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VOL. 14 • NO. 6

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2017

Hit and run driver leaves path of destruction, injury

**Glen Ellyn man
charged with four
counts related to
incident**

By Paul DelGuidice
FOR THE INDEPENDENT

Shortly before 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 23, police from Villa Park responded to reports of a hit-and-run crash on south Ardmore Ave. near the intersection of Jackson St. Two cars were hit; the driver of one vehicle was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove, where he was listed in critical condition.

The driver of the truck who allegedly caused the accidents was 62-year-old Lawrence Sieber of Glen Ellyn. According to police, Sieber ran the stop sign at the Ardmore and Jackson intersection and into the first car.

Sieber then fled from the area south to Roosevelt Road where he struck a second vehicle. The victim

of the second crash was transported to Elmhurst Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Fleeing the scene of that crash, Sieber proceeded west on Roosevelt where he was spotted by Lombard police officers who attempted to stop him. Sieber then crashed his truck into another vehicle that was stopped at a traffic light at Roosevelt and Finley.

According to police, Sieber struggled against police officers and had to be forcibly removed from his truck. He was taken into custody and charged with aggravated DUI causing great bodily harm, leaving the scene of an accident, aggravated fleeing and eluding and aggravated reckless driving. DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin said in a statement:

"What I find particularly disturbing in this case is the allegation that after Mr. Sieber crashed his truck into another vehicle he fled the scene in an effort to save his own hide."

Sieber was scheduled to appear in front of DuPage Judge Daniel Guerino on Tues. Feb. 7.

Bond set at \$750,000 for man accused of DUI hit-and-run

Berlin praises local police departments

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert B. Berlin announced last week that bond has been set for a Glen Ellyn man accused of a hit and run crash in Villa Park that severely injured another motorist. Lawrence Sieber, 62, (d.o.b. 3/9/1954) of 89 S. Park Avenue, appeared in Bond Court this morning where Judge

Richard Russo set bond at \$750,000 with 10% to apply. Sieber has been charged with one count of Aggravated DUI Causing Great Bodily Harm, one count of Leaving the Scene of an accident, one count of Aggravated Fleeing and Eluding and one count

See BOND Page 5



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

AT Special Olympics Basketball takes second at tourney

On Jan. 22, the Addison Trail Special Olympics Basketball Team competed in the Area 5 Special Olympics Illinois Basketball Tournament in Cicero. The team earned second place in Division 11. Pictured are (back row, from left) junior George Pappas-Papaioannou, sophomore Sergio Robles, junior Rueben Chacko, freshman Salvatore Bartolotta, junior Robert Vitello; (front row, from left) junior Guadalupe Garcia and senior Isabella Chaidex.

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Woman faces financial exploitation charges

Allegedly stole \$250,000 from elderly uncle

By Paul DelGuidice
FOR THE INDEPENDENT

According to DuPage County States Attorney Robert Berlin, Sharon Cermak, 60, of Villa Park has been charged with one count of Financial Exploitation of an Elderly Person (Class 1 Felony) for allegedly stealing nearly a quarter million dollars from her elderly uncle over a two-year period.

The alleged thefts began in June, 2013 when Cermak gained power of attorney over her uncle, who reportedly was more than 80 years old and suffered from dementia, according to a release sent by the State's Attorney office. The uncle has since passed away.

Cermak allegedly withdrew money from her uncle's bank account, wrote checks to herself and others and used his debit card to pay for personal bills. The thefts continued through Nov., 2015 when the alleged scheme was uncovered by officials

"If these allegations are proven true, Sharon Cermak took advantage of the trust placed in her by her own uncle to line her own pockets."

—Robert Berlin, DuPage County States Attorney

from DuPage County Adult Protective Services.

"If these allegations are proven true, Sharon Cermak took advantage of the trust placed in her by an elderly uncle to line her own pockets," commented Berlin.

Cermak appeared in DuPage County Bond Court last week where Judge Richard Russo kept her bony at \$100,000, with 10% to apply in accordance with a previously issued arrest warrant.

NOTE: Readers are reminded that this complaint contains only charges and is not proof of the defendant's guilt. Defendants are presumed innocent and entitled to a trial where the government must prove his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

Women's Club accepts funds from Mayor's Ball

Addison Village Clerk Lucille Zucchero (left) presented a check for \$5,110 to Diane Cozzi, president of the Women's Club of Addison, at the Club's January meeting. The check represents the WCA share of proceeds from the Mayor's Community Charity Ball. Women's Club members (along with 19 other local organizations) sold raffle tickets, assembled baskets for the silent auction and attended the gala event held each November in Addison. The Women's Club will use these funds along with proceeds from a spring fundraiser to award grants to local charitable organizations at the end of their meeting year.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

On Jan. 25, Addison Trail hosted a State Send-off celebration for seniors Ryan Cabildo (left) and Alexia Vargas, who will participate in the Illinois Music Education Conference.

AT sends two students to ILMEA Conference

On Jan. 25, Addison Trail hosted a State Send-off celebration for two students who participated in the Illinois Music Education Conference, which took place from Jan. 26 to 28 at Peoria Civic Center.

Senior Ryan Cabildo was part of the Illinois Music Education Asso-

ciation (ILMEA) All-State Concert Band, and senior Alexia Vargas was part of the ILMEA All-State Chorus. Cabildo and Vargas auditioned in October and were selected as All-District Musicians, and they have now received state-level recognition.

•Bond (Continued from front page)

of Aggravated Reckless Driving. All charges are Class 4 Felonies.

It is alleged that on January 22, 2017, at approximately 4:50 p.m., Sieber ignored a stop sign at Ardmore and Jackson in Villa Park and t-boned another vehicle in the intersection, severely injuring the driver. It is alleged that after the crash, Sieber fled the scene and was involved in three other crashes, one in Villa Park and two in Lombard. It is alleged responding officers located Sieber driving his truck on Roosevelt Road and began to pursue Sieber. It is further alleged that while stopped at a traffic light, Sieber rammed his truck into the car in front of him in an effort to elude arrest but was unsuccessful. Sieber was taken into custody at this time following a brief struggle with officers in which he had to be forcibly removed from his truck.

"Operating a motor vehicle is a privilege, not a right," Berlin said. "And operating a motor vehicle after

you have been drinking is not only against the law, it is extremely dangerous and puts the entire public at risk. What I find particularly disturbing in this case is the allegation that after Mr. Sieber crashed his truck into another vehicle he fled the scene in an effort to save his own hide. I would like to thank the Villa Park and Lombard Police Departments for their outstanding work in apprehending Mr. Sieber before he could do any further harm."

Sieber's next court appearance is scheduled for Feb. 7, 2017 in front of Judge Daniel Guerin.

The driver of the other vehicle is currently in the hospital in critical condition.

Members of the public are reminded that these complaints contain only charges and are not proof of the defendant's guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the government's burden to prove his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.



Pictured are the four Addison Trail students who will compete in Universal Technical Institute's (UTI) Automotive Top Tech Challenge on Feb. 16. They are (from left) senior Roberto Colon, senior Jose Chavez, junior Ryan Selvaggio and senior Anthony DiSilvestro.

Four AT students head to UTI Auto Challenge

On Feb. 16, four Addison Trail students will compete in Universal Technical Institute's (UTI) Automotive Top Tech Challenge. Participants will compete in hands-on and written automotive testing on vehicle parts, brakes, diagnostics and electrical systems. The teams that finish in the top three will receive prizes that include tools and scholarship money to UTI of up to \$10,000 for each student.

The Addison Trail students are senior Roberto Colon, senior Jose

Chavez, junior Ryan Selvaggio and senior Anthony DiSilvestro. The Willowbrook students are junior Matthew Seymore, senior Bryce Johnson, junior Sean Olson and senior Lucas Olson.

Colon also recently finished in the first-place category in the UTI Penske American Dream Scholarship competition, which consists of a 100-question written automotive technology exam. Colon received scholarship money to UTI for his achievement.

Art Guild, Dillman's plan annual art workshop

The Addison Art Guild and Dillman's Art Workshop Retreat Center is announcing a free Festival of Artists coming to Addison on Saturday, March 18 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Addison Village Hall, One Friendship Plaza. This year's sponsors include Lake of the Torches Resort and Casino; Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua; Moondeer and Friends gallery and the Wisconsin Arts Board.

Dillman's Art Workshop Retreat of northern Wisconsin is partnering with the Addison Center for the Arts to bring the free and fun festival to Illinois that includes:

- One hour-long demonstrations by well-known artists in their chosen mediums
- Door prizes - announced at the top of each hour
- Silent auction of artist's original and reproduction artwork plus books, videos, and art supplies.

Proceeds of the auction will be awarded as scholarships. Info: dillmans.com/scholarship

- Complimentary beverage and snack reception
 - Free and convenient parking.
- The tentative schedule of events

includes:

Sandra Bacon - Textures in Nature-Alternative Surfaces
Mary Bauschelt - Drawing and Painting Botanicals

David R. Becker - The Most Important Watercolor Workshop

Tammy L. Deck - Sculptural Felt-ing

Ayala Leyser - Gestalt Art Therapy and Creativity Mobilization

Janet Nunn - Having Fun with Watercolor

Sarah Rehmer - Encaustic Mixed Media

Mark Russell - Abstract Landscape - Oil/Cold Wax Medium

Laura Lein-Svencner - Abstract Mixed Media Collage

Lois Wilhelm - Dabble in All Things Quilting

Since 1978, Dillman's Art Workshop Retreat has organized 3-, 4- and 5-day creative art workshops for more than 11,000 artists in Wisconsin and exotic parts of call. Information about the 2017 schedule of more than 50 workshops and the resort will be available at the festival, online at dillmans.com/2017 or call 715-588-3143.

Park District events

Daddy Daughter Date Night
Friday, Feb. 3 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Twist the night away with your dad! You'll enjoy an evening, which includes food, photo-booth and dancing with the DJ spinning your favorite tunes.

Each child will receive a special gift and a daddy/daughter photo to remember this special occasion.

Registration deadline is Feb. 1 by 5:00 p.m.

Age: 4 + years

Location: Centennial Rec Center

Fee: R: \$25/couple;

\$10/additional

NR: \$33/couple;

\$13/additional
Code: 33718

Links & Tees Golf Dome Open House & Demo Day
Saturday, Feb. 4 |

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Steve Kashul of The Golf Scene will be the host free demos and golf clinics from local PGA & LPGA professionals.

Golf equipment representatives will be on site.

Enjoy food, beverages, raffle prizes and more. This is an event you won't want to miss!

Wellness Week at Club Fitness
Feb. 13 - 17

Love is in the air and it's important to keep in mind that loving ourselves is just as necessary as loving others. Club Fitness' first ever Wellness Week is dedicated to just that.

The week will be filled with sampling new and healthy foods, learning about different exercises, acupuncture and many more things that will leave your body and mind thanking you for the TLC.

Age: 16 + years

Location: Club Fitness

Fee: \$25 Members/\$30 Non-members • Code: 33473

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SPORTS

FEBRUARY 2, 2017 • 14

Boys swimming team goes undefeated in conference

Squad shoots for first conference title Saturday at WSC Gold meet

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook co-op boys swimming team has put itself in a prime position to make some history.

AT-Willowbrook recently defeated Morton 118-29 in a West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet. The win gave AT-Willowbrook an undefeated WSC Gold regular season at 5-0.

The team can win the WSC Gold championship by winning the WSC Gold meet at Hinsdale South on Saturday.

"The guys are excited about this," said AT-Willowbrook coach Neil Wahlgren. "They are excited about having the chance to win the conference title for the first time in boys swimming."

AT-Willowbrook dominated its meet at Morton. "The guys did well in everything," said Wahlgren. "We took first, second and third in a lot of events. We pretty much swept most of the events."

With AT-Willowbrook having no home competition pool, Morton was gracious in hosting AT-Willowbrook's senior night that honored Jake Roucka and Koji Buzuayene.

"We only have two seniors this year and it was a good way for them to have a real senior meet," said Wahlgren. "On top of that we went undefeated in conference, which is an awesome feat for us."

Roucka was lauded for his performance in the butterfly this season. "Jake has been our top flyer this year," the coach said. "It's going to be hard to replace him. He's done a great job. He's won almost all his 100 flies and won all of them in conference."

Wahlgren noted the team overcame a sickness that swept through it recently. "The guys dealt with a big sickness throughout the team. We overcame that and were able to take second at the Shepard invitational," he said.

