



In a late season practice session, wrestler Blake Tompkins performs a perfect throw on team-mate Aaron Burdick. The Cougars are sending six members to the Nationals. photo by Chad Patterson

Wrestlers send six to nationals

by Maury Webber
The Print Editorial Staff

Three Clackamas wrestlers earned top honors and three others placed high at the recent regional championships at Yakima Community college.

Their achievements in Yakima qualified them for the national championship meet in Bismarck, N.D., Feb. 25 and 26. No small feat, noted Head Wrestling Coach Mike Haluska. "We have four of the top ten wrestling teams in the nation in our district," Haluska said.

The qualifying wrestlers included Travis Rollins at 118 lbs, Jake Whisenhunt at 126 lbs, his

brother Josh Whisenhunt at 134 lbs, Jamie Dixon at 177 lbs, and Jason Marshall at 190 lbs. Rounding out the six is Nate Sullivan, who competes in the heavyweight class. Rollins, Marshall and Sullivan each won their weight class to earn the regional champion title.

"This is the most we've sent to nationals since I've been here," he said.

The six leave for Bismarck today at noon. Haluska said they have a good chance of doing well at the competition.

"All six looked real good at regionals," Haluska said. "Every year I have high hopes for one

or two people on a team, this year I believe in all six.

"I've said all year long that everything up till now has been practice. This is what we've been practicing for. These six guys are ready to place at nationals."

Haluska wants to wish all his athletes well and thank them for their effort and help throughout the season.

"What these six guys do at nationals is for the four that didn't make it and the 10 to 15 that didn't compete. What these guys earn at nationals was earned by the others as well. They've all done a great job."

Haluska uses experience to lead Cougar wrestlers to nationals

by Tyson Morrow
The Print Editorial Staff

Enter Wrestling Coach Mike Haluska's office and you will be sure to find several of his wrestlers sitting around on couches or chairs, chatting with their mentor. The walls are covered with awards and plaques, and trophies are found on every available inch of shelf. This is a shrine of athletic excellence.

This is only Haluska's fourth year at Clackamas, and his first as head coach. Yet he exudes a grand type of experience, with a single glance you can tell that he has

spent a great part of his life in and about wrestling -- his ears have been cauliflowerered many times, his nose broken on sev-

wrestled since I was 8 years old. It's a huge part of my life," Haluska said.

The Cougars compete in a tough league, too. Among NWACC Junior Colleges, Region 18 has the most All-Americans. The wrestling team is also the only sports team at Clackamas to go to the nationals.

Before Clackamas, Haluska spent a year as assistant coach at Hood River, and four years as an assistant coach at Gladstone High School.

He got his own high school experience at Dowling High School in Des Moines, Iowa. "I've

enjoyed coaching here at Clackamas. The only drawback is the facilities. Throughout the season we've been



photo by Khanh Pham

I grew up in Iowa, where there wasn't much to do except watch wrestling.

-Head Wrestling Coach Mike Haluska

eral occasions.

This experience has obviously benefited the Clackamas team: this year the Cougars will send six wrestlers to the national tournament, up from four last year.

"I grew up in Iowa, where there isn't much to do except watch wrestling. I've

plagued by injuries ... which could have been prevented if we had a warm wrestling room. A mat room could be used for many other things, too," Haluska said.

"I've enjoyed this year a lot. We've had a big squad, and each and every one worked to make the year extremely enjoyable," Haluska added.

Violence in sports needs more control

■ Sports are becoming an actual life or death situation and something has to be done

by Jason Hunter
The Print Staff

"Kill the umpire!" is a familiar cry from upset players in the dug outs or from fans in the bleachers. Now it is more than just a harmless expression.

"There's more and more violence against officials being reported, and it's a scary thing," said Barry Mano of the National Association of Sports Officials. "There seems to be more unwillingness by fans and participants to stay behind the line."

Curtis Fair was a 31-year-old youth baseball coach. When a 16-year old umpire made a call that enraged him, Fair fired a .38 caliber revolver at the umpire - but missed. Fair has been charged with attempted murder.

