



KYBA hits Celtic hardwood

KEIZERTIMES/ERIC A. HOWALD

Keizer Youth Basketball Association players took to the court for a brief scrimmage during the halftime of McNary High School girls varsity basketball game Friday, Jan. 15.

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in attendance writhed with each narrow miss.

McNary senior Wyatt Grine finally put the team into triple digits with a shot from the foul line with 1:10 to go.

"Honestly, my heart was beating super-hard and I was praying, 'God, please let me make at least one of them.' That's what happened and it was a blessing," Grine said.

McNary had a bye Tuesday, Jan. 19. The team will host McMinnville High School Friday, Jan. 22.

AGUILAR, continued from Page A10

good baseball player. You need kids that are looking beyond high school because they anchor a team in many ways."

Aguilar started looking at his options for college about four months ago and contacted LCC. That turned into a conversation with Aguilar's summer ball coach and then an invitation to work out with the team.

"The workout went well and they offered me a position playing shortstop or second base," Aguilar said. "I like the coach and his playing style and

his way of talking to players. He's a sturdy coach with an old school approach to the game."

Keeker felt the program would be a good fit as well.

"He'll have the chance to play right away and he's already talking about looking at four-year schools and contacting them so his journey doesn't end at Lane," Keeker said.

Whether his career ends at LCC or some other school, Aguilar said he intends to be a leader on the varsity roster this spring.

"I'm really going to focus on getting wins for my team and being an overall teammate," Aguilar said.

MCNAUGHT, continued from Page A10

their home for a meal and that was the last straw. I knew I had to go there," said McNaught.

McNaught signed a letter of intent to play for the Pirates at a ceremony Friday, Jan. 15, at McNary.

The last year has been a wild ride for McNaught. She was actually considering giving up softball because she couldn't find a college that offered the academics that would lead to a career as an oncologist alongside a strong softball program.

Despite her doubts, she stuck with the sport and achieved new heights. In 2015, she hit .500, had a .540 on-base percentage, scored 40 runs and stole 17 bases. The totality of her output landed her on the first team all-Greater Valley Conference and the first team all-state.

"Kinsey is a stellar young lady and being able to watch her grow as a person and a softball player has been a

blessing for me," said Kevin Wise, McNary head coach.

McNaught is also a rare breed on the field, a slapper, which is a batter that moves up on the ball when she is hitting to "slap" it into a hole in the infield then beat the throw to first base.

"It takes a lot of skill and the ability to read defenses and pitchers. On top of that, Kinsey is probably the best center fielder in the state right now," Wise said.

The Pirates won their conference the past two years, but McNaught has her sights on bigger goals.

"My ultimate goal is to help them get to a national championship, even as a freshman," she said.

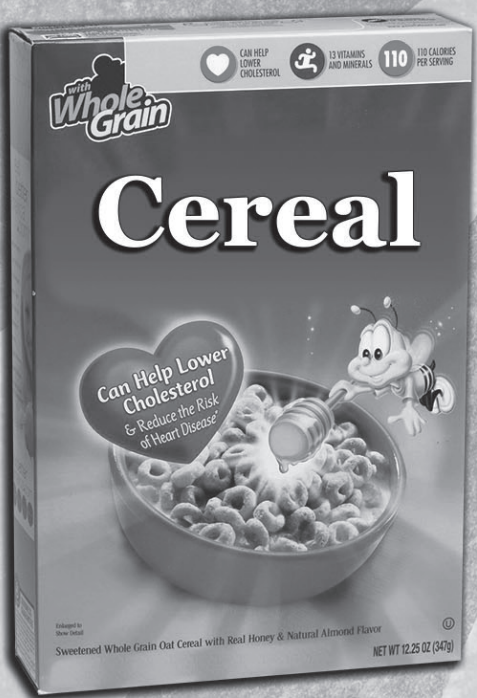
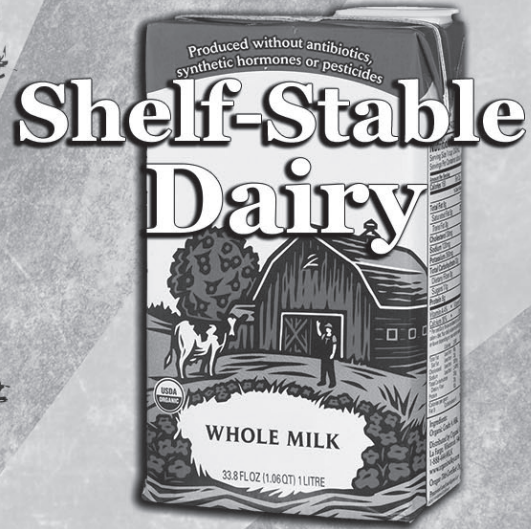
puzzle answers

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6	9	2	3	4	7	5	8	1
8	7	1	6	9	5	3	4	2
3	4	5	2	8	1	7	6	9
4	2	9	5	3	8	6	1	7
7	5	8	1	2	6	4	9	3
1	3	6	9	7	4	2	5	8

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