AT-Willowbrook took second out of 12 teams at Shepard.

Jacob Grygo took first in the 50 freestyle race that features 22 swimmers. Mikey Strycharz was second out of 20 in the 100.

AT-Willowbrook's 200 relay of Evan Zimmerman, Grygo, Strycharz and Jack Burns took first, while the 400 relay team of Jack Wentworth, Grygo, Strycharz and Burns also placed first.

AT-Willowbrook's 200 frosh-soph relay team took first with Burns, Eric Hoda, Marco Chaidze and Zimmerman. The frosh-soph 200 medley relay was second with Zimmerman, Aidan Nichols Chaidze and Hoda.

AT-Willowbrook's varsity medley relay was third with Zimmerman, Lucas Walsh, Roucka and Strycharz.

"It was a strong performance for all our guys," said Wahlgren. "It was fun to be able to bring home a lot of medals and another team plaque."

AT-Willowbrook also recorded a recent 94-78 non-conference win against Fenton.

Wahlgren also has been thrilled with the progress of his relay teams, which includes the likes of Burns and Zimmerman.

"Jack Burns has stayed strong for us," he said. "Evan Zimmerman has come into his own and has dropped time in each event. His backstroke has looked strong. Our relays are really strong with Jack, Evan, Mikey and Jacob Grygo. Lucas Walsh and Jake Roucka have really helped us out in the medley relay. Lucas has helped us in the breaststroke

throughout the year."

Jack Wentworth is yet another swimmer that has helped AT-Willowbrook succeed this year.

"One guy who has come on strong is Jack Wentworth," said Wahlgren. "He has a fast 100 time and has been a help in the 400 relay. He's a utility guy for us. We're able to use him in distance events even though his strong suit is in the sprints."

AT-Willowbrook now turns its attention to Saturday's WSC Gold meet.

"Things are all coming together," said Wahlgren. "They are improving their strokes. All the hard work should pay off the next couple weeks with conference and then sectionals. We want to make history for the school if we can win the conference meet."

Willowbrook Hall of Fame

class of 2017 to be enshrined

Six individuals and one team to be honored this weekend

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook Athletic Hall of Fame will welcome its Class of 2017 honorees this weekend.

The year's induction banquet takes place Friday at The Carlisle at 435 E. Butterfield Road in Lombard. The evening begins with a social gathering from 6 to 6:30 p.m., and the presentation of the Class of 2017 will start immediately after dinner.

Class of 2017 inductees are Mike Battista (Class of 1964, football and wrestling), Chris Kuntz (Class of 1976, cross country and track), Pete

Kolzow (Class of 1993, football, wrestling and track), Bryan Murphy Jr. (Class of 1998, wrestling and soccer), John Hamann (1996-2000 coach) and Rich Rentner (1984 to current, outstanding contributor).

Willowbrook also will honor the 2004-2005 state-championship pom-pom team.

Inductees also will be recognized before the Willowbrook boys varsity basketball game Saturday against Hinsdale South. The varsity game is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.

Founded in 2010, the Willowbrook Athletic Hall of Fame celebrates the athletic and personal successes of standout Willowbrook student-athletes. A screening committee comprised of current and former coaches, staff members, Athletic Booster Club members and community representatives selects the individuals and teams inducted each year.

Willowbrook girls bowling places four on all-conference team

Konrath scores 16 points for Warriors' girls basketball team against Proviso East

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls bowling team recently scored a West Suburban Conference win against Morton at Striker Lanes.

The win closed out Willowbrook's WSC regular-season record at 5-3. The Warriors ended up tied for fourth in the conference.

Willowbrook placed four girls on the all-WSC team. Junior Dana Sassenick placed second in the conference in average at 183.56. Senior Jordan Tiberi placed third at 182.96.

Freshman Makaylah Jones placed 12th with a 170.25 and sophomore Katherine Pettinger was in 15th place in the conference at 166.52.

"I am very proud of how the team has been competing all year long," said Willowbrook coach Kevin Allen. "I feel the girls are focused more

than ever and are excited to make a run at state this year."

Allen said one key focus throughout the year has been on strategy at the larger tournament events. "We have been working all year on having the ability to finish off invites," he said. "During the tough games, the girls have been working on staying positive and keeping up the energy."

In other recent action, the Warriors won the Hinsdale South Ed Puck 10-Pin Tournament. Willowbrook finished with a total pinfall of 5,924. The Warriors had a first series with games of 1,002, 980 and 1,015 and finished up with games of 1,000, 1,005 and 992. The Warriors nearly hit the 3,000-pin mark in the first series, finishing with a 2,997.

Sassenick finished second individually in the tournament with a 1,095 series. She had games of 202, 182, 163, 186, 166 and 196, posting nearly identical 547 and 548 series.

Tiberi took fourth with a 1,080 series. She had games of 220 and 214 in her second series and had a 179 to close out her first series. She finished with a 582 series in games 4-6.

Holly Helsper finished eighth with

a 1,003 series. She had high games of 200 and a pair of 179s. She posted a 558 high series in her first three games.

Pettinger finished 14th with a 953 series. She had high games of 179, 168 and 166. Elizabeth Soriano was 18th with a 935 series. Soriano had a 196 high game. Jones finished 28th with an 858 with a 156 high game.

Willowbrook girls basketball

The Willowbrook girls basketball team dropped a recent 54-36 West Suburban Conference Gold Division contest to Proviso East.

Willowbrook trailed 20-6 after the first quarter and 26-14 at halftime.

Hannah Konrath led the Warriors with 16 points. She made 7 of 9 free-throw attempts in the game. Katelyn McCann added seven points, while Maureen Schmid had five points. Schmid also had eight rebounds. Shannon Knudtson had three assists, while Konrath was the team leader in steals with five. Jayla Smith had three steals. Willowbrook had 19 points contributed from its bench players in the contest.

IC Catholic Prep boys basketball team scores key conference win against R-B

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The IC Catholic Prep boys basketball team traveled to Riverside-Brookfield and walked out with a recent key Metro Suburban Conference Blue Division victory.

The Knights were 62-55 winners over R-B to move to 13-6 overall and 4-2 in conference play.

IC Catholic Prep led 7-6 after the first quarter and used a 17-12 second-quarter run to go up 24-18 at halftime. However, R-B outscored the Knights 17-11 in the third quarter to bring things even, but IC Catholic Prep poured on 27 points in the fourth quarter to secure the win. It was IC Catholic Prep's second win against R-B this season. The Knights won the first meeting at home on a last-second 3-pointer.

Austin Reed led the Knights with 29 points. He hit five 3-pointers and

also shot 8-for-8 from the free-throw line. Amari Reed added 11 points, while Alex Meurer had eight points. Matt Sutton and Kevin Cheng each hit a 3-pointer. Cheng also finished with 11 points.

In earlier action, IC Catholic Prep defeated town neighbor Timothy Christian in an MSC crossover win. "Timothy was a nice win for us," said IC Catholic Prep coach TJ Tyrrell. "It was one of the best first halves of basketball we've played this year. We came out with good energy and intensity. We got down by four points at the start, but we kicked it into gear. We did an outstanding job moving the ball around and getting players involved. We went deep into our bench and had a good flow."

Austin Reed had 23 points in the game to go with seven rebounds, five

See BASKETBALL, Page 19

VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 58 No. 6

Thursday, February 9, 2017

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Willowbrook presents its winter play this week

Performances take place tonight, Friday and Saturday

Willowbrook High School will present its winter play—"SCHOOLED"—this week. The three presentations will take place tonight, Friday and Saturday in the school's Doris E. White Auditorium. Each performance will begin at 7 p.m.

The play focuses on Capricorn "Cap" Anderson, a 13-year-old boy played by sophomore Joe LaPointe. Cap led a very isolated childhood—his grandmother homeschooled him on a farm commune. Cap has never watched television or owned a phone. From that background, Cap makes the transition to attending a typical middle school.

Director Maggie Kelly fell in love with the story after reading the book "SCHOOLED," by author Gordon Korman. Thinking the story would be suited for a play, Kelly reached out to Korman to learn if a script was available. When Kelly discovered there wasn't a script, she worked with Korman and his agent last year to bring his story to life on stage.

"It's lighthearted and fun for the whole family, but it also has a powerful message of 'Don't judge a book by its cover,'" said Kelly in a news release about the play. "It also explores the theme of fitting in as a teenager and

what it truly means to be 'popular.'"

Kelly said that actors will speak directly to the audience at times during the play. The presentation will also use mixed media, including video clips, projected images, lighting and sound to guide the audience through Cap's journey.

"Cap had a very sheltered upbringing, which prohibited him from learning some social norms and typical societal conventions, but it also allowed him to develop skills his peers haven't experienced," stated LaPointe in the release. "It's really about a young boy going to school for the first time and learning the ropes the hard way. In the end, the lesson he learns is he still has more to learn."

Tickets cost \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and children 12 and older. Tickets are \$3 for those with an activity pass. Admission is free for children under 12, and for residents with a District 88 Senior Gold Card.

Audience members will have an opportunity during each show to buy raffle tickets for \$1 each. The raffle will give participants a chance to win a copy of "SCHOOLED," signed by Korman. Unsigned copies will be available for \$7 each.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Willowbrook sophomore Joe LaPointe portrays Capricorn "Cap" Anderson in the school's winter play—"SCHOOLED". The school will present the play tonight, Friday and Saturday in the Doris E. White Auditorium. Each performance will begin at 7 p.m. LaPointe plays a 13-year-old who makes the transition from life on a commune to a typical middle school. The actors in the play will at times speak directly to audience members, breaking the "fourth wall"—an imagined barrier that separates performers from spectators.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Fan favorite

Willowbrook High School custodian Tony Mika has multiple halftime duties during the Warriors' varsity home basketball games. As he sweeps the court following the cheerleading and pom teams' halftime performances, the student section cheers on Mika. When he finishes sweeping the court, Mika delights the students with his own performance. The students are too young to remember, but Mika's repertoire of poses call to mind those of wrestler Hulk Hogan during his glory days in the 1980s. Mika is pictured entertaining the students during halftime of Friday's boys basketball game against Hinsdale South.



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Elmhurst Hospital's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) recently awarded its "Run of the Month" honor for October 2016 to the Villa Park Fire Department. Hospital staff members visited Villa Park Fire Station No. 81, located at 1440 S. Ardmore Ave., last month to to recognize the department for its response to a call on Oct. 11, 2016. Pictured left to right are: Elmhurst Hospital EMS coordinator Andrea White, Elmhurst Hospital paramedic David Richardson, Elmhurst Hospital firefighter/paramedic Britney Shlifka, Villa Park firefighter/Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakosnik.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

VPFD receives Elmhurst Hospital's 'Run of the Month' recognition

First responders provided life-saving treatment to patient in cardiac arrest

Elmhurst Hospital's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) recently recognized the Villa Park Fire Department with the "Run of the Month" honor for October 2016.

Elmhurst Hospital staff members visited Villa Park Fire Station No. 81 at 1440 S. Ardmore Ave., in late January to present the award.

The "Run of the Month" distinction honored seven members of the Villa Park Fire Department for their efforts in responding to a call on Oct. 11, 2016.

The first responders treated a 59-year-old female who had gone into cardiac arrest.

The firefighter/paramedics from the department who were honored included: Lt. Michael Barton, Lt. Ja-

mie Bickley, Blaise Clairardin, Andrew Fillip, David Richardson, Britney Shlifka and Michael Tenerelli.

The Villa Park team used CPR and other life-saving interventions to resuscitate and stabilize the patient, who was transported to the Elmhurst Hospital emergency department.

