

## Willowbrook girls soccer team scores wins at Reavis tournament

### Warriors' roster filled with talent at all grade levels

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls soccer team had some recent success at the Reavis tournament.

Willowbrook opened play with a 3-2 loss. Lizzy Florey had both goals for the Warriors. However, Willowbrook came right back and scored a 3-0 win in its second game. Florey, Erin Fitzgibbon and Erinn Bell each had a goal.

The Warriors then downed Thornwood 6-0. Florey scored two goals, while Grace Tumilty, Julianna Paulsen, Fitzgibbon and Bell each scored a goal. Willowbrook also downed Leyden in the tournament.

Willowbrook is coming off a 2018 season

where it went 9-9 overall and 3-3 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play.

Seniors Catlyn Owen, Maura Heneghan and Kaleigh Rugg are back for the Warriors, as are juniors Sara Fitzgibbon and Florey and sophomore Tumilty.

Coach Julio Del Real has five freshmen up on the varsity, including Erin Fitzgibbon, Rachel Klamecki, Brooke Vandergrift, Izzy Manning and Allie Vittorio.

"We have five freshmen up on varsity who should be great contributors," said Del Real.

Thus far, Del Real has been pleased with the team's preparation heading into the spring season. "The team has been working very hard during practices," he said. "They are grasping the team concept very well and are coming together very nicely. We look for great things to be accomplished if we continue with this type of attitude and

improvement."

Defense, the coach noted, will continue to be a point of emphasis. "The way that this team moves the ball around on both sides of the field puts us in a situation where we have not allowed as many shots on goal as in the past," said Del Real. "We continue to emphasize that our defense will be our offense, and by putting pressure on the opposition as soon as they get the ball, we have been able to create more offensive opportunities."

Senior Ditzza Montesinos is in goal this season after Willowbrook's previous starter graduated early. "This enabled Ditzza to step up and take over the position," Del Real said. "She has taken the responsibility very seriously and has improved and continues to do so as the days go by. She had two shutouts out of the first three games we've

played."

Del Real also enjoys the team-first atmosphere. "I love that they have adapted very well to each other and that they are very concerned about the team," he said. "They are willing to do their part to take care of the team and all of the members on it. They are quick learners and have grasped the coaches' concepts very well."

Del Real said in order for his squad to be successful it must "continue to strive to do our best every day and to continue to move the ball as well and as quickly as possible." The coach added, "We must always be a team and attempt to challenge as many shots as we can. We are looking to improve every day and to become better than the previous day. We hope to improve our conference standing from last year and to compete with the hard teams on our schedule."

## Local governments want in on tax revenue from online sales

By Grant Morgan  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A U.S. Supreme Court decision last year allows states to collect sales taxes from online retailers, even if they don't have a physical presence in the state.

Now, Illinois cities and counties want in on that action, too.

"We just want to make sure that we can capture locally-imposed sales taxes on out-of-state retailers online," said Brad Cole, executive director of the Illinois Municipal League, which represents more than 1,200 local communities throughout the state.

Cole recently answered questions from members of the House Revenue and Finance Committee about how that might be accomplished. The short answer? Not easily.

"...A lot of different organizations, entities and interests need to be aligned to get this right, and ... I'm not prepared to say that we have that ready today," Cole said.

The court's decision last June in South Dakota v. Wayfair paved the way for states to collect sales taxes from online retailers like Amazon.

In Illinois, "remote" online retailers that have more than \$100,000 in online sales in the state, or at least 200 discrete transactions, must collect the state's 6.25 percent use tax.

Last year, the Illinois Department of

Revenue estimated the change, which went into effect Oct. 1, could bring in more than \$200 million of new revenue every year.

Local governments like cities and counties also collect sales taxes on top of the state sales tax. Cole and other advocates say local governments should also be allowed to collect sales taxes from online retailers. That, they say, would level the playing field for local brick-and-mortar retailers, who already must add a local tax on sales.

But opponents say trying to impose and collect local sales taxes on online purchases would be overly complicated.

"Municipalities collecting their own sales taxes would be a hideous administrative nightmare," said Rob Carr, president of the Illinois Retail Merchants Association. "I find it difficult to believe that a local municipality could either afford their own department of revenue or the hiring of a third party to do that for them."

Yet some local entities, such as northeast Illinois' Pace busing division, will soon rely on that extra revenue to maintain operations.

"We're not capturing those out-of-state taxes," said Rocky Donahue, executive director of Pace, which was created in 1984 with the revenue of a regional sales tax. "And it's really hurt-

ing our bottom line."

One option, suggested by committee member Rep. Joe Sosnowski (R-Rockford), would be to create a state tax specifically for remote online retailers. The revenue would be dispersed to local governments based on an established formula.

That way, Sosnowski said, the state wouldn't have to deal with administering "a thousand different tax rates."

At least one municipality, the City of Chicago, already applies an extra 1 percent tax to remote online retailers, on top of the state's 6.25 percent.

If extended to other municipalities,

that 1 percent sales tax alone, according to GOP Rep. Ryan Spain (R-Peoria), could bring significant money to the state.

"We want to help close the gap for lost revenues from online purchases compared to purchases from a local retailer," said Spain, who is sponsoring a bill to extend the 1 percent online use tax to all home-rule municipalities regardless of population size.

Spain added that Peoria alone could see \$2 million to \$3 million in new revenue every year.

Carr, of the Retail Merchants Association, said he understands the pres-

sure to include a solution in the next fiscal year's budget, but it's an issue that "has to go very, very carefully," because the Supreme Court's vote was 5-4, and it's not clear how similar future cases will be decided.

But the committee chair, Democratic Rep. Michael Zalewski, of Riverside, said he feels "an abundant pressure" to solve the issue in the upcoming budget, because lawmakers "want to see local governments get their fair share."

According to Cole, of the Municipal League, Illinois would be the first state to fully address local government sales taxes applied to online retailers.

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### Budget analysts: Evidence-based school funding model working, needs more funding

By Jerry Nowicki  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Illinois' new evidence-based school funding model is effectively driving added funding to the state's neediest school districts, but the state must double its annual added investment in the formula if districts are to reach funding adequacy in a timely manner, according to a report released March 27 by the bipartisan Center for Tax and Budget Accountability.

The evidence-based model was passed in 2017, giving each public school district an adequacy target based on several factors tied to student performance. Those furthest from their target are prioritized when new funds are added to the formula.

Illinois has 707 districts that do not meet their adequacy target, and CTBA President Ralph Martire said if the statutory minimum of \$350 million is added to the formula each year, the earliest all districts could meet adequacy levels is 2050.

"That leaves generations of students in underfunded schools," Martire said.

For the state to make up a \$7.35 billion education funding shortfall and meet adequacy levels within 10 years as specified in the legislation, Martire said, the actual annual funding increase would have to be closer to \$779 million.

At a news conference detailing the report, Martire said the num-

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## SPORTS

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## Addison Trail girls track team enjoys indoor successes

All-conference performers  
Sanfilippo and O'Connell  
return for BlazersBy Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls' track team took many positives out of the recent indoor season.

The Blazers finished fourth at both the varsity and frosh-soph levels at the West Suburban Conference Gold Division meets.

"We placed fourth at both levels without our jumpers who were injured," coach Dave Pytko noted.

Even better, the Blazers broke five team indoor records at the conference meet.

At one point during the indoor season, Viviana Sanfilippo was ranked in the top 20 in the state in the 800 after taking second in the event at the conference meet.

Alex Nava was second in the 300 and broke the team indoor record. The Addison Trail 3,200 relay team of Sanfilippo, Julianna Tamayo, Lizbeth Balbuena and Nileena Mahesh also broke the team indoor record it set earlier in the year and did so by 30 seconds.

The Addison Trail 1,600 relay team of Sanfilippo, Tamayo, Balbuena and Nava took second in the conference and broke the team indoor record.

Maddie Ford broke the frosh-soph 3,200 indoor team record and took second in conference, while Mia Johnson won the hurdles race at the conference meet.

Sanfilippo, a sophomore, is the team's top returner. Pytko noted she's about 2.5 seconds off the state-qualifying mark in the 800 with seven weeks still to go. "She's our anchor in the 3,200 and 1,600 relays and is able to run any event from 400 to 3,200," he said. "She is on pace to hold every varsity distance record by season's end."

Balbuena and Tamayo also return. "Lizbeth and Julianna have supplied great strength and leadership to the team," said Pytko.

