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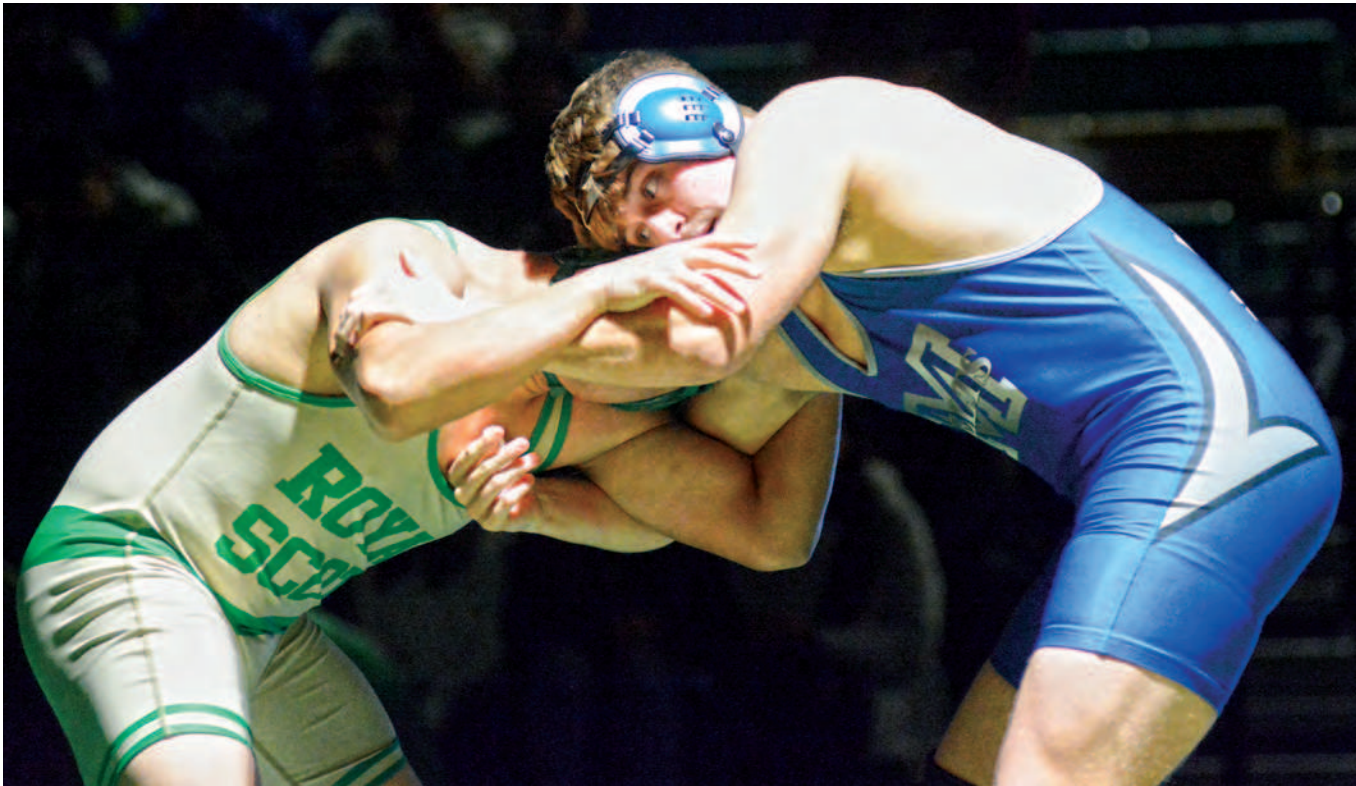
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Celts earn first conference dual victory



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

McNary wrestler Gavin Anderson (blue singlet) fights for position in the 195-pound bout against McKay's Andy Nguyen.



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

Gilbert Parra prepares to takedown McKays's Kash Trevino in the 145-pound match.

By MATT RAWLINGS Of the Keizertimes

In their first action after the holiday break, the McNary wrestling squad won their first Mountain Valley Conference dual meet of the season on Thursday, Jan. 9, defeating McKay 46-29.

Despite not having Grady Burrows, one of the best 120-pounders in the league, the Celtics still wrestled with a full lineup, which ended up making a difference on the scoreboard.

"When we see a full lineup, it means our kids and our families are committed to being successful, and I consider that a gift. We bought into the training and development that we are doing," McNary head coach Jason Ebbs said. "And kids feed off each other when that happens and

the kid that steps in, steps up and wrestles at a higher level because they are expected to fill in some pretty big shoes. That type of buy-in is what makes kids successful."

McKay was forced to surrender a pair of forfeits early on in the dual, giving McNary the advantage on the scoreboard.

Rigoberto Hernandez (120 pounds) got the Celtics first win of the evening with a 13-4 major decision over Tess Barnett. The match was competitive in the first two rounds, but Hernandez outscored Barnett 7-0 in the final round to get the commanding victory.

McNary had several wrestlers in this match that ended up victorious after facing a first round deficit, starting with 138-pounder Joshua

Friesen.

Friesen fell behind 3-0 in the first round against Enrique Montoya, but in the second round he took control of the match, scoring 12 of the next 15 points before eventually getting the pin in the third round.

"You have to keep your composure. I knew I was losing, but I just stayed calm," Friesen said. "I was being cautious with my choices and I wasn't making dumb moves. I still have some stuff to work on, but I definitely did well."

McNary's Gilbert Parra got a second round pin in the 145-pound match. However, the Celtics would lose the next five bouts and found themselves trailing 29-28 with three matches to go.

Fortunately for McNary, Gavin Anderson's performance in the 195-pound bout was what turned the tide.

After falling behind 2-0, Anderson was the aggressor in the second round and saw the opportunity to go for the cradle, grabbing his opponent's neck with one arm while wrapping his other arm around the opponent's knee.

