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# Tentative fall sports schedules released

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

McNary's fall athletic schedules are coming together and if everything sticks the volleyball program will be traveling the most in 2018.

Along with non-league weekend tournaments in South Eugene, Medford, West Linn and Portland, the Lady Celts would play conference games in Bend, Summit and Moun-

tain View.

The new conference would stick with a Tuesday and Thursday schedule with volleyball teams playing each other twice, home and away.

McNary is tentatively scheduled to open the regular season at home against Mountain View on Tuesday, Aug. 28.

All three trips to Bend are also scheduled for Tuesdays—Bend High

School on Sept. 4, Mountain View on Sept. 25 and Summit on Oct. 2. Junior varsity teams would play at 4 p.m. followed by varsity at 6.

McNary's girls soccer team would do the least amount of traveling in 2018.

The Lady Celts would go to Bend only once in the last game of the regular season on Tuesday, Oct. 16. The girls would then play at Mountain

View and Summit in 2019.

McNary's non-league games include home contests against Forest Grove, Aloha and St. Mary's and trips to Oregon City, Sheldon and Lincoln.

The boys soccer team would travel to Summit on Friday, Oct. 28 and Mountain View on Tuesday, Oct. 9.

The Celtics would host Central, Westview, Centennial and Gresham

in non-conference play and travel to Aloha, Canby and Madison.

Cross Country wouldn't travel to Bend until the end of the season for the district meet. The 2019 district meet would then take place in Salem.

McNary athletic director Scott Gragg said all schedules are tentative and won't be finalized until May. Football schedules are still being ironed out.

# Lady Celts in it to win it

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

McNary's goals are to repeat as Greater Valley Conference champions and then play for the 6A softball state championship at Oregon State University in June.

But in order to get there the Lady Celts will have to take one game at a time.

"Last year we took it day-to-day and that's where we want to focus again," McNary head coach Kevin Wise said. "These girls are very driven and losing that (state quarter-finals) game last year, it's been a thorn in their side since last year and they want to go all the way."

The Lady Celts return seven starters from last season, including three seniors, Nadia Witt, Haley Ebner and Emma Kinler, who have all played on the varsity team since they were freshmen.

"All three of them are just super good kids," Wise said. "They got up really early this morning (March 1) and all of the girls that made varsity, they went and kidnapped them and that's how all the girls found out they made varsity and they all went out to breakfast. That's the kind of senior leadership we have."

Witt, who has signed with University of California, Riverside and was voted Greater Valley Conference Player of the Year in 2017 as well as First Team All-State, hit .600 last season with four home runs, 14 doubles, 28 RBIs and 38 runs.

"They were astronomical," Wise said of Witt's statistics. "Last year there was a little less pressure on her because we had her playing at shortstop her first couple of years and

## SCHEDULE

March 16 at Churchill  
March 21 at Franklin  
March 23 vs Oregon City  
March 26-27 at West Linn tournament  
April 3 vs Forest Grove  
April 5 vs South Salem  
April 6 at North Salem  
April 10 at McKay  
April 13 at West Albany  
April 17 vs McMinnville  
April 19 at West Salem  
April 20 vs Sprague  
April 24 at Forest Grove  
April 25 at South Salem  
April 27 vs North Salem  
May 1 vs McKay  
May 4 vs West Albany  
May 8 at McMinnville  
May 9 vs West Salem  
May 11 at Sprague

## ROSTER

#2 Kate Ronning FR  
#3 Taylor Ebbs FR  
#4 Kamryn Miller FR  
#5 Abigail Covalt FR  
#6 Haley Ebner SR  
#7 Courtney Roberts SO  
#10 Haley Bingenheimer SO  
#14 Shaylee Custer FR  
#15 Emma Kinler SR  
#16 Faith Danner JR  
#23 Nadia Witt SR  
#30 Alexa Cepeda SO

that's not her normal spot. She went back to the outfield and she just relaxed I think and then we also put her at leadoff, which is also her normal spot.

"I expect a lot of the same or maybe even better. I don't want to put those kinds of expectations on her. For me, my expectations for her are to just work hard, be a great leader for her younger teammates.



