VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

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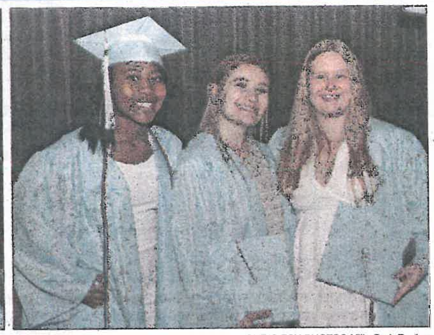
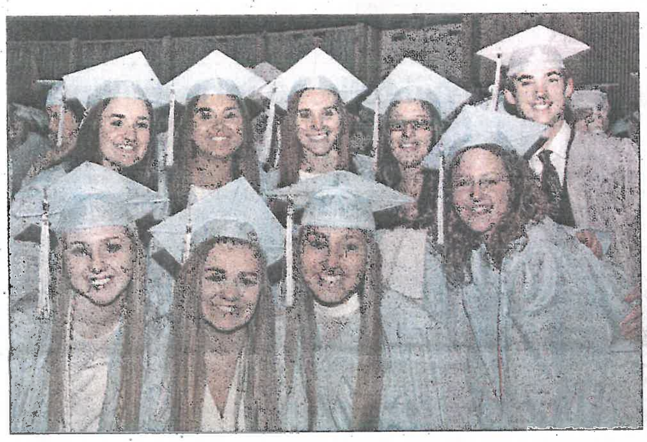
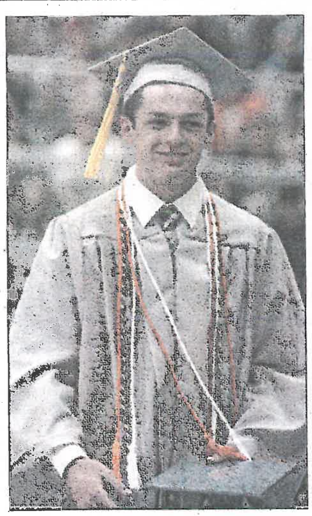


CHRIS FOX PHOTOS *Villa Park Review*

A big day for Willowbrook's Class of 2017

Willowbrook High School held its commencement ceremony for this year's graduating class on Sunday afternoon in the school's main gymnasium. The Villa Park school's Class of 2017 includes about 450 students. Before entering the gymnasium, the seniors gathered in the auditorium. One pre-ceremony photo (far left) shows (left to right) Kalin Glasener, Brendan Waldorf and Heather Gruber. Another photo (left) shows (left to right) Khalilah Brooks, Ashley Madden and Kaila Teets. Another group photo (bottom left) shows (front row, left to right) Brianna Hoffmann, Kiana Gleason, Megan Talan and Olivia Pennebaker; (back row, left to right) Sophia Flicek, Ciana Grove, Kristina Ciapponi, Alexandra Zaldivar and Alec Michaelson. One more group picture (below) shows (left to right) Forrest Kirchner, Kyle Ferguson, Jonny Kelso, Scott Kohrt and Jeff Eloso.





CHRIS FOX PHOTOS *Villa Park Review*

Graduation day

The graduates who crossed the stage to accept their diplomas included Casey King, (left) Grace Guthrie (middle) and Lauren Martin (right). The three students are wearing gold tassels, which note their academic rankings within the top five percent of the class.

Vineet Patel is pictured delivering the commencement address during Sunday's graduation ceremony at Willowbrook High School. In addition to serving as the president of the school's Class of 2017, Patel held the highest academic rank in the class.

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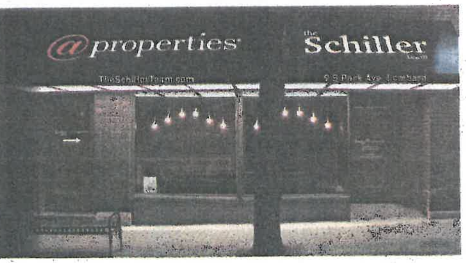
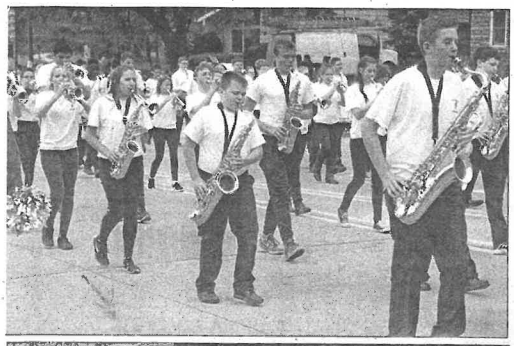
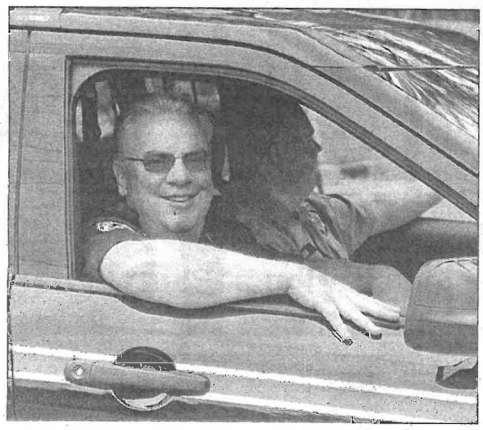




CHRIS FOX PHOTOS *Villa Park Review*

Parade contributors

Sunday's Lilac Parade in Lombard featured bands from multiple Villa Park schools. One photo (top left) shows members of the middle school band made up of students from Jackson and Jefferson middle schools. Another photo (left) shows members of North Elementary School's drum line—"The Marching Penguins." One more picture (above) shows Willowbrook High School's marching band, which provided the final performance in this year's parade. The Willowbrook band members are pictured marching north on Main Street from Wilson Avenue at the start of the parade route.



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO *Villa Park Review*

Police chief retires

Villa Park Police Chief Robert Pavelchik retired at the end of last week. According to a statement issued by the village, Pavelchik's last day was Friday, May 19. Pavelchik was sworn in as the village's chief of police on April 23, 2012. He joined the department as the interim chief about three months earlier, in January 2012. Pavelchik spent more than 33 years with the Darien Police Department, including nine years as the police chief, before retiring in May 2011. The file photo shows Pavelchik during Villa Park's 2016 Fourth of July parade. According to Villa Park Village Manager Rich Keehner, the village has contracted with GovHR USA to assist in the advertising/selection of a replacement. Keehner stated the process could be completed as soon as September.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS *Villa Park Review*

Happy 60th anniversary

Villa Park residents Roy and Bernadette Madsen celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary earlier this month. The Madsens were married on May 4, 1957, at St. Turibius Catholic Church in Chicago. They have been members of St. Alexander Parish in Villa Park since 1968. The Madsens, who have three children and eight grandchildren, celebrated their recent anniversary with a family dinner at Casey's Restaurant and Bar in Lombard.

Conroy sponsors bill to keep jobs in Illinois

Businesses that ship local jobs overseas will be required to pay back every dime they've received from Illinois taxpayers and barred from receiving any future taxpayer-funded deals under a measure sponsored by state Rep. Deb Conroy, D-Villa Park.

"I am proud to have sponsored this bill that protects taxpayers by ensuring we only invest in businesses that invest in Illinois," Conroy said. "It is unacceptable that businesses that ship our local jobs overseas can still receive our local tax dollars."

Conroy sponsored the Keep Illinois Business Act, House Bill 3538, which would disqualify any business that has moved all or part of its business out of state from qualifying for any form of state credits, incentives and loans funded by Illinois taxpayers. The legislation would also require these businesses to pay back any monetary assistance previously received if they move jobs out of the state.

