Bulldogs slip past Celts in pool

By ERIC A. HOWALD Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School varsity swimming teams had a pair of narrow misses in a meet with West Albany High School Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Lady Celts were edged, just barely, in a 89-81 loss. The boys were a bit father behind the Bulldogs with a 91-74 final score.

While meet wins have eluded the team in the first two weeks of the season, junior Abby McCoy said there's still been plenty of improvement on the girls' side of the events.

"Seeing how we've competed so far has given us extra confidence," McCoy said. "A lot of the girls that are new this year already knew people on the team and that's made us a tighter group in the pool. We have a lot more love and support for each other and that

helps us compete."

Junior Jake Wyer had generally the same assessment for the

"I think it went really great (against West Albany), and we did well as a group with everyone doing their best," he said. "It's been awesome to have a lot of new swimmers come out this season, but we all still have room to improve.

Head Coach Casey Lewin singled out Wyer for his rapid growth since his sophomore

"He is in a great place to get faster in his 50 free and the 100 free," Lewin said.

For the girls, Lewin already has high hopes for freshman Emily Alger.

"She is in the high 28s for her 50 freestyle. That's a good place to be, and she's not a club swimmer," Lewin said.

In girls races at the West

Albany meet: Marissa Kuch won the 200 individual medley (IM) in 2:17.11; Sarah Eckert won the 100 butterfly in 1:06.54; Abby McCoy won the 100 freestyle in 1:04.39; Emily Alger, McCoy, Kiana Briones and Marissa Kuch won the 200 free relay in 1:51.40; and Kuch won the 100 breastroke in 1:12.56.

"I'm trying to get a 27 in the 50 free and under a minute in the 100 free. My focus is on the 100 free right now," Mc-Coy said.

Second place finishers for the girls were: McCov, Briones, Eckert and Kuch in the 200 medley relay; Eckert in the 200 freestyle; Alger in the 50 freestyle; Hannah Corpe in the 100 freestyle; Lizzie Bryant in the 100 backstroke; and Haley Debban, Bryant, Corpe and Eckert in the 400 free relay.

The boys fared quite a bit



better than a week prior. They picked up two race wins and at least a second place finish in all but two races.

J. Wyer scored the team's first race win in the 100 freestyle in 57.41. He was also part of a winning 200 freestyle relay team that included Harrison Vaughn, Grant Biondi and Parker Dean, their time was 1:44.95.

"I'm really trying to get the 100 free time down to about 55 (seconds)," Wyer said.

Second place finishers were: J. Wyer, Vaughn, Brock Wyer and Grant Biondi in the 200 medley relay; Isaiah Holt in the 200 free; Biondi in the 200 IM; J. Wyer in the 50 free; J. Wyer



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald Haley Debban (top) makes a turn and Jake Wyer (above)

competes in the medley relay two weeks ago. in the 100 freestyle; Georgio the team bring a little more fo-

Corrieri in the 100 backstroke; Vaughn in the 100 breststroke; and Holt, Alex Sharabin, Bryce Looney and J. Wyer in the 400 free relay.

Lewin said he hoped to see

cus to practice.

"The biggest thing is just being more consistent in technique, sometimes we get a little bit tired and it shows up in the strokes in the pool," Lewin said.

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