

BOYS,

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back to beat the Celts at McNary 71-62 a few weeks later. Those two games meant the teams shared the GVC title with 15-1 records.

Throughout the season, McNary was almost always a better second half team than they were game starters. It meant the Celts had to find ways to win in a variety of high-pressure circumstances. From holding on to close leads, to rallying from behind and even a win in overtime, McNary didn't have a single night off.

While it was a rigorous season, the accolades poured in by the end. The entire starting line-up received all-league honors. Tregg Peterson and Harry Cavell were both named to the first team all-league with Peterson being named Player of the Year. Devon Dunagan was named second team all-league. Trent Van Cleave was given third team honors. Mathew Ismay was an honorable mention, but also named Defensive Player of the Year.

The boys also topped the state in average GPA for 6A teams for the year. Collectively, they averaged a 3.65. It was the second consecutive year that the boys claimed the state title for classroom efforts.

"I feel best for our seniors. From where the program was when they were freshmen, to where it is now is due to their commitment and

hard work. It's not only the wins and losses, but the academics, the culture of the program and the character they have instilled in younger players," Kirch said.

Peterson, Dunagan, Cole Thomas, Drew McHugh and Connor Goff will all graduate in June, but that leaves McNary with a powerful nucleus of Cavell, Van Cleave and Ismay.

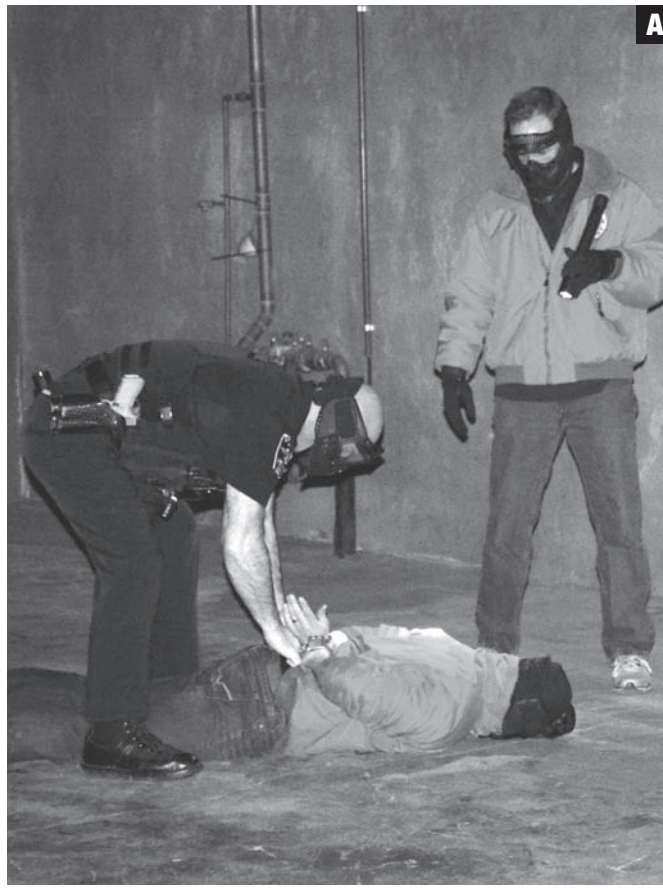
The team also has a long list of juniors who will be vying for spots next season.

"We have some solid pieces coming back with some younger guys chomping at the bit to earn playing time. I think the bar has been set by this year's team in regard to what our program is about and how we expect to compete for a league championship each year," Kirch said.

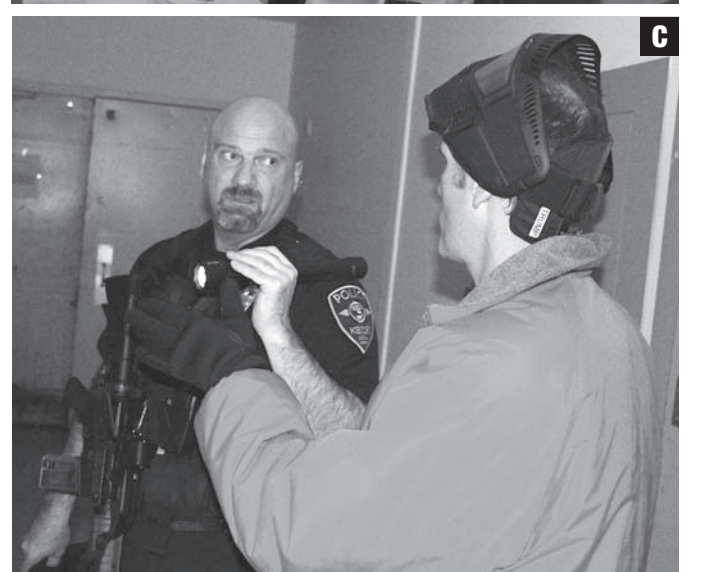
The program has several players making their way through the junior varsity ranks poised for time in varsity games.