Nava, a senior, is the remaining sprinter from the 400 relay team that qualified for state two years ago. Nava, along with junior Kate Diego and sophomore Francesca Scarabaggio, will provide some relay firepower. "We look to regain some of the thunder from a few years ago in our relays," said Pytko. "Our relays are shaping up pretty well. We really need one person to step up for each relay and we could see them all become all-conference and become

**"Our strength in our team this year is definitely our senior leadership. They are very demanding, but very positive to everyone."**

- Coach Dave Pytko

sectional medalists. Each relay had a very good showing in the (indoor) conference meet."

Johnson, a sophomore, and junior Julia Swierzb anchor the hurdling crew. "Mia was the second-fastest hurdler in the conference last year as a freshman," said Pytko.

Pytko is looking for big things from junior Paulina Stachura in the high jump and Maggie O'Connell in the throws. "Paulina is looking to get closer to the state-qualifying height in the high jump and Maggie is poised to regain all-conference in the throws again this year," the coach said.

Mahesh and Ford, both freshmen, are key newcomers to the

group and compete in the mid- and long-distance events. Freshman Sarah Bojczuk also will contribute in the jumps.

"Our strength in our team this year is definitely our senior leadership," said Pytko. "They are very demanding, but very positive to everyone. They basically have set the bar for our team, the coaches have not. In addition, our distance crew is the strongest Addison Trail has ever seen. We look forward to all the distance records being broken this year. Finally, this is one of the most complete teams I have coached since being at Addison Trail. We have strengths all over in every type of event. The question is how much can we improve from where we are at to achieve our goals? We have potential all over the team. We just need to stay focused on what we can control."

Pytko said this year's group isn't getting too far ahead of itself. "Our team looks to build from one meet to the next and not look too far ahead without keeping in our mind our ultimate goals of making a good showing at sectionals and having state aspirations," he said. "We do a good job of competing in certain events with the best in our conference with Downers Grove South. We just need to build a culture of hard work pays off."

Willowbrook boys tennis team  
looking for more successCaptains Cavka, Lobdell and  
DeValle return for WarriorsBy Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook boys tennis team had plenty to write home about last season.

The Warriors went 10-5 in dual matches and finished third in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division with a 4-2 mark. Willowbrook also had five all-conference players a year ago and won the District 88 eight-team tournament.

Coach Ed Delacruz returns three players who will serve as captains this spring. Back is junior Ben Cavka, who posted 17 wins last year and is slated to play No. 1 singles.

Senior Mark Lobdell is back after winning 16 matches last year. He will play a combination of No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles. "Mark is our best all-around player who can play singles and doubles," Delacruz noted.

Lobdell will play at College of DuPage next season.

Also back is two-year captain and senior Drake DeValle. He played No. 1 singles last year and recorded 12 wins. He is slated for a combination of No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles. Delacruz noted DeValle is drawing college interest and currently is deciding whether to play in college or focus on academics.

Senior Joe Garner also returns. "We call Joe the human backboard," said Delacruz. "He just doesn't miss finishes off our third singles spot. These guys are very talented and make our team so much deeper."

Cavka took second at No. 2 singles in the conference, while Garner was third at No. 3 singles. Both earned all-conference honors.

Key newcomers include freshmen Jose Alcantara and Devin Cullerton. They will see action at both No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles this season.

"We are very senior-oriented," said Delacruz. "This is probably one of the deepest if not the deepest team I've had in my 10 years at Willowbrook. We are very talented at first through third singles. We have four players there who we can rotate around. This allows me to really focus on our doubles play where players might not have that USTA player talent, but who really give me their all in practice."

Willowbrook started the season with a win against Riverside-Brookfield in non-conference action.

The Warriors will host their annual District 88 tournament on April 21.

"We won it last year and are trying to repeat," said Delacruz of the District 88 event. "In the month of April we are loaded with matches so staying injury-free is a must."

Delacruz said the team also has a longer-range goal this spring.

"Yes, we will try and make a run for conference this year," he said. "It's a goal we set out for at the start of the season."

## Lozada headlines list of key returners for Fenton softball

Bison looking to take  
next steps forward  
this springBy Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton softball team isn't lacking for players who racked up plenty of varsity statistics a year ago.

And headlining that list is senior shortstop Isa Lozada, who hit .422 with 10 doubles, two triples, five homers, 29 RBI and scored 48 runs. Lozada was an all-conference, all-area and third-team all-state selection last year.

Also back is senior third baseman/second baseman Payton Pugliese, who hit .333 with 20 runs scored and 16 RBI last year. Sophomore pitcher-third baseman Claire Panos hit .379 with 19 runs scored and 18 RBI, while sophomore second baseman-pitcher Cynthia Ibarra hit .441 with three doubles, two triples, 19 runs scored and 22 RBI.

Junior first baseman, designated player Joni Lucas hit .371 with five doubles, two triples, four homers, 26 RBI and 20 runs scored.

Freshman Ximena Banuelos will catch and also play a variety of dif-

ferent positions.

Coach Dave Mello has seen progress on both sides of the ball in the early going thus far. "The offense is coming along nicely," he said. "We really like the way they are swinging the bats and we are very impressed with the aggressive nature with which they are running the bases. On defense, we look good, but there will be a lot of work to do once we are consistently on a dirt infield. We also will need to keep improving our relays and specials."

Mello also is impressed with the team's pitching depth. "The pitching is in great hands to start the season," he said. "We will be rotating four girls, junior Gianna Mendoza, and sophomores Claire Panos, Cynthia Ibarra and Ashley Mitchell. All of them have looked really good in the early portion of the season. Pitching is our top strength at this point in the season. Not far behind would be our defense. We feel really good about both. We really like our offense as well, but need to see it against some other top pitching."

Mello noted Ashley Milano and Madison Spencer provide the team with an opportunity to incorporate slap hitting into the offense. "They

bring great speed and also will shut down two-thirds of the outfield," he said. "Both have been working extremely hard."

Mello added his team is loaded with returning players from last year's squad that won 14 games. "What we really like the most about this team is that other than Ximena, they all were on the varsity last season and are very hungry to have a really good season," he said. "A lot of them played travel ball and have put in a lot of time to have success. On top of that, there are only three seniors so just about all of them will be back for another run next season."

Mello isn't placing a specific numerical value on wins or conference finish. "Our goals for this season are to grow each day and focus on what is right in front of us," he said. "We aren't going to worry about anything except what is taking place at that moment. We really feel that we have a great chance to win a lot of games, but the most important thing is that we are fully prepared for regionals. As for the conference race, this is our first time in this division of the Metro Suburban (Red Division). We would like to think that we will be a factor in the race."



## News briefs

### Lauren's Bash set for April 26 at Anyway's Pub

The Lauren M. Kiefer Foundation will hold its kickoff party for its Remembering Lauren 5K run/walk on Friday, April 26. The kickoff party—also known as Lauren's Bash—will take place from 7 p.m. until closing at Anyway's Pub, 5 E. Roosevelt Road, Oakbrook Terrace. Guests who present the Lauren's Bash Flyer will allow 20 percent of their food and beverage purchase to be donated to the Lauren Kiefer Memorial Foundation.

The flyer is available at [rememberlaur.com](http://rememberlaur.com). The 13th Annual Remembering Lauren 5K run/walk will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 15, outside of Willowbrook High School. Proceeds from that event will benefit the Lauren Kiefer Foundation, which provides funds to local families and groups. The foundation also provides scholarships to Willowbrook students.

### Village's yard-waste collection season begins this week

Villa Park's yard-waste collection program for 2019 begins this week. Yard-waste collection in the village is provided on a pay-as-you throw basis. Yard waste consists of grass, shrubbery clippings, leaves and plant material. It is to be set out in 30-gallon Kraft paper bags, designed for the collection of yard waste, or in 35-gallon (maximum) refuse cans clearly marked "yard waste only."

A prepaid yellow yard waste tag must be affixed to each bag or can set out. Yard waste bags or cans are not to exceed 50 pounds when full. Do not use plastic bags for yard waste (plastic cannot be tub ground, composted or tilled into soil).

Yard waste is limited to what is generated at the residence being serviced. The waste must be out by 6 a.m. along with refuse during the yard waste collection season. Yard waste will be collected through the end of November.

The yellow yard waste stickers, required for yard waste collection services, are available for purchase at Village Hall.

