

## Ruby becomes lone active openly gay pro baseball player

# LGBTQ+ Maverick

Bryan Ruby rounds third base after hitting a home run in a game from this summer.

MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

By MATT RAWLINGS | Of the Keizertimes

**B**ryan Ruby told his family and close friends his secret four years ago. He then told his teammates this summer. But last month, the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes first baseman wanted to share his true self with the world.

Ruby, 25, publicly announced in September that he is gay, making him the lone active professional baseball player to be openly a part of the LGBTQ+ community.

“It has definitely been a weight off my shoulders. I just feel more free,” Ruby said.

After completing a successful collegiate career in 2019 with Vassar College in New York, Ruby played professionally in Germany and Guatemala before

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## Keizer’s next decade of representation drastically altered

By JOEY CAPPELETTI  
Of the Keizertimes

In a rush to beat an end of day deadline, Oregon lawmakers passed new congressional and legislative maps Monday afternoon that Gov. Kate Brown subsequently signed into law later that day.

The new maps, which are expected to be challenged by Republicans in court, place Keizer in different congressional and legislative districts for the next decade.

It was unclear early Monday if lawmakers would even make the deadline after House Republicans boycotted Saturday’s House session, denying Democrats the quorum needed to pass the redistricted maps. If lawmakers hadn’t passed new maps Monday, Secretary of State Shemia

Fagan, who is a Democrat, would have been given sole power to draw the maps.

“Many of us (Republicans) are only here because we don’t trust the secretary of state to draw these maps,” said Rep. Suzanne Weber, R-Tillamook.

The congressional maps passed Monday place Keizer in the new 6th Congressional District, which Oregon gained after a population increase in this year’s census. Keizer’s new congressional district is expected to have a much larger Democratic lean than their previous 5th Congressional District, according to PlanScore, a website that measures partisan gerrymandering.

It is unclear if Keizer’s current

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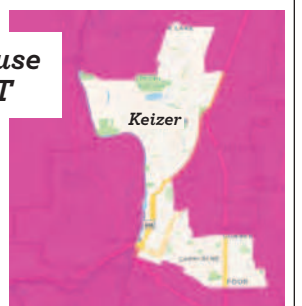
Congressional  
DISTRICT

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State House  
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State Senate  
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