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Doutt, Lady Celts topple North Salem

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

The bye week did McNary good. In their first game in seven days, the Lady Celts (13-4, 7-2) dominated North Salem 67-34 on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Eight different players scored, including four in double figures. “We focused on us a lot and trying to share the basketball and work to get the best team shot that we can get,” McNary head coach Elizabeth Doran said. “I thought we really shared the ball well tonight.”

Senior Kailey Doutt led the Lady Celts with 19 points, four rebounds and four steals in three quarters.

“I was excited to play again,” Doutt said. “I don’t like having breaks so I think we were all excited for this game, to come back. I think we moved the ball pretty well and we shot the ball pretty well from the outside.”

McNary shot 47 percent from the field.

Paige Downer went 4-for-4 from 3 to finish with 12 points.

Sabella Alfaro added 10 points and six

rebounds. Mackenzie Proctor provided 10 points off the bench.

The Lady Celts were a perfect 13-for-13 from the free throw line.

“We’ve been working on the amount of times we get to the line and increasing our free throw percentage, so that was good to see,” Doran said.

McNary led from start to finish as Downer made her first 3-pointer less than a minute into the game.

The Lady Celts led 16-9 at the end of the first quarter and 33-15 at halftime.

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KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
McNary senior Kailey Doutt scored 19 points in three quarters against North Salem on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

A student of the game

Gardelli comes to McNary from Italy

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Riccardo Gardelli had played basketball on a club team in Varese, Italy for 10 years.

But he had to start from scratch when he decided to come to McNary as an exchange student.

“It was like starting from zero,” said Gardelli, who came to America in August through Cultural Homestay International.

While Gardelli wanted to travel the world and meet new people, his main reason for coming to the U.S. was to get better at basketball.

He didn’t know where in the country he would end up.

“I was lucky because there are exchange students who go to America and go to a place where nobody is there,” Gardelli said. “Keizer is a good city with a big school. Right now I feel very good right here. McNary is a really good program and people.”

Gardelli began playing club basketball when he was 7 years old for Pallacanestro Varese, the professional team in his hometown.

Since Italy’s high schools don’t have athletic teams, the kids play on club teams. Gardelli’s club season lasted nine months.

“It was a little bit hard because it was like my second family,” Gardelli said of leaving his club.

College basketball also doesn’t exist in Italy.

“In America, you have the possibility to win a scholarship if you’re good. In Italy, that’s not possible, because you don’t have sports in college. So after under-18, you have to go to a pro team,” Gardelli said. “If you’re not good enough, you’re not going to make it. You’re career is going to stop there.”

“My dream is to come back here (America) and play college basketball. It doesn’t really matter, Division II, Division I, community college, it doesn’t matter, just play four-year basketball.”

Gardelli’s exchange program ends on June 16.

After playing in college, Gardelli would like to return to Italy to play professionally.

“I went to America because I wanted to improve my basketball and then come back to Italy more ready to play on a pro team,” he said.

While Italian students are taught basic English beginning in elementary school, Gardelli said he didn’t really begin to study the language until three months before he came to the U.S. in August.

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KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
Riccardo Gardelli, an exchange student from Italy, has averaged eight points and 3.7 rebounds per game for McNary this season.

McNary wrestlers fall short on senior night



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
McNary honored senior wrestlers Jerry Martinez, Noah Grunberg, Isaiah Putnam, Josiah Christensen, Brayden Ebbs, Alex Harrison, Joe Collins and Blake Norton before its dual against North Salem on Friday, Jan. 19.

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

McNary rolled on Thursday, Jan. 18, defeating McKay 51-12 and West Salem 55-15.

But the Celtics couldn’t carry that momentum over to senior night, falling to North Salem 42-30 on Friday, Jan. 19.

“We wrestled way better yesterday than we did tonight and I’m not talking effort,” McNary head coach Jason Ebbs said. “I’m talking about technique. There’s certain mistakes that we made tonight that we simply did not make last night and they were fatal mistakes.”

Senior Brayden Ebbs (170) opened Friday’s home dual, his final at McNary, with a

pin in the first period. After North Salem won the next two matches by major decision and pin fall to go ahead 10-6, senior Blake Norton (220) earned a pin in the second period to put the Celtics on top 12-10.

But North Salem won the next four matches, including a forfeit at 106 pounds, to grab the lead and never let it go.

At 126 pounds, McNary junior Enrique Vincent pinned his opponent in 30 seconds. Senior Jerry Martinez then earned a pin in the second period at 132 pounds.

The Celtics final six points came on a forfeit at 145 pounds.

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