Tree branches not exceeding 4 inches in diameter, bush trimmings and plant stocks must be tied into bundles using twine, not to exceed 4 feet in length, 18 inches in diameter, and not weighing more than 50 pounds.

Throughout the spring, summer and early fall, leaves are disposed of in yard waste bags or cans using a prepaid yellow yard waste tag for each bag/can set out.

In addition, residents will be allowed to dispose of an unlimited number of Kraft paper bags of leaves without affixing yard waste disposal stickers during the final seven weeks of yard waste collection.

During the free leaf collection dates leaves in garbage cans must have a prepaid yellow yard waste tag. The free leaf collection is only for leaves in paper yard waste bags.

Rocks, sod, bales of hay, and landscape timbers are not landscape waste and should not be placed in yard waste cans or bags. These items require a special pick up service.

Make sure refuse, recycling, leaves, and yard waste are set out at the curb by no later than 6 a.m. on collection day. Village ordinance allows items to be set out after 7 p.m. the evening before collection day.

### Village's Spring Sweep recycling event takes place May 18

The Villa Park Community Pride Commission and the Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission are teaming up to hold a Villa Park Spring Sweep recycling and shredding event on Saturday, May 18. The event will take place from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Traffic for the event will flow down Home Avenue, entering at the intersection of Harvard Avenue and Home, and exiting toward Ardmore. (Use 42 W. Home Ave. as a general starting point). The event is free to Villa Park residents, although a fee will apply for paint recycling. Non-residents are welcome, but a fee will apply for document shredding, electronics recycling and paint recycling.

Volunteers will work to collect and sort all items straight from your car to ensure an easy and safe drop-off. Simply load your car, drive to the entrance of the event and volunteers will direct you from there.

If you are interested in volunteering for the event, send an e-mail to [pride@invillapark.com](mailto:pride@invillapark.com).

### District 45 5K run/walk takes place April 27 Sign-up deadline extended to April 10

The sign-up deadline for the Tenth Annual District 45 PTA Just for Fun 5K run/walk has been extended. The 5-kilometer run/walk will take place on Saturday, April 27. The run/walk will start at 8:30 p.m. on the Illinois Prairie Path near the Rugarud Gazebo.

A 1-mile kids fun run for children in kindergarten through fifth grade will begin at 9:30 a.m. The sign-up deadline has been extended to April 10. The 5-kilometer run/walk registration fee before the deadline is \$20 for adults (18 and over) and \$15 for children.

The fee for the 1-mile fun run for kids is \$10. Race-day registration (from 7 to 7:45 a.m.) will cost \$25 for the run/walk and \$15 for the 1-mile run. For more information, or to download a registration form, visit the district's website at [d45.org](http://d45.org). Click on the "Departments" tab and go to "Communications."

### Kiwanis Club holds Vidalia onion sale Deadline to order is Monday, April 22

The Kiwanis Club of Villa Park is sponsoring its annual Vidalia Sweet Onion Sale to benefit local charitable services. The club gives scholarships to Willowbrook Key Club students, supports Jackson and Jefferson Middle Schools' Builders Club, sponsors the summer concert series in partnership with the Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department and gives assistance to Easter Seals DuPage Valley and the Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association (NEDSRA). A portion of this year's onion sales will go toward Easter Seals DuPage Valley.

A 10-pound bag of onions costs \$11. The deadline to order is Monday, April 22. Order forms are available through the Village of Villa Park's Twitter site at [twitter.com/villapark.il](https://twitter.com/villapark.il). The pickup for the onions is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 545 S. Ardmore Ave.

To make an order, complete the form, along with a check payable to the Kiwanis Club of Villa Park Foundation, by April 22. Return the form and check to Villa Park Kiwanis Onion Sales, P.O. Box 6954, Villa Park, IL 60181.

For more information, contact Sandy Hill at 630-834-1164, Ext. 111, or at [shill@vppl.info](mailto:shill@vppl.info).



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review

### Team of Jefferson students qualify for state meet

Jefferson Middle School's Destination Imagination (DI) team—The Scrubs—advanced to the state-level competition after taking part in the recent Region II DI Tournament in Glen Ellyn. The DI State Tournament will take place on April 13 at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. The Jefferson team, which includes one student from Schafer Elementary School, claimed first place in its level at the regional tournament. The Scrubs, pictured from left to right with their regional trophy, are: Liam McBride, Morgan Hausen, Kaelynn Schenk, Mary Turner and Mia McBride. Destination Imagination is a global program that promotes problem solving, teamwork and creativity in students. Teams of up to seven students and a parent manager choose a challenge, and work creatively and collaboratively to find a solution. Teams present their challenge solutions by performing an interactive skit in front of an audience and appraisers. District 45 has a long history of participating in DI and annually receives generous support for the program from the Villa Park Rotary Club. The Scrubs participated in the Fine Arts Challenge—GAME ON. According to District 45 DI Coordinator Anne Blyth, The Scrubs combined creativity, technical skills, problem-solving, writing, humor, and theatrical skills to entertain their audience at the regional. They also competed in an Instant Challenge, which required teamwork, problem-solving, flexible thinking, and the ability to think on their feet. The subject of the challenge was unknown to the team members until they entered the challenge room to compete.

## Heightened enforcement of hands-free distracted driving law this month

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and the Villa Park Police Department is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police and more than 100 local law enforcement agencies throughout the state to remind drivers to drop their phones or pay up.

Motorists will see increased patrols and enforcement zones across Illinois throughout the month. The Villa Park Police Department will be ticketing drivers who text or use their cellphones while driving.

Over the past decade, distracted driving has become one of the leading causes of vehicle crashes on our roads. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association, 3,166

people died in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2017. While this represents a nine-percent decrease in distracted driving fatalities from 2016, there is clearly more work to be done.

"Every day, you can look out your car window and see a driver using their cellphone," said Sgt. James Chihak. "People know texting and driving is dangerous and illegal, but they do it anyway, and it puts others at risk."

Texting while driving distracts a driver visually, manually and cognitively. Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes off the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent of driving blind at 55 miles per hour for the length of an entire football field.

Follow these steps for a safe driving experience:

- If you are expecting a text message or need to send one, pull over and park your car in a safe location. Once you are safely off the road and parked, it is safe to text.
- Designate your passenger as your "designated texter." Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- Do not engage in social media scrolling or messaging while driving. Cellphone use can be habit-forming.
- Put your cellphone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat until you arrive at your destination.

The Distracted Driving enforcement campaign is supported through federal funds administered by IDOT.

### District 88's Best for March

Willowbrook senior Joe LaPointe (left) was named his school's recipient of the 88's Best award for March. LaPointe, who is pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (right), was honored during the District 88 Board of Education meeting on March 18. The district's board and administration created the 88's Best award to honor students for their achievements in and out of the classroom. The honor is presented to one student from each of the district's two schools—Willowbrook and Addison Trail—during each month of the school year. LaPointe has earned Honor Roll status during multiple semesters of his high school career. He serves as the president of the Thespians Honor Society, and as vice president of the Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) Honor Society. He is a member of Willowbrook's concert choir and show choir (CenterStage), and has been named an All-District Musician by the Illinois Music Education Association (IIMEA) for the past three years. A member of the school's theater department, LaPointe has been a cast and crew member for every production of his time in high school. His performances included lead roles in "The Music Man," "SCHOOLED" and "Lend Me a Tenor." LaPointe has also been a member of Willowbrook's IHSA contest play productions. He served as an assistant director for this year's production of "The Revolutionists." LaPointe plans to attend Southern Illinois University, where he intends to major in musical theater and education.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Villa Park Review



# Sports

LOMBARDIAN  
VILLA PARK REVIEW



The Glenbard East girls soccer team beat Addison Trail 6-0 on Saturday in Lombard. The Rams, who held a 4-0 halftime lead over the Blazers, improved their season record to 6-1. One photo shows senior Lindsey Novak (No. 13, left) and junior

Elaine Wesling (No. 4, right). The duo accounted for five of the Rams' six goals. Wesling scored three goals, while Novak provided two goals.

CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

## Rams rout Addison Trail 6-0 to move to 6-1

Conference season begins this week

The Glenbard East girls soccer team improved its 2019 season record to 6-1 with Saturday's 6-0 victory over Addison Trail in Lombard.

