

Pat Bostick: *Inside the Huddle*

I've walked in and out of the Pitt indoor facility 1,000-plus times, so trust me when I say that this time was quite different. First of all, I was dressed in a shirt and tie, slacks, and a sweater vest, while my former teammates are cloaked in Nike spandex shorts, mesh jerseys and Pitt gold helmets. Even the indoor field looked different – the old surface was replaced with a lush new turf, which changes shades of green every five yards. There's also a Pitt logo in the one end zone, which I must say, looks pretty cool.

It doesn't stop there. After 10 minutes of watching the guys in the white jerseys, wondering why there wasn't anyone throwing or catching a football, I realized that the defense was now wearing white and the offense had switched to blue. Then I heard the horn blow, signaling the transition from one period to another. Like I had been struck with a reflex hammer, I jumped to get to the next station. I stopped after a step, realizing that my slacks are far too restrictive for me to run in. I guess I forgot for a moment that I don't play anymore.

Hello Panther fans, my name is Pat Bostick. For those of you who don't know me, I played quarterback for Pitt from 2007-2010. After a rewarding playing career, I hung up my cleats and pads to pursue graduate school. But I can't stay away from Pitt Football, and that is why I teamed up with the folks in the Pitt athletics office to provide you with deep insight into this spring's football action.

Each week I will give you an insider's perspective on the key issues facing Pitt football as we move through spring ball. What will be the difference when Pitt deploys its new offense? How is the Panther defense adjusting to the 3-4 scheme? These are only some of the issues that I will touch on during the next few weeks.

In addition to sifting through and detailing these schematic changes, I will provide insight on what the players are going through as people both on and off the field. I know these guys – they were my teammates. The past few months have presented some challenges, but they have emerged stronger and more confident heading into the future.

So continue to follow Spring Camp Insider all throughout spring camp. You'll be hearing from me in the next week as the Panthers continue to acclimate themselves to this new system. I will be discussing the ways in which Coach Graham's offense is "quarterback friendly" and will benefit the Pitt signal-callers.

Until then, Hail to Pitt!