



The wind ensemble of the McNary High School Band with their second place trophy from the state competition.

Submitted

## BAND,

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over the course of the school year. And, after sending in a pre-recorded set, they received one of 20 invitations to the state competition.

McNary has been no stranger to the state meet in recent years, earning a fourth place finish in 2017 as well as a pair of third place finishes in 2014 and 2016. But after not placing in 2018, this crew was ecstatic to earn second place recognition.

"I don't think anyone thought that we would place that high," said Eryne Ige, who plays the flute. "When they announced McNary, everything was a blur. I'm pretty sure I jumped over my parents sitting next to me, then jumped over the people sitting in the aisle."

"I was just so excited that we placed second, especially with it being my senior year."

While Nelson was also pumped about the placement, he was more excited about the fact that the band put on their best performance on the biggest stage.

"The real reward for us as a program is to know that we had a phenomenal performance, and we knew that when we came off the stage," Nelson said. "We really define success based on our perfor-

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mance, like the one we had on Saturday, more than the trophies that we receive."

"In my opinion, it was the best performance we had all year and that is what we chase."

McNary gave the fifth performance on the day, which took place at 10:15 a.m. in front of a trio of judges. After a 30-minute warm-up, the Celtics gave a performance that lasted just over 20 minutes.

But considering that the McNary band has been working since September for this moment, the pressure for everything to all come together smoothly is real.

"The preparation process is usually way more than people anticipate. Band kids, and fine arts in general, put in so much work for a performance that lasts 20 minutes," Ige said. "There are hours and hours that go into hoping that your

one shot is enough for the judges."

After their time on the stage came to a close, the band was required to go to a separate room and show their sight reading skills.

Each student was given a piece of music that they haven't seen before. The band was required to work together to look at the problem areas in the sheet, rehearse the piece for about seven minutes, then perform the music together in front of a single judge.

"The idea is that we value both the highly prepared performances on stage, and also the skills necessary to read and execute music right off the bat," Nelson said. "The philosophy is, we don't want teachers just handing out music in September and doing nothing, but work on that music until May. That would deprive kids of a quality education."

It can be very difficult for high school students to perform a random piece on the spot, especially after performing in front of hundreds of people. But the McNary band showed the ability to roll with the punches.

"With the adrenaline pumping from the performance, it's always really hard to judge how hard our piece of music will be," said bassoon player Cole Branson.

"This year, in particular, we were met with a pretty difficult piece with strange time signature and a key signature that didn't work well ... But we worked together well and just played through the piece."

The final results were tallied later that night, and the McNary band went into celebration mode when their second place finish was announced.

"We were honestly shocked that we placed so high. When we heard our named called, everyone was almost questioning what was going on," Branson said. "It was so fun to be a part of."

Nelson, who graduated from McNary in 2005, is in his first year as a band director at the school and is pleased to carry on the great tradition of the Celtics band.

"I have greatly benefited from wonderful teachers that have been here before me," Nelson said. "To achieve at this level is not something that happens overnight. They have been well prepared and the middle school teachers at Whiteaker and Claggett Creek Middle School were terrific educators for these kids before they got to high school."

"I view it as continuing a tradition. I'm a very small piece in a program that is set up for success."

## police scanner

### MONDAY, MAY 6

11 a.m. - Criminal mischief in the 4000 block of Fillmore Street N.  
1:22 p.m. - Criminal trespassing and shoplifting in the 5000 block of River Road N.  
9:49 p.m. - Two counts of shoplifting in the 6000 block of Keizer Station Boulevard NE.

### TUESDAY, MAY 7

4:35 a.m. - Arrest for unlawful possession of methamphetamine in the 4000 block of Noon Avenue NE.  
10 a.m. - Failure to perform duties of a driver when property is damaged in the 4000 block of Clark Avenue NE.  
12:22 p.m. - Arrest for truancy violation in the 800 block of Plymouth Drive NE.  
9:28 p.m. - Driving under the influence of Manzanita Street NE and Trail Avenue NE.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

12:05 a.m. - Motor vehicle theft in the 4000 block of River Road N.  
1:06 a.m. - Criminal mischief, mail theft and criminal trespassing in the 200 block of Cummings Lane N.  
10:07 a.m. - Traffic accident in the 5000 block of Joan Drive N.  
12:17 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 3000 block of River Road N.  
2 p.m. - Unlawful entry into vehicle with the intent to commit theft in the 7000 block of Trebber Street NE.

### THURSDAY, MAY 9

1:02 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of 15th Avenue N and Jodelle Court N.  
7:02 p.m. - Scam by internet or telephone in the 1000 block of Clearview Avenue NE.  
11:38 p.m. - Theft of bicycle in the 900 block of Chemawa Road NE.

### FRIDAY, MAY 10

7 a.m. - Public indecency, resisting arrest, probation violation in the 6000 block of Wheatland Road N.  
8:55 a.m. - Restraining order in the 100 block of Garland Way N.  
9:30 a.m. - Crime damage and

criminal trespassing in the 1000 block of Chemawa Road N.  
9:30 a.m. - Burglary and crime damage in the 1000 block of Chemawa Road N.  
5:27 p.m. - Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer at the intersection of Vera Lane NE and Lockhaven Drive NE.  
10:40 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 4000 block of River Road N.

### SATURDAY, MAY 11

1:30 a.m. - Arrest for interfering with a police officer, unlawful possession of methamphetamine and giving false information to a police officer at the intersection of Chemawa Road N and Indian School Road NE.  
2:12 p.m. - Traffic accident resulting in injury at the intersection of Ulali Drive NE and Jorie Lane NE.  
6:48 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless endangerment in the 3000 block of River Road N.  
9:56 p.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants and failure to perform duties of a driver when property is damaged in the 5000 block of 12th Avenue NE.

### SUNDAY, MAY 12

12:45 a.m. - Arrest on warrant at the intersection of Cherry Avenue NE and Clearview Avenue NE.  
2:19 a.m. - Arrest for driving under the influence of intoxicants at the intersection of McClure Street N and Sonata Lane N.  
2:53 a.m. - Domestic disturbance and failure to perform duties of a driver when property is damaged in the 5000 block of Robindale Drive N.  
11 a.m. - Theft in the 4000 block of Four Winds Drive N.  
6:40 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 2000 block of Keizer Road NE.  
7:20 p.m. - Arrest on warrant in the 5000 block of River Road N.  
10 p.m. - Physical harassment in the 3000 block of Partridge Lane NE.  
10:50 p.m. - Disorderly conduct in the 500 block of Greenwood Drive NE.

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