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley  
McNary returns seven starters off last season's Greater Valley Conference championship team. Pictured are Haley Bingenheimer, front, from left, Taylor Ebbs, Alexa Cepeda, Kate Ronning, Shaylee Custer, back, Kamryn Miller, Faith Danner, Haley Ebner, Emma Kinler, Nadia Witt, Courtney Roberts and Abigail Covalt.

She's already doing that."

Ebner, who moved to first base after playing second as a freshman and catcher as a sophomore, was also voted to the All-GVC First Team last season after hitting .465 with two home runs, 30 RBIs and 33 runs. She has committed to Eastern Oregon University.

"Haley can play anywhere you put her," Wise said. "Her softball knowledge is off the charts."

Kinler, a Second Team outfielder, drove in 27 runs last year and scored 22.

Faith Danner, a junior who has started in the circle since she was a freshman, is back.

"I feel like she's in a better spot this year and she's working hard on a couple of pitches, especially her rise ball," Wise said. "She knows she kind of struggled with it last year and left it a little too meaty. We want it to get up a

little higher and she's worked really hard on that. She has good movement anyways."

McNary returns three sophomores, Alexa Cepeda (outfield), Haley Bingenheimer (shortstop) and Courtney Roberts (catcher), who all started last season as freshmen.

But this year's freshmen class, which includes five players, Kate Ronning (infield), Taylor Ebbs (infield), Kamryn Miller (outfield), Abigail

Covalt (infield) and Shaylee Custer (outfield) are more talented than any Wise has coached.

"This freshmen class is probably the most athletic class that I've ever had, since I've been a coach," Wise said. "They're fast. They're smart. I think last year we had more power, maybe, and this year all these kids can hit and run. It's exciting."

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# McNary shut out in season opener



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley  
McNary senior Lance Becktel pitched a perfect fourth inning before getting into trouble in the fifth.

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

McNary's baseball season got off to a rocky start.

The Celtics were held to one hit in an 11-0 five-inning loss to Roseburg on Monday, March 12.

"We need to get a lot better," McNary head coach Larry Keeker said. "I thought our at bats weren't that bad the first time through the lineup against this guy (Zack Mander). I thought we had some pretty good AB's out of guys. We just didn't have much to show for it. We had some balls that were hit pretty well. We just missed them or hit them at people."

The Celtics fell behind early after Roseburg scored four runs in the top of the first inning on a walk, three infield errors and a wild pitch.

McNary senior Collin Wentworth delivered the Celtics only hit of the game in the bottom of the first.

Senior Carl Rumbaugh, who started on the mound for McNary, walked and then hit a better to begin the second. A double then gave the Indians a 6-0 lead.

Rumbaugh's first start of the season ended after pitching a scoreless third. He allowed four walks, two hits and recorded two strikeouts.

"Carl didn't have a typical start," Keeker said. "Usually he's a lot more reliable in terms of being around the zone and obviously when he did get some ground balls for us, when you don't make the plays, we're giving them extra outs. The reality is we're going to have to get much better on the hill and we can't afford that many errors. So we're going to have to play better defense. Our pitchers, they're not the kind of staff that are going to strike a bunch of guys out so we have to play defense."

McNary got a runner on base through a walk or hit by pitch in the second, third, fourth and fifth but couldn't drive them home.

In relief, McNary senior Lance Becktel pitched a perfect fourth, getting two ground balls to Wentworth at shortstop and a fly ball to right field. But Becktel ran into trouble in the fifth, starting the inning by hitting a batter and then allow-

ing an infield single and base hit to left field.

Becktel got a ground ball to third for a force out at home but two more infield errors followed by two hits led to five more runs.

Robert Benson worked a one-out walk in the bottom of the fifth but the Celtics hit into a double play to end the game.

Mander pitched all five innings for Roseburg.

"That pitcher that we faced has been a starting pitcher for them for three years and has been really good in their league," Keeker said. "He wasn't a guy that was dominant but he certainly was around the zone most of the time and he forces you to put the ball in play, which we did and they were just able to play defense behind him."

The Celtics are back home Friday, March 16 against Willamette at 4:30 p.m.

"It was a disappointing start but there's a long way to go," Keeker said. "We'll bounce back. I have confidence in these guys."