

# Lady Celts top North Salem

By **DEREK WILEY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

McNary's girls tennis team took advantage of a short-handed North Salem squad to earn its second win of the season on Friday, April 21.

The Lady Celts won 7-1 as North Salem only had eight players and forfeited three points in the match, which was a make-up originally scheduled for April 13.

McNary easily took the No. 1 and 2 singles points as juniors Hannah Childress and Katherine Perez both won 6-1, 6-0.

Sophomores Natalie Gonzalez and Sofia Zielinski also came out on top 6-1, 6-0 at 2 doubles.

Two more sophomores, Lilia Hawes and McKenna Sieg didn't lose a game in their 3 doubles match, shutting out their opponent 6-0, 6-0.

North Salem got its only win at No. 1 doubles.

McNary head coach Garrett Jensen also saw improvement Thursday, April 20 at South Salem, even in a 6-2 loss to the Lady Saxons.

Both of the Lady Celts wins came in singles play.

After taking the first set 6-1 and leading 5-2 in the second, Childress needed a

tiebreaker to put away South Salem freshman Abby Fedor.

"She (Childress) kind of took her foot off the gas pedal," Jensen said.

"She had two opportunities to win the match on her serve and she lost both of those, just want to see moving forward when you have that opportunity, especially to serve for the set, to really put it away, especially with the kind of serves that she can hit, never take anyone for granted, even when you're up 5-2. That match could have been over a half hour earlier. But she pulled it out in the tiebreaker, which was good to see."

At No. 2 singles, Perez got revenge on South Salem junior Catherine Hu.

Perez won the first set 6-2, lost the second 6-7 but rebounded to take the third and the match 6-4.

McNary senior Dianna Cervantes nearly got the Lady Celts a third point at 3 singles before falling to South Salem senior Sara Komoda 6-4, 6-4.

"I was happy that we improved and they actually had a tougher lineup than they did the first time we played them because one of the Studer girls (Jillian and Lo-



McNary sophomore Sofia Zielinski won Friday, April 21 against North Salem with her No. 2 doubles partner Natalia Gonzalez.

ryn) that went to state last year didn't play the first time, played this time," Jensen said. "They actually had a tougher lineup and we still got one more win and almost another win. That was exciting to see."

South Salem also won at 4 singles as well as 1,2,3 and 4

doubles.

McNary is scheduled to finish the regular season at home on Thursday, May 4 against McKay.

The Greater Valley Conference tournament is May 11-13 at the Salem Tennis and Swim Club, located at 4318 Lone Oak Rd. SE.



McNary sophomore Faith Danner didn't allow a hit in four innings on Friday, April 21 at Sprague.

## McNary no-hits Sprague, wins 17-0

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One walk.

That's all McNary allowed at Sprague on Friday, April 21 as Faith Danner and Hannah Carr combined to no-hit the Lady Olympians in a 17-0 five-inning win.

Danner needed only 30 pitches to get through the first four innings. She had zero strikeouts. Carr got the final

three outs of the game.

The Lady Celts had two big innings at the plate, scoring nine runs in the first and seven in the fourth.

Nadia Witt was 4-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs. She was just one of eight McNary players to have multiple hits in the rout. Nicole Duran was 3-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs. Emma Kinler drove in five and scored three runs.

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McNary senior Jonah Geist went 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs on Friday, April 21 against Sprague.

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"We haven't made a couple of defensive plays and in a one or two run game, one or two plays on defense make a difference, or one or two at bats with two outs and guys in scoring position make a difference."

Sprague added one insurance run in both the sixth and seventh to take a 6-3 lead while McNary's bats went quiet before rallying in the seventh.

The loss was McNary's third in a row after getting swept by McMinnville 4-0 on Tuesday, April 18 and 3-1 on Thursday, April 20. The Celtics had a combined seven hits in the two losses.

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"I love the program at McNary and wish the student athletes and their families nothing but the best moving forward," Handley said. "They are going to be in great hands with the next coach and will continue their success at the high levels our community has come to expect."