Anderson's teammates started going crazy when they saw him go for the cradle — which is rare to see at the high school level. But they went even more ballistic when the ref gave Anderson the pin 16 seconds into the second round.

"I just twisted him up. I saw his leg, then I saw his head. For me, that's cradle city. I was able to turn him over and the ref gave it to me," Anderson said.

Ebbs added: "He got the cradle and used his brute force muscle that he has de-

veloped over the years and peeled the guy over to the other side, which is not very easy to do. That was awesome. He was clearly determined and he knew the only way out of his situation was to pull that guy over the top."

With a 34-29 lead, the Celtics clinched the dual victory when Anthony Garcia-Reyes (220) pinned Jorge Martinez 39 seconds into the first round.

Aldo Villavazo capped off the night with an impressive victory of his own in the 285-pound match.

There wasn't a lot of action in the first four minutes as Villavazo trailed Anthony Valdez 1-0 going into the third round.

But at the start of the final two minutes, Villavazo earned a two-point reversal and gained control of the match. Villavazo was then granted the pin midway through the round.

"It just comes down to position. He's been getting better the last few weeks of recognizing when a guy is on top of him and getting out from underneath it. He capitalized at the right moment," Ebbs said.

The Celtics will be wrestling in Redmond at the Oregon Classic — one of the largest wrestling tournaments in the state — starting Friday, Jan. 17.

"We're still moving upwards, that's the part that makes me the happiest. We're aren't coming out of the break lethargic and not moving well. We're coming out on an upward trend," Ebbs said.

Email: news@keizertimes.com.

Out of the comfort zone

As we begin a new decade, I'm tempted to reflect on the past 10 years of fishing. Time is an illusion and we are prisoners of the present. But, if we don't look back, we're left with no experience and baseline to move forward. So let's look back.

I grew up fishing rivers. My dad didn't own a boat so when we fished a lake it was from the bank or a rented craft. We didn't use flies. Instead we used bait or lures. It was fun but not as enjoyable as the rivers. This passion for rivers persisted into my adult life and the habit of ignoring the still waters was learned in my youth.

I didn't really know how to flyfish lakes and my success fishing the rivers was enough to make me happy and I was comfortable.

That all changed this past decade. I would always fish the Deschutes River in late spring. It was some of the best and enjoyable fishing I ever did. Unfortunately it began to get very crowded. With new river permits, camping restrictions and environmental degradation of water quality caused by PGE, I looked for somewhere else to fish.

My conundrum was I knew of no other river that offered anything comparable with the Deschutes within a reasonable distance. It was then, out of necessity, I had an epiphany: lakes. They had some advantages. They provide larger fish and it's easier to get away from other fishermen. Those are both good. I have a drift boat that works fine as long as I don't need to venture out long distances over open water.

One big problem: I had little knowledge of how to fly fish lakes. I would have to get out of my comfort zone. I'd fished one lake a number of times with my father when I was a teenager. It offered larger rainbow trout and the opportunity to flyfish for them. With the help of the internet I was able to discern the fly line and fly patterns I would need. I persuaded a gullible friend to go along. Off we went into the unknown; we had enough luck to ensure another trip.

I have always said that if there's ever a time I go something and don't learn something I'll find a new hobby. Solving problems to entice a

fish to grab your fly is part of the intrigue of fly fishing. Every time I fished this lake I've learned something new. Different spots at different times of the day, different or improved fly patterns and different techniques. Getting out of my comfort zone was beginning to be fun.

Throughout the decade we learned more and more about fishing this lake and our catch rates have improved greatly. Days of hooking 10 or 20 five to 10 rainbows are not uncommon when conditions are right. The best three-day trip we ever had we fished absolutely alone; never saw another fisherman.

So looking back enabled me to venture forward and expand my fishing horizons. Now that I've learned to try something different, I've even started fishing a second lake. We've fished it a few times now and have caught some nice rainbows. It is completely different with a new learning curve and that's proved enjoyable.

I don't know where this new adventurous attitude will take me next, but wherever it is, it will add to enjoyment of my sport. Anybody interested in traveling to Tierra del Fuego at the southern tip of Argentina? Flyfish for huge sea-run brown trout. I will bet we'd be alone and either out of our comfort zone or out of our minds. Don't worry about the horses being blind. Hook up the wagons.



Casting about

by JIM TAYLOR



KEIZERTIMES/Matt Rawlings

McNary forward Carson Long (right) boxes out Forest Grove's Ayden Case to get in position for an offensive rebound.

Fourth quarter rally puts McNary over the edge

By MATT RAWLINGS Of the Keizertimes

The McNary boys basketball team held the lead for less than four seconds in the second half.

Fortunately for the Celtics, it was enough to pull out the victory in their final non-conference game.

Nate Meithof, who led McNary with 18 points, knocked down the game-winning free throw with 3.1 seconds left as the Celtics erased a 10-point fourth quarter deficit to defeat Forest Grove 58-57 on Friday, Jan. 10.

"When we're down, we aren't going to give up. Even when we were down by 10, we kept things going and kept our confidence up," Meithof said.

These two teams met back on Dec. 28 in a tournament at North Medford. In that game, Meithof went off for a career-high 39 points in McNary's 64-43 victory.

This time around, Forest Grove implemented a new defensive strategy to try and neutralize Meithof, having a player face-guard McNary's star at all times. When

Meithof did get his hands on the ball, another defender would rotate over to provide an extra line of defense.

Even though Forest Grove played with more physicality in this contest, Meithof remained poised and didn't force anything on the offensive end, while still being productive.

"I was proud of Nate's composure. He was frustrated, they were holding him and fouling him. But he never let it show in his body language.

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