

GIRLS,

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Offensive output aside, McNary was also suffocating on defense. The team forced 27 turnovers and had 40 deflections that led to easier baskets than gutting it out in half-court.

"We're not a very good half court offense team and, when you have the athletes that we do, other teams like to get out and run. The new defense forces other teams to pressure us and it made for a lot of turnovers and easy baskets," Handley said.

Hingston said wreaking havoc on defense was part of the plan from the get-go.

"We're definitely at our best when we transition well and we wanted to swarm them on defense and get out quick," she said.

With three games left in the season, against West Salem, McMinnville and McKay high schools, the Celts were positioned second in the Greater Valley Conference. That was unlikely to change, barring catastrophe.

Handley said the team's coaches were putting an emphasis on practicing for each opponent rather than focusing on fundamentals.

"Our big thing right now is having the plan and executing it when it comes to games. We had some issues in the South Salem game when the mo-



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
McNary's Anita Lao makes a move to the perimeter in the game with West Albany.

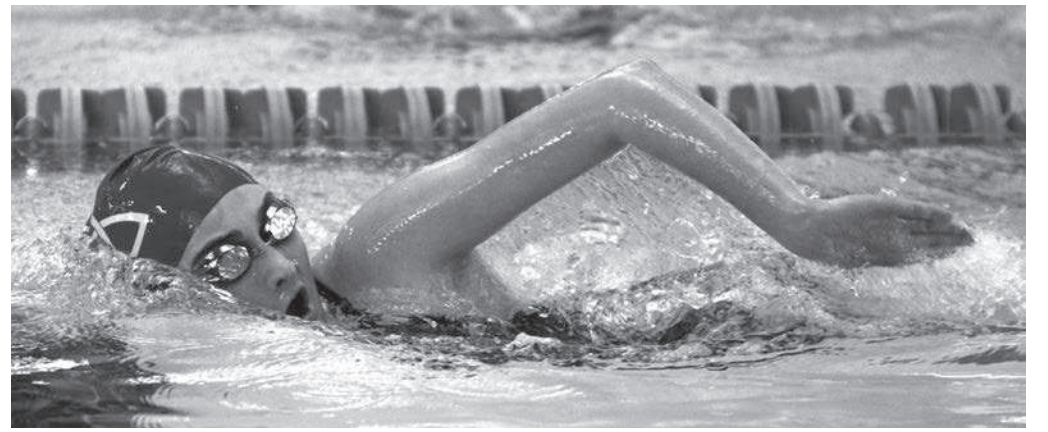
ment got a little too big and we forgot what we were supposed to do," he said.

Hunter said the team still has high expectations and new goals as the post-season nears.

"This is just half our season and knowing we have another

half left is a big thing for us. We are going to be playing for the seniors for the rest of the year," Hunter said.

McNary hasn't made it deep into the playoffs since before the current seniors were freshmen.



Swimmers head to district

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary High School swimmers are headed to the district competition Feb. 12-13 in McMinnville.

While earning the Greater Valley Conference crown might be a stretch for both the girls and boys, Casey Lewin, McNary head coach, said some relay teams and individual racers are poised to do big things for their teams.

"The past couple of weeks we've been a bit worn down but, between tapering and some rest, I like the place we're in headed into the district meet," Lewin said.

For the girls, Lewin singled out sophomore star Marissa Kuch, who won individual and relay district titles as a freshman, Sarah Eckert, Haley Debban and Emily Alger.

"Emily has been swimming fast lately and Haley has really turned it up in the past few weeks," Lewin said. "Haley has had a great year in the 50 free and that was not something I saw coming."

McNary senior Kiana Briones had her eye on two of the Lady Celt relay teams.

"Our 200 medley and the 200 free relays are pretty strong this year, but we have amazing up-and-coming swimmers that are freshmen and sophomores," said Briones.

Briones is hoping for good things for herself in the 200 free and 100 breaststroke.

"I'd like to come in around 1:15 in the 100 breast. I'm not sure exactly where it would put me, but based on the dual meet outcomes I think it could put me in a good spot," Briones said.

In boys races, Lewin thought both Jake Wyr, Parker Dean, Evan Alger and exchange student Georgio Corrieri had a shot at progressing to the state races.

