

Special day at Wrigley Field for 102-year-old local resident

By Chris Fox
 LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
 STAFF REPORTER

Eleanor Olson, a 102-year-old resident of Lexington Square of Lombard, traveled to Wrigley Field on July 6 to throw out the ceremonial first pitch before the Chicago Cubs' home game against the Cincinnati Reds.

The Cubs are marking the 100th



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Eleanor Olson threw out the ceremonial first pitch before the Chicago Cubs' July 6 home game against the Cincinnati Reds. The 102-year-old Olson, who has lived at Lexington Square of Lombard for 27 years, lived in Villa Park for more than 30 years. Olson is pictured at Lexington Square minutes before she left for Wrigley Field. She attended her first Cubs game in 1927. The Cubs have been playing at the historic ballpark since 1914.

anniversary of playing their first game at Wrigley Field. The park opened in 1914 and served as the home of the Federal League's Chicago Whales in 1914 and 1915. The Federal League folded after the 1915 season. The Cubs, whose history dates back to 1876, moved to the venue now known

as Wrigley Field 100 years ago. They played their first game there on April 20, 1916, beating the Reds 7-6 in 11 innings.

The Cubs weren't as fortunate in last week's July 6 contest against Cincinnati. The Reds defeated the Cubs, 5-3. Both teams wore 1916 throwback jerseys during the game.

Olson moved with her family from Chicago to Villa Park in 1956. She lived in Villa Park for over 30 years before moving to Lexington Square of Lombard 27 years ago.

The Cubs extended their invitation to Olson to throw out the ceremonial first pitch a few months ago. A Cubs employee whose mother lives at Lexington Square was visiting her mother earlier this year and met Olson, who celebrated her 102nd birthday in November 2015. The employee of the Cubs, aware of the plans to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the team's first game at Wrigley Field, asked Olson if she'd like to throw out the first pitch before a game.

Shortly before leaving for Wrigley Field last week, Olson recalled the first Cubs game she attended—89 years ago—in 1927.

"My father took my girlfriend and me on Ladies Day," said Olson, who was 13 years old when she first visited the ballpark. "I was a scrawny pipsqueak. We thought we could get in for nothing, because it was Ladies Day. No, we weren't 16, so he had to pay a dollar for us. Then, after the game, he marched us up to the general manager and got a dollar back for my girlfriend, who was tall. She could pass for 16."

At the time, the Cubs held Ladies Day during every Friday afternoon game, allowing free admission to all women 16-and-older.

According to the 2013 book "Mr. Wrigley's Ball Club: Chicago and the Cubs during the Jazz Age," by Roberts Ehr Gott, "The noise could reach its highest decibels in the bedlam of



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHICAGO CUBS

Eleanor Olson takes the mound at Wrigley Field to throw out the ceremonial first pitch before the Chicago Cubs' game against the Cincinnati Reds on July 6. The Cubs are celebrating the 100th anniversary of their first game at Wrigley Field. They played their first game there—also against the Cincinnati Reds—on April 20, 1916. Olson, who lives at Lexington Square in Lombard, was joined on the mound by her son, Jim.

the Cubs' unprecedented Ladies Day carnivals, when the complimentary admission of women left proportionately many fewer men on hand. Wrigley Field's female fans were the most numerous and enthusiastic assortment of sportswomen yet witnessed in the modern world. Reaching numbers of 20,000 and higher, their riotous Friday afternoon presence often dwarfed the day's paid attendance in any other major league park."

Olson's family, including her son, Jim, and daughter, Fran, joined her at last week's game. Minutes before leaving for Wrigley Field, Jim noted that

he joined his mother for some "bullpen work" one day earlier outside of Lexington Square. He explained she practiced some underhand tosses to prepare for her big moment on the mound in front of about 40,000 fans.

Jim Olson added that he and his sister Fran grew up in Villa Park. They lived on Michigan Avenue, less than one block from what is now the Illinois

Prairie Path.

Years ago, the path was the right-of-way for the Chicago Aurora and Elgin Railroad, which was known as the "Roarin' Elgin." Jim graduated from Elmhurst's York High School in 1959. Willowbrook High School in Villa Park opened later that same year. Fran graduated from Willowbrook a few years later.

BGA backs Sen. Cullerton's government efficiency bill

The Better Government Association joined Sen. Tom Cullerton in urging Gov. Rauner to sign Cullerton's government efficiency bill. The legislation, SB2994, directs Illinois counties to prepare a report for the General Assembly listing units of local government to be cut or consolidated.

"Illinois has over 7,000 units of local government, many of which were developed at a time when counties had vastly different administrative needs and expectations," said Cullerton. "Many of these jurisdictions are redundant, wasteful and inefficient. Cutting and consolidating units of local government is one of the most important steps towards solving the state's financial crisis."

SB2994 passed the legislature and is waiting the governor's signature. It uses a model that has already been successful in DuPage County, which recently eliminated the Naperville Street Lighting District. Through cuts and consolidations of this nature, DuPage County officials expect that they will save their taxpayers \$100 million over

the next 20 years.

The Better Government Association, a watchdog organization that advocates efficiency and accountability in government, urged the governor in a letter to sign SB2994 "to increase transparency and accountability" in local and state government. Officials at the Better Government Association look forward to the reforms that the bill will bring about, and applaud its dedication to improving local government on the basis of hard data and analysis.

"At the BGA, we believe that any streamlining effort must be built on the context of good information," BGA Policy Manager Judy Stevens said in support of the bill.

Cullerton is running for state senate in the 23rd Legislative District. A U.S. Army veteran, father and public servant, he is a strong advocate for middle-class families and responsible government. He has spearheaded and passed bipartisan legislation to increase fiscal responsibility, make college more affordable, invest in small businesses, and protect veterans.

Park Art Center to present free events

The Park Art Center, located at 9 E. Park Blvd., Villa Park, will hold its last free showing of the documentary film, "The Vivian Maier Mystery," at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20.

The non-profit center will hold a related event on Thursday, July 28. Ann Marks, a researcher and the author of "Vivian Maier Developed," will speak at the free July 28 event, which begins at 7 p.m. She will talk about what she's discovered about Maier's history and family since the film was released. A question-and-answer session will follow.

