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CHRIS FOX PHOTOS *Villa Park Review*

The Willowbrook High School football team kicked off the 2017 season with Friday's 42-0 victory over Grayslake North in Willis Park. Shortly before the game, the Warriors recognized the seniors on the football team, as well as the marching band, color guard, cheerleading squad and pom team. The top left photo shows the pom team's five seniors. Pictured left to right are: Shannon Frank, Lexi Wedoff, Alex Leo, Lauren Lehmann and Sarah Ryan. The photo above shows the cheerleading team's seven seniors at the end of the team's halftime performance. Pictured left to right are: (front row) Lindsey Patete and Ashley Wright; (second row) Lindsey Joyce and Rachel Joyce; (back row) Maddy Campbell, Isabel Mendez and Julissa Villalobos. Also pictured are two seniors on the color guard. Michaela Phelps (far left) and Alex Gulotta (left) are both shown during the halftime performance with the marching band. Senior drum major John DeAngelo is pictured (bottom left) during the marching band's halftime performance, which featured a "Blues Brothers" theme. The photo below shows members of the marching band during halftime.



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CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review

A winning start for the Warriors



The Willowbrook football team kicked off the 2017 season with Friday's 42-0 win over Grayslake North in Villa Park. The Warriors held a 14-0 lead at halftime. They piled on four more second-half touchdowns. Willowbrook had not won a season-opening game since 2012. The photo above shows senior kicker BettyAnn Garrett, who made all six of her extra-point attempts. Senior J.T. Ceh (No. 32) was the holder on Garrett's kicks. Also pictured at left is senior Jacob Entwistle (No. 17), who is shown during his 25-yard reception in the third quarter. See the sports pages for more about Willowbrook's victory.

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Sports

LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW

Warriors open 2017 with a convincing win *Shutout gives Willowbrook its first season-opening win since 2012*

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The Willowbrook football team opened its 2017 season with Friday's decisive 42-0 victory over Grayslake North in Villa Park. The Warriors, who last won a season opener in 2012, built a 14-0 halftime lead. They added one touchdown in the third quarter and piled on three more touchdowns in the final 12 minutes.

"We really have struggled in Week 1," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth after Friday's win. "We talked about that a lot in our approach to this game. It's going to be sloppy. It's Week 1. But we wanted to come out and compete and give ourselves opportunities."

The Warriors had lost four straight season openers since their 42-41 win over Glenbard East to open the 2012 season. The outcome of that game was in doubt until the closing seconds, when Glenbard East failed to convert a two-point attempt after a touchdown.

Grayslake North, which qualified for the IHSA Class 6A playoffs and posted a record of 8-3 last season, missed a 31-yard field goal attempt in the first quarter of Friday's game against the Warriors. Willowbrook took possession after the missed field goal and drove 80 yards for a touchdown. Senior Jack Jessen scored on a 6-yard touchdown run for the game's first score. Senior BettyAnn Garrett, who made all six of her extra-point attempts during the game, added the conversion kick to give Willowbrook a 7-0 lead.

Jessen broke a 39-yard touchdown run in the opening minute of the second quarter to produce the Warriors' second touchdown. Jessen finished the evening with 198 rushing yards on 23 carries.

The visiting Knights drove deep into Willowbrook territory late in the first half. As the second quarter was winding down, Grayslake North attempted a fourth-down pass from the Warriors' 9-yard line. Sophomore Sam Tumilty broke up the pass in the end zone with just 1.5 seconds left in the half.

Senior quarterback John Taylor, who made his first varsity start on Friday, threw three touchdown passes in the second half. Taylor finished the night with 171 passing yards.

"It was a great team win," said Taylor. "Our offense was clicking. We had some drives that stalled, but we still put up 42. The defense shut them out. You couldn't have asked for any better."

"I thought he did a great job," said



The Willowbrook football team began the 2017 season with Friday's 42-0 win over Grayslake North in Villa Park. Senior quarterback John Taylor (No. 15) threw for 171 yards and three touchdowns in his first varsity start. "I was a little nervous coming in," said Taylor. "But I was confident in my group of guys. They believe in me, and I love that. I believe in them, so we've got good trust."

Hildreth of Taylor. "He was a little nervous early on; then he settled in and made good decisions."

Taylor's 25-yard scoring pass to senior Nick Sabatino helped the Warriors to a 20-0 lead in the middle of the third quarter. Junior Scott Tumilty grabbed an 18-yard touchdown pass from Taylor in the first minute of the fourth quarter.

In addition to contributing the touchdown reception on offense, Scott Tumilty provided a defensive spark with two interceptions during the second half.

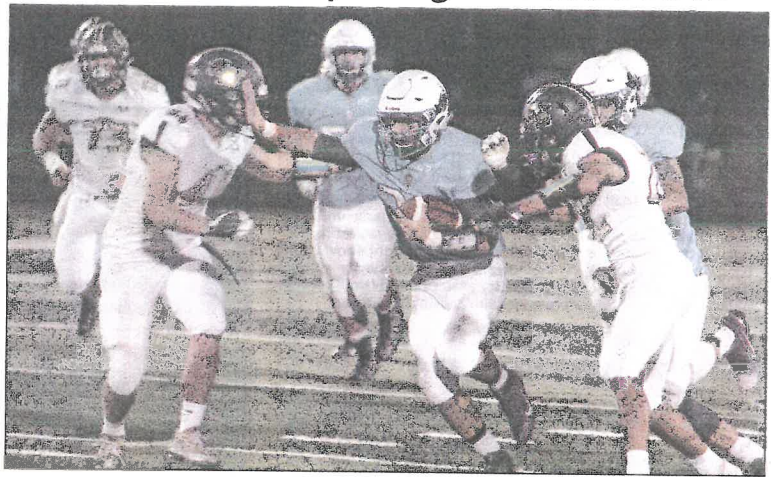
Moments after Tumilty's touchdown reception, senior Silver Edosio recovered an onside kick for the Warriors. Taylor then connected with senior Martique Barksdale on a 10-yard touchdown pass to boost the lead to 34-0 with about nine minutes left in the final period.

Junior quarterback Jeremy Conforti scored the Warriors' final touchdown of the night on a quarterback sneak with about three minutes to play.

Friday's opener, which took place in nearly ideal weather conditions, drew a large crowd of Willowbrook fans that included an enthusiastic student section. Some of the excitement generated by last year's team, which went 8-4 and advanced to the IHSA Class 7A quarterfinals, may have carried over into 2017 for the Warriors' supporters. The success of the 2016 team, which won a pair of playoff games, won't be a major point of discussion this year.

"There's no real focus on last year," said Hildreth. "It's really more about this group and right now. My college coach used to say that every team has its own heartbeat. You can't force an identity. You can't force chemistry. This team belongs to this group. They are taking ownership of it."

The Warriors' season continues with this Friday's non-conference game at Hinsdale Central (0-1). The Red Devils began their season with a 43-14 loss to St. Xavier of Cincinnati, Ohio. Willowbrook will begin its West Suburban Gold Conference season with a Sept. 8 game at Leyden.



Pictured above is Jack Jessen, who ran for 198 yards and scored both of the Warriors' first-half touchdowns.

CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review



Junior Scott Tumilty snares an 18-yard touchdown pass from Taylor early in the fourth quarter. Willowbrook will try to improve to 2-0 when it plays at Hinsdale Central this Friday.



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Scouting DuPage County boys cross country

Top teams: Downers Grove North, York, Neuqua Valley, Wheaton Warrenville South, Downers Grove South, Hinsdale Central, Naperville Central, Wheaton North, Glenbard West, Naperville North.

Top athletes: *Addison Trail:* Danny Bueno, sr., Ian Smith, jr., Luis Vargas, sr.; *Benet:* James Austgen, sr., Tommy Diehl, jr., David Hightower, jr., Dylan Kingston, sr., Connor O'Keefe, jr.; *Downers Grove North:* Ryan Birkmeier, sr., Nick Chudzik, sr., Matt Moravec, sr., Jacob Ridderhoff, sr.; *Downers Grove South:* Nick Dziedzic, sr., Akhil Ghosh, sr., Stephen Pipilas, sr., Eddie Sluda, jr.; *Fenton:* Michael Lieggi, sr., Jeremy Lodewyck, sr., Christian Sanchez, sr., Alex Whyte, sr.; *Glenbard East:* David Crossland, sr., Aidan Ihms, soph.; *Glenbard North:* Ryan Czaja, sr., Marat Schatz, jr., Omar Solario, jr., Matthew Sulocha, jr.; *Glenbard South:* Ryan Allspach, fr., Wesley Jedlicka, jr., Austin MacClure, soph., Edwin Szobada, soph.; *Glenbard West:* Cameron Benes, sr., Rory Cavan, jr., Stephen Moody, jr., Will O'Brien, jr., Ian Repking, jr.; *Hinsdale Central:* Neil Cumberland, sr., Alec Hill, jr., Sean O'Connell, sr., Sam Schiavitti, sr.; *Hinsdale South:* Brett Haffner, sr., Trevor Lehmann, jr., Tim Rudolph, jr.; *IC Catholic Prep:* Dominic Gaudio, sr., Howard Haug, sr., Casey Kristie, sr., Fabian Perez, jr., Patrick Shannon, sr.; *Lake Park:* Eric Bayer, sr., Colin Kirkham, sr., Jack Murphy, soph., Eugene Ranalo, sr., Derek Szczecocki, sr., Matt Tumbarello, jr.; *Lisle:* Joey Chan, jr.; *Metea Valley:* Mohammed Abrar, fr., Matt Corso, jr., Rokas Gudiniavicius, sr., Ralph Papa, sr., Michael Varzino, jr.; *Montini:* Matt Baka, sr., Drew Bolisay, jr., Jayden Gertsen, jr., Ian Kwit, jr., Jacob Mondschean, sr.; *Naperville Central:* Adam Balutowski, sr., Tyler Evans, jr., Seth Klein-Colins, jr., Thomas Shilgalis, sr.; *Naperville North:* Jake Allen, soph., Luke Boelke, soph., John Eifler, sr., Nick Trattner, jr.; *Neuqua Valley:* Tyler Bombacino, sr., Alex Johnson, sr., Chris Keeley, jr., Ryan Kennedy, sr., Zach Kinne, jr., Michael Madiol, jr., Danny Winek, sr.; *St. Francis:* Jon Aquino, jr., Alex Hernandez, sr., Joe Leo, sr., Dan Weizerick, soph.; *Timothy Christian:* Clint Fincher, jr., Caleb Mitchell, soph., William Terpstra, sr.; *Waubonsie Valley:* Wes Beitter, soph., Alex Barrenbrugge, jr., Jake Sandin, jr., Wes York, sr.; *Westmont:* Jake Dooley, jr., Jason Eiermann, soph., Matt Gedraitis, sr., Jasper Requiron, sr.; *West Chicago:* Kellen Klapatich, jr., Rickson Naway, jr., Peter Osielski, soph., Kamel Patel, jr.; *Wheaton Academy:* Ryan Lotz, sr., Will Lyon, jr., Jeff Ridge, sr., Ryan Wittstock, sr.; *Wheaton North:* Kevin Boehm, jr., Nick Garza, jr., Justin Ostrem, sr., Kevin Riley, sr., Joey Simon, sr., Connor Zydek, jr.; *Wheaton Warrenville South:* Andrew Dixon, sr., Billy Hauenstein, soph., Jacob Kluckhohn, soph., John Keys, sr., Sean Maison, jr., Scott Maison, jr.; *Willowbrook:* Matt Caron, jr., Ian Costello, sr., Alec Gruchalski, sr., Michael Isaacson, sr.; *York:* Jackson Bode, sr., Danny Hohnquest, sr., Ethan Kern, soph., Charlie Kern, sr., Sean MacGregor, sr.

Scouting report: The roles are completely reversed for Neuqua Valley and Downers Grove North on the local boys cross country

York sharing the second position. Wheaton Warrenville South, Downers Grove South, Hinsdale Central, Naperville Central and Wheaton North are also ranked either by the coaches or the authoritative website ilxctf.com. The corresponding suburban landscape and traditional downstate powers offer unlimited potential for an unforgettable season. "This may be the toughest year ever," Vandersteen said. "Illinois seems to step up the game."

The top three teams have subplots in their own right to work out this season. The programs collectively have the only area all-state runners returning in Class 3A this fall in the Dukes' Charlie Kern and MacGregor, the Trojans' Ridderhoff and the Wildcats' Kinne. The Trojans have their entire nucleus back from a state runner-up team, headlined by Ridderhoff, who finished 15th overall. "It was only logical that we would get that ranking," Sipple said of the Trojans' preseason honor. "(Neuqua Valley) is going to be pretty darn good this year, too." Vandersteen is in an almost identical position as seven years ago. The Wildcats were the defending state champion, only to lose their entire state lineup to graduation. Kinne is the lone returnee this season from last year in Peoria. The Wildcats' junior was two slots behind Ridderhoff as one of three all-state athletes for Neuqua Valley. Kinne also showcased his stamina on the track by finishing fifth in the 3,200-meter run last spring. "We all have it all in us," Kinne said of the Wildcats' outlook. "The state meet is like any other meet for us." Vandersteen will look for Kinne to shoulder much this season. "(Kinne) really exudes our philosophy of moderation and consistency," Vandersteen said. "He's only a junior. I think you're going to see him get better as time goes on."

Winek figures to be a major storyline for the Wildcats' potential success this fall. Winek missed his junior season with a major lower-back injury. "(Winek) is critical," Vandersteen said. "He's not ready to run yet. He's healthy right now but not racing. We have a much better chance for a trophy than without him." Kennedy and Bombacino are equally anxious to move into the starting lineup for Neuqua Valley. Bombacino was a member of the Wildcats' state-championship 3,200 relay last spring in Charleston. "In track some of us ran in bigger meets, which will help in cross country," Bombacino said. Vandersteen is ready to unleash his latest edition in search of a potential fourth state championship. "They are working extremely hard," Vandersteen said. "They are ready to go."

It will be decades before Neuqua Valley could possibly match the historic state haul of York. Even with Charlie Kern and MacGregor finishing fourth and 10th last fall, the Dukes had much grander ambitions than placing No. 16 as a team. For the first time in more than half a century, Joe Newton will not have any capacity with the program. The Dukes have 28 state titles in cross country. "We owe a great deal of gratitude to (Newton)," Vandersteen said. "He put Illinois cross country on the map. This is the first year coach (Charlie) Kern has a chance to own his own program. I think you are going to see some good things. They have a heck of a 1-2

Conference since leaving the Upstate Eight two years ago. "Neuqua is Neuqua," WW South coach Chris Kuntz said. "We just hope to do the best we can. Neuqua has been the dominant team in the conference and the area the last two years. Our kids have a great work ethic. They run as a pack. We're hoping to have a pack team again but that moves up further." The Tigers' Maison twins are poised to be the bedrock of the program this fall. "Wheaton Warrenville South looks very deep and talented," Waubonsie Valley coach Kevin Rafferty said.

