



Junior setter Maddison Corpe led the Celtics with 38 assists for the game. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

who had missed a chunk of the regular season due to an injury. Corpe had 38 assists on the night, and her crisp passing allowed the McNary hitters high-quality opportunities to put balls away at the net.

"Maddie is an excellent leader for us. She is a composed competitor that people can lean on," DeMello said.

"It's great to have her back on the court. Her communication helps us a lot," Lettenmaier added.

McNary led by as many as nine in the second set. Grant staged a late rally, but consecutive kills by Taylor Detrant allowed the Celtics to take game two.

Both teams went back and forth to begin the third set, but with the score tied at 13-all, McNary began to take control, scoring 14 of the next 18 points to win 25-17.

"We wanted it more," Corpe said. "Our energy and communication really stepped up."

In the fourth set, Grant was able to stay with the Celtics early. But as the game wore on, McNary continued to prove that they were the better team.

With Grant up 13-11, the Celtics rattled off six straight points to go up 17-13, forcing the Generals to burn a timeout. A stuff block from Jaelynn Wilcox and a kill by Maddox Snider allowed the Celtics to extend the lead to 21-15.

Lettenmaier ended the match with an emphatic kill to send the Celtics to the second round.

DeMello said the most encouraging aspect of the victory was seeing the trust and confidence her girls had in each other.

"All of them wanted the ball and all of them trusted that there was someone behind them if they were out of position. It was excellent to see them lean on each other and put together a great team effort," she said.

Celts eliminated by South Salem in second round

After winning their first playoff game in five years, the Celtics fell just short in their second round matchup to South Salem on Saturday, Oct. 30, falling to the Saxons in four sets (25-23, 26-28, 25-19, 26-24).

Emily Lettenmaier led the Celtics with 19 kills while Maddox Snider and Emily Blagg added 14 kills apiece.

"The girls performed really well. It was the best we played South Salem all season. Our serve-receive was performing really well and it was allowing us to run our offense. We just came up a little but short," McNary head coach Crystal DeMello said.

The Celtics finish the season with a 16-12 record.

"This team pulled together to overcome multiple obstacles and adversity to stay in relentless pursuit of their goals. I am so proud of them and I couldn't have asked for more," DeMello said.



Taylor Detrant dials up a serve for the Celts. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

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