In giving out its "Run of the Month" honor, Elmhurst Hospital's EMS team reviews ambulance runs by pre-hospital providers and selects one to be recognized based on several factors, including communication from the field, clear and thorough documentation, superior clinical assessment skills, behavior exceeding the call of duty in the field and superior partnership and teamwork with the hospital.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

District 88's Best

Willowbrook High School senior Kyla Denwood (left) is her school's recipient of the District 88's Best award for the month of December. Denwood, who is pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause, was recognized at the District 88 Board of Education meeting on Jan. 30. The district's board of education and administration created the District 88's Best monthly award to honor students who reach their personal bests in a variety of areas. As a student, Denwood has pursued the most rigorous academic courses available at Willowbrook. Denwood, who has been a member of the school's Distinction Honor Roll in each of her semesters, has also been recognized as an Illinois State Scholar, an Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar and a QuestBridge College Prep Scholar. Denwood is an inductee of the National English Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society and Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas. Denwood is also involved with Willowbrook's speech team, Black Organization for Student Success (BOSS), Talented African-American Leaders Embarking on their Educational Dreams (TALENTED) and the school's mock trial team. Additionally, Denwood is a drum major of the school's marching band and a captain of the girls track and field team. A two-time qualifier for the IHSA state meet, Denwood holds the school record in the discus throw. Denwood will continue her education at New York University or Tulane University. She plans to study international relations.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

Young free-throw marksmen

Four boys from Villa Park were named council champions for the 2017 Knights of Columbus free throw championship, which took place Jan. 29 in the St. Alexander gymnasium. Fr. John Barrett Council No. 8365 sponsored last month's local competition. The council champions, who each received an engraved plaque, earned the right to compete in this month's district competition at St. Isidore's Parish Center in Bloomingdale. The Villa Park champions included Mason Knudtson, who won the 9-year-old boys bracket; Jack Barrett, who was the winner of the 10-year-old boys bracket; John Swastek, who claimed the title in the 13-year-old boys level; and Caden Mielke, who claimed first-place honors in the 14-year-old boys division. Each participant shot 15 free throws after taking three warm-up shots. Pictured left to right at the event are: (front row) Knudtson, Michael Swastek, John Swastek, Mielke and Barrett; (back row) Andrew Clesla, Eric Knudtson, Past Grand Knight George Laarveld, Tom Swastek, Jason Schmit, Past Grand Knight Roger Dooley, Mike Baxa, John Barrett, Past Grand Knight Chuck Klein and Dan Hippensteel.

Villa Park Briefs

District 45 to hold screenings on Feb. 17

Appointments required

School District 45 will conduct free developmental screenings for children on Friday, Feb. 17. Children must be 3 years of age by the date of the screening.

They should live in the district, but not currently be enrolled in kindergarten.

Appointments are required for the screenings. Parents who suspect their child has a disability can make an appointment by calling Sharon Mallin at the district office at 630-516-7318.

The screening process identifies how the child is developing. Assessed areas include: speech and language, vision and hearing, motor skills and cognitive development.

The screenings are conducted by professional school staff in a variety of pleasant playroom situations.

Each screening takes 60 to 120 minutes. Results are shared with parents.

The screenings are offered in both English and Spanish.

Conroy hosts coffee shop stop at Funky Java on Saturday

State Rep. Deb Conroy (D-Villa Park) invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee from 10-11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11, at Funky Java Coffee House, 40 S. Villa Ave.

"Since the General Assembly began session last month, my colleagues and I have been working towards compromise on a

budget and meaningful reforms that will help working families," Conroy said in a news release. "I look forward to discussing these state issues as well as any concerns my neighbors have about our community."

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Conroy's constituent service office at 630-415-3520, or e-mail repdebconroy@gmail.com.

Photo exhibit at Park Art Center begins with Friday's reception

Park Art Center in Villa Park will display the work of Chicago-based photographer Marc Hauser in "A Blink of the Eye" from Feb. 10 through April 1. The center, located at 9 E. Park Blvd., is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

The exhibit will begin with an opening reception from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10.

Hauser has earned more than 100 awards for his photography, which has included images of prominent figures including Woody Allen, Aaron Copland, Mariel Hemingway, Michael Jordan, Dr. Timothy Leary, Sophia Loren, Julia Roberts and John Waters.

For more information, call Park Art Center at 630-501-1455, or visit its website at www.parkartcenter.org.

For more information about Hauser, visit www.hauserportraits.com, or his entry on Facebook—[marchauserportraits](https://www.facebook.com/marchauserportraits).

Wagner holds campaign: kickoff event Feb. 15

Villa Park Trustee Robert Wagner, who is running for re-election this year, will hold a campaign kickoff event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15. The event will take place at Allegra Banquet Hall, 237 W. St. Charles Road. RSVP to 630-279-3499, or e-mail villagegreens1@aol.com.

Wagner was elected to the village board in 2013. He is running for a second four-year term in the consolidated election of April 4.

Pioneer Garden holds free seed-starting seminar on Feb. 18 — Call to reserve a spot

Pioneer Garden and Feed will hold its second annual seed-starting seminar on Saturday, Feb. 18. Call 630-832-0815 to make a reservation for the free seminar. Spaces are limited for the two sessions, which will take place at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Pioneer Garden and Feed is located at 118 S. Villa Ave., Villa Park.

"We have so many customers who are interested in growing from seed, but have never done it before," stated Pioneer Garden and Feed owner Angie Rojek in a statement announcing the upcoming seminar. "There are some tricks to doing it right, so we thought this would be a great way to share a treasured tradition. We held the seminar last year for the first time, and it was a big success."

Bill Karges, a longtime staff botanist at Pioneer Garden and Feed, will lead the seminar.

Sports

LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW

Once again, Hinsdale South beats the Warriors Hornets have handed Willowbrook its only two defeats

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

Through 23 games, the Willowbrook boys basketball team has found a way to beat all but one of its opponents. That one opponent—the Hinsdale South Hornets—is proving to be a thorn in the Warriors' side.

Seven weeks after handing the Warriors their first loss of the 2016-17 season, the Hornets beat Willowbrook for a second time. Hinsdale South defeated the Warriors 62-50 in Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference battle, which was played in front of a large and raucous crowd in Villa Park.

Hinsdale South's win on Friday

snapped the Warriors' 14-game winning streak. The Hornets' first victory over Willowbrook—a 69-57 win on Dec. 16 in Darien—ended the Warriors' 7-0 run to start the season.

Friday's result left the Warriors with an overall record of 21-2 and a conference mark of 7-2. Hinsdale South improved to 14-9 overall and 6-2 in conference play with the victory. The Warriors remain in first place in the conference standings, half of a game ahead of the Hornets.

Willowbrook's conference season continues with this Friday's home game against Morton, which will mark the Warriors' final home game of the season. Willowbrook will close out its conference season with

road games at Leyden on Feb. 14 and Downers Grove South on Feb. 17.

"It's not the end of the world," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins after Friday's loss. "All of our goals are still in front of us. Winning the conference is still right there for us."

Hinsdale South jumped out to a 31-20 halftime lead in Friday's rematch. The Hornets' lead grew to 42-24 with about 2:30 left in the third period. Willowbrook trailed Hinsdale South 44-29 at the end of the third quarter, but a quick 5-0 run in the first 13 seconds of the final period cut the gap to 44-34. Senior Imani Reynolds opened the fourth quarter with a 3-point play. Seconds later,

"It's not the end of the world. All of our goals are still in front of us. Winning the conference is still right there for us."

—Chris Perkins,
Willowbrook coach

[50-45] I thought, this is us," said Perkins. "We're used to this. We've come from behind. We're at home. We've got the momentum. The ball bounced our way most of the season. Tonight it just didn't bounce our way."

Zion Griffin led Hinsdale South with 23 points. Karol Lipiszko drained five shots from 3-point range on his way to a 19-point night. Lipiszko made four 3-point shots during the second quarter. He added one more 3-pointer in the third quarter and scored a pair of inside baskets in the fourth period.

"It was a huge crowd; a nice environment; a learning experience," added Perkins. "We've played in a lot of big games, but this is probably the biggest game we've been in, and it's good. This is what the playoffs are going to be like. If you want to make a run in the playoffs, you've got to get accustomed to this atmosphere."

junior Cornelius Paxton scored off a turnover to complete the 5-0 run just 13 seconds into the period.

Reynolds, who scored 16 of his 18 points during the second half, added two more 3-point plays during the fourth quarter. His third and final 3-point play cut the Hornets' lead to 50-45 with 4:41 left in the game.

Hinsdale South then reeled off six straight points to build a 56-45 cushion with under three minutes to play.

Reynolds led Willowbrook with his 18-point output. Junior Ethan Schuemer supplied 16 points and a team-leading 14 rebounds. Senior Freddie Clay and sophomore Matas Masys each scored five points.

"Honestly, when we cut it to five

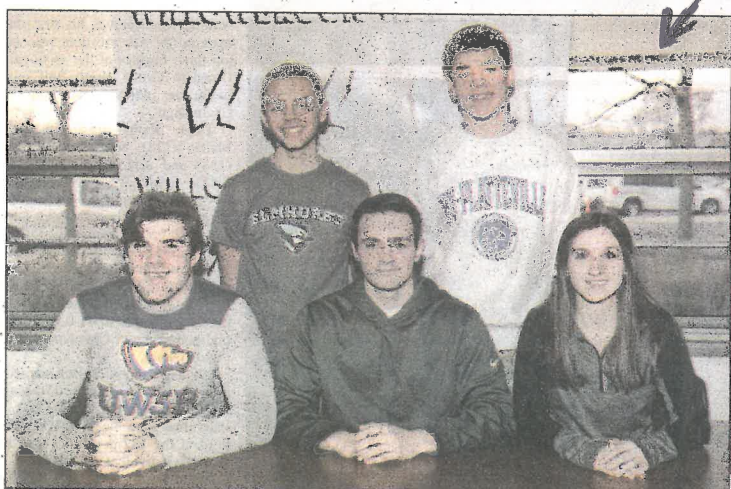
Three days before facing Hinsdale South, the Warriors picked up their 21st win of the season—a 58-44 victory over Hoffman Estates on Jan. 31 in Villa Park. Schuemer scored 18 points for Willowbrook, which held a 40-18 halftime lead. Masys made three 3-point shots and provided 15 points. Junior Marshawn Phillips and Paxton added nine and eight points, respectively.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

Playing at the next level

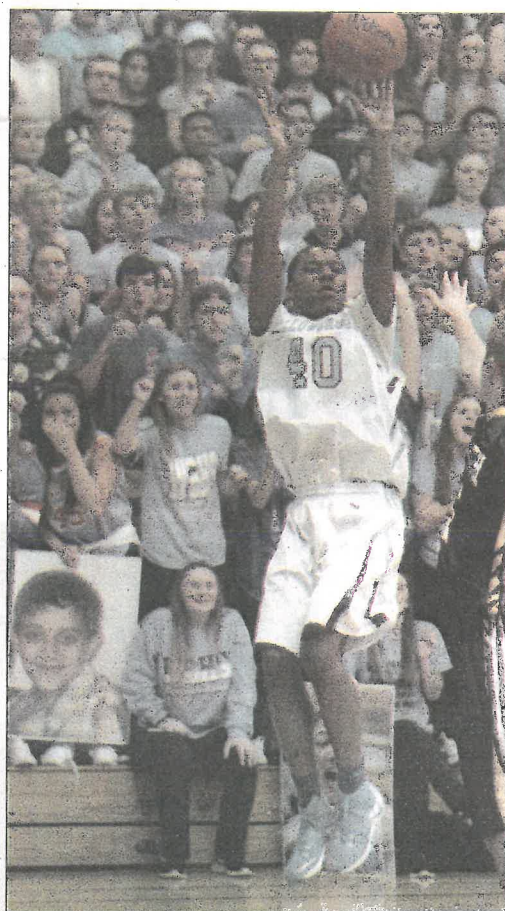
Eleven seniors at Montini Catholic High School committed to continue their academic and athletic pursuits at the collegiate level last week. Pictured left to right on National Signing Day on Feb. 1 are (front row) Prince Walker (football—Western Michigan University), Taylor Milnauskas (lacrosse—Tennessee Wesleyan University), Joseph Spivak (football—Northwestern University), Bethany Loftus (volleyball—Illinois Wesleyan University) and Tommy Morrissey (football—Grand View University); (back row) Michael Ross (football—Western Illinois University), Mitchell West (football—United States Naval Academy), Alex Luca (baseball—Babson College), Brennan Springmire (football—St. Norbert College), Nicholas Foster (football—Grand Valley State University) and Cooper Hynes (baseball—Trinton College).



SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

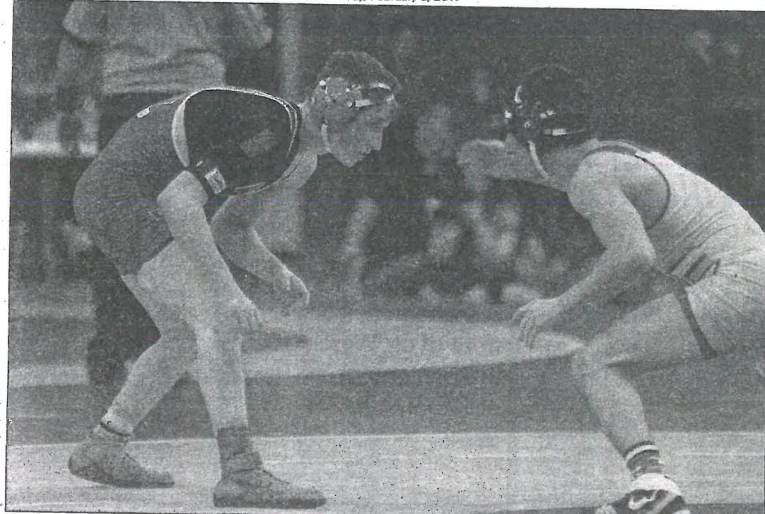
Warriors sign to play in college

Five Willowbrook High School seniors are pictured on National Letter of Intent Signing Day on Feb. 1. The five student-athletes committed to compete at the collegiate level. Pictured left to right are: (front row) Zachary Walenga (football—University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point), Kyle Ferguson (baseball—Roosevelt University) and Veronica Swan (softball—College of DuPage); (back row) Michael Pieroni (tennis—Elmhurst College) and Jonathan Kelso (football and baseball—University of Wisconsin-Platteville).



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

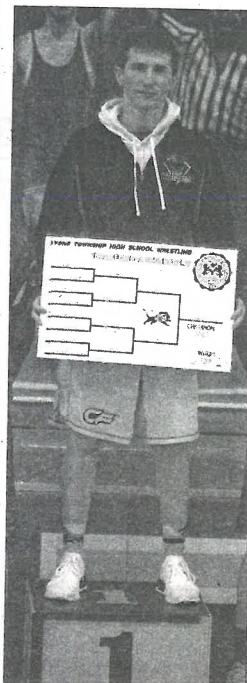
Willowbrook senior Imani Reynolds launches a shot during the fourth quarter of Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference boys basketball game against Hinsdale South. The visiting Hornets defeated the Warriors 62-50 in Villa Park. The loss left Willowbrook with an overall season record of 21-2 and a conference mark of 7-2. Hinsdale South has handed the Warriors their only two losses of the season. The Hornets beat Willowbrook 69-57 on Dec. 16 in Darien. Reynolds scored a team-leading 18 points for the Warriors in Friday's loss. He scored 16 of his points in the second half. Reynolds provided three 3-point plays in the fourth quarter. He tallied 11 points during the final period.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombard/Villa Park Review

Regional champion

Glenbard East senior wrestler Nick Donovan captured the 120-pound championship at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A individual regional at Lyons Township High School. Donovan is pictured above during his 7-0 victory over Lyons Township's Domenic Campo in the title match. Donovan, who is also pictured at right on the awards stand after his victory, will compete in this week's individual sectional at Downers Grove North. He needs to earn a top-three finish in his weight level to earn a berth in the individual state meet. Donovan is seeking his first state-meet berth after narrow misses in each of his first three seasons.



Area wrestlers advance to individual sectional

Broncos win regional team title

Montini, Glenbard East and Willowbrook joined six other teams to compete in Saturday's IHSA Class 3A individual regional at Lyons Township High School's north campus. Montini won individual titles in seven weight classes on its way to a 227-point team total and the regional title. Glenbard East, which won two individual titles and will send seven wrestlers to this week's individual sectional at Downers Grove North, finished second in the team results with 168 points. Willowbrook, which earned three berths in the individual sectional, placed seventh in the regional's team results.

Montini, which dominated the lower weight divisions at the regional, will send 10 wrestlers to the individual sectional. The top three finishers in each weight level at the regional qualified for the sectional.

The Broncos' individual champions at the regional included: freshman Dylan Ragusin (106 pounds), junior Joey Melendez (113), junior Real Woods (126), freshman Fidel Mayora (132), sophomore Jake Stiles (138), junior Will Lewan (145) and sophomore Matt Ortiz (152).

Three more Broncos—sophomore Anthony Geraci (160), sophomore Pete Christensen (182) and freshman Devin Hoovel (120)—earned sectional berths. Geraci and Christensen placed second in their respective weight classes, while Hoovel earned a third-place finish.

Senior Nick Donovan and sophomore Jesus Lopez provided Glenbard East with its two titles at the regional. Donovan won the 120-pound title, while Lopez captured the 220-pound championship.

Donovan barely missed qualifying for the individual state meet in each of his first three seasons at Glenbard East. A top-three finish in the 120-pound level at the sectional would give Donovan his first state-meet berth. All wrestlers who earn top-three finishes at the sectional at Downers Grove North will qualify for the individual state meet in Champaign.

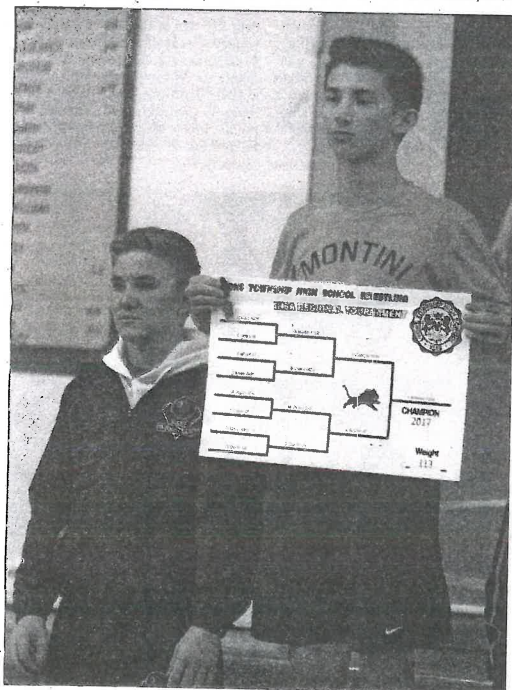
Three Rams—freshman Reese Martin (113), senior Scott Szabo (138) and senior Brandon Raines (285)—turned in second-place efforts at the regional. Junior Cole Martin (152) and senior Matt Leonard (160) earned sectional trips with their third-place regional finishes.

Willowbrook junior Jack Jessen stormed to the 182-pound regional title. The undefeated Jessen improved his season record to 44-0 with a second-period pin of Christensen in the regional final.

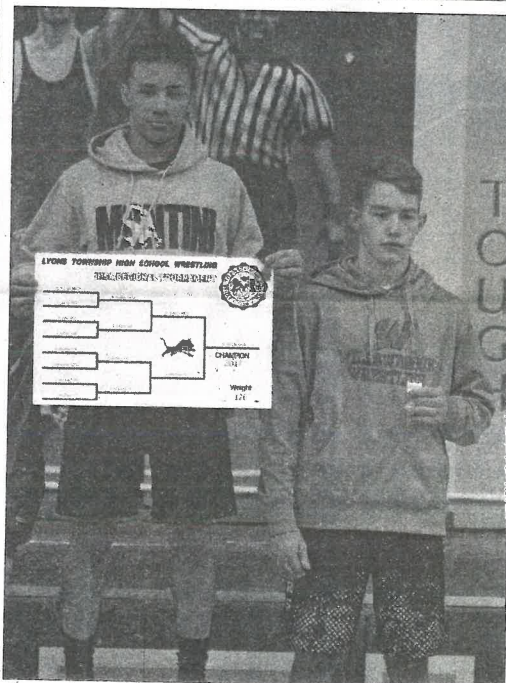
As a freshman, Jessen earned a second-place finish in the 170-pound weight class at the IHSA Class 3A individual state meet. Jessen placed third at the 182-pound level at last season's individual state meet.

Willowbrook seniors Zach Zeffiro and Dominic Ranieri earned sectional berths with their third-place finishes at the regional. Zeffiro battled to third-place honors in the 126-pound level, while Ranieri placed third in the 132-pound weight class.

As the champion of the individual regional, the Montini team qualified for the upcoming Class 3A dual team sectional, which will take place at Hinsdale Central High School.

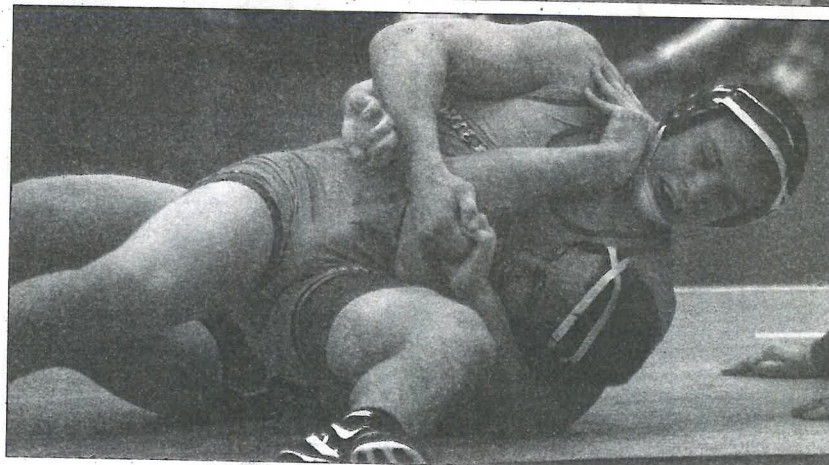


CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombard/Villa Park Review



Winning Broncos

Montini wrestlers won seven individual titles at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Lyons Township Regional. The Broncos' champions included junior Joey Melendez, who won the 113-pound title. (Above left): Melendez (right) is pictured on the awards stand with Glenbard East freshman Reese Martin, who placed second in the same weight level. Montini junior Real Woods also won an individual championship on Saturday. (Above right): Woods won the 126-pound title. He is pictured (left) with Willowbrook senior Zach Zeffiro (right), who earned a third-place finish.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Lombard/Villa Park Review

Undefeated Warrior

Willowbrook junior Jack Jessen (top) battles Montini sophomore Pete Christensen in the 182-pound championship match at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A individual wrestling regional at Lyons Township High School's north campus. Jessen pinned Christensen in the second period to win the regional title. Jessen improved his overall season record to 44-0 with the victory. Both Jessen and Christensen will compete in this week's individual sectional at Downers Grove North High School.

Strong finish lifts the Rams to a 49-43 win over the Warriors

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

Saturday afternoon's girls basketball battle between Willowbrook and Glenbard East played out like a typical neighborhood rivalry game. Both teams fought hard in a spirited battle that was deadlocked with a few minutes to play.

The depleted Warriors put up a good fight in Lombard, but the Rams pulled away in the closing moments to earn a 49-43 non-conference win.

Glenbard East improved its overall record to 7-16. Willowbrook's record fell to 8-17.

Only eight players suited up for Willowbrook, which recently lost two players to season-ending injuries.

The Warriors trailed Glenbard East 26-21 at halftime and 35-31 at the end of the third quarter. Warrior sophomores Katelyn McCann and Hanna Konrath kept their team in the game by each connecting on five 3-point shots. McCann led all scorers with 22 points, while Konrath provided 17 points.

McCann's final 3-pointer of the afternoon tied the score at 40-40 with three minutes to play. Seconds later, Glenbard East regained the lead when senior Christina Dolinski delivered a 3-point play to give her team a 43-40 advantage with 2:39 remaining. Dolinski added another field goal at the 1:57 mark to push the Rams' lead to 45-40.

Junior Mattie Pusateri of the Rams made a pair of free throws with 52.9 seconds left to extend the lead to 47-40. Konrath's fifth 3-point shot of the game cut the Glenbard East lead to 47-43 with about 26 seconds remaining. Pusateri closed out the scoring by making two more free throws with 16.2 seconds to play.

Junior Briana Raysby scored a team-leading 15 points for the Rams. Dolinski provided 13 points, while juniors Faith Davies and Sam Dooley contributed seven and six points, respectively.

"Christina came through at the end," said Glenbard East coach Don Finnie of Dolinski, an inside force who scored nine of her points in the second half. "What was really nice was the passes that we got in to her."

"Our two sophomore guards shot the lights out," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell of McCann and Konrath. "We just kept battling. We're kind of short on personnel right now, but the girls come to play."

The Warriors' personnel who were recently sidelined by injury are senior Grace Chantos and sophomore CeCe Lizasuaia.

"Willowbrook never gave up," said Finnie. "It was a good competitive ball game. Our kids were excited to play Willowbrook. It's kind of a rivalry game. It's a nice game to have on the schedule."

One night before playing Glenbard East, the Warriors improved their West Suburban Gold Conference record to 5-7 with a 38-30 win at Hinsdale South. The Hornets scored 13 points in the first quarter but only managed to score 17 points during the remaining three periods. Willowbrook trailed the Hornets 13-2 after one quarter but rallied to tie the score at 18-18 by halftime.