The measure is a key element of Conroy's economic reform agenda which will create and protect Illinois jobs while also lifting up the middle class. In addition to cracking down on corporate outsourcers, Conroy is fighting to reinstate tax credits for Illinois businesses that create jobs locally. Conroy's reforms also help working families keep more of their hard-earned money by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit.

"We can grow our economy while also protecting our hard working families and investing in Illinois businesses," Conroy said. "I will continue to push for legislation like this that will help build up Illinois and our community."

Villa Park briefs

Villa Park teenager's body recovered from Des Plaines River

Authorities recovered the body of a Villa Park teenager from the Des Plaines River last week. The body of Cameron Sanders, 16, was recovered at about 10:25 a.m. on May 18. According to the Cook County Sheriff's Office, Sanders was last seen jumping into the river with friends on May 13. He reportedly jumped off a railway bridge in Thatcher Woods near Melrose Park. The sheriff's office stated that Sanders' body was recovered from the river approximately 150 yards from the bridge. District 88 stated Sanders had not been a current student at Willowbrook High School. Sanders formerly attended Willowbrook, and was a member of the freshman boys gymnastics team in 2015.

VFW Post holds Memorial Day service on Monday morning

Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 will hold its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 29. The service will begin at 11 a.m. at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park, 320 E. Kenilworth Ave. In the event of inclement weather, the service will take place at the post facility at 39 E. St. Charles Road.

Village awarded federal grant for upgrades at its fire stations

U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth of Illinois announced last week that the Department of Homeland Security awarded about $159,000 to the Villa Park Fire Department through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. The funding will be used for safety upgrades at Villa Park's two fire stations. According to Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakosnik, Station No. 81 at 1440 S. Ardmore Ave. has an antiquated alarm system that would alert firefighters of a fire inside the station. Rakosnik said Station No. 82, located at 102 W. Plymouth St., has no such alarm system. The chief added that Station No. 81 on Ardmore Avenue does not have a sprinkler system in the office and living area. Station No. 82 does not have a sprinkler system, he said. The federal grant will help to provide sprinkler systems and upgraded alarms at both stations. Rakosnik said the upgrades should be completed before the end of the year.

Village collecting submissions for May photo contest

The Village of Villa Park is holding its inaugural photo contest this month. The theme is "May Flowers," and photos can be submitted by tagging the village on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. Photos can also be submitted by e-mail to Kylie Cerk, the village's public information officer, at kcerk@invillapark.com. The deadline for May submissions is the end of the day on Wednesday, May 31. The photo must be of something in Villa Park. The photographer must be from Villa Park. Submissions of obscene content are not allowed.

Pool passes are on sale now; early-bird rates run through June 10

Villa Park pool passes for the 2017 season went on sale at early-bird rates on May 1. Passes may be used to attend both Jefferson Pool (341 N. Harvard Ave.) and Lufkin Pool (1000 S. Ardmore Ave.) throughout the 2017 season. The passes will be on sale at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave., and at the Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood Ave. The early-bird rates, which run through June 10, offer the same prices as last year; resident passes for ages 3 to 59 are $53. The pass rate for senior residents 60 and older is $48. For more information, call the Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department at 630-834-8970. Jefferson Pool opens for the season on June 3. Lufkin Pool opens for the season on June 10.

Pools available for evening rental during the summer season

Villa Park Recreation has announced that Jefferson and Lufkin pools are available for private rentals for parties, fundraisers and other occasions. Both pools are available on evenings when special events aren't scheduled, from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or 8:15 to 9:45 p.m. on weeknights. To reserve a date, contact Jefferson Pool at 630-832-5632, or Lufkin Pool at 630-279-6286.

VP Recreation accepting preschool registration

Villa Park Recreation is accepting registration for preschool for the 2017-18 school year. Preschool is held at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave. Class options include morning classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 3-year-olds (must be 3 by Sept. 1, 2017) and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for 4-year-olds (must be 4 by Sept. 1).

The preschool classes will help children discover the fascinating world of learning and play as they gain the skills needed for kindergarten. Call 630-834-8970 for more information.

Jane Charmelo

out & about

Salon working to expand the reach of skin cancer detection

One doesn't typically think of going to the salon to find about the potential for skin cancer, but it's an idea that is catching on, and one to which a Lombard salon has subscribed.

18/8 Fine Men's Salon, located at The Shops on Butterfield, adjacent to the Yorktown Shopping Center, now has stylists who have been certified to recognize the early signs of melanoma.

The stylists, on Tuesday, May 30, will offer a number of amenities in addition to haircuts, such as mini scalp treatments, mini facials and chair massages, with a portion of the proceeds being donated to the American Cancer Society (ACS). May is Melanoma Awareness Month.

Salon owner Kristine Givens explained that 18/8 salons have been partnering with Eyes on Cancer. The nonprofit organization offers training and certification to stylists and at three Paul Mitchell schools—California, New Jersey and Missouri—so the stylists may help detect early signs of skin cancer that they can share with clients.

Givens related how two of her stylists have already been certified for about a year.

"They had told me but I didn't understand the magnitude of it," she said.

The owner found out more about Eyes on Cancer because "one of the other locations had some PR related to it."

And, "18/8 started making us more aware of it," she added. "They had established a partnership with Eyes on Cancer."

She remembers thinking, "We need to look into getting the whole salon certified."

The ACS states that cancer of the skin is "by far the most common of all cancers," and that roughly 87,110 new cases of melanoma will be diagnosed this year—about 52,170 in men and 34,940 in women.

Melanoma rates have been rising over the last 30 years, according to the ACS.

Most cancers of the skin are basal and squamous cell skin cancers, the ACS states, with about 5.4 million cases being diagnosed each year (some people have more than one).

Eyes on Cancer works to increase the number of salons whose stylists are trained to see early signs of skin cancer, saying that there are as many as 86,000 salons around the country and over 600,000 beauty professionals.

"Eyes on Cancer 2020 Vision" comes from the fact that 20 percent of Americans will get cancer over their lifetime, and with beauty professionals potentially seeing 120 cases of skin cancer throughout their career, the nonprofit wants to equip 20,000 salons with its skin cancer awareness course by the year 2020.

Right now the immediate goal is to train 10,000 beauty professionals by the end of 2017, and as of press time, the organization has trained 5,725 professionals.

Givens says training stylists to recognize early signs of skin cancer makes sense, and now all of her five stylists have taken the certification course, "to make them aware of the signs of melanoma and what to look for."

People "don't really see spots" on their scalp or back of the neck, Givens commented, so the stylists, under the right conditions—such as styling or parting wet hair—"are going to see things you would never see."

In other words, she elaborated, stylists get more exposure to a person's scalp from a variety of angles.

"They get a view that most people don't see," the owner reiterated.

Givens said that the two previously-certified stylists have had a few instances of noticing suspicious spots and notified the customers, but she doesn't know the outcome.

Having certified stylists at her 18/8 salon is a mutually-beneficial concept, the owner believes.

"I just thought it was a way to bring additional quality to our guests," she continued, and at the same time, it serves to "contribute to our community ... make our [salon] better and help our guests."

The 18/8 Fine Men's Salon "Black Out Skin Cancer" event will be held from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 30. The salon is located at 314 Yorktown Shopping Center. In addition to the facials, scalp treatments and chair massages, the first 30 guests will receive goodie bags, and there will be raffles for executive membership and other prizes. Food and beverages will be available.

For more information about 18/8 or to make a reservation, call 630-495-9575 or visit https://blackoutskincancer.eventbrite.com.

