

SPORTS

AUGUST 10, 2017 • 14

Addison Trail boys basketball team enjoying reboot

Blazers use summer season to integrate new talent

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

There are many new faces on the Addison Trail boys basketball team.

And that's no worry for longtime Blazers coach Brendan Lyons, who graduated the vast majority of players from his 2016-2017 squad.

"This kind of reminded me of my first summer with the program where we had new kids," he said. "We graduated pretty much everybody from last year. Everybody has new

roles and it's pretty much a clean slate. A lot of different guys contributed in the summer. I thought we did OK this summer. Our numbers were good and we ended up playing fewer games than we have in the past. The summer is for getting guys reps and getting a feel for what we have going into the new season. We accomplished those things."

The only player returning with significant varsity experience for the Blazers is Mike Pudlo, who av-

eraged about 10 minutes of playing time last year and averaged 3.5 points and 2.0 rebounds per contest.

"He's our only real consistent contributor coming back on the varsity level," said Lyons. "We have some other returners who saw a ton of time on the JV last year."

Lyons said this year's team will have a different look to it. "Based on what we saw in the summer, this team will have a different feel," he said. "The tallest guy we had in the summer was 6-4. We'll have to do some things differently to compete."

Addison Trail hosted eight one-night shootouts on the varsity where each team played three games per night. The Blazers also headed over to District 88 neighbor Willowbrook for a shootout.

"That was our summer," said Lyons. "We played 33 games all in all. We were down about 15 games from the last two years."

Lyons saw plenty of positives

heading into the 2017-2018 season. "It's a very coachable group," he said. "We played to what our personnel dictated. I thought we shot well from the outside and defensively we made some positive strides and pretty much played man-to-man defense. We're not going to rule out playing different defenses based on what will be readily apparent with our lack of size."

Pudlo missed part of the summer due to injury. "We liked what he brought to the table when he was in there," the coach said.

Lyons also was impressed with seniors Connor Palesch, AJ Parnell and Albert White.

"Connor shot it well all summer," said Lyons. "He was shooting seven, eight and nine 3s a game. He is working on developing his all-around game. But he provided consistency from the arc. AJ had a rough summer. He's a three-sport athlete with football, basketball and baseball.

His plate always was full. We took it easy on him. He showed glimpses of being a major contributor for us. Albert is the younger brother of Tyler and Taylor and his game has grown by leaps and bounds. He competes hard and he plays hard. We never worry about his effort. He grinds every time he's out there. It was nice to see those three seniors in particular have strong summers."

Younger players Adam Mehmeti and JT Daniels also played well. "They both had good summers," said Lyons.

Lyons is looking forward to the continued development of this group once the 2017-2018 season starts.

"It's definitely going to be a mix of moving pieces early in the season," he said. "We will find combos that will work. Our size is going to be different this year, but we will find ways to make up for it in other areas."

Numerous Fenton student-athletes to compete in college

Patton wraps up high-jump career at Drake

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

A number of recently graduated Fenton High School student-athletes will continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

From the spring National Letter of Intent signing period, Angelo Duvall will continue his football career at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Bryan Larsen is headed to Aurora University to play baseball, while Cassidy Feddersen will compete in track and field at Elmhurst College.

Taylor Spizzirri will play softball at Aurora University, while Jenna Geraci is headed to Elmhurst College to play softball.

Noel Lopez will continue his soccer career at Division I Northern Illinois University, while Ethan Guerra and Javier Sanchez will play volleyball at Judson University in Elgin.

Patton at Drake

Fenton alum Taylor Patton finished up her track and field career this season at Division I Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

In the classroom, Patton was named to the 2016-2017 Missouri Valley Conference honor roll. To qualify for the honor roll, a student-athlete must have recorded a minimum 3.2 grade-point average for a specified term, must have been a member of an athletics team and must have a minimum of 12 hours of enrollment during the fall.

In the high jump this season, Patton tied for 10th at the MVC championships in Wichita, Kan., with a leap of 5-1 3/4. She also took 13th with a mark of 5-1 at the Musco Twilight hosted by the University of Iowa.

