Mount Mercy Sports Round-Up

Varsity Volleyball

The Mount Mercy Varsity Volleyball team dropped both of its matches last week. The team lost to Nardin and Saint Mary’s of Lancaster.

The Magic fought hard against Nardin before dropping a closely-contested four game match 15-25, 21-25, 25-22 and 18-25. Senior hitter Emily Diebold (Lancaster) paced the team with six solo blocks and three kills.

Perennial state champion Saint Mary’s of Lancaster was the Magic’s next opponent. The team battled but fell 8-25, 10-25 and 15-25. Senior Clare McKeone (Hamburg) had three kills. Junior Mary Bala (West Seneca) added two aces and Diebold continued her strong net play with two blocks.

Cross Country

The Magic cross country team opened its season with a 19-44 loss to Mount Saint Mary. However hopes for the future are high as freshman Grace Harrington (West Seneca) paced the team in her first high school meet, racing to a second place finish. Harrington finished with a time of 22:57. Senior Claire Koessler (Derby) placed ninth with a time of 25:54 and freshman Bella Morcelle (West Seneca) concluded her first varsity race with a time of 26:18.

Varsity Soccer

After failing to score during their first game of the season, the Mount Mercy Magic Varsity Soccer team managed to score at least one goal in each of its contests last week. The team lost twice, including a non-league game and earned a tie.

The team battled Nardin to a scoreless tie at the half but then had a breakdown in the second half, falling 8-1. Senior Anne Bamrick (Buffalo) opened the game’s scoring on an assist from fellow senior Abigail Krug (Buffalo). Unfortunately this was the only goal of the game for the team. Coach Myers is optimistic that the team will learn from the game and be ready for Nardin at home.

The team’s next game was a non-league contest against Mount Saint Mary’s. The Thunder opened the scoring five minutes into the game. Senior Alyssa Siracuse (Buffalo) knotted the game up with a left-footed shot from outside the 18 yard line. Senior Rachel Kostelny (Orchard Park) assisted on the goal. The Magic trailed 2-1 at the half but Siracuse with an assist from Bamrick struck again from the same area to tie the game. After an injury forced a shuffling of positions, the team played stronger and more aggressive defense. Myers thought her defense looked strong and fast.

The team traveled to Hamburg for another non-league contest and fell to their hosts 3-1. The game was tied 1-1 at the half and the second half was closely contested as the hosts scored their final goal with fifteen seconds left in the game. Siracuse continued her scoring streak, connecting on a header after an outstanding pass from junior Abby Hillery (Hamburg). Hillery was awarded the third star of the game by Hamburg. “We are starting to connect on our passes and communicate as a team,” Myers remarked.

Golf
The Mount Mercy Golf team has shown steady improvement throughout its season and currently holds a record of 1-3. The team has lost to perennial power Sacred Heart as well as Nardin and Mount Saint Mary. The Magic defeated Buffalo Seminary, led by senior Jena Mattina-Chmiel, a three year varsity starter, who finished with a 48. Junior Mallory Gawronski (Lackawanna) had the team’s next best score, a 54. Junior newcomers Chloe Manikowski (Depew) and Sophie Robinson (Buffalo) have steadily improved their games each match. Other team members include seniors Kate Haettich (Buffalo) and Diana Henshaw and juniors Mary Barnes (Fredonia), Olivia Andriaccio (Buffalo) and German exchange student Jana Reiter. The team is coached by veteran coach Kate Lynch.

JV Volleyball

The young Mount Mercy’s JV Volleyball team continues to improve its play. The team lost a hard fought contest to Nardin 22-25 and 18-25. The serving of freshman Sara Ferraraccio (Sloan) created momentum for the team as she served for eight points. Kaitlyn Morris (Orchard Park), Katie Hughes (Orchard Park) and Madelyn DiGiore (Lake View) contributed defensively with strong digs. Allison Mazurkiewicz (Blasdell) had three aces. “Although it was a loss,” Coach Molly Gasuik stated, “The team played well and is continuing to show great improvement.” The team lost to a very strong Saint Mary’s of Lancaster team in its second match of the week. Gasuik felt the team competed well in the first game but stopped communicating on the court in the second game and the team’s play suffered.

JV Soccer

Mount Mercy’s JV Soccer team was shut out by a strong Nardin squad last week. Sophomore Bridget Mulcaire (Lancaster) was singled out by Coach Mary Colby for playing a strong game at forward and midfield. The Magic faced Nichols and ended up on the short end of a 2-1 score. Sophomore goalie Megan Cycon (West Seneca), in just her third soccer game had a strong game, making many outstanding saves. Elizabeth Lang (Buffalo), a freshman, scored the team’s first goal of the season on a penalty kick.