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Game changer: Haselip leads McNary attack

Salem-Keizer teams look to rebound

I thought week one would be difficult for the Salem-Keizer football teams but the road was even tougher than I expected. Area squads went 1-5 and were outscored 210 to 97.

Can they rebound in week two?

South Salem at Sunset

The Saxons were the only Salem-Keizer squad to win their season opener, defeating Newberg 21-14. And their week two opponent is coming off a 24-point loss. But Sunset played one of the best teams in the state in Tigard and allowed two touchdowns on interception returns. After last week, I need to see more from the Salem-Keizer schools in general before I pick one to win in Portland.

Prediction: Apollos 30, Saxons 17

Bend at West Salem

Speaking of Salem teams playing in Portland, the Titans went to Lake Oswego last week in a game billed as a battle of two of the top teams in the state and were never really competitive, trailing 41-7 at halftime. Lake Oswego's new quarterback threw for 298 yards and five touchdowns. West Salem's secondary will obviously have to improve if the Titans are going to make a playoff run. West Salem is the first Salem-Keizer team to play one of the three Bend schools new to the Mountain Valley conference, although in a non-league game. Bend is coming off an impressive win over Barlow in its 6A opener but I expect an angry Titans squad to begin to turn things around at home.

Prediction: Titans 44 Lava Bears 34

Corvallis at North Salem

The Vikings found out playing in 5A, especially in Special District 3, may not be much easier than 6A, getting shut out at Crescent Valley 34-0 in week one. Now, North Salem hosts Corvallis, who also had a difficult time last Friday, falling 49-25 to Lebanon. The Vikings should be more competitive but can they get their first win?

Prediction: Vikings 20, Spartans 14

McKay at Central

The Royal Scots also struggled offensively last Friday, getting shut out at home 24-0 against West Albany. McKay gets Central next. The Panthers are also coming off a bad loss, getting blown out at Silverton 51-14. I see points being a premium in this one. Picking a winner was more difficult.

Prediction: Royal Scots 17, Panthers 13

Sprague at Lakeridge

I don't know what to think of the Pacers. Last season, Lakeridge won a league game for the first time in four years, playing in the brutally tough Three Rivers League, and qualified for the state playoffs for the first time since 2014. The Pacers then opened this season with a 50-point road win at Jefferson, Portland. All signs point towards Lakeridge being a program on the rise, the Olympians opened the season losing at home and I started these predictions saying I needed to see more from the Salem-Keizer schools before I picked one to win in Portland. Would I back off of that statement just four predictions later? Maybe.

Prediction: Olympians 35, Pacers 27

McNary at West Linn

Looking at the Celtics schedule at the beginning of the season, North Medford was supposed to be one of the easier games, which probably says more about McNary's loaded schedule than it does about the Black Tornado. After losing 55-27 at home, the Celtics now travel to play one of their toughest games against one of the best teams in the state, coming off an overtime win at Central Catholic, another elite program. McNary will have to improve drastically in all three phases of the game to have any chance of avenging last season's playoff loss at West Linn.

Prediction: Lions 50, Celtics 21

Derek Wiley is associate editor of the Keizertimes.

Last week: 4-2

Overall record: 4-2



Senior Izzy Haselip scored two goals in McNary's season opener at South Medford after dealing with a nagging ankle injury last year.

By DEREK WILEY

Of the Keizertimes

Izzy Haselip is not just the only member of the McNary girls soccer team to have played Summit.

She's also one of the few girls in the entire state who can say she has defeated the girls soccer giant, winner of five of the last six 5A state championships.

The last time Summit lost a playoff game, Haselip was there, celebrating with her Silverton teammates a 4-3 upset in the 2016 semifinals. Haselip scored the second goal of the game.

"The intensity was crazy and the atmosphere," Haselip said of the playoff game at Summit. "We had so many fans. They had so many fans. It was loud and crazy."

After her sophomore season, which ended with a 3-2 loss to La Salle Prep in the 5A state championship game, Haselip decided she needed a change and transferred to McNary.

"I feel like when I came here it was way more welcoming," Haselip said. "(McNary head coach) A.J. (Nash) was super excited to have me. That was nice, being the new person and everyone was so welcoming. My transition was so easy."

Nash expected Haselip to lead McNary's offense last season.

"In the initial trainings last year, we knew that she was a forward that could change the way our offense operates," Nash said.

However, a sprained ankle suffered during practice changed the course of her junior season. Haselip missed four league games and finished the year with only three goals.

"I was disappointed that I didn't really get to showcase how good I can be," Haselip said. "I felt like I was never really a 100 percent and I felt like it was always kind of nagging me."

Please see CHANGER, Page B2

One tough Medford

By DEREK WILEY

Of the Keizertimes

McNary talked about toughness all off-season.

But when it lined up right in front of them in the first game of the 2018 season, the Celtics simply weren't ready.

Running the ball right at McNary's defense from the opening whistle, North Medford racked up 572 yards of total offense on its way to a 55-27 rout.

Senior Elias Spence did most of the damage, carrying the ball 26 times for 342 yards and five touchdowns.

"They just came out and took it to us as far as their level of contact," McNary head coach Jeff Auvinen said of North Medford. "We had not brought that on each other. We did not see that at the jamboree. They just did a great job. They were flying all over the place, driving through on contact and we didn't know what hit us. They were aggressive and we did not handle it very well, obviously."

McNary didn't have the same success on the ground. Junior Walling was held to 29 yards on 11 carries. Robert Benson gained 21 yards on five carries.

The Celtics did most of their damage in the air, especially as the game got out of hand.

Starting quarterback Erik Barker completed 14 of 24 passes for 187 yards, one touchdown and three interceptions. His favorite receiver, Noah Bach, caught nine passes for 60 yards, and scored on a 1-yard touchdown run.

Jacob Jackson caught three passes for 47 yards and a touchdown. Griffin Oliveira had five receptions for 64 yards.

Trailing 55-14 with 3:03 remaining in the third quarter, senior quarterback Ryan Bamford came in relief and led the Celtics to two rushing touchdowns, including a 1-yard dive to complete the scoring with 2:16 remaining.

The schedule won't get any easier for
Please see MEDFORD, Page B2



McNary senior Jacob Jackson tries to tackle North Medford running back Elias Spence, who rushed for more than 340 yards and five touchdowns against the Celtics.

McNary Varsity Football
Week 1 Stats

| PASSING | C/ATT | YARDS | TD | INT | SCORING SUMMARY |
|-------------------------|---------|-------|----|-----|--|
| Erik Barker | 14/24 | 187 | 1 | 3 | FIRST QUARTER 0:10 Jacob Jackson 32 Yd pass from Erik Barker |
| RUSHING | CARRIES | YARDS | TD | | SECOND QUARTER 2:00 Noah Bach 1 Yd run |
| Junior Walling | 11 | 29 | 0 | | |
| Robert Benson | 5 | 21 | 0 | | |
| Ryan Bamford | 4 | 31 | 2 | | |
| RECEIVING | REC | YARDS | TD | | FOURTH QUARTER 6:42 Ryan Bamford 21 Yd run 2:16 Bamford 1 Yd run |
| Jacob Jackson | 3 | 47 | 1 | | |
| Noah Bach | 9 | 60 | 0 | | |
| Griffin Oliveira | 5 | 64 | 0 | | |