



NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

VOLUME XVI | ISSUE X | OCTOBER 29, 2021

VOLLEYBALL TAKES FIRST AT WILLIAMSTON INVITE; BOYS SOCCER FALLS IN PKS IN REGIONAL SEMIFINAL



The Notre Dame Varsity Volleyball team took all five matches without dropping a set to defend its tournament title at the Williamston Invite

IRISH DEFEND WILLIAMSTON INVITE TITLE

The Notre Dame Varsity Volleyball team had a strong showing at the Williamston Invite, taking all five matches without dropping a set to defend its tournament title. The Irish opened the tournament with a win against Haslett 25-11, 25-14, 25-11. Giglio led the offense with nine kills, 10 points (four aces) and four blocks. Sophia Sudzina also contributed nine kills, Sara Nouhan had seven and Grace Wenaas and Ally Berent each had five. Hanna Rutila and Elyssa Wallace served up 10 and nine points, respectively, and accounted for 11 digs. In the second match of the day, Notre Dame defeated Eaton Rapids 25-8, 25-2, 25-11. Setter Margo Sudzina finished the match with 19 assists, 26 serving points, and 10 aces. Leah Greif added eight points, three aces, and 12 assists. Bloom had 13 receptions and 12 digs and Berent had 11 digs. Sophia Sudzina added eight points, four aces, and 11 kills while Giglio had 10 kills. In the opening round of bracket play, the Irish earned a 25-17, 25-15 win over East Grand Rapids. Giglio led the Irish with six points, four aces, and four blocks. Sophia Sudzina had five kills while Berent, Nouhan, and Wenaas all had three. Margo Sudzina picked up 15 assists and five points while Bloom had 10 digs and 12 receptions. In the semifinal match, Notre Dame defeated Onsted 25-10, 25-011. Giglio had 16 more points, including six aces, to go with four kills and six digs. Berent had six kills while Wenaas had five and Sophia Sudzina had four. Margo Sudzina had 17 assists and five points and Bloom had eight digs. The finals featured two ranked Division Two teams entering the match with only one loss in Notre Dame and Lansing Catholic and the Irish would prevail 25-10, 25-19. Giglio led all attackers with 10 kills while

Sophia Sudzina added eight, Abby Nellis had five, and Wenaas had four. Berent had eight serve receptions, six points, and four kills while Margo Sudzina added five points and 12 assists. Bloom had 13 digs and 12 serve receptions in the win, Wallace had five points and seven digs, and Rutila finished with five digs and five points.

IRISH DROP REGULAR SEASON FINALE TO MARINERS

The Notre Dame Varsity Football dropped a 21-10 decision at Marine City in the regular season finale. A 21 yard field goal by Luke Babich gave the Irish an early 3-0 lead before the Mariners stormed back with two touchdowns. Jacob Tuttle answered with a one yard run in the second quarter as Notre Dame went into the half down 14-10. After a scoreless third quarter, Marine City would put the game away with a scoring drive early in the fourth. The Irish defense was strong throughout the game, with Evan Noga (seven tackles, six assists, one sack) and Alex Scherle (six tackles, three assists, two sacks) leading the way. Johnny Dreer had an interception, Landon Hehl recovered a fumble, and Chris Galle led the special teams charge with two blocked punts. Offensively, Billy Newman led all Notre Dame receivers with five catches for 52 yards while Bradon Prater had 50 total yards (30 rushing, 20 receiving). Tuttle threw for 117 yards while adding 28 on the ground, including the lone Irish touchdown. Notre Dame finishes the regular season at 7-2 and will head to Crosswell-Lexington in the MHSAA District opening round.



