

Five Clackamas wrestlers reach national tournament

Andrew Beck
Staff Writer

The Clackamas Community College Wrestling team placed third as a team at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 18 Wrestling Tournament at North Idaho College in Rexburg, Idaho Feb 8-9.

Five Clackamas wrestlers earned berths for the national tournament after placing in the top three in their weight classes. The national tournament will be held Feb. 23-24 in Bismarck, North Dakota.

The Cougars placed third in the tournament behind North Idaho and Ricks Junior College. North Idaho was ranked first and Ricks eighth in the NJCAA national poll going into the tournament.

"We didn't have a real good first round, but I was real pleased with the way everybody came back and wrestled hard after that first round," said CCC Wrestling Head Coach Mike Haluska.

Corey Caywood (134) took first place in his weight bracket with two wins by decision and Glenn Garrison (142) took first place with a fall and a win by decision. Lonnie Eggert (158) took third place in his bracket with two wins and one loss, all by decision. Jamie Dixon (177) took third also with two wins and one loss. Dixon's wins were by a fall and decision. Leo Sandoval (275) took third place with two wins and one loss. All of Sandoval's matches were won by decision.

"I don't think anybody wrestled less than 100 percent, and five guys made it to that national tournament," Haluska said. "It's real intense to lose in that tournament and then come back and take third place overall."

"We go to nationals in about a week and a half and I know all these guys have goals to become All-Americans," Haluska said on Monday. "If they do as good as they did at the regional tournament, I think all five have the aptitude to be All-Americans."

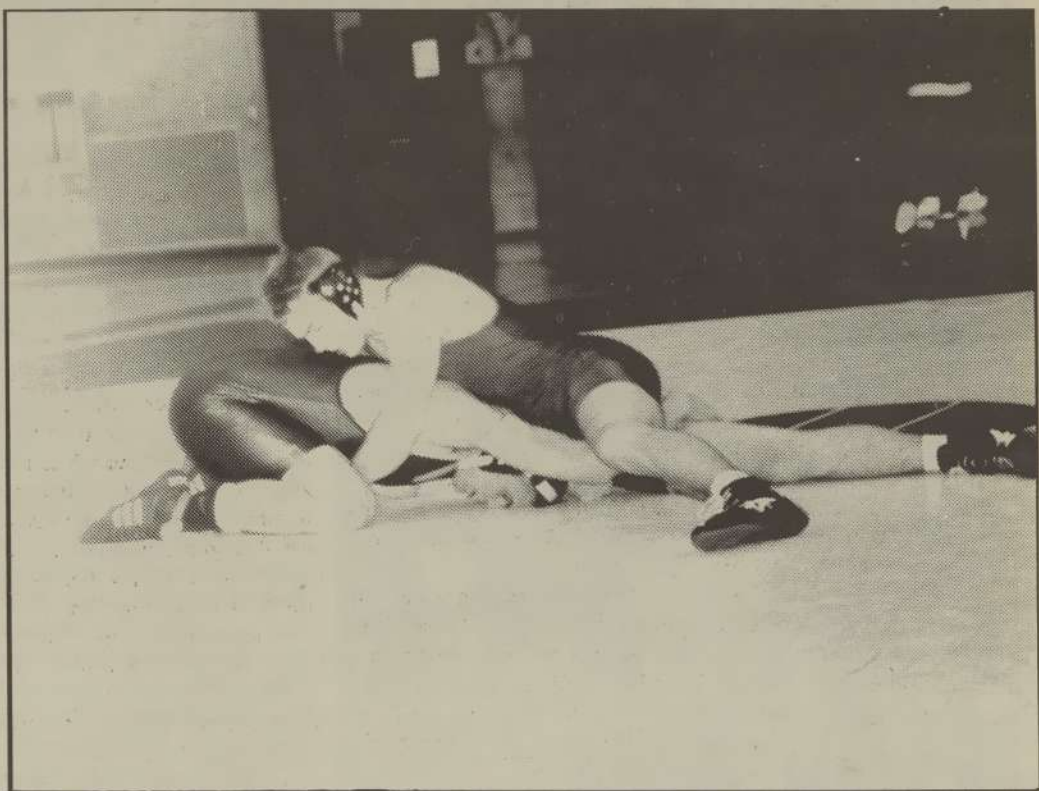


photo by Lora Wahrgren

A member of the Clackamas wrestling team is shown here competing earlier this season. Clackamas placed third as a team last weekend at the regional tournament.

