

Meet Lilac Princess Taylor Balsitis

By Jane Charmelo
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

This is the first in a series of five profiles of Lombard's 2017 Lilac Court. The five members of this year's court were selected following preliminary judging in February. Two members of the court—Taylor Balsitis and Kyia Denwood—are students at Willowbrook High School. Another court member—Liana Pavese—graduated from Willowbrook in 2015. One of the five princesses will be crowned as the 2017 Lilac Queen on May 6 in Lombard's Lilia Park.

Taylor Krista Balsitis is a lifelong Lombard resident who said that growing up, the princesses and queens from her childhood were her role models, and she even collected as many as 40 to 50 autographs over the years, which she still has.

"I've always looked up to them," said the Willowbrook High School junior, who is now a Lilac Princess herself.

Seeing them through the eyes of a little girl, though, "[I] thought they lived in castles."

As she got older, Princess Taylor came to understand that these teens were role models for the community—serving others by getting involved in school and community endeavors.

"I've kind of always realized that," she said, adding that she, too,



STEVE SPODEN PHOTO Villa Park Review
Princess Taylor Krista Balsitis

was raised to understand the importance of helping others.

The Lilac Princess is a member of the National Honor Society, the Tri-M Honor Society, is a team captain for volleyball and attended a leadership conference through her school. She is also a member of the Blue Crew, promoting school spirit and providing community service.

Princess Taylor, who has played the violin for seven years, also participates in the Best Buddies program at her school, in which she spends time with a sophomore special education student and helps organize fundraisers.

Also through Willowbrook, the princess has volunteered for the cancer fundraiser Relay for Life, as a chair member. She said she got involved because her brother's hockey teammate died, at age 11, of a brain tumor.

"That's the main reason I wanted to do it," she added.

Outside of school, Princess Taylor, a former Girl Scout of nine years, goes back to Jefferson Middle School to volunteer as a junior volleyball coach and also to work the door and concession stand on game nights.

Another cause she has gotten involved with is the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, because her brother's best friend was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes.

She also volunteers with Feed My Starving Children, the Northern Illinois Food Bank, her church youth group service projects and at the Villa Park VFW weekly fish fry.

The princess said she also volunteers at the VFW when Great Lakes sailors visit on Thanksgiving. She has a family member who was a World War II veteran, so "I thought that would be a good way to give back."

Now Princess Taylor is a role model herself, saying that for her, that means a person "someone of any age can look up to," and adding that being a role model means "doing the right thing."

She plans to tell the young-

er children to "just be yourself... that's the main thing."

The Lilac Princess said for her, Lilac time is her favorite time in Lombard, and as for Lombard, "I love everything about it."

She looks forward to getting to know her fellow princesses even better, and is working on getting them all together to go see "Beauty and the Beast."

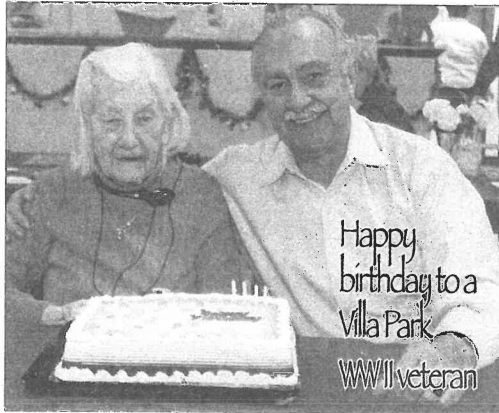
"We've been talking and we have group texts going on," the princess said, adding, "It's been going pretty great."

"We've been jelling together very well," she stated.

After high school, the princess said she is looking to attend the University of Tennessee, pursuing a degree in sports medicine to become a personal trainer, and also for an opportunity to study abroad, where she hopes to go to Spain and learn the language.

Her hobbies include playing the violin and drawing.

Princess Taylor is the daughter of Ken and Tiffany Balsitis, and the sister of Tanner, 14.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

Villa Park resident Aria Calyn (left) celebrated her 94th birthday on March 21 at the York Township Senior Nutrition Center. York Township Supervisor John Valle (right) surprised Aria with a birthday cake. Everyone at the center sang "Happy Birthday to You" to Aria, who asked to have the cake served for dessert. Aria joined the women's branch of the United States Naval Reserve—also known as the WAVES—in 1944, during World War II. The acronym WAVES stands for Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. The Navy did not send women overseas during World War II. Aria learned to type and was deployed to the Naval Ordnance Test Station in the Mojave Desert in California. Aria, who performed secretarial duties for the commissary, was honorably discharged in 1946. She then worked in Chicago, where she met her husband—Paul Calyn. They had one son, Michael Benjamin, who passed away in 2014.

Villa Park briefs

Show choir presents 'A Night at the Cabaret' at Willowbrook on Friday

The Willowbrook High School CenterStage Show Choir will present its annual "A Night at the Cabaret" fundraiser on Friday, April 7. The event, which will include dinner and a show, will begin at 7 p.m. in the school's Silver and Blue Café. The show will feature a variety of performances from members of the show choir. Tickets cost \$20 per person and are available from the school's music department. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call 630-530-3963.

VP Recreation holds Breakfast with the Bunny on Saturday

Villa Park Recreation will hold its annual Breakfast with the Bunny event on Saturday, April 8. The festivities begin at 9 a.m. at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave. Children will enjoy breakfast, an outdoor egg hunt and a visit with the Easter Bunny. Special prizes will be awarded to the children who find the golden eggs during the hunt. Call 630-834-8970 or visit invillepark.com for more information.

VP Mariners to hold priority registration on Saturday; Another priority session takes place April 12

The Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department will hold priority registration for the Villa Park Mariners swim team in April. The registration sessions for the 2017 season will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 8, and from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12. Both sessions will be at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave. Representatives from the Mariners will be present at both sessions to answer questions.

The Mariners' season includes 10 regular-season meets—five on Wednesday evenings and five on Saturday mornings—and a season-ending conference meet. Practices are held each weekday morning at Jefferson Pool.

Fees during priority sessions will be \$109 per child, \$99 per additional child and \$75 per child in the Mini Mariners program. The Mini Mariners is a team for children ages 5-8 who do not have previous swim team experience. Swimmers can participate with the Mini Mariners for one season only.

Registration will not be accepted before the priority sessions, and online registration will not be accepted. Open registration will begin on April 13, and will offer fees of \$119 per child, \$109 per additional child and \$85 per child in the Mini Mariners.

Call 630-834-8970 for more information.

Friday Night Connect events take place this Friday at three sites

Friday Night Connect is partnership of Willowbrook High School, local clergy members, the Villa Park Police Department and local government officials. The goal of Friday Night Connect is to provide students with safe and positive activities. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to join Friday Night Connect. Willowbrook students will mentor the grade-school students, with adults providing supervision.

The program is free for all participants. The next Friday Night Connect events will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at the following three locations: Calvary United Methodist Church, 136 E. Highland Ave., Villa Park; York Center Church of the Brethren, 15071 Luther Ave., Lombard; and Harvard Avenue Evangelical Free Church, 206 W. St. Charles Road, Villa Park.

For more information, call 630-832-5580, or e-mail FridayNightConnect@gmail.com.

The Villa Park Junior Women's Club welcomes applications for its 2017 scholarships; Apply by April 15

The Villa Park Junior Women's Club (VPJWC) is accepting applications for its annual scholarships. The club will award two scholarships this year—one for \$1,500 and another for \$500. The scholarships will be awarded to fe-

male high school students who are graduating in the spring of 2017. Eligible students must be full-time residents of Villa Park.

The club began accepting applications in February. The deadline to apply is April 15.

Winners are chosen based on their applications and recommendations. The scholarships are not awarded based on financial need.

To qualify for the scholarship, an applicant must be a senior in high school with a minimum grade-point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent). Applicants must have participated in a minimum of one community-service activity for at least two years, including the current semester. Applicants must also provide two letters of recommendation from non-family members.

For more information, or to download an application form, go online and visit vpjwc.org/scholarship.

Former White Sox and Cubs pitcher visits the Villa Park Library on Sunday

Former big-league pitcher Steve Trout will visit the Villa Park Public Library on Sunday, April 9, at 2 p.m. The retired lefthander, who played for the White Sox and the Cubs, will read from his children's book—"Loosey-Goosey Baseball."

Registration is not required. Call the library at 630-834-1164 for more information.

VP Recreation provides Easter programs for kids on April 14; Pre-registration required

Villa Park Recreation will offer special Easter programs for children ages 4-10 next month. The programs include an egg-coloring program from 9-10 a.m. on Friday, April 14. A "Baking with the Bunny" program will take place from 1-3 p.m. on the same day. Both offerings will be held at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave.

Children who take part in the egg-coloring program will be able to color eggs to take home for their own egg hunts. The "Baking with the Bunny" event will give kids an opportunity to bake holiday treats, participate in Easter activities and visit with the Villa Park Bunny.

