

January 1, 2019

## Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

### Varsity Basketball

The Mount Mercy Varsity Basketball team competed in the Kenmore Holiday Tournament last week and ended up in third place. The team lost its opener to Williamsville North, the team that eventually won the tournament, 43-38 and defeated Kenmore East 61-30.

The opening game against Williamsville North was close throughout the first half, with the Magic trailing by a basket 21-19 at the half. However the Magic's shooting touch turned cold and Spartans outscored Mount Mercy 15-6 in the third quarter. Despite its best efforts, the Magic was unable to overcome the 11 point deficit in the final quarter. Senior Josslynn Strang (Westfield) led the team with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore Hannah Fredo (Buffalo) was the team's leading rebounder with 11 and junior Xoie Ferrentino (West Seneca) chipped in five points. Mount Mercy shot a dismal 23 percent from the field.

Mount Mercy used a strong second quarter to storm out to a 27-12 lead over Kenmore East at the half and then added to its advantage with 24 more points in the third quarter. Coach John Glose credits the victory to a total team effort, as 11 different players scored and the team played its usual strong, tenacious defense, led by senior Alesia Hamm (Buffalo). Senior Angel Pacholczak (Orchard Park) led the scoring with a career high 11 points. Strang added ten points and Fredo again was the top rebounder with 11 and also chipped in with eight points.

Strang's strong play during the two games earned her a place on the All-Tournament team. The Magic return to action on Friday with a game against league opponent St. Mary's of Lancaster.

### JV Basketball

The Mount Mercy JV Basketball team also competed in the Kenmore Holiday Tournament and ended up in third place as well. The team lost its opening game to Williamsville North 31-20 and defeated Kenmore East 39-15.

The team got off to a slow start in the opener, falling behind by eight points after the first quarter and was unable to overcome that deficit. Freshman Maddie Edwards (Buffalo) had six points and three steals and sophomore Angelina Larivey (Lackawanna) added six points and four rebounds.

Coach Peter Krug believes that his team's strong half court defense was the key to winning the consolation game. The Magic forced many bad shots and turnovers, which led to transition baskets; propelling the team to a 21-10 halftime lead. Sophomore Megan Reilly (Buffalo) led the scoring with 13 points and also had four assists and four rebounds. Freshmen Desiree Diaz-Torres (Lackawanna) had eight points, eight rebounds and four steals and Mya Wood (Blasdell) had eight points, five rebounds and four assists. Krug stated it was a total team effort.

## Mount Mercy Academy

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