McCann scored eight of her team-leading 13 points in the third quarter. She made two of her three 3-point shots during that period. Konrath tallied 11 points by making 11 of 13 free throws.

She made five foul shots during the second quarter and converted all six of her attempts in the fourth quarter.

The Rams and Warriors will both compete in the IHSA Class 4A playoffs next week. Glenbard East will play Hoffman Estates at Hoffman Estates on Feb. 13. Willowbrook will also open the post-season on Feb. 13.

The Warriors will play Oak Lawn at the Oak Lawn Regional.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review
Glenbard East defeated Willowbrook 49-43 in Saturday afternoon's girls basketball game in Lombard. The two teams were tied at 40-40 with three minutes to play. Senior Christina Dolinski (No. 44) of Glenbard East scored five of her team's final nine points with a 3-point play and an inside basket. Willowbrook sophomore Katelyn McCann (No. 22) made five 3-point shots and scored 22 points for the Warriors. Another Willowbrook sophomore—Hanna Konrath—also made five 3-pointers. She finished the game with 17 points. Glenbard East junior Mattie Pusateri (shown guarding McCann) made four free throws in the final minute to help Glenbard East seal its victory.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review
Tribute performance
The 2017 inductees into Willowbrook High School's Athletic Hall of Fame included the 2004-05 pom team. The hall of fame's eighth annual induction banquet took place Feb. 2. As a tribute to the 2004-05 pom team, which won a state championship with its Christmas kick routine, Willowbrook's current pom team performed to Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You" during halftime of Friday's boys basketball game. Members of the team pictured during the performance (left to right) are: junior Shannon Frank, senior Maggie Sommers, freshman Gianna Irion, junior Lexi Wedoff, sophomore Kristy Holloway, sophomore Katie Freeman and senior Kiana Gleason.

2017 LOMBARD FALCONS

Visit Us Online at www.lombardfalcons.net To Register Now!

REGISTRATION

Youth Football & Cheer

REGISTRATION
Lombard Log Cabin
Saturday, February 4, 2017
9:00am-10:30pm
Lombard Lagoon
Saturday, February 25, 2017
9:00am-10:30pm

TOWNS WE PLAY
Bloomingdale-Downers Grove
Elmhurst-Glenview Heights
Carol Stream-Manover Park
Bartlett-Glen Ellyn
Hinsdale-Wheaton
West Chicago-Elk Grove
Lyons Township-Lamont
Palatine-Arlington Heights

Flag Football & Cheer

Tackle for Youth Boys 7-14
Cheer for Youth Girls 7-14
Flag for Youth Boys 5-7
Cheer for Youth Girls 5-6

ALL TOWNS WELCOME!

Please contact us for more information: Lombard Junior Football League Secretary at secretary@lombardfalcons.net
Join now to receive the reduced rate of \$215 tackle & \$125 flag. At registration, two additional fees will be required - an additional \$89 for a mandatory fundraiser and a \$10 per participant fee from the Lombard Park District. After July 1st, fees increase to \$275/\$185, plus the \$90 fundraising fee. A \$50.00 deposit is due at the time of registration. Balance is due at the time of equipment pick-up, no exceptions. A payment plan is available during online registration. If you are new to the league, you MUST provide two copies of your child's birth certificate.

NEW!!
BCYFL Age Based Football!
Age-based football is new to BCYFL this year! Teams will be formed based on age, not weight (based on player's age as of Aug. 1).

Willowbrook bowlers roll into sectional

Surge in the sixth game lifts team to a fourth-place regional finish

The Willowbrook girls bowling team advanced to an upcoming IHSA sectional with its fourth-place finish in Saturday's 10-team IHSA regional at Fox Bowl in Wheaton. The event's top four teams earned berths in this Saturday's sectional at Palos Lanes in Palos Hills.

Waubensie Valley won the regional at Fox Bowl with a total of 5,933. Nequa Valley placed second with a total of 5,575, while Downers Grove North (5,250) claimed third. Willowbrook qualified with its fourth-place total of 5,217, which edged fifth-place Metea Valley (5,098.) Metea Valley, which hosted the regional, held a slim lead over the Warriors before the sixth and final game. The Warriors bowled their best game of the regional in the sixth game, tallying a total of 938. Metea Valley compiled a total of 816 in the sixth game.

Four Warriors—senior Jordan Tiberi, junior Dana Sassenick, sophomore Holly Helsper and sophomore Katie Pettinger—bowled six games throughout the regional. Junior Betsy Soriano and freshman Makaylah Jones also contributed to the Warriors' regional effort by competing in three games each. Soriano turned in a total of 444 in the first three games of the regional. Jones competed in the last three games and delivered a 492, including a 225 in the fifth game.

Tiberi was Willowbrook's top bowler at the regional with a six-game total of 1,108, good for 20th place among all individuals at the event. Tiberi rolled scores of 160, 191 and 186 in the morning session. She posted games of 205, 170 and 196 in the afternoon.

Sassenick finished right behind Tiberi, placing 21st among all individ-

uals with her six-game total of 1,105. Sassenick started the day with a 126 before closing the morning session with games of 190 and 238. Sassenick's 238 in the third game was the Warriors' best game of the event. She closed out the afternoon session with scores of 178, 166 and 207.

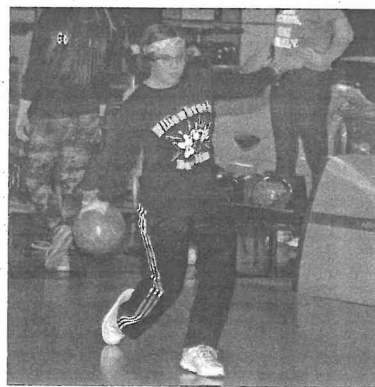
Helsper provided the Warriors with a six-game total of 1,051, good for 27th in the individual standings. She rolled her top game of the day—a 213—in the second game. She finished the regional with a 201 in the sixth game.

Pettinger placed 29th in the individual standings with six-game total of 1,017. She bowled her best game of the regional—a 205—in the sixth game.

The Warriors rolled their worst team score of the day—a 758—in their first game. They recovered with a 912 in the second game and an 873 in their third game. Willowbrook earned a team total of 831 in the fourth game before rising to a 905 in the fifth game and peaking with its 938 in the third game.

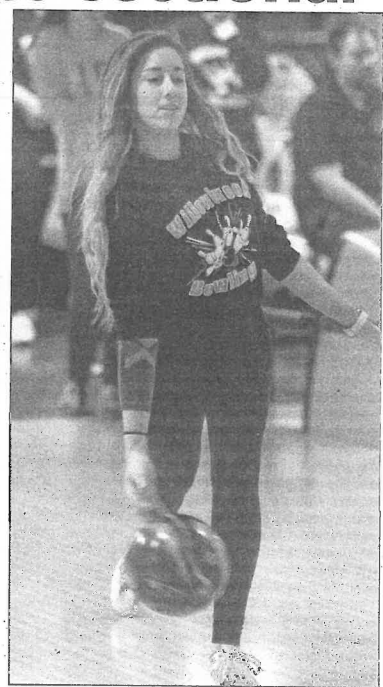
Five days before the regional, the Warriors won first-place honors at the West Suburban Conference's Head Pin Invite. Willowbrook defeated its eight conference opponents at the Jan. 30 event, which took place at the Warriors' home venue—Stardust Bowl of Addison. Tiberi was the event's top individual bowler with her six-game total of 1,173. Her effort helped the Warriors edge Hinsdale Central in the battle to win the team standings.

Willowbrook, which tied for fourth in the West Suburban Conference's regular-season standings, won three invitational titles during the season. Prior to winning the Head Pin Invite on Jan. 30, the Warriors won invites hosted by Hinsdale South and Leyden.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

The Willowbrook girls bowling team earned a berth in the IHSA Oak Lawn Sectional by placing fourth in Saturday's Metea Valley Regional at Fox Bowl in Wheaton. The Warriors turned in a team score of 5,217 at the 10-team regional. The top four teams at the regional advanced to this Saturday's Oak Lawn Sectional, which will take place at Palos Lanes in Palos Hills. The top four teams at each of the state's six sectionals will advance to the IHSA state meet, which will take place Feb. 17-18 in Rockford. Willowbrook's two leading bowlers at the regional were senior Jordan Tiberi (right) and junior Dana Sassenick (above). Tiberi rolled a six-game regional score of 1,108, while Sassenick compiled a six-game total of 1,105. The two Warriors are pictured during Friday's practice at Stardust Bowl of Addison.



Rams break new ground by earning a sectional berth

The Glenbard East girls gymnastics team reached two new highs with its effort at last week's IHSA Lake Park Regional in Roselle. The Rams achieved their best score of the season at the four-team regional, posting a team total of 139.625. Glenbard East, which finished second at the regional, also earned the first sectional berth in the history of the program.

The Rams' second-place score at the Jan. 31 regional resulted in an at-large berth into this week's IHSA sectional at Glenbard North High School.

Competing at its home venue, Lake Park won the regional title with a team total of 143.40. Glenbard North placed third with its score of 136.70, while Batavia (132.35) wound up in fourth place.

Glenbard East senior Veronika Srey delivered a second-place finish in the all-around standings. Srey's total of 36.425 included a second-place finish on the uneven bars (9.35) and a tie for fourth on the balance beam (9.0). Srey also placed seventh in floor exercises (9.1) and eighth on the vault (8.975).

Kelsey Donovan placed eighth in the all-around scoring with her total of 34.75. The Glenbard East freshman landed a third-place finish in floor exercises (9.25), a fifth-place showing on the uneven bars (8.8) and an eighth-place effort on the vault (8.875).

Sophomore Sierra Olson of the Rams finished eighth in the all-around scoring by earning a total of 34.0. Olson's all-around score include a fourth-place finish on the uneven bars (8.825).

Glenbard East's regional lineup also included junior Krasimira Ganeva, who placed 10th on the vault and 12th in floor exercises. Sydney Nasternak secured a ninth-place finish on the uneven bars and a 16th-place score on the balance beam. Junior Breanna Page placed 10th in floor exercises and 16th on the vault, while freshman Grace Tu finished 13th on the balance beam and 18th on the uneven bars.

"The girls have been working very hard, and we just keep improving our team score each meet," said Glenbard East coach Jessica Bugajsky. "That is always our goal, and they are doing a great job at accomplishing that this year."

Gymnasts who earned top-five finishes in each regional event automatically qualified for the sectional as individuals. The top five finishers in each sectional event will earn automatic berths to the state meet.

The winning teams at this week's four sectional competitions will qualify for the state meet's team competition. The non-winning sectional teams with the four best scores will earn at-large berths in the state meet, which will take place Feb. 17-18 at Palatine High School.

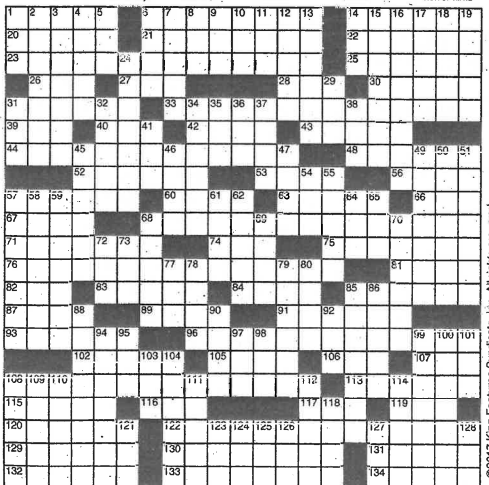


SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

The Glenbard East girls gymnastics team earned a sectional berth for the first time in the history of the program when it posted a second-place finish in last week's four-team Lake Park Regional in Roselle. The Rams produced a total team score of 139.625 at the regional. The effort yielded Glenbard East's best score of the season. The Rams, who placed second to Lake Park at the Jan. 31 regional, secured an at-large berth into this week's Glenbard North Sectional. Members of the Rams (pictured left to right at the regional) are: freshman Kelsey Donovan, sophomore Sierra Olson, junior Krasimira Ganeva, senior Megan Smith, head coach Jessica Bugajsky, senior Veronika Srey, junior Breanna Page, sophomore Sydney Nasternak and freshman Grace Tu.

