

# Celtics rout Sherwood in first round

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

McNary cruised into the second round of the 6A boys basketball state playoffs with a 71-46 win over Sherwood on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

Sherwood, the No. 28 seed in the state tournament, battled No. 5 McNary early but Riccardo Gardelli and Chandler Cavell made back-to-back 3-pointers at the end of the first half and the Celtics went into intermission with a 27-17 lead.

"I thought we came out hard," McNary head coach Ryan Kirch said. "I thought we were a little rushed early on but as always we hang our hat on our defense and rebounding and I thought we did a really nice job, particularly in the first half defending. We shared the ball a little bit better in the second half and we were able to extend our lead."

McNary outscored the Bowmen 18-10 in the third quarter to take command of the game and lead 45-27 entering the fourth.

"Once the rhythm of the game gets going, our guys fall into a habit of just continuing to move the ball and having good spacing and being able to get the shots we want, whether it's Chandler attacking or kicking out to Lucas (Garvey) or Ricky," Kirch said.

"The floor was really well-spaced. I thought we did a better job spacing the floor in the second half. When we do that and share the ball we're pretty tough to defend."

Cavell led the Celtics with 24 points, including 13 in the first half. He also pulled down 11 rebounds and dished out three assists.

Gardelli scored 16 points, making four three-pointers, to go along with 12 rebounds and three blocks.

Garvey added 13 points, two rebounds and three assists in the rout.

Andrew Jones chipped in with six points, three re-



McNary senior Riccardo Gardelli had 16 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks on Wednesday, Feb. 28 against Sherwood.

bounds and four assists as McNary advanced to the second round of the playoffs for the fourth season in a row.

"Especially in the second half, we started to share the ball a lot more and play better defense," Cavell said.

"I know they didn't have a lot of made field goals. We gave them a lot of free throws which we've got to work on but they didn't have a lot of made shots. I think we guarded well and that was a big difference."

Sherwood shot 9-for-14 from the free throw line in the second half and made 13 field goals.

McNary junior Boston Smith missed the game with mononucleosis. Junior Walling started in his place and finished with five rebounds.

"For a guy that was playing JV at the beginning of the year, to get his first varsity start in a playoff game, is pretty impressive," Kirch said of Walling. "The thing we love about him is he's just going to compete hard for you. You



McNary junior Griffin Oliveira scored five points off the bench for the Celtics in their first round playoff win against Sherwood on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

don't need him to score a lot of points. You just need him to defend and rebound. He's

going to go as hard as he can the entire time and he gave us really good minutes tonight."

## ATHLETE *of the Week*



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### Chandler Cavell Senior at McNary High School

McNary senior Chandler Cavell, who was unanimously voted First Team All-Greater Valley Conference, scored 24 points to go along with 11 rebounds and three assists as the Celtics defeated Sherwood 71-46 on Wednesday, Feb. 28 in the first round of the 6A boys basketball playoffs.



McNary senior cheerleaders Kenda McNaught, left, and Jordan Marshall were honored before the boys basketball playoff game on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

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