Keizertines SINCE 1979 · VOLUME 40, NO. 24

SECTION A MARCH 15, 2019 \$1.00

Bracing for

MHS campus will become 14-month construction site

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School campus is about to get a lot

Beginning later this month or April, Salem-Keizer School district officials are expected to start staging a multimillion dollar expansion of the Celtic's school.

"Now that we've purchased the [church] property, we'll start the mobilization. You'll see the trailers and putting the longer lead-time materials like pipes hanging out in the area," said Mike Wolfe, chief operations officer at the district.

The district recently came to a \$2.26 million agreement with St. Edward Catholic Church to purchase six acres of land it needed to proceed with the expansion. The purchase and the new development project is being funded by a bond voters passed in 2018. McNary is one of five area high schools scheduled to expand with the goal of absorbing 200 additional students over the next decade.

Over the next 14 months, a new wing on the north end of the building will be home to 14 classrooms and a new construction-focused, careertechnical education space and the front entrance of the building will be expanded and remodeled.

The day after staff leaves for the summer will mark the beginning of the most visible work on the existing campus.

"The whole north end of the building will be demolished," said Erik Jespersen, McNary principal. "That will take out the tennis courts, the current music studio, a video production, a graphic design room and a computer lab."

At the same time, seven new portable buildings, with two classrooms each, will be placed on the fields at the south end of the campus. A quadruple-wide portable unit will serve as temporary home to the weight room.

The campus will be an **PHASE ZERO** active conlate April/early May struction site through early June 2019 Staging for construction throughout Set up construction staging

Football

Field

& Track

mmmmm

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A++++++++++++++

<u> ئەسسىسسىسىلى</u>

area on land recently

(construction office.

Start construction of

materials storage area)

replacement softball field

purchased from St. Edward

of opening at the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year.

the entire

2019-2020

academic year

as the new

wing in con-

structed and

with the goal

"The disruption will be the students going out to the portables. The logistics of how that will work is big and still a work in progress," Wolfe said.

Students in the graphic design and media production programs will be some of the most impacted. The current graphic design program serves as a computer lab, screen printing shop and photo studio all-in-one. The media space also serves multiple functions.

"We will have to be creative with some programs," Jespersen said.

To help smooth out the rough patches, the district enlisted on-site design teams with the goal of troubleshooting before problems rear their heads.

"Working with the architects has been a godsend and marvelous. They asked really good questions and recognized that we are obligated to do certain

PHASE TWO

building

September 2019

· Construct front

through May 2020

Construct new two-story

classroom addition on

north side of existing

administration area

and media classroom

things the bond pays for. There's of creative decisions we were able to make in the process," Jespersen said.

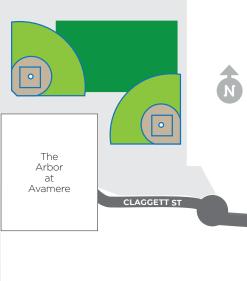
The new classrooms

will not decrease class sizes, but might give some larger classes more breathing room.

Sometime between September of this year and May 2020, Please see CHANGE, Page A8

change

TO RIVER RD ▶ LOCKHAVEN DR N June through August 2019 Campus closed for summer · Demolition of existing tennis courts and construction of replacement tennis courts Demolition of a portion of the northwest corner of the building that currently houses auto shop, digital arts, weight room. Baseball Also, an area outside the front entry in preparation for Phase 2 • Seismic work in the gym, selected walls • Install temporary portable classrooms Varsity Baseball Field



ELVIS has VANISHED PAGE B1

Celt spring

sports

previews

SECTION C



Map created by CANDACE JOHNSON, ANDREW JACKSON **Existing Building** 2nd floor

MAP LEGEND

Existing Building

1st floor

PHASE THREE

parking)

June through August 2020

• Campus closed for summer

and varsity softball fields (current fields will become

· Complete the parking lot

refurbishment and drive

Complete two-story addition

and front administration area

Remove temporary portable

• Construct replacement soccer

New soccer field

Two-story addition New admin. area

classrooms

Existing elements New softball fields

New student parking New entry courtyard

CHEMAWA RD N

New tennis courts

Sports impact will set in this summer



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

The McNary softball program will have to do away with the brand new dugouts they installed two years ago as they will begin playing on their new field by Saint Edward Catholic

BY MATT RAWLINGS

Of the Keizertimes

With construction on the expansion of McNary High School getting set to take place this summer, the protocol for Celtic sports — as well as other Keizer athletic programs — will be a little bit different over the course of the upcoming year.

While all the short-term plans haven't been set in stone yet, McNary athletic director Scott Gragg is confident of the game plan that the school is putting into place.

"We're going to be impacted and there's going to be inconveniences, but we feel like we identified the gaps of where we need to put people," Gragg said.

The softball and soccer fields, which are currently in

the space next to Chemawa Road, are being moved to the purchased space by Saint Edward Catholic Church to make room for the school

expansion that will include 14 new class-

rooms. Phase of the threephase struction process will begin this June, meaning that the McNary gym will be

completely off-limits as it will be go- user groups for the time being through seismic upgrades, meaning that the McNary summer volleyball and basketball programs will have to find other options for practic-

es, camps and games — both summer programs typically end in late-June.

While programs directly related to McNary High School will have ac-

cess to the "We need a football and baseball fields plan for soccer, this summer, we just don't the campus will likely not know what be available to that is yet." outside groups.

"Nothing is - Scott Gragg, really finalized, Athletic Director, McNary but the gen-

eral message is that outside ing, until we figure out all our

bases covered, they're going to have to find another place for a facility," Gragg said.

Please see SPORTS, Page A9







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