

Geister and Schneider --the team motivators

By Ann Breynie and Randy Frank of The Print

Ron Geister and Rocky Schneider have many things in common. They are both wrestlers, both have winning records, and both plan to continue wrestling throughout college.

"Both Ron and Rocky are very dedicated. They really hold the team together," Head Coach Rich Taylor said. "The team looks to them for direction."

Schneider has been a big part of the College's wrestling and football programs since coming to Clackamas as a freshman from Churchill High School in 1977.

On a team that won the State title, took third in Regionals and participated in the National Tournament, Schneider won the individual 167 pound class in the State tournament and took third in Regionals, while compiling a 22-10 record.

This season Schneider has a 17-11-1 record in a season that has thus far been disappointing to him.

"I started wrestling in the

seventh grade because I was always fighting. A P.E. teacher told me to try the wrestling mat as a means for releasing my aggressiveness, so I did," Schneider said.

Success came early as he took first in his district and he looked forward to improving his skills for the following season.

However a broken wrist sidelined him until his sophomore year when the varsity team and some relative success told him to go on.

Schneider showed signs of things to come during his senior year as he compiled a 20-6 record with 3rd in freestyle and 4th in Greco Roman at the state tournament.

Following graduation, Schneider got in contact with Clackamas Community College and Tim Hundley about the possibility of playing football.

About this time Schneider also heard from his high school wrestling coach and heard that Clackamas also had a real good wrestling program.

"I came to Clackamas with one thing in mind and that was

to play football," said Schneider. "The reason for that was that I felt wrestling at that time was really secondary to football and besides I felt I wasn't that good a wrestler."

"But when I got here I decided to give the team a try and I've enjoyed it ever since."

Following his graduation from Clackamas, Schneider hopes to continue playing football and wrestling at a four-year school.

He has received offers from Mesa College in Arizona, Pacific University, Southern Oregon College and Oregon College of Education. The only problem is that Schneider is planning a summer marriage and his finances may not be there.

"My marriage may be a problem, but I suspect that it shouldn't be a big enough problem that I can't go on and at least play football," said Schneider.

"I wouldn't mind going on and continuing with my wrestling but I really hate mixing the two sports because wrestling is

"Also when you get a wrestler with a good attitude it makes more enjoyable because beating them makes you feel that you have accomplished something."

Geister, who boasts a 22-4-2 record is not a stereotype wrestler. Instead of being aggressive he is shy, at least off the mat.

Geister is using wrestling as a means to further his education, not vice versa. He plans to wrestle all through college but not after he graduates.

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fitness and I will continue conditioning even after I'm through with competition," Geister said.

"I don't think I could have wrestled at a four year college right out of high school," Geister said. "I'm hoping for a scholarship for next year though. That's what I'm working for."

Because his dad is a wrestling coach Geister became involved with wrestling at an early age. "I became interested in wrestling when I was about seven but didn't start competing until I was 11," Geister said.

"My first year in high school I felt like I had to wrestle. But I enjoyed it so I had no trouble sticking with it," Geister said.

"College wrestling is a lot different from high school. You're on your own. The coach isn't there to tell you when to run or whatever. I like it better this way."

Geister also cites other differences in college and high school wrestling. In high school there was more dependence on strength, not moves. In college

there is more quality and nique."

Winning takes as hard exemplified by the team's hour workouts every day. Geister additionally runs four miles a day on his own.

"I don't lift weights," Geister explains, "because wrestling does a good job toning. Wrestling teaches discipline and conditioning. "But," he emphasizes, "I am not a wrestling addict."

"It's bad to say but you're wrestling it comes



Ron Geister

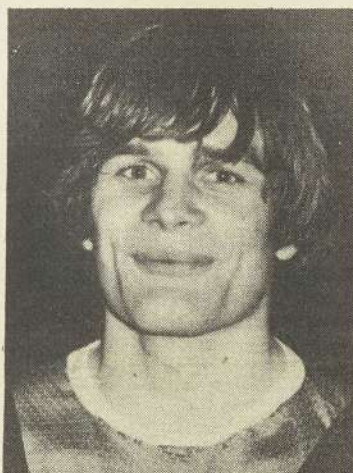
and school is second. There just no time because of tournaments every week. We meet on the add days," Geister said.

Geister hopes for a scholarship to Chico State in California. This year Chico State tied for second at the Willamette State University and Sacramento in wrestling. Geister hopes to help them win next year.

"I know Rocky better than Ron. He's the kind of guy who will work as hard as he can. He'll wrestle at any weight he wants," Taylor said.

Ron is the same way. He lacks a little confidence, but he were to realize his potential go a long way," Taylor said. If he did have that confidence nobody could beat him."

"It is a credit to both of them that they're willing to improve which makes them just improving." Taylor said.



Rocky Schneider

such an emotional sport that when you mix the two sports your academics will suffer."

"Wrestling is enjoyable because there are a lot of nice people who get involved with wrestling and can share a common love for the sport," Schneider said.

Hoopsters move into third spot

The Clackamas Community College Mens basketball team moved into third place in league standings this past week with victories over Blue Mountain Community College and Linn-Benton Community College.

In the game against Blue Mountain in Pendleton on Feb. 2, Clackamas trailed 66-60 with seven minutes to play before rallying to win 83-75.

The Cougar rally began when Blue Mountain's attempts to stall fell apart at Clackamas defensive pressure. They committed several costly turnovers and Clackamas was able to capitalize for a 73-72 lead with three minutes to play.

Preston Martin enjoyed his best game of the season as the sophomore center from Rex Putnam High School connected on 13 of 20 shots for 30 points and 15 rebounds.

Dan Slick added 24 and Tom Tirrill added 7 assists to help with the victory.

In the game against Linn-Benton on Friday, Feb 4 at Page 10

home Clackamas trailed at the half 35-33 but came on strong in the final twenty minutes for an 87-77 victory.

Preston Martin had his second strong game as he scored 18 points, on 9 of 14 from the field, and grabbed 22 rebounds.

The wins put Clackamas into sole possession of third place with a 6-6 record. But they trail first place Central Oregon and Lane by five games as they have 11-1 marks.

Clackamas faces a couple of weekend clashes, hosting Chemeketa Friday and visiting Judson Baptist Saturday.

Chemeketa will try and avenge a 97-62 whipping that the Cougars gave the Chiefs earlier this year.

In the Cougars' previous meeting with Judson Baptist, Clackamas won going away, 85-62. Judson Baptist is led by forward Tom Kahle, who is one of the top ten scorers in the nation with an average of nearly 27 points a game.



Photo by Brian Smith Clackamas Community College

