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Davis Martin, 28, right, plays in a 3x3 basketball tournament with his brothers during Hoopla outside the Oregon State Capitol in Salem. The Martin brothers are originally from Silverton.

Hoopla is a family tradition for Silverton's Martin brothers

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For the Martin family, competitiveness is in the blood.

So is basketball.

The Martin brothers — Taylor, Andrew, Davis and Jason — have made Hoopla a family tradition, and they are at it again this weekend in the Family Competitive division.

Although they have been successful, with six titles in nine years, it isn't really about the winning for the Martins.

"The point is to be out there as brothers and having fun with the other families out there," Taylor said. "Just playing basketball and being in a good environment. It's a great environment."

Taylor and Andrew are twins, and at 31, they have always played basketball together.

Both played together at Silverton High School, and later at George Fox University.

"Taylor and I competed really hard early on. We were just super competitive being twins, always compared to each other. But we have a great group of friends that we have been playing with for a long time," Andrew said. "Playing with Taylor was awesome, of course. But just always playing with a close group of friends was always great."

Davis, 28, and Jason, 25, followed in their brothers' footsteps, both playing at Silverton and George Fox.

"You definitely look up to them and learn a lot from them. I got to high school, and started figuring out other stuff I could do, but it was off the foundation of learning off of them," Davis said. "I kind of wanted to burn my own path, do something different, but George Fox was a good fit, close to home. I was a freshman when (Taylor and Andrew) were seniors, so I could play another year with them. That had a little bit to do with it, but yeah, it just worked out."

Growing up in a basketball family, the four brothers were always competitive with each other. But among all the competition, there was always love and respect.

Jason, the youngest, remembers being a passionate fan of his older brothers when he was a young kid.

"I grew up always going to all of their games, just hitch along with mom and dad. I enjoyed it. I would get pretty fired up in the stands, yelling at refs, not knowing what I was doing when I was little," said Jason, who played two seasons at Chemeketa Community College before transferring to George Fox. "But it was all for competitiveness, and passion for the game, and passion for my brothers. It was always a really good experience, and it's had a huge impact on my life."

Now all grown up, the brothers remain competitive in all aspects of life, whether it be basketball or card games.

Hoopla gives the Martins a chance to not only play the game they love, but also



Andrew Martin, 31, plays in a 3x3 basketball tournament.

a chance to come together in a competitive and fun environment.

"They are still learning from us. We're trying to teach them to play basketball the right way," Andrew joked about Davis and Jason. "In all honesty, these guys are really good, and it's been fun. I remember playing 3-on-2 in the backyard, dad and these two against Taylor and I. It's been fun to watch them do their thing as well."

"Hoopla is a blast. We've been playing it forever, even before we did family," Andrew added. "Just being together is very fun because we just get to spend that time together that we otherwise wouldn't. Basketball is great, but family is more important to us."

Jason now helps operate his in-laws'

restaurant and lodge in Alaska during the summers, but he always makes sure to be in Salem for Hoopla weekend.

In fact, Jason arrived at 5 a.m. Saturday, took a quick nap, and was ready to go.

"I told my wife when we decided to go up to Alaska every summer that this is the one weekend I needed off every year," Jason said. "We're trying to keep the tradition going."

There is no timetable for how long the brothers will keep the Hoopla tradition.

"As long as our bodies allow," Jason said. "The plan is to keep doing it as long as we can. And I'm sure once we get old, we'll try a 40-and-older, or 50-and-older. When it's all said and done, who knows how many years we'll have into it."



Jason Martin, 25, plays in a 3x3 basketball tournament.