

February 9, 2016

MOUNT MERCY SPORTS ROUND-UP

Varsity Bowling

The varsity bowling team closed its regular season with a 4-0 victory over St. Mary's of Lancaster. The team's 53-19 record earned them a third place finish for the regular season. Leading the way was junior Kelly Thomas (Buffalo) with a 160 and a 153, sophomore Liz Acevedo (Cheektowaga) rolled a high game of 158 and sophomore Chloe Manikowski (Depew) had a 163.

The team completed the season competing in the All-Catholic Championships. The team equaled its league finish, placing third out of nine teams with a 1655. Top performers for the Magic were Acevedo with a three game set of 473 (160-158-155); Manikowski with a 433 (150, 149 and 134) and senior Lauren Derwin (Lackawanna) had a high game of 135.

League awards were handed out at the conclusion of the match. Acevedo was recognized for finishing with the highest three game series with a three game total of 553. Thomas had the single game high total with a 235. Thomas was also named a first team All-Catholic with the second highest average in the league (148.25)

With three of the varsity bowlers returning, hopes are high that the Magic will continue on their winning roll.

Varsity Hockey

The Monsignor Martin Hockey team will play in the semi-finals of the league championships on Wednesday February 10th at the Northtown Center. If the team wins, it will play in the finals on Friday February 12 at 4:30 PM at the Northtown Center.

Varsity Basketball

The Magic Varsity Basketball team had an extremely successful week, winning all three of its contests, running its unbeaten streak to five games. The team topped Central Christian Academy, Holland Central and Niagara Catholic.

Mount Mercy, in a total team victory, outscored Central Christian 67-51. The Magic jumped out to an early 19-9 first quarter lead and was never really challenged after that. The senior guard tandem of Olivia Balys (Orchard Park) and Leah McQuiller (Lackawanna) led the team, scoring 41 points. Balys had 21, with a trio of three pointers and seven steals, while McQuiller had four three pointers and 20 points. Junior center Mallory Ashe (Buffalo) added nine points and junior Clare McKeone (Hamburg) had six points. Junior Anne Bamrick played a complete game for the Magic, amassing six points and six rebounds, along with four steals and five assists.

In the team's second game of the week it traveled to Holland to take on the team ranked in the small school top five. In an exciting and hard-fought contest, the Magic handed Holland its second loss of the year, 45-44. The team opened the fourth quarter trailing by two. Balys after a great feed from McQuiller, hit the game winning shot from 15 feet away with five seconds left. The Magic's defense held on for the win. Balys led Mount Mercy with 18 points, including a pair of three pointers. McQuiller added 11 points, hitting three treys. Ashe chipped in with eight points. Coach John Glose singled out Bamrick for her defensive efforts, as she held Holland's top scorer, senior Olivia Schmidt, who has over

2000 career points, to a season low of 14 points. "It was a great and gutsy effort by all," Glose remarked.

In the third game of the week, Mount Mercy held its annual Senior Night celebration. Mount Mercy topped Niagara Catholic 73-36. Niagara Catholic scored the first basket of the game but that was the only time they led during the game. The Magic led 24-11 after the first quarter and 43-18 at the half. A smothering, aggressive pressure defense forced the visitors into numerous turnovers and poor shots. The team moved the ball extremely well on offense, working together for the open shot. McQuiller and Balys, the honorees, both had outstanding games. McQuiller was on fire from three point range, knocking down five treys on her way to 22 points. Balys used her driving ability to score 16 points and added six rebounds. Ashe had her best game of the season, scoring 18 points, snaring 11 rebounds and grabbing five steals.

"I can't say enough about the play of Olivia and Leah of late. Everyone has improved so much and we are getting better and better with every game! It is fun to watch!" Glose stated.

The Magic has an overall record of 10-8 and a 6-2 league mark with two league games remaining.



JV Basketball

The Magic JV Basketball team split two games last week, falling to Holland and defeating Niagara Catholic. The team's record stands at 8-8.

The Magic was unable to generate much offense against Holland, falling 41-19. The team fell behind 20-9 at the half and was unable to recover. Sophomores Emma Fredo (Buffalo) and Abbie Hillery (Hamburg) paced the team with five points each.

The team found its offense against Niagara Catholic, easily defeating the visitors 43-20. Every player but one scored for the Magic. An aggressive defensive effort helped Mount Mercy to build its advantage. Fredo led the team with 14 points. Freshman Josslyn Strang (Westfield) added seven points and sophomore Naomi Parisi (Buffalo) had five.

“The team came out and fed on the energy in the gym. The team worked together well and worked for open shots. Coach Kubera and I are very proud of the girls, especially our sophomores who played their last home game of the year,” Head coach Molly Gasuik commented.

Mount Mercy Academy

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