

BARKER: 'It was so much nicer than I expected'

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Barker didn't always plan on playing Division I football either. But after his junior season, programs began flooding him with attention. Wyoming was the first to offer, then Air Force last summer.

"I started this with let's see if maybe I can play for Western Oregon or something like that," Barker said. "I did not expect this. It's been so much greater than I could have ever expected. It's a dream come true. I'm so excited about my future and about the Air Force Academy."

Barker will have a shot at early playing time as both of the Falcons starting defensive ends were seniors.

"I don't assume that I will beat out a guy who's already been there for three years but the opportunity is all there," he said.

While Barker was unanimously voted first team all-league by the Greater Valley Conference coaches, what stands out to McNary head coach Jeff Auvinen is what Barker did off the field for the Celtics.

"His positive attitude, his work ethic, obviously his talent but he wasn't always as talented but he always worked as hard and he was always a great kid," Auvinen said. "It's been a pleasure. He's just done everything we could possibly ask from him in four years."

Barker's leadership really shown in a pep talk on a Saturday morning after a tough loss this season.

"I hadn't heard Kolby speak in such a fashion before," Auvinen said. "He was getting after his teammates and sort of challenging them to make them better. He didn't say anything inappropriate. He set the tone and got them going and I think it was huge for our season. I'll remember that probably more than any play or game or anything like that."

Air Force, which plays in the Mountain West Conference with Wyoming, finished 10-3 last season, including a 27-20 upset of Boise State followed by a 45-21 win over South Alabama in the NOVA Home Loans Arizona Bowl.

Whiteaker, Claggett win

By DEREK WILEY
Of the Keizertimes

Whiteaker Middle School won six of 11 matches wrestled and added six forfeit victories to defeat Judson 72-30 on Thursday, Feb. 2.

Winning by pin were Joey Barros (75), Cameron Parks (102), Giovanni Segura (110), Destiny Rodriguez (132), Gabriel Castro (140) and Reed Hamilton (195).

"I was especially proud of the way our wrestlers bounced back from our first loss of the season against a tough Waldo squad who came to Whiteaker last Tuesday (Jan. 31) and wrestled very well," Whiteaker head coach Kelly Hafer said.

Claggett Middle School easily defeated Leslie 60-29 on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Jordan Orr (75), Javier Navarro (85), Nichols Ramirez-King (110), Joey Hernandez (125) and Ivan Chavez Acosta (150) all won by pin.

At 90 pounds, Damien Hernandez won a 5-4 decision and Logan Yoder won his first varsity match with a take down in overtime at 140 pounds.

The Panthers also topped Parrish 66-30 on Thursday, Feb. 2.

Winning by pin were Na-



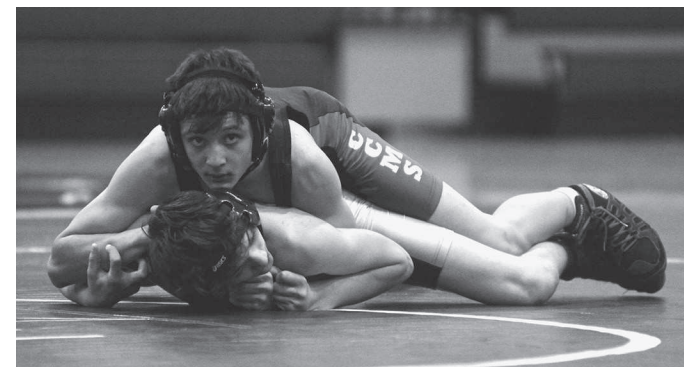
At 110 pounds, Whiteaker Middle School wrestler Giovanni Segura pinned his Judson opponent on Thursday, Feb. 2.

varro, Hernandez, Grady Burrows and heavyweight Michael Hettinger.

Acosta narrowly won his match 11-10 and Brandon Blanco also won by points.

Claggett next wrestles at Houck on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. Whiteaker goes to Leslie.

The two Keizer middle schools will wrestle each other on Thursday, Feb. 23 at McNary High School.



Wrestling for Claggett Creek, Joey Hernandez won by pin fall in recent matches against Leslie and Parrish.

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"I've been through waves where I thought I'm going to play or I'm not going to play and to know now that I'm officially going to get to play, it's probably the best feeling in the world. It's a dream come true."

Evans thanked her mom and grandma, who haven't missed a game in 13 years.

"My mom and grandma have been my rock through this entire journey," she said.

It was their film of Evans play that was uploaded to the recruiting Website ncsports.org that ultimately got the

attention of Webster.

While on campus, Evans was also able to meet a professor in photography, the subject in which she plans to major.

"They have over a million dollars worth of camera equipment," Evans said. "I won't have to bring my own camera. I can use theirs. They had just got back from a trip to New York to take pictures. Most schools don't offer a photography major. It's crazy how it happened. I believe it's fate."

With five goals and two assists, Evans, who plans to play forward in college, led the Lady Celts in scoring last season as

McNary made the playoffs for the first time since 2009.

Evans is also a trailblazer for the girls soccer program, which in the past four years had two girls play at Chemeketa Community College but none to four-year programs.

"It's a big deal. I think it's the beginning of many more to come," Lady Celts head coach A.J. Nash said. "To actively be recruited from outside the state and to get that letter and to commit to a program for four years, it's a fun experience. I had the privilege of going through that as a player and it's an honor and it's earned."

"For the (McNary) program

itself, it really helps us show what success looks like from a high school career. It paints a picture for the youth in the program as to something to achieve or aspire to, what it looks like when you've met your goal."

Even though she'll be far away, Evans plans to come back to McNary and watch the Lady Celts.

"I built a family here," she said. "I'll always come back and try to find a way to see, one of my best friends, I want to see her senior night. My goal (after graduation) is to come back and be an assistant coach to A.J."

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"We have given careful consideration in choosing the safest products available for our customers and the environment," said local representative Cody Harris.

AEPI offers pest control services to Portland and all of Multnomah County, Washington, Columbia, Yamhill, and Clackamas counties as well. There are also technicians that serve the Oregon coast, including Clatsop, Tillamook and Lincoln Counties.

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce welcomes American Extermination Plus, Inc. and their representative Cody Harris, as they expand their operation to service the entire Salem/Keizer area including all of Marion and Polk counties.

Mr. Harris is a problem solver and finds his passion is in helping people. With AEPI, Mr. Harris strives to do his best to support the needs of all his customers and believes that American Extermination Plus is the standard for pest elimination services in Oregon.

"I enjoy working with something that I can control. I want to educate my customers on their pest issues and treatment methods. I also want to make sure that our customers know that we're a business that prides itself on honesty, strong character and moral values," said Mr. Harris.

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce welcomes AEPI, and they wish the best to Cody Harris, his wife and four children as they settle in the Keizer area.

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