For Immediate Release
February 12, 2007
For More Info. Contact: Bob Frischmann, Sports Info. Director (314) 984 7306

Wrestlers Earn 2nd Place At Central Zone: 8 Headed To Nationals

The St. Louis C.C. - Meramec wrestling team made a strong showing at the post season Central Zone Tournament at Triton College in the Chicago area Sunday, winning a second place team trophy and qualifying eight of ten weight classes for nationals.

Meramec scored 133 1/2 team points, barely missing the team championship to nationally top-ranked Harper, who had 139 1/2 points. Lincoln College was a distant third behind Meramec with 109 points.

Headed to the NJCAA National Tournament Feb. 23-24 in Rochester, Minn. is: 133 lb. Darrin Green (Oakville) who finished second (only the top four finishers in each weight class qualify for nationals), 141 lb. Peter Koelinger (Webster Groves) who came in fourth, 149 lb. Kyle Foley (Oakville) who finished third, 165 lb. Jose Caceres (Miami-Killian) who won a third place medal, 174 lb. Jason Akers (Parkway South) who came in third, 184 lb. Mitch Barnett (Liberty, MO) who also came in third, 197 lb. Ryan Sutton (Oakville) who took a second place, and heavyweight Cedric Powell (Duncan, OK) who won first place.

Newcomer Gabriel Edwards, a recent addition to the team at 125 lbs., earned a fifth place finish but did not qualify. Nick Hanify (Washington, MO) won a sixth place medal at 157 lbs. but did not qualify.

At the National Tournament, longtime Magic volunteer coach David Mirikitani will be inducted into the NJCAA Wrestling Hall Of fame for his contributions and achievements as a wrestler, national board member, and coach. David will join his father, Ron, who was previously inducted into the Hall. Ron Mirikitani is in his 37th year as Meramec head coach.

Meramec finished the season 10-2 in dual meets and is ranked fifth nationally.