

Lil ballers



A: Sofie Schurr drives to the goal while being defended by Erika Robinett. B: Paul Bello works on his defense during a drill at McNary's boys basketball camp. C: Sarah Williams tries to score against Megan Halliday.

SIMPSON, continued from Page 12

as the Tommy John Ligament, Simpson had to have surgery on his pitching elbow. "I had to have a bone marrow transfusion. They took bone marrow out of my hip and put into my elbow, forc-

ing me to miss the 2014 season as well."

Looking forward to 2015, Simpson was ready to rock and roll on the mound; except for one problem.

"The bone marrow never fused and the surgery didn't work."

Simpson opted to have Tommy John surgery to replace his injured UCL in his elbow. This 12-18-month in-

jury forced him to miss all of the 2015 season.

The 2016 season is Simpson's first full season in which he has been able to play since getting drafted three years ago.

"Opening day for me was a pretty big deal. This has been the best-worse three years of my life. Getting to where I am at, and finally getting back on the field, there just isn't anything like it."

Simpson pitched one inning and recorded two strike outs without allowing a run.

Simpson's ability to bounce back has come through some wisdom of his high school coach.

During his recovery time after Tommy John surgery, Simpson wasn't sure how much longer he could keep playing and considered ending his career after all the wear-and-tear on his body.

"My coach told me that I had my whole life to be average. There are average people everywhere. I am a percent of a percent being in professional baseball. He just told me to get it out, and here I am."

LOSS, continued from Page 1

All seven runs were charged to Adon, the losing pitcher with an 0-1 record.

Jordan Guerrero, Tri-City's starter, pitched through the bottom of the fifth and became the winning pitcher at 1-1. Evan Miller pitched the next two innings and Jose Castillo the last two.

In the seventh and eighth innings, the Volcanoes loaded the bases with two out but failed to score.

In the ninth, Geraldo walked, Ryan Howard struck out, and Quinn doubled to left with Geraldo reaching third, but Castillo retired the next two batters.

Haines commented that the game "definitely had a lot of teaching moments."

"It also reinforces things about learning to play baseball," he said.

June 26: Volcanoes 4, Tri-City 3

A walk-off ninth-inning run gave Salem-Keizer a win that evened the series.

Tri-City scored the first run in the second inning and made the score 2-0 in the top

of the fifth, but the Volcanoes tied the score in the bottom of the fifth. Salem-Keizer added a run in the seventh and the Dust Devils tied the score in the eighth before the Volcanoes came out on top.

Ashford Fulmer led off the Volcano fifth with a walk. Gustavo Cabrera, who had four hits in the game, singled, and Kevin Rivera singled to load the bases. Ryan Howard doubled both of them home. Volcano starter Mac Marshall had an off night for control, allowing six walks, two of which contributed to Tri-City runs. Kendry Melo relieved him after 4-1/3 innings, and Jeff Burke closed the game as the winning pitcher at 1-0. Reliever Jesse Scholtens took the loss at 0-1.

June 27: Tri-City 7, Volcanoes 2

Stronger hitting and pitching by the Dust Devils meant Salem-Keizer's first series loss.

Each Tri-City player got at least one hit as the visitors out-hit the Volcanoes 12-6. Starter Emmanuel Ramirez struck out five in his six innings for his first win against no losses.

The Dust Devils scored two runs each in the third and seventh innings and one each in the first, second, and ninth.

The Volcanoes tied the score in the bottom of the first as Jose Savinon, who had led off with a triple, came home on a wild pitch. In the Volcano seventh, Gustavo Cabrera walked, reached third base on a grounder and an error, and scored on a single by Kevin Rivera.

Victor Concepcion started on the mound for Salem-Keizer and was the losing pitcher at 1-2.

June 28: Hillsboro 6, Volcanoes 0

The opener at Hillsboro became the first shutout of the season for Salem-Keizer, which lost two games in a row for the first time in 2016.

The Hops scored two runs each in the fifth, sixth, and seventh innings, holding the Volcanoes to four hits. It was a scoreless game for 4-1/2 innings and the first Volcano game this season in which no one scored for the first three.

Hillsboro starter Tyler Mark was the winning pitcher at 1-2, going seven innings with 10 strikeouts. The Hop runs came on five singles, two doubles, and a force out

Volcano starter Hengerber Medina took the loss for an 0-2 record. The only extra-base hit for Salem-Keizer was a double by Zack Bowers.

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