Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

Soccer

The Mount Mercy Varsity Soccer team had a very successful week, winning all three games that it played. The team defeated Cardinal O’Hara and Olmstead in non-league contests and Buffalo Seminary in league play.

The Magic defeated Olmstead 5-2 in the team’s first game of the week. The team won easily, despite playing without its seniors who were away on their senior trip. Junior Maddie Bentkowski (Buffalo) scored her first varsity goal, receiving a pass from sophomore Tierney Ashe (Buffalo), dribbling around the defense and putting the ball in the net. Junior Mariah Rullan (Buffalo) had an unassisted goal, dribbling in from the middle of the field and burying a hard shot. Freshman Sophia Bernardoni (Blasdell) took a cross from freshman Gianna Lauciello (Orchard Park) and put a hard shot into the net. Bernardoni added a second goal on an assist from Rullan. Rullan also assisted on the team’s last goal, passing to Lauciello for a deep shot that found the top left corner of the goal. “This was a big win for our young team,” Coach Brittany Myers commented. “They continue to grow as a team and show improvement each and every game.”

In its game against Cardinal O’Hara, the Magic gave up the first goal of the game but then scored four unanswered goals to win 4-1. Bernardoni continued her scoring, tying the game after taking a pass from senior Abby Hillery (Hamburg). Hillery scored what proved to be the winning goal from outside the 18 yard line, assisted by Rullan. Rullan added another goal on a header off junior Alesia Hamm’s (Buffalo) corner kick. The last goal was scored by Bernardoni from outside the 18 yard line, assisted by Hamm.

Mount Mercy defeated Buffalo Seminary 5-1, jumping out to a 4-0 halftime lead. Bernardoni scored the first goal on a cross from Hillery. The second goal was scored on a through ball from Hillery to Bernardoni who took a shot where the ball was rolling in slowly but junior Angel Pacholczak (Orchard Park) was there to ensure it was a goal! Rullan added the third goal off a volley and the fourth goal was scored by Hamm on a corner kick. In the second half there was only one goal which scored by senior Emma Fredo (Buffalo). Fredo, the team’s starting goalie, scored her first varsity goal on Hillery’s third assist of the game.

The Magic now has an overall record of 9-7-1 and a league record of 6-6.

Varsity Volleyball

The Mount Mercy Varsity volleyball team closed its regular season with a three game sweep of Niagara Catholic. The team won 25-6, 25-18 and 25-9. The team played solid defense and had its offense clicking in the victory. Strong serving also proved to be the difference. In the second game, the Magic fell behind early and was trailing 16-12 before senior Emily Lewandowski (East Aurora) served 11 straight points to put the Magic in front 23-16. Sophomore Katie Hughes (Orchard Park), also served well during the match.

The Magic will face Cardinal O’Hara in a match to determine seeding for the playoffs.

JV Volleyball

The Mount Mercy JV Volleyball team defeated Niagara Catholic in its last match 25-14, 25-11 and 15-7. The team used strong serving to power its way to victory. The win pushed the team’s overall record to 8-4 with a 7-3 league mark. “Everyone contributed to today’s win,” commented Coach Molly
Gasuik. “I could not be more proud of this group of girls. They put in the hard work, day in and day out. I cannot express how much we improved since day one. They were great teammates to one another and a pleasure to coach.” Seven sophomores closed out their JV career this year,

Cross Country

The Mount Mercy Cross Country team continued to improve its times during two competitions last week. The team lost to Buffalo Seminary despite having three of the top five finishers. Sophomores Grace Harrington (West Seneca) and Bella Morcelle (West Seneca) finished second and third respectively with times of 23:08 and 24:26. Freshman Angelina Larivey (Lackawanna) finished fifth with a time of 27:46. Sophomore Megan Jobson (Orchard Park) placed 11th.

The team also competed in the Alden Bulldog Stampede Invitational and placed 11th out of 24 teams. Harrington was the team’s top finisher, placing 38th in a time of 22:17.13. Morcelle placed 45th with a time of 23:04.83. Also competing for the Magic were Larivey, Jobson and sophomore Anna Bock (Germany).