



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Former Colby Community College star wrestler Daniel Cormier (pictured here at the Daniel Cormier Open at the college on Nov. 1) was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame on Feb. 28 during the Division 1 junior college national championships in Rochester, Minn.

Former Trojan wrestler selected for hall of fame

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Daniel Cormier became the fourth former Colby Community College wrestler to be inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame at the junior college Division 1 nationals on Feb. 28, in Rochester, Minn.

Cormier wrestled for the Trojans in 1998 and 1999. He won the national championship in the 190-pound class his freshman year and at 197 as a sophomore. The Trojans won their only national championship in 1999. Cormier never lost a match to a junior college opponent while wrestling for Colby, said Coach Steve Lampe.

This was the first time Cormier had been on the hall of fame ballot, said Lampe. Former wrestlers are not eligible for the hall of fame

until ten years after they last competed at the junior college level.

Other former Colby wrestlers who have been picked for the hall of fame include Rory Cahoj in 1995, 150 pounds; Peter Yee in 2004, at 142; and Colothian Tate in 2008 at 134.

Lampe is also a junior college hall of famer. He was voted into the hall of fame as a coach in 1990.

After leaving Colby, Cormier traveled to Stillwater, Okla. to wrestle for Oklahoma State University. While wrestling for the school placed second in the 2001 national championships.

After graduating from college Cormier continued to add to his list of accomplishments. These achievements include placing fourth while representing the United States in the 2004 Olympic Games, qualifying for the 2008 Olympics, being on the last six

U.S. World Teams, U.S. Olympic Team Trials Champion in 2008; four-time U.S. World Team Trials Championships, six-time U.S. Nationals Champion, three-time Sunkist Kids International Open Champion, Pan American gold medalist in 2003; Pan American Championships Champion in 2002; two-time Dave Schultz Memorial International Champion, Ivan Yargin Memorial International Champion in 2005; Boutiatyr Grand Prix Champion (Russia) in 2004; and World Bronze Medalist in 2007.

Lampe said he likes the recognition having former Colby wrestlers in the hall of fame brings to the college wrestling program.

"It does good justice for our program," he said.

This year, the college named a tournament it hosts after Cormier, the Daniel Cormier Open took place on Nov. 1.

Rocky's rally in ninth inning; tying Kansas City Royals 9-9

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Ubaldo Jimenez sizzled in the World Baseball Classic, then fizzled against Kansas City.

The Colorado Rockies hard-throwing right-hander was roughed up by the Royals on Tuesday, only to have his team erase a three-run deficit in the ninth for a 9-9 tie in 10 innings.

Carlos Gonzalez capped the comeback by lining a two-out single, scoring two runs — the second on right fielder Joe Dickerson's error when he bobbled the ball. Dexter Fowler, hustling on the play, scored from first.

"I was just trying to make good contact and everything went well," Gonzalez said. "Dexter did a great job, never stopping."

Jimenez was making his first appearance since his sensational start for the Dominican Republic in the WBC last week, setting a tournament record with 10 strikeouts in four innings during an extra-inning loss to the Netherlands.

He couldn't carry over his command, fading near the end of his 4 2-3-inning stint. Jimenez gave up

eight runs and six hits while striking out four. "I got tired a little bit," said Jimenez, who's being counted on by Colorado to fill the No. 2 spot in the rotation. "I guess I ran out of gas."

Fatigue from the WBC? "I don't want to use excuses," he said. "It just happened."

Kyle Davies knows the feeling. The Royals starter was hit hard by the Rockies, surrendering six hits and five runs in three innings. Davies entered with a 0.71 ERA, the second-lowest in the Cactus League. Now it's ballooned to 3.45.

"I didn't command my fastball too well," Davies said. "I threw one good, two bad. That's not a good recipe for success — not at this level."

Todd Helton's balky back keeps steadily improving, his power returning along with it.

The Colorado first baseman homered for the second straight

day, a towering solo shot to left field.

"He hit that one about 500 feet," Davies said. "He's one of the best hitters in the league."

Helton struggled with a disk problem in his lower back last season, and numbness in his left leg robbed him of his ability to push off and drive the ball. He landed on the disabled list and then on the operating table.

With the pressure off the nerve, he's finding his power swing again. Helton has a team-leading three home runs this spring.

Colorado's Troy Tulowitzki also had a big afternoon at the plate, hitting his first home run of the spring. Ryan Spilborghs laced a solo shot as well.

Miguel Olivo drove in four runs for Kansas City, including a three-run homer off Jimenez in the fourth. Mitch Maier added a three-run triple.

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