

Tualatin's Matt Derhalli selected for Internship with the NY Mets

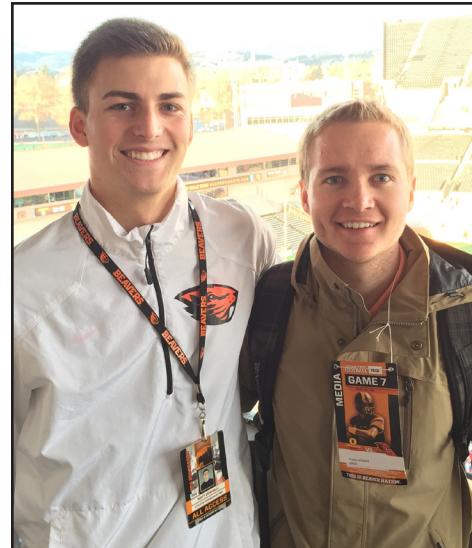
2011 Tualatin High School grad Matt Derhalli has accepted a position with the New York Mets as their Marketing and Communications Intern and will be heading to Queens, NYC in February. He will be assisting with game day activities including pre-game entertainment, field visits, ballpark tours, alumni appearances, marketing surveying/initiatives and special events. There will also be project work which includes assisting with research, social media, publication editing, special events and office duties.

Matt is currently a senior at OSU and has this to say about his experience: "At Oregon State, I majored in Digital Communication Arts with a minor in Writing. The reason I came to OSU was because I had the opportunity to work in the Athletic Department's Sports Information office right from the start, which was something that I could not pass up. Working for OSU the last four years has been incredible, as I have met people from all over the sporting world that have helped me develop professionally as well as personally."

How did he get the position? "I applied for the position in mid-October after looking through open MLB positions. Based on what I was told, 500 people applied and it was then brought down to 50 that would receive interviews. From there, I went through an interview process that lasted about two months and the candidate pool shrunk over that time.

On the Friday morning before finals week at Oregon State (Dec. 5), I had my final interview on Skype with the Mets Director of Marketing, Mark Fine. They had narrowed it down to just three candidates, and it was my chance to convince them that I was who they wanted. We had a great conversation and I felt confident at the end of our discussion that I was going to get the job.

Early that following week, the Mets HR representative called and offered me the position, which I accepted on the spot. I will be



Matt Derhalli left and good friend and fellow TuHS 2011 grad Preston Hiefield is on the right.

moving to Queens, New York at the beginning of February to join the team and will finish the last few credits of my Oregon State degree from afar."

Last summer Derhalli worked in Denver, CO working for ROOT Sports covering the Colorado Rockies. His love of baseball has been a lifelong thing.

"My love for baseball is part of who I am. I knew I was never going to play collegiately or professionally, but that wasn't going to stop me from being part of the game, which is something I hold close to my heart. Being able to say that I am now employed by an MLB team is surreal and far beyond what I could have ever imagined for myself. I look forward to getting out to New York and making everything I can out of this incredible opportunity."

Future plans? "I'm not sure exactly what my future holds, but I do know that this is a step in the right direction as I chase my dream of working in professional sports."