The name 18/8 means 18 percent chromium and 8 percent nickel which, when added to steel, "transformed steel into better looking and better performing steel. What was ordinary, became extraordinary," according to the Web site.

The self-paced "Trained Eyes Saves Lives" course costs $10 and is taught by the Eyes on Cancer president, Dr. Dean James Foster.

Visit https://eyesoncancer.org for more information, where the site poses an "Eyes Opened Challenge" and also an opportunity for salons and beauty schools to partner with the organization by clicking on "Become a Hero Salon Now."

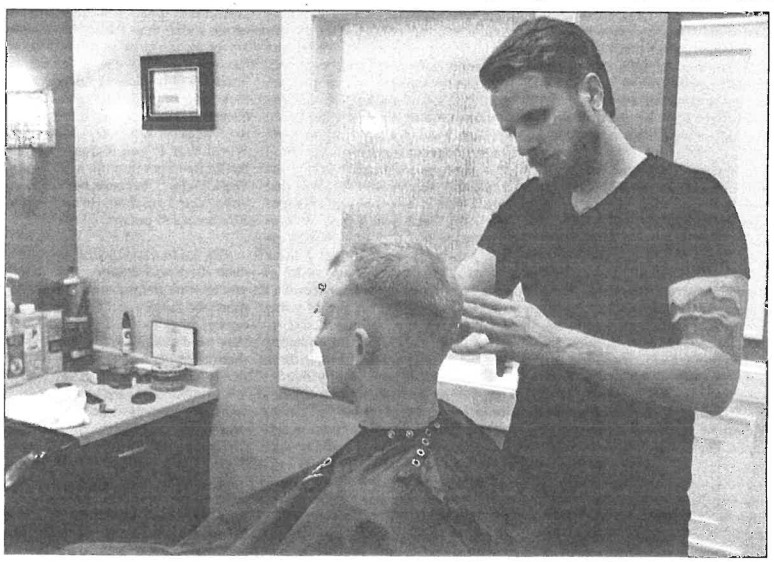


PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTINE GIVENS *Lombardian/Villa Park Review*

18/8 Fine Men's Salon has partnered with a nonprofit organization called Eyes on Cancer, in an effort to help detect skin cancer. The stylists at the Lombard salon took an online certification class to learn about recognizing skin cancers as they work on their clients' hair. Stylists like Kevin Kmet, above, can get a good look at a client's scalp or nape of the neck, where the individual cannot see, to look for spots or other abnormalities.

Berg (Continued from page 4)

What Illinoisans need to know is that for the better part of the last decade, House Speaker Mike Madigan has hijacked the budget process at the last second, with disastrous results. This is by design. Cullerton is complicit. And there's little reason to think the same dance won't happen again this year.

Typically, the Senate passes a complete budget package over to the House and Madigan sits on it. And sits on it. And sits on it. Then at the 11th hour, after the speaker has made all his deals, he guts the entire package and replaces it with a plan of his own.

This budget plan almost always spends more than the state takes in.

When his plan passes the House, Madigan bangs his gavel and ends the session. House members then go on summer break.

This is the speaker's political perversion at work.

The Senate is then stuck with two options: Pass the Madigan budget and send it to the governor, or reject it and take the blame for tanking the budget.

They choose option No. 1, so the Illinois governor is stuck with a bad budget and a General Assembly that's already left the building. Sign it and the pressure goes away. Veto it and you're the villain.

It's cartoonish.

Rauner should know that the wheels are in motion to stick him with a bloated, out-of-balance budget that contains little of the necessary economic reforms for which he has fought.

And Illinoisans should know their legislative leaders are to blame.

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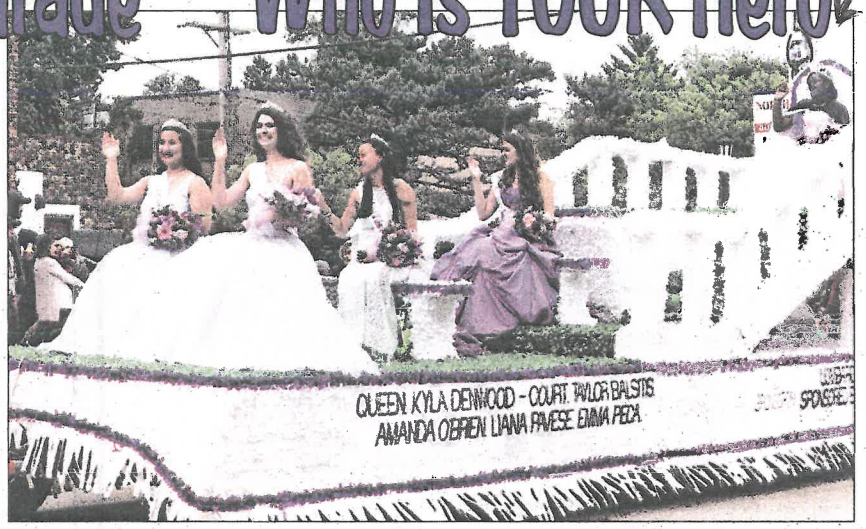
STEVE SPODEN PHOTO *Lombardian/Villa Park Review*

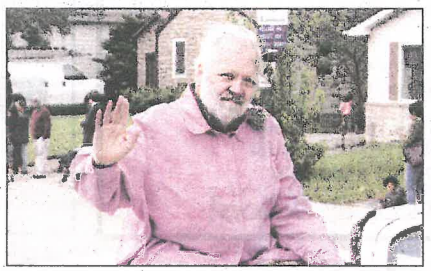
Rotary Club of Lombard presents scholarships

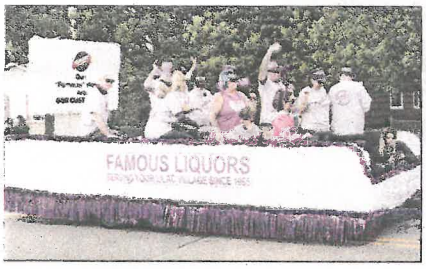
The Rotary Club of Lombard presented 10 scholarships to graduating high school students representing five high schools at its annual scholarship luncheon May 18 at Lombard's Maxfield's Restaurant. Club President Jason Nelson (left) and Scholarship Chairman Shahe Bagdasarian (right) are pictured with scholarship recipients (standing, left to right) Glenbard East High School's Erin Heniff, Carstyn Joiner, Zachary Thornton, Kyle Vitale, Camryn Wood and (seated, left to right) Glenbard South High School's Valerie Glazier, Willowbrook High School's Grace Guthrie and College Preparatory School of America's Sara Ashraf. Not pictured are Montini Catholic High School's Robert Mrazek and Willowbrook's Abby Baumann.

2017 Lilac Parade – 'Who Is YOUR Hero'



STEVE SPODEN PHOTOS *Lombardian/Villa Park Review*





Willowbrook finishes second in the conference standings

Warriors close WSGC season by rallying to beat Downers Grove South

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The Willowbrook baseball team wrapped up the West Suburban Gold Conference season with Thursday's 4-3 win over Downers Grove South in Villa Park. The Warriors trailed the visiting Mustangs 3-0 going into the bottom of the fifth inning. Willowbrook scored four runs in that inning to seize the lead in its finale of the conference and regular seasons. The Warriors' win salvaged the third game of last week's series against Downers Grove South. The Mustangs won the first two meetings, earning a 6-4 victory on May 15 in Villa Park and an 11-4 win one day later in Downers Grove.

Leyden won the conference title with a record of 15-3. Two of the Eagles' three conference losses came against Willowbrook. The Warriors finished with a conference record of 14-4, while Downers Grove South posted a 13-5 conference record.

