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VOL. 15 • NO. 8

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

News from Pyeongchang

Addison native Scimeca-Knierim, husband earn Bronze medal

By Dee Longfellow
FOR THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

If you've turned on the television in the past week, you already know the Pyeongchang Olympics are well under way and various competitions have already begun.

Last week, Addison native Alexa Scimeca-Knierim and her husband and skating partner Chris Knierim were able to perform an outstanding show in the pairs' free skate, which led to their earning of the Bronze medal. While the team suffered a few stumbles, their final score was 126.56, which placed them 4th in the competition and put the U.S. at #3 overall in team skating.

During their figure skating debut at the Olympics, the couple smoothly glided through their ice routine including the ability for Chris to send Alexa over his head in what is known as their signature exercise - the triple twist. They ended in fourth place with a score of 69.75.

Alexa and Chris met at a competition, where they began working as a duo. In 2013, they took home a silver medal at the U. S. Championships. They married in July of 2016 and shortly after, Alexa fell ill due to a potentially fatal gastrointestinal disorder. She had to have three surgeries over the remainder of that summer and into the fall. The hardest part, she said, was trying to train while trying to heal the

incision on her stomach from the surgery.

Their performances in Pyeong-

chang have been impressive thus far and some have noticed that their obvious connection with one an-

other on the ice clearly reaches far beyond just skating. To watch their figure-skating

routine, visit youtube.com and search for 2018 U. S. Figure Skating Pairs Champions.



Special Olympics basketball team at 'Pack The Place'

On Jan. 30, Addison Trail hosted a Pack the Place night for the school's Special Olympics Basketball Team to encourage students, staff and community members to show their Blazer Pride and fill the stands. Pictured are members of the Addison Trail Special Olympics Basketball Team along with the Addison Trail cheerleaders during the team's game. Team members include Brenden Bieberstein, Lupita Garcia, Sam Etheridge, Brian Pisarcik, Sergio Robies and Jazmin Terreros. Team managers are Giovanna Fricano and Yareida Gasca.

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Addison Trail hosts annual Pack the Place event

On Jan. 26, Addison Trail hosted its annual Pack the Place event, which featured Addison Trail Girls Basketball Team and Boys Basketball Team games against Morton District 201. Although the teams didn't win, the community support and school spirit were tremendous.

On the court, Girls Basketball Team Head Coach Rob Schader and Boys Basketball Team Head Coach Brendan Lyons wore white tuxedos while they coached, as the result of a Twitter contest to promote Pack the Place and as part of the school's "Whiteout" to show Blazer Pride during the games.

Halftime performances featured the school's Energy Rush, Orchestris and a special performance of Addison Trail's winter musical, "Singin' in the Rain," which took place the first weekend in Feb. The Blazettes also danced with participants from their Winter Dance Clinic, where girls in grades K-8 worked on pom/dance techniques and enjoyed crafts and pizza.

The evening was part of Addison Trail's "Pack the Place Week," a winter spirit event hosted by Lettermen's Club to celebrate the school's Blazer Pride.

Throughout the week, students and staff participated in a variety of activities and themed days. The week ended with a Winter Formal Dance on Jan. 27, which had a record-breaking attendance of about 500 participants.

Half-time performances featured the school's Energy Rush, Orchestris and a special performance of Addison Trail's winter musical, "Singin' in the Rain," which took place the first weekend in Feb. The Blazettes also danced with participants from their Winter Dance Clinic, where girls in grades K-8 worked on pom/dance techniques and enjoyed crafts and pizza.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

Coffeehouse owner addresses Women's Club

Melissa Villanueva, owner of Brewpoint Coffee, along with her husband Angelo spoke at the February meeting of the Women's Club of Addison. She described her background, education and pursuit of a career that filled her "spirit" and encouraged members to follow their dreams. Brewpoint Coffee was opened 3½ years ago, was named 2017 Business of the Year by the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce, and now consists of 3 locations and 28 employees. Women's Club members enjoyed samples of coffee and lavender chai tea.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Addison Independent

Coaches all in white

On the court, Girls Basketball Team Head Coach Rob Schader (left) and Boys Basketball Team Head Coach Brendan Lyons (pictured below, right) donned white tuxedos while they coached on "Pack the Place" night, as the result of a Twitter contest to promote Pack the Place and as part of the school's "Whiteout" to show Blazer Pride during the games.

College news

Resident named to Dean's List at DePauw U

DePauw University congratulates Gina Federighi, from Addison on being among the 766 students named to the Fall 2017 Dean's List.

Felcan named to Wheaton College T&F roster

Wheaton College student Jacquelyn Felcan, of Addison, was named to the 2018 women's track and field roster.



Alums connect at 'Pack The Place'

Addison Trail alumni reconnect with their alma mater during the school's Pack the Place event on Jan. 26. They are (from left) Jack Andrews (class of 2011), Carlos Alvarez ('17), Jennifer Lollino (1991), Vince Lollino (1992) and Robin Beersslojkowski (1989). Andrews is a special education teacher at Addison Trail, and Beersslojkowski is a literacy/study hall aide at the school.

SPORTS

Addison Trail-Willowbrook boys swimming team fares well at conference meet

Thompson wins 100 backstroke title

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook boys swimming team had a host of strong performances at the recent West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet.

AT-Willowbrook's Zack Thompson won the 100 backstroke.

Second-place finishers for AT-Willowbrook included the 200 medley relay team of Thompson, Aidan Nichols, Evan Zimmerman and Jacob Grygo.

Thompson also placed second in the butterfly. Kyle Haake was second in the 500, while Jack Burns also earned a second-place finish.

The 200 relay team of Patrick Florey, Grygo, Mikey Strycharz and Burns took second, while the 400 relay team of Grygo, Jack Wentworth, Strycharz and Burns also were second.

