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Volcanoes looking for host families



Submitted

Andy Armstong (left), pictured reconnecting with San Francisco Giants second baseman Joe Panik back in 2016. The Armstrong's were Panik's host family when he started his professional career with the Volcanoes in 2011. Families interested in the Volcanoes' Host Family Program should contact Lisa Walker at 503-390-2225, or at probasebal@comcast.net. The organization is especially in need of bilinguel families.





BRAIDEN COPELAND 8th grader Whiteaker Middle School

Copeland took first place in both the high jump and long jump events at the All-City track meet at Sprague High School on Tuesdsay, May 14, helping Whiteaker clinch the overall team title.

His best long jump was 16-feet-11 inches, while his top high jump was 5-8.



Lydia McGranahan poses with the American flag after finishing third in the 50K National Championships in Santee, Calif. in January.



McGranahan

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I knew that I really wanted to make the Olympic Trials time in the 20K, but I knew that it would be pushing it," Mc-Granahan said.

But throughout McGranahan's short race walking career, she has surpassed her own expectations, and this race was

no different as she finished her 20K in personal-best time (1:45.51) on March 17 to qualify for her second Olympic Trials race.

However, what was sweeter for Mc-Granahan was what happened after the race.

Due to her high finishes in recent competition, Mc-Granahan was asked by USA Track & Field to join the four-person race walking team at the 50K Pan-Am Cup in Mexico on April 21. "I was so excited

to do my first international race," Mc-Granahan said. "I had all my USA gear in my suitcase. It was quite the honor and I wanted to represent and do my best."

McGranahan ended up placing 10th in the race and helped the U.S. earn the overall team title.

Race walking is an incredibly grueling sport, but with her enthusiasm and positive attitude, McGranahan was a fan favorite during the competition.

"I'm usually smiling when I race walk because I'm having fun and I just love it," Mc-Granahan said.

"It was the most exciting and fun race I've done. And the fans were absolutely amazing."

The responsibility of juggling everyday life around being an elite race walker can be daunting. McGranahan trains five days a week, teaches fitness classes three days a week and home schools her daughter. But she is more than willing to do the juggling act for the sport that she has grown to love.

"It is a balancing act. I have to be creative and I have to pick and chose the things that I say yes to," McGranahan said. "It's challenging, but I love race walking and I am so thankful that I am 42 years old and I get to do this."

"My story is one that inspires others to not let their past, their age, their struggles, stop them from chasing their dreams and accomplishing big things."

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