Maier's photographic talent was discovered by a Chicagoan who purchased her unpaid storage locker nearly 10 years ago. The locker contained unprocessed film, silver gelatin negatives, old cameras and other personal items. The Chicago resident who bought the storage locker learned

Maier was an accomplished street photographer who took thousands of photos of adults and children in Chicago during the 1950s and 1960s.

Maier, who died in 2009, worked as a nanny and pursued her passion for photography in her spare time. Her photos were not published during her lifetime. In 2009, about six months after Maier's death, a selection of her photos were displayed online. Maier's work has since been exhibited around the world.

Marks continues to collaborate with the curators and owners of the vast majority of Maier's work in an effort to extract new information from Maier's images. The Park Art Center's exhibition featuring 35 of Maier's photographs runs through July 30.

For more information about the upcoming events, call 630-501-1455.

Notice to our readers:

Paper to be published on Thursdays starting next week

The Lombardian and Villa Park Review will switch publishing days from Wednesdays to Thursdays effective July 21.

Newsstand copies will be distributed Wednesday evenings and home delivery will be on Thursdays. For more information on home delivery, please call 630-627-7010.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Part of the parade

The Willowbrook High School Marching Band participated in Villa Park's annual Fourth of July parade. Band members are pictured as they march westbound on Park Boulevard. Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 organized the annual Independence Day celebration. The parade route of about 2 miles began on Central Boulevard near Ardmore Avenue and proceeded west on Central, south on Harvard Avenue, east on Madison Street, north on Summit Avenue and west on Park to Ardmore.

SPORTS

JULY 14, 2016 • 14

Addison Trail baseball team wins two games in wood bat tournament

Perez earns summer all-district honors

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail summer baseball team's improvement is appearing at the perfect time on the schedule.

“We finished the regular season strong. We are getting better every week and that is starting to pay dividends. We finished up (the regular season) with three wins in our last four games. Those are signs we are headed in the right direction.”

— Addison Trail Coach
Mike Kennedy

The Blazers closed out their summer regular-season schedule by winning two games in a wooden bat tournament in St. Charles.

Addison Trail recorded a 2-0 victory over West Chicago behind the pitching efforts of Nick Villasenor and Trevor Fulmer. Villasenor and Fulmer combined to throw a two-hit shutout.

“They were awesome,” said Addison Trail coach Mike Kennedy of his two hurlers.

Bryan Hidalgo-Ortiz had what turned out to be the game-winning RBI in the bottom of the sixth. Hidalgo-Ortiz then scored the Blazers' second and final run.

Addison Trail also recorded a 9-3 win over Elgin Larkin. Simon Marinelli had three hits, while Fulmer and Mitch Gomez each had two hits.

AJ Parnell pitched the first four innings, while Bobby Daniels pitched the last three innings.

“We finished the regular-season strong,” said Kennedy. “We are getting better every week and that is starting to pay dividends. We finished up (the regular season) with three wins in our last four games. Those are signs we are headed in the right direction.”

Kennedy and the Blazers re-

ceived further good news when it was announced Ricky Perez earned summer Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association all-district honors.

“Ricky did just about everything for us,” said Kennedy. “His defense and pitching have been key for us as well as the way he swings the bat. He threw some big innings for us.”

Kennedy likes the progress the team's offense has made this summer. “Lately, we've started putting runs up. That's a big thing,” he said.

“Our pitching is getting a little better and where it needs to be. We put

up nine runs against Larkin using wooden bats. That's huge for us. We came out hitting in that game. We had 12 or 13 hits, which is awesome. We started the game with Simon, Mitch Gomez and Trevor each getting doubles. Fulmer hit one off the wall.”

Kennedy noted the wooden bat tournament was a nice bonus on the summer schedule. “The kids love the wooden bat tournament,” he said. “They want to play with wooden bats all the time.”

Kennedy said the summer season has been a big hit from an evalua-

tion standpoint as well.

“We've been able to get a good look at different guys this summer,” said Kennedy. “We've seen guys in different positions that might be outside their comfort zone. If they can show they can play different positions during the summer that will allow them to play different positions during the regular season. If they are swinging a good bat we want to find a good place for them in the field.”

Addison Trail opened the state summer playoffs earlier this week against Montini in Lombard.

Addison Trail girls basketball team makes summer progress

Blazers score numerous quality wins; look to promising future

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The summer was good to the Addison Trail girls basketball team.

“We've had a good summer,” said

Addison Trail coach Rob Schader. “We have six kids coming back with a ton of minutes played already. The biggest keys for this coming season will be to stay healthy and stay out of foul trouble. We feel comfortable putting eight kids out there on a consistent basis. We'd like to add a few more to that list who can go in and help us.”

Addison Trail went 6-4 against competition at the Palatine summer league. “We haven't played more than one or two games over there in previous years,” said Schader. “When we were at full strength we played teams tough. We beat some teams that we don't normally beat. We beat Oswego twice and we beat Barrington and McHenry. We played Lake Park tough and only lost by seven or eight points. We beat some pretty good teams. It should be a fun year coming up.”

Addison Trail also hosted several shootouts and played in an event at Lake Park. The Blazers wrapped up the summer season at a team camp at Hope College.

“The girls had the chance to play in 32 games this summer and get a lot of experience,” the coach said.

Schader said returning players such as Diamond Pikulyk, Nicolette Scorza, Alyssa Pham, Marie Baumgartner and Jasmin Mehmeti all had strong summers, as did Diane Graciano.

“The kids coming back from last year impressed me the most,” said Schader. “They all played well. Dia-

mond is a lot better on offense and defense and had a great attitude. We also had some juniors that played well and we'll be counting on them to help us. We would like to get a good rotation of nine or 10 kids going. That would be ideal.”

Schader saw positives on both sides of the ball. “Offensively we pushed the ball and the tempo,” he said. “We made it hard for teams to keep up with us. Defensively we worked on our half-court man, which was good at times. We rebounded the ball well. We have kids who want to rebound the basketball well.”

Schader said the high volume of returning players helped accelerate teachings during the summer contact period.

“In 11 years I don't think we've had more than three or four players back,” he said. “No way we've had six back. Four of those kids started on a regular basis and all five of our starters at some point started a game last year. You can't teach that. That's a learning experience you can't get from any practice situation. We're ahead of the game at this point.”

