## McNary tested at Newberg Tourney

By MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary wrestling team went 1-2 at the Earl Gillis Invitational at Newberg High School on Friday, Jan. 11, with their dual victory coming against North Marion and their two defeats coming at the hands of David Douglas and Newberg.

"I thought we wrestled really well overall," McNary assistant coach Chris Stahl said. "It can get pretty emotional when some of the young kids get victories that you weren't expecting."

One of those victories came from 106-pound freshman Damian Hernandez in his bout with David Douglas's Marquez Goldsby.

After falling behind by five points in the final round, Hernandez scored on a reversal and a near-fall to force overtime. 16 seconds into the extra session, Hernandez earned the pin to put his

team on the board.

Esteban Victoria scored a third-round fall in the 132-pound match for Mc-Nary and 138-pounder Gilbert Parra also picked up a victory against the Scots, winning via fall in the second round. David Douglas, however, was victorious in the final eight bouts and won the dual 59-18.

Things went from bad to worse for McNary against Newberg — who finished second in state last season — as the Celtics lost by either pin or forfeit in every match against the Tigers.

"Newberg caught almost everyone of our guys in an arm-bar, so that's obviously something we're going to work on this week," Stahl said. "We learned that we're susceptible to it, so we need to fix the problem."

Despite the lopsided loss, the Celtics were able to come back with a 54-27 victory against North Marion in their following match.

Hernandez, along with Grady Burrows (113 lbs.) and Noah Gatchet (120 lbs.), earned early-round falls to start the match off.

Matthew Mehlhoff (160 lbs.) and Garrett Wampler (182 lbs.) also earned pins in each of their respective bouts.

"(North Marion) gave us a few forfeits, which helped us out, but I was proud of how we grew from one one of the worst beatings we've ever taken," Stahl said. "It was a nice morale booster."

McNary will compete in the Oregon Classic this weekend at the Deschutes County Expo Center in Redmond.

The Celtics next Mountain Valley Conference dual meet will take place at South Salem on Wednesday night at 7 p.m.



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

McNary's Brain Bates (blue singlet) tries to avoid getting pinned in the first tournament of the season back in November.

## ATHLETE Of the Week





Abigail Hawley
Senior at McNary High School

#21 - Varsity Girls Basketball

The senior wing had 10 points in the Lady Celts 42-39 victory over West Salem on Friday, Jan. 11.

In her following game, Hawley led McNary with 17 points and helped her team come from behind to defeat Bend 64-62 in an overtime thriller on Tuesday evening.

Hawley is averaging 15.6 points per game in Mountain Valley Conference games this season and has played an entrical role to the Celtics 3-0 start in league play.

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