

January 31, 2017

## Mount Mercy Sports Roundup

### Varsity Bowling

The Mount Mercy Varsity bowling team tied Buffalo Seminary in their first match of the week and defeated Park 4-0 in its second match. Junior Chloe Manikowski (Depew) paced the team against Buffalo Seminary with a 173, 148 and 143 for a 466 series. Senior Kelly Thomas (Buffalo) scored a 161 and 148 and sophomore Samantha Batchev (Lackawanna) rolled a high game of 151. The Magic was limited in the match as they were short a bowler and had to have one of their four scores for each match be a 100.

Batchev led the team against Park with a three game series of 162, 153 and 146 for a 461 total. Manikowski had a 157 and a 131 and freshman Hanna Chmielowiec (Lackawanna) made her varsity debut with a 135 and a 131.

### Varsity Hockey

Last week the Monsignor Martin League hockey team picked up three wins and raised its record to 11-4-2 with one regular season game left.

The team reversed the results of an earlier meeting with Frontier-Lake Shore-Orchard Park, shutting out their rivals 5-0. Senior goalie Brianna Gawronski (Dunkirk) notched her second shut-out of the year.

The team's offense continued in high gear as they defeated Amherst-Sweet Home-Clarence 6-1. Juniors Sophie Robinson (Buffalo) and Fiona Danahy (Buffalo) each scored a goal. Danahy's goal occurred on a breakaway and she also added two assists.

The hockey team's third victory of the week was a 5-0 shut-out of West Seneca-Eden-Hamburg. Gawronski was in goal for half of the game, sharing the shut-out.

Danahy currently has three goals and Robinson and senior Julia Ahr (Buffalo) has two goals.

### Varsity Basketball

The Mount Mercy Magic Varsity Basketball team continued to battle but dropped a close game to Saint Mary's of Lancaster 49-37. The Magic trailed by thirteen during the second half before fighting back to pull within three points with four minutes to play. "I love how this team never gives up, no matter what the circumstances," Coach John Glose commented. "We had some good opportunities to tie the game, but fell just short. St. Mary's made their foul shots down the stretch to extend their lead. I am very proud of everyone's effort."

Senior Beth Hughes (Orchard Park) led the team with 12 points, all of the points were scored on four three pointers. Mallory Ashe (Buffalo), also a senior, contributed 11 points with two three pointers. Freshman Tierney Ashe (Buffalo) had six points and three assists. Glose felt his team played strong defensively, especially sophomores Alesia Hamm (Buffalo) and Josslynn Strang (Westfield), as well as junior Emma Fredo (Buffalo) and Mallory Ashe.

### JV Bowling

The Mount Mercy JV Bowling team ended its season with a 3-1 loss to league champion Mount Saint Mary but still ended the season in second place. The team finished with a 39-25 record. Freshman

Hanna Chmielowiec (Lackawanna) completed her rookie season with games of 141 and 137. Seniors Emmaline Robinson (West Seneca), Claire Terminin (Buffalo) and Marissa Neubeck (Lackawanna) ended their high school bowling careers with games of 141, 122 and 119 respectively.

## JV Basketball

The Mount Mercy JV Basketball team had three intense games last week. The team defeated Christian Central Academy 32-30, lost to Saint Mary's of Lancaster 45-38 in overtime and suffered a one point defeat to Wilson 44-43.

The Magic grabbed the lead from the opening tip against CCA and held on for the two point victory. Freshman Britney Meredith (Cheektowaga) led the team with ten points. Freshman Lizzy Lang (Buffalo) scored six points, sophomore Angel Pacholczak (Orchard Park) contributed five and Lily Kasperek (Forestville) added four. Both Pacholczak and Lang each made two crucial free throws late in the game to seal the victory. Coach Molly Gasuik was pleased with her team's effort, especially their offensive rebounding. She also praised freshman Brigid Burke (Buffalo) for her defensive efforts.

Mount Mercy overcame a nine point deficit at the beginning of the fourth quarter, holding the Saint Mary's of Lancaster Lancers to just four points, to force overtime. After a Magic timeout, freshman Katie Hughes hit a three point shot on an out of bounds play with just 1.2 seconds on the clock. The Mount Mercy team and crowd went wild after the shot. The game was tied at 38 during the overtime but Saint Mary's of Lancaster built their advantage through their foul shots.

Pacholczak scored 16 points to lead the team and Burke added 15 points. Many of Pacholczak's points came in the fourth quarter. Hughes added six points. Gasuik singled out Lang for playing an outstanding game, boxing out and pulling down many rebounds. The Magic employed a full court pressure defense and according to Gasuik, "played the best defense I have ever seen us play. We were talking, we were loud and we were getting stops and forcing turnovers. Although we didn't win the game, I am extremely proud to be the coach of this team."

Playing their third game in four nights was tough for the Magic. The team jumped out to quick 16-6 advantage over Wilson in the first quarter but was unable to maintain the lead in the second quarter, ending the half tied at 20. Lang led the scorers with 11 points. Meredith contributed eight points, Burke added seven, Kasperek scored six points and Hughes had five.

The 16 points were the most points scored in a quarter this season. Gasuik praised Lang for her play. "Lizzy Lang was a presence on the floor. She was driving to the basket and could not be stopped. She rebounded very well and was aggressive on defense. She was perfect on her foul shots, which is a credit to her and all of the hard work she is doing," Gasuik stated.

## **Mount Mercy Academy**

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