Mount Mercy Winter Sports Round-Up

The Mount Mercy Academy winter athletic season was a successful one. Mount Mercy students were a part of an undefeated championship team, a playoff semi-finalist and a third place team. In addition, six students received individual honors.

The Monsignor Martin High School Athletic Association hockey team finished its season undefeated with a 15-0 record. Five Mount Mercy students played important roles on the team this season. Seniors Catie Radwan (West Seneca) and Brigid Keane (Buffalo) concluded four year varsity careers. Radwan, a center, was a team captain and Keane, a wing, was an assistant captain. Both players were among the team scoring leaders. Juniors Julia Ahr (Buffalo) and Brianna Gawronski (Dunkirk) completed their third year on the team. Ahr was a hard-working winger and Gawronski was the team’s stalwart starting goalie. Sophomore forward Fiona Danahy completed her second season and had the winning goal in the championship game.

Individually, Radwan was voted to the Second Team of the Western New York Girls Varsity Interscholastic Hockey Team and Gawronski was named as the First Team goalie. Radwan hopes to continue her hockey career in college and Gawronski will return for a fourth season.

The varsity basketball team capped a rebuilding season by playing its way into the Monsignor Martin A League Semi-Finals. The team showed unmatched tenacity and determination on its way to an 11-11 record. Although the team will be without the services of its two seniors, Olivia Balys (Orchard Park) and Leah McQuiller (Lackawanna), hopes are high for an even more successful season.

Balys capped her four year varsity career with a berth on the First Team All-Catholic squad. She was the team’s leading scorer and an aggressive defender. McQuiller made her one year of varsity action count as she earned Second Team All-Catholic honors. She was the team’s three point specialist and the point guard.

The Mount Mercy Bowling team finished its season with a third place finish in both league play and the All-Catholic match. Senior Lauren Derwin (Lackawanna), junior Kelly Thomas (Buffalo) and sophomores Elizabeth Acevedo (Cheektowaga) and Chloe Manikowski (Depew) were the varsity bowlers this season. Thomas earned First Team All-Catholic honors and had the league’s high game this season with a 235. Acevedo was recognized and honored for having the top three game series in the league during this past season with a set of 553. With three bowlers returning next season, Mount Mercy should be formidable in bowling.