Pre-registration is required for both of the Easter events. For more information, call 630-834-8970.

Village board approves agreements to purchase rock salt

Villa Park Village Board members voted unanimously during a recent board meeting to approve the purchase of 1,000 tons of rock salt. The board approved two separate 500-ton purchases at its March 27 meeting. One of the purchases will take place through the DuPage County Procurement Service Division.

The other purchase will go through the State of Illinois Central Management Services Bureau of Strategic Sourcing. Rich Salerno, the village's deputy public works director, stated at the board meeting the village uses about 700 tons of salt during a typical winter season. Salerno, who noted that the winter of 2016-17 was not a typical season for salt usage in Villa Park, said the village likes to have about a year's worth of supply on hand. He also said the village still needs to take salt related to its purchase agreements of one year ago. Salerno said the village isn't required to take the full amount stated in each purchase agreement.

The village could accept a minimum of 80 percent of the figure stated in each purchase. The new agreements, therefore, require the village to buy a minimum of 800 tons of rock salt.

Salerno said the village hasn't yet learned of the salt prices in the coming purchases, but he would expect the prices to drop in relation to the previous season. According to Salerno, the village paid \$56.35 per ton in last year's agreement with the county, and \$64.91 per ton in last year's deal with the state. He said the village paid as much as \$120 per ton for rock salt during premium-price seasons.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

Live performance

Kira Rhyce, a Villa Park resident and fourth-grader at Schafer Elementary School in Lombard, gave an Irish dance performance during the recent District 45 Fine Arts Showcase. In addition to live performances, the inaugural showcase at Schafer School featured a variety of art pieces submitted by District 45 students. Kira has been involved in Irish dancing for about five years. She dances with the Mulhern School of Irish Dance in Westmont.

Sports

LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW

What a comeback! Warriors move to 7-0 with a huge rally vs. Andrew

Seven-run outburst in the bottom of the seventh inning

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The Willowbrook baseball team's unbeaten start to the 2017 season looked like it was coming to an end on Saturday.

The Warriors, who went 6-0 during March, faced a serious deficit in their first game of April—Saturday's home contest against Andrew. The visiting Thunderbolts held a 9-3 lead in the middle of the seventh inning. Facing their first loss of the season, the Warriors staged an incredible rally, scoring seven runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to pull out a 10-9 victory in Villa Park.

Junior Daniel Gusel delivered the winning hit—a two-out single into left-center field that broke a 9-9 tie. Gusel's hit brought in junior pinch-runner J.T. Ceh. Moments after Ceh crossed home plate, the jubilant Warriors mobbed Gusel near the pitcher's mound.

"It didn't look good," said Willowbrook coach Vic Wisner after the stunning rally. "We just talked about using all of our at-bats and seeing what happened. We were hitting all day. The hits just starting falling for us in the seventh inning."

Gusel led off the bottom of the seventh inning by grounding out. Sophomore Ryan Mintz and senior Ben Espinoza then reached base with walks. Senior Jonathan Kelso singled to center field to load the bases. Senior Kyle Ferguson then hit a grounder toward Andrew's third baseman, who threw to second base. The second baseman couldn't handle the errant throw. Ferguson's grounder brought in one run and left the bases loaded.

Senior M.J. Ranieri connected for a two-run single to center field to cut Andrew's lead to 9-6. Senior Alec Michaelson then reached base on an infield hit that loaded the bases. Sophomore Trevor Jaloszynski was then hit by a pitch; Ferguson scored to cut Andrew's lead to 9-7. The Thunderbolts then made their second pitching change of the inning.



Willowbrook's baseball team maintained its undefeated record with Saturday's dramatic 10-9 victory over Andrew in Villa Park. The Warriors trailed the Thunderbolts 9-3 in the middle of the seventh inning. Willowbrook scored seven runs in the inning to win the game and improve its 2017 record to 7-0. (Above left) Junior pinch-runner John Taylor (second from right) races to home plate on a wild pitch during the seventh inning. Taylor is shown scoring the tying run as junior Daniel Gusel watches. Moments after Taylor scored the tying run, Gusel delivered the game-winning hit—a single that drove in junior J.T. Ceh. (Above right) senior Jonathan Kelso (No. 8), who singled and scored during the rally. Kelso is shown heading to home plate and scoring on a single by senior M.J. Ranieri. (Left) senior Alec Michaelson (No. 15), whose 3-for-3 day at the plate included an infield single during the seventh inning. Michaelson, the ace of the team's pitching staff, has recorded two victories during the team's 7-0 start. He picked up the wins against Naperville North and Batavia. (Below) sophomore shortstop Ryan Mintz (No. 1) throwing to first base for an out after fielding a grounder.

bottom of the seventh inning against Andrew. "We weren't going to hit a seven-run homer. We just executed our plan."

Senior Mike Dembowski grounded into a fielder's choice, which drove in Ranieri and cut Andrew's lead to 9-8.

Gusel stepped to the plate for the second time of the inning and took the first pitch, which went past Andrew's catcher. Junior pinch-runner John Taylor dashed home from third base to tie the score at 9-9. Ceh advanced from



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

9-3 with one inning to play.

"We were just going to fight until the end; we weren't going to give up," said Ranieri in describing the seventh-inning rally. "It's not over until the last out."

Michaelson finished the game with a 3-for-3 effort at the plate. Ranieri had two hits for the Warriors, who delivered nine hits.

"We always have some heart in us," said Michaelson shortly after the comeback victory. "This proves to us we can fight back and win any game."

Senior Scott Kohrt, who pitched the final two innings for the Warriors, recorded the win. Sophomore Jack Hines threw the first three innings. Senior Will Hines pitched the next two innings.

Willowbrook began the season with a 6-2 home win over Naperville North on March 20. Michaelson worked the first four innings on the mound and picked up the victory. One day after beating the Huskies, the Warriors improved to 2-0 by wiping out Glenbard South 13-0 in Glen Ellyn.

A 14-0 win at Schaumburg on March 24 propelled the Warriors to 3-0. The team moved to 4-0 with an 8-3 win over Batavia on March 28. Michaelson, the ace of the Warriors' 2017 pitching staff, worked against Batavia and earned the win to improve his record to 2-0. Two days later, the Warriors crushed West Chicago 11-1.

Willowbrook improved to 6-0 by beating Glenbard East 10-0 in a six-inning game played at Pfund Stadium in Carol Stream. Sophomore Jack Nilles fired a complete-game shutout for the Warriors in the contest, which was played in frigid weather. Nilles allowed two hits and struck out five batters during six innings. He didn't give up any walks.

Kelso bashed three hits in the win over the Rams. Ferguson, Jaloszynski, Michaelson and Mintz knocked two hits apiece for the Warriors, who finished the game with 12 hits.

Saturday's huge rally resembled the massive comeback the Warriors produced during last season's playoff game against St. Francis. The Spartans scored seven runs in the bottom of the sixth inning of the Class 4A regional game to break open what had been a scoreless tie. Trailing 7-0 going into the top of the seventh inning, the Warriors scored seven runs to tie the game. Willowbrook scored eight runs in the top of the ninth inning on its way to a 15-8 victory.

The Warriors' 2016 season ended one day later with a loss to Lake Park in a regional championship game. Willowbrook finished last season with an 18-17 record.



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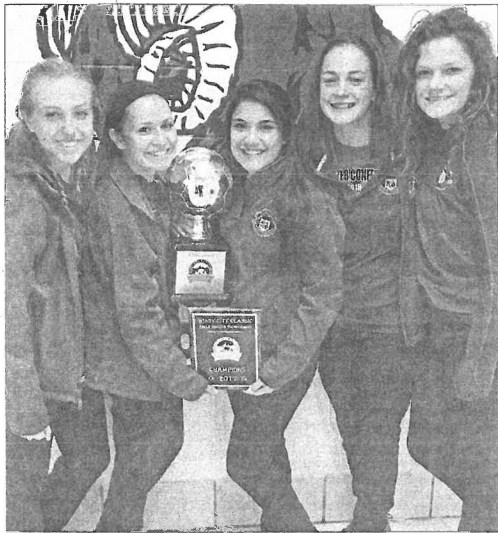
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

Tournament standouts

The Glenbard East girls soccer team attended Saturday's Chicago Fire match at Toyota Park in Bridgeview. The Rams were honored for winning the title at the recent Windy City Classic. Glenbard East won the championship of the season-opening 32-team event by beating Andrew 5-1 in the first-place match on March 25 at Reavis High School in Burbank. That match was originally scheduled to take place at Toyota Park, but shifted to Reavis because of impending inclement weather. Glenbard East won five straight matches to win the first-place trophy of this year's Windy City Classic. The photo shows five of the Rams' standout tournament players who were honored at the Fire's match on Saturday. Pictured left to right are: junior Katie Hansen, junior Mimi Camacho, junior Elizabeth Toledo, senior Dana Plotke and junior Faith Davies. Toledo was named the tournament's most valuable player, while Davies was honored as the event's most valuable goalkeeper. Hansen, Camacho and Plotke were named to the Windy City Classic's all-tournament team.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

Warriors win tournament title

The Willowbrook badminton team won the team title at Saturday's doubles tournament at Plainfield North High School. The Warriors captured first-place honors at the event, which featured teams from 12 schools. The Willowbrook duo of senior Grace Chantos and sophomore Hanna Konrath went a perfect 6-0 at the tournament to win gold medals in the No. 1 doubles division. Seniors Milena Sogura and Hannah Hewitt produced a 6-0 effort to earn the gold medals in the No. 3 level. The team of juniors Millie Zachariah and Hailey Vogt went 5-1 and claimed silver medals in the No. 2 division. The photo shows Sogura (seated, front row) and (left to right, back row) Konrath, Chantos, Zachariah, Hewitt and Vogt.