Schader said the season-ending Hope College trip in Michigan provided another good evaluation opportunity. He added the team will play in the neighborhood of 11-12 games while there.

“A lot of the juniors are going and that will give them a lot of game opportunities and the opportunity to get better,” he said.


ELMHURST EMERALDS
FULL-TIME TRAVEL SOFTBALL

Tryouts for the 2017
Elmhurst Emeralds
Softball Program

Saturday, August 6
Times to be announced

IC Catholic Prep Turf Field
186 S. West Ave., Elmhurst

10U, 11U, 12U, 14U and 16U Girls
Pre-Registration Required:
Go to www.elmhurstbaseball.com
Questions: Email Craig Heiss at
craigheiss@hotmail.com



Fenton girls basketball team wraps up summer session

Veteran coach Anderson thrilled with squad's progress

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The summer session was a smash hit for the Fenton girls basketball team.

Although the Bison did not play in any formal competitions during the summer, they racked up plenty of superlatives on the practice floor.

"The summer went very well," said longtime Fenton coach Tim Anderson. "I was pleased with the turnout and was extremely pleased with the work ethic and determination. Last year, in terms of wins and losses, it wasn't successful. This camp was extremely successful. It was phenomenal. These kids are extremely motivated. One of the tests in my mind was what would happen between the end of last season and when we would meet next

here in the summer. The girls came in raring to go. I was so pleased. It really does bode well for when we get started at the first day of practice."

Anderson noted the team worked on a variety of skills. "Like last season, we spent a lot of time on fundamentals with shooting being priority No. 1," the coach stated. "We also spent a lot of time working on defense, which was priority No. 2. We've taken a step in the right direction here. I'm very excited."

Fenton conducted its summer session a little later than usual. "School ended late for us because of the construction on campus," said Anderson. "We didn't start camp until June 14 so we were a little behind. We knew it would be coming and we knew we would have a shorter session so we planned our agenda accordingly."

The Bison graduated only two of their 13 players from last year's

team. "I'm really looking forward to this group," said Anderson. "It's a group with a lot of character and a lot of resilience. Most of the girls from last year are back and we have some kids coming up from the JV that we're very excited about. Our JV had a very good season last year. One thing that is going to help us, and I sound like a broken record from last year, is how well the girls get along with each other and how well they treat each other. They show up and they are ready to work. Wow! We were so pleased this summer."

Anderson also witnessed the metamorphosis of his senior group. "The nice thing was to watch the transition from when they came into camp the first day," he said. "Now they are seniors. And when they come back in the fall, they will be two to three months into being seniors and that's when we'll expect big things from them."

Anderson stressed he's hopeful his players will continue to refine their games in the time away from the gym leading up to the start of fall practices. "For us, priority No. 1 is putting the ball in the basket,"

he said. "What we did in these three weeks here is hopefully the catalyst to get things started. Now go out in the driveway or park and shoot the ball or play 3-on-3 pickup games, but shoot the ball. You have to focus on what you want to do and plan on what you want to try and accomplish. That's how we left them at the end of the summer. I have a lot of confidence and faith that they will go out and work on their own. I have a good feeling about what we'll see when we see them again at the end of October. It's such a nice group of kids."

Banner summer for Timothy Christian girls basketball team

Trojans made progress, enjoyed success at Lisle summer league

By Mike Miasma
CORRESPONDENT

A 4-8 record doesn't seem like

much to write home about.

But in terms of summer improvement, Timothy Christian girls bas-

ketball coach Michele Strube uses that mark as exhibit No. 1 in her team's progress.

"We finished 4-8 in the Lisle summer league and that's the best summer we've had so far since I've been coach," she said. "My first year we won no games there and the last two years we won one each time."

The Trojans defeated IC Catholic Prep and Lisle on the same night.

"Lisle was 10-0 when we beat them in the last week of summer league," said Strube. "The girls played really well. They saw what two weeks of camp and playing games at night

See BANNER SUMMER, Page 16

Firing on all cylinders

Willowbrook pitcher Alec Michaelson gets off to 4-0 summer start

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

During the longer spring high-school baseball season, a good majority of pitchers do not win four games.

Willowbrook's Alec Michaelson has done that in just about a month's time during the current summer season. Michaelson brought a 4-0 record into the start of this week's summer state tournament.

"I've worked a lot on my mechanics lately," he said. "At the beginning of last season I was a little shaky and couldn't find my control. I was giving up a lot of walks."

Michaelson said his work with Warriors' pitching coach Curtis Hudson has made a major difference.

"Working with coach Hudson has helped a lot," he said. "He's helped me pump up the velocity and get more control. Everything he's done with me has been a masterpiece. Things have been going well. Coach Hudson is a masterpiece. I wanted to be a dominant pitcher. Coach Hudson helped me become a better pitcher. The improvements I've made are crazy. I've been doing really good."

Michaelson has been hard at work refining a variety of pitches. "My fastball is a solid No. 1 pitch," he said. "I've really worked on my slider as a good kill pitch to get outs. It's worked on a lot of people. My curveball has been good this season and last season and my changeup is getting there. I've been working on it. It has great movement, but I need to find more control with it."

Michaelson said his fastball has been clocked in the mid-80s with a high point of 85 MPH. "I'm consistently hitting 81 or 82," he said.

Michaelson said his first summer victory against Wheaton-Warrenville South was a difference-maker for him.

"I had no earned runs and walked one person with upwards of eight strikeouts," he said. "Right after that it made me feel like I had something special going here and just needed to work hard and get it jump-started. I gained a lot of confidence."

Michaelson has been a nearly life-long practitioner of the sport. "My mom got me a whiffle ball and bat when I was real young," he said. "I've been playing competitively ever since I was able to get into a league. Baseball is my whole life."

Michaelson, who also plays for the Lombard Lightning travel team, marvels at the progress he's made as a player.

"It's one of the best feelings ever when you look back at how far you've come and how real baseball can be and how far it can get me in life," he said.

Michaelson noted he would like to play the sport in college. The holder of a grade point average in the high 3's, Michaelson has plans to study to be a pharmacist. "School is the name of the game," he said. "I want to be a pharmacist when I

grow up. I'd like to get a degree in biology and then get pharm-D and become a registered pharmacist and go from there."

Michaelson is part of a Willowbrook summer team that won 18 games and opened play in the state summer tournament earlier this week.

