

DC Rollergirls took on Harrisburg, PA's Nuclear Knockouts

ENOLA, PA – On Sunday, February 15th, Harrisburg Area Roller Derby hosted their season opener and Valentine bout at Olympic Skating Center, where Harrisburg's Nuclear Knockouts took on the DC Rollergirls' All Stars in an action packed night of exciting flat track roller derby. This was the second WFTDA sanctioned bout between the two leagues, with Harrisburg claiming the victory in their first bout in September of 2008, with a final score of 173-72.

The Nuclear Knockouts opened up with a strong jam by Nash Villain, who shut out DC's Free Radical with a 12-0 opening blast. As the game settled in, the defense got their groove and began toughening up. The second jam was a scoreless jam which lasted the full two minutes with no lead jammer, and saw DC's jammer, Goldrush do a minute in the box for a major back block. DC's pack fought hard to keep Harrisburg's Rainbow's Revenge from scoring. Harrisburg's Mother Trucker took to the track, and unleashed a 12-4 blow to DC's X-abitchinest. The Nuclear Knockouts were full of energy, and were controlling the track with a very solid defense. Penalties became crippling for DC after losing two blockers. Harrisburg's Queen Of Pain was able to continue the assault with a 10 point shut out to DC's Lois Slain who was also sent to the box for a major back block. This gave the Knockouts a thirty point lead by the end of the fourth period. The DC Rollergirls took a timeout to regroup, and when they got back onto the track, their defense began to tighten up and take shape. Harrisburg's Holden Grudges still managed to shutout Kimono Dragon by 4 points before getting sent to the box for the first of two consecutive cutting track majors, which allowed DC some time to skate unopposed over the next couple of jams, and between jammers Blonde Fury and Camilla The Hun, they were able to bring 6 unanswered points to the All Stars. In the eighth frame, Rainbow's Revenge brought the crowd back to life with a nice 11-4 jam over Goldrush. The excitement level continued to rise, as lots of action and tremendous defensive blocking created a string of low scoring jams with H.A.R.D. keeping an edge to the slowly creeping scores. The fourteenth jam saw Harrisburg's Mother Trucker belt out a nice 9 point jam over Free Radical's 4, and saw DC blocker Condoleezza Slice get ejected for earning four major penalties in the first period. Nash Villain followed with a sizzling 10-0 run on DC's Blonde Fury. DC's Lois Slain answered back with an uncontested 5 points from Harrisburg's Queen Of Pain to end the period, leaving the halftime score at 80-30, a 50 point lead in Harrisburg's favor.

The action continued into the second period with the Knockout's keeping an edge on their opponents, and the battle raging on in the pack. In the fourth jam, penalties again haunted the All Stars as they began filling up the box. Harrisburg jammer, Queen Of Pain seized the opportunity and tore up the track with a wicked 17-4 jam over Kimono Dragon, being the highest scoring jam of the bout. The next frame was a high action

scoreless affair between Harrisburg's Holden Grudges and DC's Lois Slain. When DC's jammer Dr. Skabs was pulled off of the track for earning her fourth minor penalty in the following jam, H.A.R.D.'s Nash Villain again opened up and dealt another 15-0 blow to the DC Rollergirls. However, penalties began to plague the H.A.R.D. girls over the next several jams, but Rainbow's Revenge was able to squeeze another 9-0 jab to DC's Blonde Fury before being sent to the box for a major cutting track penalty. The following jam saw Rainbow's Revenge suffer an injury to the face after being involved in a nasty pileup of skaters. With a tight defense, and the Knockouts skating short, the DC Rollergirls began to dig in and make a comeback, and between their jammers Dr. Skabs, Camilla The Hun, and X-abitchinest, they laid out a series of five consecutive shut outs on the Knockouts, putting 29 unanswered points on the scoreboard for DC. The biggest of them being a 10-0 slam by Dr. Skabs over Harrisburg's Rainbow's Revenge, who was pulled from that jam for accruing her fourth minor penalty. But that would be DC's final glory, as the Knockouts would call a timeout and get themselves back on track. As Mother Trucker came back in the thirteenth jam, and put out an 8-3 jam over Free Radical. The crowd began to go wild with a deafening roar as jammer Holden Grudges belted out a 15-0 shutout over DC's Condoleezza Slice. Again, the penalties started hitting DC. Camilla The Hun was ejected for having earned four major penalties. Mother Trucker followed up with another high energy 10-0 blast over Kimono Dragon, and Holden Grudges came back to close the game with another 4-0 shutout on Free Radical, giving the Nuclear Knockouts a 101 point victory with a final score of 173-72.

Also skating for Harrisburg was Renegade Raven, NastyNiss, Dosa Badazz, Jane Wrastle and Skate Edge. For the DC Rollergirls was Battery Operated, Bump-Her Kar, Guantanamo Babe, Gun'Her Down and Hooah! Girl.

The highest scoring jam was made by Harrisburg's Queen Of Pain who scored 17 points in one jam. For DC, it was Dr. Skabs, who scored 10 points in one jam. Harrisburg's Mother Trucker scored the most points in the bout, having scored 47 points, which was 27% of her team's total. Dr. Skabs scored the most points for DC with 19, being 20% of her team's total. The highest scoring jammer was Harrisburg's Nash Villain, who scored 42 points in 4 jams, giving her a nice average of 10.5 points per jam. For the DC Rollergirls, it was Dr. Skabs, who scored 19 points in 4 jams, giving her an average of 4.75 points per jam. The Nuclear Knockouts averaged 5.41 points per jam throughout the game, and the DC Rollergirls averaged 2.25 points per jam. Harrisburg's Nash Villain had the highest jammer point differential, scoring 42 points with no points scored against her, giving her a very nice differential of +42. For the DC Rollergirls, it was Camilla The Hun, who scored 9 points with no points scored against her for a differential of +9. Harrisburg's Nash Villain and DC's Camilla The Hun both led the game in lead jammer status, both earning lead in all of their jams, Nash being 4 out of 4 jams, and Camilla being 2 out of 2. Second was DC's Dr. Skabs, who earned lead in 3 of her 4

jams, being 75% of her jams. The Nuclear Knockouts earned lead jammer in 19 of the bout's 32 jams, being 59% of the game. DC earned lead jammer in 12 of the 32 jams, being 37.5% of the game. The referees called 182 penalties. The Nuclear Knockouts were awarded 64 minors and 16 majors for a total of 80 penalties. The DC Rollergirls were awarded 74 minors and 28 majors for a total of 102 penalties. The Penalty Princess was DC's Dr. Skabs, who picked up 13 minors and 2 majors, for a total of 15 penalties. For Harrisburg, it was NastyNiss, who picked up 12 minors and 2 majors, for a total of 14 penalties. Cutting the track was the most commonly called penalty for both teams. However, for the Nuclear Knockouts it was 40.6% of the penalties called on them, where for the DC Rollergirls, it was only 28.5% of the penalties called on them.

–Matt DeCapitator