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Werst signs on with L&C Pios

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

It certainly wasn't a win-loss record that attracted Keizer teen Andrew Werst to Lewis & Clark College.

The Pioneers were winless in their 2014-15 season while Werst found acclaim on and off the field at Salem Academy as a senior. Werst recently signed to play for the Pioneers, and said it was a connection with the new head coach that he's putting his faith in.

"He's a really soft-spoken guy who really seems to think about what he's saying and a very wise man who follows the Lord," Werst said. "That's my kind of guy."

Locey said Werst was a good fit for the program in every way.

"He is a big, strong, athletic, high character young man that plays with great energy. We love that. We like him offensively at tight end and are going to consider using him as a defensive end in special situations as well," said Locey.

Werst will join a roster pouring new blood into its ranks. The team for the upcoming season includes 36 new recruits in addition to Werst.

"They signed up with us because of the opportunity to create something great," Locey said. "We want Andrew - and every one of our players - to continue to be a young man committed to being his best in school, life, and football and to help create a brotherhood with his teammates."

That potential is one of



KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWALD
Salem Academy alum and Keizerite Andrew Werst signs his letter of intent to play football for Lewis & Clark University at a ceremony earlier this year.

the aspects that enticed Werst most about joining up at L&C.

"We had a few winning seasons at Salem Academy, but I've been there when it's not looking up and I think that perspective will help. I know we can't let everyone get down on themselves when we have a bad game," said Werst, a 6-foot-3, 240-pounder.

Locey said he will be relying on all the new Pios to step in as leaders on their team.

"Andrew comes in with a very good skill set yet there is still much room to grow in every area. I am confident he will do that. He has positive values and a strong work eth-

ic. He will be a strong leader because of these traits," Locey said.

More than wins and losses, Werst said he's been enjoying the feel of telling people he's a college athlete.

"I'm not a violent person outside of football, but I love the physicality and getting to bash heads without getting in trouble," he said. "I see it as something beyond football. What really appealed to me was their academic reputation. Lewis & Clark has amazing academics, and I get to keep playing."

Werst plans to study chemistry with the hope of entering the medical field.



KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWALD
Volcano first baseman Christopher Shaw fields a bunt in a game two weeks ago in Keizer. The Volcanoes were finishing up a long travelling stint this week.

Volcanoes sneak past Ems

By HERB SWETT
For the Keizertimes

The Volcanoes overcame multiple threats from the Emeralds on July 24 to beat Eugene 6-5 and even the series record.

After a one-run first inning, Salem-Keizer scored four times in the second and never lost the lead. Each club had 11 hits, Eugene hit all three home runs in the game, and the Volcanoes made two errors to one for their hosts, but the Emeralds never caught up.

In the first, Steven Duggar led off with a single to center field, went to second base on a single to right by Chris Shaw and scored as Fernando Pujadas singled to left.

Matt Rose led off the Eugene second with a homer over the left field fence. The Emeralds had two more hits in the inning but did not add any runs.

John Riley doubled to right center to lead

off the Volcano second. Julio Pena singled to left, moving Riley to third. Junior Amion reached first on a fielder's choice that resulted in a rundown that got Riley out, with Pena going to second. Duggar singled to left, scoring Pena. A wild pitch by Eugene starting and losing pitcher Ryan Kellogg moved the runners to second and third. Ronnie Jebavy drove in Amion with a single to left, and Duggar went to third.

Jebavy stole second, with a throw from catcher Ian Rice going into center field. Rice's error allowed Duggar to score and Jebavy to reach third. Shaw brought Jebavy home with a sacrifice fly to center.

Miguel Gomez then came close to hitting a home run, but the ball barely went foul over the left field fence. He then singled to left, running his hitting streak to 19 games to tie

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KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWALD
Salem-Keizer's CJ Hinojosa rounds third and heads home in a game with the Boise Hawks two weeks ago.

Road games take toll on S-K

By HERB SWETT
For the Keizertimes

The Volcanoes slipped a bit on the road overall, going 3-4 in the seven days before press time.

July 22: Tri-City 4, Volcanoes 2

Quieter Salem-Keizer bats and more infield trouble handed the rubber game of the five-game series to the Dust Devils.

The Volcanoes scored in the first and third innings. In the first, Steven Duggar walked, reached second base on a Ronnie Jebavy single and third on a wild pitch by starter Brandon Fry and scored on a fielder's choice. In the third, Jebavy reached first on an error, stole second, moved to third on a wild pitch and scored as Miguel Gomez singled.

Tri-City crossed the plate once in the first, once in the second and once in the third. The Dust Devils outhit the Volcanoes 12-6 and made nine of their hits count for their four runs. John Riley, although he produced no runs, had half of the Volcanoes' hits. Justin Pacchioli and Mitch Morales had three hits each for Tri-City.

Griffin Russel was the winning pitcher, with Sam Holland getting his first save. Andrew Leenhouts took the loss but left with a 4-2 record and a 2.33 earned run average.

July 23: Eugene 2, Volcanoes 1

Mike Connolly had a typical start for Salem-Keizer, going 6-1/2 innings with no runs, one hit, six strikeouts and one walk, but the Volcanoes lost a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the eighth.

The Emeralds' Donnie Dewees hit his first home run of the season with one man on base, and Eugene kept the Volcanoes' bats silent after that. The blast came off Ryan Halstead, whose record went to 1-1.

The lone Volcano run came in the second. Junior Amion walked and scored on a double by Shilo McCall. Salem-Keizer outhit Eugene 5-4, and each club made one error.

Reliever Tyler Peltzmeier was the winning pitcher.

July 25: Volcanoes 5, Eugene 4

The Volcanoes took the rubber game of a series in which each contest was decided by one run.

Each club scored three runs in the third inning, and the game stayed tied until Salem-Keizer scored twice in the seventh. The Volcanoes played errorless ball.

The big hitters for the Volcanoes were Fernando Pujadas, who drove in three runs and scored one with three singles and a double, and Miguel Gomez, who with a single and a double set a Salem-Keizer record of a 20-game hitting streak; he scored a run and batted in one.

Mac Marshall made the first pitching start of his professional career and lasted only 2-2/3 innings, giving up the first three Emerald runs. Charles Owen relieved him and got the win, striking out three in 3-1/3 innings. Pitching an inning apiece were EJ Encinosa, Cory Taylor and Ryan Halstead, who had his fourth save. Greyfer Eregua was the losing pitcher in relief. Salem-Keizer scored its third-inning runs on an error and three doubles. Eugene, in that inning, scored on three singles and a double. In the Volcano seventh, Steven Duggar and Ronnie Jebavy scored and

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