Jerónimo Ballesty had one of Notre Dame's three PK goals against Michigan Center

IRISH FALL IN PKS AT REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

The Notre Dame Boys Varsity Soccer team fell to Michigan Center in penalty kicks in the MHSAA Regional Semifinal round. Both the Irish and Cardinals traded chances throughout regulation with neither team finding the back of the net in regulation. As has been a common theme throughout the Notre Dame playoff run, the Irish headed to overtime for a third consecutive game. However, neither team was able to score in either of the extra frame as Notre Dame goalkeeper Owen Thieme and Michigan Center goalkeeper Michael Van Riper both posted shutouts over 100 minutes of play. The teams headed to penalty kicks where the Cardinals would ultimately prevail 4-3. Nathan Kalil, Jerónimo Ballesty, and Nico Liparoto all converted attempts for the Irish in the penalty kick round. Notre Dame finishes the season 11-7-5, including the program's first District title since 2017. The Irish graduate six seniors in Ballesty, Jakob Dutz, Lucas Karolski, Josh Reid, Massimo Vitale, and Anthony Zaleski.



Goalkeeper Owen Thieme kept Michigan Center off the board through 100 minutes of regulation and overtime play in the MHSAA Regional Semifinal round



NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

VOLUME XVI | ISSUE X | OCTOBER 29, 2021

7/8 FOOTBALL CLOSES SEASON WITH WIN AT PREP BOWL; CROSS COUNTRY HEADS TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN INVITE

7/8 FOOTBALL CLOSES SEASON WITH PREP BOWL WIN

The Notre Dame 7/8 Grade football team finished their 2021 season at Ford Field this past weekend. The Irish earned the right to play at the home of the Detroit Lions by finishing 4-2 and tied for second in the Division, which was good enough to make the playoffs. Notre Dame won its first CYO playoff game 20-14 in exciting fashion over St Joan of Arc but lost in the semifinals to eventual CYO Champion Shrine Catholic. At Ford Field, the Irish got the chance to avenge an early season loss to Northwest Catholic in a 20 minute exhibition game. Notre Dame got the ball first on their own 35 yard line and converted an early fourth down to get the ball to the midfield as the offensive line, led by Logan Tuttle, Lucas Kattula, Jude Kalasho, Nick Creek and Tyler Leung came out strong to start the game. At the 50, the Irish called a Flea Flicker and quarterback Sam Stowe connected with Ben Liparoto for 48 yards down to the Northwest Catholic two yard line. From there, running back Lucas Bigelow exploded through the line for the first score of the game and kicker Lucas DiGrande made the extra point, which counts as two points in the CYO to give the Irish a 8-0 lead. On Northwest Catholic first drive, they converted on several fourth downs before finding the end zone for a touchdown. However, their run/pass extra point attempt was broken up and the Irish kept the lead at 8-6. The Irish again got the ball back at the 35 yard line and ran a read option on the first play for no gain. On 2nd down, Coach Jezdimir went empty with a five wide receiver set looking to move the ball down the field. Stowe hit Joey Bialy in stride across the field and Bialy did the rest, turning the corner and running away from the entire defense for a 65 yard score. Once again, DiGrande

connected on a two pointer to increase the lead to 10. The Irish then stopped Northwest Catholic on their final drive when Bialy broke up a fourth down pass to seal the 16-6 victory. The offense was led by Stowe, who finished four of five for 125 yards and a touchdown and Bigelow, who had over 50 all-purpose yards and a touchdown. On defense, the Irish were led by Ashton Gust, Bonner Upshaw, Jackson Bliss, Blake Whidden, Austin Reese and Will Hannah. This year's seventh grade class of Charlie Nadeau, Alec Wernis, Weston Cukrowski, Lucas George, Max Robin, Max Upshaw, Rory DeYoung, Everett Pawlowski, Frankie Perkaj and Walker Fox contributed all over the field this season and will be relied on heavily to lead the 2022 team.



The Notre Dame 7/8 Football team and Middle School Cheer team celebrate following a 16-6 win over Northwest Catholic in the CYO Prep



The Notre Dame Girls and Boys Varsity Cross Country teams placed fifth and 13th, respectively, at the Northern Michigan Championship in Gaylord. In total, the Irish set 20 personal records. Wade Robinson, Zoe Hoke, Maria Nunning, Kate Stacey and Adri Lorenz all medaled for Notre Dame.



The Notre Dame Boys and Girls Cross Country teams competed at the Lake Fenton Freshman-Sophomore Invite. The Girls placed second, just two points behind champion Ann Arbor Huron, while Wade Robinson was the overall winner on the Boys side.



The Notre Dame JV Volleyball team closed its season by taking first at the Linden Invitational