

Celtics place second on home golf course

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

With punched greens due to all the rain, Matt Langenwaller and Joel Dutcher knew McNary Golf Course would be more difficult than usual.

But the McNary golfers made the most of it. Playing on their home course, Langenwaller shot 75. Dutcher followed with a 78.

"I got some weird breaks with the putting but I hit the ball very well," Langenwaller said.

"It was around one of my better rounds here."

After paring the first three holes, Langenwaller nearly hit a hole-in-one on four. But then after missing a close putt, he had to settle for par.

Langenwaller's round, a 38 on the front nine and 37 on the back, included 12 pars. His only birdie came on 18, a par 5.

Dutcher birdied the first hole but then ran into trouble on the second, finishing with a bogey. He shot 39 on both the



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

Joel Dutcher shot 78 Monday, April 9 at McNary Golf Club.

front and back nine. He birdied 15, a par 3.

"It's a challenging course when they punch the greens," Dutcher said. "It poured all weekend. No one was excited for this, except maybe me and Matthew."

As a team, McNary had its best score of the season, 360,

to finish second behind only West Salem's 319.

Zach Roth carded a 95 and Nathan Young shot 112 for the Celtics.

"We're making some really good progress so I'm happy," McNary head coach Rick Ward said. "It's encouraging. It's steady improvement."

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"We knew we had some young girls but they come out and compete and they're good athletes," McNary head coach Franklin Gauntz said. "It was nice to see the time they put down and they're only going to get better. It was really exciting."

Kailey Doutt won the 800 in 2:27.36. Freshman Kennedy Buss placed sixth in 2:31.74.

Kailey, Leah, Buss and Haley Hughes teamed up to finish seventh in the 4x400 relay in 4:24.32.

McNary senior Victor Zavalal set a goal to throw 160 feet in the javelin. He's almost already there. At West Salem, he made it 157-07, a 6-foot PR, to place fifth in the event.

A knee brace might have been the difference.

"In the back of my head, I just have that thought of hyper-extending my knee so I wore a brace and it gave me a little bit more confidence," said Zavalal, who has the second best throw in the district this season.

McNary junior Sabella Alfaro placed second in the girls javelin with a throw of 110-07 in just her second track meet ever.

"I came here from softball so I thought that would be an easy transition into track for me," Alfaro said. "It seemed really fun, too. It's pretty technical and it's also slightly different from throwing a softball or throwing anything really. I picked it up very quickly, obviously. The coaches have been really great, too. They put a lot of focus on

technique with me because they knew I was new to this. A lot of the other throwers help me out, too."

Senior Brian Gragg had a PR of 41-08 to finish eighth in the shot put. His previous best was 39 feet last April.

"This year I hadn't been able to break 40 and it was really making me mad," Gragg said. "It was just frustrating. My two teammates, Tim (Kiser) and Bo (Rahm), they were breaking 40 on first meet and I was just getting really fed up with it."

Gragg described the feeling of finally breaking 40 as "pure bliss."

"I was very amped up about it," Gragg said. "I was very excited. My teammates, Tim and Bo, have been really supportive of me. They've been really on me about things I'm doing and just making sure I'm being the best that I can be and coaches, too. Mr. (Shawn) McCarthy, it's amazing what he does, just making sure I'm staying motivated and sure of myself."

Kiser placed fourth in the discus in 130-11 and Rahm took seventh in 124-06.

After tying his PR of 16.93 seconds in the 100 hurdles, McNary senior Casey Toavs set a new mark in the 300 hurdles, finishing sixth in 42.50.

"I felt like I was going at a good clip," Toavs said. "I got into the corner and I felt like I was going strong and when I came out of the corner I felt really good. I think it was just a mindset thing. After having a race under my belt already, I was telling myself I've got to go, this is my senior year, every race I've got to throw it out there. I think

ATHLETE of the Week

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Paige Downer McNary High School

Paige Downer cleared 10-feet to win the pole vault at Forest Grove on Wednesday April 4. Downer also vaulted 9-08 to finish fourth at the Titan Track Classic on Friday, April 6 and ran on McNary's 4x100 relay, which placed fourth.

that definitely helped contribute to my success in that race."

McNary freshman Ella Repp finished sixth in the girls 1500 in 5:14.41. Lucas Garvey placed eighth in the boys 400 in 53.38.

With 151 points, Bend won the girls championship. West Salem took the boys title with 132.5.

McNary's girls finished seventh out of 13 teams with 36 points. The Celtic boys placed 10th.

complete game two-hitter with 10 strikeouts.

Witt was 4-for-4 with two doubles, a triple and home run. She scored two runs and drove in four.

The Lady Celts also defeated North Salem 20-2 on Friday, April 6.

McNary scored 13 runs in the top of the first and five in the second. The Lady Celts had only 10 hits but drew 18 walks in five innings.

Witt was 2-for-4 with a triple, three runs and two RBIs in the rout. Ebner was 2-for-4 with a double, two runs and two RBIs. Taylor Ebbs scored four runs and drove in five. Kinler and Cepeda each scored three runs.

The competition is about to get much tougher. McNary plays at West Albany on Friday, April 13 and then hosts McMinnville Tuesday, April 17. Both games begin at 5 p.m.

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RULE, continued from Page B1

"She's a phenomenal player," Wise said. "Not to take away from the rest of their girls but that kid, she's really, really good."

McNary, 9-3 overall and 4-0 in league play, shut out McKay 10-0 on Tuesday, April 10.

Faith Danner pitched a

KEIZER
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