

September 19, 2017

## Mount Mercy Sports Round-Up

### Soccer

The Mount Mercy Varsity Soccer team won two of its three games during the week of September 15th, falling in a non-league contest. The team fell to Hamburg 3-0 in its first game of the week and then defeated Olmstead 4-1 and Buffalo Seminary 1-0.

The Magic were unable to develop shooting chances and did not generate much offense against Hamburg. Coach Brittany Myers commended freshman sweeper Anna Scheiber (Buffalo) for her strong play.

Despite giving up the first goal of the game, the Magic battled back and controlled the game from that point on. Myers felt that the team had great communication and good ball movement, which were keys to the win. Junior Alesia Hamm (Buffalo) evened the game for Mount Mercy, scoring on an assist from junior Mariah Rullan (Buffalo). Hamm then netted her second goal of the game, following up on her own shot and putting the rebound past the goalie. Senior Abigail Hillery (Hamburg) closed the scoring with two goals. Both goals were scored on corner kicks, with Hamm picking up both assists.

The Magic played to a scoreless tie in the first half against Buffalo Seminary before Rullan scored the game's only goal, assisted by Hillery. Senior goalie Emma Fredo (Buffalo) earned the shut-out in goal. Myers credits a strong defensive effort from the midfielders and the defenders as a big part in assisting Fredo in posting a shut-out.

The Magic won two of three contests during the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup>, defeating Christina Central 4-3, Park School 8-1 and losing to first place Nichols 4-1. The Magic currently hold a record of 4-5.

The team jumped out to a 2-0 half-time lead against Christian Central. Hamm scored two goals and Hillery added an assist. Sophomore Tierney Ashe (Buffalo) also added an assist. Freshman Sophia Bernardoni (Blasdell) scored her first two goals of her career and added an assist. Her second goal proved to be the game winner and her aggressive play, according to Myers was a key to the victory. She also felt the chemistry between Hamm, Rullan and Hillery is an important part of the team's success.

The Magic dominated Park school from the beginning until the end, jumping out to a 4-0 lead at half. The game was played in sweltering conditions, but the Magic were up to the challenge. Hillery had three goals and two assists, and both Hamm and Rullan added two goals and an assist. Junior Madeline Szwed (Cheektowaga) scored her first goal and junior Taylor Stoklosa (Buffalo) added her first assist on the goal.

Rullan opened the scoring against Nichols, but the league leaders proved to be too strong for the Magic. Myers commented that Fredo had a phenomenal game in goal, playing strong and making smart decisions to keep the game close.

### Cross Country

The Mount Mercy cross country team participated in a 24 team invitational at Evangola State Park two weeks ago. The Magic placed 16<sup>th</sup> out of 24 teams, running in hot and humid conditions. Sophomore Grace Harrington (West Seneca) paced the team with a time of 23.52, finishing in 42<sup>nd</sup> place. Sophomore Bella Morcelle (West Seneca) had a time of 26.13 and freshman Angelina Larivey

(Lackawanna) finished the first race of her career with a time of 28.08. Sophomore Megan Jobson (Orchard Park) and senior Chloe George (Buffalo) also competed for Mount Mercy.

The team competed in the East Aurora Invitational this past weekend. The team once again ran in hot and humid conditions, but recorded better times. Harrington took over a minute and a half off her time, finishing in 22.30.15. Larivey took almost three minutes off her time and Jobson also did much better this week.

The team opens its regular Monsignor Martin League schedule on Tuesday against Nichols and Sacred Heart.

## Varsity Volleyball

During the week ending September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Mount Mercy Varsity Volleyball team dropped three contests, but continued to show improvement. The team fell to St. Mary's of Lancaster, the top team in Western New York in three games. Inconsistent play against the strong opponent plagued the team. In the second match of the week, the team battled against Cardinal O'Hara, winning the first game before dropping the next three games. The next night the team faced Nardin and showed its character, battling hard after a disappointing loss to O'Hara. The team won the first and fourth games, but dropped the second and third game, as well as the deciding game. Coach Molly Gasuik was pleased with her team's effort and resilience. "I am proud of the team and how they came out ready to play today after a disappointing effort the night before," Gasuik remarked.

The team earned its first win of the season during the week ending September 22<sup>nd</sup>, defeating Niagara Catholic in three games, 25-20, 25-8 and 25-20. The entire team contributed to the victory, with strong games from senior Emily Lewandowski (East Aurora) and Sara Geiser (West Seneca). The team lost to Akron in a non-league game and to Mount Saint Mary's.

## JV Volleyball

The Mount Mercy Junior Varsity Volleyball team continued to improve its play, finishing the week of September 15<sup>th</sup> with an overall record of 2-2. The team lost three games to St. Mary's of Lancaster, won three games against Cardinal O'Hara and lost 1-2 against Nardin. Coach Molly Gasuik is pleased with her team's play and attitude. Despite the losses, the team is showing great effort, good communication and improving play.

During the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup>, the JV Volleyball team picked up two victories in the three matches they played. The team defeated Mount Saint Mary 2-1 and Niagara Catholic 2-0 but lost a non-league match to Akron.

## Golf

The Mount Mercy Golf team has continued to fight and improve their games. Despite the improvements, the team is still looking for its first victory. Coach Kate Lynch commented that seniors Mary Barnes (Fredonia) and Olivia Andriaccio (Buffalo) have kept the team positive and focused. Junior Chloe Diebold (West Seneca) had her best score in the team's last match as she continues to improve.

## Mount Mercy Academy

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