## Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

### Lacrosse

The Mount Mercy Lacrosse team split its two games last week, defeating Springville 21-6 and dropping a 4-3 decision to Notre Dame of Niagara Falls, Ontario 4-3. Both contests were non-league games. The team holds an overall record of 3-2 and a Monsignor Martin League record of 2-1.

Brigid Keane (Buffalo), Emily Gawlak (Buffalo) and Brigid Lempko (West Seneca) paced the team's offense against Springville. Keane, a senior, had five goals and two assists. Gawlak, also a senior, had four goals and four assists. Lempko, a junior, contributed four goals and four assists. McKenzie Cerrone (Colden) added three goals and two assists. Arielle Brown (Buffalo) contributed two goals. Two players, junior Anne Bamrick (Buffalo) and sophomore Mary Barnes (Fredonia) scored their first career goals during the contest. Goalie Brianna Gawronski, a junior from Dunkirk had six saves.

The game against a strong Notre Dame team was a hard fought game that was tied until the visitors scored with just 17 seconds remaining in the game to notch the victory. Despite the loss, Gawronski had a strong game, recording 14 saves. Cerrone opened the scoring for Mount Mercy, tying the game at 1 early in the second half. Lempko put Mount Mercy up 2-1 before Notre Dame knotted the game at 2-2. Bamrick staked the Magic to a 3-2 lead before the visitors tied the game at 3. The teams battled until the final whistle but with just seconds remaining Notre Dame scored the winning goal.

"It was a great opportunity for us to play a strong opponent to prepare us for our games this week against first place Sacred Heart and second place Mount Saint Mary's," Coach Melissa Graham commented.

#### **Tennis**

The Mount Mercy Tennis team split two matches last week, defeating Niagara Catholic 3-2 and falling to Sacred Heart 5-0. Against Niagara Catholic junior Emily Gall (Buffalo) won at the second singles position 4-6, 6-4 and 6-3. Sophomore Sophia Robinson (Buffalo) won her match at third singles 6-2 and 7-6. The second doubles team of senior Caeley Robinson (Buffalo) and freshman Breanna Sikora (Buffalo) also won 3-6, 6-4 and 6-3.

The tennis team has a record of 2-2.

## Softball

The Mount Mercy Magic softball team opened its season with two league victories, defeating Nichols 12-1 and Cardinal O'Hara 20-0 in two games that were shortened due to the scores. The team also defeated Rochester Mercy by a score of 5-1. The team's overall record is now 3-0.

In the team's opening game of the year, sophomore Allison Rogowski (West Seneca) earned the victory on the mound for the Magic, limiting Nichols to one run on four hits. In addition she had an outstanding day at bat, going 3 for 4 with a double, triple and a homerun, driving in four runs. The team cracked 15 hits during the game, including three hits each from sophomores Mary Bala (West Seneca) and Chloe Manikowski (Depew). Laura Gregory (Buffalo), also a sophomore added two doubles and three runs batted in.

The Magic had no trouble against Cardinal O'Hara as pitcher Gregory shut out the host team, holding them to just 1 hit while striking out 12. She also helped her effort with a two hits, including a triple. Sophomore Taylor Hoch (East Aurora) led the way offensively with three hits and three runs batted in. Sophomores Rogowski, Bala, Fiona Danahy (Buffalo), and Emma Fredo (Buffalo) each had two hits. Danahy's hits included a home run. Juniors Mallory Ashe (Buffalo) and Beth Hughes (Orchard Park) each contributed two hits as well.

Mount Mercy traveled to Rochester last Saturday to face Rochester Mercy. For the first time in many years, the Magic came out on top, defeating their hosts 5-1. Rogowski picked up her second win on the mound, scattering five hits while striking out six and giving up no earned runs. She also shined at the plate, collecting two hits and knocking in two runs. Manikowski added two hits and scored three of the team's five runs. Bala added a double and an RBI. Gregory had a hit and an RBI. Danahy, Ashe, Hughes and Olivia Balys (Orchard Park) all had one hit for the Magic. Hughes had the team's final RBI.



Pictures (also by Pat Burns)

Tennis: Mount Mercy's Emily Gall returns a shot in her singles match.

Lacrosse: Mount Mercy's Anne Bamrick releases a shot that found its way into the goal for the Magic's third goal against Notre Dame of Canada.

Softball: Mount Mercy's Mary Bala is one of the team's top hitters this season.

# **Mount Mercy Academy**

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