Earlier, she was fourth in the high jump at the Arkansas Spring Invitational and took fifth at the Central Invitational.

Indoors this season, Patton was seventh in the high jump at the MVC championships and also took seventh at the Missouri Invitational and fourth at both the Messersmith Invitational and the Holiday Inn Invitational.

Echeverria at Concordia

Fenton graduate David Echeverria has two track and field seasons under his belt at Concordia University Chicago where he is a thrower.

This year at the Ted Haydon Invitational outdoor meet he took 10th in the shot put with a throw of 38-0.

During the indoor season, Echeverria was fifth in the weight throw at 36-2 3/4 and also took fourth in the shot put with a throw of 35-10.

Last year, Echeverria took 10th at the NACC outdoor championships in the hammer throw with a mark of 111-5.

Also in 2016, he was sixth in the hammer throw (93-3) and sixth in the discus (96-7) at the Lewis Twilight meet.

Pugliese at Benedictine

Brady Pugliese, a 2015 graduate of Fenton, finished his sophomore season on the Benedictine University baseball team in Lisle.

During his first two years at Benedictine, Pugliese has appeared in two varsity games and also has played on the junior-varsity squad.

Youthful Willowbrook girls basketball team has productive summer

Warriors could have as many as nine juniors on roster

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

While the Willowbrook girls basketball team technically qualifies as young, the Warriors are far from bereft of varsity experience.

The Warriors have a trio of returning juniors-to-be in Maureen Schmid, Katelyn McCann and CeCe Lizaasuain, all of whom saw time on the varsity as sophomores last year.

"They all played last year and this year they will look to be starters," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell.

Harrell said overall the Warriors made progress during the recent summer season.

"We are really young," he said. "We'll have as many as nine juniors on the team. We had a lot of people finding their way. This summer we saw some good player development. It was very encouraging."

Harrell noted the Warriors went 10-17 during the summer, not that he's too concerned about wins and losses in June.

"I look at it as a successful summer," he said. "The girls played hard

and played well for the most part. They are getting accustomed to the varsity level. They got better and they were enthusiastic during our time together. They will be ready for the season."

Harrell also was impressed with the summer participation level. "We had really good participation in the summer," he said. "The girls were quite excited about camp."

Willowbrook played in the Montini summer league. "Virtually everybody in the area plays there," Harrell pointed out.

The Warriors also headed down to Bradley University in Peoria to play in an event where they went 2-2.

"We saw some typical central Illinois schools where they are good shooters and well-disciplined," said Harrell. "Our girls fought through the games and won. They were challenged there."

The team also performed well at a shootout at Loyola Academy where it lost to the host school by a basket. "We played pretty well there, too," said Harrell. "We are emerging as shooters. Our shooters are led by Katelyn McCann. We are going to be a smaller team, but hopefully a skilled team. We'll be finding our way at the beginning of the season. We're a bit of a work in progress right now. The girls are truly learning to play at the varsity level. We have the ability and the skills. They

"This summer we saw some good player development. It was very encouraging."