Zimmerman was third in the IM, while Burns also placed third in the 50. Strycharz was fourth in the 100 and Matt Sawicki was fourth in the 500.

"My assistant coach Amy Martello and I were proud of the great swims we saw," AT-Willowbrook coach Jennifer Burns said. "Our swimmers had some great time drops, and our freshman/sophomore and JV teams had personal-best times."

Burns will look for more significant varsity time drops come sectionals. "Our varsity squad saw some personal-best times, but they still are training to have their best time drops occur at sectionals. We had a few illnesses and injuries that came into play toward the end of the season, but I was happy with the team's performance and am looking forward to building on our successes."

Burns felt her frosh-soph team made big strides in its conference meet. "I was really proud of my fro-

sh-soph team," she said. "Many of these athletes have not trained for the different types of high-school events. They really rose to the challenge and swam their hardest."

Burns was impressed with how the varsity team competed for top spots in the conference. She noted Thompson won the backstroke title and was second in the butterfly. Burns had second-place times in the 50 and 100, while Zimmerman was third in the IM and Haake was second in the 500.

"The varsity swimmers were battling it out to finish in the top two for

each event," said Burns.

Burns said her team will be ready Saturday at the Downers Grove North. "As my first time training these athletes, I want to make sure each athlete will have the best performance possible," she said. "I expect to see some great swims at Downers Grove North."

At the JV conference meet, the 200 medley relay team of Sebastian Martinez, Jeremy Vaupell, Robert Fagan and Ben Jackson took third. Vaupell took fourth in the 50, while Martinez was third in the 100.

In the frosh-soph meet, Eric Hoda

won the 100. The 200 medley relay team of Nick Mitchell, Henrik Cokalli, Tom Florey and Cole McGinnis took second. Sean Pienkos was second in the IM. Hoda was second in the 50, while Pienkos was second in the breaststroke. McGinnis, Pienkos, Mitchell and Hoda took second in the 400 relay.

Mitchell was third in the backstroke, while the 200 relay of Christian Medina, Cokalli, Pienkos and Hoda took third. Tom Florey was fourth in the 50 free, while Mitchell was fourth in the 100 free.

Willowbrook's Jessen improves to 47-0; state finals up next

Juarez, Matthews heading to state for Addison Trail wrestling

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Willowbrook wrestling standout Jack Jessen is headed back to the state finals for a fourth and final time.

Jessen moved his unbeaten record to 47-0 this season with a 14-2 major-decision win over Maine South's John Halvorsen in the championship match of the 182-pound division at the Class 3A Elgin Larkin sectional.

Jessen will wrestle in this weekend's state finals meet in Champaign.

Jessen who has a 200-8 career record at Willowbrook, finished second in the state twice and third the other time in his first three trips to state. Jessen was 50-0 heading into the 182-pound state final last year. He's 97-1 over the last two seasons.

Addison Trail wrestling

Addison Trail junior Guillermo Juarez is headed to the Class 3A state wrestling finals. Juarez finished third at 106 pounds at the recent Class 3A Elgin Larkin sectional. Juarez was a 7-5 winner in the third-place match and will bring a 38-5 record into the state meet.

He'll be joined at state by freshman Jake Matthews, who took fourth at 126 pounds. Matthews is 36-8 this season.

Brian Reyes also qualified for state after taking fourth at 145 pounds. Reyes has a 40-7 record this season.

Addison Trail girls gymnastics

Addison Trail freshman gymnast Francesca Scarbaggio competed in the all-around competition at the Lake Park sectional but did not advance to the state finals.

Willowbrook girls gymnastics


The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team had sophomore Karli Wilson competing in the all-around competition at the recent Lake Park sectional. Wilson did not qualify for state.

Willowbrook girls basketball

The Willowbrook girls basketball team dropped a recent 53-31 non-conference game to Glenbard South.

Willowbrook trailed 14-8 after the first quarter and 24-14 at halftime.

Emma Barrington and Katelyn McCann each had 10 points to lead the Warriors. Maureen Schmid added four points. Barrington, Jayla Smith and McCann each made a 3-pointer, while Barrington was 3-for-4 from the free-throw line. Barrington and Schmid each had four rebounds, while Smith had six steals. McCann had three steals.




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A \$50.00 deposit is due at the time of registration.

Any remaining balance is due at the time of equipment pick-up, no exceptions.

Payment plans are available during online registration.

If you are new to the league, you MUST provide 2 copies of your child's birth certificate.

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Saturday February 24, 2018
Lombard Lagoon
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PROGRAM

Willowbrook girls bowling team wins sectional title

Erases 82 pin deficit to win by 3

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls' bowling team won a sectional title this past weekend.

And it came down to the wire.

The Warriors won their first bowling sectional title since 2010 at the Glenbard East sectional. Willowbrook finished with a 5,735 team score, while Chicago Lindblom was three pins behind at 5,732. It's Willowbrook's second sectional title in program history and fourth state finals appearance as a team.

In comparing the two top teams'

scores, Willowbrook held a 1,000-971 edge after the first game. The Warriors also outscored Lindblom 943-880 in the second game. However, Lindblom had a 991 compared to Willowbrook's 851 to have a 2,842-2,794 advantage. Lindblom had a 1,014-976 edge in the fourth game for a 3,856-3,770 advantage. Willowbrook shaved seven pins in the fifth game to cut the advantage

to 4,772-4,693 and then Willowbrook used a 1,042-960 sixth game comparison to make up 82 pins and win the sectional crown.