Wheaton North, Waubonsie Valley and Lake Park all have aspirations to make inroads this fall as well. "The expectations are to compete for a conference championship," Wheaton North coach Nate Roe said. "We have the mindset to do that." Rafferty will craft the Warriors' program around York, all-state in track last spring, and Beitter. "Beitter will give York a run for his money this fall," Rafferty said. "We should be a deep threat for the teams in our area." Lake Park will build its fortunes around seniors Bayer and Kirkham. "We have a solid group," Lake Park coach Lance Murphy said. "We have a big gap (among team members) that we need to close down." DuPage Valley seniors Shilgalis (Naperville Central) and Papa (Metea Valley) — along with Downers South senior Pipilas — are the only returning at-large state qualifiers from last fall. Naperville Central and Naperville North, which surged from an average regional performance last year to qualify for the state meet, are looking to continue their collective postseason success of the last decade-plus. "Both Napervilles are going to be really good," Rafferty said.

Benet attempts to extend an exceptional winning streak in the East Suburban Catholic Conference. The Redwings, with Kingston and O'Keefe in their vanguard, have won 17 straight league titles. "That is always the pride of the program," Benet coach Kevin Renicke said. "The small things are what we are working on."

Among the area Class 2A programs, Hinsdale South is the lone ranked school in the preseason poll. The Hornets, one team spot behind St. Francis' 15th position last fall, boast the top returning individual placer in Haffner. St. Francis' Aquino, Hernandez, Leo and Weizerick all return for another chance to run in Peoria in November. "We definitely think we have a shot to get back," St. Francis coach Scott Nelson said. "We have a goal to get one or two all-staters." Mondschean and Ridge made the state cut as individuals last fall for Montini and Wheaton Academy. "We would expect (Mondschean) to get down again and be an all-state qualifier," said Montini coach Joe Mordente, who sent his whole team to state two years ago. "We are hoping Ian and Jayden can qualify as well."

Metro Suburban Conference combatants Fenton — with state veterans Lieggi, Lodewyck, Sanchez and Whyte back — and Glenbard South — which has Jedlicka and MacClure to reclaim past glories — will have to navigate a hazardous Class 2A postseason route.

In Class 1A Timothy Christian

Scouting DuPage County girls cross country

Top teams: Naperville North, Glenbard West, Hinsdale Central, Downers Grove South, Neuqua Valley, York, Metea Valley, WW South, Naperville Central, Glenbard East.

Top athletes: *Addison Trail:* Liz Balbuena, jr., Natalie Diaz, jr., Alex Nava, jr., Viviana Sanfilippo, jr.; *Benet:* Kelly Andrews, fr., Elisabeth Camic, fr., Joy Jackson, fr., Colleen Lipa, soph., Emily Spellman, fr., Mae Tully, jr.; *Downers Grove North:* Eva Bednard, soph., Ellie Gross, soph., Claire Kovarik, sr., Grace Puc, sr.; *Downers Grove South:* Brenna Cohoun, soph., Erin Reidy, soph., Becky Versaskas, jr., Melissa Weidner, jr.; *Fenton:* Charity Bullis, soph., Angela Durate, jr., Ruth Kirkwood, soph., Jessica McCauley, sr., Jacqueline Ponce, sr.; *Glenbard East:* Cailyn Biegalski, sr., Melissa Flores, sr., Katie Schaefer, sr., Lexi Weltin, sr.; *Glenbard North:* Alex Bartkowiak, sr., Anna Marinc, sr., Emily Salucha, soph., Eleta Sisay, jr.; *Glenbard South:* Ava Childs, sr., Julia Clingen, jr., Gisela Hagedorn, jr., Katie King, sr.; *Glenbard West:* Chloe Connelly, jr., Katelynne Hart, soph., Katie Hohe, jr., Claire Kenwood, sr., Lindsey Payne, sr., Lauren Pappas, jr.; *Hinsdale Central:* Kayla Byrne, jr., Grace McCabe, sr., McKenna Revord, soph., Reilly Revord, sr.; *Hinsdale South:* Neha Chinwalla, sr., Emma Ririe, sr., Patrice Trzupek, soph., Kiki Twardos, sr.; *IC Catholic Prep:* Anna Gendusa, sr., Jada Smith, jr., Julissa Unzueta, sr.; *Lake Park:* Jennifer Ayala, sr., Grace Larson, jr., Lauren Mack, soph., Kasia Szkaradek, soph., Janelle Drogolewicz, jr.; *Lisle:* Katy Cunningham, sr., Carolyn Keleher, sr., Liz LaScala, sr.; *Metea Valley:* Carly Cast, jr., Megan Fichte, soph., Terri Scarlett, jr., Keely Weber, sr.; *Montini:* Julia Billote, soph., Bella Reiley, jr., Hannah Ruddy, soph., Emily Samp, sr.; *Naperville Central:* Meghan Donovan, sr., Victoria Mineo, sr., Natalie Sarris, sr., Emily Scott, soph., Noelle Veone, sr.; *Naperville North:* Jill Fitz, sr., Claire Hill, jr., Alex Morris, jr., Sam Prazma, sr., Hannah Ricci, sr., Sarah Schmitt, sr.; *Neuqua Valley:* Keara Ginell, sr., Sofia Medina, jr., Corinna Pena, sr., Julia Rushing, soph., Brynne Winiarski, sr.; *St. Francis:* Katie Haney, jr., Claire Kolker, soph., Lila Kral, jr.; *Timothy Christian:* Hope Clark, soph., Olivia Reamer, jr., Elise Terpstra, soph.; *Waubonsie Valley:* Ashley Heidenrich, soph., Shaelyn Iyer, sr., Katelynn Mullinax, soph., Sarah Vitro, jr.; *West Chicago:* Maddie Brotnow, sr.; *Westmont:* Lily Arndt, sr., Halle Nash, sr., Peyton Nash, sr., Lisa Niemiec, sr.; *Wheaton Academy:* Maggie Bailey, sr., Stephanie Gregersen, jr., Julia Robleski, sr.; *Wheaton North:* Sophie Diagle, soph., Olivia Jeannette, soph., Katie Lanagan, sr., Rose Quinn, sr., Emma Riley, soph.; *Wheaton Warrenville South:* Haley Ansel, soph., Laurel Moneysmith, jr., Kaitlin Nenninger, soph., Amanda Obirst, jr., Maria Ruboca, soph.; *Willowbrook:* Kaylynn Kattiya-man, sr., Angela Klingelhoeffer, sr., Victoria Palma, jr.; *York:* Maya Curry, soph., Erin Davies, sr., Lydia Hickey, soph., Emma Kern, soph., Sarah May, jr., Katherine Tomaska, sr.

Scouting report: The battle lines between Naperville North, the defending Class 3A girls cross country champion, and Glenbard

events in identical order. "You want to put top runners at the top," Naperville North coach Dan Iverson said. "But you have to have a team." With its remarkable depth and balance once again on full display, the Huskies turned back five-time defending Class 2A champion Yorkville 111-130 to capture its sixth state championship under the 21-year Iverson reign. Illness-addled Glenbard West had to settle for ninth as a team last fall at Deweiller Park in Peoria.

But the sense of anticipation for a classic showdown this fall was only enhanced on the track last spring as the Huskies' distance stars were pivotal figures in the first Naperville North track state trophy — third place — in program history. "(The) track (state championship) was a great thing," Glenbard West coach Paul Hass said. "We're not focusing on Naperville North. We're focusing on what we can do. (The Huskies) are probably going to be prohibitive favorites going into the season. We hope to be mentioned in the same breath." Naperville North returns three all-state athletes in Schmitt, sixth, as well as Ricci and Morris, who finished in consecutive slots to place in the top 19. To add further intrigue to the schools' anticipated clashes this fall, Schmitt and Morris were third and fifth, respectively, in the 3,200 last spring. Naperville North also has a run of five consecutive appearances at the Nike National meet in Portland. "We are all motivated," Schmitt said. "(My teammates) bring that energy and excitement throughout the season." The Huskies' senior is well aware encountering Hart and Payne is inevitable this fall. "They are amazing competitors," Schmitt said. "We have been racing against such athletes for years." Five of the six local returning Class 3A all-state runners hail from either Naperville North or Glenbard West as Ricci and Morris will seek to lessen the departure of state team-placers Claire Hamilton (Indiana) and Gabby Champion (University of Northern Iowa). "I don't see (cross country) as an individual sport," said Ricci, who transferred from Pennsylvania last year. "It's about what we can accomplish as a team." "My goal is to run as fast as I can and improve from last season," Morris said. Seniors Fitz and Prazma are potential breakout stars for the Huskies. Ricci, Hill and Fitz were members of the Huskies' third-place 3,200 relay last spring. "I definitely appreciate the speed aspect of track (in preparing for cross country)," Ricci said. Schmitt follows a specific routine in continuing the Huskies' extraordinary legacy that features 14 state trophies since Iverson inherited the program in 1996. "My focus is one meet at a time," Schmitt said. "In the back of my mind, we are thinking about the end of the season. There is a whole different level to state than the regional and sectional. You don't want to be overconfident." Iverson is in the envious position of inserting multiple runners, many of whom would unquestionably be starters in countless other programs. "It's always a process in training with purpose as we go into October and November," Iverson said of his philosophical approach. "The (regular-season) races won't be any different, but the training will be different for sure," Iverson said. Freshmen frequently nav

of her underclassman to be a heck of a se. Our conference is s all have a ton of tal will come down to i healthy."

Downers South is th ite in the West Subu reigning fourth-plac enter the season ra "We can't control th ahead of us," Down coach Doug Plunkett striking disparity Na Yorkville and Minook among the 25 team state last fall. "We're clear that gap this ye Neuqua Valley and N also have designs on to the state finals. Th were sixth in state la "We can't let Naperv doing great get in ou year Neuqua Valley c Ameling said of the V this year. "We can't t differently. We have t what we're doing." L school, Metea Valley back a strong nuclei state contingent. "Ev year we get better," coach Eric Anerino s probably have the mc program we have eve WW South will seek ; consecutive team trij this fall. Glenbard Ea North, Lake Park and Valley are programs i ambitions to match t bases of talent. Glent the clear favorite in t Eight Conference Vall behind its senior-dou four. Weltin and Bieg; to make their success the state cut in track ; cross country.

Wheaton North is pot scary this fall, seen by observers as a potent horse. "I have such a (of classes) at the mo Wheaton North coach Zegelin said. "It's just and committed group. lot of young athletes."

Lake Park coach Jay I hopeful the depth of t in the area will rub off potentially dangerous "We see some of the t in the state week in ar out," Ivory said. "We h work like they do." Na Central coach Matt Bic a known commodity i at-large state qualifier "We hope to develop t success (as Naperville Blondell said. "They h doing it for 25 years. A 1 returnee, I hope (Dor can lead the girls not o individual but as a tear

As the sole DuPage Co representative of the E Suburban Catholic Con Benet has yet more de extending its league d behind a slew of notab newcomers. "They hav outworked the rest of r Brooks said of the Red of his incoming ninth-g "Freshmen are a mixe a different stage in h igh versus middle school. Y about inexperience. Fre tend to improve a ton d regular season. I have r a deeper group of fres years." Among the area in the two smaller divi Wheaton Academy is th ranked Class 2A progra Warriors will have Robk

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Scouting DuPage County girls tennis

Top teams: Hinsdale Central, Benet, Glenbard West, Timothy Christian, Wheaton Academy, Naperville Central, Hinsdale South, Neuqua Valley.

Top players: Benet: Kendall Schrader, so.; Caroline Arnold, sr.; Alyce Gaborik, fr.; Daniella Nenadovich, fr.; Downers Grove North: Julia Paterak, jr.; Downers Grove South: Gerda Jucys, fr.; Jillian Urgello, fr.; Abby Davenport, sr.; Anna Buie, sr.; Glenbard East: Kolie Allen, sr.; Glenbard North: Sage Hills, fr.; Olivia Mondlock, sr.; Glenbard South: Nicole Campbell, sr.; Hannah Jennings, sr.;

Katie Long, sr.; Glenbard West: Sienna Lopez, so.; Molly Rueth, sr.; Grace Giffin, sr.; Hinsdale Central: Olivia Oosterbaan, fr.; Carolyn Ahn, so.; Kasia Treiber, fr.; Amanda Cashman, sr.; Layo Adelakun, jr.; Hinsdale South: Natalie Axelrod, sr.; Aimee Puz, jr.; Agata Mikos, jr.; Marta Mikos, jr.; Sylwia Mikos, jr.; Lake Park: Nina Pasquini, jr.; Nancy Cozzi, jr.; Alexis Belmonte, fr.; Analisa Cruz, sr.; Maeve Casey, jr.; Angela Pasquini, fr. Metea Valley: Taylor Goldman, so.; Abbey Woods, jr.; Meera Baid, fr.; Natalia Kochkodan, fr.; Montini: Tania Yunez, sr.; Ava Gianatasio, sr.; Naperville Central: Jacquelyne Qi, so.; Natalie Atkins, sr.; Elaine Liu, jr.; Nina Raab, jr.; Katie Liu, fr.; Naperville North: Kavya Rachapalli, jr.; Chandani Bansal, jr.; Neuqua Valley: Veena Murali, sr.; Hanna Beck, jr.; Hannah Neuman, so.; Audrey Provine, so.; Jessica Chivini, fr.; St. Francis: Alyssa Gulli, sr.; Gina Vale, jr.; Marnie Kopec, so.; Timothy Christian: Bogdale Ahn, jr.; Cassandra Lee, fr.; Waubonsie Valley: Hannah Owens, jr.; Wheaton Academy: Bethany Hoogerheide, sr.; Olivia Hamm, so.; Ellie Howland, so.; Carly Chan, fr.; Wheaton North: Madeline Fidel, jr.; Sophia Block, so.; Wheaton Warrenville South: Samantha Choi, jr.; Emily Orlove, so.; Liza Dreyer, jr.; Willowbrook: Grace Wachhold, jr.; York: Melissa Cartis, so.; Cate Duhig, so.; Gianna Nikoleit, fr.

Nikoleit report: Benet played the postseason in Class 1A with the smaller schools and won the state title. The reward for the Redwings was to move up to Class 2A, so as Benet coach Michael Hand said, "Last year was great and the girls are thrilled and proud, but that's ancient history." The Redwings begin the year with Schrader, their best player, continuing her long road back from the herniated disc that kept her out last year. "She's an accomplished player," Hand said. "But getting back to full strength will be a slow process." Gaborik is fighting to gain the first-singles spot as a freshman, while last year's No. 1 Arnold could move to doubles. The coach has good veteran talent behind these three and he's hoping for a top 15 Class 2A finish.