Junior Elaine Wesling scored three goals for the Rams, who held a 4-0 lead at halftime. Senior Lindsey Novak provided two goals and two assists. Freshman Sarah Liljestrand scored her first goal as a Ram. Liljestrand also contributed an assist. Senior Sam Johnson and freshmen Natalie Borcean and Ruby Campuzano each had one assist.

Novak scored Glenbard East's first goal of the match. Wesling netted the next two goals. Liljestrand scored late in the first half to give the Rams a 4-0 lead. Wesling and Novak each scored one goal during the second half.

"We have six freshmen on the varsity," said Glenbard East coach Kent Overbey. They've played in every game, and they're all contributing. They've been very impressive."

In addition to Liljestrand, Borcean and Campuzano, the Rams' freshmen varsity players include Sarah Conroy, Maia Zatarski and goalkeeper Zoe Romano.

Zatarski, who sat out Saturday's match with a minor injury, scored a pair of goals in the team's previous contest—a 3-0 win over Stagg on March 24 at SeatGeek Stadium. That victory came in the third-place contest of the 32-team Windy City Classic Tournament. The Rams won four of five matches in the event.

The Rams open the Upstate Eight Conference season with this week's home match against West Chicago. Glenbard East has won three straight conference titles.

(Right) Freshman Ruby Campuzano (No. 1), who had an assist, is also pictured. The Rams, who have won three straight Upstate Eight Conference championships, begin the 2019 conference season with this week's home match against West Chicago.



Glenbard East freshman Sarah Liljestrand (No. 2) tallied a first-half goal—the first goal of her high school career.

## Willowbrook senior plays on U19 American football team in Italy

Matt Knudson from Willowbrook High School represented the United States as part of the American Football Worldwide ELITE select team that will travel to Italy for a week of educational touring, serving as ambassadors for American football and culminating the week participating in a rare and special international game against the National U19 American Football team of Italy. The game was to take place in Milan on Saturday, March 30.

Knudson recorded 28.5 sacks and 52 tackles for loss as a defensive tackle and left tackle for the Warriors. Knudson helped lead his team to an undefeated regular

season, reach the quarterfinals, and tie for the most wins in school history. Knudson earned All-Conference and All-Area honors, as well as Academic All-State. Knudson plans on continuing his football career at either Illinois Wesleyan or St. Francis.

More about the APFW ELITE, trip to Italy  
American Football Worldwide's ELITE team builds its roster from scouting, recommendations and nominations provided by high school coaches. There will be players from 13 different states suiting up for APFW ELITE.

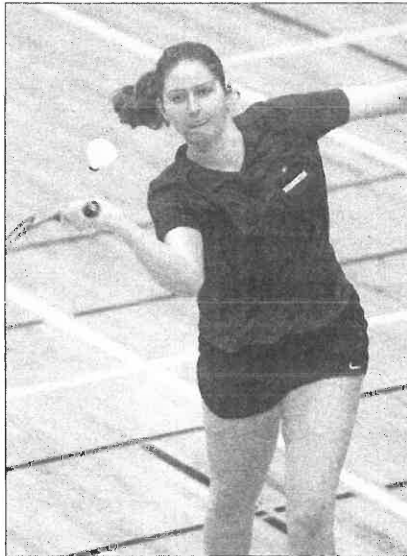
The team of 33 high school football

players met in Rome on Sunday, March 24. During the week they practiced daily, spending the remainder of the day in educational touring of the many historical and cultural highlights of Italy.

They traveled from Rome to the tip of Lake Como just north of Milan and toured many of the historical icons, such as the Roman Colosseum and Forum, the piazzas of Rome, Vatican City and St. Peter's Basilica, Siena, Florence, Cinque Terre and Milan.

When asked why he wanted to join this tour, Knudson said, "to share the sport I love with people around the world."

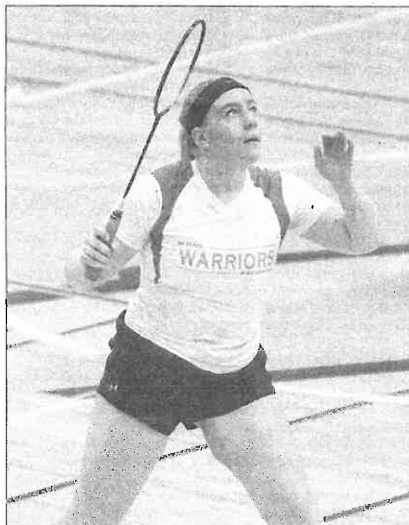
# Warriors win their own quad



The duo of sophomores Riley Alstott (left) and Aubrey Wendorff (right) gave the Rams their victory at No. 2 doubles. Glenbard East defeated both Bolingbrook and Oak Forest by scores of 7-1. Glenbard East earned a second-place finish in its own seven-team Ram 7 Invite on Saturday.



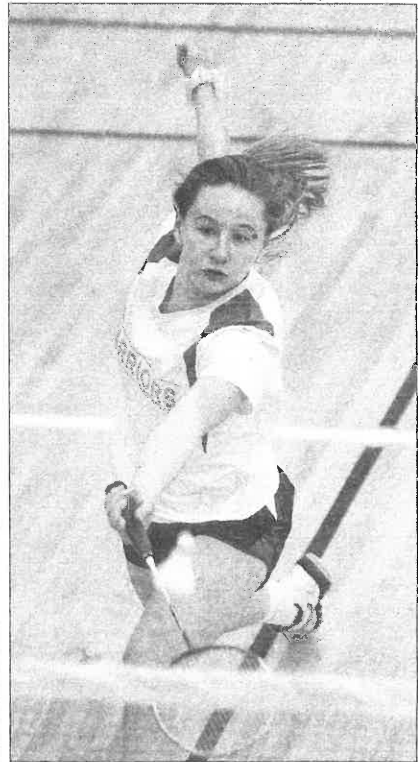
Senior twins Abbie (right) and Katie (left) Eagan teamed up to give Glenbard East its victory at No. 1 doubles.



Junior Chloe Harr (above) played No. 3 singles for the Warriors, while junior Jessica Whiting occupied the No. 4 singles spot. Willowbrook won all four of its singles matches against Glenbard East. The Rams earned their two victories at No. 1 doubles and No. 2 doubles.



Senior Charlotte Dewyer competed in the No. 2 singles position.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

The Willowbrook badminton team defeated all three of its opponents at last week's quad in Villa Park. The Warriors defeated Glenbard East, Oak Forest and Bolingbrook in the March 25 event. Each dual meet featured four singles matches and four doubles matches. Willowbrook beat Glenbard East 6-2 and posted 8-0 victories over Oak Forest and Bolingbrook. Senior Hanna Konrath (above) played No. 1 singles for the Warriors.

## Rams nip Warriors 3-2 in early-season contest

*Both teams begin conference play this week*

Glenbard East edged Willowbrook 3-2 in last week's baseball battle between area rivals. The Rams beat the Warriors in a March 26 battle at Wheaton College's home field—Lee Pfund Stadium at Legion Field.

Senior Jacob Bailey, who pitched the first four and one-third innings for the Rams, earned the victory. Bailey allowed five hits and no earned runs. He struck out three batters and allowed two walks.

Senior Kevin Stallings pitched the next two innings for Glenbard East. He gave up one hit and one run. Senior Mitchell Glennon took the mound for the Rams in the bottom of the seventh inning and recorded two strikeouts to earn a save.

Senior Jimmy Cotterill went 2-for-3 and scored a run for the Rams. Senior Jeremy Johnson also went 2-for-3. Johnson scored a run and drove in a run.

Willowbrook senior Jack Hines went 3-for-4 with two doubles and a triple. Hines drove in both of the Warriors' runs, including a seventh-inning run that cut the Rams' lead to 3-2. Glenbard East scored single runs in the first, fourth and fifth innings. Willowbrook scored its first run in the bottom of the third inning.

Junior Dax Meyer pitched the first four and one-third innings for Willowbrook. He allowed three hits and two earned runs. He struck out seven batters and allowed four walks. Willowbrook seniors Andrew Schellhorn and Joey Guthrie both provided scoreless pitching in relief.