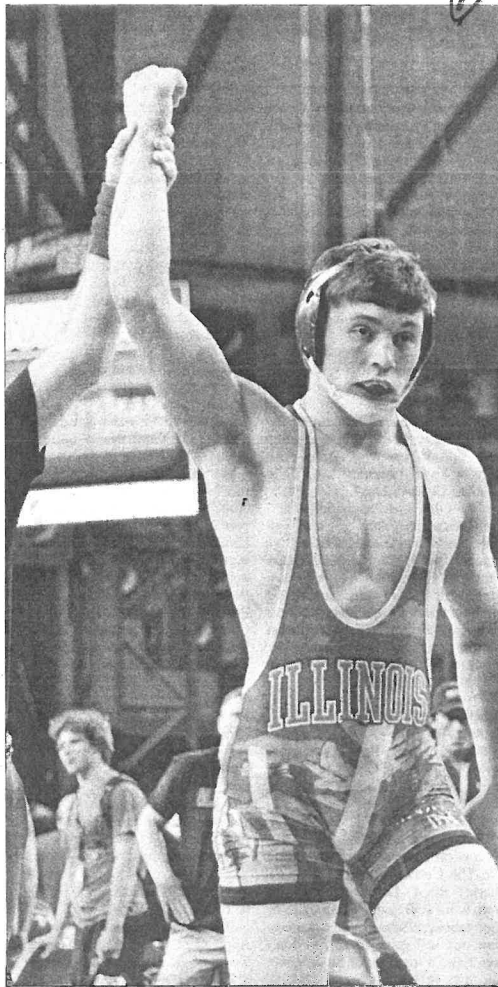
— Terry Harrell,
Willowbrook coach

just have to have enough confidence. We're working on bringing out that confidence."

In terms of younger players, Emma Barrington and Sydney Verdino impressed during the summer.

"Emma played at the sophomore level last year," said Harrell. "She will be a bigger guard for us. She has some skills. She can attack the basket and has some quickness and should see a lot of time this year. Sydney would be a big guard. She's 5-8 or 5-9. She also attacks the basket. That's what we are looking for. Once we spread the floor we're looking for people who are open and can spread the floor and have that ability to attack the basket and get some scoring out of it."

Willowbrook no longer will host a beginning-of-the-season tournament. Instead, the Warriors will head to Marist High School for a tournament.



STEPHANIE VANIK PHOTO LOMBARDIAN/Villa Park Review
Villa Park resident Jack Jessen (above) claimed a national championship at last month's U.S. Marine Corps Junior Greco-Roman National Wrestling Championships in Fargo, North Dakota. Jessen won the 182-pound title in the event. He also earned second-place honors in the freestyle portion of the competition. Jessen's success helped lead Team Illinois to the overall team championship of the national event.

Jessen wins national wrestling title

Willowbrook standout claims Greco-Roman title in Fargo

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

Jack Jessen of Villa Park won the 182-pound title at the U.S. Marine Corps Junior Greco-Roman National Wrestling Championships, which took place last month in Fargo, North Dakota. Jessen, who has competed in the event in Fargo in each of the last four years, pinned Cameron Caffey of Carbondale in the first period of the July 22 championship match.

A few days before winning the Greco-Roman title, Jessen earned second-place honors in the freestyle portion of the tournament in Fargo. This year's two appearances in the finals gave Jessen a total of four berths in the finals of the national tournament. He won his first national title at the event when he captured the 182-pound Greco-Roman championship this year.

"I feel like I'm better in freestyle, but I love the Greco-Roman style with all the throws," said Jessen, who's beginning his senior year at Willowbrook High School this week. He described freestyle wrestling as similar to his high-school competitions as a member of the Warriors. In the Greco-Roman style, the focus is on the upper body; wrestlers cannot touch their opponent's legs. The second-place finish in the freestyle competition motivated Jessen for his Greco-Roman success.

"I was really disappointed after the freestyle [first-place] match," he said. "That night I was really motivated. The feeling of winning [the Greco-Roman title] was unreal. All of the hard work and training to get to that point was worth it." Jessen won the title in front of a couple of thousand fans at North Dakota State University's Fargodome. Several thousand more fans watched the action online.

In his junior season at Willowbrook, Jessen posted a 50-1 record and placed second in the 182-pound weight class at the IHSA Class 3A individual state meet. As a freshman, he placed second in the state meet's 170-pound level. He claimed third in the 182-pound division of the IHSA meet as a sophomore.

Jessen is beginning his senior season with the Willowbrook football team. The Warriors held their first official practice of the season this week. A standout running back and linebacker, Jessen led the 2016 team to an 8-4 record. The team won two playoff games and advanced to the IHSA Class 7A quarterfinals.

"The team is looking good," said Jessen of this year's football squad. "Going as far as we did last year motivated our guys. They're hungry for that feeling again."

Jessen has committed to attend Northwestern University in Evanston. He will be a member of the Wildcats' wrestling team.

People mishandling backyard chickens blamed for salmonella outbreak

ILLINOIS NEWS NETWORK

Dozens of communities across Illinois allow people to keep chickens in their backyards. But there's some concern after backyard chickens are being blamed for a salmonella outbreak in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Hundreds of people in Michigan and Wisconsin are sick with salmonella. The Illinois Department of Public Health said 36 people in Illinois have gotten sick as part of the outbreak.