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Music-licensing gip
 - 6 With greatest frequency
 - 14 Light, in a way
 - 20 River to Lake Geneva
 - 21 Many kids' art projects
 - 22 Any way is fine by me
 - 23 STARDOM
 - 24 WEALTH
 - 25 "Bewitched" husband
 - 26 F minor, e.g.
 - 27 Albany hrs.
 - 28 Abbr. on a pay stub
 - 30 One of King Lear's daughters
 - 31 Most like Solomon
 - 33 STRIKE
 - 34 DWELLING
 - 39 "... boy
 - 40 Gambling game, briefly
 - 42 Placed "pet"
 - 43 "For" (Beethoven favorite)
 - 44 HUDSON
 - 45 OCTET
 - 46 "Peanuts" girl with glasses
 - 52 Student's dissertation
 - 53 Country's McEntire
 - 56 Wyatt of the Old West
 - 57 Hector
 - 60 Mona—
 - 61 Makes match up
 - 66 Pasty Lulu
 - 67 Skating rink
 - 68 PEERFORM
 - 69 ZERO
 - 71 In a strict way
 - 74 Bowling sound
 - 75 Global divide
 - 76 NEGATIVE LEVY
 - 81 Tomb-raiding
 - 82 Croft
 - 83 "A Bell for" (classic novel)
 - 84 Any minute
 - 85 "Slim Shady" rapper
 - 87 Blockhead
 - 89 Hall of Monty's
 - 91 Gradually withdrew
 - 93 Antigen
 - 96 EMERALD
 - 102 Path in a jet
 - 105 Miami— (Florida county)
 - 106 Wanted
 - 107 Small battery
 - 108 GREATLY OFFING
 - 113 Guavara's commander
 - 115 Of the hipbone
 - 116 Pricky
 - 117 Ark.-to-ill. dir.
 - 119 Mei—
 - 120 Frolic
 - 122 ALLOWED
 - 123 STATUTE
 - 129 Vera
 - 130 Hold dear
 - 131 Flamed dress
 - 132 Forwarded, as mail
 - 133 Furry marine mammal
 - 134 Encounters
 - 135 DOWN
 - 1 Tender noise
 - 2 One-named Latin singer
 - 3 Approaches to attack
 - 4 Keep—on (watch)
 - 5 Pod sphenule
 - 6 What touts tabulate
 - 7 Liquor bottle
 - 8 Overly
 - 9 Be incorrect
 - 10 Met or Phillis
 - 11 Avian runner
 - 12 RICA rival
 - 13 Fly of Kenya
 - 14 Pot coverer
 - 15 Reality TV celebrity
 - 16 Cry from a member of an arriving
 - 17 Ship's goods
 - 18 Faith Hill's "Take Me—"
 - 19 Write of Dick Cheney
 - 24 Prickly plants
 - 29 N.J. neighbor
 - 31 Pen for str-
 - 32 Ex-throes
 - 34 Strands
 - 35 Summer
 - 36 Puff piece?
 - 37 Actor Bert in
 - 38 Footballer
 - 39 Taboo
 - 41 City transport
 - 45 And others, in Latin
 - 46 Grain storer
 - 47 Sea 72-
 - 49 El—
 - 50 (peak in California)
 - 51 Mined find
 - 51 Clever
 - 52 RICA rival
 - 54 Party abbr.
 - 55 Good
 - 56 Append
 - 57 Certain wind
 - 58 Of flight
 - 59 Music of Scott Joplin
 - 61 Highway rig
 - 62 Parts of
 - 64 — au vin
 - 65 Good
 - 66 Bob of folk singer
 - 69 Country in West Africa
 - 70 Silver (photo lab compound)
 - 72 With 47-
 - 73 Kind of TV
 - 74 A lion suit
 - 75 A. in Aquila
 - 76 Ding—
 - 79 Out-cl-
 - 80 De novo
 - 85 Templed
 - 86 Maestro
 - 87 Like nondefective DVDs
 - 90 Patsy's language
 - 92 Feel sickly
 - 94 Capital of Nebraska
 - 95 135 degrees from 117-
 - 97 Nosh on
 - 98 End of some URL
 - 99 Cole of song
 - 100 "Igu" for "igloo," e.g.
 - 101 "75" Ming
 - 103 R&D center
 - 104 Bursts forth
 - 106 Pop
 - 109 Make thrilled
 - 110 Country singer
 - 111 Brother, in Brazil
 - 112 Sweeney, in Breast
 - 114 Vogue topic
 - 115 do-well
 - 121 Boatload
 - 123 Actor Stephen
 - 124 Zerkow
 - 125 Suffit with
 - 126 Down
 - 128 Boy
 - 129 "Whack"
 - 130 Craven of horror films



SPORTS

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More wins for Willowbrook boys basketball team

Defensive improvement triggers even more success for Warriors

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

As the wins have piled up for the Willowbrook boys basketball team, one key facet also has kicked into overdrive of late.

The Warriors' defense.

In two recent wins against Addison Trail and Hoffman Estates, the Warriors held both foes under 45 points. Willowbrook downed Addison Trail 50-38 in a West Suburban

Conference Gold Division game and defeated Hoffman Estates 58-44 in a non-conference contest.

"We shot the ball pretty well against Addison Trail and defensively we were fantastic," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins. "We allowed only 38 points and they had 22 points going into the fourth quarter."

Ethan Schuemer led the Warriors with 17 points and six rebounds against Addison Trail. Matas Masys added eight points, while Iman Reynolds had six points. Freddy Clay finished with five points.

Defense again was the name of the game in the victory over Hoffman Estates.

"Our defense was phenomenal

against Hoffman Estates," said Perkins. "We forced something like 26 turnovers and 18 were on steals. We did a good job on defense and that led to a lot of easy transition baskets for us. We were up by 24 points at one point. A lot of guys got to play."

Schuemer led the Warriors with 18 points and seven rebounds. Masys added 15 points. Marshawn Phillips had nine points, while Neil Paxton Jr. had eight points.

Willowbrook also defeated Proviso East 64-59 in a WSC Gold game in Maywood. Perkins noted Willowbrook defeated Proviso East at all levels.

Willowbrook was 21-1 through its first 22 games and had a 14-

game winning streak through mid-last week. The Warriors also were 7-1 in WSC Gold play.

"The guys continue to battle and they continue to stay focused," said Perkins. "It's a long season. We have a lot of goals we want to try to accomplish. We want to keep getting better and continue to build on the momentum we have leading into the playoffs."

And a big part of that momentum has been built through the continually improving defense.

"We've definitely seen an improvement on defense," said Perkins. "We're trying to mix up our coverages and throw teams off-balance and hopefully they don't get into a rhythm."

Addison Trail boys basketball team wins pair of games

Blazers down Lane Tech and Morton

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail boys basketball team fared well during a recent three-game stretch.

The Blazers defeated Lane Tech 68-43 in non-conference play and then split a pair of West Suburban Conference Gold Division games with Morton and Willowbrook. Addison Trail downed Morton 58-53 on the road and then lost 50-38 at home to its District 88 neighbor.

In the Lane Tech win, Addison Trail used a 27-0 run early in the game to pull away.

"We came out and moved the ball really well and shared the ball," said Addison Trail coach Brendan Lyons. "We probably played our most complete game. We didn't get off to the best start. It was 8-6 at one point and then we responded with a 27-0 run and then it was 35-6. We were able to jump out big. After that we still played hard and did some nice things."

Lyons noted strong play from Michael Williams and Braydon Hargrove in the win. "Michael played well again and had a nice breakaway dunk in the first quarter," he said. "Braydon played well and defended well. He got his hands on a lot of basketballs. It was a nice team win. We had a lot of nice contributions from different guys."

Williams was injured in the Morton game in the first half and did not return. "We came out and played really well and then Michael got injured," said Lyons. "He's our leading scorer. We faced some adversity. We were down 51-45 with about three minutes left. We played solid defense and Colton Noel came up with some big rebounds and altered some shots. Stevan Jones hit a couple of big baskets for us that sealed the game. It wasn't our best game, but it was our most adverse situation we've faced. We hung on and did some nice things at the end."

Williams also missed the Willowbrook game. "Willowbrook obviously is good," said Lyons. "We tried to slow the tempo down for a while and did so, but we couldn't keep the tempo in our favor and had to play catch-up. That didn't bode well for us. Not having Michael hurt us, but Willowbrook did what they had to do to win. That's why they are 21-1."

Addison Trail was 13-9 overall and 2-6 in WSC Gold action through mid-last week.

"I feel like we can play with anybody on our schedule," said Lyons. "We have the potential to make some noise in the state tournament. We know we won't surprise anybody. We have to go out there and be efficient in what we do and stick to the basics. If we stick to the basics that win games such as limiting turnovers, making shots and playing good defense, we are capable of winning games. We still have some games before the seeding meeting. Our goal is to find ourselves with a decent seed in a tough sectional."

Willowbrook girls bowling team qualifies for sectionals

Addison Trail's Schmelter advances as an individual

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls bowling team took fourth at the recent Metea Valley regional and earned the last qualifying spot for this weekend's sectional where state berths will be on the line.

The Warriors took fourth with a 5,217 pinfall.

Jordan Tiberi led the way with an 1,108 series. Dana Sasenick had an 1,105. Holly Helsper had a 1,051, while Katherine Pettinger had a 1,017. Tiberi is the only senior of that group. Sasenick is a junior, while Helsper and Pettinger are sophomores.

Willowbrook had games of 758, 912, 873, 831, 905 and 938.

Tiberi finished 20th individually. Sasenick was 21st. Helsper finished 27th and Pettinger was 29th.

In earlier competition, Willowbrook won the West Suburban Conference Head Pin Tournament and took fourth at the Leyden Eagles Bowling Invitational.

In the Head Pin Tournament, Tiberi won the individual title with an 1,173 series, two pins ahead of Addison Trail's Molly Schmelter.

Tiberi finished with games of

171, 205, 175, 181, 227 and 214 (195.50 average). She had series of 551 and 622.

Sasenick was sixth at 1,064 (177.3 average). She had high games of 207 and 182. Elizabeth Soriano finished eighth with a 1,042 series. She had high games of 220 and 179.

Helsper was 12th at 1,032 (172.0 average). She had high games of 182 and 181. Pettinger was 30th at 890. She had a high game of 172.

Willowbrook won the team title with a 5,239 series. Hinsdale Central was second at 5,207. Willowbrook rolled a 998 fifth game.

At Leyden, Willowbrook finished with a 5,113 total pinfall. Tiberi was fifth individually with an 1,180 series. She had high games of 236, 227 and 197 (all in the first three games). She had a 660 series in the opener.

Helsper was 19th at 1,044. She had high games of 211, 201 and 182. Pettinger was 28th at 995. She had high games of 183 and 181. Sasenick was 55th at 821 (for five games). She had high games of 180, 172 and 171.

Makaylah Jones had a high game of 179, while Soriano had a high game of 166.

Addison Trail girls bowling Addison Trail's Schmelter advanced to the sectional round out of the Lake Park girls bowling regional.

Schmelter rolled a 1,123 series to earn one of 10 individual qualifying berths for this weekend's sectional.

Schmelter finished ninth individ-

ually. She had games of 186, 202, 212, 180, 156 and 187.

As a team, Addison Trail placed sixth with a 4,454 pinfall.

Fiona Levesque was 30th with an 844 series, which included a high game of 158. Yvette Beltran, a sophomore, was 44th with a 725 (157 high game). Rachel Soucie was 45th and had a high game of 166. Kaitlin Martinez had a high game of 156.

In earlier action, the Blazers finished 15th at the Leyden Invitational with a total pinfall of 4,282.

Schmelter led the Blazers with an 1,108 series and finished in 11th place individually. She had high games of 214, 183, 194, 187 and 170. She rolled a 591 series over her final three games. Schmelter's 214 game tied for 15th place.

Martinez finished with an 864 series with a high game of 161. Soucie finished with a high game of 175.

Sophomore Liz Cruz finished with a high game of 149.

The Blazers also finished ninth at the WSC Head Pin Tournament with a 4,255 total pinfall.

Schmelter finished second individually with an 1,171 series (195.17 average). She had high games of 192, 216, 189, 220 and 213. She had series of 549 and 622. The 622 tied with Willowbrook's Tiberi for tops in the tournament.

Beltran was 40th with a 799. She had a high game of 161. Cruz was 41st at 777 and had a high game of 181. Becca Bero was 43rd at 743 and had a high game of 160. Martinez was 45th at 713.

Addison Trail girls basketball team competitive in games

Blazers preparing for postseason play

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls basketball team has been ultra-competitive in a host of recent games.

Unfortunately, the Blazers don't have much to show for their strong efforts.