The DuPage Valley Conference will be a mad scramble this year with strong teams bunched at the top and great young talent throughout. Most teams are blessed with an outstanding No. 1 singles player, some of whom may be playing doubles when the sectional rolls around. And no singles player goes into the season more highly rated than Wheaton Warrenville South's Choi. The Tigers junior finished



DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com
Wheaton Warrenville South singles player Sam Choi returns as one of the top tennis players in DuPage County this season.

Naperville Central is loaded again this year, led by Qi who was top 12 at state. She takes her place at the top of the lineup with six other fine players competing for the other top singles and doubles spots. Qi had a great freshman year and she hopes to get into the top eight this year. "She's become more of an all-around player by improving her serve and her net game," said Naperville Central coach Dan Brown. "And she's got impressive match toughness." Atkins and Elaine Liu both qualified for state in doubles with partners who are now graduated. "Our goals are to win conference, win sectional and get as many as possible to the state tournament," Brown said. "We're hoping for a top-15 finish at state."

Second-place Neuqua Valley returns a trio of state qualifiers from a team that finished at No. 16 at state. The Wildcats have some rebuilding to do but still hope to finish in the top 15 as well. Murali was in the top 48 at state. She's a smart, experienced player who moves the ball around a lot. Neuman and Beck made it to state as a doubles team. "They complement each other in their games and in their personalities," said coach Trudy Bennoth. "Neuman is feisty and Beck is more of a calming influence. They're both very good closing at the net."

Wheaton North's lineup is headed by two-time state qualifier Fidel who won four matches in the state tournament to finish top 32. "Madeline is a smart player," coach Eric Laird said. "She's added depth and pace and we expect her to take the next step." The Falcons are hoping to break into the top three in conference.

Naperville North is led by Rachapalli, who qualified in doubles last year but will be at the head of the singles lineup in 2017. "She's really lifted her game to a higher level," said Huskies coach Heather Henricksen. The Huskies were third in the DVC and their hopes for competing for the championship hinge on the development of a trio of freshmen who will start. "These girls are true tennis players with a lot of upside to their game," Henricksen said.

Waubonsie Valley's shining star is Owens, a state qualifier, and first singles in what will be a young lineup. "Hannah is a very steady player," coach Phil Galow said. "And this year she's playing with more power." Metea Valley features Goldman, who made it to state in singles as a freshman. She's capable of getting back there, but she and Woods have been working as a

been in years.

Hinsdale Central won another state title last year and the Red Devils with Oosterbaan, top eight in singles, and Ahn, sixth in doubles, at the head of the lineup will be going for the gold once again. "In addition we have solid players who are looking for a breakthrough season," said first-year coach Shawna Zsinko. "Beyond Oosterbaan and Ahn, we don't have the big stars, but there are at least 10 girls who are very good and should help us compete for the state title."

Glenbard West, which was fourth at state returns Lopez, who finished in the top 12 in singles, and the doubles team of Rueth and Giffin who were also top 12. "We would need a third qualifier to break into the top five again," said Hilltoppers first-year coach Kevin Graham. "We're deep and experienced so it will just be a matter of putting our people in the right positions."

Hinsdale South, which will be led by the three Mikos sisters, will be a team to watch this year. Coach Steve Snider believes that if things develop the way he believes they can, the Hornets will challenge the elites.

York is another team with a sensational freshman in Nikoleit, who along with a savvy group of veterans will be trying to help the Dukes move up in West Suburban Conference and make an impact at state. And also look for a good season from Downers Grove South as freshmen Jucys and Urgello lead the Mustangs back into prominence.

In Class 1A Wheaton Academy which finished 10th at state, and Timothy Christian at No. 11, will be the class of the field. For Wheaton Academy, Hamm, who qualified in doubles, will move to singles, where she will be challenged by freshman Chan. "It was exciting to make a dent at state," coach Heather Green said. "Even though we graduated four of five state qualifiers, we're looking to go top 10 again." The Warriors were Metro Suburban Conference Blue Division champs last year. Glenbard South with eight returning seniors will compete with Wheaton Academy for the division title. Timothy Christian finished 11th at state after winning the Metro Suburban Red Division. "We should be the heavy favorite to win again," coach Keith Mills said. Ahn, who finished in the top eight at singles, is a fine athlete who can play a baseline or attacking game. She could play some doubles. Lee is another one of those great freshmen.

St. Francis under new coach Tom Castronovo led by returning qualifier Vale, has a strong top

Scouting DuPage County girls swimming and diving

Top teams: Hinsdale Central, Neuqua Valley, Naperville Central, Naperville North, Downers Grove South, York, Waubonsie Valley.

Top players: Addison Trail/Willowbrook co-op: Elissa Haake, jr.; Michelle Ramirez, sr.; Anna Christiansen, jr.; Benet: Catherine Meehan, jr.; Paige Smith, jr.; Emma Kash, jr.; Fiona Moran, so.; Jillian Devine, so.; Megan Dobrolinsky, jr.; Tabitha Torres, fr.; Sophie Kash, fr.; Downers Grove North: Ellie Benge, sr.; Elizabeth Candel, so.; Libby Benge, so.; Downers Grove South: Allie Puccillo, sr.; Makaila Scheiblein, sr.; Annie Leinart, jr.; Melanie Scheiblein, so.; Jorie Selig, so.; Nicole Molnar, jr.; Glenbard North/East co-op: Amber Finke, so.; Glenbard West/South co-op: Jane Denenberg, jr.; Molly Rosenthal, jr.; Julia Hall, sr.; Megan Murphy, jr.; Hinsdale Central: Stephanie Bowater, sr.; Emily Graham, sr.; Hollis Clark, sr.; Maud Willemsse sr.; Maddie Fowler, sr.; Anna Gruberger, so.; Anna Glowniak, jr.; Hinsdale South: Briana Veselik, sr.; Cameron Frank, sr.; Kaitlin Hall (diver), sr.; Lake Park: Jennifer Hauser, sr.; Francesca Orlando, sr.; Kathy Buff, jr.; Donna Kurek, jr.; Shannon Murphy, jr.; Metea Valley: Anna Scovill, sr.; Sadie Gregory, sr.; Natalia Castillo, sr.; Kellie Willhite, so.; Laurel Bludgen, so.; Lucy Siwicki, so.; Riley Stone, jr.; McKenna Stone, fr.; Naperville Central: Audrey Coffey, sr.; Lisa Johnson, jr.; Alexa Puccini, so.; Natalie He, sr.; Emily Wagner, jr.; Payton DeZur, sr.; Naperville North: Connie Zhang, sr.; Claire Russell, sr.; Isabelle Rocco, sr.; Kelly Zhou, so.; Holly Wessel, fr.; Taylor Wessel, jr.; Neuqua Valley: Kristen Stege, jr.; Athena Salafatinos, jr.; Sabrina Firmet, sr.; Cloe Pace (diver), sr.; Samantha Carlson (diver), jr.; Maxine Parkinson, so.; Isabella Harder, so.; Divya Kale, jr.; Jill Erlechnerman, jr.; Rachel Stege, fr.; Tiffanie Ruan, fr.; Megan Cieczczak, fr.; Waubonsie Valley: Julia Burling, sr.; Lily Hunt, jr.; Rebecca Farber, jr.; Kayla Lohman, sr.; Emily Hennessy, jr.; Lauren Lee, so.; Kathryn Suplee, fr.; Kylie Mears, fr.; Wheaton Warrenville co-op: Sira Limbu, fr.; Maya Hutchison, fr.; Lisa Savicevec, jr.; Rebecca Dicosola, jr.; West Chicago/Batavia co-op: Ula Konopko, sr.; Kelly Sego, so.; Addy Novak, so.; Annabelle Kinerk, so.; York: Meghan Quinn, sr.; Nicole Bednarik, jr.; Moleigh Waldherr, so.; Amanda Polach, so.; Birgitte Kammerdiener, (diver), jr.; Isabel Monarrez (diver), sr.

Scouting report: DuPage County had its share of qualifiers for last year's state swimming and diving meet, but the county was a little light on individual scorers, people who finished in the top 12 in their events. Coaches throughout the county are optimistic that the situation will change this year. The wealth of underclass talent matures and those who did qualify are veterans who now know what to expect at the state meet. One person to keep an eye on in the talent-loaded DuPage Valley Conference is Naperville North senior Zhang, who was top six in the 100 freestyle and top 12 in the 200 freestyle. Zhang hopes to earn a place in the first six in both this year as she leads a talented Huskies lineup that is determined to crash the top 20 in the

team standings, which they just missed last year. The Huskies are also shooting for a DVC crown. Zhang, a respected team leader, has set high goals for the coming year. "The girls call her a 'beast'," said Naperville North coach Andy McWhirter. "There's no challenge she won't tackle in the pool and in the weight room and she has been a vocal leader of the girls in our promising freshman class." In addition to Zhang, the Huskies hope that a pair of relays can make it into the top dozen. McWhirter also has hopes that sprinter Rocco and the freshman Holly Wessel can score. While the DVC race will once again be a mad scramble, last year's conference champ

Neuqua Valley is reloading on the fly after suffering heavy graduation losses from last year's team that finished 12th at state. Kristen Stege is the only returnee from the Wildcats' 200 medley relay team that was third at state. But as always Neuqua has plenty of candidates to compete for the relay spots. Several of the returning starters had solid off-seasons and could be in position to make some noise at state. Include Parkinson, in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke and Salafatinos in the backstroke as two who are looking forward to the postseason. Pace is one of the most dynamic and consistent divers in the area and is expected to score some points for Neuqua. "Our relays are the big hope this year," said Neuqua coach Jason Niforatos. "If the freshmen contribute and push the veterans we'll be strong in relays at the end of the season. That's our chance to break into the top 10."

Naperville Central, Waubonsie Valley and Metea Valley also will be in the battle for DVC supremacy. For the Redhaws, 2016 was a year of growing and learning, and they've worked hard to prepare to take the next step this time. Naperville Central is bolstered by the return of Coffey, who finished seventh in the 500 freestyle two years ago. "We'll be more competitive this year," Adams said. "We bring a lot back and we have some talented freshmen. We're hoping to be in position to do well at state."

Waubonsie Valley, which finished just outside the top 20 in the final state standing and finished second to Neuqua Valley in the DVC, scored in two state relays. While a number of the fastest girls graduated, those who return can give coach Katie Peterson a lineup that has the potential to at least equal last year's success. "We have many versatile swimmers who will swim in whichever race helps the team the most," Peterson said. "We scored in two relays last year and we're hoping to do even better this year." Hunt, Farber and Hennessy are among those who are capable of qualifying in individual events. At Metea Valley the postseason plan is to build state-qualifying relay teams in the medley and the 400 free and pin their hopes on mainstays such as Scovill, Gregory and Siwicki in the individual races. "We're hoping to crack the top 20," said Metea Valley coach Mark Jager. "But it all depends on our relays."

While Lake Park doesn't have the depth of the Naperville schools,

the Lancers do have led by Hauser, one o sprinters in the area. makes our team tri Lake Park coach Da "She will swim in c is expected to take a forward.

It's a rebuilding year Warrenville co-op ur coach Jason Maddu: freshmen Limbu and helping to usher in a

Outside the DVC, Hin Central, which finish state and returns a b talent is again the cl field. The Red Devils three relays and they to improve by getting in more individual ev led by the versatile G outstanding flyer Gru Clarke, who hopes to backstroke. "We hav kids coming up who a few meets to see v fit into the equation," Devils coach Bob Ba The Glenbard West/S team continues to gr Chris Flamin has be than ever before and of outstanding perfor Denenberg — who q the 200 IM and the 1 looking to score thi distance swimmer R who could get to Sat 500.

Downers Grove Soutl for its fifth straight c championship. But th with the Mustangs i have the depth and q qualify someone for e every event. "We're i Scheiblein sisters ca the breaststroke," co Krick said. "And we l chance to go top 12 i relays. That could ge top 20."

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Key dates: Sept. 9: Valley Invite; Sept. 9: Invite at Hinsdale S 16: West Chicago W Invite; Sept. 23: Dow North Invite; Sept. 2: Invite at Marmion; S 30: Downers Grove I Oct. 7: Naperville N Oct. 21: Metea Valle Invite; Oct. 28: Conf meets; Nov. 11: Seci Nov. 17-18 state me Trier.

Hinsdale South: Briana Velik, sr.; Cameran Frank, sr.; Tim Hall (diver), sr.; **Lake Park:** Jennifer Hauser, sr.; Francesca Ando, sr.; Kathy Buff, jr.; Anna Kurek, jr.; Shannon Murphy, jr.; **Metea Valley:** Anna Pavlik, sr.; Sadie Gregory, sr.; Natalia Castillo, sr.; Kellie White, so.; Laurel Bludgen, so.; Cy Siwicki, so.; Riley Stone, jr.; Kenna Stone, fr.; **Naperville Central:** Audrey Coffey, sr.; Lisa Hanson, jr.; Alexa Puccini, so.; Katie Hey, sr.; Emily Wagner, Payton DeZur, sr.; **Naperville North:** Connie Zhang, sr.; Claire Russell, sr.; Isabelle Rocco, sr.; Kelly Zhou, so.; Holly Wessel, fr.; Tyler Wessel, jr.; **Neuqua Valley:** Kristen Stege, jr.; Athena Salafatinos, jr.; Sabrina Firmet, sr.; Joe Pace (diver), sr.; Samantha Carlson (diver), jr.; Maxine Parson, so.; Isabella Harder, so.; Maya Kale, jr.; Jill Erlechner, sr.; Rachel Stege, fr.; Tiffanie Jan, jr.; Megan Cieczak, fr.; **Waubonsie Valley:** Julia Burling, sr.; Lily Hunt, jr.; Rebecca Farber, sr.; Kayla Lohman, sr.; Emily Hennessy, jr.; Lauren Lee, so.; Kathryn Suplee, fr.; Kylie Mears, sr.; **Wheaton Warrenville co-op:** Mira Limbu, fr.; Maya Hutchison, sr.; Mia Savicevec, jr.; Rebecca Icosola, jr.; **West Chicago/Batavia co-op:** Ula Konopko, sr.; Kelly Segal, so.; Addy Novak, so.; Annabelle Kinerk, so.; **York:** Meghan Quinn, sr.; Nicole Bednarik, jr.; Moleigh Waldherr, so.; Amanda Polach, so.; Birgitte Hammerdiener, (diver), jr.; Isabel Bonarrez (diver), sr.

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While Lake Park doesn't have the depth of the Naperville schools,

team continues to grow. Coach Chris Flaminio has better depth than ever before and a couple of outstanding performers in Denenberg — who qualified in the 200 IM and the 100 fly and is looking to score this year — and distance swimmer Rosenthal, who could get to Saturday in the 500.

