

Wrestling 2020-21 Recaps

Five MCC Wrestlers Named 2021 Scholar All-Americans

June 25 @ 8:00 am

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Five Muskegon Community College freshmen wrestlers were named 2021 Scholar- All-Americans by the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) on June 16.

To receive for this honor, a wrestler must have qualified for the 2020-21 National Junior College Athletic Association Wrestling Championships and have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. MCC ranked sixth nationally with its five honorees.

The Jayhawk Scholar All-Americans, who wrestled for MCC Head Coach Mark Brunger this season, are:

Kael Bunce, Stockbridge, MI/Stockbridge High School

Wrestling at 149, Bunce posted a 10-4 record while winning the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) Conference championship and being named the Conference Freshman of the Year. He qualified for nationals and finished 2-2, one match away from placing.

Julian Jimenez, Holland/Holland West Ottawa

Competing at 157, Jimenez went 9-4 this season, captured MCCA Conference title and qualified for nationals.

Glen Kuharevicz, Muskegon, MI/Muskegon Catholic Central

Wrestling at 174, Kuharevicz was the MCCA Conference runner-up, qualified for nationals, and closed with a 3-8 season record.

Bronsen Jewell, Grand Haven, MI/Grand Haven High School

Competing at 184, Jewell had a 12-3 season record, won the MCCA Conference championship, and qualified for nationals where he went 2-2, one match away from placing.

Kayleb Venema, Whitehall, MI/Whitehall High School

Wrestling at 197, Venema had a 4-3 record, captured the MCCA Conference championship, and qualified for nationals where he went 2-2, one match away from placing.

Wrestling NJCAA National Championship

April 21 - April 22

Jayhawk wrestlers have solid showing at National Tournament.

The MCC Jayhawks traveled to the NJCAA National Championships with 9 wrestlers looking to have a great showing. The Jayhawks finished in 21st place, holding off conference rivals Henry Ford and Mott who tied for 22nd. "We went out with hopes of a top 20 finish and some of our guys earning All-American Honors," said Coach Brunger. "While falling just short of our goals, I am extremely proud of these guys. They battled through injuries, quarantines, schedule changes and cancellations all season. We made it through the season, picking up a conference

championship and qualifying all 10 weight classes to the national tournament. That makes for a good season alone. We also went out and really battled through some tough draws and had 5 guys almost finish as All-Americans, and all the others make it to the 3rd round of the tournament. Everyone contributed to the success we did have out there.” Bronsen Jewell of Grand Haven and Kayleb Venema of Whitehall both finished in the top 12 in the nation and were 2-2 at the national tournament. Also finishing 2-2 were Jamison Ward of Carson City-Crystal, Kael Bunce of Stockbridge and Allen Powers of Whitehall, all good for top 16 finishes. The Jayhawks were also the highest placing team to finish without any All-Americans which is a great testament to just how good the team was in terms of depth. Combine that with the fact that all 10 national qualifiers are returning for next season means the future is bright for these Jayhawks.

MCC Sends Nine Wrestlers to National Tournament

April 20 @ 12:00 am

MCC Sends Nine Wrestlers to National Tournament

Nine Muskegon Community College wrestlers will compete at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Wrestling Championships on April 21-22 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Jayhawk national participants by weight class are:

125 – Alex Cantu, sophomore, Muskegon, MI/Orchard View
141 – Jamison Ward, freshman, Carson City, MI/Carson City
149 – Kael Bunce, freshman, Stockbridge, MI/Stockbridge
157 – Alec Sampson, freshman, Wilmington, N.C./Hoggard
165 – Julian Jimenez, freshman, Holland, MI/West Ottawa
174 – Glen Kuharevicz, freshman, Muskegon, MI/Muskegon Catholic
184 – Bronson Jewell, freshman, Grand Haven, MI/Grand Haven
197 – Kayleb Venema, freshman, Whitehall, MI/Whitehall
HWT – Allen Powers, freshman, Whitehall, MI/Whitehall

Another Jayhawk, Richard Ostrander, a freshman from Big Rapids, MI and Chippewa Hills High School, qualified for nationals at 133 pounds, but could not make the trip due to being quarantined for COVID.

MCC captured the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) championship on April 3, when seven Jayhawks won individual titles.

Wrestling at Great Lakes District-THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

April 10 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

This event was cancelled by the host school.

Wrestling Home MCCAA Championship

April 3 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Jayhawks crown 7 champions and claim team championship.

The 19th ranked Jayhawks won the team championship of the MCCA Conference. To do so, they had to out wrestle two teams that were ranked ahead of them in the national rankings, Mott coming in at 18th and Henry Ford at 15th. On their path to the team championship, they also crowned 7 champions. "This squad is really coming together and peaking at the right time," said Coach Brunger. "Last year we lost the conference for the first time since its reinstatement, it was definitely a goal to get that title back home here in Muskegon."

Winning individual championships were Alex Cantu (Orchard View) at 133, Kael Bunce (Stockbridge) at 149, Alec Sampson (Wilmington, NC) at 157, Julian Jimenez (Holland West Ottawa) at 165, Bronsen Jewell (Grand Haven) at 184, Kayleb Venema (Whitehall) at 197 and Allen Powers (Whitehall) at 285. Finishing 2nd was Glen Kuharevicz (Muskegon Catholic Central) at 174. Richard Ostrander (Chippewa Hills) 125, and Jamison Ward (Carson City Crystal) at 141 both finished third. Kael Bunce was also named Freshman of the year for the conference and Coach Brunger was named coach of the year. Full results can be found at www.trackwrestling.com by browsing tournaments and searching MCCA.