Junior Holly Helsper rolled a 1,232 series that included high games of 233, 231, 206 and 204. Sophomore Makaylah Jones had a 1,207 series with high games of 243 and a huge 255 game in the sixth. Senior Eliza-

beth Soriano had an 1,163 series with high games of 215, 204 and 200. Junior Katherine Pettinger had an 1,103 series with high games of 214, 212 and 185.

Willowbrook will compete in the state finals meet near Rockford this weekend.

Helsper finished 10 pins off the individual sectional champion.

IC Catholic Prep wrestling team wins regional title; Qualifies five for state

Knights' girls basketball team also victorious in regional final

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The IC Catholic Prep wrestling team continued its impressive season at the recent Class 1A Chicago Hope sectional.

Defending state-champion Joey Bianchini will get to defend his title in Champaign next weekend after winning the 138-pound sectional title. Bianchini was a 16-7 major-decision winner in the final and will bring a 36-3 record into the state finals.

Freshman Kyle Franklin also is headed to state after placing second at 160 pounds. He lost by fall in the sectional-title match.

Franklin upped his record to 23-11 at the sectional.

Victor Vargas also took second at 195. He lost via fall in the title match, but will bring a 28-6 record into the state finals.

Michael Johnson was third at 220 pounds. He was a 1-0 winner in the third-place match and now has a 15-1 record heading into state.

David Vargas rounds out the Knights' state contingent. He won the 285-pound sectional title with a 7-3 decision in the championship match. David Vargas is now 22-5.

In earlier action, the Knights won the Class 1A Lisle regional title, giving the program its first-ever post-season title. IC Catholic Prep edged Westmont 177-170 for the title. Lisle was a close third with 168 points.

IC Catholic Prep advances to its own Class 1A IC Catholic Prep dual-team sectional.

At Lisle, Finn Barney took second at 106, as did John Golding at 113 pounds. Joey Maci-Gerace took third at 120 pounds. Bianchini won the 138-pound title with a fall in 1:07 in the finale.

Malachi Morris placed third at

145 pounds to advance to sectionals. Charles O'Brien also was a third-place finisher at 152 pounds.

Franklin won the 160-pound crown, while Jalen Williams was third at 170 pounds. Williams is only a freshman.

Joseph Scott III was second at 182 pounds, while Victor Vargas won the 195-pound title and Johnson took third at 220. David Vargas took sec-

ond at 285 to round out the sectional qualifiers for the Knights.

IC Catholic Prep girls basketball

The IC Catholic Prep girls basketball team also won a regional title recently. The Knights were 43-28 winners over Regina Dominican in the final of the Class 2A IC Catholic Prep

regional. The Knights reached the finale after defeating Willows Academy 59-41 in the semifinals.

IC Catholic Prep boys basketball

The IC Catholic Prep boys basketball team was a 52-35 Metro Suburban Conference Blue Division winner against Aurora Central Catholic.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DU PAGE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CASE NUMBER
2017 P 001144

ESTATE OF
ROSE L. MAYNE,
Deceased

Notice is given of the death of Rose L. Mayne whose address was 15261 Ingersoll Lane, Villa Park IL 60181. Letters of Office were issued on January 23, 2018 to Joanne Terrafino, 15W052 Concord Street, Elmhurst IL 60126 as Independent Administrator whose attorney is John E. Howlett.

NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES
The estate will be administered without Court Supervision, unless under section 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Court Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of CHRIS KACHIROUBAS, Circuit Court Clerk, 505 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois, or with the representative or both on or before July 23, 2018, any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Court Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney, if any, within ten (10) days after it has been filed with the Circuit Clerk.

JOHN E. HOWLETT
DuPage Attorney No.: 18800
Attorney For Independent Administrator
568 Spring Road, Suite D
Elmhurst IL 60126
630-530-5800
(Published in the Addison Independent,
Bensenville Independent & Villa Park
Independent Feb. 1, 8 & 15, 2018)
306407

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY
DIVISION

WATERFALL VICTORIA GRANTOR
TRUST II, SERIES G, s/i/ ROYAL SAVINGS
BANK s/b/m/w PNA BANK
Plaintiff,
vs.
RAMON CAMPUZANO; ANGELICA
CAMPUZANO; UNKNOWN OWNERS
and NONRECORD LIEN CLAIMANTS,
Defendants.

15 CH 001628
Address: 415 Normandy
Addison, Illinois 60101

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO
JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE
UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE

FORECLOSURE ACT

THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT ON A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by said Court in the above entitled cause on November 28, 2017, Sheriff John E. Zaruba in DUPAGE County, Illinois, will on March 1, 2018 at the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, jail visitation Lobby, 501 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois, at 10:00 a.m., sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of DUPAGE, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, to wit:

LOT 176 IN NORMANDY MANOR SUBDIVISION UNIT NUMBER ONE, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTH EAST ¼ OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 11, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED MARCH 26, 1956 AS DOCUMENT 793991 AND CERTIFICATES OF CORRECTION FILED MAY 8, 1956 AS DOCUMENT 799438 AND MAY 9, 1956 AS DOCUMENT 799621 AND OCTOBER 26, 1956 AS DOCUMENT 821356 IN DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN(S): 03-28-413-020
Commonly known as 415 Normandy, Addison, Illinois 60104

The Judgment amount was \$188,133.55
Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds at the time of the sale and the balance, by certified funds, is due within 24 hours of the sale. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in pos-

session of the subject premises.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale.

LATIMER LEVAY FYOCK LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
55 W. Monroe Street, Ste. 1100
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Tel. No. (312) 422.8000
Attorney No. 184607
13075259

(Published in the Addison Independent,
Bensenville Independent & Villa Park
Independent Feb. 1, 8 & 15, 2018)
306487

MONTANA & WELCH, LLC (308878)
Attorneys,
11950 South Harlem Avenue, Suite 102
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
COUNTY OF DUPAGE, ss.

