



NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

VOLUME XVI | ISSUE XI | NOVEMBER 5, 2021

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

XC QUALIFIES FOUR TO COMPETE AT STATE FINAL; VOLLEYBALL ADVANCES TO MHSAA DISTRICT FINAL

Tuesday November 9

**VAR Volleyball
MHSAA Regional
5:00/ 6:30**

Thursday November 11

**VAR Volleyball
MHSAA Regional Final
6:00**

IRISH QUALIFY FOUR FOR MHSAA FINALS

The Notre Dame Girls and Boys Varsity Cross Country teams competed in the MHSAA Regional DII tournament on Saturday with the Girls placing fifth and the Boys sixth. In cross country, the top three teams at the regional meet qualify for states. Athletes can also qualify as individuals if they finish in either the top 15 or are one of the top seven individuals, not already qualified as a member of a team. The regional invitational was held in Linden at Lake Fenton High School on a rain-soaked and muddy course resulting in times more than two minutes off of most runners' personal records. Goodrich and Marian were the top two teams for the Girls with scores of 41 and 87. Only five places separated Pinckney, Linden and Notre Dame with scores of 101, 102, and 106. Maria Nunning and Zoe Hoke finished ninth and 11th, earning All Region honors and qualifying for the MHSAA DII Cross Country Finals at Michigan International Speedway (MIS) on November 6. Hoke also earned All County honors earlier in the season. Captain Kate Stacey, Anna Hauck, Erin Connelly, Adri Lorenz and Addie Bellows rounded out the Varsity team for regionals. Seniors Nicole Carson and Katie Bucci were the alternates. Nunning, Hoke, Connelly, Lorenz, and Bellows are all Freshmen and Sophomores and will be the cornerstone for a strong team next year. The top two teams in the Boys race were Pinckney and Linden with scores of 34 and 42. Cranbrook and Lake Fenton tied for third place with scores of 113 each. The tiebreaker was decided by the sixth runner (normally only top five score) and went to Cranbrook. Notre Dame finished just behind Goodrich and ahead of Detroit Country Day. Wade Robinson in seventh and Ben Kinkade in 18th



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Wade Robinson placed seventh and Ben Kinkade took 18th as both earned All Region honors and qualified for the MHSAA DII Cross Country Finals

both received All Region Honors and qualified for States next week at MIS. Robinson was also named All County earlier in the season. Kinkade, one of the team captains, secured the final qualifying spot for states, according to the new rules, by finishing seventh overall among individuals on non-qualifying teams. Kinkade secured the spot with a strong surge in the final quarter mile besting top runners from Pontiac High and Brandon to secure the last qualifying spot. For Kinkade, who is a Junior, this will be his first appearance in the state finals. Sophomore Troy Kilanowski and Freshmen Sam Phillips, Ryan Wojichowski, Isaak Brook, and Chris Hunter rounded out the scoring for the Irish. Freshman Nick Mardelli was the alternate. The team will return all seven starting varsity runners next year. The team benefited this year from a strong core of seniors, who provided leadership and set the tone throughout the year. In addition to Stacey, Hauck, Carson and Bucci, Tess Censoni (captain), Josh Trulik (captain), Katie Heaman, Meghan Tompkins, Loretta Alonso, Jessie Kennedy, Michelle Pieper, Ally Heaman, Nina Bologna and Lauren St. Andre all provided great value to the team. According to Coach Guest, "Cross Country is not an easy sport and I feel blessed to have known and been able to coach these great seniors. They are all terrific young men and women and I will miss them all."

IRISH FALL IN DISTRICT TO CROSWELL-LEXINGTON

The Notre Dame Varsity Football fell 6-0 to Croswell-Lexington in the opening round of the MHSAA District playoffs. Playing in difficult conditions all throughout the evening on a rain-soaked and muddy field both the Irish and Pioneers struggled to put together any sustained offense

for most of the evening. A four yard touchdown run by Croswell-Lexington quarterback Jake Townsend on a fourth down late in the first quarter would prove to be the only score of the game. Notre Dame would mount one final drive late in the fourth quarter that would end on a fourth down stop inside the Pioneer 25 yard line. The Irish defense was strong throughout the game, forcing three turnovers and only allowing one score. Alex Scherle recovered a fumble while Johnny Dreer and Jeremy Gale both had interceptions. Evan Noga finished with 11 tackles while Matthew Sadecki and Walter DeCasas each had six. The Irish finish the season at 7-3 and graduate 17 Seniors in Luke Babich, Pedro Cabral, Peter Channo, DeCasas, Dreer, Chris Galle, Joey Grossi, Justin Joliat, Jack Kautz, Aaron McGhee, Evan McGhee, Nick Meli, Billy Newman, Noga, Michael Sadecki, Scherle, and Tyler Wojichowski.

VOLLEYBALL ADVANCES TO DISTRICT FINAL

The Notre Dame Varsity Volleyball team defeated Michigan Collegiate in straight sets in the MHSAA District Semifinal round. Audrey Thummel picked up her first varsity kills in the win. The Irish took charge from the service line with Aly Berent leading the way with 12 aces, while Margo Sudzina had 10, and freshman Mya Kattula finished with nine. Sudzina also picked up a team high 11 assists. On the offensive front, leading attackers for Notre Dame were Bianca Giglio, Josie Bloom, and Sophia Sudzina. The Irish advance to take on Clawson in the MHSAA District Final.