IDPH Veterinarian Connie Austin said don't blame the chickens. Blame the people who aren't washing their hands after collecting eggs or cleaning up after their flock.

"Droppings from any animal, including birds, can make you sick," Austin said. "The bottom line is when you touch [backyard chickens] or their coops or their food and water bowls, you have to come back inside and wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water."

The Centers for Disease Control said last week

one of the biggest reasons people are coming down with salmonella is that they are treating their birds like pets. The CDC is reminding folks not to kiss their chickens.

Austin said if people who have backyard chickens follow common sense, there's no need to worry about domestic chickens.

"Don't bring chickens into your house," Austin said. "That sounds like common sense, but some people like to bring them inside. That can contaminate your house. Also, we don't want people eating or drinking where the birds have been present."

Austin said that covers everything from having a drink near the coops to moving cook-outs away from where the chickens have wandered.

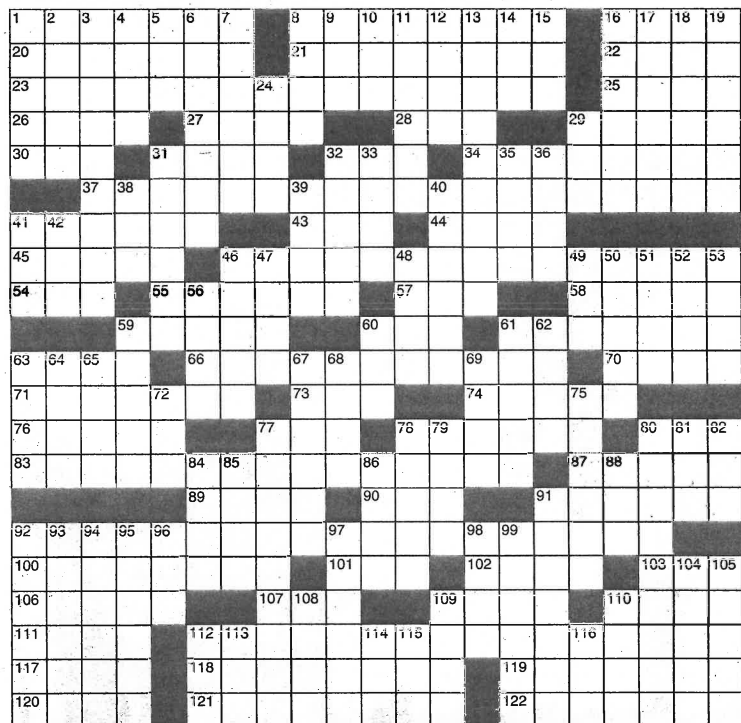
Austin said your best bet to not get sick around any animal is to wash your hands really well, and properly clean up after them.