In the Circuit Court of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, DuPage County, Illinois, there is pending VILLAGE OF BENSENVILLE, an Illinois Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff, vs. MARIO A. VALENTE, ET. AL., Defendants. No. 2018-CH-000126

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Mario A. Valente, Elaine Valente, and Unknown Occupants at 414 E. Green Street, Bensenville, Illinois 60106, Defendants in the above titled suit, that said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, DuPage County, Illinois, by the said plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for Injunctive and Other Equitable Relief concerning the premises described as follows:

LOT 1 AND LOT 2 (EXCEPT THE EAST 39 FEET MEASURED ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 2) IN BLOCK 2 IN WILLIAM L. KORTHAUER'S ADDITION TO BENSENVILLE, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SW ¼ OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 11, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JANUARY 3, 1893 AS DOCUMENT 50837, IN DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN: 03-13-322-001
Commonly known as 414 E. Green Street, Bensenville, IL 60106.

Now, therefore, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance herein, in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, DuPage County, Illinois, 505 County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187 on or before March 5,

2018, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

CHRIS KACHIROUBAS, Clerk.
(Published in the Addison Independent,
Bensenville Independent & Villa Park
Independent Feb. 1, 8 & 15, 2018)
306721

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Sealed Bids will be received in the Office of the Village Clerk, Village of Bensenville, 12 S. Center, Bensenville IL 60106 until 9:30 am local time on Wednesday, March 7, 2018, and thereafter, immediately publicly opened and read for:

WASTEWATER SAMPLING & ANALYSIS SERVICES

For 2018 and 2019
The Village of Bensenville ("VILLAGE") seeks a qualified laboratory for Village sampling and analyses programs associated with its NPDES South STP IL0021849 (issued October 23, 2015) and IEPA Land Application of Sewage Sludge 2015-SC-59569 permits; specifically:

- The analyses of wastewater—sewage treatment plant (STP) influent, effluent and sludge for calendar year samples,
- Semi-annual analyses of STP influent, effluent and sludge at prescribed detection limits for use in local limits analyses; and
- Sampling and analyses of industrial wastewater discharges for the pretreatment and surcharge programs for data obtained in the calendar year. Note: this pretreatment program performs all program sampling on an unannounced random schedule.

The Successful Laboratory must provide documentation of accreditation and devote necessary resources to complete this project with the highest level of service so the Village is able to meet all State and Federal regulations in a timely manner.

Specifications and bid forms can be found at www.bensenville.il.us under "Business". They can also be picked up at the Public Works Department, 717 E. Jefferson, Bensenville IL 60106, or by e-mailing mswayne@bensenville.il.us, or calling 630-350-3486.

All bids require a Bid Bond, or Certified or Cashier's Check made payable to the Village of Bensenville for not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid amount on the Summary page.
Sunny Quinn
Village Clerk

(Published in the Addison Independent,
Bensenville Independent & Villa Park
Independent Feb. 15, 2018)
307480

The Don of A New Day in Sports

Rod and I were both wrong!



Yes, I (and Rod) thought the New England Patriots would win the Super-Bowl. Rod, the manager at Auto Advantage in Addison, thought the Patriots would blow out the Philadelphia Eagles, and so did I. We both underestimated the talent of the Eagles Quarterback Nick Foles. We also failed to recognize the skill and aggressive play calling of Coach Peterson.

What did you think of the Half-Time show? My wife Julie and I thought it was a little suspect.

Trivia questions to win a t-shirt:

- How many SuperBowls did the Chicago Bears win?
- How many NBA Championships did the Chicago Bulls win?

Call Don at (630) 530-7061.

To report your score:

By telephone (630) 955-3557

By fax (630) 955-3540

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Local Sports

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You'll find more high school sports photographs available when you log on to our Web site.

A productive season doesn't always require long playoff run

The high school basketball season is over.

Well, not entirely over. For many DuPage County girls teams the season has ended. Timothy Christian and IC Catholic remain alive to play in Thursday's Class 2A sectional finals. Many other teams will play in Class 3A or Class 4A regional finals Thursday, with one game Friday.

Most of the county's boys teams are just about to find out who they'll be paired with in the playoffs. For them the anticipation is still building.

With that in mind, we're wrapping up Eyes on Five this week to focus on our playoff coverage. It's been a fun season, and the best is yet to come.

1 Culture change:

Nobody in DuPage County played basketball this season like the Fenton girls.

Hired just before the start of the season, coach Dave Mello took the risk of installing the rarely attempted Grinnell system. It's a high-octane, high-scoring, high-substitution style of play that seems to have helped start a culture change at Fenton.

"A lot of the girls were quitting midseason or just weren't coming out to play," said Mello, who poured his seemingly endless supply of energy into the program. "They viewed it as they weren't going to have any fun, or the ones that were out and quit, they weren't having any fun."

They came out for the team



Kevin Schmit Orrin Schwarz

this season and they had fun this season. Who wouldn't have fun when your coach keeps pleading with the team to shoot more? And nobody complains about playing time on a team that regularly plays up to 19 girls a quarter.

The Bison aimed for 80 shots a game, 50 of them from 3-point range. After averaging 32 points a game last year, the Bison averaged 55 this year and scored 77 once.

Perhaps most fun of all, they won more, finishing 9-17 after Monday's 66-63 loss to Hoffman Estates in a Class 4A Wheaton Warrenville South regional quarterfinal. That might not seem like much of a record, but the Bison only had five wins in the last two seasons combined.

They did that despite not having played over the summer. They had to learn the system on the fly, and it took a while to settle in. Only the varsity played the Grinnell style this season because of the late start, something that will change next year. Mello hopes also to get the feeder system in Bensenville and Wood Dale restarted also.

