

Cougar Sports Calendar

Now with more real Cougar!

Wrestling

Wednesday,
January 22 Dual w/
Pima at Highline
@ 5p.m.

Saturday, January
25
Dual w/ Western
Wyoming and NIC
@ 3/5 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Wednesday,
January 22
Portland
Community
College @
7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January
25
Lane Community
College @
6 p.m.

Wednesday,
January 29
Mt. Hood
Community
College @ 7:30
p.m.

Women's Basketball

Wednesday,
January 22
Portland
Community
College @
5:30 p.m.

Saturday, January
25
Lane Community
College @
4 p.m.

Wednesday,
January 29
Mt. Hood
Community
College @ 5:30
p.m.

Strong weekend pushes wrestlers toward regionals

Tina Tate
Staff Writer

Clackamas' wrestling team hosted a dual against Highline CC on Friday night and followed with the CCC Open the next day, claiming several successes at both events.

Clackamas dominated Highline with a team score of 31-15. Standout performances included those of Ben Sevigny (125), Michael Fischer (157) and heavyweight Chris Henry. Sevigny easily defeated Sean Duffy in an 18-3 decision. Fischer followed with an 18-2 victory over Kenny Dewitt. Henry capped off the night when he pinned Jon Carr in just 46 seconds.

Saturday's CCC Open featured tough competition, yet Clackamas was able to claim second and fourth place individual finishes. Freshman Bridger Sacher (197) took second with a 4-2 finals loss to North Idaho's Tucker Downey. This is a matchup that will likely be seen again in both the regional and national tournaments.

Sevigny wrestled well for the second night in a row, taking fourth in his weight class with a 1-5 consolation round loss. En route to a predicted finals appearance, Henry's nose was broken after accomplishing a 2-0 record, and he was forced to exit the tournament early. Henry is expected to wrestle again this week.

"Overall, I think the guys did well. We're coming along at a pretty good pace. I think we're on track for the regional tournament," said sixth year Head Coach Lloyd Martindale.

Martindale's program is growing,

and this year it saw its highest turnout ever when 54 men showed up to practice. The wrestlers are in competition for the ten starting spots at the regional tournament, which Clackamas will host next month.

Since all five region teams will qualify for the post-season tournament, Martindale rotates his lineup during the regular season.

"We look at the regular season as practice for the regional tournament. We're trying to build the best workout room by getting all the guys as many matches as we can, and it's worked so far," Coach Martindale said.

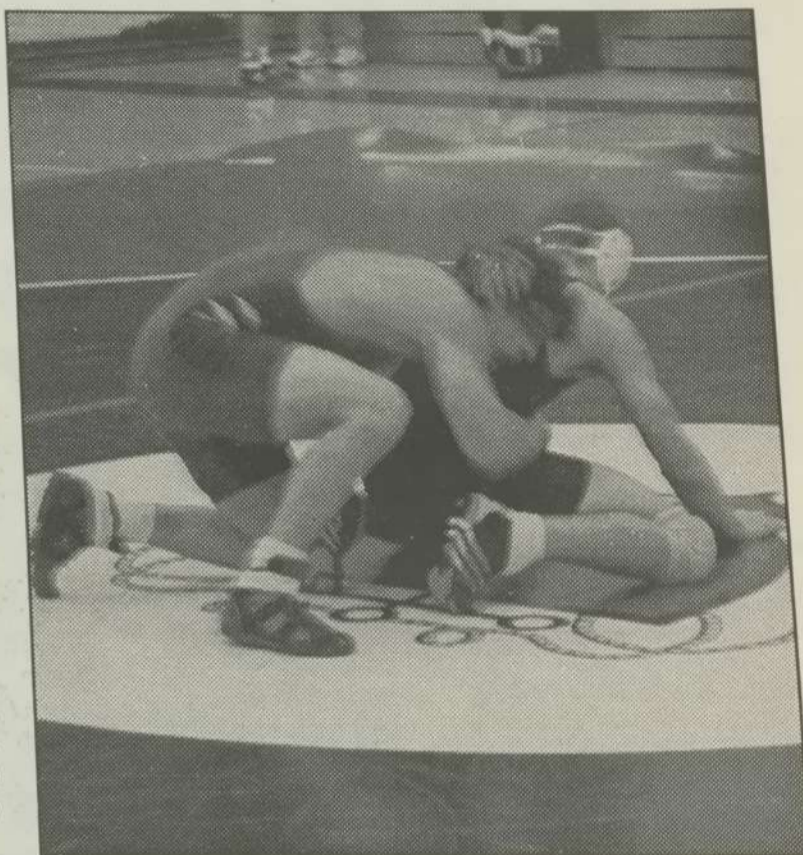
The regional tournament is fast approaching, forcing Martindale to assess his starting lineup.

"It's becoming pretty clear cut. The guys are starting to figure out where they fit in. Guys will adjust their weight a little bit to find a spot where they fit in best. Guys will red-shirt so that they can grow underneath somebody for a year. But right now our starting lineup is pretty much set," said Martindale.

At the regional tournament, wrestlers will attempt to place in the top three of their weight class to qualify automatically for the national tournament. Wildcard selections chosen by the coaches will also be eligible for nationals.

Martindale's teams have had success at nationals. He took five wrestlers last year, and has produced 22 All-Americans over his tenure.

"We're looking to finish this year in the top ten at nationals as a team, and looking to have several outstanding placers. This is the year we could have a couple national champions,"



MIKE POLLOCK Clackamas Print

Ben Sevigny wrestles his way to victory against Highline's Sean Duffy in a match Clackamas hosted on Jan. 17. The next day, the Cougars welcomed wrestling teams to the Randall Gym for the CCC Open.

said Martindale.

Freshman Sacher (197), who is already being looked at by several four-year schools, is one standout. "He has an excellent chance at being a national champion this year," said Martindale.

Sophomore Fischer (157) also has a great possibility of winning the

national title.

Sophomores Sean Bolen and Henry, and freshman Jimmy Crisman all have strong chances of qualifying for the national tournament.

Clackamas' next home match will be the regional tournament on Feb. 14.

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- BA INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
- BS REAL ESTATE
- TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE
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