Leyden clinched the title when it beat Downers Grove South in a game that was completed on May 17. The game, which began earlier in the season, was tied at 7-7 and continued last week. Leyden wound up beating the Mustangs 12-7 in that contest.

The Warriors, who posted an overall regular-season record of 23-8, will open the IHSA Class 4A playoffs with this week's regional semifinal game at Hoffman Estates. A win in the semifinal would move the Warriors into this Saturday's regional final.

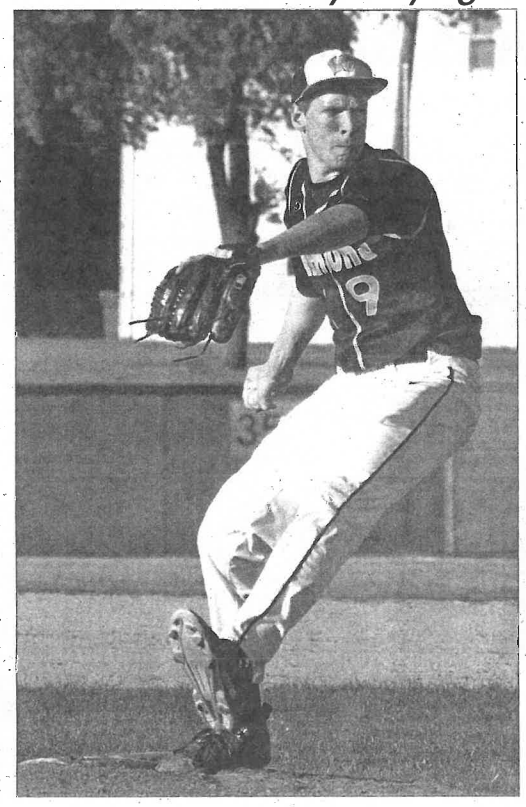
Willowbrook began its decisive four-run inning against the Mustangs with a single by sophomore Trevor Jaloszynski, who would later score on a throwing error. Senior Ben Espinoza reached base with a walk to continue the rally.

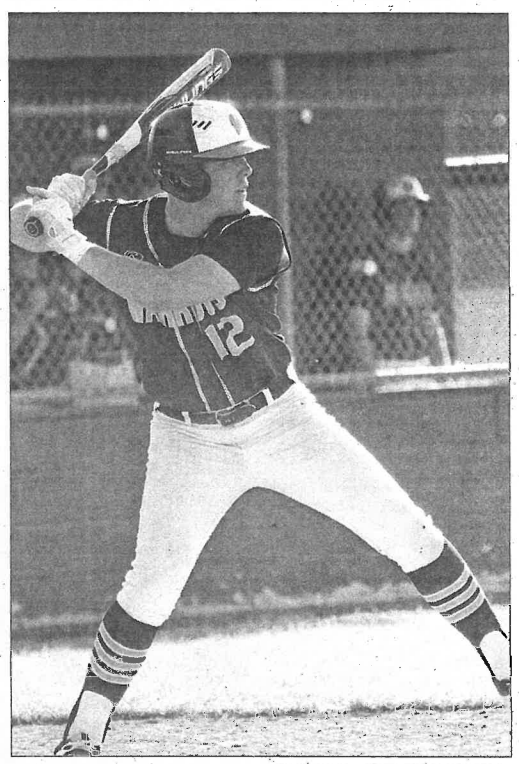
Moments later, senior Jonny Kelso trotted to first base after he was hit by a pitch. Senior M.J. Ranieri then delivered a two-run single that tied the contest at 3-3.

Espinoza scored easily from third base, while Kelso, who was running on the pitch, motored in all the way from first base.

Senior Kyle Ferguson drove in the go-ahead run when he lined a two-out single that scored Ranieri.

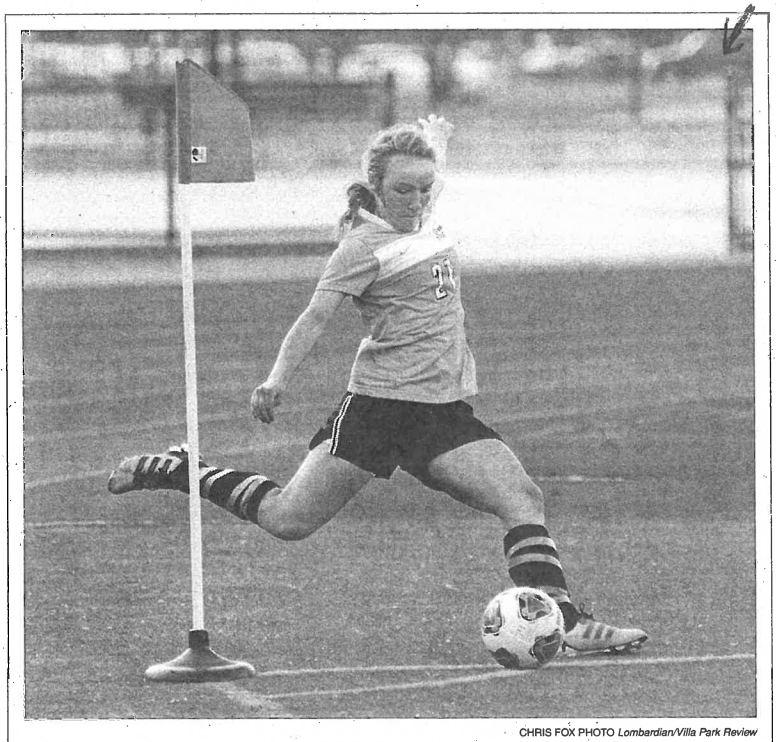
Sophomore Jack Nilles pitched the first six innings and earned the victory for the Warriors. Nilles gave up three hits and four walks. He had two strikeouts. Senior Scott Kohrt worked the seventh inning and picked up a save. The leadoff batter in the top of the seventh inning reached base with a single. Sophomore catcher Marshall McDonnell threw him out moments later when he attempted to steal second base.





CHRIS FOX PHOTOS *Lombardian/Villa Park Review*

The Willowbrook baseball team finished its regular season with last week's 4-3 West Suburban Gold Conference victory over Downers Grove South. The May 18 win in Villa Park gave the Warriors an overall record of 23-8 and a conference mark of 14-4. The Warriors, who lost two games to Downers Grove South earlier in the week, edged the Mustangs out for second-place honors in the conference standings with the win. Leyden won the WSGC title with a 15-3 record. Downers Grove South finished with a 13-5 conference mark. One photo shows senior M.J. Ranieri (above right No. 12), who hit a two-run single to tie the score at 3-3 in the fifth inning. Senior Kyle Ferguson's single later in the inning drove in Ranieri with what turned out to be the winning run. Another photo shows senior Scott Kohrt (above left No. 9), who pitched a scoreless seventh inning to earn a save. Willowbrook begins the IHSA Class 4A post-season at this week's Hoffman Estates Regional.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO *Lombardian/Villa Park Review*

Warriors' season ends

Senior Valentina Poggi of the Willowbrook girls soccer team delivers a corner kick during the first half of last week's IHSA Class 3A post-season opener against Fenwick at the York Regional in Elmhurst. Fenwick defeated the Warriors 3-1. Willowbrook finished its season with an overall record of 7-10-1. Freshman Lizzy Florey scored the lone goal for the Warriors, who trailed the Friars 1-0 at halftime. "With the amount of young players that we had, the team did an outstanding job at adapting," said Willowbrook coach Julio Del Real in assessing the team's season. "The upperclassmen rose to the occasion and helped tremendously to bring everyone on board. We are looking forward to what this talented group can do in the coming years."

