NOTRE DAME ATHLETICS

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IRISH TAKE OPENER 46-24 OVER REDFORD THURSTON; FRASER, MYLENEK LEAD BOYS XC TO 2ND PLACE FINISH

NOTRE DAME RUNS BY THURSTON IN OPENER

Notre Dame Football opened up its 2015 season and the new turf at William Kozyra Alumni Field with a convincing 46-24 win over Redford Thurston. Alonzo McCoy (14 carries for 112 yards and 2 TDs) got the Eagles on the board early with a 51-yard run but the Irish quickly answered back as Senior quarterback Matt Durkin found Joe Mukhtar for a game-tying score (a Bryce Barringer made PAT put Notre Dame up 7-6). From there the Irish ground game would take over as Notre Dame extended its lead to 24-12 at half-time and 39-18 after 3 quarters of play. Luke Adams led the way, carrying 20 times for 171 yards and finding the endzone 4 times. Durkin added 75 rushing yards and a score in addition to 48 yards through the air. The Irish (1-0) will return to action at home on Thursday against Tecumseh, who is coming off an opening week 62-39 loss to defending Division 6 champion Monroe St. Marys CC.

IRISH BLANK LUTHERAN NORTH FOR FIRST CHSL WIN

Notre Dame improved to 3-3-1 on the year (1-1 in CHSL play) with a 1-0 win over Lutheran North. Nathan Mylenek scored the only goal of the contest with just over 20 minutes remaining and Will Baldwin recorded the shutout for the Irish. The team received outstanding defensive performances from Mason Accetturo and Garrett Kremer at center back and from Brian Blakeslee, Chris Wardlow, and Danny Caton at outside marking back. Notre Dame travels to Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard next Tuesday.

MYLENEK, FRASER FINISH 1-2 AT MICHIGAN CATHOLIC INVITE

The Notre Dame Cross Country teams opened their seasons at the Michigan Catholic Invitational in DeWitt. Competing amongst Catholic schools from around the state, the boys team pulled off a second place finish to bring back a trophy to Notre Dame while the girls placed ninth. On the boys side, senior Nathan Mylenek finished 1-2 to lead the field. Fraser used a fantastic second half of the race to finish in 16:05.96, the third fastest time ever in the meet’s record book and seventh fastest in Notre Dame history. Mylenek ran 16:32.69, which ranks 12th fastest in the meet’s history. Senior Drew Guest and sophomore Niko Fraser also medaled, as Guest finished 14th (17:35.65) and Fraser finished 18th (17:40.65), personal records for both on the course. Rounding out the scoring for the Irish was senior Neil Kaufmann, who placed 47th (19:22.98). In the girls race, leading the Irish was sophomore Cassidy Weist, who placed 22nd with a time of 22:03.02. Also scoring for the Irish was freshman Bridget Joslin (38th, 22:34.55), sophomore Claire Seitzinger (45th, 22:52.35), freshman Shannon Lambrecht (23:11.87), and sophomore Abby Rankin (49th, 23:13.02). Seitzinger’s and Rankin’s times are personal records on the challenging course in Dewitt.

IRISH FALL TO MERCY AND MARIAN

The Girls Varsity Golf team fell to 1-3 in CHSL play, dropping a quad match to Mercy and Marian hosted at Western Golf Course. The Irish shot a team score of 197 while the Marlins finished at 171 with the Mustangs compiling a 189. Leading scorers for Notre Dame were Dani Staskowski (39), Bella Hanna (45), Gigi Gonzales (56), and Sarah Bonema (57).
TENNIS SWEEPS STALLION INVITATIONAL

The Notre Dame Boys Tennis team enjoyed an impressive start to tournament season over the weekend, taking the Sterling Heights Stallion Invitational. The Irish swept all flights to earn the maximum 24 points, easily earning wins over Warren Woods Tower, Warren Mott, and Sterling Heights.

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL TAKES LINDEN INVITE

The Girls Freshman Volleyball team took the Linden Invitational over the weekend, earning a 25-19, 25-9 win over Goodrich in the championship match. Rachel DuRivage and Kaylee Wilson led the Irish in kills while libero Emma Wallace led the way in digs.

