

# ATHLETE *of the Week*



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## TAYLOR EBBS Sophomore at McNary High School

Ebbs went 10-for-12 at the plate with 13 RBIs and four extra-base hits at the Jesuit/Mountainside Spring Break Tournament on March 25-26.

The shortstop's best game came against Roosevelt, where Ebbs had four hits, two homers and eight RBIs, leading the Celtics to a 17-5 victory.

# McNary proves to be tough test for top-ranked Tualatin

BY MATT RAWLINGS  
*Of the Keizertimes*

The Tualatin softball team hasn't lost a game since 2017. But McNary gave the top-ranked Timberwolves a run for their money on Monday night.

The Celtics outthit Tualatin 10-8 and held the lead through three innings, but the Timberwolves came back to score four runs in the top of the fifth to come away with the 7-4 win.

Despite the loss, McNary head coach Kevin Wise is pleased with the direction his team is heading as the Celtics prepare for the start of Mountain Valley Conference play.

"There were so many positives out of that game. To play well against a team that good is a huge confidence builder," Wise said.

"It's always disappointing to lose. But the reality off it is for six of the seven innings, we outplayed that team. We just had one bad inning."

The Celtics grabbed a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning when Taylor Ebbs scored on a throwing error after reaching on an infield single.

Tualatin responded by getting a run in the top of the third off of McNary pitcher Faith Danner, but the Celtics would regain the lead later in the frame.



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings  
Kamryn Miller sprints down the line after hitting a hard ground ball.

With one on and two out, Ebbs roped an RBI-triple to the center field wall, scoring Alexa Cepeda from first and giving the Celtics the 2-1 advantage.

Ebbs ended the game with three hits and a pair of RBIs. But later in the game, Tualatin showed why they are the #1 team in the state.

After getting a run in the top of the fourth, the Timberwolves exploded for four runs in the fifth to go on top 6-2.

Tualatin added one more

insurance run in the top of the sixth to extend their lead to 7-2.

However, even with a five-run deficit entering the bottom of the seventh, the Celtics weren't ready to throw in the towel as back-to-back RBI groundouts by Ebbs and Abbi Covalt in the final inning cut the lead down to three.

"To see these girls not quit in the seventh inning was really encouraging. They weren't about to just roll over," Wise said.

# CELTS, continued from Page A14

score from first on the play, which ended up being a rally killer for the Celtics.

## Game 3: McNary 17 Roosevelt 5 (Tuesday, March 26).

The Celtics put up crooked numbers in the first four innings of play, scoring 17 unanswered runs to cruise to the easy win.

While it was a monumental game for the entire McNary offense, it was an especially incredible day for Ebbs.

The sophomore went 4-for-4 with eight RBIs and hit two three-run homers to lead the Celtics to a lopsided victory.

Cepeda, along with Abbi Covalt and Kayelee Schwab, each had an extra-base hit in the win.

"The girls came out on fire that day," Wise said.

Danner got her fourth win of the season in the circle, surrendering seven hits and five runs in five innings.

## Game 4: McNary 11 Grant 1 (Tuesday, March 26).

A five-run first inning propelled McNary to an early lead and they never looked back, defeating Grant 11-1 and getting their third run-rule victory of the tournament.

Covalt and Ebner each went 3-for-3 with two RBIs while Cepeda continued her hot streak at the plate with a 4-for-4 performance.

Ebner outdid herself in her second start in the circle for the Celtics, going five innings without giving up an earned run.

Back-to-back doubles by Cepeda and Kate Ronning put McNary on top 1-0 with nobody out in the bottom of the first.

Ebbs then followed with an RBI-single to center field to score Ronning from second.

Moments later, a two-run single from Ebner extended McNary's lead to 4-0.

The Celtics would score one more run in the first inning, then push three more across in the bottom of the second to take a commanding 8-0 advantage.

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