

McNary falters against MVC's top team

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

There were times throughout the match when the McNary volleyball squad proved that they could hang with seventh-ranked Sprague. But in the end, the Olympians proved to be too much for the Celtics, as Sprague took the match in straight sets, winning 25-23, 25-13, 25-11 on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

"Volleyball is a game that's all about momentum. I thought we were on point during game one, but we definitely wavered in game two and game three," McNary head coach Crystal DeMello said. "You can't waver

against a team like Sprague."

Kills by Taylor Ebbs and Chloe Diede, as well as an ace from Marisa Ortiz, gave McNary the lead to begin game one.

Sprague came back to tie the game at 6-6, but another monster kill by Ebbs allowed McNary to grab the lead back.

"We had really good communication and we just trusted each other and everyone was doing their job," Ebbs said about the opening set.

The Celtics got stuff blocks by Zoie Warner and Chloe Martindale to keep the upper hand on the Olympians midway

through the set. Alexis Eldridge added an ace, but Sprague rallied back to tie the game at 17-all.

The back-and-forth play continued late into the first set. After trailing for nearly the entire time, Sprague regained the lead at 22-21. A block by Diede tied the score. The Olympians, however, scored three of the next four points to take the game one win.

Falling just short of stealing the first set proved to be a backbreaker for McNary, as all the momentum shifted to Sprague when the two teams switched sides.

McNary fell behind 10-6 in the second set and then allowed Sprague to score seven of the next eight points to take a commanding lead. The Olympians eventually won the set by double-digits.

The Celtics got off to a slow start once again in game three and couldn't recover, allowing Sprague to take the set by 14 points.

"I think we got a little discouraged and just slowed down," Ebbs said. "We know that we have a fight in us, but our energy went down."

Even though they currently sit in seventh place in the Mountain Valley Conference, McNary still has an outside chance to qualify for the post-season. But in order for that to happen, the Celtics will have to win their next two conference battles.

McNary will host South Salem on senior night at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 22. Then the Celtics will take on McKay at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24 in the season finale.



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings
McNary setter Alexis Eldridge serves for the Celtics in the third set against Sprague.

ATHLETE of the Week

presented by **capitol auto group**

HALEY HUGHES
Senior at McNary High School

#16 - Forward, varsity girls soccer and kicker, varsity football

On Thursday, Oct. 11, Hughes had a goal and an assist in the McNary girls soccer team's 8-0 win over McKay.

Later that night, Hughes kicked a 21-yard field goal, as well as an extra point, helping the Celtics football squad to a 51-18 win over Sprague.

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LET'S MEET Paula Moseley

Advertising Account Representative (Born: Silverton, Resides: Keizer)

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MOVING MUSIC FORWARD

OCTOBER 25 | 7:30 PM

BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

From the unsurpassed drama of its opening notes to the still-shocking power of its finale, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony remains the most revered masterpiece in the repertoire.

PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDES:
Gabriela Lena Frank's *Walkabout*, inspired by Peruvian culture, and Witold Lutoslawski's devastatingly powerful Cello Concerto

FEATURING:
Artist-in-residence Johannes Moser (pictured) and conductor Carlos Kalmar
The Artist-in-Residence program is sponsored by Drs. Cliff and Karen Deveney.
Tickets start at \$35

NOVEMBER 1 | 7:30 PM

STEPHEN HOUGH PLAYS MENDELSSOHN

The "Genius" grant winner returns to perform Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto, a hidden gem full of fire and drama.

PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDES:
Robert Schumann's "Spring" Symphony and two exquisite miniatures by French composer Lili Boulanger

FEATURING:
Pianist Stephen Hough (pictured) and conductor Clemens Schuldt
Tickets start at \$35

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