Coming events

Program on medical cannabis April 8, 15 20

Laura Moretti, medical cannabis patient at EarthMed Dispensary in Addison and volunteer with Illinois Women in Cannabis, is holding a cannabis campaign at the Helen M. Plum Memorial Library Saturday, April 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 15, 2:30-5 p.m., and April 20, noon to 2 p.m. Learn about the Medical Cannabis Pilot Program in Illinois, and about the science, law, medicine and application process. Discover the benefits and potential of this healing plant. Veterans can also learn how to get their medical records on line. They do not need to be certified. This is not a library-sponsored event.

Elmhurst College choir to perform April 9

The Elmhurst College Concert Choir, Chamber Singers and Women's Chorus will perform their Spring-Choral Concert on Sunday, April 9. The concert will begin at 2 p.m. in Hamerschmidt Memorial Chapel, 190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, www.elmhurst.edu/campusmap. The concert is free and open to the public. All seats are general seating and the venue is accessible to the disabled.

Cantigny Easter-time activities

Wednesday, April 12, "Kid Rock Bunny Hop" Parent-Child Event, Visitors Center, 6-6:45 p.m. Parents and their little ones (ages 1-5) are invited to a fun Easter-themed session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost is \$10 per child; parking free. Thursday, April 13, "Hoppy Easter!" Parent-Child Program, Visitor Center, 10-11 a.m. This holiday celebration will include stories, songs and crafts about bunnies, eggs and chicks—plus a special treat. For ages 3 to 5. \$10 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630-260-8162.

"Listen to Your Mother" returns to Chicago

Chicago's Athenaeum Theatre will host the sixth annual "Listen to Your Mother" show (LTYM), brought to

Chicago by local writers Melisa Wells and Tracey Becker, on May 7. The Chicago cast of 15 local writers will read their essays. With topics spanning the entire spectrum of motherhood, LTYM Chicago 2017 will once again touch hearts and move souls. The show, co-produced by Wells and Becker, will donate 10 percent of ticket proceeds to Deborah's Place, an organization that opens doors for women experiencing homelessness in the Chicago area. Additional show information and announcements can be found on the Chicago Listen To Your Mother Web site: www.listentoyourmothershow.com/chicago.

Holy Trinity services

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 350 E. Madison, Lombard, invites you to come and experience the Passion narrative from the book of Matthew on Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9, at 9:30 a.m.; note there is only one service that day. The service will commence with the procession of palms either indoors or outside on the front steps, weather permitting. There will be no regular Sunday school, (Sunday J.A.M.- Jesus And Me) as children are encouraged to sit up front to be involved listening and watching the passion narrative through pictures. There will be an intergenerational anthem with the Joyful Jrs and the adult choir singing, Maundy Thursday, April 13, there will be a 7 p.m. service including Washing of the Feet and Stripping of the Altar preparing for Good Friday. Holy Communion will be celebrated at all services as a community of faith; all are welcome to come. Pastor Amy Gillespie is the presiding pastor. For more information, visit www.htlclombard.org.

Mariners registration April 8

Villa Park Parks and Recreation is holding priority registration for the Mariners Swim Team Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday, April 12, 6-8 p.m. Representatives from the Mariners will be on hand both days to answer questions. The season includes eleven meets, five on Wednesday evenings and five on Saturday mornings, with a season ending conference meet. Practices are each

weekday morning at Jefferson Pool and swimmers are expected to attend each practice. It is recommended that beginning swimmers have previous swim team experience prior to the start of the season. Swimmers must successfully swim one length of the pool using a legal stroke in order to participate. Younger swimmers, ages 5-8, can participate as a Mini Mariner and compete in the five home meets. Priority registration fees are \$109 per child; \$99 additional children and \$75 for Mini Mariners. The fee is an additional \$10 during open registration, which begins April 13.

York Center Park District clean-up volunteers needed

Come out and help the York Center Park District keep its parks looking great. The parks department is looking for your help to preserve our natural environment. Help tend to the prairie restoration area, picking up litter in and around Knolls and Knolls Community Park. This is a great way for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to earn their environmental patches and service hours. After the clean-up, all participants will receive a hot dog, chips and a drink. Ages: all welcome. Wednesday, April 19, 3:30-5 p.m. Register by Wednesday, April 12, at 630-629-0886.

Plum Library youth events

"iPhonography" Thursday, April 6, at 7 p.m. Sixth grade and up. Learn some simple techniques to really make your photos pop using your smart phone. Participants will also explore some simple editing techniques. Bring your smart phone with you. Registration is required. Visit helenplum.org or call 630-627-0316 to register. "GO NUTS FOR DONUTS" Saturday, April 8, at 10 a.m. Family storytime. Start your weekend with a real treat. Enjoy fun stories, songs, rhymes and a simple craft with donuts and hot coffee. Drop-in program.

Car Show and Swap Meet April 23

The Northern Illinois Region, WPC Club, is sponsoring a Car Show and Swap Meet Sunday, April 23, rain or shine, at Larry Roesch Chrysler, Jeep

Dodge Ram, 200 W. Grand Ave., Elmhurst. All makes, 1997 and older, are welcome. Spectator admission is free. Show registration rates are \$15, car show only; \$15, Car Show and Sale; \$15, Car Corral. Car show registration is 8-11 a.m. Call Guy at 630-721-0662. Swap meet admission is \$3 per person. Indoor/outdoor vendor spaces are available. Vendor registration is due by April 20. Call Dick Penkava at 708-749-0115 about registration. Trophies and raffle are at 2 p.m. Food on site is provided by Scooby's Hot Dogs.

FPDC seeks volunteers for clean-up, restoration

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County seeks volunteers (individuals, families, organizations) for a number of clean-up events in honor of Earth Day. For details, visit www.dupageforest.org or call 630-933-7681.

Jazz duo concert at Mayslake

Delight in the sounds of jazz duo Libby York and Jeremy Kahn at a WDCB concert April 20 from 8-10 p.m. at the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Mayslake Peabody Estate, 1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook. Spend an evening with York as she performs songs from her latest release, "Memoir," accompanied by pianist Kahn. The program costs \$15 per person and is for ages 10 and up (under 18 with an adult). Purchase tickets online or by calling 630-206-9566. All proceeds go toward the restoration of historic Mayslake Hall.

Adult programs at Plum Library

"PowerPoint 101" Friday, April 7, at 3 p.m. Discover the basics for constructing a PowerPoint presentation by using themes and creating fun transitions for slides. Registration and Helen Plum Library card required, visit helenplum.org or call 630-627-0316 to register. "Adult Craft Night: Loong Lasting Bouquets" Wednesday, April 12, at 7 p.m. While supplies last. Participants will be whipping up some bouquets with flowers that don't wilt. Bring your friends and work on our scheduled craft, or enjoy space to work on your own current project. Drop-in

Teen open gym in York Center

York Center will be hosting Open Gym on select Fridays. Participants will be rotating games including: floor hockey, dodgeball, wipeout, volleyball and basketball. There will be chips, water and Gatorade for participants. Registration is required one week in advance. Ages: grades six through eight, April 28, 6:30-8 p.m. \$5/resident, \$6/nonresident. Register by one week in advance. Visit www.ycpdfun.com or call 630-629-0886, York Center Park District, 1609 S. Luth Ave., Lombard.