In South Brunswick, N.J., there was an American Legion baseball game in which a 17-year-old player was upset with a call that Thomas Sullivan made. He allegedly picked up Sullivan and cracked the umpires back over his knee and broke three of his ribs. In a recreational hockey league, a player went after the referee after the game and threw a skate at his head. The referee sued and won \$32,000 in an out-of-court settlement.

Verbal abuse has always

been on the bad side of sports officiating. "Yelling at umpires by fans incites players," said umpire Henry Pollard. "That often sows the seed for physical attacks against officials."

In Long Beach, Calif., two players with bats attacked an umpire and seriously injured his eye. The two players received jail terms and the umpire settled a civil suit for \$10,000.

Allen Serra Jr. assaulted two referees at halftime of his son's high school football game in Maryland. He received a sentence of 42 months in jail.

"You see more and more violence against anybody in authority today and it's an unfortunate way of life," Pollard said. From 1983 to 1989, the number of umpires in the Amateur Softball Association of America fell from 62,000 to 56,500.

Fighting is down in the NBA, but the game is more violent than ever. Sport Magazine had a poll and these were the results: 1) America is not kinder and its not getting gentler. 2) In the NBA, we are here to inform you that the league is tougher than ever, with more kicking, gouging, pinching, hacking, butchering, choking, biting, and stomping that we've seen in years.

"I look at the NBA as a football game without a helmet. It's 260 against 260 night after night," said Tom Tolbert of the Orlando Magic.

"I think the biggest shock to me when I came to the NBA was the rebounding on the weak side. It's less visual because people are concentrating on the ball, but I'm telling you, it's a war zone in there, and there are no rules," he continued. "It's a free for all with all the pulling and scratching that goes on. All you can do is get your job done and hope you get out of there alive."

A record 1,944 technical fouls were called in the 1989-90 season resulting in \$127,150 in fines. In 1991, the number dropped to 1,735 and \$108,050 in fines.

"If you've never played in the NBA before, if you've never posted up against anybody before, then you can merely be told how physical it is," said Boston Celtics' Head Coach Chris Ford.

When Seattle Seahawks' former coach Chuck Knox was asked where all the tight ends had gone, he said, "To the NBA."

One of those tight-end like bodies belongs to Karl Malone of the Utah Jazz. He once elbowed Isiah Thomas which resulted in 40 stitches near Thomas' eye.

Malone said, "I don't care what anyone thinks, it was an accident. Right after the incident I called Isiah in San Antonio and everything was settled." The NBA fined Malone \$10,000 and suspended him for one game.

The National Hockey League has a violence problem, as well. Some don't think of it as violence, though.

"There's a big difference between violence and fighting, a hell of a difference," said Blackhawks' Coach Darryl Sutter. Fights are started when a star player is mistreated in any way. If player A knows smacks player B, he'll have to deal with player C, it gives him something to think about.

The new rule is that the instigator will be penalized as opposed to the third player in the fight. Rob Dibble of the Cincinnati Reds said that in order to stop brawls in baseball they should play it like hockey does, the third man in gets ejected. Let the pitcher and the batter duke it out.

In 1990 at a game between the Los Angeles Kings and the Edmonton Oilers, a record was set with 86 penalties called. Only 1:35 into the first period, the Kings' Marty McSoreley and Oiler Mark Messier dropped their gloves and went at it for no apparent

reason. The fight started the rest of riotous incidents that would add up to 86 penalties. It also started other incidents in which the Kings' Tomas Sandstrom was sent to the hospital.

The first period went somewhat smoothly after that. With 3:22 remaining in the second period, however, an eight-player brawl broke out. In that brawl, Glenn Anderson punched Sandstrom in the face. He laid on the ice for several minutes and then was taken to the hospital. He was treated for a fractured facial bone, a scratched right cornea, bleeding inside the right eye and a gash which took four stitches to close below that same eye. Sandstrom underwent laser surgery on his eye.

Violence in sports has to be controlled better than it has been in the past. Participants of the sport need to get a hold of themselves.

No violence story would be complete without the mention of a certain figure skater that is in a lot of trouble right now ... Tonya Harding. The incident is not just an attack on Nancy Kerrigan but it is also an attack on America.

Sports are becoming an actual life or death situation and something has to be done.