Downers Grove South is hoping for its fifth straight conference championship. But the big news with the Mustangs is that they have the depth and quality to qualify someone for state in every event. "We're hoping the Scheiblein sisters can score in the breaststroke," coach Paul Krick said. "And we have a chance to go top 12 in one or two relays. That could get us into the top 20."

York is deep with a group of state qualifiers who will be pushing each other to score both in relays and individual races. Waldherr is outstanding in the breaststroke, while Bednarik, Quinn and Polach have the versatility to fill a number of slots. Addison Trail-Wilowbrook co-op has a superstar in Haake, who scored in both the 200 and the 100 freestyle.

Benet coach Sarah Maggio has more talent and depth than she's had for years, but the Redwings must learn how to put it together in sectionals in order to be well-represented on the deck at the state meet. Veselik and Frank lead an improved Hinsdale South outfit that is looking to win conference and qualify a couple of relays. Segal, is the standout for West Chicago/Batavia and she could score in both the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke and maybe lead a relay or two to state.

Key dates: Sept. 9: Neuqua Valley Invite; Sept. 9: Hornet Invite at Hinsdale South; Sept. 16: West Chicago Wildcat Invite; Sept. 23: Downers Grove North Invite; Sept. 23: Rosary Invite at Marmion; Sept. 30: Downers Grove South Invite; Oct. 7: Naperville North Invite; Oct. 21: Metea Valley Mustang Invite; Oct. 28: Conference meets; Nov. 11: Sectionals; Nov. 17-18 state meet at New Trier.

— Neil Shalin



Scouting DuPage County boys cross country

Top teams: Downers Grove North, York, Neuqua Valley, Wheaton Warrenville South, Downers Grove South, Hinsdale Central, Naperville Central, Wheaton North, Glenbard West, Naperville North.

Top athletes: *Addison Trail:* Danny Bueno, sr., Ian Smith, jr., Luis Vargas, sr.; *Benet:* James Austgen, sr., Tommy Diehl, jr., David Hightower, jr., Dylan Kingston, sr., Connor O'Keefe, jr.; *Downers Grove North:* Ryan Birkmeier, sr., Nick Chudzick, sr., Matt Moravec, sr., Jacob Ridderhoff, sr.; *Downers Grove South:* Nick Dziedzick, sr., Akhil Ghosh, sr., Stephen Piplas, sr., Eddie Siuda, jr.; *Fenton:* Michael Lieggi, sr., Jeremy Lodewyck, sr., Christian Sanchez, sr., Alex Whyte, sr.; *Glenbard East:* David Crossland, sr., Aidan Ihms, soph.; *Glenbard North:* Ryan Czaja, sr., Marat Schatz, jr., Omar Solario, jr., Matthew Sulocha, jr.; *Glenbard South:* Ryan Alispach, jr., Wesley Jedlicka, jr., Austin MacClure, soph., Edwin Szobada, soph.; *Glenbard West:* Cameron Benes, sr., Rory Cavan, jr., Stephen Moody, jr., Will O'Brien, jr., Ian Repking, jr.; *Hinsdale Central:* Neil Cumberland, sr., Alec Hill, jr., Sean O'Connell, sr., Sam Schiavitti, sr.; *Hinsdale South:* Brett Haffner, sr., Trevor Lehmann, jr., Tim Rudolph, jr.; *IC Catholic Prep:* Dominic Gaudio, soph., Howard Huang, sr., Casey Kristie, sr., Fabian Perez, jr., Patrick Shannon, sr.; *Lake Park:* Eric Bayer, sr., Colin Kirkham, sr., Jack Murphy, soph., Eugene Ranaio, sr., Derek Szczekocki, sr., Matt Tumbarello, jr.; *Lisle:* Joey Chan, jr.; *Metea Valley:* Mohammed Abrar, fr., Matt Corso, jr., Rokas Gudiniavicius, sr., Ralph Papa, sr., Michael Varzino, jr.; *Montini:* Matt Baka, sr., Drew Bolisay, jr., Jayden Gertsen, jr., Ian Kwit, jr., Jacob Mondschean, sr.; *Naperville Central:* Adam Balutowski, sr., Tyler Evans, jr., Seth Klein-Colins, jr., Thomas Shilgalis, sr.; *Naperville North:* Jake Allen, soph., Luke Boelke, soph., John Effler, sr., Nick Trattner, jr.; *Neuqua Valley:* Tyler Bombacino, sr., Alex Johnson, sr., Chris Keeley, jr., Ryan Kennedy, sr., Zach Kinne, jr., Michael Madiol, jr., Danny Winek, sr.; *St. Francis:* Jon Aquino, jr., Alex Hernandez, sr., Joe Leo, sr., Dan Weizeorick, soph.; *Timothy Christian:* Clint Fincher, jr., Caleb Mitchell, soph., William Terpstra, sr.; *Waubonsie Valley:* Wes Beitter, soph., Alex Barrenbrugge, jr., Jake Saindon, jr., Wes York, sr.; *Westmont:* Jake Dooley, jr., Jason Eiermann, soph., Matt Gedraitis, jr., Jasper Requiron, sr.; *West Chicago:* Kellen Klapatch, jr., Rickson Naway, jr., Peter Osielski, soph., Kamel Patel, jr.; *Wheaton Academy:* Ryan Lotz, sr., Will Lyon, jr., Jeff Ridge, sr., Ryan Wittstock, sr.; *Wheaton North:* Kevin Boehm, jr., Nick Garza, jr., Justin Ostrem, sr., Kevin Riley, sr., Joey Simon, sr., Connor Zydek, jr.; *Wheaton Warrenville South:* Andrew Dixon, sr., Billy Hauenstein, soph., Jacob Kluckhohn, soph., John Keys, sr., Sean Maison, jr., Scott Maison, jr.; *Willowbrook:* Matt Caron, jr., Ian Costello, sr., Alec Gruchalski, sr., Michael Isaacson, sr.; *York:* Jackson Bode, sr., Danny Hohnquest, sr., Ethan Kern, soph., Charlie Kern, sr., Sean MacGregor, sr.

Scouting report: The roles are completely reversed for Neuqua Valley and Downers Grove North on the local boys cross country

York sharing the second position. Wheaton Warrenville South, Downers South, Hinsdale Central, Naperville Central and Wheaton North are also ranked either by the coaches or the authoritative website ilxcft.com. The corresponding suburban landscape and traditional downstate powers offer unlimited potential for an unforgettable season. "This may be the toughest year ever," Vandersteen said. "Illinois seems to step up the game."

The top three teams have sub-plots in their own right to work out this season. The programs collectively have the only area all-state runners returning in Class 3A this fall in the Dukes' Charlie Kern and MacGregor, the Trojans' Ridderhoff and the Wildcats' Kinne. The Trojans have their entire nucleus back from a state runner-up team, headlined by Ridderhoff, who finished 15th overall. "It was only logical that we would get that ranking," Sipple said of the Trojans' preseason honor. "(Neuqua Valley) is going to be pretty darn good this year, too." Vandersteen is in an almost identical position as seven years ago. The Wildcats were the defending state champion, only to lose their entire state lineup to graduation. Kinne is the lone returnee this season from last year in Peoria. The Wildcats' junior was two slots behind Ridderhoff as one of three all-state athletes for Neuqua Valley. Kinne also showcased his stamina on the track by finishing fifth in the 3,200-meter run last spring. "We all have it in us," Kinne said of the Wildcats' outlook. "The state meet is like any other meet for us." Vandersteen will look for Kinne to shoulder much this season. "(Kinne) really exudes our philosophy of moderation and consistency," Vandersteen said. "He's only a junior. I think you're going to see him get better as time goes on."

Winek figures to be a major storyline for the Wildcats' potential success this fall. Winek missed his junior season with a major lower-back injury. (Winek is critical," Vandersteen said. "He's not ready to run yet. He's healthy right now but not racing. We have a much better chance for a trophy than without him." Kennedy and Bombacino are equally anxious to move into the starting lineup for Neuqua Valley. Bombacino was a member of the Wildcats' state-championship 3,200 relay last spring in Charleston. "In track some of us ran in bigger meets, which will help in cross country," Bombacino said. Vandersteen is ready to unleash his latest edition in search of a potential fourth state championship. "They are working extremely hard," Vandersteen said. "They are ready to go."

It will be decades before Neuqua Valley could possibly match the historic state haul of York. Even with Charlie Kern and MacGregor finishing fourth and 10th last fall, the Dukes had much grander ambitions than placing No. 16 as a team. For the first time in more than half a century, Joe Newton will not have any capacity with the program. The Dukes have 28 state titles in cross country. "We owe a great deal of gratitude to (Newton)," Vandersteen said. "He put Illinois cross country on the map. This is the first year coach (Charlie) Kern has a chance to own his own program. I think you are going to see some good things. They have a heck of a 1-2

Conference since leaving the Upstate Eight two years ago. "Neuqua is Neuqua," WW South coach Chris Kuntz said. "We just hope to do the best we can. Neuqua has been the dominant team in the conference and the area the last two years. Our kids have a great work ethic. They run as a pack. We're hoping to have a pack team again but that moves up further." The Tigers' Maison twins are poised to be the bedrock of the program this fall. "Wheaton Warrenville South looks very deep and talented," Waubonsie Valley coach Kevin Rafferty said.

Wheaton North, Waubonsie Valley and Lake Park all have aspirations to make inroads this fall as well. "The expectations are to compete for a conference championship," Wheaton North coach Nate Roe said. "We have the mindset to do that." Rafferty will craft the Warriors' program around York, all-state in track last spring, and Beitter. "Beitter will give York a run for his money this fall," Rafferty said. "We should be a deep threat for the teams in our area." Lake Park will build its fortunes around seniors Bayer and Kirkham. "We have a solid group," Lake Park coach Lane Murphy said. "We have a big gap (among team members) that we need to close down." DuPage Valley seniors Shilgalis (Naperville Central) and Papa (Metea Valley) — along with Downers South senior Piplas — are the only returning all-large state qualifiers from last fall. Naperville Central and Naperville North, which surged from an average regional performance last year to qualify for the state meet, are looking to continue their collective postseason success of the last decade-plus. "Both Napervilles are going to be really good," Rafferty said.

Benet attempts to extend an exceptional winning streak in the East Suburban Catholic Conference. The Redwings, with Kingston and O'Keefe in their vanguard, have won 17 straight league titles. "That is always the pride of the program," Benet coach Kevin Renicke said. "The small things are what we are working on."

Among the area Class 2A programs, Hinsdale South is the lone ranked school in the preseason poll. The Hornets, one team spot behind St. Francis' 15th position last fall, boast the top returning individual placer in Haffner. St. Francis' Aquino, Hernandez, Leo and Weizeorick all return for another chance to run in Peoria in November. "We definitely think we have a shot to get back," St. Francis coach Scott Nelson said. "We have a goal to get one or two all-staters." Mondschean and Ridge made the state cut as individuals last fall for Montini and Wheaton Academy. "We would expect (Mondschean) to get down again and be an all-state qualifier," said Montini coach Joe Mordente, who sent his whole team to state two years ago. "We are hoping Ian and Jayden can qualify as well."

Metro Suburban Conference combatants Fenton — with state veterans Lieggi, Lodewyck, Sanchez and Whyte back — and Glenbard South — which has Jedlicka and MacClure to reclaim past glories — will have to navigate a hazardous Class 2A postseason route.

In Class 1A Timothy Christian

Scouting DuPage County girls cross country

Top teams: Naperville North, Glenbard West, Hinsdale Central, Downers Grove South, Neuqua Valley, York, Metea Valley, WW South, Naperville Central, Glenbard East.

Top athletes: *Addison Trail:* Liz Balbuena, jr., Natalie Diaz, jr., Alex Nava, jr., Viviana Sanfilippo, fr.; *Benet:* Kelly Andrews, fr., Elisabeth Camic, fr., Joy Jackson, fr., Colleen Lipa, soph., Emily Spellman, fr., Mae Tully, jr.; *Downers Grove North:* Eva Bednard, soph., Ellie Gross, soph., Claire Kovarik, sr., Grace Puc, sr.; *Downers Grove South:* Brenna Cohoun, soph., Erin Reidy, soph., Becky Versaskas, jr., Melissa Weidner, jr.; *Fenton:* Charity Bullis, soph., Angela Durate, jr., Ruth Kirkwood, soph., Jessica McCauley, sr., Jacqueline Ponce, sr.; *Glenbard East:* Cailyn Biegalski, sr., Melissa Flores, sr., Katie Schaefer, sr., Lexi Weltin, sr.; *Glenbard North:* Alex Bartkowiak, sr., Anna Marinc, sr., Emily Salucha, soph., Eleta Sisay, jr.; *Glenbard South:* Ava Childs, sr., Julia Clingen, jr., Gisela Hagedorn, jr., Katie King, sr.; *Glenbard West:* Chloe Connelly, jr., Katelynne Hart, soph., Katie Hohe, jr., Claire Kenwood, sr., Lindsey Payne, sr., Lauren Pappas, jr.; *Hinsdale Central:* Kayla Byrne, jr., Grace McCabe, sr., McKenna Revord, soph., Reilly Revord, sr.; *Hinsdale South:* Neha Chinwalla, sr., Emma Ririe, sr., Patrice Trzupek, soph., Kiki Twardosz, sr.; *IC Catholic Prep:* Anna Gendusa, sr., Jada Smith, jr., Julissa Unzueta, sr.; *Lake Park:* Jennifer Ayala, sr., Grace Larson, jr., Lauren Mack, soph., Kasia Szkaradek, soph., Janelle Drogolewicz, jr.; *Lisle:* Katy Cunningham, sr., Carolyn Keleher, sr., Liz LaScala, sr.; *Metea Valley:* Carly Cast, jr., Megan Fichte, soph., Terri Scarlett, jr., Keely Weber, sr.; *Montini:* Julia Billote, soph., Bella Reiley, jr., Hannah Ruddy, soph., Emily Samp, sr.; *Naperville Central:* Meghan Donovan, sr., Victoria Mino, sr., Natalie Sarris, sr., Emily Scott, soph., Noelle Veone, sr.; *Naperville North:* Jill Fitz, sr., Claire Hill, jr., Alex Morris, jr., Sam Prazma, sr., Hannah Ricci, sr., Sarah Schmitt, sr.; *Neuqua Valley:* Keara Ginell, sr., Sofia Medina, jr., Corinna Pena, sr., Julia Rushing, soph., Brynne Winiarski, sr.; *St. Francis:* Katie Haney, jr., Claire Kolker, sr., Lila Kral, jr.; *Timothy Christian:* Hope Clark, soph., Olivia Reamer, jr., Elise Terpstra, soph.; *Waubonsie Valley:* Ashley Heidenrich, soph., Shaelyn Iyer, sr., Katelynn Mullinax, soph., Sarah Vitro, jr.; *West Chicago:* Maddie Brotown, sr.; *Westmont:* Lily Arndt, sr., Halle Nash, sr., Peyton Nash, sr., Lisa Niemiec, sr.; *Wheaton Academy:* Maggie Bailey, sr., Stephanie Gregersen, jr., Julia Robleski, sr.; *Wheaton North:* Sophie Diagle, soph., Olivia Jeannette, soph., Katie Lanagan, sr., Rose Quinn, sr., Emma Riley, soph.; *Wheaton Warrenville South:* Haley Ansel, soph., Laurel Moneysmith, jr., Kaitlin Nenninger, soph., Amanda Obrist, jr., Maria Ruboca, soph.; *Willowbrook:* Kaylynn Kattiya-man, sr., Angela Klingelhoff, sr., Victoria Palma, jr.; *York:* Maya Curry, soph., Erin Davies, sr., Lydia Hickey, soph., Emma Kern, soph., Sarah May, jr., Katherine Tomaska, sr.