The Muskegon Community College Jayhawks are next in action on Saturday 4/10/21 at Saint Clair County Community College for the Great Lakes District Championships.

Wrestling at Mott Duals

March 20 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Three Jayhawk wrestlers win titles at Mott Bear Invitational

The Muskegon Community College Jayhawks entered wrestlers in six weight classes Saturday and brought home championships in three of those weights. "I'm very happy with the continued progress of the team this week," said Coach Brunger. "We still have plenty to work on as we strive to improve week to week."

Winning their weights were Alex Cantu (Orchard View HS) at 133, Julian Jimenez (Holland West Ottawa HS) at 165 and Jake Renfer (Manton HS) at 197. Finishing 2nd were Jamison Ward (Carson City Crystal HS) at 149, Paulo Dragin (Gahanna, OH) at 165, Bronsen Jewell (Grand Haven HS) at 184, Alex Trim (Mason County Central HS) at 197 and Kayleb Venema (Whitehall HS) at 285. Richard Ostrander (Chippewa Hills) at 133 finished in 3rd place.

Full results can be found at www.trackwrestling.com by browsing tournaments and searching Mott on 03/20/21. The Muskegon Community College Jayhawks are next in action on Saturday 3/27/21 at Henry Ford College.

Wrestling at Henry Ford Duals

March 13 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Jayhawks have 5 champions at Henry Ford.

The Muskegon Community College Jayhawks entered wrestlers in 7 weight classes over the weekend and crowned 5 champions at the Hawks Invite.

Winning their weights were Alex Cantu (Orchard View HS) at 125, Kael Bunce (Stockbridge HS) at 149 Alec Sampson (Wilmington, NC) at 165, Bronsen Jewell (Grand Haven HS) at 184 and Ty Devón Hill (Stevensville Lakeshore HS) at 197. Finishing 2nd were Julian Jimenez (Holland West

Ottawa HS) at 165 and Jake Renfer (Manton HS) at 197. 3rd place finishers were Glen Kuharevicz (Muskegon Catholic Central HS) at 174, Alex Trim (Mason County Central HS) at 197 and Allen Powers (Whitehall HS) at 285. 4th place finishers were Richard Ostrander (Chippewa Hills HS) at 125 and Kyler Kolk (Fremont HS) at 174. Full results can be found at www.trackwrestling.com by browsing tournaments and searching Hawks Invite on 03/13/21.

"We got up on the wave last week after a rough start and continued to ride it this week," said Coach Mark Brunger. "The key will be holding our focus and continue to improve each week as we push toward the national tournament."

Wrestling Home Stenberg Duals

March 6 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wrestlers beat St. Clair County CC 46-3, Lose 24-21 to #19 Henry Ford

The MCC Jayhawks finished 1-1 as a team for the day. They opened with a 21-24 loss to 19th ranked Henry Ford College, although they won 6 of the 10 matches in the dual. Against St. Clair County Community College, they dropped the opening bout by a decision and then rattled off 9 straight wins, routing the Skippers 46-3. "We were encouraged by some improvement from last week against Henry Ford, but what we saw from the team against SC4 was awesome, they were just feeding off each other's energy. I'm very proud of how this team is starting to come together." said coach Mark Brunger. "SC4 defeated Henry Ford just last week, so to notch a win like that in dominating fashion against the team that is on top of the MCCA standings was special." The day was highlighted by undefeated performances by 7 MCC wrestlers. Those wrestlers were Jamison Ward (Carson City Crystal) 2-0, Kael Bunce (Stockbridge) 2-0, Alec Sampson (Wilmington, NC) 2-0, Julian Jimenez (Holland West Ottawa) 3-0, Paulo Dragin (Gahanna, OH) 2-0, Bronsen Jewell (Grand Haven) 2-0, Allen Powers (Whitehall) 2-0.

Wrestling at SC4 Duals

February 27 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Jayhawk Wrestlers finish 1-1 at the Skipper Duals to open the season.

The MCC Jayhawks were happy to finally be competing on the mat for the first time this season. They took a tough loss in the opening dual 43-3 to Triton College of River Grove, IL, but they bounced back against Mott Community College with a 41-12 victory to even their season record at 1-1.

The day was highlighted by the performance of Bronsen Jewell of Grand Haven. Bronsen finished the day with a 3-0 record. Other wrestlers with winning records on the day were Alex Cantu (Orchard View) at 2-1, Alec Sampson of (Wilmington, NC) at 2-1 and Allen Powers (Whitehall) at 2-1.

"It was good to finally shake the rust off, but we are a better team than what we showed today. It will be good to get into the practice room and make the adjustments needed to be sharper next weekend." said head coach Mark Brunger, who is in the first season of his second stanza at the helm of the Muskegon Jayhawk wrestling program.

The Jayhawks will see action on Saturday, 3/6 when they host the Stenberg Duals at home. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19, there will not be any fans allowed in the building.