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Celts beat No. 3 Washington team

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School varsity basketball team started off its season in a big way: toppling the third-ranked team in Washington at the annual Fitz Tournament in Spokane.

The Celtics beat Lewis & Clark High School, in its own house, 63-58 Friday, Dec. 4. It was the first of two wins the Keizer boys would enjoy at the tournament.

"They were good and big and physical, but we played fast and hard," said Ryan Kirch, McNary head coach. "We missed some shots early, but we were consistent defensively and that allowed us to work our way back into the game."

McNary took the final lead in the last four minutes of the game and then got to the free throw line to clinch the victory.

Celt Harry Cavell led the offense with 25 points and added 15 rebounds.

"It was really a matter of breaking the ice and figuring out our go-to plays and theirs," said Trent Van Cleave, a McNary senior. "We struggled on defense in the first half, but we were able to make adjustments."

Celt Adam Harvey said there wasn't one thing in particular that led to the outcome.

"It was keeping our composure, staying consistent and playing as a team, really," Harvey said.

Cavell led the team with 20 points in a 71-62 win over University High School Saturday, Dec. 5.

Kirch said the University team was slightly less skilled than Lewis & Clark, but would still be a playoff contender in the Greater Valley Conference.

"You could tell that we were tired after winning the night before. We hit a drought in the second quarter, but we made some adjustments defensively at halftime and came out in the third quarter with



Celtic Adam Harvey lays in a shot during a game with Tualatin High School Tuesday, Dec. 8. The Keizer boys won 56-45.

intensity. That allowed us to get some deflections and play our game," Kirch said.

After two games, Harvey said the team is still struggling to achieve high-energy starts, something of a carryover from

last season.

"We don't have the energy at the start of either game, but it comes quickly after the in-game plays like charges and dunks, or even three-pointers," he said.

Kirch credited Mathew Ismay for stellar play throughout the weekend.

"He played smart defense, took a few charges and did a great job on the boards. Cade

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McNary's Grant Biondi comes up for air in competition Thursday, Dec. 3, at the Kroc Center.

Vikings take out Celts at Kroc Ctr.

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Forest Grove High School swimming teams beat the McNary Celtics in the first meet of the season last week.

The McNary boys lost their side of the meet 111-56 while the girls managed to keep things a bit more competitive with a 91-73 final score.

The Lady Celts took only one race win – Abby McCoy, Samantha Williams, Lizzie Bryant and Kiana Briones in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:58.83 – but fared well with top-three finishes.

Anjelica Glassey, Briones, Haley Debban and McCoy took second in the 200 medley while Grace Condello, Alison Morgan, Madeline Weathers and Hunter Montague took third. Samantha Williams placed second in the 200 freestyle and Bryant took third. McCoy took third in the 200 yard individual medley (IM). Emily Alger and Briones took second and third, respectively, in the 50 freestyle; Debban placed second in the 100 butterfly; McCoy and Williams were second and third in the 100 freestyle; Emma Garland took second in the 500 free; Debban, Condello, Morgan and Glassey finished second in the 200 free relay; Bryant and Glassey took second and third in the 100 backstroke; Briones and Debban were second and third in the 100 breaststroke;



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald Abby McCoy swims the breaststroke in the medley relay.

and Rionna Zeller, Sydney Arlington, Amelia Garcia and Rachael Van Loo were third in the 400 freestyle relay.

Wins proved elusive for the Celtic boys as well, the exception was Parker Dean, Jake Wyer, Marcus Bracmonte and Evan Alger. They topped the podium in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:45.76.

Second and third place finishers were: Brock Wyer, Dean, J. Wyer and Ev. Alger, second in the 200 medley relay; Alex Sharabin, Grant Biondi, Isaiah Holt and Georgio Corrieri, third in the same race; Ev. Alger, third in the 200 freestyle; Biondi, third in the 200 IM; Ev. Alger and B. Wyer in the 50 free; J. Wyer, third in the 100 free; Holt, second in the 500 free; Biondi, Sharabin, Mathew Albright and Bryce Looney, third in the 200 free relay; Biondi and Dean in the 100 breaststroke; and Corrieri, Bracmonte, Albright and Holt, third in the 400 free relay.

Mat Men go 1 for 3 in tourney

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School varsity wrestling squad had a rough go of it hosting a tournament with Dallas, Roseburg and Cleveland high schools on the opposite side of the mat.

The Celtics fell to Dallas and Roseburg, but pulled out a win over Cleveland, which was ranked seventh in the state prior to the tournament. Of the two losses, a 75-6 defeat by Roseburg was the most bruising, said Jason Ebbs, head coach of the Celtics.

"It was the first time we walked out without winning any matches," Ebbs said. "Our job now is to get better and that's what we'll do."

McNary's six points in the outing came from a forfeit.

"This was our hardest year with a lot of new freshmen coming in for the first time, but we got fired up during the Cleveland match. That means we have good team spirit, and I'm excited for that and what it means," said Celt Jon Phelps.



McNary freshman Ricky Vincent fights off a near-fall attempt by a Roseburg wrestler. Vincent went 1-2 during the McNary Invitational tournament Friday, Dec. 4.

It is far too early to tell what the outcomes mean for McNary's prospects this season given that Roseburg typically tops the OSAA 6A clas-

sification year-in and year-out. Dallas is a perennial contender in the 5A ranks of the OSAA.

"This early in the season, all the teams are really struggling

with line-ups. This week, I've got 12 kids at 145 pounds," Ebbs said.

While no one went undefeated in the mix, Phelps

emerged with a 2-1 record. His Roseburg loss, he said, was the result of a momentary lapse on his part.

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Girls edge Warriors 36-33

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School girls varsity basketball team started its season with a 36-33 win over Hawaii's Kamehameha High School Saturday, Dec. 5.

It was the first time in more than a year the Lady Celts won a game with a single-digit lead.

"I liked how aggressive (Kamehameha was) because it's what we're going to see coming from the other teams this season," said Derick Handley, McNary head coach. "We played lights out man-to-man and that was a result of tremendous efforts on the part of our posts and good rotations all around."

The Kamehameha team is the equivalent of a Jesuit-type school in terms of size and program strength in Hawaii, Please see EDGE, Page A13