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McNary senior forward Javier Zepeda slides to steal the ball from a North Salem player last week during a 4-H Summer League contest at home.

## Pitcher back from elbow surgery

By **TIM HAYS**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Caleb Simpson, 24-year-old Oklahoma native and pitcher for the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes, has gone through a lot of adversity to get him to where he is today.

Out of high school Simpson attended Seminole State Community College in Sanford, Fla. After two successful seasons behind the plate, Simpson signed to go play baseball at the University of Oklahoma. He didn't quite get to the campus.

Simpson, who had been a catcher for his entire life, was drafted by the San Francisco Giants in 2013 as a right handed pitcher, just before he was set to start summer school in Norman.

"OU wanted me to be a pitcher, and I didn't throw a single inning at Seminole State," Simpson said. "I was drafted as a pitcher, and I figured that minor leagues is all



Caleb Simpson

about development. In Division-1 baseball, if you don't pitch well, you don't play."

In 2013, Simpson had a major setback. "I slipped a disk in my back. That knocked me out of my rookie-ball season."

In 2014 he once again missed time on the field. Due to a strained UCL (Ulnar Collateral Ligament), also known

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## Points don't matter

### Summer more than wins, losses

By **DEREK WILEY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

The Marion County 4-H Soccer League keeps score and there's even a playoff at the end of July but neither McNary boys coach Miguel Camarena nor girls coach AJ Nash are concerned about wins and losses.

"I don't care," Camarena said. "When the high school season starts, that's when I care. Now, I'm just helping these kids develop and for them to understand what I'm looking for."

"We don't put any focus on the wins and loss column," Nash said.

Instead, the coaches are focusing on conditioning and gelling as a team.

"This is merely fitness," Nash said. "It's about learning how to play with the girls you're going to play in the season with. There's bonding that takes place both on and off the field. The singular goal is to make sure the girls come in prepared for tryouts."

Nash has so many girls in the program this summer, 37, that he had to split them up

into two teams—Blue, which is upcoming freshmen and sophomores and White, juniors and seniors.

Each team is playing eight games. The top four out of nine squads will then take part in the playoffs on July 18 and 20.

Since most of the schools have just one team and recent high school graduates are able to play in the summer league, McNary's Blue squad is playing against girls three and four years older.

"The incoming freshmen get to feel what it's like to get pushed down by a senior," Nash said. "It's awesome because before the freshmen would just come to high school, and it was a pretty scary, daunting thing and this allows a little acclimation of an incoming freshmen to feel the different physicality that varsity requires without the stress and pressure of tryouts. I look at 4-H as the bridge to that. It allows the girls to kind of taste what it's going to feel like prior to Day 1 when they come lace up their cleats at 8 a.m. and start their two-mile."



Regann Donohue, an incoming freshman at McNary, fights for possession during a 4-H Summer League game.

The majority of the Lady Celts are also playing club, which is new for the program.

"In years past there hadn't been a club influence," Nash said. "I really had to work with and train people that maybe didn't play soccer most of their lives but were good athletes and now I'm finding that there's a good group of players that are coming in from mul-

multiple clubs."

The McNary boys are also playing eight games with the semifinals and finals on July 19 and 21.

The Celtics have 28 players and another eight only playing club ball.

"We try to give opportunity to kids that don't play club," Camarena said. "That's the idea for 4-H."

## Volcanoes fall to Dust Devils

By **HERB SWETT**  
*For the Keizertimes*

Tri-City whipped the Volcanoes 7-2 Saturday, giving the visiting Dust Devils a 2-1 lead in the five-game series.

It was a game of mistakes, even though there were no official errors on either side, and manager Kyle Haines held a clubhouse meeting right after the game. Salem-Keizer, despite the loss, had outhit Tri-City 11-9, and there were a few other bright spots for the Volcanoes.

Salem-Keizer scored the first two runs of the game, one each in the first and second innings. In the first, newcomer Heath Quinn hit a two-out double to center field, and Ryan Kirby drove him in with a single to right. In the second, Ashford Fulmer, who had three hits in the game, singled to center, stole second base, and scored on Kevin Rivera's single to left.

Melvin Adon, the Volcanoes' starting pitcher, held the Dust Devils scoreless in the first two innings but allowed a run in the third and two in the

fourth. Luis Asuncion led off the third with an infield single, advanced to second on a wild pitch and reached third on a balk. Aldemar Burgos scored him by grounding out.

In the Tri-City fourth, Josh Magee singled to center, went to second on a ground out, and scored as Kyle Overstreet singled to right and reached third on a throw from right fielder Quinn. A wild pitch brought Overstreet home.

Adon pitched part of the fifth inning but retired no one. Burgos led off with a walk and reached third when Jose Savinon doubled down the left field line.

Easley singled to left, driving in Burgos. Magee walked to load the bases.

Matt Pope relieved Adon. He hit Boomer White with a pitch, scoring Savinon, Kyle Overstreet drove in Easley with an infield single. Chris Baker struck out. Chris Mattison scored Magee with a sacrifice fly to right. Luis Asuncion struck out to end the top of the fifth.

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## Future Celtics pack McNary basketball camps

A record number of boys and girls attended McNary basketball camps over the last two weeks at Whiteaker Middle School.

The boys camp was held June 20-23 and drew 119 kids in third through the eighth grades.

McNary head coach Ryan Kirch and his players taught fundamentals with an emphasis in footwork, shooting technique, passing and catching, individual and team defense, dribbling and rebounding.

The Lady Celts camp, run by McNary head girls coach Derick Handley and his players, took place June 28-30 with 35 girls and focused on shooting, pivoting, screening, moving without the ball, post moves, guard and wing play, positive attitude and team work.

Campers also played games and received T-shirts.



Left: Emma Zuniga guards Maryann Halliday at McNary girls basketball camp. Right: Ryan Lyda leads a fastbreak during boys camp. More photos on Page 13.

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