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Burke back from injury

By **TIM HAYS**

For the Keizertimes

Born in Chattanooga, Tenn., Jeff Burke has been on the rough side of losing, though has also seen the bright side of patience.

Out of high school, Burke, a right handed pitcher, attended Boston College. With an opportunity to play from day one, it really was a no brainer for Burke. In Burke's three seasons at BC, he experienced a lot of downs.

"My freshman year we went 12-40," Burke said. "We started five freshmen in the starting nine, and it was tough. I was super excited and it ended up being the perfect fit for me. My first year sitting at 12-40, I thought to myself, 'Is it even worth it?'"

While the first season didn't go as planned, in fact, it was the worst season in program history, the second season was much better. The Eagles finished 22-33.

In Burke's junior year,

which would be his last college season, BC went 27-27. It was the Eagle's first .500 or better season since 2010.

"We had a strong group of guys," Burke said. "We strived to outwork everyone in the country. They have been building that program back for the last three years, and it was great to be a part of the progression and see them get to their first super regional in school history [in 2016]."

Burke did not escape the 2015 season without a setback. Late into his junior season, Burke would tear his UCL (ulnar collateral ligament), and required Tommy John surgery before the June Draft.

Burke was taken in the 32nd round by the San Francisco Giants, and decided to begin his professional career.

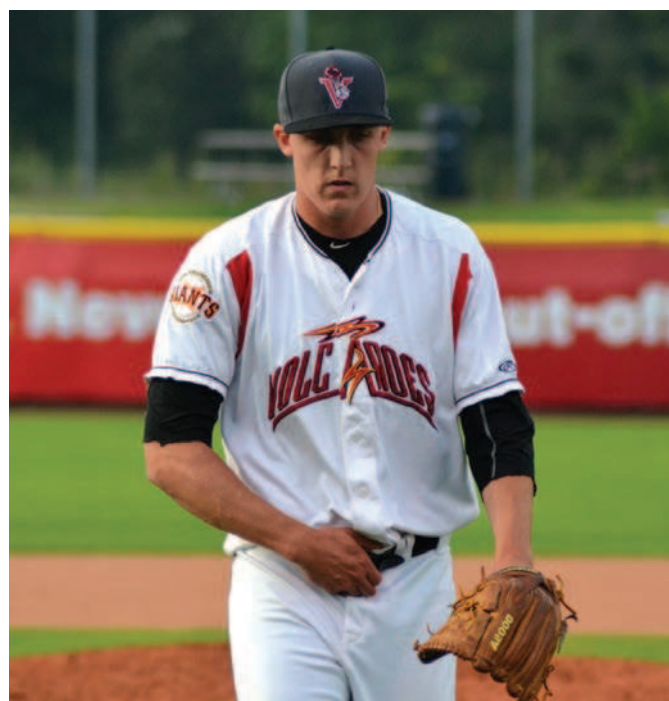
"For me it was difficult," Burke said. "I grew really late, and my velocity arrived late into high school. When it all started to come together, I blew my arm out. It was right

before the draft, so I lost all leverage. Luckily, the Giants still gave me the opportunity and gave me a chance to rehab with them."

With a 2.82 ERA in 22-plus innings, Burke has been one of the most consistent arms out of the Volcanoes bullpen this year, and ironically thanks the surgery for his new found success.

"The rehab from Tommy John surgery has really been one of the biggest blessings in my life that I really didn't see that happening," Burke said. "At the time I was down, but really over the past year it has strengthen me mentally. I've learned how to go about my business day-to-day, and also realize how good I really have it. It was taken away from me for a time, and I have really been humbled."

With his strength back in his arm, and the patience that paid off at BC, Burke is more than ready to see his career take off.



Submitted

Jeff Burke has been one of the Volcanoes most consistent arms after having surgery right before the 2015 draft.

"I am very lucky to have the support from my family," he said.