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Super Crossword

PREPOSITION REPETITION

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 As a substitute | 1 Holy relics | 1 Actor Morales | 75 West Coast evergreen |
| 8 Part of VCR | 2 Singer Jones | 35 Player of 45s | 77 Hawaii achieved it in 1959 |
| 16 Snow clearer | 3 Roofing color | 36 "It's —!" ("That's just wrong!") | 78 Congeals |
| 20 Saint who converted Scotland to Christianity | 4 Mild rebukes | 38 A, in Berlin | 79 Sun provision |
| 21 Informal "Leave it to me" | 5 Former U.K. record co. | 39 Japanese sport | 80 Take place |
| 22 Roll-call call | 6 Nullify | 40 Like bikinis | 81 "I wonder ..." |
| 23 Public speech about unity? | 7 Pastry type | 41 "Smack!" | 82 Suffix of nationalities |
| 25 Dictator Idi D.C. | 8 French film | 42 Org. for drs. | 84 Certain Vette roof |
| 26 D.C. baseball team | 9 In time past | 46 Of kidneys | 85 Uttered |
| 27 Dog pests (in hiding) | 10 Prince, e.g. | 47 Digital book file extension | 86 Kingly Norse name |
| 28 On the — (in hiding) | 11 Artist Frank | 48 Tyro PC user | 88 Pedro's gold |
| 29 Gun-carrying — devil | 12 2015 erupter | 49 Drop down | 91 In dispute |
| 31 Roster | 13 TV show opener, often | 50 Mosaic piece | 92 Cheap flick |
| 32 Canto or esprit lead-in | 14 "— a pity" | 51 Miles off | 93 Sirens, say |
| 34 Big online dating site | 15 19th letter | 52 Tie locale | 94 Radicals |
| 37 Japanese dancing girls being helped? | 16 Big — (drug companies) | 53 Eros' father | 95 Gas in fuel |
| 41 Shunned sort | 17 Actor Jack | 56 Perfume from Dana | 96 AFL — |
| 43 Hagen of the stage | 18 Get aligned | 59 Fella | 97 Strive to get |
| 44 Former U.N. head Annan | 19 Rival of Burger King | 60 Sticky-note initials | 98 Adequate, in dialect |
| | 24 Bi-times four | 61 Juliet's flame | 99 Skim, maybe |
| | 29 Goya's field | 62 Baseball's Slaughter | 104 Sub finder |
| | 31 Act as a link | 63 At the drop of — | 105 Rims |
| | 32 Not — eye (show no reaction) | 64 "You've Made — Very Happy" | 108 Gaffer Isao |
| | | 65 Pooh, e.g. | 109 — d'oeuvre |
| | | 67 Cellist with 18 Grammys | 110 Elvis — Presley |
| | | 68 Total failure | 112 K-12 gp. |
| | | 69 Marsh stalk | 113 Pal of Harry at Hogwarts |
| | | 72 Real admirer | 114 Lacto — |
| | | | 115 Marsh |
| | | | 116 Lead-in to existing |



From the community: DuPage County ACT-SO Students Top in the Nation for STEM Medals at the National ACT-SO Competition in Baltimore, Maryland



DuPage County ACT-SO 2017 National Medalists (Posted by DuPage County ACT-SO , Community Contributor)

By **Community Contributor DuPage County ACT-SO**

JULY 28, 2017, 3:43 PM

(N aperville, IL) - Students from the DuPage County ACT-SO program led the nation in medals awarded in STEM categories at last Sunday's 39th Annual National NAACP ACT-SO Awards Ceremony that was held in Baltimore, Maryland. The students won the top medals awarded in the categories of Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth and Space Sciences and Physics. DuPage County ACT-SO students also the bronze medal in the Engineering category and the silver medal in Music Composition, bringing DuPage County ACT-SO into a tie for the second highest number of total national medals awarded, a total of six. The medalists will each receive cash prizes ranging from \$1,000-\$2,000 and were given a Samsung [Chromebook](#) Plus at the awards reception.

The awards ceremony was hosted by Cornelius Smith, one of the stars of the ABC hit show Scandal. Smith is an ACT-SO alum, having competed at the local and national levels in the category of Music Vocal Contemporary when he was a high school student.

"DuPage County ACT-SO has emerged as one of the nation's top-performing programs as a result of the dedication of its students, parents, and volunteers," said Teresa Haley, President of the Illinois State Conference NAACP. "The ability to have in-depth, hands-on exploration of potential career areas is so important as students prepare for college and career. ACT-SO provides its students the ability to explore areas that they have talent or interest in within a supportive environment."

The medalists were part of the group of 14 area high school students that won local gold medals at the DuPage County ACT-SO that was held in March. The students vied for honors against more than 700 other local gold medalists from around the country at the National ACT-SO competition that was held on Friday. DuPage County ACT-SO was one of three programs in the nation that was awarded a National ACT-SO Student Engagement Award for having the most students competing at the national competition.

ACT-SO, the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics, is a year-long program that was created to encourage high academic and cultural achievement among high school students of African descent. The primary focus of the program is the development of projects for competition in categories in the areas of STEM, Business, Humanities, Performing Arts and Visual Arts. Mentoring and academic enrichment are key objectives in this endeavor.

