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OREGON STATE ATHLETICS/Karl Maasdam
 Oregon State forward Deven Hunter, who graduated from McNary in 2012, drives to the goal against UCONN center Natalie Butler in the semifinals of the 2016 Women's NCAA Tournament.

Riggs growing into bullpen role

By **TIM HAYS**
Of the Keizertimes

More than 2,200 miles away from Spring, Texas, Nolan Riggs definitely had to duck getting off the plane. At 6'8", Riggs has developed into one of the most consistent relievers for the Volcanoes.

In eight games, which is second most on the team, Riggs leads all relievers by pitching in 15 2/3 innings.

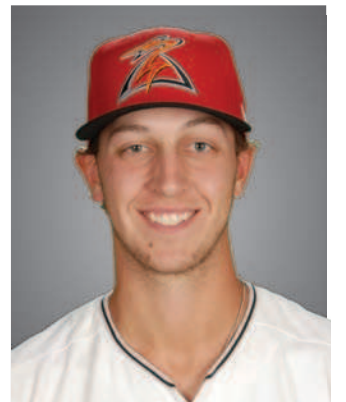
Riggs had seen some serious heartbreak in his first 23 years.

Riggs entered high school at 5 foot 11 inches, and was set to continue growing. It seemed as if his body would never stop.

"I was pretty short entering high school," he said. "I grew two inches every year, and it seemed like I would just keep going."

His body was growing at a rapid rate; almost too fast. After two successful years of varsity baseball, Riggs had news that he wasn't expecting; Tommy John surgery.

On August 26th, his first day of his senior year of high school, Riggs underwent



Nolan Riggs

Tommy John surgery. Interestingly enough, the tendon to replace his right UCL (ulnar collateral ligament) came from the inner part of his right hamstring.

In the spring, Riggs got to throw one inning of varsity baseball.

"I was really looking forward to senior year," Riggs said. "Getting hurt was a big setback. I was getting looks from a lot big schools, and fortunately I ended up getting the opportunity to attend junior college. So far it looks like it turned out great."

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Volcanoes split doubleheader

By **HERB SWETT**
For the Keizertimes

The Volcanoes followed a rainout with a July 8 split of a home doubleheader with Vancouver, winning the first game 8-6 and losing the second 9-3.

A crowd of 3,807 watched Salem-Keizer hit twice as many home runs (four) in the two games as in all the previous games this season. In the first game, the Volcanoes overcame a 5-0 lead the Canadians had after 1-1/2 innings. Each game went seven innings.

Game 1: Volcanoes 8, Vancouver 6

With one out in the top of the second inning, Mattingly Romanin walked and Bryan Lizardo hit a home run over the left field fence. After starting pitcher Mac Marshall retired the next batter, Javier Hernandez also homered to left. Rodrigo Orozco doubled down the left field foul line.

Kendry Melo relieved

Marshall and walked Cavan Biggio, son of Hall of Famer Craig Biggio. He hit Lance Jones to load the bases and hit the next batter, JB Woodman, to force Orozco home. Then he walked Christian Williams to force in Biggio. He settled down after that, striking out Romanin to retire the side and pitching shutout ball for three more innings. He became the winning pitcher at 2-1.

In the Volcano second, Bryan Reynolds led off with a double to right center field and went to third base on a wild pitch from Vancouver starter Luis Sanchez. Heath Quinn doubled to left, scoring Reynolds, and went to third as Ryan Kirby grounded out.

Salem-Keizer added a run in the third as Gio Brusa's sacrifice fly to right drove in Kevin Rivera, who had doubled and reached third on a single by Manuel Geraldo.

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Dream Believer

McNary grad looks back on OSU career

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Deven Hunter believed from Day One, even when there was reason not to.

When the McNary senior signed with Oregon State on a Wednesday morning before school in November of 2011, the Lady Beavers had only won nine games the season before and hadn't made the NCAA tournament since 1996.

"I wasn't looking at the record as much," said Hunter, who chose OSU over offers from Arizona and Kansas State because of her familiarity with the Corvallis campus and the vision of new head coach Steve Ruck. "I definitely saw past that and the potential."

Hunter also looked at who else was joining her and a recruiting class that featured three of the top 100 players in the country in Jamie Weisner, Ruth Hamblin and Samantha Siegner.

"Our freshmen class coming in, we wanted to make

it to the Final Four and we wanted to change the program around," Hunter said. "Definitely that was our goal that we set out coming in as freshmen. We knew we were a special group of people. We knew we had something special."

Hunter's first season didn't go as planned as OSU went 10-21 overall and 4-14 in the Pac-12 Conference, playing in front of home crowds that averaged less than 1,200 people.

But with another strong recruiting class, the Lady Beavers began to make their turnaround during Hunter's sophomore campaign.

On Dec. 29, 2013, she pulled down a team-high 10 rebounds as OSU nearly upset No. 2 ranked Notre Dame in front of more than 4,000 fans at Gill Coliseum.

The Lady Beavers finished the season 24-11 and earned a berth in the NCAA tournament.

As a No. 9 seed, OSU defeated Middle Tennessee 55-



OREGON STATE ATHLETICS/Karl Maasdam
 Deven Hunter kisses the trophy after the Lady Beavers beat Baylor 60-57 on March 28 to advance to the Final Four.

36 in the first round before falling to top seeded South Carolina 78-69 in the second round. The following season, the Lady Beavers topped California 73-55 to capture their first Pac-12 regular season title in program history. They went

16-2 in conference play and earned a 3-seed in the NCAA tournament but were upset by Gonzaga in the second round.

Hunter had one more season to make her dream come true.

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Holiday Swim Club defeats Northview

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Kameron Splonski broke two swim club records to lead Holiday's boys to a 141-108 victory over Northview Terrace Thursday, July 7.

Swimming in the 9-10-year-old division, Splonski finished the butterfly in 13.38 and the freestyle in 25.15. He also won the backstroke and swam on the winning 13-14 free and medley relays with teammates Ryan Bethers, Tony Gonzales and Kian Gonzales.

Kian won three individual events as well—individual medley, backstroke and free.

Cole Steele dominated the boys 7-8 division, winning the IM, butterfly and breaststroke. Steele also joined Xavier

Grantham, Vinny Arnold and Brody Hollis to place first in the 9-10 free relay.

Brody Hollis, Lincoln Hollis, Noah Williams and Ozzy Arnold won the 7-8 medley relay.

Lincoln Hollis, Williams and Ozzy Arnold joined Jared Toland to also win the free relay.

James Toland won the 11-12 breaststroke and free and swam on the winning medley relay team with Nathan Williams, Carter Hollis and Noah Schaffner. Carter also had the top time in the IM.

Noah Williams touched the wall first in the Under-6 butterfly.

Swimming for Northview, Eli Staley had the fastest time in the 9-10 IM and

breaststroke. He was also on the winning 11-12 free relay with Dom Snyder, Camden Whetten and Nicholas Mahieu. Cole Garland, Gavin Gasperini, Jeremy Becker and Tayson Whetten won both the 15-18 free and medley relays. Garland also won the 13-14 breast while Tayson and Becker tied in the 11-12 fly.

Michael Noble won the 8-and-under free.

Holiday's girls also squeaked by Northview, 157-148.

Individually, Bella Beard won three events—the 13-14 IM, butterfly and breaststroke. She also helped Alex Beard, Antonia Gonzales and Kylie McCarty set a new club record in the 15-18 free relay in 1:31.84.

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KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
 Maya Privratsky, Alex Willcoxon and Ashlynn Hughes helped the Holiday Swim Club defeat Northview Thursday, July 7.