Glenbard East, which won one of three games in a weekend trip to Kentucky, finished the week with an overall record of 3-4. Before their road trip, the Rams pounded Downers Grove North 16-4 on March 27 in a five-inning game in Lombard. Cotterill went 3-for-3 with two runs batted in. Sophomore Joe Hamilton went 2-for-2 with a home run and three RBIs. Hamilton hit a solo home run to tie the score at 2-2 in the second inning. His two-run single in the third inning gave the Rams a 12-2 lead. Glenbard East scored nine runs in





CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

## Play ball

The Willowbrook softball team opened its 2019 season with four games last week. The Warriors began the season with a 3-1 loss at Plainfield Central on March 26. One day later, Riverside-Brookfield beat the Warriors 8-0 in Villa Park. Sophomore Caroline Dooley (No. 2, middle) was Willowbrook's starting pitcher in each of the first two games. She allowed two hits and no earned runs while recording nine strikeouts against Plainfield Central, which scored all three of its runs in the third inning. Dooley pitched the first five and one-third innings against Riverside-Brookfield. Freshman Caitlyn Kulczynski (No. 5, left) pitched the remaining one and two-third innings. Kulczynski took the mound in the first game of Willowbrook's March 28 doubleheader at Schaumburg. She piled up 12 strikeouts over seven innings to help the Warriors to their first victory of the season—a 7-1 win. Kulczynski provided

an offensive spark by going 4-for-4 at the plate and driving in one run. Dooley and senior Amy Bussa both connected for two hits. Junior shortstop Shannon Knudson (No. 14, pictured right against Riverside-Brookfield) drove in two runs with a fifth-inning double. Willowbrook swept the doubleheader against Schaumburg by crushing the Saxons 16-1 in four innings in the second game. Willowbrook scored 10 runs in the second inning to take an 11-0 lead. The Warriors added five more runs in the third inning. Knudson went 3-for-3 with a double and a triple. She drove in six runs. Four Warriors—senior Samantha Mishlove, senior Katie Pettinger, junior Loren Perry and freshman Kayla Neff—each contributed two runs batted in. Willowbrook bashed 27 hits (12 in the first game and 15 in the second game) during the doubleheader.

## Many horses in the race for legalized sports gambling in Illinois

### Multiple models discussed during House committee hearing

By Grant Morgan  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Legislative momentum is in place to bring sports betting to Illinois.

But it will take weeks for all interested parties to get their opinions to lawmakers.

That process started March 28, with more than three hours of testimony during a House Revenue and Finance Committee hearing.

Committee members balanced the opinions of various representatives of the state's gambling, horse racing, sports and technology industries.

Industry representatives, meanwhile, were tasked with choosing the best of five different plans to legalize sports betting in the state.

Those plans take shape in five separate amendments added to Rep. Michael Zalewski's (D-Riverside) gaming bill, House Bill 3308.

They can be separated into two categories. Four plans would have legalized sports gambling overseen by the

Illinois Gaming Board. One would put all sports betting in the state under the Illinois Lottery's authority.

Advocates for the Illinois Lottery plan, led by Rep. Lisa Hernandez (D-Cicero), say it could benefit the more than 10,000 small retailers, such as convenience stores and gas stations that already sell lottery tickets.

But the plan does not allow for hugely popular online or mobile betting, and would limit the types of bets that can be made.

For example, the lottery system could not accommodate in-game sports betting like whether a basketball player makes a free throw, or whether a football player gains a certain number of yards.

Such issues leave open the possibility that sports bettors will stay on the black market.

Hernandez says the main benefit of the lottery plan is the high potential revenue for the state. With a tax rate of up to 50 percent, Hernandez claims

it could bring in \$100 million to \$300 million per year.

But those revenues fluctuate. Tom Swoik of the Illinois Casino Gaming Association testified that, in the two states that use the lottery model, Rhode Island and Delaware, real revenues have been only 8 percent to 9 percent of operators' gross receipts.

Swoik's organization favors the "New Jersey model" plan, championed by Zalewski. It is one of the four plans that would be overseen by the state Gaming Board.

That plan would allow sports betting at the state's brick-and-mortar casinos and racetracks, as well as online.

Betting licenses would cost \$10 million, while brick-and-mortar facilities could also partner with up to two digital platforms, or "skins," to provide mobile betting.

Taxes would be 15 percent on the brick-and-mortar facilities, and 20 percent for mobile platforms.

Swoik said the future of sports betting is moving online, and the New Jersey model "is the best starting point."

Mattias Stetz, chief operating officer of Chicago-based Rush Street Interactive, an affiliate of the gaming company running the Rivers Casino in Des Plaines, agreed.

According to Stetz, more than 80 percent of February's sports betting in New Jersey took place online.

But, he argued, brick-and-mortar facilities should be allowed only one skin.

As such, Stetz favored a plan similar to Zalewski's, championed by Rep. Robert Risa (D-Blue Island).

Along with limiting brick-and-mortar to one skin, that plan has greater

consumer protections, according to Paul Gainer of Midwest Gaming and Entertainment.

Two other plans were discussed at the March 28 hearing.

One, called the "Mississippi model," is favorable to horsemen's associations and racetracks.

Championed by Rep. Katie Stuart (D-Collinsville), that plan would allow sports betting at the state's racetracks and casinos, with a \$10 million license fee.

But online and mobile betting would be digitally restricted to the physical locations, using a tool known as "geofencing."

State horsemen's associations say there is a natural connection between sports betting and racetracks.

"In Vegas, every one of the major hotels has a race-sports book, away from the slot machines and table games," said David McCaffrey, executive director of the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, which represents the labor side of horse racing.

The last plan, led by Rep. André Thapedi (D-Chicago), is favored by sports leagues, with direct support from Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, and the Professional Golfers Association.

It would give a 0.25 percent royalty to the leagues, which would provide official data to sports betting operators.

Sports betting in this plan would be physically limited to casinos, racetracks, and the stadiums or courses at which sporting events take place.

Advocates say leagues must be included in revenues, if they are to be betted on.

"I cannot think of any other industry that builds its product on another business, that imposes risks on that other business, and forces that other business to spend more and do more to protect itself," said Dan Spillane, senior vice president of the NBA.

Opponents of that plan say the leagues don't need extra help because they'll get a boost from allowing sports betting in the first place.

"Leagues will already see increased revenue from legalizing sports betting," Swoik, of the Casino Gaming Association, said. "We should not be forced into a monopolistic deal with leagues to get data."

Ivan Fernandez, executive director of the Illinois Gaming Machine Operators Association, also testified at Thursday's hearing.

He said the gaming machine operators will come up with their own proposal soon. Similar to the lottery plan, it could benefit the bars, restaurants and small shops that house video gambling terminals.

"There are nearly 7,000 licensed video gaming locations in desperate need for a new revenue source," Fernandez said, adding that his plan could help small businesses comply with the new minimum wage law.

"We heard a lot of testimony," said Rep. Risa at the hearing ended. "The idea today was to look at all these different amendments and try to craft something together that's right for Illinois."

This week, Zalewski added, will be a "work week," where lawmakers and their staff can look closer at each of the sports betting options. Hearings on the matter will continue afterward.

## • Rams (Continued from page 13)

the third inning.

Willowbrook finished the week with a 3-3 record. The Warriors beat Conant 11-1 in five innings on March 27 in Villa Park. Junior Anthony Yannotti bashed a three-run home run in the fourth inning for Willowbrook. Senior Jack Nilles allowed two hits and no earned runs over five innings.

The Warriors lost a 2-1 battle at Maine South on March 29. Guthrie allowed two hits and one earned run over six innings. Willowbrook con-

ducted for just two hits—singles by Yannotti and junior Sam Tumilty. The Warriors scored in the top of the seventh inning to cut Maine South's lead to 2-1.

The Warriors are beginning the West Suburban Gold Conference season with this week's three-game series against Hinsdale South. The Rams are starting the Upstate Eight Conference season with this week's three-game series against West Chicago.

# Boys track teams eye journey to state finals

By JOSHUA WELGE  
jwelge@shawmedia.com

The boys track season is set to go outdoors as teams begin their quest toward the state finals in Charleston. Here is a preview of area teams.

## Glenbard East Rams

COACH: Dan Greco

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Nehemiah Jones	sr.	sprints
Austin Salck	sr.	sprints, high jump, pole vault
Aidan Ihms	jr.	distance
Peter Steiskal	sr.	throws
Eric Leonard	sr.	jumps, 300 hurdles
Andrew Byisma	jr.	distance
Zach Panozzo	jr.	sprints
Chris Whitehead	jr.	sprints
Mashar Lewis	sr.	sprints

**Outlook:** The Rams placed fifth at the Upstate Eight Conference indoor meet, giving them a boost going into the outdoor season. Salek won the high jump (6 feet) and pole vault (11-3) at UEC. Steiskal placed second in the shot put (48-5.5), and Ihms was second in the 1,600 as was the 3,200 relay.