Mini library at Jefferson Middle School

In an ongoing partnership with School District 45 and Jefferson Middle School, the Villa Park Public Library is holding a mini-library at Jefferson Middle School. From now through Apr. 27, families and children of all ages can stop by the school (255 W. Vermont St., Villa Park) every Thursday from 3-4 p.m. Visitors can enter through the main doors to apply for library cards, check out materials, and participate in fun activities and crafts. For more information, visit www.vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Grace Lutheran worship services

Grace Lutheran Church, 493 Forest Ave., Glen Ellyn, is offering a variety of worship experiences during Holy Week, April 9 through April 16. Palm Sunday Services are on April 9 at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Both worship services begin with the Procession with Palms. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services are at 7 p.m. on April 13 and 14. The Maundy Thursday worship includes communion and the Stripping of the Altar. Good Friday is a contemplative service, featuring a full reading of the Passion Narrative with Tenebrae and Adoration of the Cross. Call 630-469-1555 for information about these worship experiences. The Grace Church office is open between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

See COMING EVENTS, Page 10

Art Guild news

Addison Art Guild celebrates 40th anniversary

In celebration, the AAG is holding its annual Spring Members' Show from April 4 through April 13 in the Rotunda of the Addison Village Hall, One Friendship Plaza, Addison. Visiting hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. A reception will be held on Friday April 7 from 7 - 9 p.m.. Judging the exhibit will be Maureen Gasek who will give a critique of winning art works. Members of the AAG will display original art in many art mediums. Most of the art will be for sale. The exhibit and reception is free and open to the public. For more information, call 630-665-6769.

Art Guild hosts painter of pastels

The Addison Art Guild will meet on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at the Addison Center for the Arts (door #4) of the Addison Trail High School at 7:30 p.m.. The guest artist will be Rick Sajewich who will present a pastel painting demonstration. Sajewich is primarily a pastel painter of nature and animals, both domestic and wild.

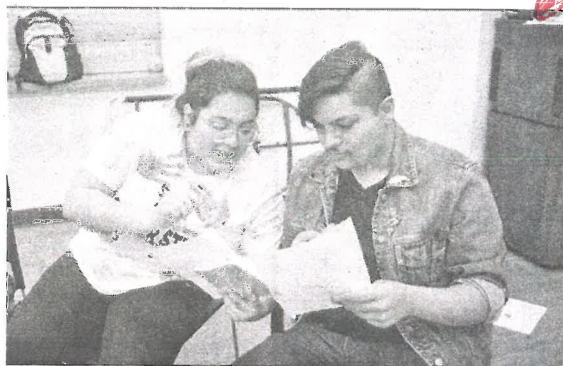
"When people see my work, I would like them to think that the animal is actually expressing an individual feeling," he said. "Being able to express an individual feeling and the personality of an animal is a huge and wonderful challenge never to be fully conquered, difficult to achieve, but always worth the effort." Guests are welcome.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

Women's Club of Addison preps for fundraiser

Pictured are Priscilla Guzzi, Rose Coyle, Marilyn Lambros, Ann O'Brien and Irene Boutzarelos, members of the Women's Club of Addison, who are assembling decorations and raffle prizes for the Club's upcoming "Women on Fire" fundraiser scheduled for Thursday, April 20 at Empress Banquets. The evening includes a Win-Win raffle with gift cards to local restaurants and shops as well as "hot shots" and other free prize drawings to take place throughout the evening. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For tickets or additional information, contact LaVerne at 630-543-3428.



AT students work on Youth Mapping Project

Two library regulars, and students at Addison Trail High School, were among the many teens hired by the DuPage County Health Department for the Community YouthMapping project. Training took place at Addison Public Library this week.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Addison Independent

Chess expert comes to library

Experienced chess coach Bennett Joseph taught an excited group of children how to play the royal game of chess at Addison Public Library on Monday, March 27.

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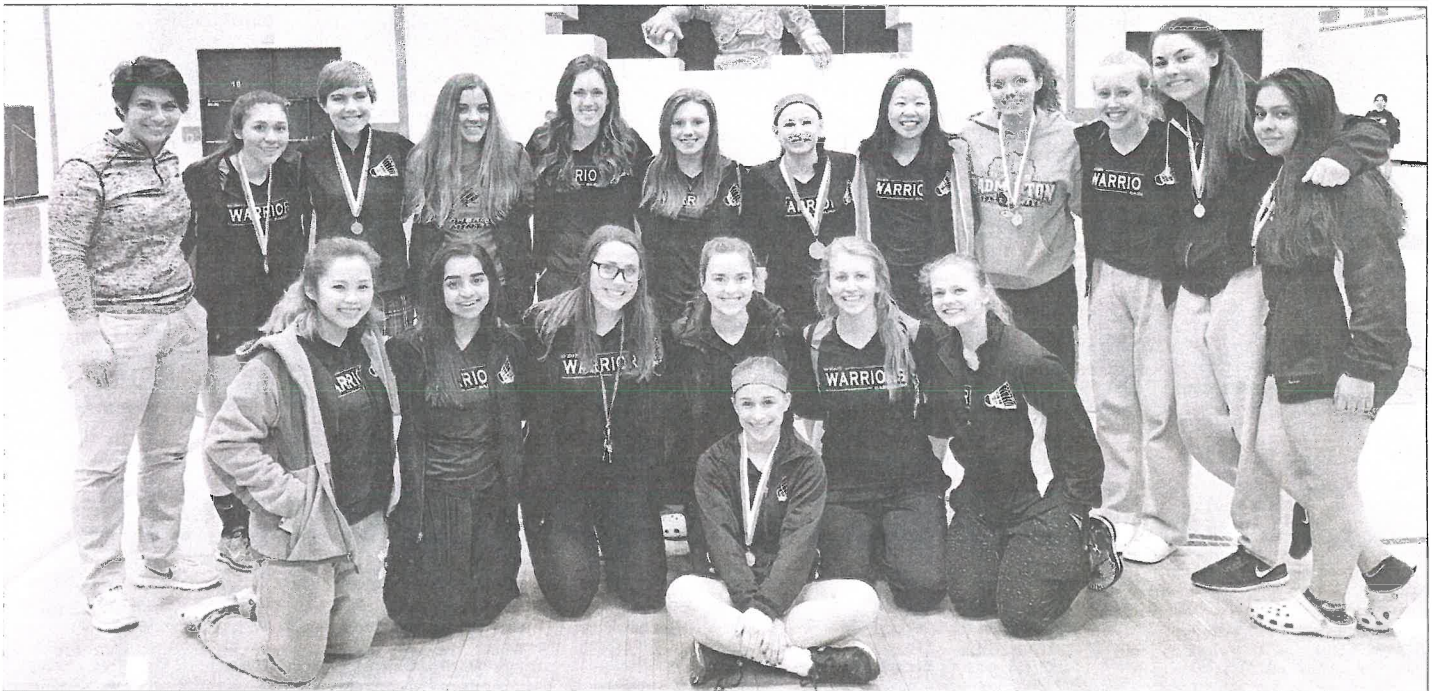
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SPORTS

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COURTESY PHOTO The Independent

The Willowbrook girls badminton team recently placed third at the 10-team Shepard Invitational. Hanna Konrath won the No. 3 singles title, while Grace Chantos was second at No. 1 singles and the team of Sam Asher and Milena Sogura took second at No. 2 doubles.

Willowbrook badminton team logs third-place finish at Shepard invite Addison Trail badminton team returns No. 1 singles player Mutia

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls badminton team got the 2017 season started off on the right foot.

The Warriors won their season opener by an 8-7 count over Wheaton-Warrenville South and then took third at the 10-team Shepard invitational.

At Shepard, Hanna Konrath won the No. 3 singles title. Grace Chantos took second at No. 1 singles, while Hannah Hewitt was third at No. 2 singles. Sam Asher and Milena Sogura were second at No. 2 doubles, while Dani Celio and Luz Alcalá were third at No. 3 doubles.

Willowbrook is coming off a 2016 season where it went 9-7-1 overall and 4-1 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play.

Chantos, a senior, is a returning state qualifier, while Asher and Sogura are returning conference medalists. Asher also will play No. 3 singles, while Sogura will play No. 7 singles.

Also back for the Warriors are Hewitt (No. 2 singles), senior Ashley Garcia (No. 4 doubles) and junior Millie Zachariah (No. 5 singles and No. 1-No. 2 doubles). Zachariah also

is a returning conference medalist.

Newcomers to the team include juniors Luz Alcalá, Celio, Leski Daszewicz, Shannon Frank, Leah Gensel, Nice Jenkins, Grace Roucka, Taylor Scheelk, Hailey Vogt and sophomores Charlotte Dewyer, Kaitlyn Karcz, Grace Wachholz and Konrath.

"This team has a great mixture of experience and talent," said Willowbrook coach Brandon Murphy. "The team is led by our three captains Grace Chantos, Sam Asher and Milena Sogura. They bring a lot of experience to the team. Grace is a returning state qualifier and constantly is pushing herself and her teammates to reach their goals. She is coming off an injury at the end of the basketball season, but keep an eye out for her. When she's healthy she can play with anyone in the state. Grace puts in the work and is working hard to end her senior year on the awards stand."

Murphy noted leadership is something of prime importance for the Warriors this season. "Strong leadership is going to be the key with so many new players in the program," he said. "The younger girls look up to our seniors and they need to lead by example every day. So far, our

captains have been great getting the newer girls to come together as a team."

