than his stats, he played his whole career with the dreadful Detroit Lions. (+) Imagine what he could've done with a good team. Why wouldn't you start a team, which typically would have nothing else, with a guy who can make amazing production out of nothing?" (3 points)

Me: "Both good answers, but due to today's NFL calling for the dual threat running back, I'm going with LT as well. Barry Sanders was my number two. It was tough grading both answers because they were good, however Josh advances, and Aumiller falls to the loser's bracket."

LOSERS BRACKET ROUND 1: CARROLL (1), KUPFER (2), AUMILLER (4)
Question: "Compare and contrast Barry Bonds and Pete Rose."

Carroll: "Both Barry Bonds and Pete Rose were two of the greatest hitters of all time with Rose holding the career hits record and Bonds with single season and career HR records as well as many other

records. (+) Pete Rose's gambling tarnished his image and will keep him out of the HOF but did nothing to diminish or improve his performance as a player. (+) Bonds though, roided up as he was didn't actually break any rules governing MLB. His performance may have been improved, but just as in the dead-ball era and war time eras we now have the juiced player era. You cannot take anything away from either players' accomplishments on the field. Bonds simply used all possible means to gain an advantage, just like stealing signs or any other questionable yet legal practice in baseball. (+)" (3 points)

Kupfer: "Two jerks who put themselves ahead of the game, ahead of their teams, ahead of baseball. (+) They thought their star status put them above the rules. (+) For nearly a century, baseball had only one commandment: Don't gamble. Rose did & lied about it. (+) Now, there's a second commandment: Thou shall not juice up. Barry did, Barry lied. (+) They can buy tickets to Cooperstown, but there's no room at the inn for either one." (4 points)

Aumiller: "You cannot compare the two. (-) One broke a rule (Rose) and the other one didn't (Bonds). Barry allegedly enhanced his play when there wasn't a steroid policy in place in Major League Baseball. (+) Also, even if he did, he still had to hit one of the two strikes he saw per night. (+) Pete was a slap hitting guy who played all over the field so he could play forever. He has the national league record for playing 24 seasons. A slugger and a singles hitter are complete opposites and shouldn't be compared. (+) (2 points)

Me: "Wow, good answers, tough results. Carroll, Bonds broke a major law, and it aided in his accomplishments as a player. Kupfer has the idea here; both guys put themselves above their teams and defaced the game of baseball. I know there are many others who used steroids and they should be punished as well, but Bonds lied to a grand jury, and he should have the book thrown at him.

I personally believe Rose should be allowed into the Hall of Fame because of his playing status which wasn't enhanced, but Bonds should not. He cheated, lied, and is a complete mockery of the game, no matter how gifted and talented he once was. Kupfer, you advance. Carroll and Aumiller, your Around the Horn days are OVER!"

Part two of Around the Horn: King of Kings Tournament Edition will appear in the upcoming January edition of the CapTimes, and we will announce the King of Kings. McComas (6), Sarver (5) and Eggleston (3) will square off in round two of the winner's bracket. The two losers will then face off with Kupfer (2) to determine who will face the winner in the championship.

AROUND THE HORN

KING OF KINGS

TOURNAMENT EDITION

ROUND 1

CARROLL VS. MCCOMAS
SARVER VS. KUPFER
AUMILLER VS. EGGLESTON

quarterback, 273. (+) When Marino retired he owned every major passing record. Now he is ranked first and/or second in 21 different passing categories in the NFL record book. (+) Nobody has thrown for more yards, 61,361, only one person has thrown for more touchdowns than his 420, and he is second in completions with 4,967. Marino may be passed someday, but as for right now, he is the best quarterback ever." (4 points)

Me: "McComas hit the nail on the head. Carroll, you answered the question telling us how a team becomes successful, and how a quarterback needs to react to become successful.

The question talks about talent, and Marino holds most of the records without ever having a big time running back or stellar defense. Montana was great, don't get me wrong, but his success which you talk about came from having a good team around him. McComas pulls off the upset."