Scouting report: The battle lines between Naperville North, the defending Class 3A girls cross country champion, and Glenbard

events in identical order. "You want to put top runners at the top," Naperville North coach Dan Iverson said. "But you have to have a team." With its remarkable depth and balance once again on full display, the Huskies turned back five-time defending Class 2A champion Yorkville 111-130 to capture its sixth state championship under the 21-year Iverson reign. Illness-addled Glenbard West had to settle for ninth as a team last fall at Deweller Park in Peoria.

But the sense of anticipation for a classic showdown this fall was only enhanced on the track last spring as the Huskies' distance stars were pivotal figures in the first Naperville North track state trophy — third place — in program history. "(The) track (state championship) was a great thing," Glenbard West coach Paul Hass said. "We're not focusing on Naperville North. We're focusing on what we can do. (The Huskies) are probably going to be prohibitive favorites going into the season. We hope to be mentioned in the same breath." Naperville North returns three all-state athletes in Schmitt, sixth, as well as Ricci and Morris, who finished in consecutive slots to place in the top 19. To add further intrigue to the schools' anticipated clashes this fall, Schmitt and Morris were third and fifth, respectively, in the 3,200 last spring. Naperville North also has a run of five consecutive appearances at the Nike National meet in Portland. "We are all motivated," Schmitt said. "(My teammates) bring that energy and excitement throughout the season." The Huskies' senior is well aware encountering Hart and Payne is inevitable this fall. "They are amazing competitors," Schmitt said. "We have been racing against such athletes for years." Five of the six local returning Class 3A all-state runners hail from either Naperville North or Glenbard West as Ricci and Morris will seek to lessen the departure of state team-placers Claire Hamilton (Indiana) and Gabby Champlon (University of Northern Iowa). "I don't see (cross country) as an individual sport," said Ricci, who transferred from Pennsylvania last year. "It's about what we can accomplish as a team." "My goal is to run as fast as I can and improve from last season," Morris said. Seniors Fitz and Prazma are potential breakout stars for the Huskies. Ricci, Hill and Fitz were members of the Huskies' third-place 3,200 relay last spring. "I definitely appreciate the speed aspect of track (in preparing for cross country)," Ricci said. Schmitt follows a specific routine in continuing the Huskies' extraordinary legacy that features 14 state trophies since Iverson inherited the program in 1996. "My focus is one meet at a time," Schmitt said. "In the back of my mind, we are thinking about the end of the season."

There is a whole different level to state than the regional and sectional. You don't want to be overconfident," Iverson is in the envious position of inserting multiple runners, many of whom would unquestionably be starters in countless other programs. "It's always a process in training with purpose as we go into October and November," Iverson said of his philosophical approach. "The (regular-season) races won't be any different, but the training will be different for sure," Iverson said. Freshmen frequently pay

of her underclassmen to be a heck of a seas. Our conference is still all have a ton of talent will come down to wh healthy."

Downers South is the ite in the West Suburb reigning fourth-place I enter the season rank "We can't control the ahead of us," Downers coach Doug Plunkett's striking display Nape Yorkville and Minooka among the 25 team q state last fall. "We're clear that gap this year Neuqua Valley and Me also have designs on e to the state finals. The were sixth in state last "We can't let Naperville doing great get in our year Neuqua Valley co Ameling said of the W this year. "We can't t differently. We have to what we're doing." Lik school, Metea Valley v back a strong nucleus state contingent. "Eve year we get better," M coach Eric Anerino sai probably have the mos program we have ever WW South will seek a consecutive team trip this fall. Glenbard East North, Lake Park and Valley are programs w ambitions to match th bases of talent. Glenb the clear favorite in th Eight Conference Vali behind its senior-dom four. Weltin and Biega to make their success the state cut in track t cross country.

Wheaton North is pote scary this fall, seen by observers as a potenti horse. "I have such a (of classes) at the mor Wheaton North coach Zegelin said. "It's just and committed group. lot of young athletes."

Lake Park coach Jay hopeful the depth of t in the area will rub off potentially dangerous "We see some of the t in the state week in ar out," Ivory said. "We h work like they do." Na Central coach Matt Bk a known commodity i at-large state qualifier "We hope to develop t success (as Naperville Blondell said. "They h doing it for 25 years. A I returnee, I hope (Dor can lead the girls not c individual but as a tea As the sole DuPage Co representative of the E Suburban Catholic Co Benet has yet more e extending its league d behind a slew of notat newcomers. "They h outworked the rest of Brooks said of the Red of his incoming ninth- "Freshmen are a mixe a different stage in h versus middle school. about inexperience. Fr tend to improve a ton regular season. I have a deeper group of fres years." Among the are in the two smaller divi Wheaton Academy is t ranked Class 2A prg Warriors will have Rob anchor their aspiration

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Scouting DuPage County boys soccer

Top local teams: Addison Trail, Benet, Naperville North, Nequa Valley, St. Francis, Waubonsie Valley, Wheaton Academy, Wheaton Warrenville South.

Top players: Jimmy Allen (Timothy Christian, sr., F), Angel Barriga (Fenton, sr., MF), Jack Barry (Naperville North, jr., MF), Will Buxton (Wheaton Warrenville South, sr., D), Parker Domschke (Nequa Valley, sr., MF), Jake Dzanowski (Wheaton North, sr., MF), Best Emena (Glenbard North, sr., MF), Rogelio Grimaldo (Waubonsie Valley, sr., MF), Ethan Grosam (St. Francis, sr., MF), JD Gunn (Wheaton Academy, sr., GK), Ethan Harvey (Naperville North, sr., D), Billy Heniades (Nequa Valley, F), Colin Iverson (Naperville North, jr., D), Jesus Juarez (Lake Park, jr., F), Jimmy Kalkofen (Naperville Central, sr., D), Seamus Kilgallon (Wheaton Academy, jr., MF), Mitch Konrad (Naperville North, so., D), Evan Lang (Metee Valley, jr., MF), Nathan Lukasik (Montini, sr., MF), Matt Moscatello (Glenbard South, jr., MF), Giacomo Parrino (Waubonsie Valley, sr., MF), Brandon Pineda (Glenbard East, sr., D), Ricardo Porcayo (West Chicago, sr., GK), Joe Reinhofer (York, sr., F), Jake Richards (Downers Grove North, sr., MF), Henry Roback (St. Francis, sr., D), Parker Smith (Downers Grove South, jr., GK), Tom Welch (Naperville North, jr., D), Ethan Ytterberg (Metee Valley, sr., D), Nate Zain (Naperville Central, sr., MF).

Scouting report: The "Definitely Very Challenging" conference, better known officially as the DuPage Valley Conference, will once again test the teams that are in pursuit of the prestigious title. Despite the competitive nature of the conference, Naperville North has proved to be the most dominant team, capturing 15 conference titles since 1999. The defending Class 3A champion will need to overcome some key losses, especially all-everything Chris Sullivan, but the program always seems to find a way to reload. The Huskies actually return a lot, which doesn't bode well for their opponents. All but one starter from the defensive midfield, back line and goalkeeper spots return. Tom Welch, Colin Iverson, Mitch Konrad and Ethan Harvey will lead the way, while Cesar Recendez will look to fill the scoring void with Sullivan's departure.

Glenbard North coach Gregg Koeller is in his final season after 30 years in the DVC. He'll not only retire from coaching but also teaching. That will give him an opportunity to watch his son play at North Central. It won't be easy this fall for Koeller and the Panthers; they are definitely in rebuild mode with 16 players graduating last summer and only four starters returning. "We will have three freshmen and five sophomores up on varsity and this group proved they can compete with quality schools during summer league play," Koeller said.

Lake Park returns an experienced group that will look to get the Lancers on the positive side of .500. "We have seven players who were significant starters and impact players last year as sophomores that will be returning as juniors," Lancers coach Sean Crosby said. "On top of that we have

through their forward line.

Last year was a struggle for Metee Valley. The Mustangs finished 4-11-4 and couldn't piece things together. The good news is that while they lost some key players who were seniors in 2016, they also return some guys who gained experience and will look to lead the team, including Evan Lang and Ethan Ytterberg.

If Naperville Central can find enough scoring they can be dangerous. The Redhaws finished 9-7-4 last year but had a rough finish, losing their last three games. They also struggled in finding the net, scoring multiple goals in just 6 of their 20 games. The return of seniors Jimmy Kalkofen, Zack Kokes and Nate Zain bodes well for the Redhaws' chances. Look for senior forward Ryan Coleman or others to attempt to step up and fill that scoring void.

Nequa Valley was one of the best teams in the DVC last fall, putting together a 5-1-2 record and then continuing such success in the postseason, finishing with a regional title, a 13-6-4 record and battling until falling short in a sectional title to conference foe Naperville North, a team the Wildcats had tied in the regular season. The Wildcats lost 14 players to graduation, but Daniel Costea, Ryan Carlin, Amish Gupta, Parker Domschke, Edon Kosova and top scorer Billy Heniades do return. Plenty of new bodies will need to step up and contribute if the Wildcats hope to remain competitive.

Waubonsie Valley managed to win three conference games and finished 10-8-1 overall last season. Coach Jose Garcia thinks the Warriors will be able to score often thanks to a great offense. Giacomo Parrino, an all-conference selection a season ago, returns along with veterans Rogelio Grimaldo, Mitch Mueller and Stephan Spano.

Wheaton North knows firsthand how difficult the DVC can be, especially after going winless last season in conference and only 2-16-2 overall. Despite that record the Falcons battled some of the best teams last year and come back with most of their roster and a hunger to get on the winning side. "The team is pretty much intact from last season with the small additions made to round out a nice team," Falcons coach Rob Stassen said. "Biggest strength will be the possession game and their confidence in holding the ball as a team. This is very technical group and are building their team unity each practice."

Wheaton Warrenville South will not only be challenged in conference but also in the Jacksonville tournament, PepsiCo Showdown and the annual Wheaton Cup. The Tigers return seven players from last season with their biggest strength being in the midfield and back line, with senior defenders and co-captains Will Buxton and Gabby Lazzano highlighting their returnees.

Glenbard East's roster boasts a great soccer IQ, but the Rams will be playing several guys in this year's Upstate Eight Valley that only played limited minutes a season ago. Now, they'll be asked to play an even bigger role. "We're looking to build off a very positive 2016 campaign," Rams coach Josh Adler said. "We want to put ourselves in

Preseason Top 20

Team	Comment
1. Naperville North (21-2-3)	Defending Class 3A champion
2. Addison Trail (22-2-0)	J. Hernandez back on the attack
3. Benet (21-2-2)	Rutkowski returns
4. Libertyville (14-4-0)	Indiana-bound Wittenbrink leads the way
5. Dundee-Crown (13-9-0)	MSU-bound Ajroja will make presence felt
6. St. Charles N. (15-4-3)	Persenico, Elegbede are spark plugs up top
7. Wheeling (16-3-1)	Castro, Marsical lead the way
8. Barrington (23-4-1)	Pallan, Guarnero among Broncos' best
9. Nequa Valley (13-6-4)	Heniades is a great scorer
10. Waubonsie V. (12-8-1)	Strong finish for regional champion
11. Wheaton Acad. (16-2-3)	Kilgallon twins are underrated
12. Fremd (8-10-3)	Watch out for Vikings in second half
13. Streamwood (11-6-4)	Lazaro, Gil lead talented group
14. Conant (16-9-0)	Returns key players from 4th-place finish
15. Round Lake (13-3-5)	Cohesive group will build program
16. Carmel (14-6-2)	Ehren is a leader
17. WW South (10-8-2)	Buxton, Lazzano are tough defenders
18. Leyden (16-5-0)	Eagles have 17 returning players
19. Elgin (14-6-0)	Maroons more balanced and experienced
20. Jacobs (16-6-4)	Melick, Walsh a tough combo to defend

Football numbers may be down throughout the state, but soccer numbers are most definitely skyrocketing at West Chicago where more than 110 kids tried out for the soccer program. That should allow the Wildcats to be competitive. Last year they just fell short of a few victories that would've pushed them above .500, settling at 8-10-5. Behind four-year starter Ricardo Porcayo, forward Arturo Marquez and several newcomers, the Wildcats will look to overcome a lack of height by utilizing ball control and movement with their technical skill and ability.

Coming off its best season since 1992, Addison Trail (22-2) hopes to do its part to prove that the Blazers aren't a one-hit wonder. They received some great news when Jonathan Hernandez chose to return for his senior year instead of heading into an academy. The majority of the Blazers' roster is made up of juniors, though, so developing team chemistry will be key, as well as overcoming inexperience in tight games. "Our biggest strength is team speed and ball skills," Blazers coach Ryan Dini said. "We have many players who are very good with the ball and dangerous." Midfielders Martin Juarez, Melvin Mora and Christian Garcia return, as well as goalkeeper Jean Avila who started about half of the team's game last year.

Downers Grove South is coming off a regional title season

(12-5-4) but will look different on the attack since it graduated 97 percent of its goals. "New players will have the opportunity to step up this season and pick up where other's left off last year," Mustangs coach Jon Stapleton said. How the Mustangs progress will be key since they will rely on several players, who while talented, don't have much experience. Midfielders James David and defenders Adam Chaplin and Max Schmidt-Bailey are some of their top returnees. Downers Grove North is coming off a 16-4-1 season but graduated a lot of players who possessed a lot of individual talent. Coach Mike Schmitt still likes what he sees from this year's team, though, having said, "The players we have this year give us more of a team dynamic and make us a really strong unit." Senior goalkeeper Chris Bull, senior midfielder Jake Richards and junior defender Nick Eshghy all return.

Glenbard West will rely heavily on the eight seniors and two juniors who return from last year's 9-9-2 team. The Hilltoppers also have a strong junior class that coach Maciej Kusmierz expects big things out of this fall. "We're looking for consistent effort and improvement on a game-to-game basis, especially when facing reputable conference opposition."

