meaningful minutes, led by junior point guard Jando Gonzalez, who has started for McNary since his freshman year.

"It feels like he has been here forever and he's just a junior. He will probably look to score a little bit more," Kirch said.

Junior wing Jabol Balos also proved to be a dynamic playmaker for the Celtics last season. And incoming freshman guard Steven Adams is expected to provide a spark for McNary off the bench.

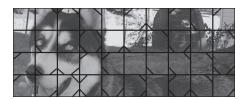
"In other years, (Adams) could start for us. We have a ton of depth at guard, but he will play," Kirch said. "He is going to be a good one."

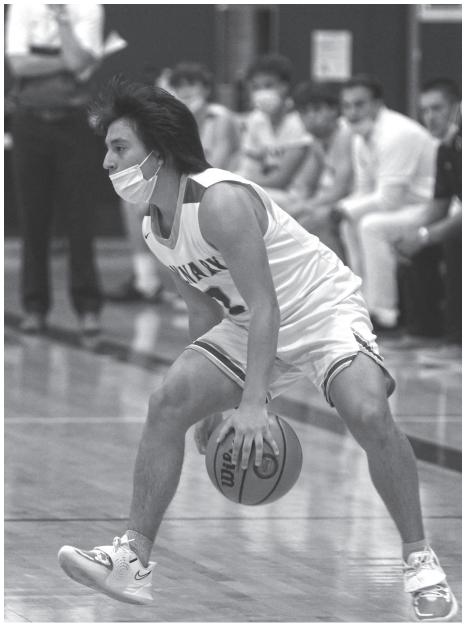
Although the Celtics may lack a large volume scorer, Kirch believes having multiple players that can put the ball in the hoop consistently will make McNary a threat in the MVC

"If you can have four or five guys around the 10-,11-,12-point range, that is when you are really tough to guard because you have a lot of options," Kirch said.

The Celtics have qualified for the playoffs in every season since 2013, and have no intention of stopping the streak this year.

"We always believe we should be competing for the top part of the league and a playoff spot," Kirch said.





Jando Gonzalez is enterting his third season as McNary's starting point guard. FILE PHOTO. Keizertimes

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