"Once I got out there, it was my family and the organization that I really learned from. The fact of the matter is, I have an opportunity to put

a Giants jersey on, and it's an opportunity that a lot of people don't get. I am going to give it all I got. We don't know where the end will be, but I'm here for now in Salem, and I look forward to playing with these guys every day."

Volcanoes snap skid at Everett

By **HERB SWETT**

For the Keizertimes

A five-game losing streak for the Volcanoes and a five-game winning streak for the Everett AquaSox ended Saturday with an 11-7 Salem-Keizer win.

It was a big comeback for the Volcanoes, who were down 4-0 after one inning but scored once in the second and four times in the third and led or were tied the rest of the way. The win evened the five-game series at 1-1.

Volcano starter Matt Krook helped the hosts by walking the first three batters he faced, Bryson Brigman, Austin Grebeck, and David Greer. The next man, Nick Zammarelli, hit a grand slam over the right center field fence.

In response, Ryan Howard led off the Volcano second with a home run over the left field wall. Krook retired the next Everett batters in order in the top of the second, and then came the four-run rally.

Kevin Rivera led off the third with an infield single that was followed by a single to left by Manuel Geraldo. Starter Robert Duggar struck out Bryan Reynolds, but Heath Quinn doubled to left, driving in Rivera and sending Geraldo to third. Gio Brusa doubled to center, scoring Geraldo and Quinn. A wild pitch sent Brusa to third, and Ryan Howard brought him home by grounding out.

In the AquaSox third, David Greer walked, moved up on a walk to Zammarelli, and scored on a single by Dimas Ojeda. Two batters later, Kendry Melo relieved Krook, who had thrown 16 balls and 14 strikes, and retired the side.

Salem-Keizer broke the 5-5 tie for good in the fourth. Zack Bowers led off and was hit by a pitch. Julio Pena reached first base by grounding into a force out, and Kevin Rivera homered over the right field fence. Geraldo reached first base on an error and stole second. A single by Reynolds moved Geraldo to third, Elliot Surrey replaced Duggar on the mound, and Geraldo scored on a wild pitch.

In the Everett fifth, Greer doubled to center, went to third on a throwing error by Melo in a pickoff attempt, and scored on a double to left by Johnmeyer Morales.

Please see SNAP, Page 11

McNary Blue Day — Saturday, Aug. 20th

Schedule of Events

- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm — Volleyball scrimmages (gym)
- 12:30 - 2:30 pm — Volleyball Car Wash
- 10:30 - 10:50 am — 1st/2nd Grade Flag McNary Youth Football
- 10:50 - 11:10 am — 3rd/4th Grade McNary Youth Football
- 11:10 - 11:40 am — 5th/6th Grade McNary Youth Football
- 11:40 am - 12:00 pm — JV McNary Youth Football
-
- 12:00 - 12:15 pm — Community Thanks Ceremony**
National Anthem
Present Colors
AFJROTC drill demonstration
-
- 12:15 - 12:45 pm — Boys, Girls, Youth Lacrosse
- 12:45 - 1:15 pm — Boys and Girls Soccer
- 1:15 - 1:45 pm — Frosh Football Scrimmage
- 1:45 - 2:15 pm — JV Football Scrimmage
- 2:15 - 2:45 pm — Varsity Football Scrimmage

11:00 am - 3:00 pm — Community BBQ
All participating players eat free.
Everyone else \$4.00 per person.
Meal includes burger/hot dog, chips, drink, salad, dessert



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

McNary senior Marc Baiza carries the football Monday morning during the Celtics first OSAA approved practice of the year. The varsity team will scrimmage Saturday at 2:15 p.m.



Campers killin' it!

McNary had 40 middle schoolers at its volleyball camp last week. Led by new head coach Bruce Myers and some of his high school varsity players, the camp focused on fundamentals and put the girls in game type situations. To prepare for tryouts, McNary's high school program also held camp Aug. 8-11 with 43 girls in attendance.

Photo
KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley