

# BOYS,

continued from Page A10

team with 18 points and going 4 for 6 from three-point range. Easton Neitzel was second in line with 14 points and H. Cavell rounded out the top three shooters with 14 points.

Marist High School's Spartans were next in line for McNary at the tournament. The Celtics won 60-47. H. Cavell shot out the lights with a game-high 21 points, Neitzel scored 11.

Neitzel led the team with 16 points in McNary's final game of the tournament, a 68-62 win over Mountain View High School. The Cougars are the No. 2-ranked team in the OSAA 5A classification. Mathew Ismay had 14 points and C. Cavell had 11.

"Multiple guys did good things. Both Easton and Chandler really shot the ball well from the perimeter, but Trent (Van Cleave) really played his best ball of the season and at the level that he finished off at last season. As a team, we defended pretty well," Kirch said.



Celt Mathew Ismay tries to get a look at the rim past a South Salem defender.

KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWARD

# GIRLS: Pioneers, Crusaders dole out losses to girls

(Continued from Page A10) with the girls facing a new opponent each day of the competition.

"I think we still struggle a little bit assuming we can't play with teams based on their reputations, but I do believe that playing these games in December was a good experience for us. We know that we can compete now, and going forward into the playoffs it should help us," said Derick Handley, McNary head coach.

The Keizer girls started the Shootout with 57-41 win over St. Mary's, last year's second place 6A team. St. Mary's had graduated several key players, but McNary's depth and a standout defensive effort by sophomore Kailey Doult helped the team pull away.

"They have a girl, Bendu Yeaney, who can score with anybody in the state. Kailey clamped down on defense in the second half and was able to hold her to three points, which essentially stalled their offense," Handley said.

He also credited Kaelie Flores with carrying the team through a difficult first half shootingwise.

McNary drew Oregon City in the second round and struggled to overcome the Pioneer's press in the first half.

"We got it within 10 points at halftime, but we ran out of

gas and they kept getting easy looks off our turnovers. They are the best team we've seen to this point, with athleticism, shooters, and size," Handley said. Oregon City was the top-ranked 6A team in the most recent coaches poll.

The Lady Celts clawed back from the loss to take a one-point, 57-56 win over Skyview on Tuesday, Dec. 29.

The Storm played like phenoms on defense in the game, said Handley, but McNary held onto an eight-point lead going into halftime.

Skyview made a three-pointer with 24 seconds left to take a two-point lead, but Celt Jaylene Montano hit a trey with 11 seconds left to finish on top.

"We fouled their 6-foot-3 post with one second left and she missed both free throws to hold on for the win. They are a very good team from Washington and it was a great test for us," Handley said.

Dout had 20 points and six steals to help lead the team to victory and Handley said she was the best player for the team throughout the event.

On the final day of the tour-

namment, McNary played Jesuit High School to a 55-33 loss.

"We didn't shoot particularly well, but were only down six at halftime. We cut it to three in the third quarter, but I think a combination of missed shots and exhaustion from the other games made it hard for us to keep up with them. They are an uptempo team and we just didn't perform as well as we could have," Handley said. McNary shot only 18 percent in the second half of the game.

In some ways, Handley was grateful for the turbulence the team experienced at the Shootout.

"It was good we had to bounce back (from the loss to Oregon City) immediately the following day vs. Skyview. It would have been easy for our girls to quit, or to say we got a win in the tournament and not play hard, but they showed resilience," he said. "It proved to our girls that even when we don't play great games we can compete with anybody in the state. We need to be much cleaner as far as turnovers and making easy shots go, but if we play well we can beat these teams."

"It was good we had to bounce back."

— Derick Handley  
McNary head coach

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# SWIM: Celts win all but one varsity race

(Continued from Page A10) Vaughn and Alger in the 200 free relay in 1:46.42; B. Wyer in the 100 backstroke in 59.25; Dean in the 100 breaststroke in 1:16.38; and Dean, Biondi, B. Wyer and Alger in the 400 free relay in 4:07.40.

were: Lizzie Bryant, Emma Garland, Bailey White and Haley Debban in the 200 yard medley relay in 2:19.19; Kiana Briones in the 200 free in 2:19.49; Bryant in the 200 IM in 2:56.32; Sarah Eckert in the 50 free in 28.05; White in the 100 butterfly in 1:14.81; Debban in the 100 free in

1:05.65; Marissa Kuch in the 500 free in 5:18.32; Eckert, Briones, Abby McCoy and Kuch in the 200 free relay in 1:54.28; Kuch in the 100 backstroke in 1:07.91; Kiones in the 100 breaststroke in 1:22.47; and Eckert, Hannah Corpe, McCoy and Kuch in the 400 free relay in 4:12.10.

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