

Mason McAlistar to tie the score up at 1-1.

“Hitting is contagious and once we got one, we started to grind,” Embree said.

The Volcanoes got the lead back in the bottom of the sixth on a solo-blast from Epperson for his second RBI of the night, giving his team the lead at 2-1.

In the top of the seventh, however, the Mavericks came back to take the lead for good. After McAlistar issued a two-out walk, Torcato brought on side-winder Matt McDonald to face Matt

Holiday, and the Mavericks slugger drove a fastball deep over the left field wall to put the Mavericks up 3-2.

Holiday would drive in another run in the top of the ninth on a sacrifice fly to left field to extend the Mavericks lead to 4-2.

Travis Edgar came in for the Mavericks in the bottom of the ninth to close the game out with a pair of strikeouts.

“They stayed together. We had plenty of miscues but guys picked each other up,” Embree said. “I am very proud of how they responded.”



Salem native Riley Newman threw five innings for the Mavericks and gave up just one run. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

McNary takes down West Albany for 15th win



McNary pitcher Lacey Vasas threw a complete game in the Celtics win over West Albany, giving up three runs and striking out eight. FILE PHOTO, Keizertimes

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary softball team moved to 15-0 on the season after defeating West Albany 9-3 on Monday, May 17.

Taylor Ebbs and KJ Custer each homered in the ballgame and Abbi Covalt went 3-for-4 with a double and a run scored in the victory.

McNary pitcher Lacey Vasas threw six

scoreless innings before giving up three runs in the bottom of the seventh. The sophomore right-hander also struck out eight while walking just three.

After neither team scored in the first two frames, McNary finally broke through with a run in the top of the third.

Custer led off the inning with a walk and after she advanced to second on a fielder's choice and then moved to third

on a stolen base, Vasas brought her home with an RBI-groundout to first base.

The Celtics then broke the game open in the top of the fourth with three runs in the frame.

McNary went up 2-0 thanks to a pair of errors from West Albany. Later in the inning, Custer hit a two-run bomb to center field to extend the lead to 4-0.

In the top of the fifth, three straight

singles by Covalt, Kate Ronning and Kaylee Schwab, and a West Albany error, gave the Celtics a 6-0 advantage. Schwab would score later in the frame on an RBI-groundout by Shaylee Custer.

Ebbs then led off the top of the sixth with a solo homer to center field, which was later followed by an RBI-double by Covalt to push the ninth run across — it was the 11th time in 15 games where the Celtics scored nine runs or more.

McNary will put their undefeated record on the line on Friday, May 21 when they travel to Sheldon for a 5 p.m. game — Sheldon is 15-1 on the season and defeated McNary 9-0 in the second round of the 2019 playoffs. The Celtics will conclude their season the following day when they host Bend at 5:30 p.m.

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