KUPFER (2) VS. SARVER (5)

Question: "With off-the-field problems aside, who's the best WR on-the-field? Chad Johnson, Terrell Owens, Randy Moss?"

original 81 on my team. Honestly for a while I could not stand T.O. and I thought he was the biggest wuss in the world. However watching the man play in the last couple of years as changed my mind. He gives 100% every game and he doesn't care if he catches 10 passes or 2, he just wants to win. (+) The best part about watching him is he is a good run blocker too. (+) I know that Moss is having a great year and has 3 more TD's than Owens, but Owens has put up great numbers with every team he's played for. (+) Moss likes to walk out on his teams in the middle of games, just because he couldn't get 10 catches. (+) I would rather have a show-boating, hard working; play with a broken ankle in the Super Bowl, dedicated player on my team that will do whatever it takes to win games. Give me T.O. (+)" (5 points)

Me: "Kupfer, you acted like Moss on this question and only gave 50%. This is the King of Kings, you need to provide stats and argue you're case. T.O. is currently ahead of any current wide receiver in terms of touchdowns and is a great all-around player. Moss is catching up to him on touchdowns, but he's basically only a deep threat. If you

Penn State Harrisburg fall sports wrap-up

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Rapid growth and an increase in success can define this year's Penn State Harrisburg athletic program. Starting only three years ago, it has taken tremendous leaps in terms of status. It is not common for an athletic department to start in NCAA only three years young and move up very quickly, said Rahsaan Carlton, athletic director of Penn State Harrisburg. This foreshadows the school's athletics and proves their path in the right direction.

Penn State Harrisburg Intercollegiate athletics are officially a Division III school with the goal of moving from being a provisional member right now to an active

member to be able to compete in NCAA championships.

Highlights from this fall season include: men's soccer placing second at PSUAC Championship with Danny Francis and Ben Richards being honored with All-Conference Selection and Justin Sheaffer and Daniel Saenz receiving Honorable Mention All-Conference honors.

Katelyn Roberts and Katie Hollinger are the first-ever women's soccer players to earn NEAC Second Team All-Conference honors. Seth Grove and Matthew Kurcina earned NEAC Athletic Conference Second Team and Honorable Mention All-Conference honors. Mary Heneman, junior women's cross country runner earned NEAC honors.

Heather Grosser, Jayme Michael, and Michelle O'Donnell are the first-

ever women's volleyball players to have earned NEAC Honorable Mention All-Conference honors for PSH. Ashleigh Roach is the first women's tennis athlete to win a NEAC championship.

Athletes and coaches both faced numerous obstacles throughout the season, but all seem to hold their head up high, as everyone is aware that with change comes challenge.

The quality of players we competed with definitely changed, they are more experienced than the ones we played against last year, said Ben Richards, a sophomore soccer defender.

In the next five years, there is no doubt that our team is going to be one of the best in the division, said Richards.

Finding and training enough women to enable us to participate in the Conference was the largest

challenge we faced, said Becky Cecere, girls' tennis coach.

However, Cecere knows that the team will improve year to year and as the word gets out that PSH athletics is developing, it will attract players to the campus.

The athletic department has been getting encouragement from everybody. The chancellor is very supportive and wanted to help. In fact, the administration is the one who made the first step, said Carlton.

One of the biggest differences PSH athletes had to face this year was not only the skill level of opponents, but also the necessary travel students had to make.

The travel was all right; some of it was too far though. The farthest we had to go though was three hours and it was nice how the school

provided us with money for food, said Bello Galadanchi, a sophomore cross country runner.

As the athletic program continues to grow, coaches and administrators hope to attract students to stay for all four years at PSH.

As this season wraps up, coaches have been looking forward to next year. Recruiting has already begun in local areas.

Coaches are now even recruiting heavily outside Pennsylvania as well. A lot of scouting in Maryland, and New Jersey has been happening already for next year.

"In order to build the campus as a four year school, we need an athletic program to complement the academics," said Cecere, "an athletic program attracts a more diverse student body which is good for everyone."

"I think a lot of people are going to stay and athletics are going to grow because it'll give us more opportunities, and more conferences to compete in. I'm staying," said Jessica Karl, a sophomore women's tennis player.

All athletes this year are sharing the same mentality: this is only the beginning. PSH athletics will get bigger, stronger, and more well-known as more people are added to the teams.

"This was a benchmark year trying to see where we're at as a department," said Carlton.

As the fall sports season has been wrapped up, the athletic department and school continues to encourage students to come out and support fellow student-athletes as winter sports arrives.