"We've lost a lot of really close games lately," said Addison Trail coach Rob Schader.

After a recent 29-24 non-conference win against Hoffman Estates,

the Blazers dropped a 47-41 West Suburban Conference Gold Division game in overtime to Hinsdale South.

"We were up by three and with eight seconds left they hit a deep three to tie it and then they beat us in overtime," said Schader.

Addison Trail also lost 41-39 to Leyden in WSC Gold play.

"We lost at the buzzer," said Schader. "They picked up a loose ball and threw it up off the backboard and it went in."

The Blazers lost 54-48 to Morton in another WSC Gold contest.

"We played a phenomenal first half against Morton," said Schader, who noted his team was leading 30-23 at halftime. "We were winning the whole game and then we fell apart."

Addison Trail also was competitive in a 46-43 WSC Gold loss to District 88 neighbor Willowbrook.

"We couldn't close it out," said Schader.

In the rematch with Leyden, Addison Trail lost 57-52. "We didn't play that well against Leyden," said Schader. "It's been tough lately. We've turned the ball over a lot, but we're rebounding well. Our defense has struggled a little. We've lost seven games where we very easily could have or should have won. We could very easily be 17-7 right now and sitting in third place in the conference. There are not a lot of teams in our sectional that are over .500. We haven't been able to get it done lately. It's a great group of girls. We have

great seniors. We've just had a lot of bad breaks lately."

Diamond Pikulyk was leading Addison Trail in scoring and rebounding at 11.3 and 8.9 respectively through late last week. "Diamond is playing really well, averaging close to a double-double," said Schader.

Alyssa Pham returned recently from injury. "She hurt her ankle against Hoffman Estates and was out for two weeks," said Schader. "It's nice having her back."

Schader also praised the recent play of Jasmin Mehmeti and Diana Graciano. "Jasmin is playing better," he said. "She's averaging 7.5 points and does so much more for us. She does the things you don't see. Diana has done a nice job. She plays hard

and you always know what you are getting from her every time she's out there."

Nicci Scorza was averaging 6 points per game, while Marie Baumgartner was at 5.5 points per game. Pham was averaging 5 points per game.

Addison Trail was 10-14 overall and 3-8 in WSC Gold play through late last week.

Pikulyk had 16 points in the most recent game against Leyden.

Addison Trail is the No. 12 seed in the upcoming Class 4A Glenbard West sectional.

The Blazers open regional play at St. Charles East this coming Monday against Fenton, the No. 21 seed in the sectional.

Willowbrook's Jessen improves to 44-0, advances to wrestling sectional

Addison Trail's O'Neill advances to girls gymnastics sectional

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook wrestling team placed seventh at the recent Class 3A Lyons Township sectional.

Willowbrook finished with 70 points.

Warriors standout Jack Jessen won the 182-pound regional title at Lyons and moved his record to a perfect 44-0 this season. He defeated Mon-

tini sophomore Pete Christensen via pin in 2:51 in the championship bout.

Zach Zeffiro advanced to sectionals after placing third at 126 pounds. His record improved to 31-15.

Dominic Ranieri also took third at 132 pounds and improved his record to 37-10 on the season.

Richie Scheelk placed fourth at 120 pounds and did not advance. He finished the season with 18 wins.

Addison Trail wrestling
The Addison Trail wrestling team placed fifth at the recent Class 3A Leyden regional. The Blazers had 73 points.

Christian Arellano finished second at 113 pounds to advance to the sectional round. His record is 24-12.

Nick Skamra was third at 170 pounds and earned a spot in the sectional. Skamra, a freshman, is now 27-13.

David Hernandez also advanced to the sectional by taking third at 285 pounds. His record is now 17-7.

Guillermo Juarez (106 pounds), Mariano Chadez (132 pounds), Andre Frontier (152 pounds) and Adal Sanabria (220 pounds) each took fourth and did not advance.

Addison Trail girls gymnastics
The Addison Trail girls gymnastics team placed third at the recent Glenbard West sectional. The Blazers had a team score of 131.375.

Addison Trail's Kennedy O'Neill automatically advanced to section-

als in two events. She placed second on parallel bars with a 9.25 and took third in the all-around competition with a score of 34.950.

Willowbrook girls gymnastics

The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team was fourth at the Geneva regional. The Warriors finished with a team score of 122.175. Willowbrook did not have any automatic advancements to the sectional level.

Willowbrook girls basketball

The Willowbrook girls basketball team recently dropped a 58-41 West Suburban Conference Gold Division game to Morton.

Katelyn McCann led the Warriors with 15 points. She made three 3-pointers. Hanna Konrath added 11 points and four rebounds to go with three steals.

Willowbrook trailed 24-4 after the first quarter, but outscored Morton 37-34 the rest of the way.

The Warriors also recorded a recent 36-27 WSC Gold win against Hinsdale South.

Willowbrook trailed 13-2 after the first quarter, but outscored Hinsdale 16-5 in the second quarter, 9-8 in the third quarter and 11-4 in the fourth quarter to seal the win.

McCann led the Warriors with 13 points. She made three 3-pointers and grabbed eight rebounds. Konrath added nine points on 9-for-11 shooting at the free-throw line. She also had five rebounds. CeCe Lizasuain had six points and four rebounds. Jayla Smith had three steals. McCann also had two steals.

Willowbrook also dropped a 49-43 non-conference game to Glenbard East. Willowbrook trailed 15-6 after the first quarter and 26-21 at halftime.

McCann scored 22 points to lead the way for the Warriors. She hit 5 of 8 three-point attempts. Konrath added 17 points and also hit five 3-pointers. Willowbrook made 10 three-pointers in the game. Smith, McCann and Shannon Knudtson each had two steals.

Timothy Christian boys basketball team splits pair of games

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Timothy Christian boys basketball team split a pair of non-conference contests recently.

The Trojans dropped a 69-61 non-conference game to Camanche High School out of Iowa at the Fulton shootout in western Illinois.

"Camanche is a very good team. They were 15-3," said Timothy coach Jack LeGrand. "It was a really good back-and-forth game. We played some of our best basketball against them. We extended the lead in the third quarter to 10 points, but in the fourth quarter they put the heat on us and we didn't handle the ball well."

Brandon Orange led the Trojans with 20 points and also pulled in an impressive 17 rebounds. Joey Davidson added 12 points and five rebounds.

Jonny Strube had 10 points and two rebounds, while Ty Merrick had four points, five rebounds and three assists.

"Ty had a good all-around game," said LeGrand. "Three quarters of the

way we played very good basketball."

Timothy rebounded to score a 60-47 non-conference win against Westmont.

Davidson poured in 25 points to go with five rebounds and two assists. Orange had 12 points and seven rebounds. Michael Thomas had six assists. Merrick added four points, six rebounds and three assists, while Jimmy Allen had four points, four assists and four rebounds.

"We shared the ball well and had a really good shooting percentage," said LeGrand. "We finished well. We shot 50 percent from the field and moved the ball on offense and defensively we made some key stops at key times."

LeGrand also was impressed with the team's distribution on offense. Timothy finished with 17 assists.

Davidson also was lauded for his recent efforts. "Joey played very well," said LeGrand. "He attacked the basket and finished well. Joey's doing what we need. He's scoring pretty well. We got him the ball and he finished."



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GIRLS BASKETBALL POSTSEASON PREVIEW

IC, York among girls teams set for postseason tipoff

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

The months of practices and games seemed to fly by as girls basketball teams are getting set for the Class 3A and 4A playoffs. Here's the outlook for IC Catholic, York, and other area teams.

Glenbard East

Regional: Hoffman Estates

Sectional: Glenbard West

Sectional seed: No. 9

First game: 7 p.m. Feb. 13 vs. No. 20 Hoffman Estates

Outlook: There have been a lot of tough results this season for the Rams. A three-game winning streak in January showed some of the potential East will be looking to tap into for the Class 4A postseason. Topping the host Hawks won't be easy, and it will get tougher if the Rams advance to face No. 1 seed Geneva in a regional semifinal Feb. 14.

IC Catholic

Regional: IC Catholic

Sectional: Glenbard South

Sectional seed: No. 9

First game: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 15 vs. No. 22 Kelvyn Park

Outlook: Familiar surroundings and a struggling opponent could help the Knights get past the Class 3A regional semifinal and into the championship game scheduled for Feb. 16.

IC climbed above .500 (13-12) with a



David Toney - For Shaw Media

IC Catholic head coach Kelsey James talks to her team Jan. 20 during a game against Glenbard South. The Knights host a Class 3A regional and could meet the Raiders for a third time in the regional final.

48-39 win against Wheaton Academy on Feb. 7 behind a game-high 19 points from Claire Gibler. Gibler is a first-option scorer on offense, while Jaida Smith and Tess Reardon add depth.

The Knights will need all hands on deck if they reach the final, where No. 3 seed Glenbard South likely would be the foe. The Raiders topped the Knights twice this season by a combined score of 106-45.

Montini

Regional: Oak Lawn

Sectional: Argo

Sectional seed: No. 1

First game: 6 p.m. Feb. 15 vs. No. 15 Oak Lawn/No. 17 Willowbrook

Outlook: Nothing is etched in stone in the playoffs, but the Broncos are almost a sure bet to get through the Class 4A regional.

Sharpshooter Kaylee Bambule and post player Lindsey Jarosinski are just two of several weapons on offense for Montini, which has its sights set on its 13th straight regional and sec-

tional title double dip.

Willowbrook

Regional: Oak Lawn

Sectional: Argo

Sectional seed: No. 17

First game: 7 p.m. Feb. 13 vs. No. 15 Oak Lawn

Outlook: The postseason will provide a challenge from the get-go for the Warriors, who face host Oak Lawn in a Class 4A regional quarterfinal. A win brings a contest against No. 1 Montini, which has throttled most of its competition this season.

York

Regional: Hoffman Estates

Sectional: Glenbard West

Sectional seed: No. 9

First game: 7 p.m. Feb. 15 vs. No. 8 Glenbard West

Outlook: The time for the Dukes to buck the trend against Glenbard West is now. The Hilltoppers won both regular-season meetings, including a 39-28 victory Jan. 28 that sent the Dukes on a four-game losing streak.

Danielle Dennis gives the Dukes a reliable scoring threat, and Caylin Rufus, Jaclyn Saco and Kathleen Levins add offensive punch.

York will need to fire on all cylinders to get past Glenbard West, and it would need more of the same to upset No. 1 seed Geneva in the Class 4A regional final Feb. 17.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Dukes hope to reach peak form in time for playoffs

By JASON ROSSI

jrossi@shawmedia.com

DOWNERS GROVE - The somber tone and hanging heads said as much as any words could.

Jordan Gray and his York basketball teammates made a valiant comeback, but a slow start was too much to overcome in a 52-42 loss against Downers Grove North on Feb. 3.

The loss against DGN dropped the Dukes' record to 10-13 overall and 2-6 in the West Suburban Silver ahead of games against conference leaders Oak Park-River Forest (on the road Feb. 10) and Hinsdale Central (at home at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11).

Time is winding down on the regular season, so Gray is just hoping the

Dukes can rebound from the loss and get on track before the postseason begins Feb. 27.

"Hopefully we can get it turned around, make it to the playoffs and go far," Gray said.

Sam Walsh's baseline drive and reverse layup staked York to an early 4-3 lead, but North responded with an 18-3 surge to take control of the game.

Gray scored eight of his team-high 13 points in the second quarter, including a pair of free throws with under one second left in the first half that cut the deficit to 27-17 at the intermission.

Sophomores Walsh and Erik Cohn fueled a surge early in the fourth quarter that got York to within 41-37, and Angelo Martucci drained a pair of free throws to make it a 42-39 game,

but overcoming the big early deficit wasn't to be.

"You can't get down like we did to start the game," York head coach Vince Doran said. "We don't have a lot of seniors, but we're hoping that this will be a game we all can learn from. Win together, lose together, and hopefully this will motivate us to not come out [like that]."

"It's almost like we enjoy fighting from behind. We wanna fight when we get down by double digits, but we don't want to fight when the game starts."

While the outcome wasn't desirable, there were some bright spots. Walsh showed some athletic ability around the rim to finish with eight points. Martucci had 11 points, a pair of steals and no turnovers, and

Cohn overcame a personal slow start to pour in all of his nine points after halftime.

"It needs to be a more consistent effort, but there were some good things," Doran said. "I thought Walsh was really good and did some good things, and I thought Angelo played really well."