"We also have the pieces in place to potentially have strong sprint relays this season," Greco said. "Our goal is to keep the momentum going and finish in the top half again at the outdoor conference meet."

## Glenbard West Hilltoppers

COACH: Jonathan Schweighardt

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Rory Cavan	sr.	distance
Stephen Moody	sr.	distance
Will O'Brien	sr.	distance
Ian Repking	sr.	distance
Tyquan Cox	sr.	sprints
Adam Dau	sr.	shot put, discus

**Outlook:** The Hilltoppers look to build off the momentum of winning a sectional championship last spring and the cross country team's sixth-place finish at state last fall. Duke recruit Cavan, fifth at state cross country, won the 1,600 at the West Suburban Silver indoor meet. Yale commit Moody was sixth at state cross country. O'Brien won the 800 at indoor Silver, and Cox won the 55-meter dash for the Hilltoppers, who took third as a team. Dau is a returning sectional champion in the discus.

## Lemont Indians

COACH: Dennis Kennedy

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
David Lehenbauer	sr.	high jump
Andrew Deuschle	sr.	800
Mike Thompson	sr.	400
Tygar Teselle	so.	400
Joe Cantone	sr.	1,600
Matt Otreba	sr.	200, pole vault
Nick Kania	jr.	800
Luke Bailey	jr.	800

**Outlook:** Lehenbauer is Lemont's top medal threat, and one to watch going into outdoor season. The two-time state high jump qualifier with a 6-8 lifetime-best went 6-7 to win the event at the Top Times indoor championships. Deuschle won the 800 at the ISU Invite and has run a 1:57. Thompson qualified for Top Times in the 400, and Teselle is a promising sophomore. Otreba is Lemont's top sprinter. Bailey has run a 2:03 in the 800 after coming back from an ACL tear in football.

## Montini Broncos

COACH: Eric Brechtel

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Jayden Gertsen	sr.	3,200
Nick Fedanzo	sr.	400/800
Zack Olson	sr.	400/800
Johnny Palumbo	jr.	sprints
Patrick Peters	jr.	shot put
Johnny Ernest	jr.	sprints
Nick Gerbasi	so.	sprints/jumps

**Outlook:** The Broncos look to build on last year's success at the sectional and state level. Fedanzo, an Illinois football recruit, was All-State in the 400 and 800 relays in 2017. Olson was All-State in the 400 relay in 2017 and 2018 and 800 relay in 2017. Gertsen is a returning state qualifier in the 3,200. Peters was all-conference at the Chicago Catholic League indoor. He is Montini's indoor school record holder in the shot put.

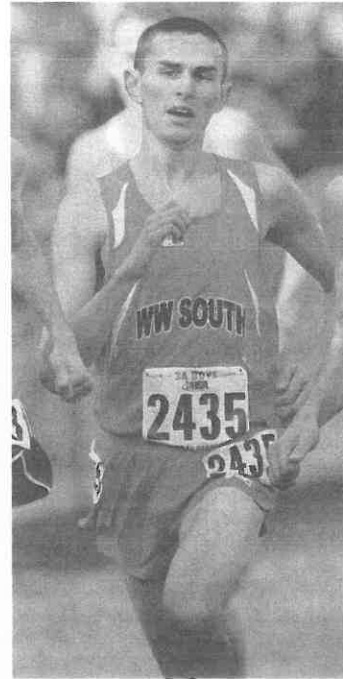
"We have made some large improvements in throws and distance over the past year to add to our strong sprint squad," Brechtel said.

## St. Francis Spartans

COACH: Scott Nelson

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Jon Aquino	sr.	middle distance
Sean Conley	sr.	sprints



Clark Brooks/PhotoNews Media

Wheaton Warrenville South's Bill Hauenstein runs to the finish line during the Class 3A state cross country meet Nov. 3, 2018, in Peoria.

Joe Lang	sr.	sprints
Larry Li	jr.	middle distance
Josh Winslow	jr.	middle distance
Dan Weizeorick	jr.	middle distance, distance

**Outlook:** Aquino and Weizeorick are in prime position to garner all-state status for the Spartans this spring in the 3,200 relay. They scored the only points at the state finals for St. Francis last spring in the 3,200 relay. "We are in good shape," Nelson said. "I would imagine the mile and 800 is what Weizeorick wants to do. He's good." The Spartans have a legacy in distance events at the state level. St. Francis has a grand design in the middle distances behind Winslow.

## Timothy Christian Trojans

COACH: John Vander Kamp

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Clint Fincher	sr.	3,200
Caleb Mitchell	jr.	3,200
Luke Mitchell	jr.	hurdles/800
Carson Hooker	jr.	sprints, 300 hurdles

**Outlook:** Caleb Mitchell, a state

qualifier as a sophomore in the 3,200, leads the Trojans' returners. Fincher took third in the 3,200 at sectionals last year. Luke Mitchell and Hooker are the other top returners back for Timothy Christian, which graduated state qualifying-sprinter Xavier Ross.

## Wheaton Academy Warriors

COACH: Chris Felinski

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Josh Friedland	so.	shot put, discus
Nate Bierly	jr.	300 hurdles, 3,200 relay
Noah Mayo	jr.	400/800
Andrew Pratt	sr.	200
Blake Wittstock	so.	1,600
Daniel Penosky	fr.	400/800
Micah Nichols	jr.	400/high jump

**Outlook:** The Warriors continue to build numbers with one of their larger teams. Mayo, all-conference in the 400 last spring, is Wheaton Academy's best state hopeful. Wittstock, an individual sectional qualifier in cross country last fall, is poised to take over the 1,600 top spot. Penosky, coming off a strong basketball season, could be a force in the 3,200 relay if healthy. Bierly is three tenths of a second off the school 300 hurdles record.

## Wheaton North Falcons

COACH: Donald Helberg

### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Eli Odell	sr.	300 hurdles, sprints
Josh James	sr.	110 hurdles, triple jump
Briggs Cecil	sr.	1,600 relay
Connor Zydek	sr.	3,200

**Outlook:** The Falcons, who took second in the DVC last spring, enter outdoor season after taking third at the indoor DuKane Conference meet. A handful of returning state qualifiers anchor this group. Odell, a returning state qualifier in the 300 hurdles, took second to teammate James and won the 400 at indoor conference. James is a returning state qualifier in the 110 hurdles. Cecil, part of the 1,600 relay that took sixth at state last year, teamed with Odell, Jason Rucker and Joey Nelson to take the 1,600 relay title at DuKane indoor. Zydek, a returning state qualifier in the 3,200, took third at DuKane indoor.

See TRACK, page 21



## • TRACK

Continued from page 20

### Wheaton Warrenville South Tigers

COACH: Cambron Culpepper

#### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Cedric Rowzee	sr.	100/200
Sean Maison	sr.	1,600
Scott Maison	sr.	distance
Bill Hauenstein	sr.	distance
Aldo Martinez	sr.	hurdles
Jake MacConnachie	sr.	pole vault
Joe Ives	sr.	pole vault
David Zeller	jr.	800
Jared Peaslee	jr.	800
Nasri Khayal	sr.	sprints, long jump
DJ Almada	so.	sprints

**Outlook:** The Tigers, who won the DuKane Conference indoor championship, should be a force with a deep distance crew and high-level talent elsewhere. Hauenstein and Scott Maison were All-State for WW South's cross country state championship team. Hauenstein is a returning state qualifier in the 3,200, and Sean Maison took seventh at state in the 1,600. Rowzee took seventh in both the 100 and 200 at state last year, MacConnachie was ninth in the pole vault and Ives is a returning state qualifier.

### Willowbrook Warriors

COACH: Terry Artman

#### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
D'Onite Gholston	sr.	sprints, jumps
Tyler Walenga	sr.	throws
Matt Caron	sr.	distance
Will Stout	sr.	hurdles
Tyler King	so.	distance

**Outlook:** The Warriors, fifth in the West Suburban Gold outdoor meet last spring and fourth at the Gold indoor meet this March, boast their largest squad in a long time. Gholston won the indoor conference long jump, and also will lead Willowbrook's sprint crew. Walenga took fifth in the shot put at indoor conference, Liam Riesen was second in the 400, CJ Harris was third in the 55, DeAndre Holliday took third in the high jump, and Brandon Heselton was third in the 800.