Murphy said his team is focusing on completing shots. "One at a time, controlling things we can control—our effort, our mind, energy and shot placement," he said. "We want to out-hustle our opponents and footwork is the key to doing that."

The coach sees a lot of potential in both the singles and doubles divisions. "Currently in singles, our top two players both are seniors with a lot of experience, but I do believe by the end of the year our doubles teams will be very competitive."

Murphy labels Hewitt the most improved player for the Warriors from last year. "Hannah is doing the little things right and I'm loving what I'm seeing out of her," he said. "I think she is going to have a fabulous year."

Konrath and Zachariah also have impressed in the early going. "Hanna is an athlete," said Murphy. "She is a three-sport athlete who knows how to compete. She is getting better every day. Millie is a junior who was on varsity last year as a sophomore and is much stronger this year. Look for her to be somewhere in our sectional lineup."

"Strong leadership is going to be the key with so many new players in the program. The younger girls look up to our seniors and they need to lead by example every day. So far, our captains have been great getting the newer girls to come together as a team."

—Brandon Murphy, Willowbrook coach

Murphy sees good things ahead for his team. "'We can. We will,' is what you will hear if you come into a Willowbrook badminton gym," he said. "This team has the capability to be something special. They are working on leaving their mark in the history books, but it will take maximum efforts from all of them if we are going to build something special. I think we can and will."

Addison Trail girls badminton
The Addison Trail girls badminton

team returns senior Athena Kakolires (No. 2 singles) and juniors Mary Grace Mutia (No. 1 singles) and Kasia Czepiel (No. 3 singles) from last year's team.

A key newcomer to the team is junior Bianca Piscopo (No. 8 singles). "We have a great group of girls," said Addison Trail coach Eric Norberg. "Our hardest worker on the team is also the best player on the team. This sets a tone for the other girls on the team to work hard and helps make my job easier."

Willowbrook baseball team off to white-hot start

By Mike Mizaga
CORRESPONDENT

Starts to the season don't get much better than the one the Willowbrook baseball team got off to.

The Warriors kicked off the 2017 season by going a perfect 7-0 in their first seven contests.

A recent stretch started with an 8-3 victory over Batavia. Willowbrook scored four runs in the second inning and four more in the sixth inning and had nine hits in the contest.

Jon Kelso went 3-for-4 with four RBI. Ben Espinoza scored a run, had an RBI and walked three times. Mike Dembrowski went 3-for-4 with an RBI. Ryan Mintz scored two runs and had an RBI. Dembrowski and Alex Michaelson each had a double.

Michaelson was the winning pitcher. He went the first 5 2/3 innings and allowed only three hits while striking out 10 in a game played at Wheaton College's Pfund Field.

Willowbrook then downed West Chicago by an 11-1 count in five innings. Willowbrook scored nine runs over the third and fourth innings and had 13 hits.

Espinoza had a run scored, two hits, two RBI and two walks. Kelso

had two hits and an RBI. MJ Ranieri scored two runs and had an RBI. Michaelson went 2-for-2 with three runs scored and two RBI. Jack Hines went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and an RBI. John Taylor went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and two RBI. Marshall McDonnell went 2-for-3 with a run scored.

Michaelson, Espinoza and Hines each had a double, while Taylor had a triple.

Ryan Mintz was the winning pitcher. He threw a five-inning complete game and allowed only two hits, while striking out five.

In a 10-0 win over Glenbard East, Willowbrook jumped out to a 7-0 lead after three innings. The game was halted after six innings due to the 10-run rule. Willowbrook had 12 hits.

Espinoza went 1-for-3 with two runs scored, two RBI and two walks. Kelso was 3-for-3 with two runs scored. Kyle Ferguson went 2-for-3 with a run scored and two RBI. Dembrowski went 1-for-3 with a run scored and two RBI. Trevor Jaloszynski went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Michaelson went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and an RBI, while Mintz was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Espinoza had a double. Wil-

lowbrook stole six bases with Kelso swiping three.

Jack Nilles was the winning pitcher. He went the distance, throwing a six-inning complete game. He allowed only two hits and struck out five and walked none. He faced three batters more than the minimum.

Willowbrook capped off the week with a 10-9 win over Tinley Park Andrew.

Dan Gusel's double in the bottom of the seventh gave Willowbrook the win, completing a late-game comeback. Willowbrook trailed 9-1 heading into the bottom of the sixth inning and scored nine runs over the final two innings to pull out the win.

The Warriors had nine hits in the game. Ferguson had two RBI. Ranieri went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBI. Michaelson went 3-for-3 with an RBI. Mintz scored two runs. Gusel, Ranieri and Mason Kamp each had a double.

Scott Kohrt was the winning pitcher in relief. He pitched two innings. Jack Hines started the game and went three innings, while Will Hines pitched two innings.

Willowbrook coach Vic Wisner noted the win against Batavia was notable

due to the Warriors defeating the opposition's star pitcher.

"Batavia has a big returning pitcher. There were a lot of professional scouts there," he said. "He's a big kid who I think is going to Louisville for college. We made him put the ball in the zone and we sat on his fastball and were able to put the ball in play. He was out by the second inning."

Michaelson, coming off an outstanding summer, moved to 2-0 with the win against Batavia. "We're getting really good pitching right now," said Wisner earlier last week. "We have three sophomores pitching after Alex. Ryan Mintz won his first two games. Will Hines and Scotty Kohrt are seniors who have thrown the ball well. With this new pitch count you are going to have to use a lot of guys and we have a relatively deep pitching staff."

Wisner has been equally impressed with the team's progress at the plate. "Jon Kelso had a phenomenal football season and that's carrying into the baseball season," he said. "He started out hitting about .800. He's so fast and can steal bases. Alex Michaelson has stood out hitting-wise as well. Kyle Ferguson is a three-year varsity starter

and has helped us. All the way through the lineup we are bunting and moving guys along. Our lineup has done a great job. We have a deep team. We haven't been this deep in a long time. We had some flu hurt us during the break and some guys came off the bench and did great. That is going to make us play better because the starting guys know there are other guys breathing down their back. It's great because right now almost all the guys have double-digit at-bats."

Wisner added the team is carrying the momentum from a highly successful summer season into the spring.

"We had something like a 20-game winning streak toward the end of summer," he said. "They understand all the hard work has to happen in practice. They are super-coachable and attack every practice with zeal. Our practices are fast-paced. These guys are ready to go. It doesn't surprise me that we are starting this way."

Willowbrook has the majority of the week off with the new West Suburban Conference scheduling format. This is the Warriors' bye week in the conference. Willowbrook returns to action Saturday with a WSC crossover contest against Oak Park-River Forest.

Focus on Healthcare

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

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DuPage Narcan Program releases annual report: Increase in opioid related deaths and Narcan saves

The DuPage Narcan Program (DNP) has released its annual report and, according to Dr. Richard Jorgensen, DuPage County Coroner, the county saw a sharp increase in deaths and saves related to opioid overdoses.

There were 78 deaths and 145 saves related to opioid overdoses in 2016. The number of deaths attributed to fentanyl doubled, to 16 compared to 8 the previous year. A synthetic drug, fentanyl is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

"These numbers reveal that our work is not done in the quest to beat this epidemic," Jorgensen said in the report. "We must continue to bring education to our citizens about this problem to prevent the misuse of opioids, treat those who are addicted and eradicate the supply of illegal drugs."

The 78 opioid related deaths last year represent nearly half the total of the 162 deaths since 2014.

In an encouraging trend, leaders of many DNP program sites (police departments, schools, etc.) are now funding their supply of Narcan showing an increased commitment to reversing overdoses linked to heroin and other opioids.

The Village of Bloomingdale now funds the purchase of the Narcan spray for emergency responders.

"The DNP is making a difference and saving lives," said Frank Giammarese, Bloomingdale police chief. "Providing local funds clearly demonstrates a commitment to combat the growing opioid epidemic in our community."

Although the DNP was funded initially by the DuPage County Board of Health, the program now operates on

private donations, grants, and local funding.

As shown in the report, lives are saved through the use of the nasal spray Naloxone, also known as Narcan, which reverses the effects of heroin and other opioids. Since 2014, 3,143 individuals have been trained to administer naloxone among 60 program sites across DuPage County and the northern Illinois area.

These drug-free resources are available to DuPage County residents:


- **Rx Box** - drug disposal program aimed to reduce access to unused medications that may be misused or abused.
- **Project Connect** - a pilot program that offers linkage to support and treatment opportunities for those that have overdosed.
- **Heroin Anonymous (HA)** - offers support to individuals that would like to be drug-

free and meets at the DuPage County Health Department Community Center.

• **Community Access to Naloxone** - Naloxone (Narcan) is available for individual use without a prescription at many pharmacies in DuPage County.


The DuPage Narcan Pro-

gram was implemented in 2013 following a striking number of heroin deaths which prompted a call to action by local leaders, and was the first countywide overdose prevention program in Illinois to be approved by the Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA).



