

That Was The Week That Was Week 3

DCKickball Capital Conference

May 11, 2007

If this column sucks... it's not my fault. David Hasselhoff just showed up with some cheeseburgers.

Good morning kickballers, and WELCOME to the "now that's what I call kickball weather" edition of That Was The Week That Was. Summer returned to the DC area this week, and as we basked in the sunshine's warm glowing warming glow, we decorated the Washington Monument grounds with some great kickball action, if not a lot of nailbiting games. The season is settling into its rhythm now, and we'll start seeing some patterns emerge in the next couple of weeks.

Okay, let's get right to the good stuff. **THIS WEEK'S RESULTS:**

>1.4 Miles 5, DC Detention 0
AA-Team 5, Campesinos 2
Thick Femur 3, Bad News Barristers 2
Here for the Beer 6, The Freqs 3
Big Kids 4, Sloppy Seconds 0
Your Moms Team 8, Red Rovers 2
Team Lush (Forfeit) over Balls Optional
YTBD 16, APCO Allstars 0

Which makes the **STANDINGS** look like this:

Your Mom's Team 3 0 0
Big Kids 3 0 0
Thick Femur 3 0 0
YTBD 2 1 0
>1.4 Miles 2 1 0
Here for the Beer 2 1 0
AA-Team 2 1 0
Sloppy Seconds 2 1 0
DC Detention 2 1 0
Team Lush 2 1 0
Bad News Barristers 1 2 0
The Freqs 0 3 0
Campesinos 0 3 0
Red Rovers 0 3 0
APCO Allstars 0 3 0
Balls Optional 0 3 0

Expanded standings, as always, can be found here:

<http://dckickball.org/capital/expanded-standings-summer-2007>

CROSSING SWORDS

Next week is the first of the season's two CROSSOVER WEEKS, which means half of the division will be playing on their usual off night. **Don't be caught off guard!** Here's the lowdown on the hoedown:

Wednesday, May 16

06:30PM Bad News Barristers vs. Sloppy Seconds (B) AA-Team vs. APCO Allstars (A)
07:15PM The Freqs vs. YTBD (A) >1.4 Miles vs. Big Kids (B)

Thursday, May 17

06:30PM Campesinos vs. Team Lush (B) Here for the Beer vs. Balls Optional (A)
07:15PM DC Detention vs. Your Moms Team (A) Thick Femur vs. Red Rovers (B)

GAME OF THE WEEK

By default, this week's GOTW goes to the game with the closest score. Good thing it was also a barnburner (for you Red Rovers, "Barnburner" means "exciting game"). The **BAD NEWS BARRISTERS** actually held **THICK FEMUR** in check this week, and carried a 2-2 tie into the last inning before succumbing to a last-ditch rally. A Black Death runner eked his way across home plate to enable the Boners to escape with a 3-2 win. Well done to both teams!

"IF THEY EVER PLAY FIVE INNINGS LIKE THAT, LOOK OUT" OF THE WEEK

The **CAMPESINOS** once again rose from the dead in the last inning and caused another near riot on the Fields of Glory, howling, screaming, and narrowing another commanding lead to a three-run loss and finishing with threats on the bases for the second straight week. This is a team that will start moving up the standings soon, so get your shots in now while you can.

"SPIRIT OF KICKBALL" OF THE WEEK

What do you do when you've just lost two straight games by a combined score of 38-0? You get right back on the horse. The **APCO ALLSTARS** kept the bag of equipment on the fields with them last night after their game and practiced hard well into the gloaming. We'll see in the coming weeks if the strategy pays off, but we at TWTWTW Headquarters will be quietly rooting for them to play better as the season goes on.

"BOOOOOOOOOOO" OF THE WEEK

No one likes man-bunting. It's abhorrent and it's cheap. But we have to admit that it's often a winning strategy. Since we're on the subject of **YTBD's** win over APCO last night anyway, let's give a conference-wide raspberry to the YTBD kickers who were bunting their way onto base in the last innings of a 16-0 game. What, were you afraid of a comeback?

Now, we like to keep things good-natured in TWTWTW, so just this one time, we will unleash this as a warning to those who tempt kickball karma:
<http://late.inning.bunters.justgotowned.com/>. We'll also give YTBD the well-deserved title of...

TEAM OF THE WEEK

YTBD, when they're hitting on all cylinders, is one of the most dangerous teams in the league. And last night, the engine was purring. They're the only team to score in double digits twice so far this season, and they're looking like the team that struck fear into the Thursday night lineup last year. We'll see how it pans out when they hit the meat of their schedule. Circle your calendars for weeks 6 and 7, when they take on Your Mom's Team and My Beloved Big Kids.

Speaking of My Beloved **BIG KIDS**, I'm going to ditch my usual avoidance of self-promotion and give them an honorable mention this week, as they took on a fine **SLOPPY SECONDS** squad in the week's lone matchup of unbeatens and emerged with a 4-0 win. That's two straight shutout wins for the Navy Blue Nation, and they are currently tied with Your Mom's Team for the fewest runs allowed this season (2).

We won't however, talk about what happened when they took on the Sloppies at the flip cup table.

