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Tennis served as a teacher for Haymowicz



McNary senior Avery Haymowicz was supposed to be the Celtics top singles player for a second straight year. But COVID-19 ended what would have been her final season.

By MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

After having three different coaches in her first three years of high school tennis, McNary senior Avery Haymowicz was looking forward to having some stability in the program in her final season.

Celtics head coach Sean Smith was coming back for his second year at the helm and, although many of them were new to the sport, McNary had nearly 40 girls come out for tennis this year.

“I thought it was going to be a fun season. I was really hoping to help the other girls grow,” Haymowicz said.

“Coach Smith was the first consistent role model I had as a tennis coach and I was really looking forward to have a stable coach that was dedicated to us.”

However, the COVID-19 virus disrupted any chance of there being high school tennis in 2020.

“I’m usually a passive person, but tennis helped me come out of my shell and learn to stand up for myself.”

— Avery Haymowicz

initially suspended spring sports until April 28 due to the spread of the coronavirus, but on Wednesday, April 8, the organization concluded that it was best to cancel all spring prep sports for the 2020 season.

“It’s heartbreaking. I feel for Avery, who won’t get to finish her final season, and how this will hurt the long-term development of our athletes,” Smith said.

“The fact that we won’t have a season still doesn’t feel real.”

As the only four-year player in the program, Haymowicz was named a team captain for the 2020 season. She also looked the fill the #1 singles spot for the Celtics for a second straight year. But it’s what happens off the court that Haymowicz will miss most about not being able to play tennis this year.

“I’m really disappointed that we will be missing out on things like team dinners

Bonn earns recognition for athletic and academic success

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

Former McNary offensive lineman Kyle Bonn wrapped up his career with the Willamette University football team last fall, but earlier this month, Bonn received recognition for his play on the field, as well as for his work in the classroom.

Bonn was one of two Willamette football players to qualify for the Hampshire Honor Society class of 2020, which is sponsored by the National Football Foundation.

The Hampshire Honor Society recognizes college football players from all divisions who are seniors and have maintained at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point

average. Players also must be seniors that either are starters or serve as a significant substitute.

“Football has always been a passion of mine and I always have made school one of my top priorities, so to be getting credit for both is just a great feeling,” Bonn said.

As an offensive tackle, Bonn helped the Willamette offense average 235 passing yards per game and 23 touchdowns through the air.

Even though the Bearcats only mustered a 1-8 record this season in year one under new Willamette head coach Isaac Parker — who was the head football coach at McNary from 2012 to 2014 — Bonn was proud to play a key role in laying the

groundwork for the rebuilding process at Willamette.

“Even though we didn’t have a great record, there was definitely improvement. I got to see what coach Parker built at McNary and I can’t wait to see what he’s able to do at Willamette,” Bonn said.

In the classroom, Bonn majored in psychology win a double minor in theatre and German. His grade-point-average was just under 3.5 at the end of fall semester.

Even with the spread of COVID-19, Bonn has been able to take online classes through Willamette and still expects to receive his degree next month. After graduation, Bonn is planning on pursuing his master’s degree

with the hopes of eventually becoming a counselor.

But no matter what the future holds, Bonn will always cherish his time as a Willamette student-athlete.

“The student-athletes at Willamette are their own community. We go and watch each other’s games and competitions to show our support for each other. We make sure that we’re doing okay with our classes, and if one team member has taken the class before, they are almost always open to help if another team member is struggling in the class. As a student-athlete you always know you have a support network and that’s important,” Bonn said.



Bonn

SKSD returning sports fees

With the cancellation of high school spring sports, the Salem-Keizer School District is working on refunding athletic fees.

If the fee was paid with a credit card, the refund will go directly to your card — minus a 2.75 percent convenience fee charged by the credit card company.

Any payments that were made by cash or check will be refunded with a check in the mail to the address listed on the student’s Synergy account.

The district is asking for patience as they work on issuing refunds as quickly as possible. There currently is no timetable as to when the parents of student-athletes will start receiving their refunds.



Devon Bedoya delivers to the plate in a McNary baseball game from last season.

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Wheatland Publishing Corp.
142 Chemawa Road N. • Keizer, Oregon 97303
Phone: 503.390.1051 • www.keizertimes.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Eric A. Howald
editor@keizertimes.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Matt Rawlings
news@keizertimes.com

COMMUNITY REPORTER
Lauren Murphy
reporter@keizertimes.com

ADVERTISING
Stephanie Wittman
advertising@keizertimes.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER & GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Andrew Jackson
graphics@keizertimes.com

LEGAL NOTICES
legals@keizertimes.com

BUSINESS MANAGER
Leah Stevens
billing@keizertimes.com

RECEPTION
Lori Beyeler

INTERN
Brooklyn Flint



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Lyndon Zaitz
publisher@keizertimes.com
2019-2020 President
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