

SCARE,

continued from Page 16

three points going into the fourth period, but a basket by senior Devon Dunagan with 4:41 left put the score at 38-37. Dunagan drew a foul on the attempt and knocked down both shots from the free throw line to put McNary in the lead.

From that point on, the Celts didn't relinquish the lead. Peterson made two key defensive plays to put the ball back in Celtic hands in the final two minutes and McNary escaped with a 50-44 win.

Dunagan led McNary scoring with 13 points, most of those coming in the final minutes. Mathew Ismay, Peterson and Van Cleave had nine points apiece; Cade Goff put in six; and Harry Cavell had four.

"Once we got into the 1-3-1 (zone defense), we were able to slow the game down. When we face them again, we have to do more of that in the game and just try to outrun the big guys," Peterson said.

Van Cleave said big teams can put the emphasis on some of McNary's strengths despite the challenges.

"It means we have to get out in the open court and take advantage of our speed and athleticism," he said.

The McNary boys were put to the test again Friday, Jan. 16, in a game vs. McKay High School.

"They had a good game plan and came out and played hard to take advantage of the weak spots in our defense," Van Cleave said.

McKay turned up the heat quickly keeping the Celts within two points, 10-8, at the end of the first frame. The Celts extended their lead to seven points by halftime, but Peterson said the team adjust-



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
Celt Devon Dunagan, whose late-game play proved pivotal against West Salem, pushes the ball up the court in the game Tuesday, Jan. 13.

ed its attitude in the second half.

"We knew that they would come out and thinking they were in the game and we had to come back out and hit them hard," he said.

McNary outscored McKay 23-14 in the third quarter and 12-5 in the fourth.

"Early on, (McKay) would get a big pop from the crowd each time they hit a basket, but our defense was consistent throughout the game," Kirch said. "We stayed composed and guarded which lets us sustain through the ups and downs of other teams."

Peterson led Celtic scoring with 18 points; Cavell, Dunagan and Van Cleave had 12 points each; Ismay and Cole

Thomas had two apiece; and Goff and Wyatt Grine had one point each.

Peterson and Van Cleave identified the team's game starts as the area that needs the bulk of their attention.

"We've had a couple of good starts, but not lately, we need to come out of the locker room and fly around," Van Cleave said.

Peterson added, "We want to be the best team in the league and we have to play like it."

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GIRLS,

continued from Page 16

West's 21, but it was too little too late for the Titans.

"We learned a lot about the character of our players that game. They played hard for 32 minutes, something that we haven't done all year, and it was a big win for us," Handley said.

Celt Sydney Hunter followed Flores in scoring with 12 points; Madi Hingston had a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds; Kailey Doult put up eight points, Jasmine Ernest had five; Hudgins had two; and Emma Jones and Hayes both knocked one down from the foul line.

If the West Salem game was a stride forward for the girls against top-tier opponents, the Lady Celts matched their effort with a game vs. McKay High School Friday, Jan. 16.

"We've been talking to the girls about having 'faceless opponents,' meaning it doesn't matter who we play, we have to execute our style of basketball.

In games you expect to win it can be difficult to get the players up to playing hard, but we came out with a focus on getting better no matter the opponent," Handley said.

The Celtics wiped the floor with the Royal Scots in a 61-8 win. McNary's defense barely let up, but McKay's players were struggling to get off good shots for much of the evening. The Salem team didn't even make it to the board until the second quarter, but McNary was able to get all of its players off the bench as a result.

Flores had another big game with 16 points; Hingston had nine; Doult, Hunter and Hudgins had eight points apiece; Jaylene Montano had six; and Ernest and Jones, had two each.

The Celtics had only one game slated this week. They travel to meet McMinnville High School Friday, Jan. 23.

"We know going up there is a tough place to play. They have some hard working players who are going to make us work to get good shots," Handley said.

CLASSIC: Several Celts crack state rankings

(Continued from Page 16)

Match winners for the Celts were: Riley Repp, fall 4:39; Ebbs, fall 1:50; Jonathon Phelps, 9-0; Carlos Vincent, 12-4; and Venegas, fall 1:18.

The Barlow High School Bruins also slipped past McNary in a 39-30 dual meet. McNary winners were: Repp, 14-2; Ebbs, 3:11; Sean Burrows, 19-6; Michael Phelps, 19-6; Gage Mance, fall 1:17; Venegas, 9-5; and Kyle Bonn, 5-3.

Culver High School also took down McNary 46-33. Celtic match winners were: J.

Phelps, 4-3; Mance, fall :49; and Venegas, fall :44. Kibbey, Ebbs and Bonn won by forfeit.

While the tournament wasn't the brightest moment for the mat men this season, several of the Celtics have cracked state rankings. Venegas is furthest along. His win over Reddekopp put him third in the state at 195 pounds. Taran Purkey is sixth at 182 pounds; Vincent is 11th at 160 pounds; M. Phelps is 10th at 132 pounds; Burrows is 13th at 126 pounds; and Ebbs is ninth at 120 pounds.

Volcanoes introduce new manager at banquet

A former player for the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes, Kyle Haines, has been announced as a the team's new manager.

Haines will be a featured guest at the Volcanoes' Winter Sports Banquet Friday, Feb. 6. The event begins at 6

p.m. with a social hour and sports memorabilia silent auction followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

Individual tickets start at \$35, couples are \$60 and tables of eight are \$225. Call 503-390-2225 to reserve.

bowling scores

Mixed Nuts Men's high games: Rodney Dunn, 235. Men's high series: Rodney Dunn, 571. Women's high game: Krystal Hall, 212. Women's high series: Krystal Hall, 574.

Ladies' Doubles Women's high game: Josie Algeciras, 179. Women's high series: Josie Algeciras, 452.

Queen Pins Women's high game: Bonnie Cox, 259. Women's high series: Bonnie Cox, 681.

Tuesday Seniors Men's high game: Kent Wilson, 256. Men's high series: Kent Wilson, 649. Women's high game: Erma Hoffman, 202. Women's high series: Ruth Tisler, 496.

Men's Continental Men's high game: Steven Sullivan, 268. Men's high series: Steven Sullivan, 704.

Twilighters Men's high game: Ryan Mott, 279. Men's high series: Ryan Mott, 769. Women's high game: Stephanie Mott, 212. Women's high series: Sharon Dornbusch, 556.

Statehouse Men's high game: Alex Vanover, 299. Men's high series: Bruce Splonski, 694. Women high game: Nancy Sharp, 220. Women's high series: Nancy Sharp, 579.

Bowl Crazy Men's high game: Joe Campbell, 297. Men high series: Joe Campbell, 648. Women's high game: Bonnie Cox, 257. Women's high series: Bonnie Cox, 708.

Seniors in Action Men's high game: Mike Schneider, 253. Men's high series: Bill Bowman, 669. Women's high game: Carol Lewis, 213. Women's high series: Darlene Griffith, 575.

Thursday Seniors Men's high game: Bill Griffith, 231. Men's high series: Bill Griffith, 647. Women's high game: Pat Shirley, 182. Women's high series: Pat Shirley, 503.

Bantam Preps Boy's high game: Auron Davidson, 139. Boy's high series: Auron Davidson, 363. Girl's high game: Rinoa Davidson, 167. Girl's high series: Rinoa Davidson, 386.

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