"We are all together," he said. "Everybody knows each other. The seniors get along with the juniors and the juniors get along with the seniors. We're hitting the ball and pitching well and doing the basic stuff to win ballgames."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education, Addison School District 4, in the County of DuPage, State of Illinois, that the tentative budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 222 North Kennedy Drive, Addison, Illinois from and after 8:00 am on the 14th of July, 2016. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 7:00 pm, on Wednesday, the 28th day of September, 2016 at the Board Room of the Board of Education, 222 North Kennedy Drive, Addison, IL 60101.

Marcy Boyan
Assistant Superintendent for Business
Addison School District 4
630/458-2500

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Independent July 14, 2016)

250266

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village of Bensenville intends to demolish the residential property accessory structure located at 236 S. Center St. Bensenville, Illinois, P.I.N. 03-14-420-029 (the "Property"), pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-31-1(e), unless the Property is remediated within the time provided by law by the owner or lienholders of record. The Property is open and vacant and constitutes an immediate and continuing hazard to the community. If the Property is not remediated by the owner or lienholders of record, within 30 days of the mailing of this Notice or within 30 days of the last day of publication of this Notice, whichever is later, the Village will demolish the Property.

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Independent July 14, 2016)

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ELMHURST EXPLOSION
FULL TIME TRAVEL BASEBALL

Tryouts for the 2017 Elmhurst Explosion Baseball Program
Saturday, July 23
Times to be announced

Plunkett Park
186 S. West Ave., Elmhurst

10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, and 14U Boys
Pre-Registration Required: Go to www.elmhurstbaseball.com
Questions: Email Mike Brennan at mjbrenn2@gmail.com

SPORTS

Have a question or comment? Contact Sports Editor Jason Rossi, jrossi@shawmedia.com or 630-427-6271

ALL-AREA BASEBALL MVP

Oriente a 'special' baseball talent

DGS grad tops
Suburban Life's
all-area teamBy JASON ROSSI
jrossi@shawmedia.com

DOWNERS GROVE – Speak softly and carry a big stick was the foreign policy ideology of President Theodore Roosevelt.

It just so happens to aptly describe Danny Oriente.

The recently graduated Downers Grove South baseball player was rarely, if ever, the most vocal player on his team. Instead, he let his bat do the talking for him.

The Louisville recruit hit over .500 for the second straight season, following up last year's .560 season with a .506 average this spring. He also drove in 33 runs, scored 37 runs and stole 25 bases. He will go down as one of the best players ever to come through South's successful program.

"Danny, he's awesome, one of my favorites, that's for sure," Downers Grove South head coach Darren Orel said. "Just the way he played the game, his demeanor, good teammate, and a hard worker."

After the stellar season and fantastic high school career, Oriente was named an Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Class 4A all-state selection and the Suburban Life all-area team MVP.

Oriente made his varsity debut for the Mustangs toward the end of his freshman year in 2013. The next spring he was a starter and a mainstay in the heart of the batting order, a status he maintained for the rest of his prep career.

When he was called up as a freshman, Oriente was able to share the dugout with players such as Joe Becht, Zack Burdi, Brian Glowicki, Danny Mayer, Ryan Taylor and Zach Taylor. All went on to play in college, and Burdi and Mayer were selected in the Major League Baseball Draft this year. Oriente has a good chance to follow

All-area team selections

Garrett Acton	senior	Lemont
Carson Bartels	senior	Nazareth
Zach Colangelo	senior	Wheaton North
Terrence Cribbs	senior	Hinsdale South
Joe Donovan	junior	Westmont
Zach Duffy	senior	Hinsdale South
Kyle Fitzgerald	junior	Riverside Brookfield
Scott Garrow	junior	Lyons Township
Zack Jones	senior	Downers Grove South
Tim Marks	senior	Glenbard South
Cole Miller	senior	York
Danny Oriente	senior	Downers Grove South
Matt Pizur	senior	Willowbrook
Matt Riecker	senior	York
Noah Ritchie	senior	Wheaton Academy
Jake Rosley	senior	Montini
Michael Sebbby	senior	Glenbard East
Brendan Shanahan	senior	Downers Grove North
Kevin Spencer	junior	Glenbard West
Ryan Sublette	junior	Lemont
Brett Whelton	senior	St. Francis
Andrew Zapka	junior	Hinsdale Central

their lead in three years when he is eligible for the draft.

"He expects so much and he wants to do so well and sometimes he gets in his own head," Orel said, "but when he frees himself up and lets himself go, there aren't too many like him out there at this level that could swing the bat like him. He is a special player."

Orel (and just about anybody who saw Oriente play) expects that Oriente will continue to shine on the diamond due in equal parts to his raw talent and work ethic to hone those talents.

While he wasn't always the most vocal player, Oriente set the tone for his teammates by the way he played and the way he worked to achieve success. It's something Orel hopes incoming juniors Cameron Crowley, Michael Hall, Brett Riegler and Nick Stacey picked up from playing alongside Oriente on varsity this spring.

"Hopefully they hone in on some of the stuff that it takes, the

stuff outside of the season that he did. The extra time and the extra swings and all the extra effort that kind of gets lost," Orel said. "People just think these kids show up. You say he's gifted and yeah, he is, but he also worked at it a lot. The kids saw that and hopefully learned from that."

Whether or not the Mustangs follow Oriente's lead to more success in the future is to be determined. What is not up for debate is that he was one of the most gifted players in the state during his prep career, and a rare talent.

"He's a special one. He's got a great personality. He's a kid you really enjoy being around, getting to know and developing a relationship with," Orel said. "We won't see a kid like that for a while."

"He expects so much and he wants to do so well and sometimes he gets in his own head. But when he frees himself up and lets himself go, there aren't too many like him out there at this level that could swing the bat like him. He is a special player."

Darren Orel, Downers Grove South head coach

Downers Grove South's Danny Oriente (left) tracks a fly ball he hit April 28 in a game against Downers Grove North. A three-year varsity starter for the Mustangs, Oriente hit over .500 for the second straight season and was an Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association all-state pick.