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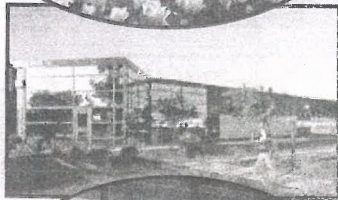
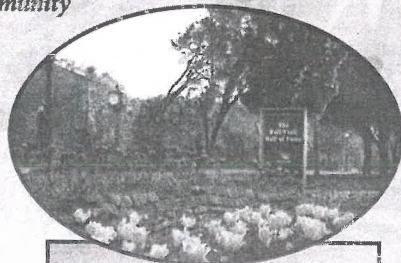
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Addison Trail girls track team progressing

Blazers' program continues to grow in numbers

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail girls track coach Dave Pytko is enjoying a record turnout this season.

Pytko noted the Blazers program now features 55 track and field athletes.

"We have a plethora of kids at different age levels," he said recently. "We have 55 kids on the roster and that's more than we've ever had. When I started we had 12. We are growing. We're definitely going in the right direction. For example, our distance group is much bigger and better than it had been in the past and that's another huge difference. There are probably 16 to 18 kids there and

that definitely gives us flexibility in events. We don't have to run kids in a lot of events. They can do one or two instead of three or four and that definitely makes a difference in how the girls perform. Of the 55 kids, the majority of them are probably new. That means about 30 kids are brand-new to the sport. They are learning how to race and learning how their body responds to competition and they are learning about training. They are learning how to race. Instead of having just a mindset of running, they are learning what goes into a race."

Pytko saw progress earlier in the indoor season as the team headed into the conference meet.

"We started off slow, but we picked things up," he said last month. "Things started coming together for us. We're a little farther along than anticipated. We have a lot of things finally coming together. We had a meet at the beginning of the season at York and it was not good. We also had a meet at Wil-lowbrook where we didn't come close to what we wanted, but we did have some good things happen."

The Blazers took third on the varsity level at their own AT invite, while the JV team took second in the same meet.

"We're seeing a lot of growth," said Pytko. "Going from York at the beginning to our invite, they did very well. We also competed at Morton and took seventh out of 14 teams and we didn't have some of our top athletes."

Addison Trail's JV team, despite having athletes moved up to help the short-handed varsity, took fifth at Morton. "If we didn't have to make changes to the varsity lineup we would have taken second on the JV level," said Pytko. "That's how strong our frosh-soph group is right now. They are going to help us at the varsity level at some point during the outdoor season."

Addison Trail once again will be led by the likes of standouts Lauren Kroll and Klea Gjonaj. "Both of them are doing a really good job in our sprints," said Pytko.

Sophomore Natalie Diaz has been a help for the Blazers in the distance events. "Our sophomore distance runners have been the biggest surprise," said Pytko. "Times are dropping week by week. They are learning how to race."

Pytko also has been pleased with the progress of junior Giovanna Scarabaggi, freshman Julia Swierzb and Alex Nava. "Giovanna has done a great job with our jumps," he said. "She's a natural. She's learning the jumps. I think she's done an outstanding job and I think we're going to hear more from her. Julia is our freshman hurdler. She's done an outstanding job with the hurdles. She's learned how to race at a high level and she's learning how and when she needs to turn it up. She's learning about the intensity of the varsity level. Alex has turned it up the last few weeks. She's proving she belongs. She thinks she can make a big contribution to the team and I don't disagree with her. She's running the 200 and 400 and working the hardest sprints there are. She's another one who has done a good job."

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DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT,
CHANCERY DIVISION

RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing Corporation;

Plaintiff,

VS.

Chris A. Fuchs; Roberta J. Medema-Fuchs;
Defendants.

16CH 947

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REAL ESTATE
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a judgment heretofore entered by the said court occurred in the above entitled cause, John E. Zaruba, Sheriff of DuPage, Illinois, will on May 9, 2017, at the hour of 10:00 AM at DuPage County Sheriff's Office, 501 North County Farm Road, Southwest Lobby, Wheaton, IL 60187, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate in the said judgment mentioned, situated in the County of DuPage, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy such judgment to wit:

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DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

an of Great Clips works on York High School Assistant Principal Ryan Doherty during a St. Baldrick's Foundation event that raised about \$20,000 to combat childhood cancer.

Students, staff get behind effort

Page 1

99, by three people: Kenny, John Edna McDonnell and the reinsurance company. The thought it would be a good idea to raise money for the biology group by having a fundraiser for folks who will have their heads shaved.

The event was held on Friday, April 7, at a local business. The idea was to have students and staff shave their heads and raise money for the biology group. The event was held on Friday, April 7, at a local business. The idea was to have students and staff shave their heads and raise money for the biology group.

might that number was low and offered to have their locks shorn if they were in the field, passing around a sign and settled in the faculty and staff. The raise was \$15,000, and he'd take the community raising nearly \$20,000 already about doing it, but this time the students leading up to the rally, and see the kids are



DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

York Spanish teacher Joe O'Malley, left, prepares to mosh a pie into the face of student Chris McCoy during the St. Baldrick's Foundation pep rally in Elmhurst.

He says he had shaved his head once before in support of a friend with breast cancer, but that time he was sitting in his kitchen. This time he was sitting in front of 2,000 kids. And when the hair started falling at the hands of Caitlin

Freeman of Great Clips, the face he made was priceless. Now, nearly two weeks later, he admits he still feels "phantom hair." Every once in a while he'll find himself reaching up to push his hair behind his ears, or I try to put it into a ponytail and all I feel are nubs." The coolest part of the experience, though, wasn't hearing the cheers when his locks fluttered to the floor, he says. The coolest part was when O'Malley took the mic at the start of the event and asked 2,000 kids gearing up for spring break to watch a video about the work the St. Baldrick's Foundation does. "The whole gym went very quiet," Doherty says, "and the students just sat there and watched it in total silence. They were so respectful. Then they clapped. It's what makes me proud to be an administrator at York."

Addison Trail actors take on Neo-Futurists

BY DANIELLE BRINK
DuPage High School District 88

If you go

What: "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind"
When: 4:30 and 7 p.m. Friday, April 7, and 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8
Where: Addison Trail High School's Black Box Studio Theatre, 213 N. Lombard Road, Addison
Tickets: \$7 adults, \$5 students, \$3 with an Activity Pass and free with a District 88 Senior Gold Card
Info: (630) 629-3365 or at.theatre88@gmail.com

Addison Trail High School Theatre is gearing up to provide audience members with a unique production through its spring play, "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind." The curtain goes up at 4:30 and 7 p.m. Friday, April 7, and 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8, in the school's Black Box Studio Theatre, 213 N. Lombard Road, Addison. The format will offer a rare experience, as the cast will perform 30 plays by The Neo-Futurists in 60 minutes. The audience will choose the order of those plays and will interact with the actors on stage while the cast and crew transition from one production to the next.

"I was looking for a non-traditional play, and I knew 'Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind' would be a fun challenge," said Anna Jakubka, Addison Trail's theater director.

"I saw the show in high school and fell in love with the format. It also was one of the pieces performed during this year's Illinois High School Theatre Festival, and our theater students were able to see it and loved it as well.

"I hope the audience gains a different perspective of theater and that younger students are encouraged to perform on stage."

Addison Trail senior Maxwell Dziabis said the goal of this show is for the cast not to "act." Each role will reflect the corresponding student, rather than the character. "It's going to provide a great taste of who we are as people, because it's our personalities showing on stage rather than us portraying the characters," Dziabis said.

Addison Trail senior Dominic Zumpano agreed.

"It was a great experience to make creative choices about which characters fit us and which plays we will perform in," Zumpano said.

The show comprises 11

actors, five production team members and about 30 crew members. Jakubka said one of the biggest challenges was determining the 30 plays that would be featured and matching the 100 characters in those plays to the personalities of the cast members.

On Wednesday, April 12, Addison Trail and Willowbrook students will get a special treat when "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind" creator Greg Allen visits the schools as part of District 88's Author in the House program.

The Addison Trail cast will perform a few of the author's plays, and Allen will discuss his work and creative process. Allen also will lead a writer's workshop for students and staff interested in the writing and publishing process.

"We're really excited about the opportunity to meet Allen," said Addison Trail senior Annalise Morrone. "We can't wait to hear what was going through his mind as he created this show." For information about The Neo-Futurists, visit neofuturists.org.

Tickets will be available at the door and cost \$7 for adults, \$5 for students, \$3 with an Activity Pass and are free with a District 88 Senior Gold Card. Call (630) 628-3365 or email at.theatre88@gmail.com.

