

## NATYCAA | CORNER

I would like to invite all NATYCAA members to encourage everyone in their conference, region and district to join NATYCAA. Please share with them the benefits of belonging to an organization that will give them an opportunity to develop professionally. One of the benefits that I feel is important is the opportunity to network; not only with those in the NJCAA, but also with those in California and the Northwest. We cannot put a value on the experiences of the members of NATYCAA. There is a wealth of information that is shared between members. The NATYCAA Cup is another reason for people to join. Ron Case, athletics director at Gloucester County College, has done an outstanding job of bringing national recognition to the two-year colleges in the United States. Individual memberships give individuals an opportunity to be voting members of the organization. Region membership is non-voting, but qualifies for the NATYCAA Cup. Also, remind members and non-members about our Annual Convention that will be held in Anaheim, Calif., in June. More details will be coming about the Convention. John Volek is doing a great job of bringing in some very special guests. It promises to be one of the best NATYCAA Conventions ever.



Carl Heinrich



Below I have included important and valuable information from all the community colleges across the United States. I hope you enjoy hearing what's going on all around us. If anyone has any questions about NATYCAA, please contact any of the executive committee for information. Have a great year!

### CCCAA

The California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) is undergoing perhaps the most significant fiscal challenges ever and each district and college is forced to re-examine every aspect of its operation to ensure fiscal efficiency. We are already aware of significant reductions in class offerings, elimination of inter and/or summer sessions, travel restrictions or limitations, vacant positions that will not be filled, increase in fees and the loss of 26 athletics teams statewide to date. The system has withstood an attempt to "de-value" physical education in funding and there is no guarantee that another attempt won't resurface. It clearly is not "business as usual" in the CCCAA system.

In February 2009, the Commission on Athletics (COA) Board approved a system-wide reduction in maximum contests for all sports amounting to an estimated \$1.5 million in savings. In June 2009, in addition to extending the reduction of contest limits until 2012, the COA Board reviewed the remaining initial cost containment recommendations and charged the Management Council with developing additional recommendations in an attempt to maximize revenue and limit expenditures in the operations of CCCAA athletics programs. The task fell to the Competition Committee of the Management Council and several conference calls were held in an effort to identify additional cost saving and revenue enhancing recommendations. The Management Council called an emergency cost containment summit in Ontario, Calif., that was held Sept. 24-25, 2009. The meeting brought together the Management Council as well as members of the Competition, Post Conference Review and selected representatives of the Conferencing Committees. The discussions were guided in part by a review of a preliminary set of recommendations as a result of previous conference calls of the Competition Committee. Additionally, the COA/CCCAA office presented a detailed five-year

financial report of regional and state post-conference events along with a series of recommendations regarding fiscal operation of post-conference. The recommendations contained in this summary are the result of significant discussion and deliberation by the governing body charged with operational control and representing athletics conferences, sport group liaisons, affiliate organizations and state office personnel. The recommendations and report were presented at the Management Council meeting scheduled at the fall meeting in October, at which time additional membership feedback was solicited.

It is also anticipated that the Conferencing Committee will present a preliminary report to the Management Council at the fall meeting.

### NJCAA

With more than 525 colleges nationwide, the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) kicked off the 2009-10 year with the new NJCAA 360°, the official weekly Web show of the NJCAA. Each week, NJCAA 360° takes a comprehensive look at the colleges and student-athletes of the NJCAA. In-season sports take center stage as the show breaks down weekly rankings and recognizes the players of the week. Additionally, the show features two Leaders for Life student-athletes each week to highlight their skills on the field, in the classroom and around the community.

Exemplifying the achievements of our 525 member colleges and 54,364 student-athletes, the NJCAA expanded its reach with the addition of social networking pages through Facebook ([www.facebook.com/njcaa](http://www.facebook.com/njcaa)) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/njcaa>). These new outlets further promote the NJCAA's brand and help to display current NJCAA news and up-to-date results from the 48 national championships.

Using these new methods to promote two-year athletics and reach out to current and potential student-athletes, coaches, administrators and fans, the NJCAA has witnessed positive feedback and awareness of our member colleges around the country.

### NWAACC

Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) is the governing body for junior/community colleges in Washington and Oregon. It is comprised of 35 member colleges from Coos Bay, Ore. to Spokane, Wash. It sanctions nine sports for both men and women. The NWAACC is divided into four regions that set their own schedules and operating procedures that guide the insitutions in that particular region. The basic structure is the framework for opportunities provided to student-athletes, coaches, administrators and partners. For our student-athletes, community college athletics provide an opportunity to extend their playing career and hone their athletics skills while receiving a top quality education. This opportunity will potentially springboard the student-athlete to a four-year university or straight into the ranks of the employed.

There are several options for supporting the NWAACC. For the coaches and administrators, the NWAACC is an opportunity to express their passion for their sport or athletes. For the partners, the NWAACC represents an opportunity to reach out to more than 285,000 community college students and more than 3,700 student-athletes.

Thanks for this article to Carl Heinrich, director of athletics at Johnson County Community College and NATYCAA President.