While Peterson was the team's standout for much of the season, most of the players had their nights to shine. Kirch's plan is to build off that next season.

"Our preparation was key to our success this year along with our unselfish attitudes and the enjoyment they had playing with, and for, one another," he said. "While it hurts right now, when the guys have the opportunity to look back and realize what they have accomplished, it was a very special year."



A: Sgt. Bob Trump (right) watches as officer Dave Babcock handcuffs a suspect, played by Lt. Andrew Copeland on March 4.



B: Babcock goes through a hand-to-hand fighting exercise with officer Darsy Olafson.
C: Babcock (left) debriefs with Trump following an active shooter scenario in the back of the old Roth's building.

KPD,

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Trump then had officers go in the back and deal with a stubborn subject with a weapon, in this case played by Lt. Andrew Copeland. Babcock went through the scenario in

a dark back room. "He was not responding to my commands," Babcock said while debriefing with Trump. The scenario helped officers with a common issue.

"Handcuffs have to sometimes be put on in low light, high stress situations," Copeland said. "That's one of the top lawsuits police departments face, because you can cut off nerves."

The next scenario was of an active shooter somewhere in the building. Babcock entered the building, with Copeland playing the role of a victim and shouting about the shooter. Under careful observation from Trump, Babcock followed the sounds and tracked down the suspect.

From his vantage point at the front of the building, Olafson could observe the approach each officer took.

"Yesterday the first six officers took six different approaches," he said. "They all had tactical reasons for what they did. None of them were wrong. The first thing we look at is the hands, if they are out or if they are concealed. When you go in on scene, the first thing we clear is the hands. Some will stop (Copeland), while some will go by him."

being consistent in practice and during games.

"We want everyone to go 100 percent in each rep. This year, that didn't always happen and we developed some bad habits."

I'm hoping our players will remember the feeling going into next season, and will do whatever necessary to make sure we don't 'lose' games. It's okay to be beat by a team that is better, but I don't want our girls to accept giving away games with unforced mental and physical mistakes," Handley said.

GIRLS,

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Hingston, Hunter, Flores and Kailey Doult - will all return.

"It's going to be a tough decision on what our line-up will look like next season with a lot of young players like Kailey, Jaylene Montano and Paige Downer competing for starting spots and more time. We should also have some really good current eighth graders who will come in next year as fresh-

men and compete for playing time," Handley said.

The team's strength throughout the season was its ability to absolutely shut down another team on defense. The girls had four games - albeit against a few of the more struggling teams - when they allowed 15 points or less. Handley will be looking closely at who can become the team's "shut down defender," a la Ernest or Jones.

If there's was one aspect he hopes the girls will latch onto, it's the importance of

crossword

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CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

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- 1 Stone
- 2 At all
- 3 Notable caravel
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- 7 *The King and I* star
- 8 Some signatures
- 9 Redeemed 20 Across
- 10 Muscle Beach strutters
- 11 Author Lustbader

- 12 Symbol of smoothness
- 13 Calls, in stud
- 21 Pliny the ___
- 22 Primary
- 25 Long-time quiz-show host
- 26 Verify, bankwise
- 27 *Hawke*, of films
- 28 *House of Incest* author
- 29 Hoosegow
- 30 Iowa city
- 31 Immigrants' Island
- 32 Fouling fowl, to some
- 33 Triangular pieces
- 35 Run over quickly
- 38 Hamburger helper
- 39 Them, sometimes
- 40 Mr. Chaney
- 45 Bank accounts
- 46 Union members
- 47 Clout
- 48 Taxing time?
- 49 Kindergarten song opening
- 50 Ali, once
- 51 Agent's aid
- 52 Word between Friends
- 53 Right on!


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