



All photos by John Petty Clackamas Print

Two teams face off during the dodgeball tournament held Saturday, Nov. 20 in Randall gym. The tournament attracted dozens of dodgeball fans and spectators alike. Six teams competed for the coveted title of champion, but the Ballers reigned victorious at the end of the night.

By Harley Jackson
The Clackamas Print

Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge are the five rules of dodgeball, and they were being obeyed to the fullest during Clackamas Community College's first dodgeball tournament of the year. The tournament was the brainchild of Associated Student Government member Casey House. He's had the idea since the beginning of the year to host the tournament and was very excited to

see it come to fruition.

"Honestly I thought there were going to be less people, but they keep coming," said House at the event. "The majority of the people didn't show up till the very last minute, and people are still signing in. This makes me happy."

Approximately 36 people showed up to the event to make a total of six teams of six players. Before the matches started, players were asked to sign a waiver in case of an injury and then were encouraged to chow down on free

pizza that was provided by ASG. A hodgepodge of players showed up: men, women, teenagers, college students and non-students. The six teams had a variety of names: Clackamas ASG, the Reach Arounds, the Dirty Ballers, Team Bad Ass, the Ballers, and the A-Team.

Each match lasted a total of three minutes. To win a match, a team had to be victorious two out of three rounds. The event was also double elimination. These rules made for longer, tougher games.

The first game pitted

Clackamas ASG against the Reach Arounds. The RAs claimed the first win of the game and came on strong from the beginning. In the second round the ASG team was the dominate force. They were ahead with five players still in while the RAs only had one.

For the lone RA player, Dave Lipinski, victory seemed hopeless as he dodged and ducked a salvo of rubber balls. In true underdog fashion, he came from impossible odds to make two incredible catches to even things up and capture the win.

"I didn't even know I was the last man. I was just concentrating on not getting hit. I'm excited to beat the first team," said Lipinski.

The next few games were breathtaking shows of sportsmanship. The Ballers defeated the A-Team in a three round extravaganza. Team BA upset ASG. Dirty Ballers prevailed against Team BA and conquered the RAs, every match becoming a grueling expression of machismo and feeling.

The semi-final match between the Ballers and the Dirty Ballers was an intense altercation of two very evenly matched teams, not just in name but in skill. The first round was dominated by the DBs with not one member getting eliminated. The second round was looking to be a repeat of the previous until a miraculous catch evened the odds and helped the Ballers take the match. The third round went back and forth trading blows, ending with both teams having three players when time was up.

Since there are no ties, sudden death was initiated and the bombardment began anew. The outcome remained the same with three players left on each team once again; therefore, a second sudden death was called for the remaining players only. The Ballers finally

triumphed over the DBs to win the most heated game of the day.

"We knew victory was ours. We had so much fun against the Dirty Ballers," said Vini Laski of the Ballers.

The Ballers and Team BA were the final two combatants and gave the spectators exactly what they wanted, a championship match to end all matches.

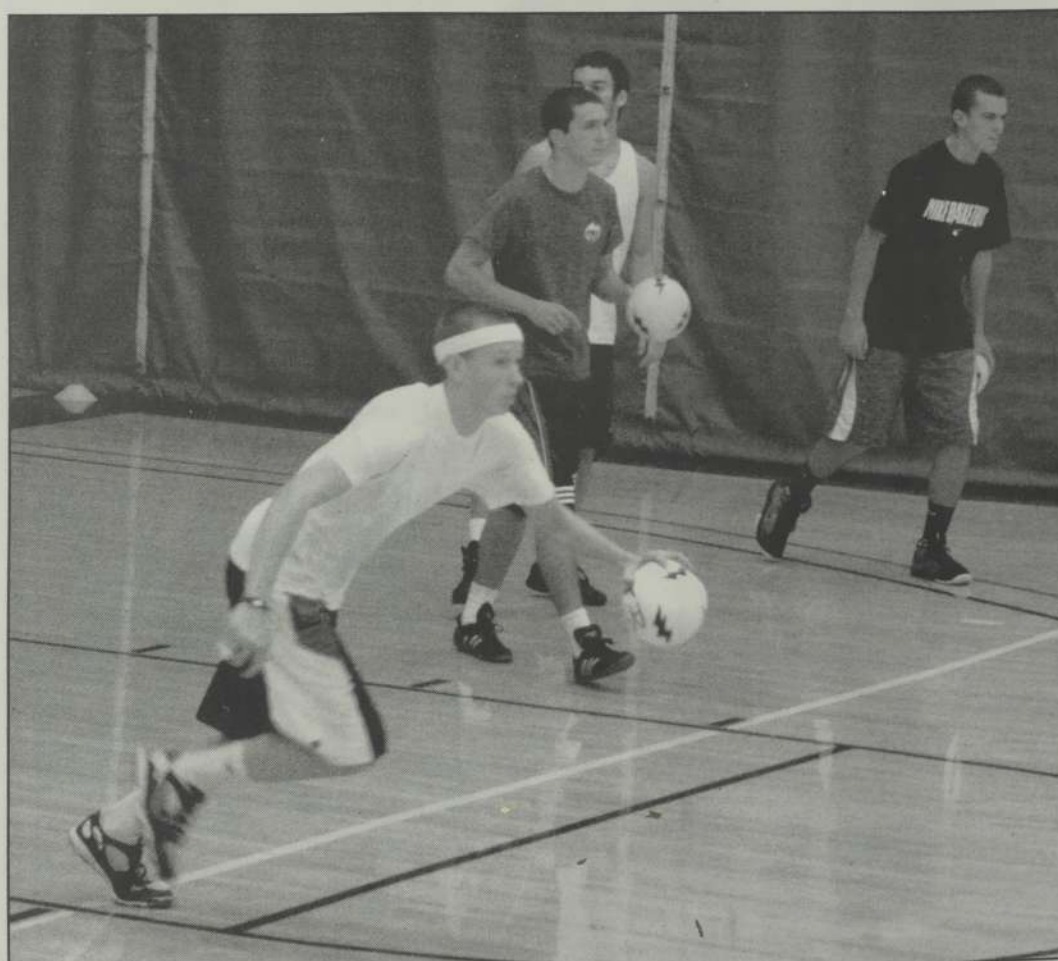
"My original team bailed on me, and I was happy to be drafted to Team BA," said Philip Frerichs.

The first round ended with the Ballers destroying Team BA and losing only one player. An injury started the second round with a player from the Ballers falling and hurting his knee. Team BA won the round with more players remaining after time was up. The third round was an unusual one with no time limit; it was going until all players from a team were eliminated. The injured player recovered and helped his team overcome Team Bad Ass with an outburst of fury that gave them the edge and the victory. The Ballers were the undefeated champions of the court and showed good sportsmanship by cheering for their fallen opponents.

"This was awesome. I had a lot more fun than I thought I was going to have. We played and won as a team. We had good, tough, intense matches," said Justin Lehman of the Ballers.

This tournament was exactly what it promised it would be; a titillating duel of fates with grown men and women getting hit in the face by rubber balls. Although this was the first ASG-hosted dodgeball tournament, it certainly won't be their last.

"We liked the turnout, we're definitely going to have another next term. People really got into it," said Justin McDaniels of ASG.



The co-ed event proved to be a battle of skill and perserverance as participants dodged balls, caught speeding globes of rubber and mercilessly attacked their opponents throughout the night.