This summer the Bison will

play at Montini's summer league. They will continue to develop their shooting technique. They will continue to get comfortable playing this unusual system. And Mello expects they will shoot and score even more next season.

Win more too. "I told them," Mello said, "this group is going to be remembered as the group that resurrected Fenton girls basketball."

2 Rebuilding:

Fenton wasn't the only girls team to see improvement under a first-year coach. Waubonsie Valley also took steps in the right direction with new coach Brett Love.

The Warriors' 10-win season was more than the previous three seasons combined. Their victory Monday against East Aurora in a quarterfinal was their first regional win since 2012.

"Coming in the culture of losing was overwhelming," Love said. "We as a program didn't think we could win."

How did the Warriors change?

There are a lot of similarities with Fenton, though the style of play is not one of them.

Love cites two items: "Changing or improving the basketball IQ of the players and changing the work ethic and expectations of working hard throughout the program."

Not everyone bought in. Those who did saw improvement. And because many of

the varsity players are young, they can develop with the program.

"We had some people quit and not continue and not play that came out last year just because of the expectations," said Love, who also runs the Illinois Evolution AAU program. "And those that stuck with it, they chose to work hard. It wasn't easy."

Rebuilding a program never is easy. But it can be very rewarding.

3 We're No. 1:

After weeks of jostling for position, Naperville North's boys earned the top seed in the Class 4A Glenbard East sectional. It became official Thursday afternoon, but the Huskies (22-2) pretty much wrapped it up with Tuesday's win over Naperville Central.

Now that the seeds are in, the IHSA will release the 3A and 4A playoff pairings Friday afternoon. Naperville North rides a seven-game winning streak heading into Friday's game at Waubonsie Valley, its last loss coming to WW South. The third-seeded Tigers (22-5), meanwhile, saw their nine-game winning streak come to an end Tuesday against Metea Valley.

And so began the jostling. Too many streaks and not enough top seeds.

Second-seeded Benet (19-4) has won 10 straight games and made a strong case for the No. 1 seed at Glenbard East. Fifth-seeded Willowbrook (21-5)

won eight straight, including victories over Larkin and Proviso East, before losing two its next three games. Fourth-seeded Hinsdale South (19-5) has won five straight, including a victory over Willowbrook.

Since January, several coaches offered legitimate arguments as to why certain teams should get the top seed. The resumes, while not at the elite level of Simeon, Curie or Belleville West, are impressive.

February win streaks stand out when it's seeding time. They transform teams like Hinsdale South from a top-eight to a top-four seed.

Soon we'll see if it translates to March.

4 Domination:

For all the impressive regular-season streaks, the postseason is completely different.

The sectional championship boils down to which boys teams are capable of putting together four straight playoff wins, and that number is obviously limited.

In past seasons several area players carried teams to a sectional championship and no one would be surprised if Iowa State-bound senior forward Zion Griffin — averaging 21 points and 8.8 rebounds — carried Hinsdale South to the title. Maybe a post player like Willowbrook's Ethan Schuener or Naperville North's Chris Johnson could do it.

Given the makeup of the Glenbard East sectional,

though, the opposite looks more likely.

In other words, bet on defense.

Naperville North, Hinsdale South and Willowbrook all have shown the ability to win with defense. No teams in the sectional, however, have put up defensive numbers like Benet and WW South.

The 40-point mark and the goal of allowing single-point quarters define those two teams. While Benet's allowed fewer than 40 points eight times, WW South's done it 18 times.

Granted, a lot of that has to do with the style of play and the amount of time they drain on the offensive end. But make no mistake about it, Benet and WW South win with defense.

And defense will define the Glenbard East sectional.

5 The Stat:

Having discussed the culture change at Fenton's girls program this season, let's put it in numbers. Record numbers, to be more precise.

The Bison set a national record for 3-pointers attempted in a season with 1,310, an average of 50.4 a game. They also are seventh in IHSA history with 250 3-pointers made this season.

The most interesting thing about those numbers? The Bison expect to improve on them next year with a full season of experience in this system plus a full summer working on it.

Cohen, Daca help Raiders claim 7th straight regional

BY ORRIN SCHWARZ
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Girls basketball

Sarah Cohen put points on the scoreboard without scoring. Ally Daca scored like she's never scored before.

Together the seniors led top-seeded Glenbard South to a 51-39 victory Thursday against St. Francis at the Spartans' Class 3A girls basketball regional final in Wheaton.

The Raiders (26-3) will meet the winner of Friday's game between Dixon and Rockford Lutheran at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Genoa-Kingston sectional semifinals.

Cohen dished out 9 assists, many of them to Daca or Maggie Bair under the basket. Daca, a Lindenwood University recruit, finished with a personal-best 22 points. Bair, a junior committed to Drake University, scored 19 points, grabbed 6 rebounds and blocked 4 shots.

"and I think that worked in the game. I just kept driving knowing that they were going to drive and get open."

Daca made 11 of her 12 shots, including her first 8. Ironically, she missed the only free throw the Raiders shot.

"That's the best game I've seen out of Ally," Kasperk added. "She played really well."

"I just kind of went with it," Daca added, noting she and Bair, both over 6 feet tall, had a height advantage over the Spartans. "I knew we needed to score points and I knew it was going to be a fun, exciting game. I thought we need to step it up now. We're in the playoffs, so I just shot away."

The victory gives the Raiders seven consecutive regional championships.

"That means a lot," Cohen



DANIEL WHITE/dwhite@dailyherald.com
Glenbard South senior Sarah Cohen (24) muscles her way around St. Francis' Ashley Sullivan (1) during the Class 3A girls basketball regional championship game in Wheaton.

Francis-high 20 points in the first quarter.