The program owes much of its success as the leading ACT-SO STEM program in the nation to its relationship with [Argonne National Laboratory](#). This is the fourth year that Argonne and DuPage County ACT-SO have partnered for the Argonne/ACT-SO STEM Mentoring and Research Program. Each high school ACT-SO STEM student is paired with a scientist from Argonne National Laboratory in Darien, which provides mentoring, guidance and facilities for the students' research. In addition to one-on-one mentoring, the program brings in professionals every month to expose the students to careers in various STEM areas.

Middle and high school students that want to participate in DuPage County ACT-SO's 2017-2018 academic year program should plan on attending one of the orientation sessions that begin the weekend of August 26th. The information flyer is available on the program's website: www.dupageact-so.org.

DuPage County ACT-SO is a program of the DuPage County Branch of the NAACP. Since its 1979 inception, the local program has partnered with the College of DuPage. Key sponsors and partners of the program include Argonne National Laboratory, Glenbard High School District 87, Glenbard South High School, the McDonald's Corporation and Comcast.

DuPage County ACT-SO 2017 National Award Winners

Chemistry - Gold - Cristal Johnson - Bolingbrook High School - 12th

Computer Science - Gold - Whitney Ford - Plainfield East High School - 11th

Earth and Space Science - Gold - Riziki Covington - Neuqua Valley High School - 11th

Music Composition - Silver - Kyla Denwood - Willowbrook High School - 12th

Physics - Silver - Jalen Crump - Air Force Academy High School - 12th

Engineering - Bronze - Joshua Lambert - Glenbard East High School - 11th

More About the ACT-SO Program

The Afro-Academics, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) is a major youth initiative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Founded in 1978, by the renowned author and journalist, Vernon Jarrett, ACT-SO provides a forum through which African American youth demonstrate academic, artistic, and scientific prowess and expertise, thereby gaining the same recognition often reserved for entertainers and athletes. The objective of ACT-SO is to prepare, recognize and reward African-American youth who exemplify scholastic and artistic excellence.

NAACP branches and youth units throughout the country conduct annual competitions for students in grades 9 - 12. Gold medalists from the local competitions then compete against gold medalists from other cities around the nation at the National ACT-SO Competition that is held during the NAACP's Annual Convention in July.

This item was posted by a community contributor. To read more about community contributors, [click here](#).