Denwood places third at the state meet

Sets a new school record in the discus throw

Willowbrook senior Kyla Denwood won third-place honors in the discus throw at the IHSA Class 3A girls track and field state meet, which took place Friday and Saturday at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

Denwood, who was the only member of the Willowbrook team to qualify for the state meet, set a new school record with her best throw at the state meet. Her finest effort at the meet in Charleston traveled 129 feet, 9 inches.

The state meet was part of a packed weekend schedule for Denwood. She joined her fellow members of Willowbrook's Class of 2017 for Sunday afternoon's commencement ceremony in the school's main gymnasium. She then hustled out of the ceremony and headed to Lombard for the annual Lilac Parade. Denwood, who was recently named this year's Lilac Queen, joined her four fellow members of this year's Lilac Court to take part in the parade. Denwood and the four Lilac princesses rode in the last float featured in Sunday's parade.

Rams finish the regular season with a home victory

Team wins conference title with a perfect 10-0 record; closes regular season at 27-8 overall

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The Glenbard East boys volleyball team completed an undefeated season in Upstate Eight Conference play with last week's 25-17, 25-14 win at Elgin. The May 16 victory gave the Rams a perfect 10-0 mark in conference play.

Senior Mason Arnold provided 19 assists and six digs, while sophomore Carson Brandt bashed six kills. Senior Justin Murphy had five kills. Senior Adrian Cebula and junior Filip Kwidzinski both delivered four kills. Cebula also provided four aces.

The Rams finished the regular season with a May 18 home victory over Metea Valley. Glenbard East concluded the regular season with a 27-8 record.

Murphy supplied five kills and four blocks, while Arnold contributed 10 assists and seven digs. Sophomore Jacob Bojan had a team-high eight digs. Cebula had four kills, four blocks and three service aces.

The Rams open the IHSA playoffs at this week's Naperville North Regional.

Two wins at the regional would send Glenbard East to the Oswego Sectional.

York's surprise finals spot highlights state trip

By BILL STONE
editorial@mysuburbanlife.com

CHARLESTON – Katherine Tomaska and her teammates on York's 4x800-meter relay thought their season ended in the Class 3A state meet preliminaries May 19.

The Dukes' time of 9:35.72 was the last to make the May 20 finals by .11. They found out from a coach walking past their team area.

"'Oh, congrats by the way.' And we were like, 'What?' We peeked around the tent and then just started screaming," Tomaska said. "[Waiting] was stressful, but that feeling when we realized we made it, it was so exciting."

Although Julie Biggins, Tomaska, Sarah May and Emma Kern finished 12th (9:48.94), reaching the finals was a huge step after the 2016 state relay that had Biggins, Tomaska and May was 18th.

"It was just an honor to be able to say we were part of something bigger," Tomaska said.

"We didn't perform how we wanted to, but in the long run it only makes us stronger to come back better next year," May said.

Senior Jeanette Morley tied for 21st in high jump (5 feet, 1 inch). Molly Evans was 32nd in triple jump (33-11.75).

Kern ran in the finals after freshman Lydia Hickey ran prelims at sectionals, where Biggins contributed a career-best 2:19 split.

"I'm really proud of the girls that I ran with," Biggins said. "They've been pushing me all season. I got a [lifetime best] and I owe it all to them."

Before Evans' 36-0 at sectionals to reach state, her best was 33-9.5. Morley, who battled back from injury this season, needed 5-4 for finals.

"[It] wasn't my day," said Morley, who will compete at Belmont University. "I'm really happy with being able to complete the season with my injury, even though I didn't make [finals]."

Glenbard East

Cailyn Biegalski made the Class 3A 800 run finals and finished 10th in 2:18.48.

Abbey Hoh (high jump), Kionnah Weaver (100 hurdles and 300 hurdles) and the 4x400 relay of Biegalski, Brenna Peters, Emily Anderson and Lexi Weltin competed in state prelims.

Montini

Jenna Weidacher in the 800 run (eighth, 2:19.67) and Lauren Mikolajczak in discus (ninth, 117-6) were all-state finishers for the Broncos at the Class 2A state finals May 20.

Mikolajczak (shot put), Joslyn Boyer (triple jump), Maggie Connelly (300 hurdles) and Boyer, Connelly, Erica Holloway and Dejah Amos on the 4x100 and 4x200 relays competed in prelims.

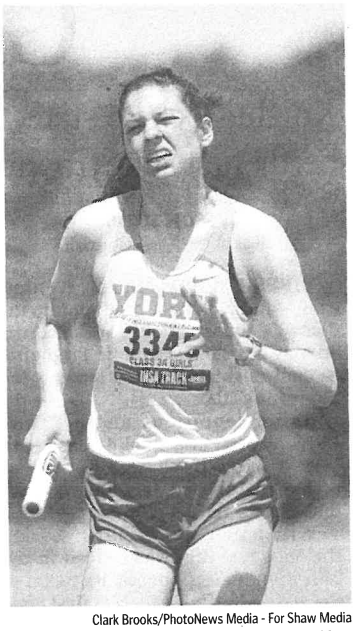
Timothy Christian

Olivia Hoekstra ran to sixth place in the Class 1A 400-meter dash in 59.13 seconds to earn an all-state finish.

Elise Terpstra, Valerie Hoekstra, Jill Forgac and Rachel Stoll (4x800 relay), Alyse Schnurr (100 hurdles), Terpstra (800), and Olivia Hoekstra, Valerie Hoekstra, Forgac and Stoll (4x400) competed in prelims. The 4x200 relay team of Zoe Stanton, Priscilla Nartey, Gabi Silvia and Schnurr (4x200) was disqualified in prelims.

Willowbrook

Kyla Denwood closed her high school career in style by placing third in discus at the Class 3A state meet with a mark of 129 feet, 9 inches.



Clark Brooks/PhotoNews Media - For Shaw Media

York's Katherine Tomaska runs the third leg of the 4x800-meter relay May 20 during the Class 3A state finals at Eastern Illinois University.

PREP ROUNDUP

York boys track team earns seven state meet spots

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ROSELLE – Four sectional titles were part of seven state meet berths that York's boys track and field team earned at the Class 3A Lake Park sectional.

Obi Nnam cleared 6 feet, 4 inches to win high jump, and Jackson Bode won the 3,200-meter run in 9:35.46.

Charlie Kern was a two-event sectional champ in the 800 run (1:56.57) and 1,600 run (4:26.54).

Jonathan Tanner made state in two events – on his own in the 200 dash (second, 22.39 seconds) and with Jimmy Hoffman, A.J. Mimlitz and Brendan Chaltin on the 4x200 (second, 1:31.06).

Cal Widener was the runner-up in shot put (55-2.5) to move on to state, which takes place May 25 through 27 at Eastern Illinois University.

BASEBALL

IC Catholic

After withstanding a late Westmont rally for a 6-5 win in a Class 2A regional final May 22, IC fell 2-0 against Holy Trinity in a sectional semifinal May 24 to end the season with a 14-19 record.

Montini

Nick Malik finished with five RBIs to power the Broncos to a 19-1 win against Westinghouse on May 24 in a Class 3A regional semifinal at Montini. Alex Luka, Alex Weisshaar and JR Walsh all drove in two runs against Westinghouse.

The Broncos will play for the regional title at noon May 27.

Timothy Christian

The Trojans cruised to an 11-0 win against Francis Parker in a sectional semifinal May 24 at IC Catholic. Connor Gwaltney, Noah Marrera and Joey Davidson each drove in two runs for Timothy (18-10), which faces Holy Trinity for the sectional title at 11 a.m. May 27.

SOFTBALL

IC Catholic

The Knights cruised to an 18-0 win against Latin in a Class 2A sectional semifinal at Lisle on May 24 and will play for the sectional title May 27.

