

Who will be king of the ring?

New COLCPE contest pits state against state

There have been some classic matchups in fighting history: Ali vs. Frazier, Hagler vs. Hearns and Holyfield vs. Tyson. Will the next one be California vs. New York? Or Michigan vs. Illinois?

The answer will come in next February's special COLCPE issue of *The Postal Record*, as NALC pits state versus state in the latest COLCPE competition.

NALC President Fred Rolando announced the new contest to encourage even more active and retired letter carriers to contribute at the "Gimme 5" level to the union's political action fund, the Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education (COLCPE).

This new competition creates a friendly rivalry among pairs of states that are in the same "weight class."

"This time around, we'll be leaning heavily on the leadership of our state chairs," said NALC Political Director Tucker McDonald, who helped craft this latest competition.

"You'll see matchups like Florida against Texas, New Mexico versus New Hampshire," McDonald said. "We even created a special category, pitting Puerto Rico against the District of Columbia."

Results will be tabulated from all contributions given through the end of November, and the state in each pair with the highest percentage of "Gimme 5" contributors in their respective category will be declared the contest winner.

That winning state association will then conduct a raffle to draw, at random, the names of three "Gimme 5" automatic contributors in their state. Each raffle winner will receive a \$200 American Express gift card.

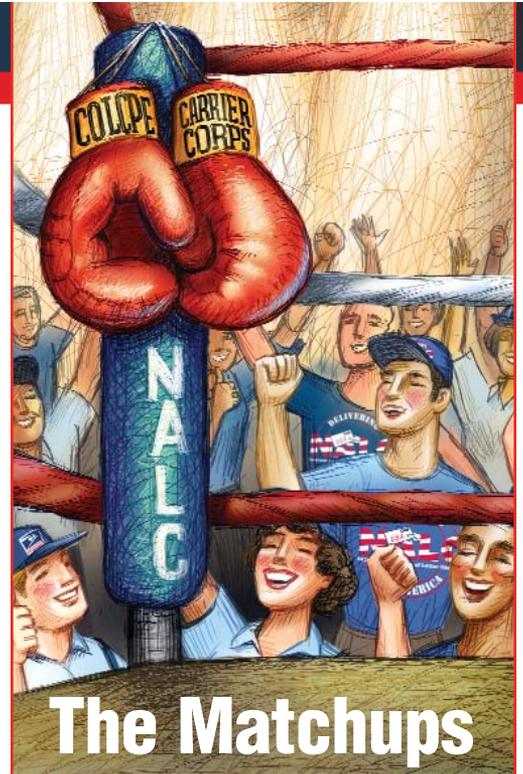
Further, the top three states will receive a plaque and \$500 in American Express gift cards that can be used as prizes in future COLCPE raffles in those states.

The goal, as always, is to try to teach NALC members about the importance of contributing to COLCPE, whose funds are then put to use to support candidates, regardless of party affiliation, who themselves support the legislative priorities of letter carriers.

COLCPE money also helps finance get-out-the-vote and other political activities. Contributions to COLCPE are entirely voluntary, and absolutely no union dues money goes to support political candidates.

"Gimme 5 for COLCPE" means that active carriers are automatically contributing \$5 per pay period by electronic funds transfer (EFT) or by using one of their three payroll allotments. For retirees, that translates as \$5 per month directly from annuity payments or by EFT. (More than \$5 is welcome, of course.) This steady, dependable flow of contributions helps the union more effectively plan and budget its resources.

State associations can begin tracking their progress on nalc.org in early July. ☒



The Matchups

- Hawaii vs. Alaska
- Mississippi vs. Alabama
- South Dakota vs. North Dakota
- Louisiana vs. Rhode Island
- Utah vs. Oregon
- Idaho vs. Delaware
- Kentucky vs. Tennessee
- New Hampshire vs. New Mexico
- Vermont vs. Montana
- Michigan vs. Illinois
- Iowa vs. Kansas
- Minnesota vs. Washington
- Wisconsin vs. Indiana
- West Virginia vs. Nebraska
- Oklahoma vs. Nevada
- Pennsylvania vs. New Jersey
- Missouri vs. Georgia
- Arkansas vs. South Carolina
- Virginia vs. Maryland
- North Carolina vs. Arizona
- Ohio vs. Massachusetts
- Colorado vs. Connecticut
- Wyoming vs. Maine
- Puerto Rico vs. District of Columbia
- Florida vs. Texas
- California vs. New York

The winning continues

As mentioned in the May *Postal Record*, two COLCPE raffles will also take place at the Anaheim convention in August. The top prize for "Gimme 5 for COLCPE" contributors is a trip for two to the 2011 NCAA Final Four, which includes a pair of tickets to the Final Four and national championship, airfare, a three-night hotel stay and a per diem for expenses. A second raffle will be held for lump-sum donors who aren't automatic givers, with a chance for one lucky letter carrier to win a 42-inch flat-panel high-definition television. Although the deadline for both contests was June 30, last-chance signups to qualify for each will be available at the Legislative Department's booth at the Anaheim Convention Center. ☒