"HOORAY" OF THE WEEK

Notorious man-bunter **CARLTON** of Thick Femur won a buck on Wednesday night. Why? Red Rover (and "Everybody Scores" scribe) **SCOTT TILLET** bet him a buck that he couldn't change his stripes and kick away for just one game. He did. We won't mention how it really could have cost his team, especially in a tense 3-2 contest, though...

PLAY OF THE WEEK

Don't kick to left field! That's where APCO's **LUCY** roams. She made catch after catch out there, including a really nice lunging catch while running to her left to stifle a YTBD kicker. Well done!

FUNNY PLAY OF THE WEEK #1

I'm sorry I didn't catch the name of the **HERE FOR THE BEER** fielder who circled under a ball, almost reeled it in, bobbled it, batted it into the air, and ended up making the out while holding the ball between his knees late in their game against the Freqs on Wednesday night. Nicely done!

FUNNY PLAY OF THE WEEK #2

My forgetfulness of names is even more shameful with this one, as I was talking at the bar to the player who made this play, but let's raise a glass to the **SLOPPY SECOND** who was backing up to bring in a fly ball to left, made the catch, and tripped over the manhole cover in left field. He was okay, and he held on to make the catch against my Beloved Big Kids. Jerk.

T-SHIRT DECORATORS OF THE WEEK

This week marked the return of arts-and-crafts queen **KELISA CLIFF's** annual repurposing of her Team Lush shirt. A lovely ensemble with sashes and painted cleavage. Look for pictures as soon as we can get them. Not to be outdone, her teammate **SCOTT FALLON** decided to use the back of his shirt as a special loving shout-out to the League We Never Mention By Name (Or Else We Might Get Sued). And finally, those fumes you smelled by the flip cup table last night? No, it wasn't a gas leak, it was the **SLOPPY SECONDS** doing their part to endorse Sharpies and scribbling all over their shirts with mirth and vigor.

I think I speak collectively for the sport when I say WE NEED MORE HOBBIES.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK #1

This is running the risk of turning into "Eric Lancaster-ism of the week." This week Eric ruminated on the sacrifices you need to make to field a championship kickball roster. "All you need to do to win a championship is sacrifice a few friendships."

So, in his honor: <http://eric's.childhood.friends.justgotowned.com/>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK #2

The moment of truth had arrived Thursday night: **BALLS OPTIONAL** was one man short of being able to field a legal team. Before I say another word, let me say this: it was absolutely the right decision by **TEAM LUSH** to take the forfeit, we all have to follow the same roster rules and Lush has been burned before. But last night at the bar, Lush's Darryl wasn't interested in hearing it. "I don't care if they were missing a (rhymes with "chucking") BABY. PLAY THE GAME!"

Um. <http://darryl's.competitive.spirit.justgotowned.com/>

"ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST" OF THE WEEK

The Capital Conference wishes to extend our sincerest condolences to the Big Kids' **JAKE WHITE** and Team Lush's **KATHLEEN CALLAHAN**, who got engaged this week. As longtime friends of both combatants, I want to say that I can't possibly think of a more perfect woman for Jake or a more perfect man for Kathleen. I am personally honored to have watched their relationship grow over the years, and I look forward to sharing the excitement of your new lives together.

And no, I won't REALLY ruin your wedding, I was only joking. Maybe.

<http://jake.and.kathleen's.wedding.justgotowned.com/>

Good god. Jake's domesticated.

CRYSTAL PITCHER UPDATE

Oh, Wednesdays, you're falling behind fast. Despite fine performances by the **CAMPESINOS**, who were not only inside the bar, but the last ones standing at the

end of the night, and by **AA-TEAM** and the **FREQS**, who romped around the flip cup table last night, the absence of TWO ENTIRE TEAMS made the bar far too civilized. Barristers, >1.4 Miles, thank you for playing, but no pitcher for you.

Thursday night was a madhouse and more than made up for it, though. Let's give citations to the **APCO ALLSTARS**, who showed up (and might have actually played some flip cup, we're still investigating) in better numbers than ever last night, to **BALLS OPTIONAL**, who still showed up and had a good time despite their forfeit loss – and were the last ones standing with the Big Kids and Team Lush, and to **SLOPPY SECONDS**, who are on the verge of establishing total dominance of the flip cup table.

The "Big Five" (which, you'll recall as we established last week, are the **Big Kids**, **Red Rovers**, **Team Lush**, **Here for the Beer** and **DC Detention**) had fine nights all around as usual. **Lush** gets an extra special nod this week for all of their accessories. I counted three horny helmets, and Brice's amazing beer goggles, but I'm not sure if they owned the foamy mug hat that was being shared among many at the bar last night.

"HEY JP, WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP" OF THE WEEK

A number of folks came up to me to express their disgust at the lawsuit that is sure to affect the future of the league we call home. Disgust is a good thing. Any reasonable person would find the whole thing ridiculous. So if you're interested in helping out a little bit, let me encourage you to visit <http://dckickball.org/lawsuit> and make a paypal donation. Every little bit helps, so make a donation today!

Okay friends, I think that's going to cover it for this week. Get back to work, SLACKER! Have a great weekend, and if you're going to the Chili Cookoff, seek out Supercalifragilisticchilihalitosis. We'll see you back on the Fields of Glory next week!

Questions? Comments? Unspeakable outrage? jp@ctam.com or AIM: jaypea99

John "JP" Powers
Co-Captain, Big Kids
President, Capital Conference
DCKickball