Hinsdale Central should be especially tough in the back and the midfield as Gavin Schwarz,

Trey Tabachka, Gareth Maritz, Brady McKay, Ian Becker and Zach Drescher will lead the way. "This group is positive, hard working and a skillful collection of talented players," Red Devils coach Michael Wiggins said. "This group has been a terrific, coachable team that represents us well." A tough schedule awaits, and Wiggins is looking forward to seeing how his kids respond. The Red Devils went 10-7-4 last year.

Youth will look to lead Hinsdale South as the Hornets only have four seniors on their roster. One again Coach Danny Makaric's program will stress more than just winning as he'll look to build excellent leaders, teammates and people out of his players while also stressing the enjoyment of the game. Hopefully some winning can accompany that foundation as the Hornets ended last season with a rough 9-1 loss to Lyons in a regional semifinal.

Joe Reinhofer will be York's biggest offensive threat, but the Dukes will also need to see guys really step up in the midfield and on the back line to shut down opponents. "I think we have a great group of kids," Dukes coach Lukasz Majewski said. "And if we can figure out how to mesh them together, if we get all those guys on the same page, I think we can be dangerous."

Willowbrook is coming off an 8-9 season and has plenty of experience with 21 upperclassmen on its roster and only a pair of sophomores. The Warriors also have a new coach as Ed De La Cruz takes over for Pete Ginter.

Benet (21-2-2) is coming off a third-place finish in Class 2A where its only losses were to Class 3A Fremd last August and to Latin in the state semifinals. The Redwings did lose nine seniors from that team so they will need to overcome those losses, especially of Connor Mote, Bennett Curtis and Ben Kelly. Thankfully, they have a lot of energy and talent returning in junior Franklin Rutkowski, but those around him will need to step up and make an impact right away.

Montini won conference and a regional last season but had to rebuild in some areas and coach Barry Briggs expects to start as many as six sophomores, including Johnny McManus and Joshua Gonzalez who started as freshmen. "We are deeper than we have ever been in almost every position," Briggs said. Four-year starter Nathan Lukasik can pretty much excel anywhere on the field while junior Anthony Burger returns as one of the team's top scoring threats.

St. Francis has an experienced senior group of players that should lead it to success in the Chicago Catholic League White. "We have an opportunity to have another solid season and as we tend to do, we will take one game at a time and see how it all comes together," coach Kevin Ward said. All-sectional defender Ethan Grosam will pace a midfield along with junior returnees, Sean Conley and Nick Gulli, while senior defenders Jacob Power and Henry Roback are also back, as is senior Leo Herard at striker.

Fenton will rely on the engine that is senior Angel Barriga to guide a relatively young squad

rework the back line. "We be a well-balanced team sides of the ball," Ruiz sa Freshman Ivan Jaramillo, omores Sebastian Palacic Ethan Rojas and juniors I lbarez and Carlos Popoca need to step up as newco Glenbard South will play a tough nonconference sch to get ready for its transit to the Upstate Eight next. Of course, with teams like Fenton, Riverside-Brookli Wheaton Academy, the R already have a tough slat conference now. The Raic have four players who are their third season on varsi so they'll be banking on t experience to improve up last year's 8-8-3 mark. J Matt Moscatello, John Mc and Alex Flores and soph Josh Cohen highlight their returnees.

Timothy Christian has Jim Allen and Michael Marten returning to lead the way. Allen already has established school record for goals. "I always dangerous with t and knows where to find t ball when he doesn't ha Trojans coach Stephen Fe dez said. "(Martens) is als attacking player with incr quickness and technique t the ball. We will look for b of these players to play hu roles in our offense this ye Five other starters return t Trojans.

IC Catholic Prep hopes it improve on last year's 3-1 record. The Knights are on their third season but will be more experienced with seniors on the roster after have one last fall. "Our ple play with heart and being young program they keep ing the game," Knights c Javier Andrade said. "Gre attitudes and our midfiel make the difference this y Seniors Alex Meurer and Z Tverdokhlib and sophom Thomas Sloan and William are the team's top returne Wheaton Academy lost 14 seniors to graduation, plus Ethan Stoneman, who opte to play club, from last year 16-2-3 team that also wer a perfect 5-0-0 in the Met Suburban Conference. Loc the Warriors to continue to success with their fast-pa possession-oriented style. "We have a really good co players who like to play a c version of soccer," Warri coach Jeff Brocke said. "J Gunn will be a huge comp for us in the goal and our s class in pushing a great de team chemistry." Look for Kilgallon twins to be a gre in the midfield.

Lastly, Lisle will be young v 11 of its roster spots taken underclassmen. The Lions only have six seniors. Lisle, which went 8-9 last season to Montini in a Class 1A reg championship in 2016 and like to get redemption for t tough 1-0 loss this year an make a solid run in the post son. The Lions won the Cla title in 2010. "Depending o quickly we can get up to sp we should be very competit Lisle coach Paul Kohorn sa "Some would say this is a rebuilding year, but I feel o won/loss record will be bett season. We have a great ful and are hoping it matures q



Scouting this weekend's football games

The High Five

Glenbard North (0-1, 0-1) at Waubonsie Valley (0-1, 0-1)

DuPage Valley Conference

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Last week: Naperville Central 37, Glenbard North 7; Lake Park 36, Waubonsie Valley 34.

Last year: Waubonsie Valley 29, Glenbard North 28.

Outlook: Despite the DVC's across-the-board quality, an 0-2 start seriously hampers conference title prospects. Last year this was the game that boosted Waubonsie Valley tight end Charles Robinson's profile with a game-winning 2-point conversion catch from Tanner Westwood. They're back, of course, plus tailback Nate Ashford, with new pitchback Bryce Logan. On the whole Warriors coach Paul Murphy liked the execution of an opening-day offense that gained 356 yards. Allowing 363 yards and big plays was another story. Likewise, Glenbard North coach Ryan Wilkens looks to tighten the defense after Naperville Central's long passing success. Solid up front again, Panthers defensive linemen Prince Goodlow and Jake Wilson brought it, and Augie Gamez and Jose Vazquez helped senior Quintin Terry ignite the ground game. But like last year's opener Glenbard North committed a bunch of penalties, chipping at favorably down-and-distance scenarios for quarterback Lee Rady.

Next week: Wheaton Warrenville South at Glenbard North; Waubonsie Valley at Nequa Valley.

Montini (1-0) at Lake Zurich (1-0)

Nonconference

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Last week: Montini 51, Hyde Park 8; Lake Zurich 21, Fremd 3.

Last year: Montini 19, Lake Zurich 7.

Outlook: The head coaching debut of Montini's Mike Bukovsky was a roaring success, and for new offensive coordinator Brian Casey, too. Using their strength — speed — on the Broncos' first play from scrimmage Brad Norgle hit Nick Fedanzo for a 70-yard touchdown. Receivers Zach Olson, Matt Quaglia and Scott West all scored, while three quarterbacks — Norgle, Matt Morrissey and Nick Orlando, who added a 50-yard TD run — played well. Now it's Lake Zurich, one of Class 7A's finest. Senior linebacker Jack Sanborn, for example, is a Wisconsin commit who helped hold Fremd to 149 yards, 7 rushing, while Bears quarterback Evan Lewandowski and back Joey Stutzman salted the game away. Montini offensive linemen Sam Jarvis, Brian Jackson, Mike McNicholas and Jeremiah Banks-Wall will see and feel the difference in physicality, aggression and scheme. Bad news is senior lineman Joe Ciesla may be lost for the year with a knee injury.

Next week: Fenwick at Montini; Waukegan at Lake Zurich.

Notre Dame (1-0) at Benet (1-0)

Nonconference

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday at Benedictine University in Lisle.

Last week: Notre Dame 30, Adams (Indiana) 6; Benet 49, St. Laurence 28.

Last year: Benet 25, Notre Dame 16.

Outlook: The Dons continue a three-game road trip to start the season, one that began with last week's win and concludes with next week's trip to Nazareth. The trip to Indiana was a good one, headlined by a 2-touchdown performance from returning running back Ty Gavin. Last week Benet's defense saw strong play at all three levels, starting with lineman Joe Kipp, linebacker Devin Petersen and safety Connor Reid, who snared an interception. The Dons' defense must find a way to contain a Benet offense that piled up more than 400 yards of balanced yardage. Notre Dame excels on both lines. Kyle Gallagher needs to create pressure on the defensive side, but Redwings quarterback Matt Boyle is a tough athlete to contain behind a stellar offensive line. Boyle accounted for 371 yards, including 2 passing touchdowns and 4 rushing scores. While Jack Eschenbach had 6 catches for over 100 yards, the Redwings look to expand their offense beyond the potent passing tandem.

Next week: Notre Dame at Nazareth; Marian Central at Benet.

Nequa Valley (1-0, 1-0) at Naperville Central (1-0, 1-0)

DuPage Valley Conference

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Last week: Nequa Valley 35, Metea Valley 7; Naperville Central 37, Glenbard North 7.

Last year: Nequa Valley 24, Naperville Central 10.

Outlook: Defending DVC co-champ Nequa Valley held Metea to 3 yards rushing and forced 4 turnovers, with Matt Quinn, Josh Krajacic, Mike Baumgardner, Zach Wenz and Trevor Tesmond still top of the iceberg. Meanwhile, quarterback Jake Eskoff made all the right moves in a 17-of-23 night. And with Matt Chevalier scrapped for 93 yards and 2 scores on 5 carries. A key on Friday, Wildcats coach Bill Ellinghaus said, is the continued jelling of center Ken Shultz and the all-new offensive line. The Redhawks sparked on offense with quarterback Payton Thorne leading the charge, but running back A.J. Deinhart provided just enough balance with tough yardage. As good as they were offensively, coach Mike Stine was more impressed with the defensive effort holding up against Glenbard North's power run game. Linemen Lavar Archibald and Tommy Trepanier were particularly strong. Naperville Central forced 3 turnovers. Takeaways would come in handy against the Wildcats.

The Rest of the Best

Addison Trail (1-2) at York (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: While Blazers running back Nick D'Ambrose dominated on the ground, quarterback Nick Daudelin showed poise in his first varsity start. Even in defeat, York showed its physical side on the offensive line with sophomore Josh Mathiasen.

Aurora Central Catholic (0-1) at St. Francis (1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: St. Francis didn't amass 27 points until Week 7 last year, so its 27-7 win over Argo was big. The Spartans give ACC lots to prepare for with quarterbacks Sidney Moore and Mike Baffa, tailback Sam Sidari, receivers Zak Burke and Vince D'Orazio.

Chicago Tech Academy (0-1) at Westmont (1-0)

Game time: 6:45 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Westmont's 19 unanswered second-half points gave coach Dan Woulfe his first win. The Sentinels bring defensive heat from Tanner Plogman, Declan Durr, Alex Marotta and Jaden Phelps. Now to get new tailback Troy Schlicher some yardage.

Downers South (0-1) at Oak Park (1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Jaelynn Blecke was a bright spot for the Mustangs in a loss to Bolingbrook that was closer than the score showed. With running back Terrance Rounly and receiver Trevon Brown, Oak Park rallied from a 2-touchdown deficit to beat Simeon.

Elgin (1-0) at West Chicago (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Three times West Chicago got deep inside Wheaton Academy turf without scoring. It happens with eight first-time offensive starters. C.J. Griffin and Luke Seeman forced fumbles on defense, which hopes to return safety Jack Reynolds from injury.

Fenton (0-1) at Shepard (1-0)

Game time: 7 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: First-year Fenton coach Matthew Lynch liked the grit of the Bison. Leading the way as usual was Dylan Butts, who ran for 105 yards. Linebacker Brian Jaramillo started fast, a good thing against a fast Shepard team that hit Illinois with 56 points.

Glenbard South (0-1) at Galesburg (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Glenbard South seeks better line execution after falling 28-0 to Addison Trail. Defensive linemen Jack Jochums and Anthony Kramer, linebacker Sam Makasiar bring strong debut performances into run-heavy Galesburg, a 37-7 loser to Dunlap.

Hinsdale South (1-0) at Lyons Twp. (1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Between 96 rushing yards from Marquese Garrett and 114 receiving yards by Destin Talbert, last week the Hornets displayed terrific offensive balance. Cincinnati-bound Lions quarterback Ben Bryant threw 4 touchdown passes to beat Sandburg.

Leyden (1-0) at Downers North (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Downers North showed promise while outgaining Lockport 250-130 in total yards, but two red-zone fumbles doomed the Trojans. Drew Shelly caught 6 passes from Jack Carr as the offense showed the ability to move the chains through the air.

Lisle (1-0) at Coal City (1-0)

Game time: 7 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Lisle quarterback Jay McGrath, receiver Demetrius Kellie and tailback Jake Ventrella rallied late past Sandwich. Having only junior Zach Zikuda go both ways on the line will aid the Lions against Coal City, one of the heavies in the Interstate Eight Large.

Naperville North (1-0, 0-0) at Metea Valley (0-1, 0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Naperville North hopes to welcome back linebacker Ryan Marrano and running back Amir Wilbourne from injury. Metea opened with sound defense. Now to get running back Nolan Falk going. Guard Joe Freedlund's return from the flu will help.

Proviso East (0-1) at Glenbard West (0-1)

Game time: 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The quick hit: The Pirates will have a tough time breaking a 27-game losing streak. Glenbard West's defense clearly struggled last week, so look for some adjustments. It might start with two-way play from offensive standouts Alec Pierce and Ryan Diver.

St. Charles East (1-0) at Glenbard East (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Glenbard East needs clean football; the Saints hit Rock Island with five scores in six possessions in a 41-7. The Rams led Lake Forest early, good games by tackle Ben Pham and defensive end Pat Lyons. Receiver Kenny Adams was huge.

St. Laurence (0-1) at IC Catholic (1-0)

Game time: 7:15 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Benet quarterback Matt Boyle hurt St. Laurence running and passing right in the alley of IC OR 1 like Rinhane and



DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

Naperville Central's Cameron Strang (24) heads the ball during the Best of the West soccer tournament at Naperville Central High School.

Notice

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Boys soccer

Thursday's results

PHOTO credit: Naperville Central at Naperville North Best in the West Tournament, TBA WALKER

WESTERDENT 6, SANDWICH 1

Scoring — W. Ladown (3 goals), Fuxer (2 goals).

FENTON 2, GURIE 0

Scoring — F. Jaramillo (Barrig), Jaramillo (Sancho). Goalkeepers — F. Poppa.

WHEATON ACADEMY 4, WHEATON WARRENVILLE 0

Scoring — W. Harris (Kilgallon), Aultbach, Howlerda (Kilgallon). Goalkeepers — W. Gurn (3 saves).

