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Celtics torch Grants Pass, Oregon City



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

McNary senior Adam Harvey had 17 points against Oregon City on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Before the season, McNary boys basketball coach Ryan Kirch said, "Scoring won't be an issue for us."

That wasn't just coach speak.

After blowing out Grants Pass 81-34 on the road Friday, Dec. 2, the Celtics throttled Oregon City 85-54 at home on Tuesday, Dec. 6 to start the season 2-0.

"A lot of our guys can really shoot the ball so we're tough to guard," Kirch said. "When we give up a good pass knowing it may not be my night, I may get two (points) tonight and 18 tomorrow, that's just so difficult to guard and prepare for. Buying into that and understanding it's for the good of the group, and our guys have done that. A lot of that is attributed to their leadership, a bunch of veteran guys who have been around a little bit and they want to enjoy the

heck out of their senior year."

Easton Neitzel was the star Friday night. The senior went 5-for-8 from behind the 3-point arc to finish with 26 points along with eight rebounds.

Alex Martin went 5-for-5 from the floor to add 10 points, six rebounds and four assists. Cade Goff had 12 points, five rebounds and four assists.

As a team, McNary shot 33-for-45 from the field, made six of nine 3-pointers and was 11-for-12 from the free throw line.

"We're very skilled individually and the guys are very unselfish," Kirch said. "Guys are making extra passes. Our shooting percentage is pretty high because we're taking good, fundamentally sound, balanced shots."

The Celtics never trailed Tuesday. After winning the tip, Matthew Ismay threw a perfect bounce pass to Neitzel who laid it up to give

McNary a quick 2-0 lead.

The Celtics led 11-1 before Oregon City answered with a pair of 3-pointers to get within 12-10. The Pioneers knocked down another 3-pointer to tie the game at 16-16.

Leading just 25-24 early in the second quarter, McNary closed the first half on a 16-5 run to enter halftime up 41-29.

"We called the timeout and had a real spirited one-way conversation that kind of lit a fire under the guys a little bit," Kirch said. "With guys like this that's about all it takes for them to get back engaged and check right back in to where they needed to be and I thought we played very selfless offensively."

With 18 points, Ismay led the scoring effort as the Celtics continued to stretch their lead in the second half up to 62-44 heading to the fourth quarter.

"We had a good start and we were ready and we lost energy a little bit," Ismay said. "We were up 11-1 and we have to not let them back in the game when we get a lead like that because I think we just lost energy and thought it might be an easy game or something but we need to play harder."

Cade Goff and Adam Harvey each had 17 points. Chandler Cavell added 16 off the bench.

Through two games, McNary is averaging 83 points. To compare, the Celtics only scored 80 or more points once last season in a 102-70 win over McKay.

"We have more guys that can score all over the court," Ismay said. "We're a lot more veteran overall this year. Today, we got a ton of points in the paint."

As happy as Kirch is with McNary's offense, the team has work to do on defense.

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Lady Celts start 3-0

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

With the graduation of three of its top four scorers, McNary is looking for girls to step up and put the ball in the basket.

For game one, it was Jaylene Montano and Kailey Doult, who combined for 27 points as the Lady Celts rolled past Barlow 58-23 at home on Thursday, Dec. 1.

Montano, a senior point guard, knocked down two three-pointers in the first 1:05 to give McNary a quick 6-0 lead.

"Coach (Derick Handley) has been telling me to shoot more and said I'm taking a new role this year and just be confident with it so I kind of took that on," Montano said. "He said miss or make, keep shooting. I was just following what he was saying."

Doult, a junior, finished with 12 points, including six in the first half as the Lady Celts went into intermission with a commanding 26-7 lead.

Montano's hot shooting continued in the second half as she made three more 3-pointers in the third quarter to finish the game with 15 points by going a perfect 5-for-5 from behind the arc.

With McNary up 47-15, Montano didn't play in the fourth quarter.

"Her (Montano) and Kailey Doult are two girls that



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

McNary senior Jaylene Montano was a perfect 5-for-5 from behind the 3-point arc against Barlow.

we've talked a lot to the last couple of days," Handley said. "For us to be successful we need them to have confidence in the outside shot and for Jaylene I think the first one falling kind of got her going for the rest of the day. I'm hoping that it can be consistent. It's not one of those she needs to make the first one to keep it going but she is such a steady player for us."

"I talked a lot about trying to stay level emotionally, she's the prime example of it. She'll never get too frustrated. She never gets too excited, even today she hits her 3-pointers and she comes into the locker room and she's embarrassed about it. She's going to have a really good year and she's a girl that will surprise a lot of people."

Senior Sydney Hunter got



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

McNary junior Kailey Doult drives past a pair of Barlow defenders on Thursday, Dec. 1 to score two of her 12 points.

into foul trouble, picking up her third on a charge three minutes into the second quarter, but still managed a double-double of 14 points and

11 rebounds.

In her absence, sophomores Abigail Hawley and Anita Lao got more playing time.

Hawley finished with three

points, five assists and four rebounds.

Lao added five points, two assists and three rebounds.

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Burrows, Hernandez, Vincent lead McNary

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Sean Burrows, Nick Hernandez and Carlos Vincent opened the 2016-17 wrestling season with a bang.

Competing in the McNary Duals on Friday, Dec. 2, all three Celtics went an undefeated 3-0.

"Those kids did an exceptional job against a pretty decent group of kids," McNary head coach Jason Ebbs said. "Those kids have put in some time and they're showing if you stick with wrestling, you can grow and you can get better."

At 132 pounds, Burrows, a two-time district placer who finished one spot away from

advancing to the state tournament last season, started the McNary Duals by pinning Jon Lee of Milwaukie. Against Renegade, Burrows won by forfeit and then pinned Emilo Jimenez of Tigard to finish the tournament.

"My hope is that he has his eyes set on going to the state tournament this year and maybe doing some things to get on the podium," Ebbs said. "He's been around the block a little bit. He knows how to wrestle."

At 138, Hernandez, a sophomore, pinned Milwaukie's Deontrey Hannan-Storm and Renegade's Anthony Knudsen before winning a 12-9 decision over Jonathan Grasser of

Tigard.

"He's one of those guys that's coming up through our program that's got a nice little edge to himself," Ebbs said. "He wants to compete. I love seeing him go 3-0. He wants to get better. He's willing to do a little extra work to do that. It's a pleasure to see him have that kind of success. It's good to see him get some of his hard work pay off like that."

Hard work also paid off for Carlos Vincent, who wrestling at both 160 and 170, pinned Milwaukie's Vinny Pederson, won by forfeit against Renegade and then edged Tigard's Marshall Smith 4-1.

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KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

Sean Burrows went 3-0 in the McNary Duals on Friday, Dec. 2, including a pin of Milwaukie wrestler Jon Lee.