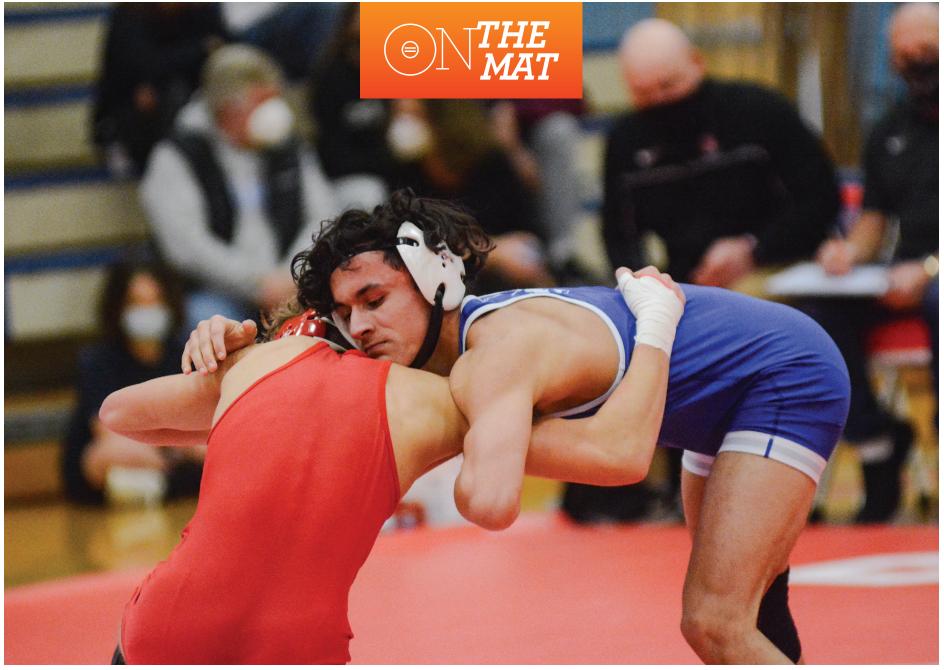
McNary falls in back-and-forth dual with South Salem



McNary's Jordan Orr (blue singlet) defeated Collin Rutledge via 9-6 decision in the 132-pound match Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

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In a meet that featured several competitive matches, the McNary wrestling squad fell just short in their dual with South Salem on Wednesday, Jan. 12, losing to the Saxons by a score of 36-33.

"I don't think we looked like ourselves. I don't know if we came in a little too overconfident, but we definitely missed some opportunities," McNary head coach Sam Martin said.

In his first varsity bout, McNary 106-pounder Jackson Wainwright made

quick work of his opponent in the opening match, pinning Caleb Cox in less than 30 seconds.

"Jackson looked really good in his first varsity appearance. He proved that he belongs in the lineup," Martin said.

After losing the 113 and 120-pound matches, Damian Hernandez continued his hot start to the season for the Celtics in the 126-pound bout. The senior wrestler jumped out to a 4-1 advantage before earning the first round fall against Matthew AcClair, helping McNary regain the lead at 12-9.

In the 132pound match, one of the Celtics top wrestlers. Jordan looked to be in control early. But the experienced senior ended up having to hold for dear life to clinch the win over Collin Rutledge in the final round.

"Jordan looked good for most of his match, but he made a mistake at the end and it

got a little scary," Martin said.

Scoring on a reversal, followed by a near fall, Orr was up 4-1 after the first round. He increased his lead to 9-1 in the third round, but with 30 seconds left in the match, Rutledge was able to flip Orr over on his back and was threatening to come back and get the win.

But Orr refused to let both of his shoulder blades hit the mat, hanging on for the 9-6 decision.

"I just ran out of energy," Orr said. "I was just thinking 'I can not get pinned

right now.' I would be letting myself down and my teammates down. I shouldn't have been in that position, but I was just trying to hang on."

Jonathan Canchola (138) and Will Thomas (145) held late third round leads in both of their matches, but couldn't finish the job as Thomas lost 8-6 and Canchola fell in a bout that was decided in overtime.

While Martin was glad that his kids were in some grueling matches, he is hoping his team will be able to clean