"Evan and Parker are just strong competitors, Jake has been on a tear recently and



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
Top: Hannah Corpe. Above: Georgio Corrieri.

Georgio has really gotten it going in the past few meets," Lewin said. "They'll do all right for themselves."

Dean has his sights set on the 200 free and 100 breaststroke.

"I'd like to get in the top eight in the 200 free and I got a new personal record recently, so I think I have a shot," Dean said. "I also would like to make it in the top 15 of the 100 breast, it's eluded me since I was a freshman."

The team was working on pacing and strong starts in the waning days of the season, Dean said.

The boys 200 free relay might also have a shot at placing in the meet.

"We've lost a couple of tenths with some seniors who graduated last year, but we could do well if things go our way," Lewin said.

In the run-up to the district meet, the Celts faced their final opponents in the GVC, McMinnville High School, Tuesday, Feb. 2.

Both the boys and girls lost the meet, but the team swam well despite the outcome, said Lewin.

The girls lost their side of the meet 100.5-69.5. Kuch was the only race winner for McNary. She posted the best times in the 50 and 100 free - 24.81 and 54.20, respectively.

The boys lost 128-40 to the Grizzlies.

puzzle answers

L	A	P	E	L	H	U	G	O	C	R	A	M		
E	N	U	R	E	E	N	I	D	O	A	H	U		
S	T	R	A	I	N	E	D	V	E	G	G	I	E	S
S	E	E	S	A	L	O	E	L	I	S	T	S		
		E	A	T	Y	E	T	I						
O	F	B	A	K	E	D	B	E	A	N	S			
P	A	R	E	L	E	M	I	S	T	B	A	R		
E	R	O	D	E	D	E	N	M	E	R	L	E		
N	A	Z	I	A	G	N	A	T	E	A	V	E		
D	E	V	I	L	E	D	H	A	M	N	E	D		
		N	O	T	E	R	O	W						
S	A	C	R	O	N	E	B	O	A	I	D	A		
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	K	I	S	S	E	S
T	O	R	E	A	M	O	R	S	T	I	N	T		
S	Y	N	E	W	E	N	T	M	E	S	T	A		

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

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WILSON,

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Eventually, the task is accomplished with considerable cussing and discussing.

Shotguns securely locked in the truck, we go for a walk on a sandbar along the stream. My excitement meter goes off the scale: mule deer tracks! A bear track! I have never seen a bear track in the wild, having grown up in the southwest.

A dream come true. Hunt blue grouse, in country loaded with mule deer and black bear? And, we are all alone in a hunter's paradise.

Before drifting off, hopefully to dream about deer, bear and grouse, we hear a critter

"sniffing" around the tent. My pulse hits at least 200. Goose bumps—the size of golf balls—pinball their way up my spine. Neck hair lifts my head off the pillow. With the crunch of a hoof on gravel, Dad assures me it's only a doe "checking us out. They're always curious." I stay at full alert until the critter gets at least a half mile away.

Suddenly Dad's weak, quivering voice shocks me wide awake. "G.I., a bear's got me, through the tent. He's crushing me." I instantly hit combat mode and unleash the most primal scream known to man, reaching somewhere above the threshold of pain.

Then, it gets exciting. Dad, in a deep REM state, is jolted into a totally different shock. He catapults from his sleeping bag, like a missile out of a silo, hits his head on a metal brace—

leaving an opening for blood that will soon be there.

I'm frantically trying to claw my way out of the WWII surplus sleeping bag, when Dad comes down on my face and does a 15-20 yard sprint, trying to get traction. Two hundred pounds of spinning bare feet, on unprotected skin, assure an ample supply of DNA mixture around the immediate area.

Dad blasts out the door like Usain Bolt's twin brother, Insane, coming out of the blocks.

I finally tear free from my "down prison" and stagger to freedom. I try to photograph the scene in my mind. Here stand two grown men, in their skivvies, bathed in brilliant harvest moonlight, blood streaming down faces, eyes big as cue balls, staring in disbelief.

What the hell just happened?

Before the big sleepover.
A perfect moment to talk about alcohol.

For tips on how—and when—to begin the conversation, visit: www.underageddrinking.samhsa.gov

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