

Wrestling takes second loss

BY LEXIS SHULL
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Clackamas Community College's wrestling team lost 3-44 to Oregon State University Jan. 25 in the Beavers' territory. The loss was Clackamas' second of the season after their loss to Northeastern Oklahoma on Jan. 10, which broke the team's three year perfect record.

The team came in knowing they were the underdogs to the Division I team, but fought hard throughout the dual.

"What we talked about downstairs before we came up was just go out and fight hard, put on a good show for fans, and make it as competitive as we can," Head Coach Josh Rhoden said. "There are some weights where we knew we were going to be outmatched no matter what we did because they just have better athletes. I think we put on a good show in several ways so I'm pretty proud of some guys performances."

Despite the dual taking place in Corvallis, Clackamas' fan base traveled well.

"Cougar Country was well represented," Rhoden said. "It was the loudest it got all night in Gill Coliseum with our win at [197 pounds.] It showed we had a good contingent of people there including athletic director [Jim Martineau] and our dean. It was cool to see everybody out there supporting."

Joey Daniel was the only one to come out of the dual with a win. Successfully staying in position and pushing through, despite getting tired, as he described, "I just went in with an open mind and I thought the guy was going to be tough," Daniel said. "Like always and every match is tougher, but I just went in there I did what I had to do and I came out."

Even though Daniel was the only official win of the night, Rhoden felt like Clackamas should have had two. The controversy stemmed from the 157-pound match featuring CCC's Joel Romero and OSU's Zech Bresser. Romero was disqualified for an illegal slam which Bresser was not able to recover from. Division I schools have the choice to use replay to review calls but it is up to the host school. OSU is one of the few schools to not use replay, according to Rhoden. With no replay available, referee Tommy Kennedy's rule of an illegal slam stood.

"We watched it back that night and the next morning I saw Kennedy, who's a great official, and he asked me, 'what'd you see' and I said 'Bresser's hand touched first'," Rhoden said. "In that case he's trying to recover and that would not be considered an illegal slam. Without being able to break it down like we were in slow-mo Tommy

couldn't have known that in real time."

Freshman Jason Shaner also had an outstanding match at Oregon State with a six point throw. However, the points were withdrawn because it allegedly was too aggressive and caused injury to the other player. Shaner said about the incident, "There was just some calls that could have went my way. There's a throw for 6 points that if they wouldn't have taken it away it would have been my match". Coming into the dual, Shaner said, "I expected them to be tough. I didn't really care though, I just wanted to go out there and fight no matter what."

The team is headed to Idaho for the West District Championships on Feb. 10, and there are a couple of things that need to be executed in order for the players to qualify for NJCAA National Championships in March. Shaner states: "We need to keep wrestling every day, keep getting a good work out in, get in shape, and work on our position wrestling in order to prepare for the West District Championship". Daniel comments that he needs to "Start training hard and not slack off through practices. When it gets hard don't break and keep on going through it because at the end of the day it's going to benefit me".

photos by Jonathan Villagomez



A match between the Beavers and Cougars. Associate head coach Brett Sanchez watches from the sidelines.