The Raiders slowed Walker in the middle quarters when Daca switched on to her defensively and used her height to her advantage.

"She's a great player," Daca said. "She's super quick. I think

for good in the second quarter with an 11-0 run. A Daca basket in the third quarter put them ahead by 13, but St. Francis cut the margin to 6 points on a scoop shot high off the backboard by senior Christine Fasana.

That just sparked another

Montini squeaks out victory over LT

BY SCOTT SCHMID
Daily Herald Correspondent

Girls basketball

Montini was pushed to the limit on Thursday by Lyons Township and guard Sidney Bugaieski.

But thanks to Aaliyah Patty's standout performance and a strong defense effort down the stretch, the Broncos survived 50-44 to capture the Class 4A Reavis girls basketball regional title.

Top-seeded Montini advances to take on Kenwood in a Proviso West sectional semifinal on Tuesday.

"It was a tough game, it's the playoffs," said Patty, who led all scorers with 25 points to go along with 8 rebounds and 3 steals. "If you get down, you have to fight through it. As Coach (Jason) Nichols says, it's about mental toughness and also defense. No. 22 (Bugaieski) had a great game. We tried to stop her but she hit some good shots. We just had to fight through adversity."

Indeed, Bugaieski was on fire from long range, with the last

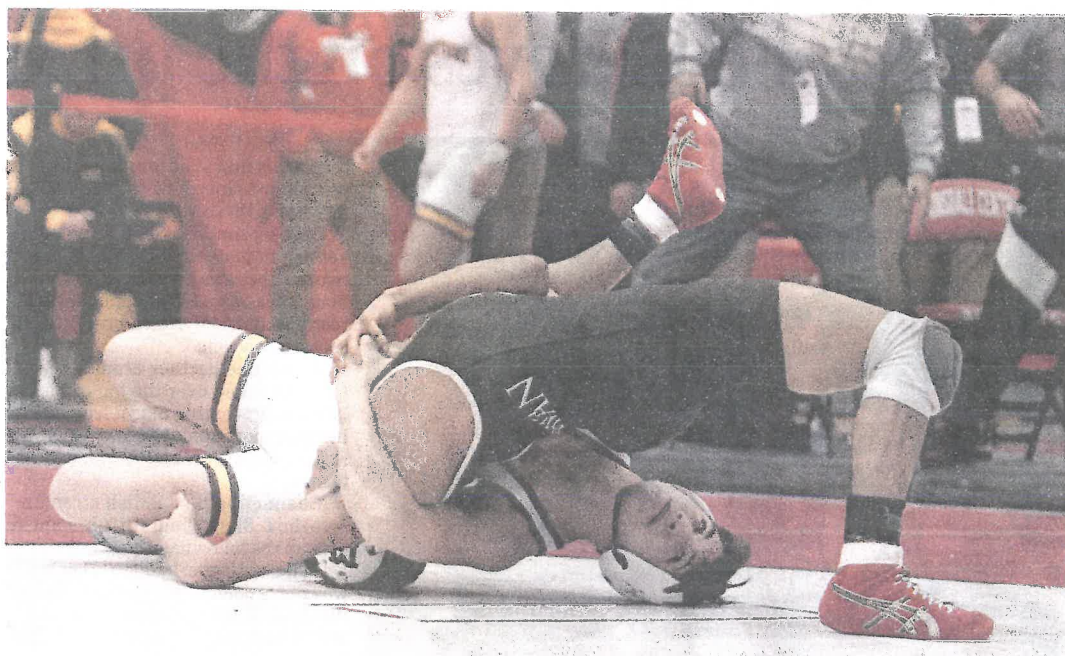
for good with a 3-pointer and Patty and Lindsey Jarosinski score 4 points apiece to close it out. Jarosinski finished with 12 points.

"It wasn't the most glamorous win ever," Nichols said, "but we aren't a glamorous team. I thought we did some good things and I thought we did some things poorly. Aaliyah came up huge and Lindsey had 12. They scored 37 of our 50."

"We found a way to win. You know what, we've been in a ton of close games this year and we have been really good in close games."

Lyons (18-10) also received 7 points from Kaelan Lee.

"As a coach, the goal is to play your best ball at the end of the year," said Lyons coach Paul Krick. "We haven't been clicking in all cylinders, but tonight was one of those times, they call it in sports, being in a zone. I think the girls wanted to earn respect against a very good team



David Toney - For Shaw Media

Montini's Joey Melendez competes in the 120-pound weight class Feb. 10 at the Class 3A Hinsdale Central Sectional.

Melendez leads 12 Montini wrestlers to state

By **MATT LE CREN**
 editorial@mysuburbanlife.com

HINSDALE – Montini senior Joey Melendez wrestled with his left ankle heavily taped, the result of a sprain suffered two weeks ago.

It didn't prevent the North Carolina recruit from jumping up and down in joy at the Class 3A Hinsdale Central Sectional on Feb. 10.

Melendez (38-2) pulled off a dramatic 4-3 victory over Stagg's Domenic Zaccane in the 120-pound championship match. The previously unbeaten Zaccane (30-1) had a 3-1 lead before Melendez scored a takedown with one second remaining.

"He took me down, tried to ride me, and I got out and saw there was like 16 seconds left," Melendez said. "I was just trying stuff, going forward on instincts. I just tried to make something happen and it ended up happening."

That's been the story of Melendez's sterling career. After being beat out by Real Woods for the 106 starting spot as a freshman, Melendez cracked the lineup as a sophomore. He now has a chance to become just the third wrestler in program history to win state championships at three different weight classes.

Melendez won his first state title at 106 pounds two years ago and captured the 113 title last year, beating Zaccane in the final.

