

Unsung wrestler just keeps on winning

by SCOTT NEWTON

Robert Paul isn't as flashy as some of his teammates, but he has one endearing quality. He gets results.

A third-year varsity wrestler, Paul has a 23-1-1 record.

Though he didn't expect to be on the best dual-meet team in the state, he's not surprised they've been successful.

Paul, Scott Skipper, Larry Topliff and Mike Rohweder have been on the same team since junior high at Cedar Ridge. "It seems like whenever we'd do something, we'd win," Paul said earlier this week.

Coach Ron Calhoun described Paul as a "real hard worker" and "probably the quietest guy I've ever coached."

Calhoun expects him to be the district champion in the 141-pound weight division and even went so far as to say, "If he would be more aggressive he could be a state finalist." Returning champion Junior Taylor of Benson is the odds-on favorite to win the title.

Winning the district tournament and placing at state are goals Paul has set for himself. He's finished fifth in the district tournament the last two years. Last year he lost to the eventual champion by three points.

He's also hoping to do well in freestyle

competition following the high school season, and earning a place on an exchange team like the one that went to West Germany last year wouldn't be bad either.

"Larry (Topliff) and I kind of want to go to the same college," Paul said, "so we wouldn't feel like outcasts, so we'd have someone to talk to."

Paul wants to be a teacher. Winning the prestigious Oregon City Dual Meet Wrestling Tournament has been one of the highlights of his prep career.

"Coach really had a lot to do with it," he said. "He timed it just right. He knew what to do when he got us going."

The wrestlers were making so much noise in the first evening match that the Oregon City coach reportedly complained to the referee about it.

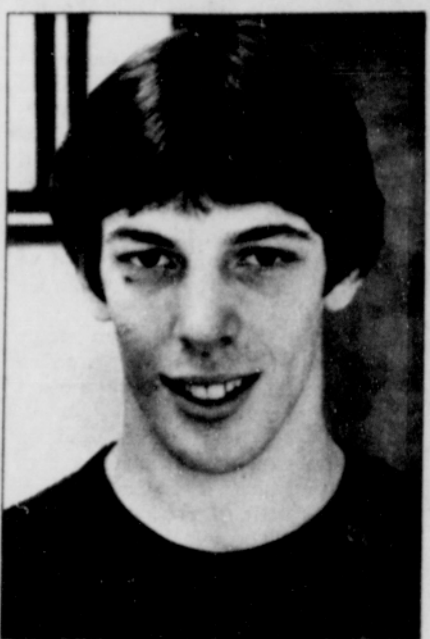
"He (Calhoun) said he wanted us to help each other out by yelling," Topliff explained. "Positive waves is what Skipper calls it."

It worked, with Sandy taking a 34-14 win. "I didn't think we'd beat Oregon City by that much," Paul said. "But we really stomped 'em."

Another highlight for Paul was his match in the finals of the Cardinal Classic in December in Tacoma. He was

all set for a tough match but ended up pinning his opponent in one minute and 26 seconds.

"I felt pretty good after that," he said. Good competition in practice has helped, he said. Working out with



Robert Paul

Rohweder, Brent Kearney and Dan King has helped him because "they're all stronger than I am."

One hard drill is called "firing line." One wrestler stays out, on his feet, for eight minutes while fresh wrestlers go in every 30 seconds. "That's really tough 'cause tempers start rising because everyone's tired and cutting weight."

Though he still gets nervous before matches, Paul said he has more confidence this year.

In a match against a Centennial wrestler last week the score was tied 6-6 in the third period. "I didn't get excited or anything. I knew I could beat him so I just kept cool and kept wrestling." Paul ended up winning 11-6.

His parents are Charles and Bebe Paul of Boring. The Pauls raise "friendly" birds, reptiles and rodents for sale to pet stores.

Right now work at home isn't exactly Paul's most occupying thought. District and state championships are.

He expects Topliff and Chuck Kearney, both with 25-0 records, to be state champions. He figures if some of the other Sandy wrestlers can place high at state, they've got a shot at that coveted title.