MONTINI 6, IC CATHOLIC PREP 1

IC Catholic Prep 1 0 0 1
Montini 6 3 3 0

Scoring — IC: Meyer (Sloan), M. Burger, Lamberson, Lamberson (Gonzalez), McKusik (Collins), Lukanik. Goalkeepers — IC: Twidenski (12 saves), Harnsman (5 saves), M. Botsch.

NAPERVILLE CENTRAL 1, SANDBURG 0

Sandburg 0 0 0 0
Naperville Central 1 0 1 1

Scoring — IC: Kokes (Stadnickas). Goalkeepers — S. Kokes, IC: Corners.

Naperville North Best of the West Tournament

Scoring — W. Harris (Kilgallon), Aultbach, Howlerda (Kilgallon). Goalkeepers — W. Gurn (3 saves).

Boys soccer

PHOTO credit: Naperville Central at Naperville North Best in the West Tournament, TBA WALKER

Boys soccer

PHOTO credit: Naperville Central at Naperville North Best in the West Tournament, TBA WALKER

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PHOTO credit: Naperville Central at Naperville North Best in the West Tournament, TBA WALKER

clipped senior Quintin Terry ignites the ground game. But like last year Glenbard North committed a bunch of penalties, chipping ie down-and-distance scenarios for quarterback Lee Raddy.

Wheaton Warrenville South at Glenbard North; ie Valley at Neuqua Valley.

Montini (1-0) at Lake Zurich (1-0)

Nonconference

ie: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

k: Montini 51, Hyde Park 8; Lake Zurich 21, Fremd 3.

: Montini 19, Lake Zurich 7.

The head coaching debut of Montini's Mike Bukovsky was success, and for new offensive coordinator Brian Casey, their strength — speed — on the Broncos' first play from e Brad Norgle hit Nick Fedanzo for a 70-yard touchdown. Zach Olson, Matt Quaglia and Scott West all scored, while terbacks — Norgle, Matt Morrissey and Nick Orlando, who 0-yard TD run — played well. Now it's Lake Zurich, one of finest. Senior linebacker Jack Sanborn, for example, is a commit who helped hold Fremd to 149 yards, 7 rushing, rs quarterback Evan Lewandowski and back Joey Stutzman game away. Montini offensive linemen Sam Jarvis, Brian Mike McNicholas and Jeremiah Banks-Wall will see and feel nce in physicality, aggression and scheme. Bad news is rman Joe Ciesla may be lost for the year with a knee injury.

ie: Fenwick at Montini; Waukegan at Lake Zurich.

Notre Dame (1-0) at Benet (1-0)

Nonconference

ne: 7:30 p.m. Friday at Benedictine University in Lisle.

ie: Notre Dame 30, Adams (Indiana) 6; Benet 49, St. 28.

r: Benet 25, Notre Dame 16.

The Dons continue a three-game road trip to start the season, egan with last week's win and concludes with next week's trip h. The trip to Indiana was a good one, headlined by a 2-touch-ormance from returning running back Ty Gavin. Last week sence saw strong play at all three levels, starting with linemen inebacker Devin Petersen and safety Connor Reid, who snared ption. The Dons' defense must find a way to contain a Benet at piled up more than 400 yards of balanced yardage. Notre els on both lines. Kyle Gallagher needs to create pressure on sive side, but Redwings quarterback Matt Boyle is a tough contain behind a stellar offensive line. Boyle accounted for 371 luding 2 passing touchdowns and 4 rushing scores. While Jack ch had 6 catches for over 100 yards, the Redwings look to eir offense beyond the potent passing tandem.

ie: Notre Dame at Nazareth; Marian Central at Benet.

Neuqua Valley (1-0, 1-0) at

Naperville Central (1-0, 1-0)

DuPage Valley Conference

ne: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

ie: Neuqua Valley 35, Metea Valley 7; Naperville Central ard North 7.

r: Neuqua Valley 24, Naperville Central 10.

Defending DVC co-champ Neuqua Valley held Metea to 3 ring and forced 4 turnovers, with Matt Quinn, Josh Krajacic, mgardner, Zach Wenz and Trevor Tesmond just the tip of the eanwhile, quarterback Jake Eskoff made all the right moves 23 night, and Will Chevalier scampered for 93 yards and 2 5 carries. A key on Friday, Wildcats coach Bill Ellinghaus said, tied jelling of center Ken Shultz and the all-new offensive edhawks sparked on offense with quarterback Payton Thome e charge, but running back A.J. Deinhart provided just enough ith tough yardage. As good as they were offensively, coach s was more impressed with the defensive effort holding up lenbard North's power run game. Linemen Lavar Archibald and repainer were particularly strong. Naperville Central forced 3 . Takeaways would come in handy against the Wildcats.

ie: Wauonsie Valley at Neuqua Valley; Metea at Naperville C.

Wheaton North (1-0) at Joliet Catholic (1-0)

Nonconference

ne: 7:30 p.m. Friday

ie: Wheaton North 19, WW South 14; Joliet Catholic 34, 27.

r: Wheaton North 37, Joliet Catholic 7.

After coming down from the high of last week's cross-town alcons focus on an improved Joliet Catholic team. Wheaton sence was impressive, especially in the experienced secondary ies Trenton Hegranes, who had 2 interceptions, including a r for a touchdown, and Jackson Gray. The Falcons stay fresh — something that could be key in this one — by rotating more lf-dozen defensive linemen. Joliet Catholic threw the ball only , meaning the Falcons must be prepared for plenty of running on Johnson, a third-year starter who last week rushed for more yards and 4 touchdowns. The Falcons and Sam Singleton, 92 rushing yards and 2 scores, also plan on being run-heavy. ck Rhett Netzer showed confidence late by completing key Alex Adams and sophomore Christian Halstead. Dealing with holic's big interior linemen, though, won't be easy.

ek: Wheaton North at Naperville North; St. Patrick at Joliet

Downers South (0-1) at Oak Park (1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Jaelynn Blecke was a bright spot for the Mustangs in a loss to Bolingbrook that was closer than the score showed. With running back Terrance Roundy and receiver Trevon Brown, Oak Park rallied from a 2-touchdown deficit to beat Simeon.

Egan (1-0) at West Chicago (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Three times West Chicago got deep inside Wheaton Academy turf without scoring. It happens with eight first-time offensive starters. C.J. Griffin and Luke Seeman forced fumbles on defense, which helps to return safety Jack Reynolds from injury.

Fenton (0-1) at Shepard (1-0)

Game time: 7 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: First-year Fenton coach Matthew Lynch liked the grit of the Bison. Leading the way as usual was Dylan Butts, who ran for 105 yards. Linebacker Brian Jaramillo started fast, a good thing against a fast Shepard team that hit Ellison with 56 points.

Glenbard South (0-1) at Galesburg (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Glenbard South seeks better line execution after failing 28-0 to Addison Trail. Defensive linemen Jack Jochums and Anthony Kramer, inebacker Sam Makasir bring strong debut performances into run-heavy Galesburg, a 37-7 loser to Dunlap.

Hinsdale South (1-0) at Lyons Twp. (1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Between 96 rushing yards from Marquese Garrett and 114 receiving yards by Destin Talbert, last week the Hornets displayed terrific offensive balance. Cincinnati-bound Lions quarterback Ben Bryant threw 4 touchdown passes to beat Sandburg.

Leyden (1-0) at Downers North (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Downers North showed promise while outgaining Lockport 250-130 in total yards, but two red-zone fumbles doomed the Trojans. Drew Shelly caught 6 passes from Jack Carr as the offense showed the ability to move the chains through the air.

Lisle (1-0) at Coal City (1-0)

Game time: 7 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Lisle quarterback Jay McGrath, receiver Demetrius Kellie and tailback Jake Ventrella rallied late past Sandwich. Having only junior Zach Zikuda go both ways on the line will aid the Lions against Coal City, one of the heavies in the Interstate Eight Large.

Naperville North (1-0, 0-0) at Metea Valley (0-1, 0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Naperville North hopes to welcome back linebacker Ryan Marrano and running back Amir Wilbourne from injury. Metea opened with sound defense. Now to get running back Nolan Falk going. Guard Joe Freudlund's return from the flu will help.

Proviso East (0-1) at Glenbard West (0-1)

Game time: 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The quick hit: The Pirates will have a tough time breaking a 27-game losing streak. Glenbard West's defense clearly struggled last week, so look for some adjustments. It might start with two-way play from offensive standouts Alec Pierce and Ryan Diver.

St. Charles East (1-0) at Glenbard East (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Glenbard East needs clean football; the Saints hit Rock Island with five scores in six possessions in a 41-7. The Rams led Lake Forest early, good games by tackle Ben Pham and defensive end Pat Lyons. Receiver Kenny Adams was huge.

St. Lawrence (0-1) at IC Catholic (1-0)

Game time: 7:15 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: Benet quarterback Matt Boyle hurt St. Lawrence running and passing, right up the alley of IC QB Luke Riccobene and the Knights' read-option offense. IC found its footing and, behind numerous contributors, steamrolled Bishop McNamara 43-7.

Wheaton Academy (1-0) at Raby (0-1)

Game time: 7 p.m. Friday at Hanson Stadium in Chicago.

The quick hit: The Warriors seek a faster start than in the 21-0 win over West Chicago. Linebackers Jay Callentine and Dimitrie Skakavac reached double-digit tackles but will need help corraling Raby's Danquis Smith, who ran for 175 yards, 4 touchdowns.

WW South (0-1, 0-1) at Lake Park (1-0, 1-0)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: A tough loss for the Tigers overshadowed 7 catches for 108 yards by Chase Stebbins and a strong defensive game by linebacker Brian Haw. Lake Park's deep defensive line paid dividends, as did a deep backfield with David Kirkpatrick-Hardwick.

Willowbrook (1-0) at Hinsdale Central (0-1)

Game time: 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The quick hit: While Jack Jessen and Chris Diaz rushed for more than 100 yards in a win for the Warriors, Scott Tumilty picked off two passes and caught a touchdown. Considering the Red Devils lost to a nationally ranked team, they remain dangerous.



DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com

Naperville Central's Cameron Strang (24) heads the ball against Sandburg's Colin Kroll, left, during the Best of the West boys soccer tournament at Naperville Central High School.

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Boys soccer

Thursday's results

PHOTO Benet, Naperville Central at Naperville North Best in the West Tournament, TBA WALKER

WESTMONT 6, SARATOVICH 1

Scoring — W. Lewdon (3 goals), Fuker (2 goals).

FENTON 2, CURIE 0

Scoring — F. Jaramillo (Barriga), Jaramillo (Sanchez), Goalkeepers — F. Fenton

WHEATON ACADEMY 3, WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH 0

Scoring — W. Harris (Kigallott), Ausbach, Halverda (Kigallott), Goalkeepers — W. Harris (3 saves).

MONTINI 6, COAL CITY 1

IC Catholic Prep 1 0 0

Montini 3 0 1

Scoring — IC Murrer (Solari), M. Burger, Lamberti, Lamberti (Gonzalez), McArthur (Collins), Lakovic, Goalkeepers — IC Tverdokhilo (12 saves), Rasmussen (3 saves), M. Boleto.

NAPEVILLE CENTRAL 1, SANDBURG 0

Sandburg 0 0 0

Naperville Central 0 1 1

Scoring — NC: Kokes (Stadtherr), Goalkeepers — S. Haran, NC: Corners.

Naperville North Best of the West Tournament

BENET 3, OSWEGO 1

Benet 3 0 0

Oswego 0 1 1

Scoring — B. Rowley (Traskelz), Warren (Smith), Gallagher (Traskelz), O. Harris, Goalkeepers — B. Gould (8 saves), O. Carreno (8 saves).

Boys golf

Thursday's results

LAKE PARK 155, NAPERVILLE NORTH 190

at Springfield

Lake Park — Place (37), Damonsky (38), Tyler (38), Fischer (40).

Naperville North — Christianson (35), Branner (41), Muller (42), Vaughn (42).

NAPEVILLE CENTRAL 131, METEA VALLEY 150

at Naperville (par 36)

Naperville Central — Jansone (35), Gonzalez (38), Cagan (39), Schettik (41), Ryan (41).

Metea Valley — Zaguchi (37), Boyajian (40), Hummel (40), Luffredo (41).

WHEATON ACADEMY 162, CHICAGO CHRISTIAN 180

at Phasent Run (par 35)

Wheaton Academy — Crowe (38), Dykema (40), Frank (41), Ryan (43).

Chicago Christian — Browner (44), Schaaf (45), Rice (45), Jelders (46).

IC CATHOLIC PREP 184, AURORA CENTRAL CATHOLIC 177

at Maple Meadows (par 36)

IC Catholic Prep — medalists: Schoenfeld (40), Hilgert (40).

Girls volleyball

Thursday's results

LAKE PARK 6, SOUTH ELGIN 25-15, 25-19

WHEATON ACADEMY 0, RIVERSIDE-BROOKFIELD 25-22, 25-19

Wheaton Academy — Natti (3 kills, 9 assists, 7 svc pts, 2 aces), Williams (7 kills, 5 assists, 1 ace, 5 digs), Wells (1 kill, 3 blocks, 2 aces), Menta (1 kill, 8 svc pts, 3 aces, 3 digs), Belmont, pts, 14 digs), Plesh (3 svc pts, 1 ace, 4 digs), McDonald (1 block, Johnson (1 kill).

ST. CHARLES EAST 0, RIDGEWOOD 25-12, 25-10

Trinity Christian — W. Wenta (22 aces, 5 digs), H. Wenta (15 kills, 3 blocks), Traylor (7 kills, 2 aces, 5 digs), Schirring (6 kills), DeBor (6 kills).

WHEATON NORTH 0, WEST CHICAGO 25-23, 25-16

Wheaton North — Barnhart (9 kills, 6 digs), Walsh (4 aces, 15 service points), Lugin (4 aces), Clark (6 kills, 1 ace, 1 service point), Schmid (4 kills), Otto (2 kills, 2 blocks, ace), O'Connor (2 kills), Holland (5 assists), Schrie (4 digs).

West Chicago — Katarzinski (9 kills, 5 digs, 4 service points), Murphy (9 assists, 3 digs), J. Smith (6 digs, 2 aces), Horn (7 digs, ace), M. Smith (3 kills), Grano (2 kills).

Girls tennis

Thursday's results

WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH 5, WHEATON NORTH 2

Singles — No. 1: Choi (WWS) d. Fiedt (6-0, 6-2); No. 2: Drove (WWS) d. Block (6-1, 6-1); No. 3: Waco (NW) d. Kelly (6-1, 6-2); Doubles — No. 1: Dyer/Mueller (WWS) d. Brink/Jones 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; No. 2: Murnan/Stansopoulos (WWS) d. Winter/Moore 6-1, 6-4; No. 3: Gale/Prindle (NW) d. Kozor/Westrich 6-7, 6-1, 6-1; No. 4: Foy/Nicholson (WWS) d. Flood/Toranzo 6-4, 6-4.