The loss of sophomore guard Nick Kosich for the season has shifted some roles and allowed for more playing time across the board, including for sophomore call-up John Milling.

"There's more opportunities with Nick being gone for the year. It's good to get guys experience, but what kind of experience are we getting?" Doran said. "Hopefully we all look in the mirror and try and bring it together and keep working to get better."

Wins keep IC boys in conference race

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

BENSENVILLE – Without a win against host Fenton on Feb. 7, IC Catholic's boys basketball win against Aurora Central Catholic would have meant nothing.

The Knights topped the Bison 62-50 after defeating ACC 85-80 in overtime Feb. 3. The pair of wins keeps IC in the thick of the Metro Suburban Blue race with ACC.

Kevin Cheng poured in 18 points to lead IC, while Luke Ricobene tallied 12. Alex Meurer added 13 points and Amari Reed had 10 as the Knights improved to 16-7 overall and 7-2 in the MSB (tied with ACC for the lead) ahead of a Feb. 10 home game against Glenbard South (6-3 MSB).

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

Timothy Christian

In 10th place after a prelim score of 73.64, the Trojans posted a 75.06 score in the finals Feb. 4 to finish eighth in the state in the small team division.

York

After scoring an 83.39 in the prelims Feb. 3, the Dukes earned an 82.78 score in the state finals the next day to place 10th in the state in the co-ed team division.

GIRLS BOWLING

Willowbrook

Strong showings by Jordan Tiberi (1,108 series), Dana Sasenick (1,105), Holly Helsper (1,051) and Katherine Pettinger (1,017) propelled the Warriors to fourth place at the Metea Valley regional Feb. 4.

Makaylah Jones (492) and Elizabeth Soriano (444) also bowled well as Willowbrook moved on as a team to the Oak Lawn sectional Feb. 11.

York

Jessica Cwik (eighth, 1,055) and Lauren Gould (ninth, 1,048) were top-10 bowlers at the Hinsdale Central regional Feb. 4 as the Dukes finished fourth (5,046) and moved on to the Oak Lawn sectional Feb. 11. Jennifer Diamond (1,041), Krystyna Panek (1,015) and Lauren Steck (887) also had strong regional showings for York.

WRESTLING

Glenbard East

Nick Donovan (120 pounds) and Jesus Lopez (220) were champs at the Class 3A Lyons Township regional Feb. 4 to earn first-round byes at the Downers Grove North sectional. Reese Martin (113), Scott Szabo (138) and Brandon Raines (285) finished second while Cole Martin (152) and Matt Leonard (160) won third-place matches.

IC Catholic

At the Class 1A Walther Lutheran regional Feb. 4, the Knights' Joey Bianchi (113 pounds), Victor Vargas (220) and David Vargas (285) won titles to move on to the Coal City sectional. Frank Jaeger was second at 126 to earn a sectional berth.

Willowbrook

Jack Jessen had two pins and three wins to take the 182-pound title at the Class 3A Lyons Township regional Feb. 4 and move on to the Downers Grove North sectional. Zach Zeffiro (126) and Dom Ranieri (132) won third-place matches to make the sectional.

York

Austin Hoffmann won his 145-pound third-place match and Justin Miramontes placed second at 285 at the Class 3A Leyden regional Feb. 4. Both moved on to the Conant sectional.

Suburban Life

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



JORDYN STRUBE

TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN
Sophomore | Girls basketball

Why Strube was selected:

Strube scored a game-high 14 points and was a perfect 12 of 12 at the free-throw line in a regional playoff game against Richards Career Academy.

Strube and her Timothy teammates couldn't have asked for a better start to the Class 2A postseason. Leading just 15-9 early in the second quarter, the Trojans outscored Richards 53-3 the rest of the way for a resounding win. Strube hit all 12 of her free throws in the game, including eight in the second quarter, and added seven rebounds and two blocks as the Trojans moved on to the Feb. 10 regional final. Strube, the Suburban Life Athlete of the Week sponsored by Gracik Makinney Real Estate Group, spoke with sports editor Jason Rossi about her free-throw shooting, keeping the season going, and more. Here's an edited transcript:

Rossi: How does it feel to win and keep the season alive?

Strube: It feels really good. This is my first year on varsity and I really wanted to get to the regional finals and win it so we can put our name on

the banner we have at school.

Rossi: Did you know you were perfect at the free-throw line in the game?

Strube: I did. Usually in practice it gets into my head, so when I get to that 10th free throw I miss it, but when I made the 10th one [in the game] I was like, "I can keep it going," so I was confident in my free throws.

Rossi: What is the trick to blocking out distractions when you're shooting free throws?

Strube: I honestly don't know. I just know I can shoot free throws. They're my strong point, so I just try to forget what [other teams] say and just try to keep doing what I'm doing.

Rossi: What did you learn playing Lisle the first time that could help in the regional final?

Strube: They are definitely aggressive. They will get the passes if we have bad passes.

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DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

Willowbrook's Sara Fitzgibbon, left, defends against Glenbard South's Angel Avila during Thursday's nonconference game in Glen Ellyn. The Raiders won 54-42.

Girls basketball

WW South holds Huskies for 19th

BY MATT LE CREN
Daily Herald Correspondent

If you had told Wheaton Warrenville South coach Rob Kroehnke in November that his team would win 19 regular-season games, he would have been thrilled.

That's exactly where the Tigers ended up after knocking off Naperville North 36-32 in the regular-season finale Thursday night.

Senior Sarah Struebing had 16 points and 3 assists and Mira Emma and Jayla Johnson each added 6 points for the host Tigers (19-8, 13-3), who finished in a tie for second place in the DuPage Valley Conference with Naperville Central.

"I was thinking the winner would be around three losses in conference, so credit (15-1 champion) Wheaton North," Kroehnke said. "They just had a great year."

"But for this group to have a chance to get 20 wins, it's a huge milestone."

The Tigers did it by finishing the regular season with 19 wins in their last 11 games.

Beating scrappy Naperville North (12-13, 7-9) was not an easy task; it had all the makings of a trap game.

It was Senior Night for WW South, which was coming off a 51-37 upset of Wheaton North, the Falcons' only DVC loss.

Yet the Tigers still mustered an 11-8 lead after the first quarter despite sitting regular starters Johnson and MacKenzie Stebbins in favor of senior reserves Alexa Horvatin and Jess Robinson.

"It was kind of hard at some points," Struebing said. "But we just kept telling ourselves that we have to outwork them and this is our home floor and our last home game and we want to take a step forward."

The Huskies led 6-2 early on the strength of back-to-back baskets from junior center Sadie Jurkovic and a drive from Chloe Kotrba.

But Struebing drained a pair of 3-pointers and Emma followed with another to close the quarter.

The 6-foot-4 Jurkovic, who had 16 points and 11 rebounds, sank a layup to give

the Huskies Stebbins and trigger an Tigers took lead.

"The senior Kroehnke said shots in the first half were a little too many and they were inside.

"Overall we but we've just things up for You're not going to get away with the playoffs."

One of the finishing game scored 7 straight within 33-31 Lockridge with

The Tigers free throws, turned it over and iced it with two 30.4 ticks remaining.

"There is defence," Jurkovic said. "I feel like we played our defense. For game the extremely pre-



MARK BLACK/mblack@dailyherald.com
Addison Trail's Diamond Pikulyk works for an opening against Fenton's Krysta Wilson during the girls basketball game Monday at St. Charles East. Pikulyk scored 21 points.

Blazers don't let early deficit get them down

BY ORRIN SCHWARZ
oschwarz@dailyherald.com

Girls basketball

Addison Trail had a very good response to an early deficit: 24 consecutive points.

Despite falling behind Fenton by 7 points early in the second quarter, the 12th-seeded Blazers cruised to a 64-30 victory Monday night at the Class 4A St. Charles East girls basketball regional. They will meet No. 5 Wheaton Warrenville South on Tuesday night in the regional semifinals.

"It's a lot of fun when we get our bench involved and our bench is scoring and we're scoring and it's just a good time," said Blazers senior center Diamond Pikulyk, who scored a game-best 21 points with 7 rebounds despite sitting much of the second half. "Our coach (Rob Schader) is happy, we're happy, and that's all that matters."

No. 21 Fenton (3-26) took a first-quarter lead on a pair of Jenny Sanchez 3-pointers and led 22-15 early in the second quarter.

"It was a pretty good one," Fenton coach Tim Anderson said of the first period. "If we had a lot more like that we'd be in a lot better shape. All credit goes to them. They were the better team."

After falling behind by 7

points, Addison Trail (11-15) took over, scoring the next 24 points to take a 39-22 halftime lead.

"The first quarter I just felt like we had a little bit of first-game-of-the-regional jitters," Pikulyk said. "To get that out of the way first quarter, from the second quarter on we were just guns blazing. We were playing the game that we should have been playing all year."

"I was a little worried there after the first quarter," Schader said. "We were not doing anything defensively very well. We weren't pushing the basketball, let them set up their defense."

Marie Baumgartner added 12 points for Addison Trail, 10 of them in that second-quarter run, including a 3-pointer that gave the Blazers the lead for good at the five-minute mark.

"We knew coming out that it could be the last time we hit the court together," Pikulyk said, "and we knew that we had to give all we got or that was going to be the end of our season."

Amari Benbow led Fenton with 12 points. Sanchez finished with 9 points.

Neuqua Valley earns shot at Ben

BY MATT LE CREN
Daily Herald Correspondent

Girls basketball

Rachael Tait and her Neuqua Valley girls basketball teammates had a lot of motivation Monday night.

Tate, a transfer from Benet, wanted the chance to play against her old teammates. The Wildcats were seeking a shot at redemption against Benet, which beat them in the sectional semifinals last year.

Neuqua Valley will get that chance after knocking off East Aurora 60-51 in a Class 4A Benet regional quarterfinal. Tait and fellow junior Megan Callahan led the way with 20 points each as the 16th-seeded Wildcats (9-19) moved on to play two-time defending state champion and top seed Benet in Tuesday's semifinals.

"It's a little déjà vu coming back here," Callahan said. "Last year was a close game up until the last three minutes, so there's a little bit of (a need for) payback here. Hopefully, we can bring it."

Callahan certainly brought it against the 17th-seeded Tomcats (9-14), who never led yet kept the game tight well into

the third quarter. She tallied 15 points in the first half, including three of her four 3-pointers, to give the Wildcats a 34-24 halftime lead.

It was a big shot in the arm for a team that had lost 11 out of 12 games before beating Glenbard North in the regular-season finale.

"Our record doesn't matter," Callahan said. "We step into playoffs and it's a whole different team."

"We talked about before the game how people needed to step up, and Rachael Tait and I were the ones who did it tonight."

Tait was especially aggressive in the third quarter, driving to the basket with purpose. She scored twice early in the period, once after the Tomcats cut the lead to 8.

"I was doing kind of rough at first, so my teammates gave me a pep talk and I got back into the game," Tait said. "I just decided to drive more. I started making them so then I just kept driving."

Callahan then buried a 3 to 11-0 run and a three-point pl boosted the lead to 52-33.

East Aurora pulled within 53-52 on a 3-pointer by Jeanette Villecasas to go in the game, but a Callahan snuffed the threat.

Now Tait will get a chance to former science lab partner, Benet's Katie Jaseckas.

"I know every single player (Benet)," Tait said. "I have the best friends on that team, too, excited to see them. No matter what, I'm just excited to play them."

Dearra Brown scored 14 points and 8 rebounds for East Aurora.

"We're a young team but resiliently in trying to get the game," Tomcats coach Lee said. "They mixed it up with the defensive changes so our girls had to adjust and learn."

"We didn't knock down a lot and rebounding they were more at first."



MARK BLACK/mblack@dailyherald.com
Lake Park's Emily Golab looks to pass around Elk Grove's Zoe Blomquist during the Lancers' 66-47 victory Monday night.

Lancers double up on Elk Grove

BY ORRIN SCHWARZ
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Girls basketball

A big reason Lake Park defeated Elk Grove in Monday night's Class 4A St. Charles East girls basketball regional opener could be found in the

production. "She's probably one of our best athletes. She's certainly very strong. She uses her body pretty well. And when she settles in, offense

we weren't able to keep that focus and execution in the second quarter, which hurt us," Elk Grove coach Jennifer Guth said. "It was a great first quarter, 20 points in the quarter, and we've been having a hard time putting the ball in the bas-

that's where they score a lot of their points. We defend the paint, cut and watch for shooter."

"We just kind of rode the storm in the first quarter," Rupp added. "We