

McNary begins XC season at Night Meet

South Salem girls shine

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

WILSONVILLE—If McNary cross country coach David Holcomb was hoping for clarity on who would run varsity for the Celtics this season, he didn't get it here.

Opening the season at the Wilsonville Night Meet, McNary had 12 boys finish the 3K within less than a minute of each other.

"We have a lot of guys competing for those seven spots, pushing each other and I think that depth is going to help us throughout the season and as we get towards districts at the end," Holcomb said.

Francisco Orta had the fastest time of any McNary runner, finishing the senior race in 10 minutes and 43 seconds. Not far behind were sophomores Ethan Whalen in 10:52.1 and Gavin Gasperini in 11:00.5.

They were followed by Andrew Goemaere (11:11.1), David Allen (11:16.8), Caleb McCoy (11:19.2), Brennan Whalen (11:20.8), Nathaniel Prout (11:31.2), Francisco Hernandez (11:38.2), Drew Bartlett (11:41.3), Emiliano Lopez-Sanchez (11:42.2) and Tyler Dougall (11:43.5).

McNary doesn't have the same depth on the girls team.

Sabella Alfaro and Makayla Long finished the senior race in 13:18.8 and 14:59.5, respectively. Reyna Terrazas finished the sophomore race in 13:36.8.

The Lady Celts had four girls compete in the novice



Seniors Francisco Orta (10:43), left, and Sabella Alfaro (13:18.8) led the McNary boys and girls cross country teams.

race, led by freshman McKenna Olson, who finished in 15:07.1

"We have a lot of new faces on the girls side," Holcomb said. "It's going to be a process getting the girls numbers back up. We're excited to see where that goes. We're going to focus on improvement with the girls, personal improvement and then building a team culture to push each other and get more girls into the program."

McNary will compete in its first 5K on Saturday, Sept. 8 in the Ash Creek XC Festival at Western Oregon University.

South Salem

South Salem opened the Wilsonville Night Meet with a splash as Taitum Schaap (11:39.9) and Paige Trautman (11:48.5) finished the freshman girls race in second and third out of 60 runners.

Anna Chau then placed second in the girls senior race

in 10:32.1 Jay Grant and Eric Lungu led the Saxon boys, finishing the senior race in 9:39 and 10:03.2.

Evan Gonzalez completed the sophomore race in 9:56.9 and Ned Harlan finished the junior race in 10:13.7.

West Salem

Jaden Mandal placed third in the girls senior race in 10:44. Ella Repp completed the girls sophomore race in 11:54.6.

Marcus Ramirez and Trent Lundy led West Salem's boys, finishing the junior race in 10:22.5 and 10:36.4, respectively.

McKay

Hanna Caldwell led McKay's girls, finishing the senior race in 11:59.4. Ramiro Gon-



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

ABOVE: Anna Chau placed second in the girls senior race for South Salem and David Rojas runs the boys senior race for North Salem Friday night in Wilsonville.

LEFT: Jaden Mandal finished third in the girls senior race for West Salem and Sydney Haines led McKay in the girls freshman race.

zalez completed the boys junior race in 10:47.7.

North Salem

Elia Sanchez finished

the girls sophomore race in 12:19.1 and Dana Romero completed the girls senior race in 12:24.

David Rojas finished the boys senior race in 9:56 and Alexis Luna completed the sophomore race in 10:11.6.

puzzle answers

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