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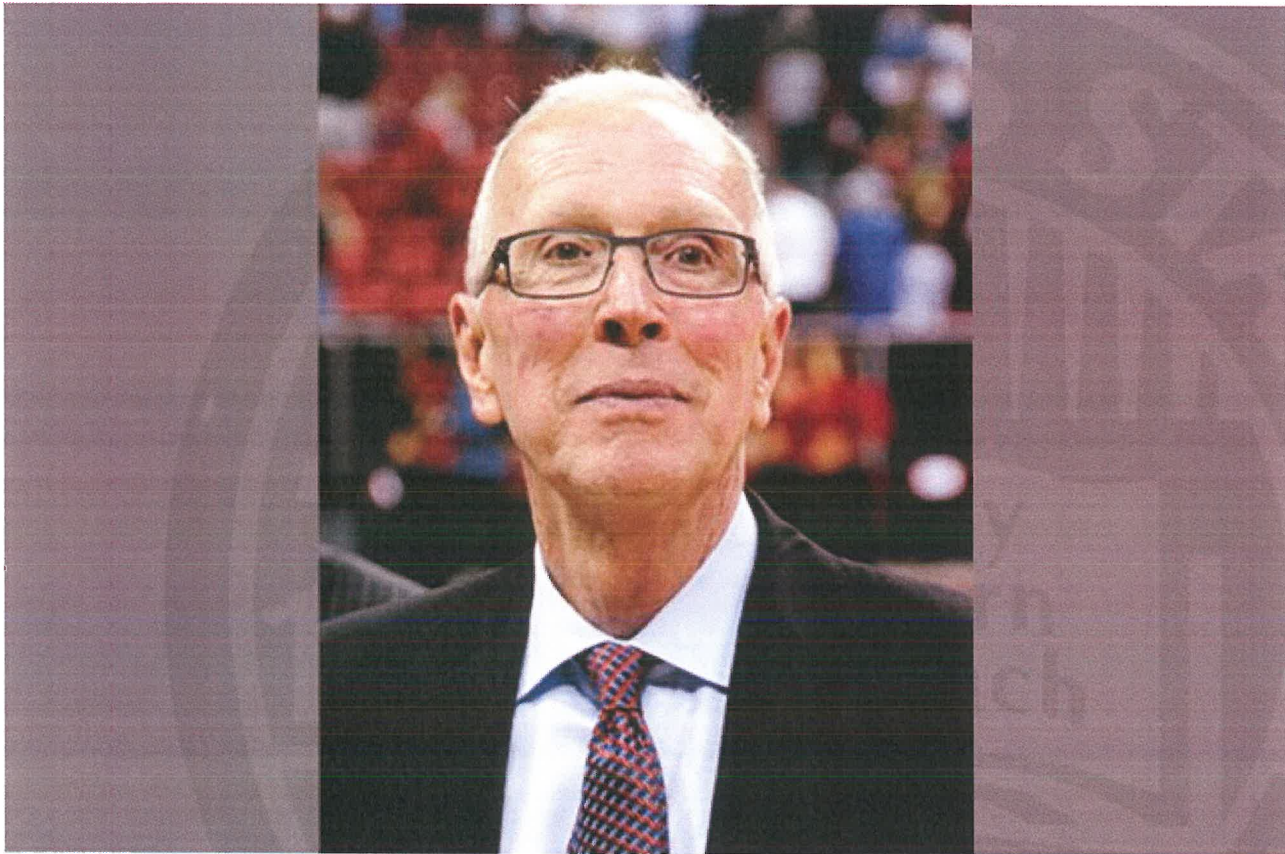
News

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Illinois State University

Pause for applause

Illinois State University staff August 14, 2017



Coach Steve Fisher

Winning legacy

From his days on ISU's men's basketball team and throughout years of collegiate coaching, Steve Fisher '67, M.S. '68, excelled in the sport. He helped lead the Redbirds to the 1967 NCAA Tournament Final Four. Fisher was head coach at the University of Michigan for nearly a decade, taking the team to a national championship in 1989. He then coached at San Diego State, which had only one winning season in 15 years when he arrived in 1999. Under Fisher, the school made eight NCAA and five NIT appearances. He retired from the coaching position this year with a record of 386-209.

Nurse worth watching

Mennonite College of Nursing graduate Elizabeth Myers '99 is one of the 40 under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders identified by the Illinois Nurses Foundation. Her exemplary work in the field includes establishing 2x2 Health: Private Health Concierge. The agency helps patients and families navigate the complicated medical system, from setting up appointments to understanding a diagnosis. Myers also co-founded Abby's Army Foundation. The nonprofit organization supports pediatric patients battling life-threatening illnesses and their families. She is active in the nursing field as a member of the Alliance of Professional Health Advocates and the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy Consultants.

Best in Midwest

George Van Den Driessche, M.S. '15, captured an honor for his graduate work that no one at the University has ever received. He won the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Masters Thesis Award. His thesis is titled Computational Investigations of Oxygen-Containing Donor-Acceptor Complexes Involving Sulfur Dioxide and Sulfur Trioxide. He completed the work while studying theoretical chemistry under Professor Jean Standard while at Illinois State. Now a doctoral student at North Carolina State University, Van Den Driessche is working on ways to predict a drug's likelihood of inducing adverse reactions. He plans on pursuing a career with a pharmaceutical company.

A master mentor

Preparing future professionals for positions in psychology has been a passion for Bruce Kelsay '79, M.S. '83. He received designation as a model school psychology intern supervisor from the National Association of School Psychologists. Kelsay worked with at least one graduate-level intern each of the past 25 academic years, including students from Illinois State. He studied psychology as an undergraduate and school psychology for his master's degree. Kelsay served for 30 years as a school psychologist with Illinois District 88, which includes Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools. He entered retirement at the end of the school year.