



## 2008 Cerritos College Wrestling

### COACHING STAFF



### **DON GARRIOTT** HEAD COACH

Don Garriott starts his third season as the Cerritos College head wrestling coach and in his two seasons he has led the team to the South Coast Conference championship and Southern California Championship. In his first year, the team finished fourth at the state championships and improved to second place last year. Under his guidance, the Falcons have added one more individual state champion to their total. Familiar with the Falcon's winning tradition, Garriott faced it firsthand while he was a wrestler at El Camino College from 1986-88. In his two seasons with the Warriors, Garriott was a two-time All-American while wrestling at 126 pounds and also earned 1st Team All-South Coast Conference both seasons. He moved on to California State University, Chico, where he was a two-time Division II All-American at 134 pounds and won the conference

championship both seasons.

His wrestling career continued at the national level, where he was a 1996 Olympic Trials Western Regional Runner-up at 125.5 pounds and was a United States Freestyle place winner. While at West Torrance High School, Garriott was a CIF Champion and placed fourth in the State Meet as a senior.

In addition to his coaching duties with the Falcons, Garriott will continue to serve as the head wrestling coach at North Torrance High School, where he has been since 1991. In his time at North Torrance, Garriott has coached four CIF champions, five CIF runner-ups and 12 league champions. From 1995-98, he served as an assistant coach at Golden West College, where they won the 1996 South Coast Conference championships.

Garriott earned his Bachelor's degree in English Literature at Cal State Dominguez Hills and earned his Master's degree in Special Education from National University. Garriott and his wife of 17 years, Deanne, have a four-year-old son, Cael and newborn Caden ■





**ERIC GOULD**  
ASSISTANT COACH

Joining the Cerritos College coaching staff for his third season is Eric Gould, who is another coach with a successful competitive and coaching career. While attending Springfield (MA) College, Gould was a two-time NCAA All-American (1996-97), was his team's captain and won the New England Conference championship his senior year. Gould was also selected as a three-time NCAA Scholar All-American and was recently inducted into the New England Conference Hall of Fame.

He remained at Springfield College and served as an assistant coach from 1998-2002 and coached seven NCAA All-Americans during his tenure. His teams also finished in the Top 10 of the NCAA Championships twice and had two other teams place in the Top 20, while they went on to win three New England Conference championships. Individually, Gould had 13 of his wrestlers win conference championships.

After taking a year off from coaching, Gould resurfaced at Torrance High School, where he was a varsity assistant wrestling coach from 2004-05 and has been a health and physical education teacher there since 2003. Gould earned his Bachelor's degree in Health/Fitness and Master's degree in Physical Education from Springfield College. ■



**JESSE JUAREZ**  
ASSISTANT COACH

After serving as an assistant coach with the Falcons in 2006, Jesse Juarez is back for his second year with the staff. Juarez had a great deal of success while competing at the community college level. After graduating from North Torrance High School, where he was an All-American at 171 pounds and finished second in the CIF Championships and seventh in the national tournament, Juarez transferred to Golden West College. In his freshman year of 2000, he placed seventh at the state championships, but went on to win the 184-pound state championship in 2001 and was named the South Wrestler of the Year. While in high school, Juarez was a three-time freestyle National Team Member and was selected as a National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) All-American.

Juarez then moved on to Montana State University-Northern, where he was a two-time NAIA All-American and won the national championship at 184 pounds in 2005. He placed fifth as a junior and concluded his collegiate career by earning Academic All-American honors.

He started his coaching career at Montana State University-Northern upon graduation and helped coach the team to a fourth place finish in the national championships and has spent the last two years coaching at North Torrance High, where they went on to win the CIF Championship one year. ■



**OMAR GAITAN**  
ASSISTANT COACH

In his first year as an assistant coach with Cerritos College, Omar Gaitan is just one year removed from his collegiate career. While at the University of California-Davis, Gaitan was a three-year varsity starter and also qualified for the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships twice. In his junior and senior years, he was ranked nationally in the Top 20 and was a University Nationals Freestyle All-American. He was also the Team Captain as a senior. While at Katella High School, Gaitan was a two-time state qualifier and also won the CIF Championship as a senior.

Gaitan earned his Bachelor's degree from UC Davis in Spanish with double minors in Communications and Education. He is currently working in his Special Education Credential and Master's degree in Education as National University. In addition to his position with the Falcons, Gaitan will also be in his second year as an assistant wrestling coach at Cypress High School. ■