The sectional victory provided a glimpse at Melendez's competitiveness. Both wrestlers, who are ranked

1-2 in the state, already were assured of advancing to state, but they put on a show worthy of a state final.

"Every match is important," Melendez said. "I take every match like it's my last match."

"I don't want to say I'm a cocky guy, but I never expect to lose. I train so hard and I've got pride. You've got to go out there and be stingy and fight for everything."

The Broncos did just that, winning eight titles and qualifying 12 wrestlers for state.

Dylan Ragusin (39-2 at 113), Woods (37-1 at 132), Will Lewan (39-2 at 152), Matt Ortiz (40-6 at 160), Trevor Swier (37-8 at 182), Peter Christensen (40-5 at 195) and Mike McNicholas (36-12), who pinned Downers Grove North's Ethan Smith in the 285-pound final, all won sectional crowns.

Dylan Burnoski (41-7 at 126) and Fidel Mayora (32-7 at 138) turned in runner-up performances, while Nain Vazquez (40-6 at 106) and Jake Stiles (46-4 at 145) took third.

"We wrestle what I would say is one of the toughest schedules in the country and it prepares us for times like this," Melendez said. "Deep down you got to lay it on the line."

While the senior class led by Melendez, Michigan recruit Will Lewan and the Stanford-bound Woods, who won Class 2A state titles at 106 in 2015 and 126 in 2017 and was second in 3A at 113 in 126, lead the way, others are getting in on the act.

Christensen, a junior, upset top-

ranked and previously unbeaten Downers South senior Sergio Villalobos 3-1 in the 195 title bout. Christensen had never beaten Villalobos (40-1), who defeated him 12-7 at last week's regional.

"I just took what I got from last week, how I lost, worked on some things this week in practice and just was able to accomplish it during the match today," said Christensen, who is ranked second in the state by Illinois Matmen. "I knew he was going to be able to get to my legs, so if I'm able to defend and make sure he's not able to get to my ankle, I should be fine and it worked out pretty well."

This is Christensen's second trip to state. He was 1-2 last season but figures to contend for a spot on the podium.

"It gives me a lot of confidence taking down the No. 1 guy," Christensen said. "He's No. 1 for a reason."

So is Melendez, whose stunning win fired up his teammates.

"It was awesome," Christensen said. "Our coach Izzy [Martinez] always says momentum is going to keep the team rolling."

"It happens every time. One guy wins, it's just a snowball effect."

Speaking of which, Melendez has been rolling ever since his rookie year battles with Woods.

"I came in freshman year at 95 [pounds] and I didn't start because I had Real Woods in front of me," Melendez said. "I worked my butt off every day. He pushed me and I got some beatings, but I'm a two-time state champ because of it."

PREP ROUNDUP

Trojans hoops team clinches league title

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

Brandon Orange had 18 points and 13 rebounds, and Timothy Christian (21-4, 11-0) wrapped up the Metro Suburban Conference championship with a 76-54 win over Ridgewood on Feb. 14.

Michael Thomas added 11 points and Matt Owens had 10 points for Timothy Christian. Ty Merrick chipped in five points, seven assists and seven rebounds.

The Trojans beat Guerin Prep 75-33 on Feb. 13.

York

Nick Kosich scored 18 points and Erik Cohn added 13 points for the Dukes in a 60-55 win over Hinsdale Central on Feb. 10. Sam Walsh had 12 points for York (16-8, 6-3).

IC Catholic Prep

Alex Meurer scored 15 points and Kevin Cheng added 12 for the Knights (16-8, 6-4) in a 58-55 win over Glenbard South on Feb. 10.

GIRLS BASKETBALL Montini

The Lady Broncos opened regional play with a 61-22 win over Reavis on Feb. 13.

IC Catholic Prep

Claire Gibler scored 11 points and Gabi Zaroni added eight points for the Knights in a 43-28 win over Regina Dominican in the Class 2A IC Catholic Prep regional final Feb. 9. The Knights (11-19) lost to Latin 51-37 in the sectional semifinal.

Willowbrook

Emma Barrington and Katelyn McGann scored 10 points each for Willowbrook in a 53-31 loss to Glenbard South on Feb. 8.

WRESTLING IC Catholic Prep

The Knights advanced five wrestlers to the Class 1A state tournament. Joey Bianchini (36-3) took first at 138 pounds at the sectional, Kyle Franklin (23-11) was second at 160, Victor Vargas (28-6) was second at 195, Michael Johnson (15-11) was third at 220, and David Vargas (22-5) was first at 285.

Willowbrook's Jessen has eyes on the prize

Qualifying for state for fourth time, Northwestern recruit sets sights on elusive state title

By JACOB BARTELSON
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ELGIN – For Willowbrook's Jack Jessen, an elusive state title is the final piece to a decorated high school wrestling career.

Jessen, a Northwestern commit, isn't short on wins.

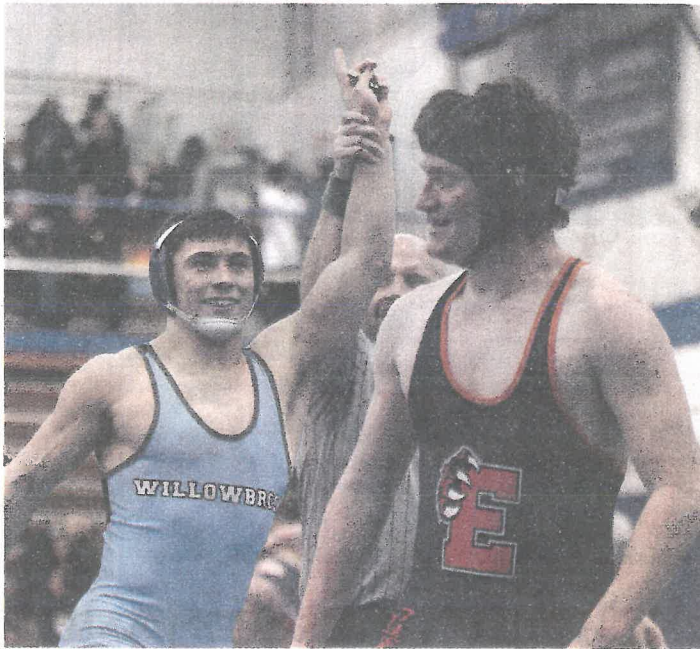
He went 100-6 over his first two seasons, and took a 50-0 record into last year's state championship match. He took a 47-0 record into the Larkin Sectional on Feb. 10, where he won the 182-pound championship to achieve his fourth state berth.