Hard work, will to win carry Lassen on the basketball court

Andrew Beck
Staff Writer

Clackamas Community College sophomore basketball post player Jay Lassen is like most college men, he likes to hang out with friends and go to school. Although behind all his friendly exterior, Lassen is a hardworking basketball player driven to be the best.

"Jay Lassen is a post man that's smart and his talent around the basket is really good," said CCC Head Basketball Coach. He's probably one of the better post men I've had at getting open so we can get the basketball to him."

Lassen is a native to Oregon and graduated from Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis in 1993, where he excelled at both basketball and baseball. Lassen was named to the Valley League baseball second team all-league while a senior at Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis and was named the team's most valuable player.

"I want to win, I guess, and I hate to lose. I get frustrated when I play bad, and it makes me play better," Lassen said.

Lassen played baseball at a junior college in Kansas during his first year out of high school. Disenchanted with living in Kansas, Lassen came back to Oregon and enrolled as a freshman at CCC for Fall term of 1994.

As for sports, he decided to



photo by Chad Patteson

Jay Lassen has led the men's basketball team this year.

play baseball and take up basketball again. After a year at Clackamas, Lassen quit baseball for personal reasons but found a niche on the basketball team.

"I'm getting significant playing time at the post position with Beall (CCC post player Tio Beall), I am starting this year, as to last year when I only started half the season," Lassen said.

In his spare time, Jay Lassen likes to collect baseball cards and is interested in pursuing a career in business administration, he

would like to transfer to Oregon State or Colorado State at the end of this year

"This year's team has a lot more talent, as far as all across the board, we can start any of our guys, but last years team probably had more a little bit more togetherness and knew what we are going to do," said Lassen.

Lassen's family recently moved from Oregon to Fort Wallace, Colorado, he has one sister and both of his parents work at Colorado State.

Pro owners don't make good promoters

Andrew Beck
Staff Writer

Do owners promote professional sports? Well if they can, but usually the owners just want the club to make money, win and be successful.

Professional sports ownership is more of a privileged honor. Most owners prefer to hire executives to run the daily operation of their franchise.

Portland has a great example of this type of sports administration. The entire Trail Blazer player and personnel department is run by General Manager Bob Whitsitt. Paul Allen, the Blazers owner, prefers to sit and watch the team from his luxury box in the Rose Garden. Allen's wealth allows him freedom to not depend on the Blazers for income.

A sports promoter makes professional sports a positive experience by creating economic stability and establishing a good relationship with the community where he works. The really successful sports promoters love what they do and exude several distinct qualities.

The Blazers' success and winning attitude came from the greatest sport's promoter in Oregon's history, Harry Glickman.

If it wasn't for Glickman, a sports promoter, it is scarcely possible that even the Portland Winterhawks could survive one year in the "Rose City."

Glickman's main goal was not to make money above all else but to provide Portland with the greatest professional sports experience possible. Years before the Portland Trail Blazers even existed, Glickman ran the Portland Buckaroos of the Western Hockey League (WHL). A successful and independent sports franchise the Buckaroos played old-style hockey with great semi-pro hockey players, not the seventies beat-em-black-and-blue style. Glickman ran this team like so many other sports promoters, by his sweat and hustle. You got players, found a place to play and tried to get people to come on watch them. If the Portland Buckaroos sold well then the club would play another year, if the Buckaroos didn't sell well Glickman was out of a job.

Though he may not have made much money at it and was never sure of where he was going, Glickman loved what he did. It was through that mentality that Glickman started lobbying to start a professional basketball team in Portland in 1954. In 1970, Portland got an expansion team from the NBA and Glickman had lived his dream.

The Portland Trail Blazers and Portland sports started this way, with a sports promoter and a dream. Glickman, a man with a dream, made the Blazers one of the top organizations in professional sports.

An owner is not a sports promoter unless he has cares for his community, if an owner's only goal is money and winning at any cost then he is a level below what professional sports can be. Anywhere there is a professional sports franchise, I bet you there was a possessed unflappable sports promoter like Harry Glickman constantly working into the night.

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