

April 10, 2018

Mount Mercy Track Team Expects to Make Strides This Season

With two athletes returning who qualified for the State championships and a roster of 23 athletes, hopes are running high for a successful season for the Mount Mercy Academy track team. For the first time in several years the team will be able to fill all the events and to have athletes specialize in different events. Although many of the team members are new to the team, the coaches believe that there is a great deal of untapped talent on the team. Bob Walsh returns for his fifth year at the helm as the coach and he is assisted by Nicole Mainente and Brittany Sanscrainte for the second year.

The team consists of eight seniors, four juniors, five sophomores and six freshmen, with eight of the athletes returning from last year's team. Expected to lead the team this season are seniors Christina Billittier (Angola), Hellen Modi (Buffalo), junior Grace Willert (West Seneca) and sophomore Grace Harrington (West Seneca). Billittier competed in the triple jump and Willert threw the shot put in the Catholic State Championship Meet last season. Billittier will also compete in the long jump and the sprints this season and Willert will also throw the discus. Modi placed fifth at the All-Catholic meet in the long jump and will compete in the jumps this season. Harrington will run the distance events again this season, including the 1500 where she placed sixth at the All-Catholic meet.

The coaches believe that many of the newcomers show talent and dedication. One of the newcomers that the coaches have high expectations for is freshman Angelina Larivey (Lackawanna). She competed in cross country in the fall and is also capable of running the sprints.

"I believe that the keys to a successful season will be persistence and dedication," Assistant Coach Nicole Mainente commented. "Being able to work together and push each other in practice every day will result in improvements at the meets. I expect that there will be a lot of personal bests for the team members this season. Since many of the team members are new, they are not aware yet of what they are capable of doing. It will be exciting to see the team grow throughout the season. We are looking forward to a great season."

The track season begins on April 12th with a meet against Mount Saint Mary's.



Mount Mercy Academy

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