Bill Ackerman -
For Shaw Media

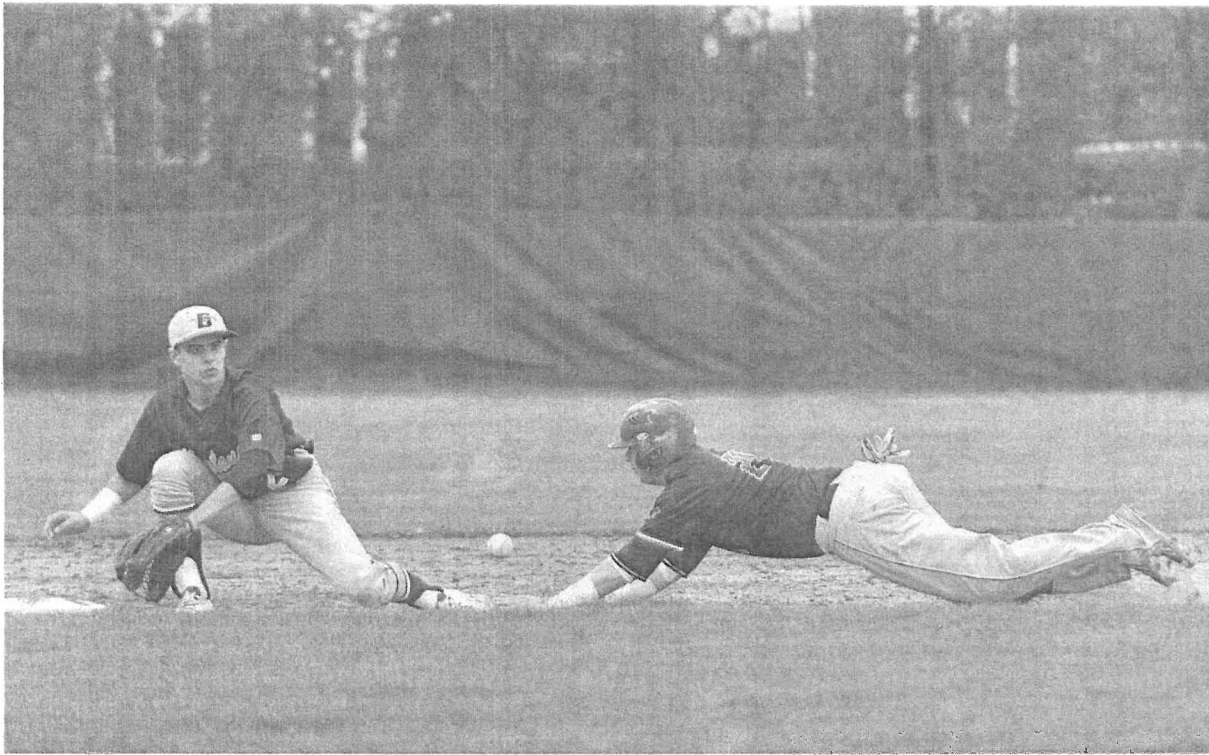


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For live broadcasts, replays and highlight clips of events from area high schools, visit www.mysuburbanlife.com/video/live.

Sports to
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Visit <http://shawuri.com/texts> to sign up for sports scores and alerts to your phone from Suburban Life.



LEFT: Downers Grove North's Brendan Shanahan slides safely into second base on April 28 in a crosstown game against Downers Grove South. Shanahan was a key player for the Trojans as a catcher, hitter and senior leader this spring.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Wheaton North's Zach Colangelo hits the ball on May 6 during a home game against Neuqua Valley. Colangelo was a two-way standout who hit .377 and had a 1.86 ERA on the mound for the Falcons and was DuPage Valley Conference Player of the Year.

BOTTOM LEFT: York's Cole Miller fires a pitch on May 2 during a home game against Hinsdale Central. Miller, a Samford recruit, was a standout pitcher for the Dukes this season.

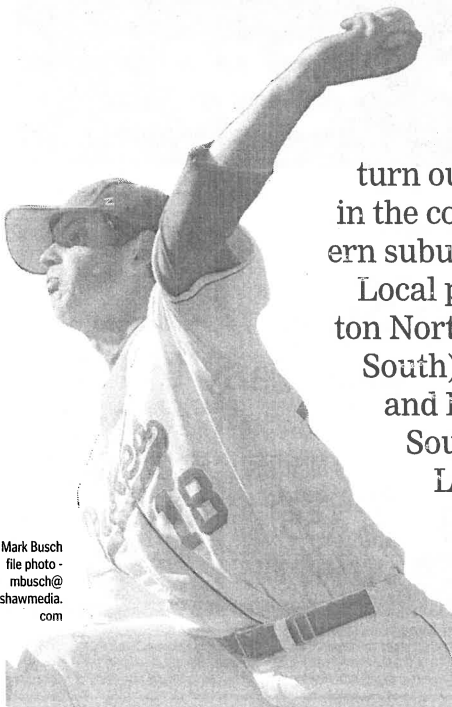
Shaw Media file photo

Suburban Life players shine on diamond

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

The states of California, Florida and Texas routinely turn out some of the best baseball talent in the country, but Illinois and the western suburbs of Chicago aren't far behind. Local products Lake Bachar (Wheaton North), Zack Burdi (Downers Grove South), Matt Frawley (Glenbard North) and Danny Mayer (Downers Grove South) were selected in the 2016 Major League Baseball Draft, and the area routinely turns out high-level collegiate talent.

The next generation of MLB stars could be taking a field down the street next spring.



Mark Busch file photo - mbusch@shawmedia.com



Mark Busch file photo - mbusch@shawmedia.com

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NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

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CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review

Pom camp at Willowbrook

Willowbrook High School's pom team held a weeklong camp for girls ages 3 to 13 last week. The camp ended with Friday's showcase for parents of the young campers. The showcase featured performances of the routines the girls learned during the week. The group photo, taken Friday, shows members of the pom team with the young campers. The other photo shows some of the campers at the end of their showcase routine. Willowbrook's pom team will offer another weeklong camp for girls in the fall. The Dance for the Cure Kid Camp will meet daily from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 17, through Thursday, Oct. 20. The campers will join the pom team to give pre-game and halftime performances at Willowbrook's varsity football game on Friday, Oct. 21. For more information about the October camp, contact Willowbrook head coach Maggie Lamb at mlamb@dupage88.net.



Next week's board meeting to include discussion of infrastructure costs

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The closing moments of the July 11 Villa Park Village Board meeting offered a preview of the board's next meeting on July 25.

