Grizzlies pin down Celts on track, field

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

With a team nearly 200 athletes deep, the McMinnville High School Grizzlies easily took down the McNary High School Celtics in a track and field meet last week.

The boys lost 101.5 to 43.5 and the girls lost 107.5 to 37.5.

One bright spot for the teams is the boys relay. The 4x100 team took first in competition with McMinnville in 43.14. Currently, the team of Brendan Van Voorhis, Riley Moore, Kyle Torres and Austin Brown possesses the secondbest time in the state. The 4x400 team, comprised of the same runners, has the fourth best time in the state.

"We're working really hard in practices and trying to take it one step as a time. We stay pretty close in practice and hang out outside of practice, which makes competing easier," said Moore.



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Event wins for the boys and girls were few and far between, but a number of second place finishes kept the meet from being a complete disaster. Torres took first in the 400 meter in 50.17 and Antoine Wilder won the 110 hurdles in 16.36.

For the girls, Danielle Duran won the 400 meter in 1:01.28; Kailey Doutt won the 800 meter in 2:25.51; and Annabel Guptill took first in the 3,000 meter in 11:42.53.

Head Coach Frank Gauntz said the team has been bolstered by the younger athletes

"The young kids on our team have really stepped up and risen to the challenge," he

With the Greater Valley Conference district meet a scant two weeks away, Mc-Nary's teams will begin to taper off their specialty events in preparation for the big show.

Gauntz said both teams are likely to have a hard path to district championships, but they should produce a handful or more of individual district champs.



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald Lady Celt Sami Trowbridge airs out a return volley in a match earlier this season. Trowbridge and

The McNary High School girls varsity tennis team scored a 5-3 win over Sprague High School Tuesday, April 21.

her doubles partner went 2-2 last week.

Two wins in singles and three in doubles paved the way to victory.

Ami Chikatsu won with set scores of 6-4 and 3-2 after her opponent bowed out. Taslima

Sidhu notched a singles win with set scores of 7-5 and 6-1.

In doubles, Sandy and Hannah Childress won in sets of 6-4 and 6-0; Ariana Neads and Sami Trowbridge beat their opponents in sets of 6-3 and 6-1; and Maria Munguia-Ortiz and Katelyn Kolb won in sets of 7-6(7-3) and 6-4.

On Thursday, April 23, the Lady Celts nearly swept South Salem High School in a 7-1

The Childresses picked up singles wins with identical set scores of 6-0 and 6-1; Krissy Kelty won in sets of 6-3 and 7-5; Neads and Trowbridge won with set scores of 6-1 and 6-2; Cambria Rushton and Katherine Patterson won in sets of 6-3, 7-6(7-4); Rachel Morrow and Chikastu won in sets of 6-0 and 6-2; and Blanca Tepeque and Munguia-Ortiz won in consecutive 6-4 sets.

In boys tennis action, the Celtics were blanked by Sprague Tuesday, April 21. Scores for the team's South Salem match-up were not available at press time.

to Thurston High School in March, a 13-3 blowout.

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"Thurston clearly was a better team and were made up of seniors who had played together as a core group since sixth grade. We had a couple moments that we put our offensive game together, but at the last moment big brother came in and swatted the ball into the stands. If we had another chance to play them right now I know, with the growth the boys have made, we have a great chance to beat them," Bowlby said.

While lack of experience, especially in the midfield and at goal, was disconcerting at the outset of the season, the team managed to allay Bowlby's fears

"Chad Pinney has been excelling as our second faceoff midfielder winning 15 of 28 face-offs. Jonathan 'Skittles' Williams is playing some great defense and is the second best midfielder at getting ground balls. Kory Pagels has finally discovered that he can shoot and we want him to," Bowlby

If McNary can beat Corvallis as well as West Salem High School in the second go-around, the Celts still stand a chance of splitting the North Valley title and raising a new banner inside the McNary gymnasium, a first for the club team. However, the Titans would also need to beat Corvallis to create a three-way tie for the championship.

"The feeling I get from the team is they are having fun. The losses hit them hard, but they seem to understand that this is only a game. We can taste the momentum," Bowlby said.



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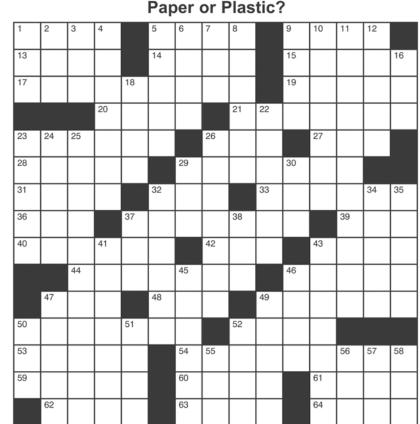
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