

Soccer co-captain finds help through loving athletic family

McKenzie Creamer makes plans to take her skills to the university level while still finding time for the things that keep her grounded

Jess Sheppard

The Clackamas Print

Athletics run strong in the family of Clackamas soccer player McKenzie Creamer.

"I grew up with nine brothers and sisters. Everyone played growing up, and I have been watching since I was born, so it was in my blood to play," Creamer said.

Creamer played soccer on the varsity team for three years at West Salem High School. She went on to win at State her senior year in Farmington, Conn. She has also played basketball, and participated in track for two years.

Family continues to be an important part of her life.

"They are my number-one fans, as well as my favorite fans!" she said. "I always play better when

they are there to watch."

Creamer has three brothers and six sisters, all of whom have played sports at some time in their lives. Two of her sisters became a special inspiration when they qualified to play in Division 1.

Of all the things she likes about soccer, Creamer particularly enjoys the human aspect of the game.

"It is a challenging sport; every match is different and exciting," she said. "It is amazing — the amount of fun people you meet and the awesome relationships that you build."

At the moment, Creamer has many goals: to play for a university, challenge herself, "enjoy the game every day" and help her team win another championship.

Concerning school, Creamer said, "I signed with Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Mo."

She feels that Clackamas' soccer team had a strong and rewarding season.

"It ... will be in my memories forever because we worked so hard and it paid off in the championship game," she said.

The season was demanding, she added. "Every game was a good game — every game counted."

Creamer meets the challenge of her athletic lifestyle by eating right and staying active, "even if it means playing pick-up games."

As far as hobbies go, she finds pleasure in anything athletic. She also likes spending time with her friends and family.

"Shopping is always therapeutic for me," she said. "There are things that are important to me and that I know will always be around, and that continue to make me happy."

Recently, Creamer traveled to St. Louis to look at colleges where she could carry on playing soccer. At the same time, she spent the Thanksgiving holiday with her boyfriend.

Clackamas' upcoming soccer events include the All-Star game Dec. 1.

"There are things that are important to me and that I know will always be around ..."

McKenzie Creamer
Co-captain



Cut along dotted line for McKenzie Creamer playing card

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11-25-07 — Clackamas 89, Everett 81

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