



Former Oregon State basketball player Deven Hunter cuts down a piece of the net after the Beavers defeated Cal by a score of 73-55 to clinch the Pac-12 Conference title on Feb. 28, 2015. Hunter will be returning to Oregon State as an assistant coach this season. Randy L. Rasmussen/ The Oregonian

Hunter makes her return to Oregon State

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

Deven Hunter played a pivotal role in helping build up the Oregon State women's basketball team into one of the premier programs on the west coast.

As a player from 2012-2016, Hunter helped the Beavers to two Pac-12 titles, three NCAA Tournament runs and a trip to the Final Four in 2016. The McNary High alum started in 132 of the 135 games she played in and finished her career fourth in school history with 893 rebounds.

Now, Hunter will be look to continue the strong culture she helped create at Oregon State, this time as an assistant coach.

After spending time as an assistant coach at McNary and the University of San Diego, Hunter was officially named an assistant coach with the Oregon

"I am just really looking forward to being a part of Beaver Nation once again and returning to this amazing culture."

— DEVEN HUNTER
Oregon State University asst. coach

State women's program last month.

"It feels amazing to be back. I never really thought I would be back so soon to the place I used to play, but I am really excited," Hunter said.

Hunter will be working under head coach Scott Rueck, who has been in charge of the Beavers program since

2010 — Hunter was one of the first players he recruited.

"From the beginning of her time with the Beavers I knew Deven had the tools to be an outstanding coach. Her understanding of the game and overall savvy provides her the knowledge and awareness to be immediately impactful. Her passion for both people and the game are necessary qualities that put her over the top. As a player

at Oregon State, Deven was a force on the court, made those around her better, and helped build this program into what it is today," Rueck said. "Since her graduation, she has impressed me by consistently challenging herself, and finding opportunities to develop and

grow as a person and a professional. The sky is the limit for Deven in our profession and I am excited to welcome her back home."

After a standout career at McNary, Hunter enrolled at Oregon State in 2012 and was a part of one of the most successful classes in school history.

"I had an amazing experience at OSU. I loved being able to play in Corvallis, and so close to my hometown," Hunter said. "It was really rocky my first year there, but our senior class had the goal of reaching the Final Four, and being able to accomplish that and check it off the list was incredible."

Hunter played professionally for a season in both Puerto Rico and Finland before returning to Keizer, where she became a teacher's assistant in special

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