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Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

Cross Country

The Mount Mercy Cross Country team ended its shortened regular with continued individual improvement. The team lost its meet against Mount Saint Mary, but seven team members had personal bests, including four with their best times ever and three with their best times of the year.

Sophomore Ellie Godsoe (Buffalo) was the team’s top finisher for the fourth straight meet. She recorded a personal best with a time of 23:25, good for a fourth place finish. She lowered her best time by 40 seconds. Senior Rheanna Welsh (Lackawanna) had her best time of the year, finishing eighth at 25:45, defeating teammate Addison Barth (Hamburg), a freshman, by three seconds. Barth’s time of 25:48 was her best time ever. Sophomore Gemma McIlroy (Hamburg) had her best finish of the year, crossing the line in a time of 25:56. Rounding out the top five finishers for the Magic was sophomore Jillian Schneck with a season best time of 26:17. A season best was also recorded by senior Angelina Larivey (Lackawanna) and freshman Charli Debose (Buffalo) had her personal best time, shaving over two minutes from her previous best. With a young roster comprised of five sophomores and six freshmen and only three seniors, the future looks bright for the Mount Mercy Cross Country squad.

The team competed in the All-Catholic Championships last Sunday, running in the cold, rain and strong winds. Welsh ended her career with her best time of the year, finishing in 23rd place with a time of 24:50. Teammate Godsoe finished six seconds behind her in 24th place. Also competing for the Magic were McIlroy, Schneck, Barth and sophomore Paige Lapadat (Orchard Park). Coach Bob Walsh stated, “I am very proud of the performance of each and every member of this team, especially with the shortened season.”

Soccer

The Mount Mercy Academy Soccer team had a successful week, winning both of its games with shut-outs. The team defeated A Division rival Mount Saint Mary’s in a non-league game 4-0 and routed league rival Buffalo Seminary 6-0.

Senior Gianna Lauciello (Orchard Park) led the offense with two goals. Junior Mya Wood (Blasdell) and freshman Rosie Bandura (West Seneca) each added a goal as well. Bandura scored her goal on a direct kick. Senior Emily Kessler (West Seneca) added two assists and Wood had one. Freshman Amelia Lalley (Buffalo) and junior Lily Janik (Angola) shared the shut-out, each tending the goal for a half.

“We maintained possession throughout the game working well together despite the swamp-like conditions. We passed well and weren’t afraid to play aggressively,” Coach Brittany Myers remarked.

The Magic scored three times in the first twenty minutes, leaving no doubt that they were in control of the game. Bandura scored two goals, Lauciello, Wood, Kessler and sophomore Emma Connors (Buffalo) each added a goal. Assists were recorded by Lauciello, and sophomores Abby Mailloux (Buffalo), Maddie Hart (Buffalo), Jenna Brown (Buffalo) and Olivia Fuller (West Seneca).
Myers mentioned that the defense had an outstanding game. The Magic currently have an overall record of 5-5-1 and a league record of 4-1-1.