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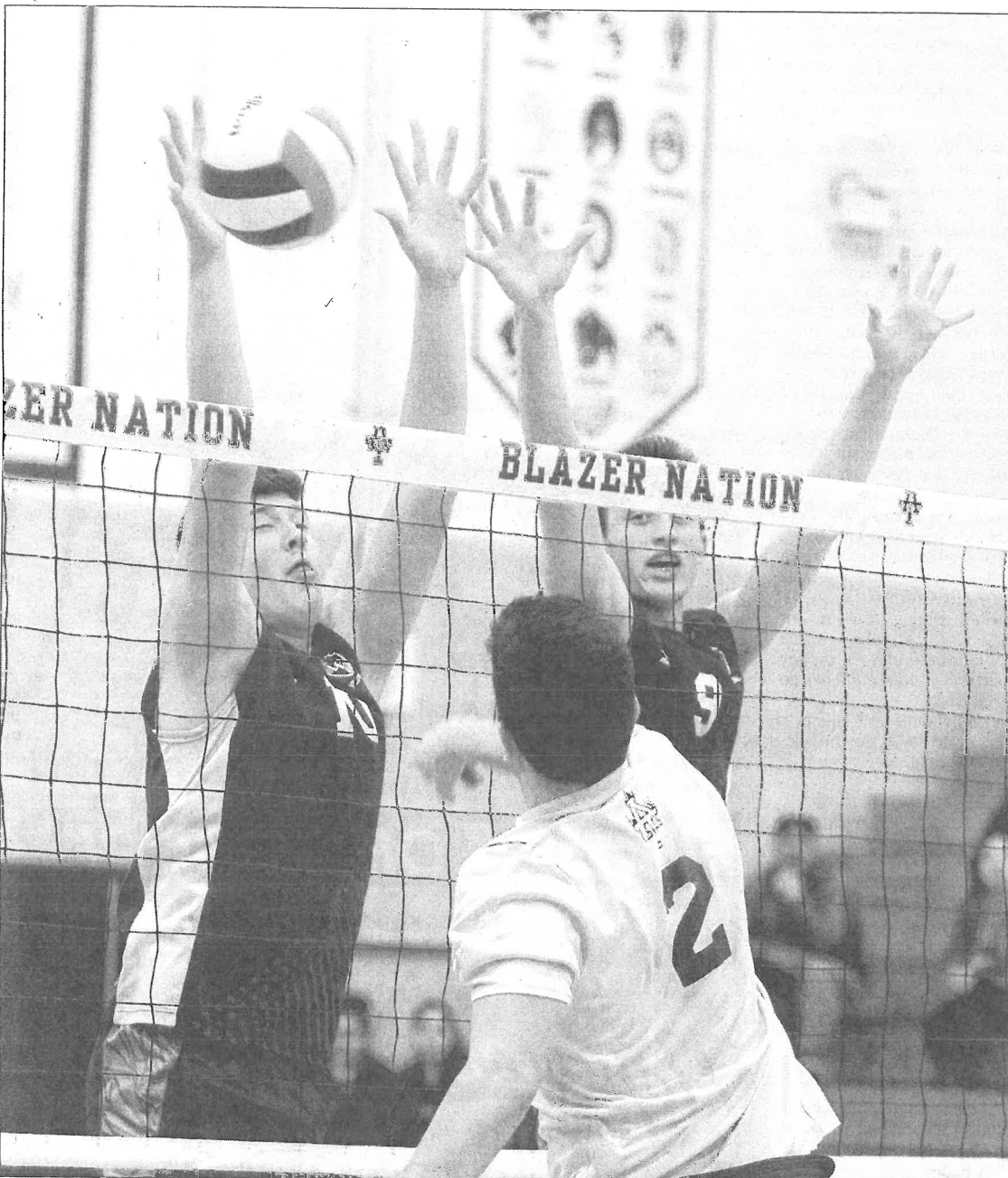
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Battle at the net



Lake Park's Justin Yost (10) and Austin Bayner (9) block a spike by Addison Trail's Arlind Rojba (2) during nonconference boys volleyball action in Addison. Lake Park won the three-game match.

DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

No challenge too great for Gagliano

Huskies stick together for

By CHRIS WALKER
Daily Herald Correspondent

Girls so

Athletes step up and make big plays all the time.

Not nearly as many are capable of stepping up and helping their teammates during a difficult time in their lives, but it has become a common occurrence at Naperville North.

Once again, the Huskies kept their emotions in check and used a full team effort to clip Metea Valley 1-0 during Thursday's DuPage Valley Conference game in Naperville.

The Huskies were playing without twin sisters Alyssa Siebers and Jessica Siebers, who were attending a funeral service for an aunt who passed away from cancer. The duo makes up half of the team's starting back line.

Naperville North was also playing in honor of Lourdes Santos, the mother of senior Ashley Santos, who died in November after a long battle with mental illness.

Santos ended up making the biggest play of the night, scoring her first goal of the season with 19:31 left in the second half off a corner kick that rattled around a bit before she was able to secure possession and direct it into the net.

"It hit me and bounced around," she said. "I got a little toe on it and it trickled into the goal. It was nothing pretty, but a goal is a goal, right?"

Naperville North coach Steve Goletz could not have been more pleased to see a player like Santos deliver such a clutch shot.

"She's a phenomenal kid who has had a great season, and she's what makes us go," he said. "It's fitting that a gutsy, hard-work, hard-nosed kind of goal came from her, and I couldn't be more excited

for her."

She was memory of her father v stands; he n to Naperville see her play.

"It was co ting to have game," she s ally the goal assist or doir sive side, bu tonight to pl bigger than c Naperville

Naperville was able to ley's scoring having to jug

With so weapons the 2, 2-2) are a contain, let a the Huskies

by limiting ties especiall Nicki Hernz Eriksen-Russ

Coincident the Mustang in a 2-0 loss li ville North in tional title ga "They took ball that drog Metea Vallé Whaley said. better job of That's really down to, t that."

Morgan Kr the corner k in the gam praised the defenders All Morgan Lock

"Allison p ing outside l have too mu she said. "/ always toug have people did, especial are out."

Area baseball teams aiming for success

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

The first pitches of the high school baseball season have been thrown, and teams already are jockeying for position in conference races and postseason seeding. Here's the outlook for the rest of the season for IC Catholic, Timothy Christian, York, and other area teams.

Glenbard East Rams

COACH: Joel Pelland
2016 RECORD: 28-9

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Jacob Behrendt	sr.	IF
Nathan Bertuca	sr.	IF/P
Brett Bushka	so.	C
Brett Tomlinson	sr.	P

Outlook: A slew of seniors who led the way last year have moved on, opening the door for some new contributors.

Bertuca and Bushka were mainstays in the lineup last year, but beyond that there is little experience. Behrendt and fellow seniors Austin Grote, Conner Grzenia, Austin Novak and Tommy Wilkans will be counted on to contribute.

Tomlinson won five games on the mound last year and will be the leader of a staff that could include Bertuca, Grote, Grzenia and seniors Alex Deli, Steve O'Brien and Brandon Quigley.

IC Catholic Knights

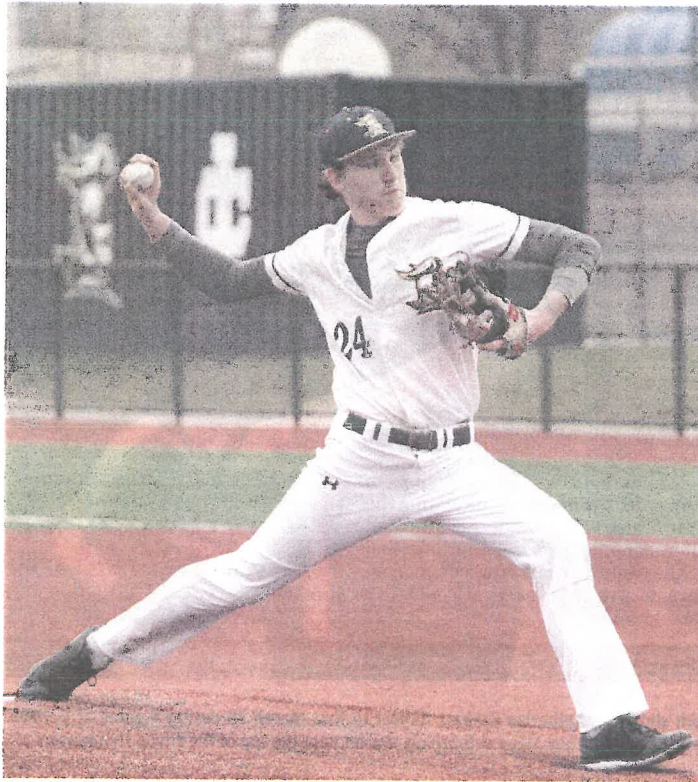
COACH: Frank DeAngelis
2016 RECORD: 20-17

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Paul Morris III	sr.	2B/P
Austin Reed	sr.	SS/P
Brendan Russ	sr.	OF/P
Joey Salvi	sr.	IF/OF/P
Matt Sutton	sr.	CF/P
CJ West	jr.	3B/P

Outlook: Former IC student DeAngelis takes over on the bench and inherits a team with plenty of athletic talent.

