

Celt girls stymied by South Salem

The McNary High School girls varsity tennis team lost an overall match-up with South Salem High School Tuesday, March 17, but scored two key victories in doubles action.

At No. 1 doubles, Sandy and Hannah Childress beat Miyabi Suaiwara and Megan Edelblute of South Salem in sets of 6-0 and 6-1.

Ariana Neads and Sami Trowbridge, at No. 2 doubles, won in sets of 6-2 and 6-4. Those two wins were the only points for the Celtics in a 6-2 loss.

Other scores from the doubles match-up were: Katherine Patterson and Mirielle Martinez 6-1, 6-1; and Tayler Rains and Blanca Tepeque, 6-4 and 6-3.

Singles match scores were: Ami Chikatsu 6-1, 6-1; Cambria Rushton, 6-1, 7-5; Hannah Kannier 6-0, 6-2; Krissy Kelly 6-4 and 6-0.



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
Lady Celt Ami Chikatsu returns a volley in the South Salem match before spring break. The Celtics lost to South Salem High School 6-2, but notched important wins for the Nos. 1 and 2 doubles teams.



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
McNary's Kelsi Christenson gets a single in the Jesuit game before spring break.

Celts: 'They're coming out of their shells'

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Currently, junior Kinsey McNaught is leading the team batting better than .600 for the season thus far. She went 3-for-5 against Westview with a run scored.

"Over the summer, I trained with a California organization and it's paying off now. I started doing well and that boosted my confidence," McNaught said.

McNaught is known as a slapper in softball parlance. It means she won't always blast one to the outfield, but she knows how to get on base consistently.

"Kinsey will show them a bunt, and the opposing team will move in, then she'll knock one just over them. The next time up, she'll take the bunt," Wise said.

The catch is she has to outrun the inevitable throw, but McNaught brings speed to the game as well.

"It's cool though to be able to get everyone excited by doing that. Then we get to feed off each other," she said.

McNary's losses to West Linn (15-14) and Tigard (10-7) high schools during the tournament came mostly as a result of defensive errors brought on

by rain.

"As a pitcher, I couldn't get the ball over the plate, then we had walks and errors gave them extra bases," Oliver said.

It was something of a step back from the prior week when taut defense helped McNary edge Jesuit High School 3-2. Playing on turf in the tournament didn't help.

"Our fielders were launching the ball over first base because the ball was wet and they were sliding," Wise said.

McNaught likened the experience to trying to throw the ball while on skates.

"Honestly, we only lost to Westview by one or two errors. (That game) is going to drive us in practice. We need to clean up our defense, but being that close makes us want it more and gives us more confidence knowing we did that," McNaught said.

Wise, while still somewhat disappointed in the lack of wins, feels big things are in store for the girls.

"These girls love each other. We've got four freshmen who are getting a lot of playing time and they're learning to speak up on the field, they're coming out of their shells," he said.

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After taking the league title last year, McNary faltered somewhat at the district tournament. Ward is hoping to see the boys take away a lesson.

"I think they know they can do better this year. We have to go through a regional tour-

namment to get to state, but we've got several golfers with goals to make it to state as a team and as individuals," Ward said.

Sparks said achieving the goal of league champions for a second year in a row was a priority, and attainable. If the team stays focused.

"If you have a bogey, go out and get a birdie. One bad hole won't ruin your round," he said.

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Member spotlight

Keizer/Salem Area Seniors
Betty Berg, president

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce is pleased to be associated with the Keizer/Salem Area Seniors. This is "the place to be", a non-profit organization, Keizer/Salem Senior Center is self-supporting, and through the use of volunteers, is a self-operated center offering programs to persons 50 years of age and better. Associate membership is available to individuals under the age of 50.

Originally from South Dakota, Betty Berg, President of K/SAS was an Business Education teacher from Pendleton, moving to the Salem area, when her husband was transferred.

Mrs. Berg was the Director of Business Programs at Chemeketa Community College before retirement, and initiated the first business courses at the community college. At present Mrs. Berg is holding office at K/SAS for her 6th nonconsecutive year. "This place is a great place to be, with great people", said Mrs. Berg, "I can't imagine doing anything else; this keeps me busy!"

When you walk into the doors at K/SAS you are welcomed with a smile and a helpful Greeter. Over 100 volunteers are actively giving their time and companionship. The schedule is full of activities: dancing, board games, travel, working in the office, cooking, computer classes, Yoga, Tai Chi and Sing-A-Longs, to name a few. K/SAS is member owned. Breakfast is available at Sassy's Café, from 8-10 am and lunches are served Tuesday through Friday 11:15-12:15, and are open to the public (\$4.50 for non-members, \$4 for members).

Keizer Salem Area Seniors is "the place to be" and a place to try something new and enjoy companionship. The center also has large rooms available for rent to the public for large events. Contact K/SAS for your next event or stop by for lunch and visit the boutique while you're there, you might find the perfect hand-made gift!



Betty Berg

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