"With numbers grows fun and excitement to work hard everyday and improve," Artman said.

### York Dukes

COACH: Charlie Kern

#### TOP ATHLETES

NAME	YEAR	EVENT
Richard Buehling	jr.	long jump, triple jump

Kam Stearns	jr.	triple jump
Max Santiago	jr.	hurdles
Daniel Klysh	jr.	middle distance

Ethan Kern	jr.	middle distance
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Brendan Hill	sr.	pole vault
Christopher Radcliff	so.	sprints
Jack Wall	jr.	throws
Colin Wallace	sr.	pole vault
Michael Moriarty	jr.	middle distance
Josiah Scott	sr.	long jump
Colin Hill	so.	distance
Matt Austin	jr.	sprints
Ian Watson-Hirsch	sr.	sprints
Inemesit Akpakpan	so.	sprints

**Outlook:** The Dukes have the look of a complete team – they scored in 14 of 16 events to win the West Suburban Silver indoor title. Klysh returns from the All-State, sixth-place 3,200 relay, and Brendan Hill is a returning state qualifier in the pole vault. He went 13-8 to win indoor conference. Radcliff, who won the 200 at indoor conference, is among York's largest pool of quality sprinters in many years. Radcliff, Akpakpan and Watson-Hirsch won the 800 relay there.

"We have the chance to have many athletes in the field and on the track qualify for state," coach Kern said. "We are a very young varsity group and it will be fun to watch how well they handle the stress of varsity competition."

### GIRLS TRACK Lemont Indians

COACH: Tim Plotke

**ATHLETES TO WATCH:** Seniors Daina Maleiska and Julianne McClatchy, juniors Marin Schiffman, Jenna Valenti and Morgan Wrublik, sophomore Jenny Martinez and freshmen Kaylie Politza and Destiny Vargas

**Outlook:** The Indians should contend for their third consecutive South Suburban Conference Blue title and fifth in six seasons and could have multiple 3A state qualifiers. Wrublik (39-3 in shot put Feb. 22), Schiffman (5-3 in high jump in 2018) and Politza (800 in 2:17.69) have equaled or exceeded what will be the automatic state-qualifying standards at sectionals (38-5, 5-3 and 2:19.11). At last year's SSC Blue championships, Wrublik won long jump and was third in shot, Schiffman was second in high jump and the 300 low hurdles, and Purdue Northwest recruit Maleiska was second in pole vault and fourth in the 1,600. Politza was an all-state 12th at 2A state cross country Nov. 3.

Bill Stone contributed to this report.

# Suburban Life

## MVA – ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**CAITLYN KULCZYSKI**  
WILLOWBROOK  
Freshman | Softball

### Why Kulczynski was selected:

Willowbrook freshman pitcher Caitlyn Kulczynski, making her high school debut, struck out 12 and allowed just four hits in a 7-1 win over Schaumburg.

Kulczynski talked with Suburban Life sports editor Joshua Welge. Here is an edited version of the transcript.

**Welge:** Wow, what a start! What are your thoughts reflecting on it?

**Kulczynski:** I was definitely nervous my first time out. I'm excited and happy now. I'm really looking forward to seeing what me and the team can accomplish going forward.

**Welge:** How did you settle the nerves?

**Kulczynski:** I've played many, many games with my travel teams. I've experienced a lot of high-pressure situations. My first varsity start I was nervous, but I wanted to prove to my team and my coach that I deserved a spot on the team.

**Welge:** What pitches were working?

**Kulczynski:** Definitely my changeup. Got a lot of batters with it. And my rise ball was spinning pretty well.

**Welge:** When did you start playing softball?

**Kulczynski:** I was actually a dancer before softball. I did competitive dance until I was 9, first started softball when I was 9. My mom used to play softball. After I was done with dance, my mom said I could try softball. I happened to be pretty good at it.

**Welge:** Were you always a pitcher?

**Kulczynski:** My first year of travel, I was 11, they needed a pitcher. It wasn't too good of a team and I thought I'd give it a try. I worked hard, started going for lessons. I guess I took it and ran with it.



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# Being blind is no deterrent for Zuniga

No one has to be left behind, Celsa Zuniga said. Everyone must have an opportunity.

Her son, Daniel, is seizing his.

A blind student in Addison Trail's School Association for Special Education in DuPage County program, Daniel Zuniga Jr. joined the Blazers track team April 1.

"I'm proud that I've overstepped my boundaries," he said Monday, two days after his first race Saturday at Glenbard South.

Running in Lane 1 with SASED aide Luke Paoletti

striding alongside in the infield, each holding one end of a short, Theraband-type strap, Zuniga ran the 100-meter dash in an official 21.29 seconds. Each step drew

applause from athletes and fans in the grandstand.

His time is immaterial. "I was a bit nervous. I didn't expect to set any speed records for my first one. I wanted to make a base for my records. That's the first number, now I can build off of it," Zuniga said.

"I honestly did like it. The feeling of just waiting at the starting block. I really felt the energy of a race, a true race."

The youngest of Daniel Sr. and Celsa Zuniga's four children, Daniel had been a healthy tot. Two months before his fourth birthday, he caught a fever and Celsa gave him medication for it as she had in the past.

This time he suffered a devastating reaction. Blisters formed on his skin and after two days without improvement the Zunigas took him to the hospital.

Doctors told them Daniel had developed Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis, a severe and even life-threatening skin reaction caused by certain medications as common as acetaminophen and ibuprofen, according to the Mayo Clinic.

"They treated him like a burn victim," Celsa Zuniga said.

Doctors induced a coma "for a couple weeks," she said, due to the pain of the burning skin and its removal. She said her son was unable to open his eyes for three months due to swelling, and subsequent corneal transplants were unsuccessful in restoring more than the minimal light perception in his right eye.

"It affected multiple things, including my eyesight, some of my hearing and of course my skin," said Daniel Jr., whose body remains scarred particularly on the upper body.

"We almost lost him. He almost died from this," Celsa Zuniga said. "It was a horrible experience. But he's a very happy boy. He's very healthy and if you talk to his teachers they always say good things about him."

The Zunigas live in Aurora but due to Daniel's special



Daniel Zuniga, freshman at Addison Trail, is blind and runs track with teaching assistant Luke Paoletti, right.

resource teacher, informed Blazers boys track coach James Ziebkka that Daniel was interested in joining the team.

"I wanted to see how it was as a runner," Zuniga said. "I already played an instrument (violin) in orchestra, but I wanted to get into something more physical, see how that goes for me."

Ziebkka had to get up to speed.

"I really had no idea where to start," the coach said. "And after speaking with our athletic director (Matt Thompson) about it we just kind of had to default to the IHSA website and kind of go from there."

In what Ziebkka called a "pretty straightforward" process, school administration submitted the proper permission forms and paperwork, and the Illinois High School Association cleared Zuniga to run the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes and compete in discus and shot put. Ziebkka has Zuniga scheduled to run the 100 at Notre Dame on April 18 and maybe both the 100 and 200 at Willowbrook on April 26.

"He's just doing his best to kind of keep up, get accustomed to the increase in physical activity. He's doing a great job. The kid's got a great attitude, he likes being around the guys, likes being around the team, so it's been fun," Ziebkka said.

"As of now I'm still learning the basics of running," Zuniga said. That's where his running aide, Luke Paoletti, comes in.

"Right now I'm kind of just teaching him the fundamentals of what it really means to be running," said Paoletti, a Maine South graduate.

"One of the things I've noticed with him is when he runs a lot of the time both of his feet are on the ground. When people run normally there's a period of time when both their feet are off the ground and in the air, and he's still working toward that,

game at school." She remains a little skittish.

"I think it's good," she said, "but I feel concerned that he can get hurt."

Daniel Zuniga Jr. is taking it slowly. He'll determine this season whether or not he'll remain in track.

"If I end up continuing this for multiple years I don't see why I couldn't join the Paralympics," said Zuniga, who does compete off and on in the Paralympic sport of goal ball.

Meanwhile, he enjoys being part of a team and the prospect of making new friends.

"It's not every day you run into a blind person, excuse the pun," he said. "But it's interesting, they can actually talk to me, ask me about stuff. And yeah, we're all human beings, regardless of disability, or lack of."

## A sport of her own

Once, Glenbard East baseball coach Joel Pelland said, Rams softball coach Dawn Chantos tried to recruit one of his players.