The state finals have been Jessen's nemesis. He lost in the championship match his junior and freshman years, and placed third as a sophomore.

"I've been training all summer and especially in the fall to get ready for this [season]. I'm definitely ready to win that state title now," Jessen said after his semifinal win over Glenbard North's Anthony Pennington.

An All-American, Jessen maintains his dominant form at all times.

"I stay on the attack. That's my idea," Jessen said. "Just keep on the attack with these guys, break them down slowly and then put them away."



Sandy Bressner - sbressner@shawmedia.com

Willowbrook's Jack Jessen defeats Evanston's Izzy Fox in the 182-pound weight class at the Class 3A Larkin Sectional on Feb. 10 in Elgin.

In the 182-pound sectional title match, Jessen cruised to a 14-2 major decision over John Halvorsen of Maine South.

The top four finishers in each

weight class advanced to the state tournament this week in Champaign.

Willowbrook teammate Jonathan Leal-Gerwarth fell in the second round of the consolation bracket.

Glenbard West's Connor Skryd's road to his first state tournament berth was almost ripped away from him before he got there.

Last season, Skryd suffered a broken leg in football and still came just two matches away from reaching state. Four weeks ago, Skryd thought his career was finished from a practice gone seemingly wrong.

A practice partner cradled Skryd, but then rolled over the top of his left labrum, preventing Skryd from lifting his arm more than two inches off his hip. A torn labrum and rotator cuff was feared.

Channeling his "Polish strength," somehow Skryd could lift his entire arm up the following day.

"The trainers had no idea what was the problem," Skryd said. "So I've just been wrestling, thankfully, every match [and] praying every night ... just [wrestling] through it. I've had a very lucky year. My coaches have really worked with me this year. I've worked my butt off this year."

Skryd defeated Leyden's Ryan Jaffray 5-1 in sudden victory in the semifinals before falling to Glenbard North's Quintin Terry 11-5 for the 220-pound sectional title.

Joining Skryd at state for Glenbard West will be Catron Frazier (113) and Will Vesevick (138).

Glenbard East will send three to state: Reese Martin (120), Alex Posada (145) and Cole Martin (152).

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Detours can't stop Danielle Dennis from dominating for Dukes

By MATT LE CREN
editorial@mysuburbanlife.com

WHEATON – Danielle Dennis had a painful first half and a frustrating second half in her playoff opener.

The York star, who usually never leaves the floor, missed two minutes after getting poked in the eye in the first quarter of the Dukes' Class 4A Wheaton Warrenville South Regional semifinal against St. Charles North on Feb. 13.

After overcoming the injury, Dennis sat out the last four minutes of the third quarter after picking up her third foul, then went to the bench for a minute in the fourth quarter when she was whistled for her fourth foul.

That didn't stop the senior guard from dominating the game. Dennis scored a game-high 19 points, including seven of York's final nine, to go with 10 rebounds as the Dukes won 45-37.

Seventh-seeded York (19-9) will look to win its first regional title since 2009 when it takes on second-seeded WW South (25-3), which beat Hoffman Estates 48-18.

"We need [Dennis] out there for four quarters," York coach Brandon Collings said. "If she's not in foul trouble, she doesn't leave the floor."

"The amount she was out today is more than we're used to losing our No. 1 scorer. But they didn't have an answer for her. They didn't have anyone that could guard her."

Well, not legally anyway. A defender accidentally knocked Dennis out of the game with the Dukes leading 8-4. When she returned, the 10th-seeded North Stars (15-13) were up 11-10.

"I got a finger jammed in my eye," Dennis said. "It was fine. I just had to take my make-up off because it was blinding in my eye."

"It was like double vision, so it was really weird. But that's happened to me before in like fifth grade, which is crazy."

The craziness was just getting started. The North Stars led 13-10 after the first quarter, but the Dukes outscored them 20-4 in the second quarter.

Matty Stark scored eight of her nine points, including a pair of 3-pointers, while Dennis added six points and Levins, who had eight points and nine boards off the bench, tallied four.

"The second I went in there I just wanted to get at them right away because I was a little angry about the eye," Dennis said. "That second quarter we started making shots and we became a little more confident."

York went 7 for 14 in the second quarter, while the North Stars were 1 for 15.

"Second quarter was the difference," St. Charles North coach Mike Tomczak

said. "We went awful cold and they took advantage of it and we were kind of fighting uphill the rest of the way."

The North Stars fought to the end, holding the Dukes scoreless for the first six minutes of the third quarter and pulling to within 36-30 midway through the fourth quarter.

That's when Dennis checked back in and immediately sank a 3-pointer off a pass from Caylin Rufus with 3:38 left. Dennis later used a great ball fake to score in transition to put the Dukes up 42-32 with 2:19 remaining.

Rufus had seven points, eight rebounds and three assists for the Dukes.

"After halftime they really changed their pressure on us," Dennis said. "They really came after us so we just needed to relax."

"We became more relaxed in that fourth quarter. That's definitely what sealed the deal."