

May 7, 2019

Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

Tennis

The Mount Mercy Tennis team's week was marred by rain. The team managed to start one of its three contests, before the match was suspended due to rain. Despite the fact that the team was dramatically short-handed due to illness and schedule conflicts, the team has a chance to win the match when play resumes. With only four team members available to compete, the team had to forfeit two of the five matches. The Magic won two of the other three matches with one match still to be completed. Junior Allyson Pajek (West Seneca) a first year team member, played singles for the first time ever and won her third singles match 6-1 and 6-1. Junior Hannah Dierolf (West Seneca) and sophomore Claire Mullen (West Seneca) won their second doubles match 7-5 and 6-3. Junior Lily Kasperek (Forestville) won her first set at second singles 6-1, lost the second set in a tie breaker 6-7 and currently trails 3-2 in the deciding set, which was suspended due to rain. Coach Matt Ondesko was proud of his team's play. "The four girls who competed showed a great deal of heart. Despite being down 2-0 before they got off the bus, they never stopped working or fighting," Ondesko remarked. He also commented that Kasperek has shown great leadership since the first day of practice and each day since.

Track

The short-handed Mount Mercy Track team competed against three other schools in a single meet last week, defeating Park School and losing to Saint Mary's of Lancaster and Cardinal O'Hara. Several team members were stranded in California due to weather conditions after the school's trip to a music festival. Coach Bob Walsh was pleased with the performances of the team members who competed. Freshman Aubrey Monaco (Buffalo) had personal bests in the shot put and discus and junior Katie Hughes (Orchard Park) posted her bests in the 1500 and 3000 meter runs. He also highlighted junior Bella Morcelle's (West Seneca) efforts in the shot put and junior Grace Harrington's (West Seneca) times in the 1500 and 3000 meter runs. Sophomores Gianna Lauciello (Orchard Park), Rheanna Welsh (Lackawanna) and Megan Jozwiak (Springville) and freshman Cassidy Reid also earned praise for their efforts in the sprints and middle distances.

In addition, several team members competed in the Holland Invitational Meet last week. There was no team scoring kept but there were some notable finishes by the Magic. Senior Grace Willert (West Seneca) placed third in both the shot put and discus. She threw the shot 28'1" and the discus 82'9". Sophomore Megan Reilly placed fifth in the triple jump with a leap of 30'6.25". Welsh placed third in the 400 meter run with a time of 1:05.28.

Softball

The young Mount Mercy Softball team continued its growing pains, losing the one game that the team was able to play last week. The Magic lost to visiting Holley (Section Five) 26-10. The game was closer than the score indicates, as Mount Mercy only trailed 13-10 going into the seventh inning, but inopportune errors and walks led to a disastrous final inning. Despite the score, there were several bright spots for the team. Freshman catcher Darian Boyer (West Seneca) had her best all-around game of the year, going three for four with an RBI and four stolen bases. She also threw out a runner at

second base who was attempting to steal and picked off another runner at third base. Junior Tina Zambron (Lackawanna) also went three for four with a double and two RBIs.

Lacrosse

The Mount Mercy Lacrosse team lost its three contests last week. The team lost to Sacred Heart, Mount Saint Mary and St. Mary's of Lancaster. Sara Geiser (West Seneca) scored the team's three goals in the game against Sacred Heart. The team gave its all against Mount Saint Mary before falling 22-11. Geiser continued to find the net, tallying six goals. Freshman Lily Janik (Angola) scored two goals. Senior Mariah Rullan (Buffalo), junior Brigid Burke (Buffalo) and sophomore Megan Quinn each added a goal. Despite the absence of a few key players, the Magic battled hard against St. Mary's of Lancaster 10-5. Rullan scored twice and Quinn added a goal. Sophomore Anna Schieber (Buffalo) added a goal and junior Olivia Larson (Orchard Park) notched her first goal of the year. Goalie Sydni Condoyannis (Dunkirk) had 13 saves.

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MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY

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