



NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

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**THIS WEEK AT
NOTRE DAME
(HOME GAMES)**

Friday November 6

**VAR Volleyball
MHSAA District
vs. DCDS 5:30**

**VAR Football
MHSAA District
vs. DCDS 7:00**



The Notre Dame Girls Varsity Cross Country team placed fifth at the MHSAA Regional meet held at Linden High School. Senior captains Lexi Fraser and Maddie Monaghan qualified individually for the MHSAA State Finals meet.



The Notre Dame Boys Varsity Cross Country team, led by Senior captains Eli Seitzinger, Nathan Vogel and Adam Martin, placed fifth at the MHSAA Regional meet. Wade Robinson placed eighth overall individually, was the top Freshman in the Region, and qualified individually for the MHSAA State Finals meet.

FOOTBALL ADVANCES OVER HAZEL PARK; VOLLEYBALL MOVES ON TO DISTRICT FINAL

IRISH SWEEP LAMPHERE TO ADVANCE IN DISTRICT

The Notre Dame Varsity Volleyball team defeated Madison Heights Lamphere in straight sets, 25-11, 25-11, 25-6 to punch a ticket to the District Final match. Josie Bloom (five aces and 15 points) and Grace Wenaas (six aces and 14 points) were lethal from the serving line, accounting for 29 of Notre Dame's 75 points. Bloom also had a team high 15 digs. Olivia Kowalkowski showed why she is among the best Liberos in the state as she was on the receiving end of 12 Ram serves to go with eight digs. Aly Borellis showed her versatility across the net in putting away 18 kills to go with 21 assists while Abby Nellis added six kills. Sophia Sudzina and Bianca Giglio collected five kills each and Aly Berent contributed two aces and 12 digs in the victory. The Irish will now take on Detroit Country Day in the District Final.

CONVINCING WIN OVER HAZEL PARK

The Notre Dame Varsity Football team was on control from start to finish, scoring early and often en route to a 59-0 win over Hazel Park in the opening round of the MHSAA playoffs. The Irish got up 21-0 just under five minutes into the contest on three touchdown passes from Jacob Bendtsen. Bendtsen found Clayton Bone for two scores (23 and five yards) and later hit Ryan Cueny for a 33 yard scoring pass. Notre Dame added to the lead in the second quarter,

scoring on a six yard Michael Kirchner run, an eight yard pass from Bendtsen to Alex Scherle, and a 28 yard field goal by Luke Babich to end the half. Trevor Tuttle added a 16 yard touchdown reception from Bendtsen in the third quarter and Jacob Tuttle (three yards) and Bradon Prater (19 yards) scored fourth quarter rushing touchdowns. Bendtsen finished 12 of 19 for 170 yards and five touchdowns while Kirchner had 83 yards on the ground. Notre Dame now advances to host Detroit Country Day in the MHSAA District Semifinal round. The two teams previously met in October with the Yellow Jackets taking the contest by a 10-0 score.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL FINISHES UNBEATEN

Forget that it was Halloween, the Notre Dame 7/8 Football team experienced quite a scare in the CYO season finale against the Ann Arbor Saints. Fortunately, the Irish pulled together like they have all season and found a way to get the win, scoring the only touchdown in overtime for a 14-8 victory to finish the season undefeated at 6-0. Both teams struggled to find any consistency on the offensive side of the ball before the Saints broke through for a touchdown to take an 8-0 lead into the half, the first time the Irish have trailed all season. Keeping their composure, Notre Dame answered with a scoring drive on their first possession of the second half evening the score at 8-8 after Ben Bingham's PAT kick. The teams

exchanged empty possessions for the rest of the half with the Saint's unique wedge ground game chewing up clock and keeping the ball away from the Irish. The final two drives of regulation ended in dramatic fashion with the Irish making a valiant red zone stop inside it's 10-yard line with less than a minute to play aided by a team quarterback sack and a key pass break-up by Keegan Simon in the end zone. Taking over on downs with about the 30 seconds left the Irish made an inspired offensive push that timed out at the Saints 25-yard line leading to overtime. The Irish lost the toss and had the first possession of overtime. Facing 4th and goal from the nine yard line, the Irish passed on a field goal try and turned to their play maker, quarterback Billy Bologna, who dropped back to pass before taking off around right end and weaving through traffic to find the end zone and a 14-8 Irish lead. The celebrating would have to wait as it was now the Irish's turn to play defense. Picking up where they left off at the end of regulation, the Notre Dame defense stonewalled the Saints offense on four successive plays to cap off a perfect 6-0 season. The Irish had vital contributions across the entire roster with Bologna leading the way offensively. The strong defensive performance was led by nose tackle Lucas Bigelow, who was in on countless tackles and was often spotted in the Saints backfield.



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