Kaitlyn Falduto drove in three runs and allowed just two baserunners to get the pitching win. Alessandra Eccardt and Brooklyn Campos also drove in three runs.

York

The Dukes won 19-3 in four innings against Jones on May 24 in a Class 4A regional semifinal at Niles West. They will play for the regional title at 11 a.m. May 27.

BOYS TENNIS

Montini

Thomas Batka and David Harte were second in doubles and David Batka won his final match for third in singles as they qualified for state and helped the Broncos win the title at the Class 1A Timothy Christian sectional.

Timothy Christian

Nathan Daniels and Trevor Hoogendorn survived a 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 semifinal match and went on to win the doubles title at Timothy's Class 1A sectional May 20 to move on to state.

BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

IC Catholic

The Knights crowned five sectional champs and earned an additional state meet berth at the Class 1A Seneca sectional.

Dan McCann won shot put (39 feet, 3 inches) and Jordan Rowell won the 100-meter dash (11.27 seconds) and long jump (22-6). The 4x100 (45.16) and 4x200 (1:35.53) relays were both first, and Rowell was second in the 400 dash (52.03) to also make state.

Montini

Mitch West was part of three sectional titles at the Class 2A Lisle sectional May 19.

West and Matt Quaglia went 1-2 in the 100-meter dash in 11.39 and 11.62 seconds, respectively, and West also won the 200 dash (22.71).

Quaglia and West joined Zach Olson and Nick Fedanzo on the winning 4x100 (43.76). The 4x200 of Olson, Fedanzo, Nick Orlando and Jalen Slater took second (1:33.65).

See ROUNDUP, page 17

Lauren Kroll dashes to the finish line

Lauren Kroll (#3004), an Addison Trail senior in the middle, dashes to the finish line of the 100-meter dash prelims at the Illinois High School Association Class 3A State Finals on Friday afternoon. Kroll won the second preliminary heat in a time of 11.97 seconds to qualify for Saturday's finals. Kroll would not only earn all-state status in the 100-meter dash, placing sixth in :12.06 on Saturday, but would also earn fifth place in the 200-meter dash, finishing in :25.75 on Saturday.

PHOTO BY DANIEL L. CHAMNESS/COLLEGEREPORTONLINE.COM *The Independent*

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SPORTS

Willowbrook baseball team opens regional play today

Warriors finish second in conference with 14-4 mark

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook baseball team ended up finishing second in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division with a 14-4 record.

Leyden won the WSC Gold title by a game with a 15-3 mark. Willowbrook's losses in conference were to Downers Grove South (twice), Leyden and Hinsdale South.

The Warriors head into Thursday's Class 4A Hoffman Estates regional semifinal with a 23-8 overall mark and a No. 3 sectional seed.

Willowbrook closed out the regular season with a 1-2 mark in a WSC Gold series with Downers Grove South.

In the opener, Willowbrook allowed only four hits, but made five errors in a loss. The Warriors had 13 hits in a 6-4 loss.

"We had the game-tying run at bat in the seventh, but couldn't get anything going," said Willowbrook coach Vic Wisner.

In the second game, Willowbrook jumped out to a 4-0 lead early. Kyle Ferguson homered for the Warriors. The Warriors were stung by eight Downers Grove South runs in the bottom of the sixth. Downers went on to win 11-4.

"We made some mistakes with errors and Downers South had some hits," said Wisner.

Willowbrook rebounded to win the finale behind sophomore pitcher Jack Nilles who gave up three hits and no earned runs. Scott Kohrt earned the save by pitching a scoreless seventh.

Nilles moved to 8-1 overall with the win. Wisner noted Nilles was leading the state in pitching victories in baseball. His ERA lowered to 2.01.

"Jack does a nice job," said Wisner. "He's a nice pitcher. He throws 82-83 MPH and has amazing control. He can put it where he wants to and in high school baseball that's like throwing 90. We're still pitching well as a whole."

Wisner also lauded the recent relief-pitching efforts of Kohrt, Vince Ruchala and Will Hines. "Our relief pitching has been pretty outstanding," he said. "We've done well in relief."

Offensively, Willowbrook has five players batting more than .400 with Jon Kelso leading the way at .498.

"That's the first time he's been under .500 all year," said Wisner. "We're doing a lot of things well right now. We struggled in the field a little bit against Downers Grove South and that hurt us a little bit."

MJ Ranieri, Ben Espinoza and Mike Dembowski also are hitting above .400, while Ferguson has raised his average up to .378.

Wisner lauded the team's performance in the WSC Gold this season.

"We're 14-4 and alone in second place," he said. "A 23-8 overall record is a pretty darned good year. Any time you have less than double-digit losses you've played good baseball."

Willowbrook plays today in the Class 4A Hoffman Estates regional semifinals against either Batavia or Hoffman Estates. The winner advances to the regional title game Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hoffman Estates.

"We're expecting good things in the regionals," said Wisner. "On the other side of the bracket is Glenbard East and Lake Park and we have played them. They are good teams but we are familiar with them, so the good thing is we don't have to see someone we aren't familiar with."

Addison Trail closes regular season with series win against Morton

Blazers opened Class 4A regional play earlier this week

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail baseball team ended the regular season on a high note with a series win against Morton.

The Blazers went 2-1 in the three-game series to finish the regular season 12-15 overall and 8-10 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division action.

Addison Trail lost the opener 8-7 after leading 7-2 at one point.

"The sixth inning they put five on us and then had one in the bottom of the seventh," noted Addison Trail coach Mike Kennedy. "It was a bad inning-and-a-half for us. It was a tough one."

The Blazers won the second game 5-1 behind the pitching of standout Nick Villasenor.

Addison Trail wrapped up the series with a 15-2 victory. Trevor Fulmer was the winner. "Trevor pitched well and he probably had five or six hits in the series," said Kennedy.

Addison Trail also has been bolstered of late by the hitting of Simon Marinelli, George Neri and Jack Kalbas.

"Simon has been on a tear. He's hitting the ball well," said Kennedy. "George had six hits in the series and Jack has been hitting well. He had a bases-clearing double in the last game against Morton that helped us out."

Addison Trail was scheduled to open the Class 4A postseason at home earlier in the week against West Chicago. A win there would have put the No. 12 seed Blazers into a game against No. 5 seed Geneva.

"We're starting to hit the ball a little better," said Kennedy. "Our confidence has picked up. When you get to this point the coaching is kind of done. They have to go out there and win the game. They have to keep winning and make the plays. In tournament time, mistakes are magnified. We need to make more plays."

Kennedy said Villasenor was slated to start the West Chicago game and if Addison Trail won, Fulmer would pitch against Geneva.

"Nick has been dominant for us all year and he's pitching with confidence," said Kennedy. "Trevor has been outstanding as well. His ERA is down to 2.35. We just haven't had the run support for these guys. At this time of the year it comes down to making things happen. Our guys are confident. They know if they want to keep playing high-school baseball, they have to play the game the way they know how and to the best of their ability. It's pretty simple at this stage. If you want to keep playing, you have to win."

Villasenor went into the tournament with 93 strikeouts and only 10 walks and an ERA of 0.80.

Addison Trail softball team finishes regular season strong

Blazers defeat Willowbrook, end up 6-6 in WSC Gold play

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail softball team headed into this week's Class 4A state playoffs with some momentum on its side.

The Blazers kicked off a recent stretch with a 12-5 win on the road against West Suburban Conference Gold Division foe Morton.

"It takes about 45 minutes for us to go over there, sometimes longer," noted Addison Trail coach Mark Olson. "We get there and we gave up four runs in the first inning, but we came back and won 12-5."

