

FORD

TRUCK MONTH



\$11,000 OFF MSRP

On 2018 F150 SuperCrew 4x4 XLT



Donofrio's Skyline Keizer



3555 River Road N, Keizer
(503) 463-4853
www.skylineforddirect.com

*MSRP \$46,895. Sale price \$35,895 after \$4,250 Skyline Discount, Rebate \$3,750, Bonus Cash \$1,500, Trade Assist of \$1,500. Plus license, title & documentation fee \$413 and applicable taxes. Vin#46006, Stk#182841. Must trade 95 or newer. On approved credit. Art is for illustration only.

KeizerSports

KEIZERTIMES.COM

McNary legend coaching Whiteaker

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

Luke Atwood is easy to spot at Whiteaker Middle School football practices.

He's the coach with his 4-year-old son on his shoulders.

"Coaching at Whiteaker is such a nice life balance for getting to spend time with my kids," Atwood said. "There's more flexibility, which really helps me at this point in my life."

As a player, Atwood was quarterback of McNary's 1996 football team that won a league championship and reached the semifinals of the state playoffs.

After Atwood graduated, the Celtics then won the state title in 1997.

"Those guys had so much playoff experience and our team was predominantly juniors and with the guys they were returning the next year, they were heavy favorites to win state and they went out and did it," said Atwood, who was at McNary during the glory years.

"I had the best receiver (Shawn Kintner) to throw to the school has ever had," Atwood said. "I had the experience of playing with the best football player (Aaron Koch) our school has ever had. I played with the best baseball player (Mark Hills) McNary has ever had. I got to play with amazing athletes in my three sports and be surrounded by the best so it was an amazing experience. The coaches were the best, Vic Backlund and Tom Smythe. I was completely spoiled by my teammates and coaches."

After high school, Atwood played three sports at Willamette University—football, baseball and basketball.

A couple of weeks before graduation, he received a call from Smythe, offering him a spot on the Vienna Viking Football Club in Austria, where Smythe coached in the spring.

Atwood played seven years in Austria, winning two European championships as a receiver and two at quarterback.

"I got out of football before I was 30 and that seemed like a good time," Atwood said. "Everybody was starting to look younger and I didn't know their names. It was a different club and I had done everything that I wanted to so why not move on to the next chapter at that point."

While playing in Austria, Atwood coached with Smythe at McNary in the fall. He was the defensive backs coach when the Celtics won their second state title in 2001.

"In 2001 it was surprising because going into the season we had some great players but we weren't favored to win it like we were in '97," Atwood said. "Credit Tom Smythe, he told those boys right away that the plan was to win it and they believed it and went and did it."

Please see ATWOOD, Page B2



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley
Luke Atwood, a former three-sport athlete at McNary, is the defensive coordinator of the Whiteaker Middle School football team.

Celtics come together



McNary senior Nigel Harris, left, runs away from a group of Sprague defenders for a 30-yard gain Friday, Oct. 5. Quarterback Erik Barker hugs linebacker Dyami Rios after the Celtic defense stops Sprague at the end of the game.



KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

Celtics don't lack confidence



league. We flushed those first five games out, completely. We're focusing on league now and focusing on ourselves and getting better every week."

The five games, four of which came against top 10 teams in Oregon and Washington, prepared McNary for its Mountain Valley Conference schedule.

"That was the toughest competition I've ever faced," Barker said. "I think it made all of us way better."

What clearly stood out against Sprague was McNary's defense. Gashed in previous games, the Celtics held Sprague to 150 yards on the ground, 65 of which came on two carries—31 and 34 yard touchdown runs by Landon Davis.

"We know they're a physical team," McNary linebacker Junior Walling said of Sprague. "We prepared all week to stop that run game and I think our defense came out strong."

Can the Celtics carry the

momentum over the Santiam Pass to Bend?

My picks:
Dallas at McKay

McNary wasn't the only Salem-Keizer squad to get its first victory of the season as the Royal Scots won 17-15 at Corvallis last Friday. McKay gets another winnable game at home against 1-5 Dallas. The Dragons only win came at North Salem but then they lost to Corvallis. Two of Dallas' other losses were by just one point so maybe the Dragons are a little better than their record. Still, I'll take the team coming off a win, not the one on a three-game losing streak.

Pick: *Royal Scots 14, Dragons 13*

North Salem at Central

The Vikings followed up their first win of the season by getting shut out at home against undefeated West Albany. But the Bulldogs have made a lot of teams look bad, including North Salem's next opponent—Central.

Please see BATTLE, Page 10

McNARY VS. SPRAGUE STATS

PASSING	C/AT	YD	TD	INT
Erik Barker	16/26	185	2	1
Ethan Flanigan	11/27	91	0	4

RUSHING	CAR	YD	TD
Chris Sharp	21	77	0
Landon Davis	6	59	2
Junior Walling	14	41	0

RECEIVING	REC	YD	TD
Nigel Harris	3	95	1
Wiley Roberts	6	52	0
Griffin Oliveira	3	34	0
Jacob Jackson	4	25	0
Devynn Schurr	3	17	0
Junior Walling	2	9	1

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER
7:29 Junior Walling 3 Yd pass from Erik Barker
SECOND QUARTER
6:16 Nigel Harris 30 Yd pass from Erik Barker
THIRD QUARTER
5:28 Landon Davis 31 Yd run
FOURTH QUARTER
11:30 Landon Davis 34 Yd run
5:18 Erik Barker 3 Yd run

UP NEXT: McNARY AT BEND SPRAGUE AT SUMMIT FRIDAY, OCT. 12 7 P.M.

McNary wins league opener

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

To earn its first win of the season, McNary had to play as one.

"I think the big thing tonight was we knew we had to come together," McNary senior Jacob Jackson said after the Celtics' 21-14 victory over Sprague on Friday, Oct. 5.

"And when we came together we saw what we could do and we just got so excited about it that it showed and I thought we played really well because of it."

McNary jumped out to a 14-0 lead over Sprague, thanks to two touchdown passes by Erik Barker, a 3-yard dump off to Junior Walling in the first quarter and then a 30-yard strike to Nigel Harris in the second.

But while the Celtic offense struggled in the second

half, the Olympians answered with 34 and 31 yard touchdown runs by Landon Davis to tie the game with 11:30 remaining.

Finally finding a groove with outside runs by Harris and Jackson to get inside the Sprague 5-yard line, Barker gave the lead back to McNary on a 3-yard touchdown run with 5:18 left to play.

"We called that play, emptied the backfield and coach (Brad Emmert) told me to run it in," Barker said. "I saw a huge hole open up. I couldn't ask for better guys up front."

McNary senior Griffin Oliveira then intercepted Sprague quarterback Ethan Flanigan with 1:21 remaining to seal the victory.

The interception was Oliveira's second of the game as the Olympians turned the

Please see McNARY, Page B4