

# Lady Celts shut out McMinnville, McKay

McNary's girls soccer team earned two more shutouts, defeating McMinnville 2-0 on Wednesday, Oct. 4 and McKay 7-0 on Friday, Oct. 6 to improve to 3-2-1 in the Greater Valley Conference.

The Lady Celts started out a bit flat at McMinnville, allowing the Grizzlies to control play in the opening five minutes of the game. But after the initial jitters wore off, McNary began to settle in to possession and earned a corner kick in the eighth minute.

Junior Gina Munguia placed a well driven cross into the middle of the box that was finished at the back post with a well-placed header in traffic by sophomore Julie Dieker to open the scoring.

In 22nd minute, sophomore Ariana Santana nearly connected with a right footed volley near the penalty spot that went just wide.

In the 34th minute, McNary threatened from another corner kick, driven in by sophomore Haley Hughes who connected with Katy

Wyatt who put a firm shot in on goal from the six yard box that was saved by the McMinnville keeper.

The stingy McNary defense led by sophomore Sam Alfano and junior keeper Sydney Snapp took a 1-0 lead into the half.

Both teams came out with good intensity as McMinnville threatened a couple times on counter attacks, but the Lady Celts began to gain confidence and control the midfield with solid possession play.

Sophomore Regann Donahue found the end of a ball that McMinnville was unable to clear from the box, and slotted home the second goal of the game for McNary in the 57th minute.

Just three minutes later the Lady Celts threatened again as Isabella Haselip put a bouncing ball in the box into the top left corner, that was called back by the referee for a handball on another attacking player that was battling in the mix.

McMinnville kept fighting and with nine minutes left in the game forced a strong save from Snapp in the upper right corner. Again with just over a minute left in the game the Grizzlies shot a ball on the ground through traffic from just outside the 6-yard box that forced a foot save from Snapp, and was eventually cleared out of trouble by freshman Kennedy Buss.

The home match against McKay wasn't as tight as McNary controlled play from the starting whistle and never looked back.

Junior Natalia Gonzalez forced a turnover in the attacking half, and quickly released a strong shot to the upper corner to start the scoring in the eighth minute.

Alfano then forced a diving save by the McKay goalie that deflected off the post and was finished by junior Katy Wyatt on the rebound in the 38th minute. Although the Lady Celts controlled play, they failed to execute the final touch on a number of scoring opportuni-

ties and took a 2-0 lead into the half.

McNary started the second half with urgency in its attack, and two corner kicks and a number of deep throw-ins in the opening minutes.

In the 45th minute, Haselip forced a turnover in the attacking end, dribbled the ball towards the top of the box and placed a hard shot into the side netting from 20 yards out. Wyatt then found Haselip near the top of the box who scored again just three minutes later from 20 yards out to far post.

In the 55th minute, junior Abigail Hawley delivered a cross to the feet of a charging Wyatt who put the ball in at the back post earning her second goal of the match.

Gonzalez finished her second goal in the 68th minute, scoring off a pass from Hughes. In the 78th minute, senior Iris Rodriguez delivered a cross to the far post that was finished by junior Brooke Burrows. The Celts limited the Scots to one shot on goal on the day.

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"My team played better than them for 68 minutes. They did. We created more opportunities than them. But when you play a team like McMinnville, you can't relax."

The close loss showed

Camarena what the Celtics are capable of with only two games remaining in the regular season—Tuesday, Oct. 17 at North Salem and then a home match against South Salem on Thursday, Oct. 19.

The Celtics are 39th in the OSAA power rankings and need to get into the top 36 to earn a play-in game.

"If this team plays like it did against McMinnville, it's going to be difficult for somebody to beat us," Camarena said. "If we play like we did

against Forest Grove (3-0 loss), everybody is going to beat us. We have to make sure that we play our A game every game."

McNary has allowed just two goals over the last three games since Jose Luis Bravo returned from a knee injury. With Lopez getting two yellow cards against McMinnville, backup keeper Alejandro Villarreal got the shutout at McKay.

"He did a fantastic job," Camarena said. "I'm happy to have two solid goal keepers."

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On second-and-goal from the 1, McNary linebacker Brayden Ebbs tackled Ray Jacob for a 1-yard loss. But DuPuis got into the end zone on the next play for the game-winning score.

McMinnville scored the first points of the game on a 34-yard field goal with 3:57 remaining in the opening quarter. But McNary quickly answered as Barker and H-back Jakoby Doke connected for a 7-yard touchdown with 1:41 left to play. Barker then found Jackson for a 25-yard touchdown to extend the Celtics lead to 14-3 early in the second quarter.

However, McMinnville closed the first half with two touchdowns as DuPuis and Thorson connected for an 11-yard score with 6:09 remaining. DuPuis then found Colton Smith for a 4-yard

touchdown with just 3 seconds left in the half to give the Grizzlies a 17-14 lead.

"We lost our swagger for some reason," Auvinen said. "At 17-14, we dropped our heads. I don't quite understand it. I really preach to them to play that next play and forget about that one. We need to have that confidence that it's going to be okay. We need to be able to play the next play."

Barker threw a perfect pass to a streaking Jonny Williams for a 40-yard touchdown early in the third period. However, McMinnville immediately answered with a 64-yard touchdown pass on an underthrown ball the Celtics defense couldn't make a play on.

"We didn't cover anybody all night," Auvinen said of his defense. "We at times tackled very poorly, not a very good effort in any aspect."

On offense, Barker had his most efficient game of the season, completing 18 of 22 passes to eight different receivers for 274 yards, four touchdowns

and zero interceptions. Walling caught three passes for 64 yards and rushed for another 83 yards and 24 carries. Robert Benson gained 50 yards on seven attempts. Jackson caught four passes for 63 yards.

The Celtics had four penalties for 35 yards and no turnovers.



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley  
McNary H-back Jakoby Doke runs after catching a pass on homecoming against McMinnville on Friday, Oct. 6.

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