Addison Trail then lost to Hinsdale South. "We took one on the chin against them, but we had beat them earlier in the year," said Olson.

Addison Trail bounced back against Leyden and then beat Guerin Prep in a non-conference game before losing to Downers Grove South and splitting two games with Willowbrook.

"We played well against Downers Grove South (lost 6-2) and then we beat Willowbrook," said Olson. "We're playing pretty well right now. We have some mojo going into the playoffs."

Addison Trail finished the regular season with a 13-17 overall mark and finished 6-6 in WSC Gold play.

Addison Trail won 12-0 against District 88 neighbor Willowbrook, but then lost 3-1 in the rematch.

"We may have been riding the high from the win a little bit too long in the next game against them," said Olson.

Overall, Olson has seen his team take the next step, particularly over the second half of the season.

"We feel good," he said. "We're playing and our pitching has improved over the last month-and-a-half. Ally Pohlad and Marie Baumgartner are walking less than a batter a game so we're not giving up easy runs that were hurting us earlier in the season. We're not giving up any freebies. We're also fielding the ball really well and getting some timely hits. But in softball it all starts on the mound. When we're not giving up free bases and extra bases, that makes a huge difference."

> "We feel good. We're playing and our pitching has improved over the last month-and-a-half. Ally Pohlad and Marie Baumgartner are walking less than a batter a game so we're not giving up easy runs that were hurting us earlier in the season. We're not giving up any freebies."
>
> —Addison Trail coach Mark Olson

Olson said Alyssa Pham also has been a key contributor of late. "Alyssa has been tremendous," he said. "Between her, Sophia Hawkins and Vincenza Zaccaro, they have solidified us in the outfield and with their bat. It's nice to see Alyssa out there. She's had some injuries over the last few years. This year, she's healthy and hasn't looked back."

Addison Trail opened up play in the 4A playoffs earlier this week against Elgin Larkin. The winner was to face St. Charles East at Lake Park on Wednesday of this week.

"We're happy that we're playing at home for our first game and then we'll go from there," said Olson. "We played Larkin earlier in the year and had a tough game, but right now we're playing really well."

Addison Trail girls soccer team closes out season

Carrera and Vega earn all-WSC Gold accolades

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail girls soccer coach Sergio Nunez saw many positives from his team throughout the 2017 season.

Jocellyn Gallegos was the team's leading goal-scorer, while goalie Priscilla Vega made more than 75 saves. The team's defenders also made 47 off-side trap executions.

Addison Trail lost to Lake Park 2-0 in the first round of the Class 3A state playoffs. The Blazers had played to a 0-0 tie with Lake Park a week earlier.

"Improvement was evident in our minimum ball touch," said Nunez. "We started with 4-5 touches before passing and got it down to 2-3 touches, which keeps the opponent guessing. Our offense did well in attacking and pressuring right away. I do want to see progress in finishing and winning 50-50 balls. Our defense was solid. We had the best off-side trap team in all the West Suburban Conference. We do need improvement on clearing and getting the ball down field for quick transitions."

Priscilla Vega and Jessica Cosio were strong in goal for the Blazers. "Priscilla and Jessica did a great job this season," said Nunez. "Priscilla with many excellent saves and Jessica with huge improvement in directing her teammates to prevent shots on her."

Aryana Carrera, Berenice Berumen and Lizette Gallegos were key on defense. "Aryana, Berenice and Lizette really stood out as top defenders," said Nunez. "Those back three, game in and game out, did their 100 percent best to stop any damage from our opponents."

Nunez also was thrilled with the team's commitment and dedication. "These 19 varsity players worked hard to improve individually and as a team," he said.

"They never gave up, nor did they take a game as a loss. They committed and dedicated to finish the duration of the game with heart. They understood that you win as a team and lose as a team."

Carrera and Vega earned all-West Suburban Conference Gold Division honors. "That's well-deserved," said Nunez. "They are good players and smart young ladies."

Nunez said the team's won-loss record did not properly reflect the progress made on the field. "At the end, our record and game results were not an indicator of how we played," he said. "What hindered our results were strong long-distance kicks and finishing with one less touch. A top focus for us for next season."

Addison Trail's Kroll earns two top 10 finishes at state

Willowbrook's Denwood takes third in state in discus

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail senior standout Lauren Kroll came home from the Class 3A girls state track and field finals held in Charleston at Eastern Illinois University with some heavy metal.

Kroll won state medals in both the 100 and 200 dashes to cap off her Addison Trail track and field career.

Kroll took fifth in the 200 with a time of 25.75 and was sixth in the 100 with a time of 12.06.

It was the second year in a row Kroll earned a pair of Top 10 finishes at state in the 100. She took seventh in the 200 last year and ninth in the 100.

Kroll won her preliminary heat in the 100 with a time of 11.97 and took second in her preliminary heat of the 200 with a finals qualifying time of 24.83. Kroll ran 12.42 in winning the 100 sectional title and 25.36 in winning the 200 sectional title a week earlier.

Addison Trail's 400 relay team was seventh in its preliminary heat with a time of 50.82. That team included senior Klea Gjonaj, sophomore Alexandra Nava, freshman Julia Swierzb and Kroll.

Willowbrook girls track

Willowbrook senior girls track and field athlete Kyla Denwood finished third in the state in the discus at the recent Class 3A state finals in Charleston at Eastern Illinois University.

Denwood took third with a throw of 129-9. That same mark earned her the third-longest discus throw in the preliminary round.

Willowbrook girls soccer

The Willowbrook girls soccer team dropped a 3-1 decision to Fenwick in one semifinal of the Class 3A York regional in Elmhurst.

Class 3A Lake Park boys track sectional

Addison Trail and Willowbrook competed in the Class 3A Lake Park boys track sectional.

Addison Trail took 11th place with nine points. Willowbrook was 13th with four points. Neither school advanced athletes to this weekend's state finals meet in Charleston.

IC Catholic Prep girls soccer team wins sectional title

Langan breaks school single-season goal-scoring record

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The IC Catholic Prep girls soccer team put itself one win away from history.

The Knights scored a recent 2-1 win over Chicago DePaul College Prep to win the Class 1A IC Catholic Prep sectional title at Plunkett Athletic Complex in Elmhurst.

The win moved the Knights to 20-5 overall and put them in a Class 1A supersectional game earlier this week against Chicago University High.

If IC Catholic Prep won that game it will play for the first time in program history in the state semifinals at North Central College in Naperville on Friday.

The Knights also have won nine games in a row and 14 of their last 16.

"It was the battle of halves," said IC Catholic Prep coach Tom Schergen.

IC Catholic Prep trailed 1-0 heading into halftime as the result of an own goal.

DePaul led 1-0 until 14 minutes remained in regulation. That's when Olivia Hurt scored off a Tessa Langan corner kick to tie the game.

Bella Leslie then put the game-winner home with eight minutes left off another Langan corner kick.

"What we did well is play with heart," said Schergen. "In terms of games we played before that, we played team soccer, but when we got pushed a little, they all came together and played with heart and put it all out on the field. That was the difference."

The Knights reached the final by scoring a 6-3 win over Francis W. Parker out of Chicago in the sectional semifinals.

Langan scored four goals in the game and set a new IC Catholic Prep single-season goal-scoring mark with 31. The previous record of 28 was held by Natalie D'Agostino.

Hurt and Grace Fuller each added a goal and Hurt had two assists in the game.

The 20 wins in a season also established a new program record. The previous season high was 17 wins.

"The girls are doing well," said Schergen. "They are peaking at the right time and doing things well as a team. They are at the point where they have the opportunity to do something that no other girls' soccer team at IC Catholic Prep has done (go downstate). They have history in front of them. If they come out and play well (earlier this week against University), they will set another school benchmark."