According to Villa Park Village Manager Rich Keehner, the upcoming meeting will include a discussion of how to pay for unfunded portions of road-related projects in the village. Those unfunded pieces of road-related work mainly include underground projects related to water mains, sewer lines and separation of combined sewers.

Near the end of the July 11 meeting, Villa Park Trustee Chris Aiello spoke during the segment reserved for trustees' comments. Aiello asked Keehner about roads that are being reconstructed with funds related to the referendum of November 2014, when Villa Park voters approved a proposal to borrow up to \$23 million to pay for road repairs. In providing a response to Aiello's question, Keehner noted that the \$23 million in referendum funds can only pay for road repairs and cannot be used for related work, including underground

projects like water main installation and separation of combined sewers.

"How many roads do we have that are funded by the referendum that are delayed in being constructed because we need to find sources of funding to replace sewer mains—storm or sanitary—separate storm from sanitary, or water mains?" asked Aiello during the July 11 meeting.

Keehner's response included a reference to the project to reconstruct Michigan Avenue from Park Boulevard south to Madison Street. That project is the most expensive of the nearly 20 road projects slated to take place this year in the village. The Michigan Avenue reconstruction project reportedly includes road-related costs estimated at about \$3 million.

"I think there are 13 roadways that are going to be delayed due to some portion of that road being unfunded," said Keehner, who proceeded to mention the upcoming board meeting. "On July 25, we are going to present the roadways to you, and ask to move forward in some fashion, so that these roadways, especially Michigan, are not delayed."

Nearly one year ago, during the village board meeting of July 27, 2015, Villa Park Public Works Director Vydas Juskelis stated that 18 referendum-funded projects, including the Michigan Avenue reconstruction project, included sewer-related work with a total estimated cost of about \$11 million. Juskelis said at that meeting that the Michigan Avenue project required sewer separation, which would cost approximately \$500,000. He said that the installation of a new storm sewer was the mechanism for separating a combined system. A combined system, he noted, collects storm water and sewage in the same pipe.

Keehner said at last week's meeting that Villa Park was unable to apply for an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan to pay for underground work on Michigan because the village couldn't guarantee repayment. Keehner also stated that the Michigan project was 90 percent designed.

"We could not submit it to the IEPA for the low-interest loan because we don't have enough funds to guarantee the repayment of the

loan," said Keehner in referring to the Michigan Avenue project. "So that's definitely one right now that's being delayed."

Keehner said later in the meeting that part of the Michigan Avenue project is currently being delayed because the village does not have the funds to replace the underground water main. The village manager also noted that the village had to borrow \$1 million earlier this year to pay for underground work on another road reconstruction project—on Park Boulevard from Villa Avenue extending east to a dead end near Route 83.

"A few months ago, we had to borrow a million dollars to complete Park Boulevard because we didn't have any funds in the storm water account for sewer separation, etc., so we still need to repay that," said Keehner during last week's meeting. Keehner reiterated that the village stated before the November 2014 referendum vote that, if approved, the \$23 million in borrowed funds could only be used on road work.

"The road referendum funds are separate," Keehner said. "When we

went through the road referendum presentations [held prior to the vote], part of my presentation was that the road referendum bond funds would be used for the roads. The water, sewer and storm would stand by itself."

"During the presentations for the referendum question, almost every time I mentioned to the residents that we did not want to reconstruct a road and then come back 18 months later and have to cut it open to replace the water main," added Keehner later in the July 11 meeting.

The village manager said that the July 25 board meeting would include a presentation providing a rundown of the referendum-related street projects that have been completed, the projects that are ongoing and the projects that are partially unfunded. "Bringing that forward will be kind of an eye-opening experience," Keehner said. "I think everyone needs to see that, and staff needs some direction."

As Keehner and Aiello continued to discuss infrastructure projects and

District 88 Board recognizes students for state, national accomplishments

During its June 27th meeting, the District 88 Board of Education recognized students from Addison Trail and Willowbrook High Schools for their State-level and National-level

achievements from the spring season.

All the honorees were given a certificate for their accomplishments.



AT girls track and field

Adam Sousa (center) is honored. He's pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (left) and Boys Gymnastics Head Coach Caleb Strejc.



COURTESY PHOTOS *The Independent*

AT girls track and field

Lauren Kroll (center) is honored. She's pictured with Addison Trail Girls Track and Field Head Coach David Pytko (left) and Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden.



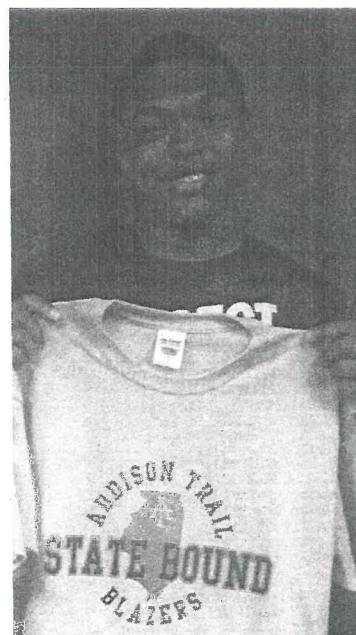
Willowbrook Girls Soccer



Willowbrook Special Olympics Track and Field

Pictured are (from left) Bridget Garner, Alyssa Spada and Samantha Wozniak.

Members of the Willowbrook Special Olympics Track and Field Team are honored. Pictured are (from left) Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause, Rhiannon Iasillo, Maria Gonzalez, Diego Saenz, Quinntin Dent-Howell, Rosalee Boehm and Coach Tiffany Lamberty.



Addison Trail Boys Track and Field

Pictured is Jordyn Carr-Jones.



Addison Trail Special Olympics Basketball Team

Members of the Addison Trail Special Olympics Basketball Team are honored. Pictured are (back row, from left) Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden, Austin Vitello, Robert Vitello, Coach Jessica Sokolowski, Coach Melissa Morales, (front row, from left) Guadalupe Garcia, George Pappas-Papaioannou, Johnny Rodriguez and Aleks Iskali.