McNary's new athletic director Scott Gragg hired Doran from a pool of 12 applicants.

"There was one candidate that was far and above the others that were really good candidates as well," Gragg said. "Coach Doran, we're lucky that she has chosen to lead the Celtics."

Doran came highly recommended.

"This is year 40 for me at Crescent Valley, Elizabeth might be one of the best I've seen in the classroom and as a coach," Crescent Valley Athletic Director Craig Ellingson wrote. "She is going to be dynamite. She is a 10 out of 10. I wish I could keep her."

Doran said she knew McNary was the right fit after meeting with Gragg and Principal Erik Jespersen.

"I'm super excited," she said. "I feel like it was meant to be. I met Erik and Scott and their vision of where they want McNary to be as a school

"McMinnville and Sprague are two quality baseball programs," Keeker said. "Right now they're one and two in our league. The first time against McMinnville, we faced their best guy (Wyatt Smith) and he was super, super efficient and we did not put any pressure on him at all offensively so our at bats were sub-par up and down the lineup that particular game. We were better in game two but we hit a lot of ground balls. Their guy (Nathan Leid) again was around the strike zone the entire day and really efficient and he forced us to swing and we just couldn't put anything on a line."

McNary has a non-league home game Saturday, April 29 at 1 p.m. against Tualatin. The Celtics then begin a series with West Salem on Tuesday, May 2.

and athletics, too, I hit it off right away with them."

Doran delivered a motto of "We Pursue Excellence," to her new team, which extends to every area of life, on and off the court.

"I want to build a program that has strong character and that's a classy program, and that starts with respecting each other, respecting the administration, respecting the teachers, respecting referees," said Doran, who added that McNary will "compete hard, smart and together."

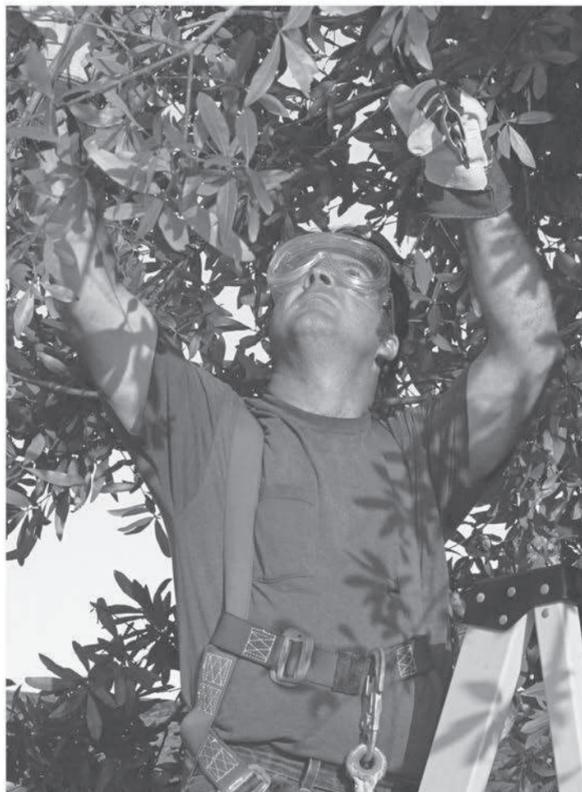
Doran, who also participated in volleyball, track and golf in high school, recommended her girls play other sports.

"I want you to play basketball, even if another sport is your passion," Doran said. "I think there is a lot of things you can learn by playing another sport. If you want to play volleyball or softball or run track in college, I will help you develop the work ethic and the mentality needed to succeed. It's the same across every sport. The actual skills are different but the same mindset is needed to be successful and it transfers to other aspects of life, too. That's why I want to coach and teach."

Doran is starting right away. Her first open gym was Wednesday, April 26. A parent meeting to discuss summer ball is scheduled for Monday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m.

## Working outside? Look up!

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