

McNary cooks Crescent Valley in final non-conference game



McNary midfielder Oscar Chavez boxes out a Crescent Valley defender to track down a loose ball. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

BY MATT RAWLINGS
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After suffering a tough defeat against Newberg in their previous game, the McNary boys' soccer squad bounced back in their final non-league contest.

With the score tied at 1-1 going into the half, the Celtics rallied for three unanswered goals over a 20-minute stretch in their 4-2 victory over Crescent Valley on Friday, Sept. 24.

"The win was good for the kids. It's good for their confidence going

forward," McNary head coach Miguel Camarena said.

The Celtics missed out on a pair of opportunities early, but made a connection in the 11th minute to take the 1-0 lead.

Off a throw-in by midfielder Oscar



Chavez, Johann Singh Sanchez split a pass by a pair of Crescent Valley defenders to an open Axel Zapien, who took advantage of his one-on-one opportunity with the opposing keeper and sent a shot into the right corner of the net.

"As soon as I got the ball on the breakthrough, it was all about taking it to the front of the goalie and then shooting it to the side. It was pretty much a tap in," Zapien said.

McNary was able to keep possession of the ball for the majority of the

first half, making it difficult for the Raiders to get shots-on-goal. However, when Crescent Valley did finally get a clean look at the net, they made it count thanks to a Celtics miscue.

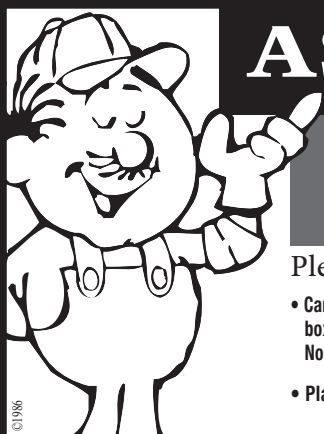
Raiders freshman forward Alex Westberry created some space for himself and fired a shot at the net from about 30 yards away. McNary goalkeeper Emerson Carella was in perfect position to stop the attempt, but the ball slid right through his hands and into the back of the net, which tied the game at 1-1.

Despite the error, the Celtics responded in the first five minutes of the second half.

After McNary's Aldair Cruz Barocio cleared the ball from the back line past the midfield, Celtics forward Hudson Brunk outran a Crescent Valley defender for the ball, then placed an impressive touch shot off the hop and into the goal to give McNary the lead back.

"I had a similar play in the first half, but the goalie was a little closer the first time and I wasn't able to chip it over him. But this time I had a little more space and got it over him," Brunk said. "It's always nice to get the lead and I

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