JV SOCCER IMPROVES TO 2-0 IN CHSL PLAY

The JV Soccer team sits at 2-0 in CHSL play and 3-2 overall after a pair of wins this week. The Irish began the week with a 3-1 win over Cranbrook. Peter Kochanski, Kyle Al-Attar, and Anthony Pangori all found the back of the net for Notre Dame. The Irish also earned a 3-0 win over Lutheran North with Nolan Mylenek scoring two early first half goals. Notre Dame will return to action on Tuesday at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

TECUMSEH OFFENSE JUST ENOUGH TO CLIP IRISH

JV Football dropped to 0-2 on the season, falling at Tecumseh by a final count of 36-33. Quarterback River Shea had both a passing and rushing touchdown for NDP and running back Joe Mervenne also enjoyed a strong game. Notre Dame will attempt to find the win column next Thursday as the Irish travel to Clawson.

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MARIST SOCCER EARNS SPOT IN 3RD PLACE GAME AT MOUNTAINEER CLASSIC

Marist Soccer kicked off its 2015 season by once again attending the St. Marys Invitational. Notre Dame finished the tournament at 1-1-2, earning a spot in the 3rd place game. In the opener, Josh Edmonds notched a hat trick and Chris Cempura added a goal to help the Irish defeat St. Thecla 4-0. Varun Sinha, Anthony Zaleski, and Lexi Fraser picked up assists. Giuseppe Fregoli, Adam Walker, and Palmer McGuire were outstanding defensively and Nalin Fox picked up the shutout. Game 2 saw Marist battle to a 1-1 draw with PSG Nova, with Edmonds scoring the lone goal, cashing in on a loose ball near the box. Fox was once again solid in net, making several difficult saves to keep his team in the game. The third and final game of pool play saw the Irish hold the majority of the possession throughout the game but ending up settling for a 2-2 draw with host St. Mary Mount Clemens. Edmonds scored both goals with Sinha and Zaleski getting the assists. Notre Dame finished 2nd in pool play, setting up a 3rd place matchup with St. Lawrence. Despite being down only 2-0 at half, the Irish suffered a tough loss 7-1. Vaughn Carrara scored off of a pass from Edmonds. Fregoli was outstanding, winning the ball and making tackles throughout the game. Marist will open up CYO play on September 10 at league power Everest Academy.
Irish rebound to sweep quad meet

Notre Dame rebounded from a pair of losses last week to improve to 9-2-1 as they defeated Cabrini, Marysville, and Our Lady of the Lakes in a home quad meet. The Irish came away with a 25-11, 25-10 win in the opener against Cabrini. The opening match pitted the Irish against the Monarchs of Cabrini and Notre Dame came away with a 25-11, 25-10 win. Gabby Shilling was the lead attacker for NDP, recording 11 kills without an error. Emma Kowalkowski added 8 serving points to go with her team-high 16 digs. The second match found the Irish facing longtime rivals, Marysville and the match did not disappoint. Notre Dame rushed out to a 7-1 lead in the opening set and never looked back, taking the set 25-13. In the second set the Vikings returned the favor as they opened with a 9-2 lead and then held on to defeat the Irish 25-22. The third and decisive set was all Notre Dame as they took the early lead once again and never let Maryville back in. Maddie Chinn collected 11 kills and fellow freshman Natalie Risi added 10 of her own. Olivia Juliani had 19 digs and scored 9 points from the serving line, including 6 aces. Kowalkowski steadied the Irish defense with 20 digs as she added 9 points with 2 aces. The Irish took their final match of the day over Our Lady of the Lakes in a similar fashion, winning the first set 25-17, falling in the second 25-21 and pulling out a two-point win in the third. Chinn once again showed why she is on many college watch lists as she collected a team-high 10 kills while Caitlin Fitzgerald collected 6 kills. Western Kentucky bound Kowalkowski added 8 more serving points and 18 more digs to her team leading totals.

Cranes drop Irish in CHSL opener

Cranbrook’s Cooper Cormier recorded a hat trick, including two goals in the opening five minutes of the game, as the Cranes defeated Notre Dame 4-2 in the CHSL opener for both teams. “They caught us off guard a bit at the beginning of the game. I’m proud of our guys that came off the bench. After the slow start, it was an even game,” first-year Notre Dame coach Rob Suffredini said. Peter Miklas scored on a penalty kick for the Irish with 7:29 remaining in the first half but that would be as close as Notre Dame would get as Cormier would record his third goal of the evening just before halftime.