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Doutt leads McNary's all-conference recipients

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

The McNary girls basketball team had four players receive all-Mountain Valley Conference recognition for the 2019-20 season, led by first-team all-leaguer Leah Doutt.

Despite missing eight games due to injury and illness, Doutt was still able to establish herself as one of the best guards in the league. Doutt averaged 13.3 points per game and led the team in three-point makes.

Doutt also was the Celtics assist leader, averaging over four a game — she was the only player on the team with a positive assist-to-turnover ratio.

On the defensive end, Doutt was third on the team in steals and second in blocks.

“Leah takes care of the

ball, has great court vision and is our leading offensive threat. She is instrumental to our team on both ends of the court. She is a leader on the floor. We are a different team without her,” McNary head coach Elizabeth Doran said.

“Leah takes care of the ball, has great court vision and is our leading offensive threat. She is instrumental to our team on both ends of the court...”

— Elizabeth Doran,
McNary head coach

Bekah Grimmer received second-team all-league status and had a huge boost in her scoring production from the previous season.

After averaging 2.6 ppg last year, Grimmer had the second highest scoring average for the Celtics this season, coming in at just under 10 ppg. She shot 42.4 percent from the field, 71.4 percent from the foul line and easily lead the squad in total minutes.

Along with being the team's leading rebounder

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McNary point guard Leah Doutt averaged over 13 points and 4 assists per game, earning herself first-team all-league honors in the Mountain Valley Conference.

Celtics season comes to an end against West Linn



TOP: Kyler Rodriguez draws contact while going up for a shot. BOTTOM: Jando Gonzalez looks for a teammate after picking up his dribble.

By **MATT RAWLINGS**
Of the Keizertimes

The West Linn boys basketball team has been one of the strongest athletic programs in the state over the last decade.

McNary found that out first-hand.

West Linn had their second highest point total in a postseason game since 2017 in their 95-52 trouncing of McNary on Wednesday, March 4 in the first round of the playoffs.

Nate Meithof had a game-high 21 points for the Celtics.

“Give them credit, they are incredibly skilled. Our guys competed and played hard and we had some pretty good possessions. I think we were just a little overwhelmed,” McNary head coach Ryan Kirch said.

After missing their first five shots to start the game,

McNary got back on track offensively with a tough hoop from Meithof and a jumper from Gunner Smedema.

Moments later, Tyler O'Connor scored off an offensive rebound to put McNary within two. But thanks to forcing a litany of McNary turnovers, the Lions responded with an 8-0 run to go up 14-6.

Despite having 10 turnovers in the first quarter, Meithof was able to keep the game close early on.

The junior shooting guard completed a three-point play after finishing a layup between two defenders, then hit a deep triple on the next possession to trim the deficit to 14-12.

Meithof then hit a step-back jumper late in the period, but picked up his second foul with under a minute remaining in the quarter.

West Linn increased their advantage to 25-16, but Tyler Copeland continued McNary's hot shooting by knocking down a 3-pointer from the baseline to get within six.

However, McNary cooled off in the second quarter. But the turnovers continued.

The Celtics gave the ball away three times to open the next period, which eventually led to a 9-0 run from West Linn. Even on made baskets, McNary couldn't keep the Lions from getting out in transition.

“They are big, strong and fast. We had a pretty good idea of what they were going to do. Turnovers led to easy baskets,” Kirch said. “It seemed like as soon as we made a shot, they were scoring on the other end. We just didn't quite do what we had

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ATHLETE *of the Week*

presented by



NATE MEITHOF
Junior at McNary High School

#23 - Shooting Guard, Boys Basketball

Meithof was named the Mountain Valley Conference Player of the Year after averaging more than 23 points and nine rebounds a game — he was fourth in the state in both categories.

WHAT HIS COACH SAYS

“Nate had one of the best seasons ever for a McNary basketball player. Nate wants to be great. Often times, I have to tell him to take time off. A lot of guys say they want to be great, but not many put in the time necessary to achieve it...”

— Ryan Kirch,
McNary Boys Basketball Head Coach