

# Area shotputter shines at MSU

By BRAD EMONS

Paul Schneider is what they call "a sleeper."  
The West Bloomfield resident has been more than a pleasant surprise for Michigan State track coach Jim Bilis and assistants Bruce Waha and Jim Gibbard.  
The hard-working 250-pound Schneider has developed into one of the best shot putters and weight lifters in Spartan history.  
Schneider's story is unusual in that he never really took up track and weight lifting seriously until going to college.

In his prep days, Schneider was best known for his swimming skills.  
A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Schneider became one of the top freestyle swimmers in the state while at Baldwin High School.  
The Michigan State senior recorded an outstanding .224 in the 50-yard freestyle while a high school student.  
After high school, Schneider decided to join the Army for two years.  
When he got out, Schneider enrolled at Oakland Community College. He spent two years there but did not make sports headlines at the junior college.  
It was a different story at MSU.

JOINING THE SPARTANS as a

walk-on, Schneider spent long and tedious hours improving his strength and quickness for the shot put event.  
In his first year of freestyle competition, Schneider came into his own by winning a varsity letter and then setting an indoor shot put mark of 56.0% at MSU. Schneider probably will surpass the Spartan outdoor mark this spring.  
Schneider also took fourth place in the Big Ten indoor meet with a toss of 54-1/2 in 1977. Outside, Schneider threw the 16-pound ball 55-3/4.  
The 1978 season has been a good one for Schneider. With a greater off-season weight and fitness program, the West Bloomfield resident attained his personal best at the MSU Relays in February with a toss of 58-0/4. He came in second to Central Michigan's outstanding Bruno Paultetto, the NCAA indoor champion.  
At the MSU Relays, Paultetto threw the iron ball 62-0.  
Schneider has faced Paultetto in a dual meet and also the Central Collegiate at Ypsilanti, always coming in second. Schneider, however, welcomes the competition.  
Paultetto will have to continue to improve because Schneider has gained six feet in distance since taking up the shot.

**14th Rice Relays slated for Saturday**  
The 14th Annual Brother Rice Relays will be held Saturday at Brother Rice High School, on Lahser south of Fourteen Mile.  
The meet is composed entirely of relay competition. Three individuals will compete in all field events and four in all running events.  
There are 14 events. Five of the events are field events, and nine are running events.  
Seventeen schools will participate in the meet. Besides host school Rice, Groves, Andover, Lahser, East Detroit, Ecorse, Harper Woods Notre Dame, North Farmington, Oak Park, Dearborn Edsel Ford, Oxford, Pontiac Northern, River Rouge, Lake Shore, Lakeview, South Lake and Troy.  
Birmingham Groves is defending champion. The Falcons will be attempting to win their fourth consecutive relays title.  
The pole vault relay will begin at 9:30 a.m. The remaining field events will begin at 10 a.m. All running relays start at 1 p.m.

Representing the Minnesota Wrestling Club are Bruce Thompson, Pat Marcy, Dan Chandler and Brad Rheingans—all 1976 Olympians.  
The 1976 Olympic team made the best showing ever in the Greco-Roman style of wrestling.  
Admission for the one-day event is \$1 for students, and \$2 for adults. The meet will last until 5 p.m.

**SCHNEIDER ALSO HAS** gained recognition in weight lifting.  
At 6-1, Schneider began lifting weights three years ago, concentrating on the sport during his summer vacation months.  
With little background in weight lifting, Schneider became the NCAA 275-

# Greco-Roman event to draw top matmen

Michigan's class B wrestling Champion from Troy—Mike Johnson—will lead a list of outstanding wrestlers in the Michigan Wrestling Club's Invitational Greco-Roman Wrestling Tournament scheduled for this weekend at Troy High School.  
Wrestling will begin at noon in the Colt gymnasium, 3179 Livernosis. Many of the 1980 Olympic wrestling hopefuls from Canada and the Midwest will be present.  
For the first time this annual meet is designated as the Central States AAU regional, one of the three regionals in the country. All winners will qualify for the national finals which will be conducted May 5-6 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Among those who will compete at Troy, and later at Minneapolis, are Pete Lee, 350-pound 1976 Olympian who was sixth at the 1977 World Games, and John Matthews, who wrestled both in Montreal and in the 1977

games at 163 pounds. They are both from the Michigan Wrestling Club. A few local wrestlers, besides Johnson, who will be competing include former Athens grappler Ray Bubba Sliwzanski and Troy graduate Mike Chastain. Sliwzanski wrestled briefly at the University of Tennessee and attends Oakland University. Chastain is a former Central Michigan University wrestler.  
Rochester wrestler John Major, who graduated from Rochester High School and is an assistant coach at Oakland, will also be in the meet.  
Other wrestlers from the Detroit area include Masaaki Hatta from Hazel Park, a former NCAA and national AAU champion, two former Royal Oak High School wrestlers, Dennis Kasprovic and Vic Karras, and N.Z. Bryant, from Pontiac Central and Western Michigan University.

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