Morris, Reed, Russ and Salvi were all key contributors last year and are slated for big spots this season on both sides of the ball. Morris had two RBIs and scored two runs in a 9-3 Metro Suburban Conference win against Fenton on April 4. Russ scored a run and scat-



IC Catholic's Brendan Russ delivers a pitch in a game against Aurora Central Catholic last season. Russ is one of several seniors leading the way for the Knights this season under new head coach Frank DeAngelis.

tered five hits over six innings on the mound to earn the win.

Senior John Hoffman has knocked in nine runs so far this season while Morris and West each have eight hits.

Salvi has seen the most work on the mound, but a large arsenal of arms includes Morris, Reed, Hoffman, West, senior Alfonso Cepeda and juniors Andrew Falduto and CJ Slowinski.

Montini Broncos

COACH: Rich Janor
2016 RECORD: 23-15

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Cooper Hynes	sr.	C/OF
Alex Luka	sr.	1B/P
Nick Malik	sr.	C/OF
Dan Mallory	sr.	P

Anthony Rogers	sr.	P
Ben Steiner	jr.	3B/P

Outlook: After advancing to a Class 3A sectional final last year, the Broncos should have a potent offense leading the way as several new pitchers adjust to larger roles.

Luka drove in 29 runs last year while Hynes, Malik and Steiner all hit over .300 against plenty of tough opponents. Junior Jake Karczewski has seen time in the leadoff spot, and senior JR Walsh also could vie for time at leadoff.

On the mound, Luka is the top returner after earning five wins. Mallory and Rogers should figure prominently into the rotation and junior Seth Quick, last year's top hurler for the sophomores, will see action as part of a deep staff.

Timothy Christian Trojans

COACH: Jim Snoyink
2016 RECORD: 16-13

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Jimmy Allen	jr.	SS/P
Josh Anderson	sr.	OF/P
Joey Davidson	sr.	1B
Noah Marrera	sr.	C
Brian Schiff	sr.	3B/P
Jonny Strube	sr.	OF/P
Shaun VanTholen	sr.	OF/IF/P

Outlook: Winners of a Class 2A regional title last season, the Trojans bring back six seniors and Allen to the mix, and so far they have picked up right where they left off.

Marrera had seven RBIs through six games as of April 4, while Allen (.414 average last year) had scored 10 runs and knocked in five as Timothy got off to a 5-1 start.

Allen and the seniors will be mainstays in the lineup this year.

The pitching staff will include Allen, Anderson, Schiff, Strube and VanTholen plus junior Nick Huisman and sophomore Trent Marrera. Huisman won his first three starts of the year. In a season in which pitch counts will be monitored and prescribed rest required depending on the number of pitches thrown, expect to see more players take the hill as Timothy looks to surpass its 2016 success.

Willowbrook Warriors

COACH: Vic Wisner
2016 RECORD: 18-17

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Kyle Ferguson	sr.	2B
Jon Kelso	sr.	OF
Alec Michaelson	sr.	P
MJ Ranieri	sr.	SS

Outlook: After lower-level and summer varsity success, the Warriors will look to put it all together at the top level this spring.

There are some question marks on the mound, but the lineup looks solid with seniors Ferguson (32 RBIs in 2016), Kelso (19 RBIs) and Ranieri back in the mix.

See BASEBALL, page 19

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Game on for high school softball teams

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

The ultimate destination for high school softball teams is Peoria for the state championships in June, but there is a lot to be decided before teams start booking charter buses and hotel rooms. Here is the outlook this season for IC Catholic, Montini, Timothy Christian, York and other area teams.

Glenbard East Rams

COACH: Dawn Chanos
2016 RECORD: 10-21

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Alivia Chuman	jr.	3B
Sam Dooley	jr.	CF
Kate Tadda	sr.	1B
Tori Tyler	jr.	P

Outlook: A young team with Tadda as the only senior is looking to surpass last year's performance. Though young, the Rams don't lack talent. That includes Tyler, returning to toe the rubber, and sophomore Ariana King behind the plate. Freshman Alexia Gonzalez could make an impact defensively in the infield and could see time pitching. Dooley and sophomore Joselyn Molinar will be key pieces in the outfield.

IC Catholic Knights

COACH: Frank Reaber
2016 RECORD: 16-18

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Kaitlyn Falduto	sr.	SS
Josie Lytton	jr.	C

Outlook: Aside from Falduto and Lytton, there isn't a ton of game experience, but there are several varsity returners plus some talented younger players on the roster who should keep the Knights competitive.

Alyssa Borges and Molly Fahey return and join Falduto as the only seniors on the team. Junior Georgia Mahnke (first base) returns, as do sophomores Kayla Cervantes, Kayla Faber-Cournane (pitcher) and Natalie Murillo (second base).

Freshmen Brooklyn Campos, Tea Carpanzano, Allesandra Eccardt, Emma Lytton and Daniela Murillo already have seen playing time this year.

Montini Broncos

COACH: Mike Bukovsky
2016 RECCRD: 37-3



Jeff Krage - For Shaw Media

York shortstop Katherine Karnatz throws off first March 28 during a game at Geneva. Karnatz will be a key piece defensively and hit near the top of the lineup this season.

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Emily Alexander	so.	OF
Naomi Alonzo	sr.	1B/P
Bri Clifton	jr.	P
Nikki Cuchran	jr.	3B
Lauren Latoria	so.	IF

Outlook: A team that lost six seniors who contributed heavily still has enough talent to repeat as Class 3A champs this year.

Cuchran hit close to .600, smashed 15 home runs and knocked in 50 runs and was named Gatorade Player of the Year in Illinois. She will anchor the lineup and along with Alonzo, Clifton and Latoria will form a formidable offense.

Clifton and Alonzo were the top two pitchers last season. Clifton won both games at state to finish 22-1. Alonzo was 14-2. Both had sub-2.00 ERAs.

Seniors Serena Almodovar (shortstop) and Tia Sondej (outfield), junior Sam Ferruzza (catcher), and sophomore Alyssa Filkowski (outfield) will take on larger varsity roles.



Nikki Cuchran

Timothy Christian Trojans

COACH: Lindsay Slovey
2016 RECORD: 3-21

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Lauren Gehrke	so.	2B/OF
Emily Gifford	sr.	P/1B
Allison Heersink	so.	3B/P
Liv Schuringa	jr.	1B/OF
Hope Zastrow	sr.	C

Outlook: Timothy welcomes a new coach after a rough 2016 season, and already this year the Trojans have shown some potential. They scored 34 runs in two games, but one of those games was a 25-12 loss against Chicago Christian.

Gifford, headed to play in college at Trinity International, could see time in the circle and will certainly be a key part of the lineup. Zastrow and senior newcomer Samantha Leide also will play big roles in the offense.

Three freshmen - Elizabeth Arcos, Bianca Jimenez and Kelly Tameling - are on the varsity and should see significant time on a team with just 11 players.

Willowbrook Warriors

COACH: Rachel Karos
2016 RECORD: 14-16

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Jiana Funteas	jr.	SS
Emily King	sr.	OF/IF
Katie Smith	jr.	C
Veronica Swan	sr.	P
Megan Talan	sr.	2B

Outlook: It has been a rough start so far as the Warriors have yielded double digits in all four games, but the mix of experience and young talent should keep them competitive the rest of the season.

Funteas and Talan will be the linchpins of the defense up the middle in the infield, and they will need to be sharp as Swan and junior Madison Campbell adjust to being full-time pitchers.

Amy Bussa, Anna Carson, Samantha Mishlove and Katherine Pettinger are varsity sophomores who will see time and have chances to contribute. King, Swan, Talan and Allison Letson are the only seniors.

York Dukes

COACH: Elizabeth Munn
2016 RECORD: 16-11

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Madison Collins	jr.	C
Julia Derkowski	so.	P
Katherine Karnatz	so.	SS/2B
Kyra Kroll	jr.	OF
Andrea Meagher	jr.	1B/P
Izzy Smith	so.	3B/P
Mia Tran	jr.	2B/OF
Lauren Wojcik	jr.	P

Outlook: New coach Munn inherits a team that saw the heart of the batting order graduate, but the Dukes certainly have enough returning talent to make a run at another Class 4A regional title.

Derkowski, Meagher and Wojcik all have toed the rubber to help York get off to a 5-0 start to the season.

Defensively, Karnatz and Tran are slated for full-time work in the middle of the infield, and Kroll likely will move from left field to center.

Karnatz was at or near the top of the batting order last year. Collins, Kroll, Meagher, Smith, Tran and Wojcik figure to slide up the order. Juniors Maria Gentile and Jane Moran, sophomore Jojo Moyer and freshman Sydney Fuglsang add depth to the roster for a team that hopes to finish near the top of the tough West Suburban Silver conference.