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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2015 AT 6:27 PM

## Four Brewers, S2E7 Notes

The Blind Bourbon Barrel-Aged Stout Bout, Part 1

- Biggest show we've ever done, going to span 2 episodes
- Ethanol is in beer
- Bourbon County Stout talk sparked the idea for this show
  - is this beer that great? who knows. So, let's do a blind show to see how it holds up.
- AB/InBev bought Fulton Street Brewery. They own BCBS brand.
- Going to taste 9 BBA stouts
  - wanted no adjuncts
  - keeping the tasting pure
- Here is the list:
  - Firestone Walker Parabola
  - Goose Island Bourbon County Brand Stout
  - Hangar 24 Pugachev's Cobra
  - The Bruery Black Tuesday
  - Sierra Nevada BBA Narwhal
  - Dark Horse Brewing BBA Plead The 5th
  - Bell's Brewery BBA Black Note
  - Bottle Logic Brewing Darkstar November
  - Avery Brewing Co. Uncle Jacob's Stout
- Special pouress, [@Missturkeybowl](#), Dana Pana on Twitter
  - Also a Patron on Patreon. Yay!
  - long time friend of Jason's
- Trying to represent the country as best as we can
- high profile stouts in east coast aren't barrel aged, nor without adjuncts
- Cougar Steve got us some Michigan stout
- Beers:
  - Plead the Fifth from Dark Horse (the TV show brewery)
    - Michigan
    - 12% ABV
    - balanced stout, self described
  - Bell's Black Note
    - Michigan

- 11.5% ABV
  - blew up with popularity
  - respected brewery
  - bourbon barrel stout
  - aromatics of Expedition stout, blended with texture of Double Cream Stout, aged in a bourbon barrel
- Avery Uncle Jacob's Stout
  - 2012
  - Colorado
  - 17.4% ABV
  - John thinks it will hold up well
- Goose Island Bourbon County Brand Stout
  - 14.2%, 60 IBU
  - Willamette hops
- Barrel Aged Narwhal
  - this year's
- Bottle Logic Dark Star November
  - 13.7% ABV
  - released in November
  - 200 people in line to buy
- Firestone Walker Parabola
  - 14.0%, 82 IBU
  - blended beer
- Hangar 24 Pugachev's Cobra
  - 19.0%
  - No. 3 release
  - vanilla, dark bourbon, and fruits
- The Bruery Black Tuesday
  - from Placentia, CA
  - 18-19.7% ABV, varies vintage to vintage
- Tasting starts
  - going to rate beers according to taste, appearance, etc, based off Rate Beer
  - Appearance looks good on all
  - darker head looks more impressive
    - you get that with dark malts that don't add a lot of roast
  - John: 4 on the red, lighter side
    - all others black
  - Beer 1:
    - Matt: huge vanilla
    - Jason: Raisin

- Nagel: Brown sugar, smells like choco cake, decadent.
- Matt: not a lot of heat, has sizzle
- Jason: tastes thin
- Matt: lacking body
- Matt: aroma 8
- Jason: choco finish
- John and Jason: a lot of booze
- Matt: solid flavor score, but fades fast. not sticky
- Nagel: balance is needed for beers like this
- Beer 2
  - Matt: foam is very brown
  - Nagel: big booze after swirl on nose
  - Jason: big bourbon
  - John: wood
  - Nagel: metallic
  - Matt: iron, metallic flavor
  - Jason: aroma not crazy
  - Matt: big body
  - Nagel: super chewy
  - Matt: fluffy
  - John: a bit more carbonation
  - Matt: wood character is muted
  - Jason: second sip, more choco
  - John: not as hot as first beer
  - Nagel normally ignores first taste
  - Jason: boozy chocolate, tingles.
  - Nagel: fruitiness, like apples, tarter, not a bad thing
  - John: brighter flavor
- Beer 3
  - Jason: light tan head
  - Matt: head tight, lingers more, best head so far, lots of choco
  - Jason: not so boozy
  - Nagel: not a fan of the aroma, musty, earthy
  - Jason: chocolate, then dank
  - John: dirty choco
  - Matt: fig, raisin, not a lot of heat
  - John: best head, creamy, frothy, tight, juicy
  - Matt, Jason: aroma not impressive
  - Nagel: smells, tastes papery

- might be an old bottle
    - could be a sherry thing
  - Nagel: reminds him of Coca-Cola syrup, a tinge, cocoa, a bit of booze
  - Matt: anise
  - John: dusty cocoa
    - Jason: sounds like a daytime stripper
  - Off topic:
    - talked about Elysian banner at Seahawks game
    - Jason: we'll sell the show to Miller Coors or Tsingtoa
  - John: lot of heat, but comes off creamy, nice mouthfeel, not over carb'd, John's fav so far
    - Jason likes it the least
- Beer 4
    - Matt: heads are on par with each other
    - Jason: #2 has a darker head, smells rich, agrees with Matt leader in aroma
    - Nagel: nutty aroma
    - Jason: nice choco
    - John: a bit of paper
    - Matt: a little cardboard, but has barrel punch
    - Nagel: paper cocoa
    - Matt: has a coffee note, maybe higher on roast malts
    - Jason: usually gets maple from Pugachev's Cobra, may have maple added, but we tried to keep adjuncts out
    - John: paper went away
    - Matt: loves it, it's the hottest so far
    - Jason: rich, boozy in a good way, not super-thick, rich
    - Nagel: macadamia nut, like Hawaiian chocolate things, not Black Tuesday, because you can tell by the mouthfeel
    - John: heat is subdued
      - meant BT as a joke
    - Jason: alcohol kick with a rich backbone- he's into it
    - Matt: this is the leader, mouthfeel is a bit thin
    - John: has a soft mouthfeel
      - Jason, mouthfeel is right, gave it 4.5 on mouthfeel
    - now this is John's favorite
  - We recap and revisit these beers
    - Matt: beer 1 has the best barrel character on aroma, bourbon, vanilla, nagel agrees
    - John: maple syrup on 1, stands out, matt agrees.

- Jason: 1 strong on revisit, but revisit on 3 is worse than before
- Matt: 2 way more raisin
- John: 3 was favorite, now it's 4, overall we all agree
- John: 2 has more choco on nose now
- Matt agrees 3 is not holding up, if by itself, it's probably great
- Jason, 1 and 2 are a good story of differences in the same style
- Matt: none hit him with super coffee note
- Nagel: not getting a lot of barrel, Matt and Jason disagree, 1 has a lot
- maybe barrel component is blending well into the beer
- Matt: what do we expect from this style?
  - more coffe?
  - more raisin?
  - more cocoa?
  - should be barrel forward, but shouldn't be too much. Should be up front
- John: 2 is middle of the road
- Matt: 1 was getting a lot of barrel up front
- going to end show here, and drink the final 5, and reveal the results.
- next week is the Final Stout-down
- 4B's first two-part show.
- support the show on Patreon
  - John will give Patrons rad beers if he sees them in person
  - shout out to Jeff Fox, Kyle Wells, and Patrick Flanagan
  - Nagel will give you Firkfest tickets for 50% off. Email [greg@fourbrewers.com](mailto:greg@fourbrewers.com).

END SHOW

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*Created in Day One*