"I think we have as good a chance as anyone else," he said.

Sports Challenge called a success

The fifth Sports Challenge, a fund raiser sponsored by the vocal music department at SUHS, was held Saturday at SUHS and was considered a success by Bruce Scarth, vocal music instructor.

He estimated a couple hundred attended, a turnout he called "pretty decent." He said, "I was pleased." Admission was 75 cents for students and \$1.25 for adults.

The senior class won the contest, the sophomores were second, the junior

class third and the freshmen last.

They were judged on such things as an Olympic-style opening, an obstacle course, a tug-of-war, basketball relay and other events.

Judges included Lynn Heurung, Kelly Adovnik, Cindy Pick, Mike Kelly, and Nick and Shirley Roth. The referees were Terry Lenchitsky, Tom Reber and Greg Kostirba.

"I'd just like to thank everyone for turning out to help the music department," Scarth said.

Women's soccer team only lacks a goalie

Things look pretty good for the Sandy women's soccer team, except that they need a goalie.

They were second in their division in the Northwest United Women's Soccer league in the fall with a 6-3-1 record.

They are practicing now

for the spring season, according to Jeanine Blazek. The team is pretty much intact except that they lost their goalie. Blazek said there is no age or experience requirements. Some travel is mandatory. The season starts in late April.

State Farm stopped cold

State Farm Insurance put on a furious fourth-quarter rally in its Sandy Recreation "B" division basketball game against Gresham Cold Storage, but it was two points short as

GSC pulled off an upset, 65-63.

Mike Fitz and Rich McDonald scored 23 and 16 points respectively for State Farm.

Scenic Fruit Co. won two

games and vaulted into sole possession of second place. Scenic Fruit had only five men in uniform, and eventually one fouled out, but they still managed to defeat Williams Thriftway, 71-63.

Brad Masseth played his best game of the season, posting 27 points. Jeff Konell had a 24-point night for Thriftway. In the second game, Scenic Fruit had an easy time with The Flyers, winning 89-73. Larry Dixon and Derek Wilhite scored 30 and 22 points respectively for the victors.

"B" division standings

State Farm Insurance	7	2
Scenic Fruit Co.	5	3
Swartz Moving	4	3
Williams Thriftway	3	6
Mt. Hood Cleaners	2	5
The Flyers	2	8



Photo by Scott Newton

Steve Sarich bends a little bamboo on the way to a first-place finish for SUHS.



The top ranked dual meet team in the state. Back row, from left to right: Scott Skipper, Louis Coy, Chuck Kearney, Bob Wantowski, Joe Betschart, Mike Rohweder, Loren Bateman, Kyle Gibson, Jeff Smith, Frank McKinnis, Mike Kostirba and Chuck Kearney Sr. Middle row,

from left to right: Randy Swanson, Brent Kearney, Robert Paul, Dan King, Tony Barnes and Hui Choi. Front row, from left to right: Brad Emerson, Wayne Reick, John Cox, Dave Gibson, Ron Calhoun, Larry Topliff and Bob Hulin.

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Soccer board meeting set

There will be an open board meeting for the Sandy Cascade Soccer Club on Monday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sandy Senior Center, located at 38348 Pioneer Boulevard.

Parents of youngsters who would like to participate in the youth soccer program this season are invited to attend.

Benefit set for Derby

Pro wrestlers will clash in Sandy High's gym in a "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" to benefit the Sandy Soap Box Derby Feb. 14 at 8 p.m.

The featured event will match the Shiek against Hacksaw Sawyer in an "Iranian death match."

Also on the card will be Billy Jack against Rip Oliver and the Assassin.

In all, approximately a dozen Portland-area wrestlers will appear.

Pioneer boys fall to Scots

The Sandy boys basketball team fell 68-59 to David Douglas Tuesday night. Steve Pettingill scored 19 points.

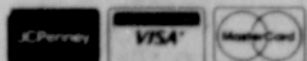
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