ST. FRANCIS 5, TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN 1

Singles — No. 1: Lee (TC) d. Vale 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Price (SF) d. Bury 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Garvey (SF) d. Silvia 6-0, 6-0; Doubles — No. 1: Gull/Napox (SF) d. Thompson/Tha 6-4, 6-3; No. 2: Ammon/Taylor (SF) d. Jannozzini/Bone 6-0, 6-0.

NEQUA VALLEY 6, METEA VALLEY 1

Singles — No. 1: Mural (NV) d. Kachkotch 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; No. 2: Bait (NV) d. Cyren 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Carrapio (NV) d. Danthruy 6-2, 0-6, 6-2; Doubles — No. 1: Seck/Wannan (NV) d. Goldman/Woods 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: Wu/Wu (NV) d. Buzschi/Wu 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Provine/Lu (NV) d. Krishnan/Palm 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Vongvutit/Apoona (NV) d. Agnew/Williams 6-4, 6-5, 7-5.

WHEATON ACADEMY 5, WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH 5

Singles — No. 1: Lee (TC) d. Vale 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Price (SF) d. Bury 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Garvey (SF) d. Silvia 6-0, 6-0; Doubles — No. 1: Gull/Napox (SF) d. Thompson/Tha 6-4, 6-3; No. 2: Ammon/Taylor (SF) d. Jannozzini/Bone 6-0, 6-0.

NEQUA VALLEY 6, METEA VALLEY 1

Singles — No. 1: Mural (NV) d. Kachkotch 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; No. 2: Bait (NV) d. Cyren 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Carrapio (NV) d. Danthruy 6-2, 0-6, 6-2; Doubles — No. 1: Seck/Wannan (NV) d. Goldman/Woods 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: Wu/Wu (NV) d. Buzschi/Wu 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Provine/Lu (NV) d. Krishnan/Palm 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Vongvutit/Apoona (NV) d. Agnew/Williams 6-4, 6-5, 7-5.

WHEATON ACADEMY 5, WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH 5

Singles — No. 1: Lee (TC) d. Vale 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Price (SF) d. Bury 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Garvey (SF) d. Silvia 6-0, 6-0; Doubles — No. 1: Gull/Napox (SF) d. Thompson/Tha 6-4, 6-3; No. 2: Ammon/Taylor (SF) d. Jannozzini/Bone 6-0, 6-0.

NEQUA VALLEY 6, METEA VALLEY 1

Singles — No. 1: Mural (NV) d. Kachkotch 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; No. 2: Bait (NV) d. Cyren 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Carrapio (NV) d. Danthruy 6-2, 0-6, 6-2; Doubles — No. 1: Seck/Wannan (NV) d. Goldman/Woods 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: Wu/Wu (NV) d. Buzschi/Wu 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Provine/Lu (NV) d. Krishnan/Palm 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: Vongvutit/Apoona (NV) d. Agnew/Williams 6-4, 6-5, 7-5.

Girls golf

Thursday's results

ST. CHARLES NORTH 104, WEST CHICAGO 222

BENET 175, LEMONT 102

at Cog Hill (par 36)

Benet — Wing (40), Coffey (42), Bannan (48), Rodenbostel (47).

WANDERBROOK VALLEY 176, NAPERVILLE CENTRAL 182

at Naperville

Wanderbrook Valley — Booz (42), Skowronski (43), Lyengar (44), Libby (47).

Naperville Central — Lim (45), Vines (45), Kuckebach (46), Walgren (46).

YORK 202, ST. IGNATIUS 212

at Ridge Country Club

York — Wozniak (49) medalist; Bartholme (51), Koepfen (51), Specialty (51).

Wednesday's late results

BENET 106, CARMEL 208

at River Best (par 36)

Benet — Wing (44), Rodenbostel (47), Bannan (48), Coffey (50).

Upcoming events

TODAY

Football

Addison Trail at York, 7:30 p.m.

Aurora Central Catholic at St. Francis, 7:30 p.m.

Chicago Tech Academy Charter at Westmont, 8:45 p.m.

Downers Grove South at Oak Park-River Forest, 7:30 p.m.

Egan at West Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

Fenton at Shepard, 7 p.m.

Glenbard North at Wauonsie Valley, 7:30 p.m.

Glenbard South at Galesburg, 7:30 p.m.

Hinsdale South at Lyons Township, 7:30 p.m.

Leyden at Downers Grove North, 7:30 p.m.

Lyons Township at Metea Valley, 7:30 p.m.

Montini at Lake Zurich, 7:30 p.m.

Naperville North at Metea Valley, 7:30 p.m.

Nequa Valley at Naperville Central, 7:30 p.m.

North Dame at Benet, 7:30 p.m.

St. Charles East at Glenbard East, 7:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence at IC Catholic Prep, 7:15 p.m.

Wheaton Academy at Raby, 7 p.m.

Wheaton North at Joliet Catholic Academy, 7:30 p.m.

Wheaton Warrenville South at Lake Park, 7:30 p.m.

Willowbrook at Hinsdale Central, 7:30 p.m.

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Local Sports

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Taking the fun of this column

ly, this column is not as tough to write as it seems. It's a lot of fun to write about DuPage County football, but then there are the tough parts like this one where it's not as easy as it seems.



Kevin Schmit

week's Eyes column looks tough news for one of DuPage County's true stars.

he best:

es on Five sends best to IC Catholic's Luke Ricobene, who came to an end in injury suffered in the 26-23 loss to St.

Daily Herald prep writer Dave Oberhelman the news with coach Bill Krefft, who is his senior quarterback each of Ricobene's seasons.

As you can't Luke," Krefft said. "The best quarterback coached." He goes to overstate the Ricobene had on IC Prep's program. He very game since his year — 36 of 38 quarterback, and the he started at corner-reshman year.

arew 3,071 and for ards, g of 82 ms.



Luke Ricobene

was leadership and win. Along with all-state running dan Rowell, Ricobene's 3A semifinals as before romping to a rd and a 3A title last

s correct. You can't ike.

ights will move on ly with talented all Saunders behind he playbook won't nd neither will the other state title.

oes change, though, e's role.

y No. 1, we have a ber of our coaching efft said. "(Ricobene) to learn to coach. s the leader of our ll still be doing that ifferent spot on the

er and Gold:

in West Suburban ference last week-

both teams, meaning the Warriors could only get 1 playoff point from that York-Leyden game. Had the two teams played Week 2 games outside the conference, they both could have won and gained Willowbrook 2 playoff points.

As it turned out, the extra playoff point wouldn't have made a difference for Willowbrook. But what if it did mean the difference between qualifying and staying at home for the playoffs?

Getting rid of the Week 2 crossover is on the WSC's radar. The WSC has the option of crossing over with another conference, or the 14 teams could seek out their own non-conference games.

Either way, it opens up interesting scheduling opportunities.

3 Numbers game:

You could see it coming in Week 1 when Bowen forfeited to Fenwick and Dunbar did the same to Nazareth. Chicago Public School football is beginning to fade away.

Nearly a dozen Chicago schools have canceled their football seasons due to dwindling participation numbers. What remains to be seen is if it's a sign of lagging interest in the city or a general sign of the times.

As we've talked about for a while now, participation numbers are shrinking everywhere.

North Shore Country Day in Winnetka competed in football for nearly 100 years. Due to decreasing numbers the school played eight-man football the last couple of years, and last summer the administration decided to end the football program.

Westminster Christian in Elgin, a program started in 2013, shifted to eight-man football this season. After struggling with 19 players last season, numbers dipped to 13 this year.

Before the season even began, though, three games were dropped from the schedule because of — you guessed it — opponents dropping their programs.

Again, it's a storyline we'll continue to monitor.

4 Walking wounded:

Dave Oberhelman and I filmed a video at Glenbard East last week, and we were stunned when told the number of Rams coaches who were dealing with various surgical situations.

One assistant coach had double knee replacement, another had a hip replacement.

DuPage County football Tuesday-morning QB Wednesday

The standings

Chicago Catholic Green

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Fenwick	2-0	0-0	-
Morton	2-0	0-0	-
De La Salle	1-1	0-0	-
Montini	1-1	0-0	-
St. Francis	1-1	0-0	-

DuPage Valley

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Lake Park	2-0	2-0	-
Naperville Central	2-0	2-0	-
Naperville North	2-0	1-0	0.5
Wheaton North	2-0	1-0	0.5
Neuqua Valley	1-1	1-1	1
Waubonsie Valley	1-1	1-1	1
Glenbard North	0-2	0-2	2
Metra Valley	0-2	0-2	2
WW South	0-2	0-2	2

East Suburban Catholic

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Marian Central	2-0	0-0	-
Marist	2-0	0-0	-
Nazareth	2-0	0-0	-
Notre Dame	2-0	0-0	-
Benet	1-1	0-0	-
Joliet Catholic	1-1	0-0	-
St. Victor	1-1	0-0	-
Carmel	0-2	0-0	-
Marian Catholic	0-2	0-0	-
St. Patrick	0-2	0-0	-

Interstate Eight Small

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Peotone	2-0	0-0	-
Seneca	2-0	0-0	-
Westmont	2-0	0-0	-
Lisle	1-1	0-0	-
Wilmington	1-1	0-0	-
Reed-Custer	0-2	0-0	-

Metro Suburban Blue

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Riverside-Berkd	2-0	0-0	-
IC Catholic	1-1	0-0	-
St. Edward	1-1	0-0	-
Whitman Academy	1-1	0-0	-
Fenton	0-2	0-0	-
Glenbard South	0-2	0-0	-

Uprate Eight Valley

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
South Elgin	2-0	0-0	-
West Aurora	2-0	0-0	-
West Chicago	1-1	0-0	-
Bartlett	0-2	0-0	-
East Aurora	0-2	0-0	-
Glenbard East	0-2	0-0	-

West Suburban Gold

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Addison Trail	2-0	0-0	-
Hinsdale South	1-1	0-0	-
Lyndon	1-1	0-0	-
Willowbrook	1-1	0-0	-
Downers Grove	0-2	0-0	-
Morton	0-2	0-0	-
Proviso East	0-2	0-0	-

West Suburban Silver

School	All W-L	Conf. W-L	GB
Lyons	2-0	0-0	-
Oak Park-RF	2-0	0-0	-
Downers North	1-1	0-0	-
Glenbard West	1-1	0-0	-
Hinsdale Central	1-1	0-0	-
Proviso West	1-1	0-0	-
York	0-2	0-0	-

Top 20

Comment

1. Naperville Central (2-0) Beat Neuqua / vs. Metea
2. Glenbard West (1-1) Beat Proviso E. / at Addison Trail
3. St. Charles E. (2-0) Beat Glenbard East / at Geneva
4. Lake Zurich (2-0) Beat Montini / vs. Waukegan
5. Huntley (1-1) Lost to Prairie Ridge / at Dundee-Crown
6. Naperville North (2-0) Beat Metea / vs. Wheaton N.
7. West Aurora (2-0) Beat Waukegan / at East Aurora
8. Wheaton North (2-0) Beat Joliet Catholic / at Naperville N.
9. Lake Park (2-0) Beat WW South / at DeKalb
10. Stevenson (1-1) Lost to Willowbrook / at Oak Forest
11. Palatine (1-1) Beat Wheeling / at Evanston
12. Benet (1-1) Lost to Notre Dame / vs. Marian Central
13. Hoffman Estates (2-0) Beat Hersey / vs. Deerfield
14. Jacobs (1-1) Beat Dundee-Crown / vs. Crystal Lake S.
15. Batavia (2-0) Beat Libertyville / vs. Streamwood
16. Cary-Grove (1-1) Beat McHenry / at Hampshire
17. Barrington (2-0) Beat Elk Grove / at New Trier
18. Hinsdale Central (1-1) Beat Willowbrook / at Oak Park
19. Neuqua Valley (1-1) Lost to Naperville C. / vs. Waubonsie
20. St. Charles North (1-1) Lost to Bolingbrook / at Larkin

The schedule

Friday's games

- Aurora Central Catholic at Glenbard South, 7:15 p.m.
Chicago Christian at Wheaton Academy, 7 p.m.
Downers Grove North at Proviso West, 7:30 p.m.

- Hinsdale Central at Oak Park-River Forest, 7:30 p.m.
Lake Park at DeKalb, 7:30 p.m.
Lisle at Seneca, 7 p.m.
Lyons Township at York, 7:30 p.m.
Marian Central Catholic at Benet, 7:30 p.m.

- Proviso East at Downers Grove South, 7:30 p.m.
South Elgin at Glenbard East, 7:30 p.m.
Waubonsie Valley at Neuqua Valley, 7:30 p.m.
West Chicago at Bartlett, 7:30 p.m.
Westmont at Wilmington, 7 p.m.

Meet an offensive lineman

Name: Edgar Quintas

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Best thing about being an offensive lineman:

You get to be aggressive. You get to hit someone that's across from you that you don't really know. At practice it's a little repetitive and they know what you're doing.

Worst thing about being an offensive lineman: You don't really get a lot of recognition. You don't hear the people in the (press) box saying, 'Edgar Quintas...you made a great block!'

Don't tell my coach that: I messed up. I'm about technique and I don't like messing up. So when I mess up I don't want the coach to know.

If I could change one thing about football: I wish we could celebrate when we score and not get a flag. Change it up a little. Have a little fun.

Team not on our schedule I wish we could play: If we got to play East St. Louis again (the Flyers beat Willowbrook in last season's Class 7A quarterfinals), that'd a lot of fun.

How I'll celebrate if I score a TD: I think I'd do the Warren Sapp. You know, the 'Pogo Stick'?

Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat: I don't really use Twitter a lot. I use them all, but I use Instagram the most.

What I like best about my school: It's inviting. I feel like if I didn't have a sport, I'd still feel welcome and involved.

Something about me that would surprise you: On the field I look aggressive and mean, but I'm actually pretty nice.

Other sports I play: I'm only focused on football. My freshman year I did track and I did a little bit of wrestling.

Favorite actor: I like Leonardo DiCaprio. I think every movie he's in is always a good one.

Favorite actress: Jennifer Lawrence. She's was pretty good in X-Men.

Favorite athlete: Anthony Munoz (Hall of Fame offensive lineman). There aren't really a lot of Hispanic people exposed in the NFL, and he was one of the main people in the NFL.

Favorite musician: Have you ever heard of Kodak Black? It's the words he says.

The stat

In the West Suburban Conference crossover matchups last weekend, the Silver Division won six of the seven games against the Gold. The only Gold winner was Addison Trail. The Blazers beat York 14-7.

The tweet

"Love you guys. It's been a privilege to play with the best team ever. We're making history this year #back2back."

— IC Catholic Prep senior quarterback Luke Ricobene (@luke_ricobene), who suffered a season-ending knee injury in the Knights' 26-23 loss to St. Laurence.