



Blanchet
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Outstanding College Prep Education for Grades 6-12

NOW ENROLLING



www.blanchetcatholicschool.com

KeizerSports

KEIZERTIMES.COM

Celtics falter in second half against Barlow



McNary receiver Noah Lelack tries to gain extra yardage after a catch in the Celtics 21-9 loss to Barlow on Friday, Sept. 27.

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary football appeared to be in complete control of the game in the first half. The second half, however, was a different story.

After McNary took a 9-0 lead into the locker room, Barlow scored 21 unanswered in the second half to come away with the 21-9 win on Friday, Sept. 27, dropping the Celtics to 0-4 on the season.

"We wore down physically and mentally and kept stabbing ourselves in the foot," McNary head coach Jeff Auvinen said. "We definitely left some plays out on the field on both sides of the ball."

The Celtics had their best opening drive of the season to start the game off. On the second play of the contest, McNary quarterback Erik Barker connected with Riley Flores on a deep post for a 47-yard gain putting the Celtics in the red zone.

Three plays later, Barker found the end zone on a quarterback sweep, just reaching the across the pylon before going out-of-bounds, giving McNary the early 6-0 lead.

Barlow wouldn't have nearly as much success on their first drive as they went three-and-out and were forced to punt

the ball back to the Celtics.

After multiple mistakes stalled their next two possessions, the McNary offense appeared to get back into a rhythm in the second quarter when Celtics defensive back Junior Nunez forced a Barlow fumble to give his team the ball back.

Barker started off the possession by picking up a first down with his legs. Two plays later, the senior signal-caller escaped a heavy pass-rush and found Zane Aicher for a 15-yard gain to the Bruins 22-yard line.

Even though the Celtics couldn't punch it in the end zone, Daniel Mood hit a 36-yard field goal the give McNary the 9-0 advantage.

While Barlow drove deep in to Celtic territory late in the second quarter, the Bruins were turned away when Aron Montoya picked off a pass from Barlow quarterback Jaren Hunter on the last play of the half, preserving the McNary lead.

However, the Celtics couldn't sustain the momentum once the second half began.

Early in the third quarter, Hunter found Nathan Amadio

Please see CELTICS, Page A8

Local ballplayer battles with chronic illness



Submitted
Kaidon Miller, who has type 1 diabetes, was given a sportsmanship award by McNary Youth Baseball last season.

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

To most people, Kaidon Miller looks like an average 14-year old kid.

Miller just began his freshman year at McNary High School and has a deep passion for baseball. While he has excelled as a pitcher, Miller was also recognized as a sportsmanship award winner for McNary Youth Baseball (MYB) in the spring.

But what many people don't know is that Miller's ability to maintain a normal teenage life can be hampered at times due to his chronic illness.

Miller has been living with type 1 diabetes for three years now. Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disorder in which the body does not produce insulin on its own, which means that Miller must closely monitor his blood glucose levels, regulate his diet and take insulin

whenever necessary.

"It's such an invisible disease. You look at a kid like Kaidon and he looks normal. You would have no idea what his day-to-day life is like," said Shelby Ivie, Miller's mother. "He has to think about this extra stuff all the time."

Miller first started experiencing symptoms during the summer of 2016, complaining of frequent urination, excessive thirst, weight loss and stomach aches. Gradually, the symptoms became more intense. It even got so bad that Miller was rushed to Doernbecher's Children's Hospital in Portland, where it was discovered that he had diabetic ketoacidosis — a serious complication of diabetes that occurs when your body produces high levels of blood acids.

"It was really scary," he said.

After officially being di-

agnosed with type 1 diabetes, Miller came to terms with the card he was dealt.

"I have always been really scared of shots. But I had to just face the fact that I have to do this every day for the rest of my life," he said.

In the coming months after the diagnosis, however, it was hard for Miller to keep up a positive attitude. But his world changed for the better when he returned to the baseball diamond in the spring of 2017.

"It was awesome. It felt like I wasn't alone. I was really struggling with depression and was wondering why this was happening to me. But I felt joy in coming back and playing baseball," Miller said.

Miller's MYB team was inspired by his courage, which is why they each wore blue diabetes ribbons on their helmets in support of him.

"Kaidon was having a hard time coming to terms with the new life that he didn't ask for. He was really sad. But when he started baseball, it was like I got my son back," Ivie said. "The baseball team lifted him up and supported him. I feel like they made him whole again. Having the support of his teammates was amazing. That season in particular will always be special to us."

Over the last couple of seasons, Miller has taken the time to educate inquiring teammates about his condition.

"My teammates are often curious when they see me giving myself shots. Whenever they ask questions, I will educate them about what it is like to be a type 1 diabetic," he said.

While Miller has been able to play baseball for the

Please see MILLER, Page A9



McNary defender Nic Heath searches for a teammate in the Celtics 2-1 loss to West Salem.

McNary can't catch up with West Salem in league opener

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

Despite outshooting West Salem by a large margin, the McNary boys soccer team couldn't overcome the Titans two second half goals as the Celtics dropped their conference opener 2-1 on Tuesday, Oct. 1.

"That wasn't good enough for us. We had opportunities to put the game away and we didn't. We were not sharp in the final third," McNary head coach Miguel Camarena said.

The Celtics came out as the aggressor in the first half, outshooting West Salem 7-1 in the first 12 minutes of the contest.

Midway through the half,

McNary forward Edgar Salazar hit Eli Petilo with a cross-field pass in the box. Petilo was able to put the shot away, but a late offside call wiped away the goal for McNary.

Salazar, as well as Luis Lopez, both had free kick opportunities from close range moments later, but each attempt banged off the crossbar.

"We had plenty of shots, but the goals didn't want to come tonight,"

— Edgar Salazar

McNary forward

Salazar said. West Salem had a couple chances to break the scoreless tie before halftime, but the fantastic goalkeeping of Alejandro Villarreal kept the game at 0-0 going into the break. In the 40th minute, West

Salem's Andres Labate got loose with a great spin move to give himself space and fired a shot for the corner of the net. But with a full-extended dive, Villarreal knocked the ball away. Kaden Young had a chance to score on the rebound, but his shot went wide right as McNary dodged a bullet going into the break.

However, on the second half kickoff, the Titans caught the McNary defense back on their heels.

Labate took the ball and dribbled through the entire Celtics back line to put away a score in the first 30 seconds of the half to give West Salem the 1-0 lead.

"We made a mistake in the back and (Labate) went through three or four of our guys. That can't happen," Camarena said. "Defensively, I thought we looked weak at times. We have to get that fixed. We allowed them too

Please see McNARY, Page A9