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Celts take on Vikings in first outing



Celts Kolby Barker and Raymond Bond square off in drills prior to a scrimmage during McNary's annual Blue Day. KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

BY ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

If the McNary High School varsity football team has its way, the North Salem High School Vikings will be covering on the opposite side of the field Friday, Sept. 4.

"I definitely want to see us set the tone and show aggressiveness that will instill fear," said Sam Farr, a McNary junior. "Our coaches have come out insanely confident in our potential and we're feeling excited about what we can do."

The Celts and Vikings take the field at North Salem beginning at 7:15 p.m.

McNary's new head coach, Jeff Auvinen, is focusing on developing a new sense of toughness in his first year on the job and hopes the team establishes dominance out of the gate.

"We want to have them control the tone and the tempo. We don't want to have to react. It's not going to be perfect, but we're going to try to be as tough as we can be," Auvinen said.

Headed into the game, McNary lacks the established playmakers of some recent years, but returns a number of players in key positions along with some lessons learned.

"We knew we had potential last year, but we didn't really live up to it. We can't go into games thinking we are going to be good, we have to prove ourselves and prove it every week," said Brady Sparks, McNary's senior running back.

Senior Trent Van Cleave will lead the offense with Sparks behind him. Matt Aguilar is likely to be a key receiver for the Celts after spending a fair amount of time in the role as a junior, but Van Cleave will have a veritable throng of receivers to choose from between juniors and seniors moving up to the varsity ranks for the first time.

On the line, Auvinen expected big things from Jason Sperle, Kolby Barker, Kyle Bonn, Caleb Kiefluk-Yates, Hayden Sader and Farr going into the season. Many of those will play on both sides of the ball.

"I think we'll be able to open up big holes for the running game and make some of the big plays that get everyone excited," Farr said.

Lacroix Hill is expected to lead the defense as he returns for his senior season. Hill was sidelined with injury for most of his junior year.

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Ems hold off Volcano rally

By HERB SWETT
For the Keizertimes

A ninth-inning rally by the Volcanoes was not enough to overcome visiting Eugene on Tuesday as the Emeralds won 5-4 in the first of a three-game series.

After three scoreless innings, Eugene scored four runs in the fourth. With two out, newcomer Domenic Mazza replaced starting and losing pitcher Mike Connolly and pitched effectively for 2-1/3 innings. Salem-Keizer scored once in the sixth, each club scored once in the seventh, and the Volcanoes got only two runs in the ninth.

In the Eugene fourth, PJ Higgins led off with an infield single and Eloy Jimenez followed with a single to

right field. After Connolly struck out Andrew Ely, a wild pitch moved both runners up. With Alex Bautista at bat, a wild pitch scored Higgins and sent Jimenez to third. Bautista doubled to left center, scoring Jimenez. After another wild pitch moved Bautista to third, Tyler Alamo drove him in with a single to left. Blake Headley doubled to left, moving Alamo to third. Adonis Paula scored Alamo with an infield single.

Jose Paulino replaced starter Justin Steele on the mound after four innings and became the winning pitcher.

In the Volcano sixth, Ronnie Jebavy hit a two-out, bases-empty home run, his eighth of the season.

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Volcano Miguel Gomez heads for first after putting the ball in play during the game Tuesday, Sept. 1. KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

On cloud (U)9



Submitted
A group of Keizer soccer players proved darn close to unbeatable this summer. The U9 Keizer United team traveled to four of the state's premier tournaments the past few months and won all of them. They swept the Capitol Cup in Salem, the Adidas Cup and the Nike Mt. Hood Challenge by winning four games in each tournament. Their only loss in tournament play came in the Lake Oswego Cup and they went on to beat the same team in the championship game.

The team is sponsored by Marlene Parsons, a Keizer city councilor, who has contributed more than \$3,000 to the team during the past two years. "Marlene is an amazing piece of this team and she is like family to us," said Steve Adams, one of the team's coaches.

Top row: Coach Danny Estrada, Addison Samual, Jesse Keymolon, Isaac Ceja, Steven Adams, Coach Steve Adams and Coach Eric Branch. Bottom row: Riley Hayman, Joe Arechiega, Chico Rodriguez, Junior Flores, Silas Branch and Vince Estrada.

The diamond in the rough



We are anchored in a quiet little cove, watching the tips of our rods. Two fat rainbows--of about two pounds--tucked away in the cooler.

We continue to soak up the double images of Mt. Bailey. The tranquil surface of the lake becomes a giant mirror reflecting the snow-covered mountain in the background.

A booming blast--far off in the distance--shatters the silence. "Wow! Must have blown off half of a mountain with that charge," Paul whispers.

We learned an hour later, that half mountain was Mt. St. Helens. It was May 18, 1980. We were fishing Diamond Lake, deep in the Oregon Cascades, over 350 miles from St. Helens.

Today is my first time back to Diamond Lake since that historic blast. Another *wow*, is in order.

What a change from what I remember. State of the art marina and docks, a well-maintained fleet of aluminum boats and motors.

Guided fishing trips - for up to 10 customers - are offered by Diamond Lake Charters.

The original motel is still open but they now offer a wide range of accommodations from rustic vintage cabins to a beautiful lakefront retreat center that sleeps up to 20.

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