Community Calendar

Monday-Friday, July 25-29

Skyhawks Tennis Academy camp
Skyhawks Tennis Academy (STA) is a full service nationwide operator of tennis instruction and management. The camp is for ages 7-12 at Centennial Park. Fee: \$185 for residents, \$244 for non-residents. Info: call 630-233-7275 or visit addisonparks.org

line; running with your pet is optional. There will be a prize for the most creatively dressed dog and owner. The registration fee is \$25 per person; \$20 per person for families/groups of 3-or-more. Info: call 630-233-7275 or visit addisonparks.org.

2 p.m. at Community Rec Center, 120 E. Oak Street. For more information, contact Teresa Grodsky at (630) 233-7275, option #2.

• TOPS meetings held on Friday mornings

Remember TOPS? Take Off Pounds Sensibly is still here helping and supporting people to lose weight. Meetings are held on Friday mornings at Grace Lutheran Church 950 S. York Road, Bensenville. Weigh in 9:30 a.m., and meet from 10-11 a.m. Info: email Millie at johnreiter@sbcglobal.net

• Theater arts program coming in July

The Addison Children's Theater and the Addison Center for the Arts will hold its annual theater arts program for children ages 8-14 now through Aug. 5. Includes development of acting and singing techniques as well as improvisational exercises, rehearsal techniques and stagecraft. Final performances of the play, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" are scheduled on Aug. 5 and 6 at 3 p.m. Info: 630-458-4500 or see the Addison Park District summer brochure.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: QuestPublishing@aol.com. Please include a phone number or e-mail address to contact for information.

Ongoing events • Extended hours days at the Aquatic Center

Extended open swimming hours are available from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4 (Throwback Thursday price) at the Family Aquatic Center, 120 E. Oak St. Info: Call 630-233-7275 or go to addisonparks.org. Celebrate the pool's 40th anniversary on Throwback Thursdays with admission rates from 1976. Children who are residents are admitted for \$1; nonresidents, \$1.50. Adult residents are admitted for \$1.50; \$2 for nonresidents.

• Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) meet each month

Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) of the Western Suburbs will meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 537 S. York Road, Elmhurst, starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$5. Info: (630) 620-4060 or wow.cfsites.org.

• Active Adults Senior Club

Adults, ages 55 or better, are invited to Park District's Active Adults Senior Club on Tuesdays from noon-

Tuesday, July 26

Concert in the Park

At 7 p.m., the Addison Center for the Arts is sponsoring another Tuesday Concert in the Park at the Gazebo at Village Hall. In case of rain, the concerts will be held in the Rotunda. This week's performers: Jonathan Devin and New Country.

Sunday, July 31

Cornhusk Doll Make N' Take

At 2 p.m. at Graue Mill and Museum, 3800 York Road, Oak Brook, kids of all ages are invited to learn how to construct an authentic Cornhusk doll. Admission: Free. Info: call 630-655-2090 or visit grauemill.org

Saturday, Aug. 13

Hot Doggy Dash & Splash

The Hot Doggy Dash & Splash fun run—a 3-kilometer walk/run around Centennial Park, will be held starting at 10 a.m. at Centennial Park, 1776 W. Centennial Pl. Hot dogs will be available at the finish

AT alum named to 2015-16 Tribune Scholar-Athlete Team

Addison Trail alumnus Nick Fugarino, class of 2016, has been named to the 2015-16 Tribune Scholar-Athlete Team. Following is his profile:



Nick Fugarino

Sports: Football, baseball and basketball
College: College of DuPage. As of right now, I am not exactly sure which direction I want to go in when it comes to a career. I am back and forth with what I want to do, so I think it is wise and reasonable to receive my general education courses at a much more affordable cost, but at the same time receive this education from a quality college.

Academic honors: National Honor Society; West Suburban Academic All-Conference; IHSA Academic All-State nominee; 2nd place in interview skills and 4th place in fundamental accounting at the Business Professionals of America regional competition

Athletic honors: All-Conference, two-year captain in football; three-year baseball captain

Major: Finance/accounting or journalism/communications

Dream job: Financial advisor or sports broadcaster

One word to describe your high school experience:

Hair Cuttery provides haircuts to less fortunate children

This summer, Hair Cuttery will hold its annual "Back-To-School Share-A-Haircut program," which provides back-to-school haircuts to children who need it most. Readers can help contribute by visiting one of Hair Cuttery's salons from August 1-15. For every child up to age 18 who purchases a haircut, one free haircut certificate will be donated to a disadvantaged child locally. Hair Cuttery donates tens of thousands of

free haircut certificates to children in communities across the nation with the help of more than 100 local government and non-profit organizations. Through last year's program, more than 53,000 free haircuts brought confidence and smiles to kids of all ages.

There is a Hair Cuttery location at 213 E. Roosevelt Road in Lombard and at 1450 W. Lake Street in Addison.

Hot Doggy Dash and Splash Aug. 13

The Addison Park District will be hosting The Hot Doggy Dash & Splash fun run—a 3-kilometer walk/run around Centennial Park—starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at the park, 1776 W. Centennial Pl.

Hot dogs will be available at the finish line; running with your pet is

optional. There will be a prize for the most creatively dressed dog and owner.

The registration fee is \$25 per person; \$20 per person for families/groups of 3-or-more.

For more information, call 630-233-7275 or visit addisonparks.org.

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SPORTS

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Addison Trail summer baseball team wraps up

Blazers show improvements from beginning to end

By Mike Miazza
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail summer baseball team's season came to a recent conclusion in the Phil Lawler Summer Classic state tournament.

The Blazers dropped a 7-0 decision to District 88 neighbor Willowbrook in the Fenwick regional.

"It's not that we played bad, but

they just hit the ball," said Addison Trail coach Mike Kennedy. "We put the ball in play as well, but they ended up getting three double plays. Every time we had a shot to get back into the game, they made a big play."

Vince Daudelin led the Blazers with a double and a single. "Vince came up big for us," said Kennedy.

Overall, Kennedy was pleased with what he saw unfold this summer. "We got accomplished what we wanted to," he said. "Now in the off-season here, the kids will work on getting faster and stronger and putting in the work in those areas. We are going in the right direction. We are getting there and we are building to a point where we're starting

to say, 'Hey, it's time to turn the corner.'"

Kennedy had plenty of opportunities this summer for talent evaluation. "The summer more so gives us the opportunity to see some of the younger guys coming up and seeing them get a chance to play and compete against varsity guys playing varsity ball," he said. "Next year we'll be aware of what we need to do to be competitive at the varsity level."