Schergen said the major key to the string of 14 wins in 16 games has been the players' increasing familiarity with each other.

"The difference between early on in the season is I don't think we knew how to play together," he said. "We had a lot of individual play and individual talent. Now, we've figured out how to use teammates' strengths. We've played well as a team."

Schergen noted DePaul held a decided shots-on-goal edge in the sectional final.

"I think they outshot us 25-4 or something like that," he said. "Their goalie was on fire, saving everything. A lot of teams could have gotten down and packed it in. Our girls kept fighting and kept getting after it. It's a testament to how much heart they have. They found a way to win even with the deck stacked against them."

Schergen also lauded the leadership abilities of senior captains Langan, Tess Reardon, Liz Maloney and Kaitlyn Grady.

"The four senior captains have been unbelievable," he said. "They got the whole team to buy in. It's been an unbelievable season. We're doing the little things that make a difference. These girls never cease to amaze me."

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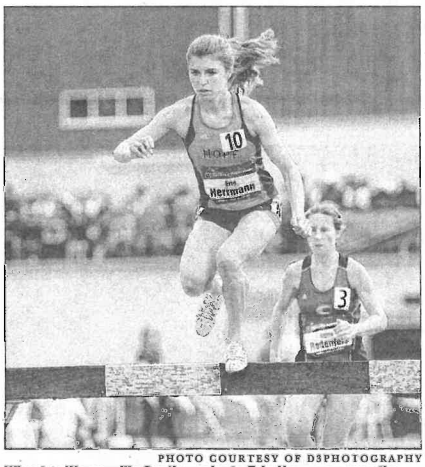

PHOTO COURTESY OF DSPHOTOGRAPHY

Wheaton Warrenville South graduate Erin Herrmann won the NCAA Division III women's 3,000-meter steeplechase title.

Central) was the Missouri Valley Conference freshman of the year for women's track, placing third in the 100 at the conference meet, fourth in the 200 and second on the 400 and 1,600 relays. Egharevba reached the NCAA West Preliminary 100-meter quarterfinals, clocking 11.41 seconds.

Two local men earned 2016-17 Cross Country/Track Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA): Georgetown graduate student **Mike Lederhouse** (Glenbard West) and Grand Valley State senior **Chris May** (York). Lederhouse, who carried a perfect 4.0 grade-point average in his graduate studies in integrated marketing communication, earned his fifth such honor. May earned a 3.94 GPS in biomedical sciences and placed top-seven in both the 5,000- and 10,000-meter races at the Division II Outdoor Championships.

Schmelzle and Ridderhoff likewise earned the CoSIDA notice for track athletes. So did Taylor University sophomore **Elizabeth Mae Gimre** (West Chicago), who got a

year, its senior scholar-athlete, and softball MVP.

University of Illinois sophomore **Stephanie Abello** (Benet) earned a first-team Division I Midwest region pick from the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA). She hit .307 with 11 doubles, 13 home runs and 41 runs batted in, was second on the team in slugging and threw out 62 percent of runners attempting to steal. She's a catcher.

Armstrong State senior **Jane Trzaska** (Glenbard South) was the Peach Belt Conference's pitcher of the year. She went 17-7 with a 1.29 earned-run average, giving up 88 hits and striking out 109 batters in 157 innings. An NFCA third-team All-America, Trzaska threw a no-hitter in the NCAA Southwest Regional knockout game and when she wasn't pitching she hit .307 with 8 home runs and 30 RBI as a right fielder.

Lawrence University freshman **Amanda Karnatz** (York) sped to All-Midwest Conference first-team honors. Hitting a program-record 15 doubles, the center fielder hit a team-high .405, scored 35 runs in 36 games and stole 36 bases, one

Kelso, Willowbrook haul in win against Conant

Baseball

By Scott Schmid
Daily Herald Correspondent

Jon Kelso has made plenty of good catches as a wide receiver on the gridiron.

On Wednesday the Willowbrook senior center fielder showed he could do it on the baseball diamond as well.

Making a diving catch with the bases loaded and two outs in the fifth, Kelso preserved a 2-run lead in the Warriors' 5-1 victory over Conant in the Class 4A Lake Park sectional semifinal at Boomers Stadium in Schaumburg.

"You have to be anticipating the play coming your way," Kelso said. "I just did the best I could and made a play for the team."

Kelso also got it done at the plate, driving in the first run of the game with a double off the left-center wall in the first inning. He later came around to score on a wild pitch; Willowbrook (26-8) also added a third run on an infield single by starting pitcher Alec Michaelson.

Michaelson worked five innings on the mound, allowing a single run in the top of the third. He yielded just one hit but was in and out of trouble after walking five and hitting three batters. The senior righty fanned five.

Sophomore Jack Nilles entered in relief with a winner on in the sixth and left the potential tying runs on first and third. The Warriors added a pair of insurance runs in the bottom half of the innings on an infield hit by John Taylor and another wild pitch.

"We've talked about it all the time," Willowbrook coach Vic Wisner said. "Give yourself opportunities in games and that's what we've done. Their kid really settled down and threw the ball well, but adding those runs at the end helps. That is what we are about, getting those opportunities and coming through. The situation wasn't too big for us, you can tell that by how they came out in the first inning."

Indeed Conant starting pitcher Mason Sykes settled **down after the first, fanning** 12 in the game. But the visitors just couldn't get the big hit when needed. Sykes did have a pair of doubles and drove in the lone run on a sacrifice fly.

"I think we left 14 runners on base," said Conant coach Derek Fivelson, whose team had won six in a row coming in and finished with a 16-19 mark. "We hit the ball hard with two outs, but give them credit, they made great plays with two outs. I'm proud of the way we competed.

"We've been the underdog based on our seed, but we weren't playing as an 18 seed (coming into the playoffs). Our pitching got us far in the end. This was a great experience for this group; 14 of the 20 are juniors."

Third-seeded Willowbrook now advances to play fourth-seed South Elgin at 11 a.m. Saturday, looking to capture its first sectional championship since 1973.

"This goes back to the summer when we won 22 games in a row," Wisner said. "I saw the makings of this team. And then I watched the football team get to the quarters and I watched **the basketball team win con**ference. That has played a part. It's been a lot of fun."

Marmion, South Elgin move on

Baseball roundup

Daily Herald Reports

It was not the best-played game that Marmion's baseball team has had this season.

At the end of May, however, what matters most is scoring more runs than your opponent and moving on to the next game.

The Cadets (20-16) did just that, advancing to Saturday's 11 a.m. Class 3A sectional championship game against Burlington Central (28-9) with Wednesday night's 10-6 semifinal triumph over Rockford Lutheran (16-14) in Sycamore.

Marmion, which had

inauspiciously when Bobby Pierce reached on a dropped third strike when the throw from Rockford Lutheran's catcher pulled first baseman Riley West off the bag.

After a two-out single by Bryce Burton, the runners advanced to second and third before Dylan DiIorio lined a 2-run single to left-center to give Marmion an 8-6 lead.

A few moments earlier, DiIorio psyched himself up while listening to "Sweet Car-

Gomez on Wednesday.

One of four hurlers to claim a regular-season win against No. 1 seed St. Charles North, South Elgin's right-handed phenom proved the April 8 victory was no fluke in a 1-0 win over the North Stars in a Class 4A Lake Park baseball sectional semifinal at Boomers Stadium in Schaumburg.

Gomez earned the victory with help from senior right-hander Jack Stancl, who nailed down his third save by getting the last two outs against future Division-I hitters Zach Mettetal and Tyler