

ATHLETE *of the Week*

presented by



NATE MEITHOF Junior at McNary High School

#23 - Wing, Varsity Boys Basketball

Nate Meithof went off for 28 points and eight rebounds in McNary's season-opening 68-44 victory over Hillsboro on Saturday, Dec. 7.

In the Celtics following contest, Meithof led his team with 20 points, seven rebounds, six steals and four blocks as McNary defeated McMinnville 53-38 on Tuesday, Dec. 10.

Additionally, Meithof was named the Salem Sports and Breakfast Club's Athlete of the Week on Friday, Dec. 13.



Walling signs with OSU



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

Although Junior Walling committed to continue his academic and athletic career with Oregon State University back in June, the McNary High senior made it official by signing his letter of intent with OSU in a ceremony at the McNary library on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Walling, who was the Mountain Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year, will be playing linebacker for the Beavers.



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

LEFT: Jaime Ochoa gives up the ball in transition. RIGHT: Jando Gonzalez looks to drive to the rack off the dribble.

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Even though the Celtics fizzled a little after the opening minutes, their effort on the defensive end was non-stop.

"When shots weren't falling, our defense was still incredibly relentless and they made every single thing difficult," Kirch said.

"Our defense is looking great and that has been helping us win games. We help each other out and are constantly communicating," Gonzalez added.

Gonzalez and Kyler Rodriguez each hit treys in the second period to extend McNary's advantage to 24-8.

Madison went on a 6-0 run to cut the lead to 10 at the half, but McNary responded in the third quarter with another Rodriguez triple and a pair of hoops from Tyler Copeland and Isaac Johnson, putting the Celtics up 35-19 entering the final quarter.

McNary put the game on ice in the beginning of the fourth period after a Gonzalez

buried a 3-pointer, then found Ochoa for an easy layup after a steal from Zane Aicher, extending the Celtics lead to 21, their largest of the contest.

"We learn something new every single game. We feel like we can mix and match a bunch of pieces and play at the pace that we want to," Kirch said. "They just have to play to get that confidence."

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2	1	6	4	9	8	5	7	3
3	4	9	5	7	2	6	1	8

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 Sundays: 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 La Misa en Español: 12:30 p.m.

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Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
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 Worship Service - 10:00 am

Keizer Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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 Worship and Children's Church • 10:00 a.m.
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COUNTRYSIDE Christian Church
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