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## Celt speedster posts top time in hurdles

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

McNary High School senior Dani Duran is known as a sprinter on the varsity track and field team, but she added to her repertoire in a big way last week.

Duran ran in the 300-meter hurdles for the first time in her high school career during the West Salem High School meet at McNary Wednesday, April 13, and recorded the fourth best time in the state, 46.75 seconds. Then, three days later at the Wilsonville Invitational, Duran posted a time of 45.80 and moved up the state rankings to third.

"It was kind of an amazing thing," said Frank Gauntz, McNary head track and field coach. "She had been wanting to run it and the coaches decided to give her a shot and here she is at the top of the state times."

Duran's time is just slightly behind the state leader Deshae Wise, of Grants Pass High School, with a best of

45.11.

While the Celtics didn't fare as well as Duran teamwise in the Titan meet, Gauntz said he isn't as concerned with the individual meet wins as getting the largest contingent possible to advance to the state meet next month.

"Right now we're focused on getting them running faster and jumping higher, but we had some good performances by Brendan Van Voorhis in the sprints and Cambrian Partridge in the discus with a new personal record," Gauntz said.

Partridge won the discus for McNary with a throw of 98-10, just 14 inches shy of her goal of breaking the 100-foot mark this season.

"During the off season, I did a lot of work in the weight room and then had some personal coaching on the technique and small things every week," said Partridge, a junior.

Fellow throwers Hayden Sader and Jason Sperle, took second and third, respectively,

in the shot put for the boys.

"For how early it is in the season, we're getting a lot of personal records even if we're not real high in the rankings," Sader said.

Sperle credited a new coach with helping keep the squad focused in recent weeks.

"The new coach has made it a lot of fun and we have good core groups in each event so we're seeing a lot of growth," Sperle said.

Other event winners for the girls in the West Salem meet were: Brooke Burrows in the 800 meter in 2:35.93; Kailey Doult in the 1,500 meter in 5:19.48; Alexa Strand in the 3,000 meter 13:11.68; and River Harri in the 100 meter hurdles in 18.48.

For the boys, event winners were: Van Voorhis in the 100 meter in 11.24 and Austin Brown, Anthony Nguyen, Levi Timmons and Van Voorhis in the 4x400 relay in 3:35.18.



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

Celt Dani Duran runs in an early heat of the 100 meter during the West Salem meet Wednesday, April 13. Duran recorded one of the top times in the state in the 300 meter hurdles after running it for the first time in competition.



A



B

## Boys golf takes 3rd in home tourney

The McNary High School boys varsity golf team took third in its home tournament at McNary Golf Club Monday, April 18.

The Celtics had a tall order to fill with the absence of regular Riley Hancock due to injury. The Keizer team finished with a team score of 331, behind West Albany (314) and West Salem

(327) high schools.

Brady Sparks shot a 90 for the day, Adam Raschko shot an 82, Teegan Papke shot an 83, Casey Potmesil shot a 76 and Matt Langenwalter, filling in for Hancock, shot a 100.

The Celts record for league tournaments this season is 2-2 for the year thus far.



D



E

KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
A: Teegan Papke lines up a putt. B: Casey Potmesil puts on the green. C: Amar Sidhu, Jordan Epping and Matt Levis of the junior varsity team wait for their turn on the links. D and E: Adam Raschko and Brady Sparks tee off.



C



RIGHT: McNary senior Vanessa Hayes tips a ball over the net in competition with the Lady Celt varsity volleyball team last fall. KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

## Celt netter earns full ride to U of Alaska

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

As a junior, Vanessa Hayes was a standout on the McNary High School varsity volleyball team, but it was nothing compared to how she showed up as a senior.

In the off-season, and with the help of coaches in the North Pacific Juniors Volleyball Club, Hayes developed a kill shot that sounded like a cannon firing and began tattooing opponents across the net from the Lady Celts.

"Club was a huge part of all of it," said Hayes. "With high school teams, it's kind of anybody at the school who wants to play, but the competition level is so much higher and the coaches can give you a lot more specific training."

On Wednesday, April 13, Hayes became the first Celt volleyball player to commit to continuing her career in the sport at the college level in a handful of years — many of her teammates are also making the leap but in other sports. She's picked University of Alaska Anchorage.

"When my coach first told me the assistant wanted to meet me, I kind of blew it

off because Alaska was so far beyond where I was looking to go," Hayes said.

Still, Hayes heard him out and the pair discovered connections over faith and then Hayes started listening a bit more intensely.

"He was showcasing the school for me and it sounded really good so I had him meet with my mom and she got excited about it," Hayes said.

The more she asked around, the more good things she heard. After a visit to the school earlier this year, she was offered a full-ride scholarship and the rest, as they say, is history.

The Seawolf women's volleyball team won their conference last season and finished second in the region. Hayes said the coach is expecting her to start for the team as a freshman.

"He has high expectations for me, but he expects me to come out and do it because I'm motivated that way," Hayes said.

Hayes is planning on majoring in psychology at UAA with the eventual goal of becoming a pediatrician.