

Senior Tyler Ellertson could lead the McNary offense in 2016 after being the junior varsity quarterback last season.

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley



# Auvinen wants McNary to be unpredictable

By **DEREK WILEY**  
*Of the Keizertimes*

After going 9-9 over the last two seasons and falling in the first round of the state playoffs, McNary head football coach Jeff Auvinen believes the Celtics are ready to rise to the next level.

"We've been hovering around that .500 barrier," Auvinen said. "We lost two heartbreakers last year, which 4-6 could've been 6-4 really fast. I think as coaches we are ready to take that next step up and compete. It

will be interesting to see if that translates."

Auvinen wants MHS to be unpredictable on both sides of the ball. Brad Emmert is back as offensive coordinator but Auvinen is taking over the defense, which allowed an average of 30 points per game last season.

The Celtics base defense will switch to

odd 3-5, 5-3 fronts with some even fronts sprinkled in.

"We're going to try to blitz different gaps at different times," Auvinen said. "We're going to try to run in various coverages, try to keep the offenses as off balance as

we can, try to be unpredictable with our pressure and our coverages and our alignments, too."

Senior Kolby Barker, a Greater Valley Conference First Team selection last season and Division-I recruit at defensive end, has moved to linebacker

and will lead the McNary defense. Barker will also play offensive tackle.

"He's going to play nearly every snap of the ball this year," Auvinen said.

Barker isn't only the only Celtic who will be depended on to play both ways.

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— Jeff Auvinen, Head Coach

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