

Sawtelle Stacks Up Against Top Ranked Kickers at 3rd Annual National Kicking Competition

Held in Las Vegas, NV, P/K Gibby Sawtelle competed against over 170 of the nation's top kickers. Competitors represented 34 states from Maine to Hawaii.

In the preliminary round, kickers went through a series of kicking, and punting drills that tested overall kicking ability and to qualify for the final round of competition.

After the preliminary competition, finalists were announced. Sawtelle qualified among 30 seniors selected for final round competition and was one of only 22 who competed in all three events of the kicking finals (field goals, kickoffs, and punting). Of these 22 seniors, Sawtelle placed 11th overall.

Top ranked senior kickers who did not qualify for finals competition included:

- Thomas Weber (Chris Sailer 4 ½-Star Top Kicker, Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Punter, a Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and ranked 17th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- James Cullen (Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker and a Rivals100.com Kicker)
- Zach Yates (Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker and a Rivals100.com Kicker)

In the final field goal competition, Sawtelle out performed several top ranked kickers to include:

- Kenny Havro (Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker)
- Collin Murphy (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior and Chris Sailer 5-Star Top Kicker)
- Kevin Okarski (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior and Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker)
- Steven Robles (Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker)
- Andrew Stricklin (Chris Sailer 3 ½ -Star Top Kicker)
- George Pierson (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior and Chris Sailer 5-Star Top Kicker)
- Matt Alvarez (Paul Assad 4-Star Top Kicker)
- Troy Van Blarcom (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior, Chris Sailer 5-Star Top Kicker, Rivals100.com 3-Star Kicker, Ranked 4th Nationally by Rivlas100.com, and committed to University of Southern California)
- Tony Vidaure (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior, Chris Sailer 5-Star Top Kicker, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and Ranked 8th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- Jimmy Rotstein (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior, Chris Sailer 4 ½ -Star Top Kicker, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and Ranked 13th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- Dustin Daugherty (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior, Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and Ranked 22nd Nationally by Rivlas100.com)

In the final kickoff competition, Sawtelle out performed top ranked kicker Jared Ballman (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior and Chris Sailer 4-Star Top Kicker).

In the final punting competition, Sawtelle out performed several top ranked punters to include:

- Jared Strubeck (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and Ranked 16th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- Justin Brantly (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior, Chris Sailer 5-Star Top Punter, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, Ranked 18th Nationally by Rivlas100.com, and committed to Texas A&M University)
- Jacob Scott (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker and Ranked 20th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)

- Michael Perren (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior, Chris Sailer 3-Star Top Punter, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker and Ranked 23th Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- Dustin Daugherty (Chris Sailer "Top 12" Notable senior, Rivals100.com 2-Star Kicker, and Ranked 22nd Nationally by Rivlas100.com)
- Troy Van Blarcom (Chris Sailer "Top 12" senior, Rivals100.com 3-Star Kicker, Ranked 4th Nationally by Rivlas100.com, and committed to University of Southern California)

Sawtelle was one of 16 Rivals100.com senior kickers competing at the 3rd Annual National Kicking Competition, one of eight Rivals100.com senior kickers qualifying for the final round of competition, and among these, one of six which are still uncommitted.

Final round results for the 3rd Annual National Kicking Competition may be found at http://www.chrissailerkicking.com/index_content/2005_results.htm

In major kicking competitions, Sawtelle is noted as a consistently top ranked all-around kicker. In Texas, Sawtelle competed in both the 2003 and 2004 Randy Rodger's Lone Star Kicking Challenge (100 and 125 participants respectively). In the 2003 competition, Sawtelle came in 3rd place in field goals and 1st place among juniors. In 2004, he came in 4th for kickoff hang time, 7th in kickoff distance, 5th in field goals, and 5th in punting.

Sawtelle has also placed at several recent University kicking camps to include:

- Texas A&M University Kicking Camp 2002 (1st place freshman)
- Baylor University Kicking Camp 2004 (1st overall)
- OSU Kicking Camp 2004 (2nd place overall)
- SMU Kicking Camp 2004 (1st in field goals, 1st in punting, 1st in kickoffs, and 1st place overall)
- TCU Kicking Camp 2004 (1st in punting)

For more information about Gibby Sawtelle and to view highlight videos, visit: <http://www.kicking.com/members/view.asp?id=gibby4>