Kennedy also benefitted from a

good number of players on the team who competed this summer for traveling teams in the area. Kennedy noted Addison Trail was represented on such travel teams as the Elmhurst Cougars, Schaumburg Seminoles and the DuPage Training Academy.

"Most of our pitchers are out there competing with their travel teams," he said. "We have players all over getting their work in. That's a good thing. Some of these guys are coming back to us during the week after having played six or seven games

the previous weekend. They are getting their work in."

Kennedy stressed to his team to enjoy the remainder of the summer. "I told the guys to put the ball down for a little bit," he said. "When the fall hits, you hit the weights or you go play football or another fall sport. But right now, take a break and come back with a refreshed mind and an even bigger love for the game. Our guys will come back ready to go and I think we are capable of doing some exciting things next season."

Taft named new Fenton boys basketball coach

School alum most recently was head coach at Waubonsie Valley

By Mike Miazza
CORRESPONDENT

One of Fenton High School's own has come home.

Chaz Taft, a 1996 graduate of Fenton, is the school's new head boys basketball coach. He replaces Josh Payton.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to come home and give back to the community," said Taft. "My parents still live in Bensenville."

Taft, who played for Greg Lehmann at Fenton and went on to play at North Park University, comes back to the school with plenty of high-school coaching experience.

Taft was the head girls coach at Notre Dame High School in Niles for four years. He then went on to be a boys' assistant for a year at Chicago St. Patrick. Taft was the head boys' coach at South Elgin High School for eight years and most recently was the head boys' coach at Waubonsie Valley in Aurora for three years. Taft is still a physical education teacher at Waubonsie Valley.

Taft said his coaching style will

stress defensive play. "We'll be all man-to-man defense and we'll run a motion offense," he said. "Our bread and butter will be our man-to-man defense. The man-to-man is new to everybody. It will be a process with the offense we run and taking good shots and playing defensively the way we want. We have the talent to play that way."

Taft added his players have responded well to the coaching switch and the new style of play.

"They have to trust in me being the new coach with new defensive and offensive systems," he said. "It's going to be new how we approach things. Everything is valued from the way you walk on the court to the way you walk off the court and shake hands with everybody. People used to think when they played Fenton it would be a joke and they could run through us. In the summer already we've received a lot of compliments about how hard we play. Our guys are getting after it and I'm proud of how they have embraced everything already."

To say the least, Taft is looking forward to the future of Fenton boys basketball.

"I'm up for the challenge," he said. "I grew up in town here and I brought my South Elgin teams back here for the Thanksgiving tournament. Now I get to be the basketball coach in that gym. It's neat to come back home and see some familiar faces and be in the gym. It's all very exciting."

Del Real named new Willowbrook girls soccer coach

Veteran coach directed freshman team for 10 years

By Mike Miazza
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls soccer program didn't have to look far for its new head coach.

Longtime freshman coach Julio Del Real is the team's new head varsity coach. He replaces Victor Marquez.

Del Real was the program's freshman coach for the previous 10 years. Prior to that, Del Real was the head varsity coach at West Chicago High School. Del Real is a dean of students at Willowbrook.

"I've been coaching with Victor for 10 years and think the world of him," said Del Real. "When he stepped down I wanted to give it another opportunity and see how it felt to be in charge one more time. Willowbrook is very dear to me. I look at the girls and the relationships I've built and hopefully we will continue with the success Victor left behind.

I'm thankful for the chance."

Del Real said the program has excelled in recent times because of both the player and coach components.

"Besides the coaching of Victor and Pete Montgomery, one of the biggest things that has helped with the turnaround is we're starting to get girls coming into the program with a lot more experience," he said. "They are playing club soccer. The level of experience they are coming to high school with now is very important. We only have them for three months. Having girls coming in with experience gives us more opportunities to concentrate on strategy that will help make the girls better and give them even more opportunities to succeed in girls soccer."

Del Real said his coaching style focuses in on the personnel on the roster. "I adapt," he said. "I'll take a look at the personnel we have and make the most of it. I'm not set on a certain strategy. We'll do our best with the 18-20 girls on the team. If we have to be a defensive team, I'm very happy to do that. If we have to be an attacking team, we can do that as well. We will adapt our strategy to the girls on the team. And having coach Montgomery with me will

make it that much better in terms of the opportunities for the girls to succeed."

Del Real likes the direction the program is headed. "We have a lot of potential," she said. "We have some good girls coming back. We did lose some tremendous experience. And besides that experience, we lost quality individuals. What they brought to the team will be missed. Hopefully with the experienced players we have coming back and the younger players, we can continue with our recent success."

Willowbrook recently completed its summer camp. "We did an impromptu two week camp with about 16-18 girls," said Del Real. "They look very promising. We had some varsity girls there and other girls who were incoming ninth graders. They really surprised me in a good way. If you look at the situation, I didn't have to teach kicking or dribbling the ball. They came in with those skills. I told coach Montgomery and coach (Brian) Shanahan how excited I was with what I saw in camp. We were able to work on strategy and we saw a lot of great things. I'm excited to be able to call myself the head coach of this program."

IC Catholic Prep baseball team ramps up summer schedule

By Mike Miazza
CORRESPONDENT

One of the first things new IC Catholic Prep baseball coach Frank DeAngelis did was ramp up the team's summer schedule.

This year, the Knights played seven games and went 3-4 overall. "In the past we didn't schedule many games," he said. "We got seven in this summer and we had to cancel a game. We had 15 guys, which was pretty good. A lot of young guys got

at-bats and a lot of guys on varsity who didn't get a lot of at-bats last season saw different positional play and got their swings in. And guys were able to pitch more and log some more innings this summer."

DeAngelis was pleased with his player's commitment to the sport this summer. "We have guys who also play on travel teams in the summer," he said. "That's a big positive. Guys threw for us in the middle of the week for an inning or two. That's

productive work. We're not concerned about wins in the summer. We want to get the reps in and get the guys around each other. We're working toward next year."

DeAngelis cited strong play from the likes of Joey Salvi (P-1B), John Hoffman, Michael Liszka, Griffen Eichhorn and Brendan Russ.

"Joey is a lefty who played at the varsity level last year. He had

See BASEBALL, Page 22