"Not a chance," Pelland said.

That's because Mary Schoenke is all baseball.

A four-year player in the Rams system and a life-long baseball player with international experience at the LG CUP International Women's Baseball Tournament in South Korea in 2017, softball doesn't register on her radar gun.

"It's not the game that I love," said the senior, who intends to study music education at Illinois State — and try out for USA Baseball's Women's National Team.

"I love the game of baseball and I never wanted to switch over to softball and I just never did. And I was never forced to, either," she said.

Bushka since kindergarten and has played with many of her teammates coming up through tee ball and Little League.

"It's been great, honestly," Schoenke said. "I have had nothing but supportive coaches, coaches that don't treat me any different than any other player, which is all I can ask for. And the same thing with parents and players."

"She's just a part of the team," Pelland said.

During Glenbard East's spring training trip to Kentucky, opposing coaches asked Pelland if there was a girl on the team. Yes, there was.

"They were all like, 'That's awesome,'" he said.

(Glenbard East has to be on the cutting edge of girls playing traditionally boys sports. Pelland said pitcher-infielder Raquel Procopio is on the sophomore baseball team. On Sept. 11, 2015, Rebecca Deluca-Lane scored the first touchdown by a female in an IHSA varsity football game in a 56-12 win over East Aurora.)

A right-handed pitcher who also is among the Rams' first basemen, Schoenke has a two-seam fastball with movement, a circle changeup and a curveball she calls more the 12-6 variety than a sweeper.

On March 30 in Kentucky, Schoenke pitched 1½ innings of relief. On Friday at Wheaton Academy she got the start on the mound. Schoenke went 2½ innings and left the game with a 5-3 lead but got a no-decision after the Warriors tied it up that inning.

She said her pitch count mounted.

"I'm an outside corner pitcher and that (umpire) was not an outside corner guy, so I had a little trouble adjusting to that zone. The cookie crumbles that way sometimes," Schoenke said.

On April 4 against West Chicago she got her first varsity hit, a single through the left side of the infield.

"I guess it was pretty cool, first hit on varsity. But yeah, to me, just another hit," said Schoenke, also a clarinetist in the school orchestra and two-year drum major in marching band.

At about 10 years old she left Little League to play with the Outlaws Prep Baseball travel team until age 14. During that stint Schoenke said she was contacted by Justine Siegal, founder of the all-female Baseball for All program. Siegal recruited Schoenke to play in the first National Girls Baseball Tournament in Florida the summer before her freshman year, and she's played in that tournament ever since.

Baseball has taken her to California, Arizona, New York, Kentucky, Michigan, Indiana and South Korea. This year the tournament will be held at the park of the Rockford Peaches, who played in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League during its run from 1943-54.

Schoenke can relate — to the Peaches and the Rams.

"If I were to go back in time and I kind of reincarnated myself I would go back and play



Glenbard West's Niccò Cavalcante leaps for a kill during Wednesday's boys volleyball match at Naperville North.

## Glenbard West stymies Huskies

Daily Herald Reports

Having "settled" for just a third-place trophy last spring, Glenbard West's returning players seem determined to play even better this spring.

The unbeaten Hilltoppers used a big block and the strong all-around play of junior Ben Harrington to sweep a solid Naperville North squad 25-14, 25-16 Wednesday night in Naperville. The 6-foot-4 Harrington had 11 kills and 5 blocks as Glenbard West improved to 11-0 on the year.

"I really think they're playing a little bit with how disappointed they were with themselves last year," said coach Christine Giunta-Mayer, who guided unbeaten squads to state championships in 2015 and 2016. "What I love about this team is an even balance of juniors and seniors. It's nice to have that senior experience and then the juniors that the seniors can teach. There is not one person that has to take all of this on themselves."

Senior setter Henry Curtis, who was on top of his game, recorded a pair of big blocks and finished the night with 22 assists. He seemed to find Harrington and outside Niccò Cavalcante at just the right time and place to finish off rallies against a Huskies team that took the court one night after an impressive defeat of Benet.

"We had a couple blocks in a row and Will Schwegel had some big digs, including one that was awesome," said Harrington, explaining how the Hilltoppers broke from an 11-11 tie to take the second set 25-16. "We feel really good. We kept their score low and that's what we wanted to do."

What they also want to do is reclaim top state honors for a program that expects nothing less than first place.

"We're trying to get one this year," Harrington said. "Our coach, Christine Giunta-Mayer, has set up this program. She's been working very hard for many years and it's been paying off."

— Stan Goff

## Girls lacrosse

York 18, Glenbard West 3:

On a cold, windy and, frankly, clammy evening, getting where it was warm was Priority 1 for the York girls lacrosse team Wednesday.

## Roundup

apiece from junior midfielder Cate Duhig and senior attack Eileen O'Donnell.

So ... how about that weather? Actually, it wasn't as bad as you might think, despite an American flag that was stretched to its limits most of the contest.

"As long as there's not rain, we love to play in any weather," Duhig said. "While we're running, it's totally fine. I don't like to wear leggings. The breeze feels kind of good when you're running and you're playing in long sleeves."

Duhig got the scoring started for York at 22:51 with a shot in a scrum in front of the Glenbard West net. Forty-two seconds later, it was junior attack Erica Buckley who emerged from behind the net, curled around toward the crease and then blasted a shot in top shelf. Less than 30 seconds after that, sophomore midfielder Ellie Bernard got in the act with a penalty shot goal.

That's three shots, three goals. But the Dukes were just getting started, turns out.

— Gregg Voss

## Boys gymnastics

Glenbard East d. Lake Park:

A year from now, Jake Heabel plans on being at the University of Hawaii at Hilo studying marine biology.

On Thursday he was in the comforts of Glenbard East's gym.

The Glenbard East senior's time as a gymnast is coming to end, but he and his teammates are finishing strong as they celebrated Senior Night with a victory over Lake Park and Fenton during a triangular in Lombard.

The Rams finished with 126.4 points to Lake Park's 123.9. Fenton only had a couple gymnasts competing and scored a 22.5.

"I've never been to Hawaii yet, but I looked at the campus and it's just the right size and feel," Heabel said. "I know I'll miss gymnastics. I like the feel of this team. We have a good group of guys. They're like my brothers, I guess, like family."

It was certainly a joyous occasion for the Rams, who recognized Heabel and fellow seniors Elhadji Ndiaye, Shawn Nguyen, Sean O'Hara and

The Zunigas live in Aurora but due to Daniel's special needs he attended several DuPage County schools that offered SASD programs for visually impaired students. In his first semester at Addison Trail, he made the freshman Distinction Honor Roll.

In February, after discussing academic and athletic options with school personnel, Jacquelyn Jackson, Zuniga's

ground and in the air, and he's still working toward that. He's getting there, leaps and bounds," he said.

Paoletti called Zuniga's pursuit of form "tenacious," and was pleasantly surprised with his run at Glenbard South.

Celsa Zuniga didn't know quite what to make of all this. Given her son's history she was wary when he told her track was not merely "like a

did. And I was never forced to, either," she said.

That's a credit to a lot of people starting with her parents, Kirsten and Bob, and grandfather, William, who took Schoenke to her first White Sox game when she was around 4 months old.

Her presence doesn't raise eyebrows in the Glenbard East program. She's known Rams like Jeremy Johnson and Bret

and kind of reincarnate myself I would go back and play baseball during World War II," she said. "But at the same time I wouldn't change anything right now. I'm happy with my life and I'm very fortunate to be able to wake up every morning and go play baseball."

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ing where it was warm was Priority 1 for the York girls lacrosse team Wednesday.

Scoring 7 goals in their first 7 shot attempts went a long way to making that happen for the Dukes in a West Suburban Silver game with visiting Glenbard West.

York beat the Hilltoppers 18-3 to improve to 8-3 overall and 3-1 in league, and got 6 goals from sophomore attack Jenna Hughes, and 3

recognized Heapel and fellow seniors Elbadji Ndiaye, Shawn Nguyen, Sean O'Hara and Eddie Pojman.

"I had never done anything like this before where I was honored for all the hard work I put into it," Ndiaye said. "It feels good to celebrate. I've been here for two years and made a lot of good friends and have a lot of fun memories. It's really been awesome."

— Chris Walker

## Notice

To report scores: Coaches, please report all scores to the Daily Herald Dupage County office by e-mailing [dupage@dailyherald.com](mailto:dupage@dailyherald.com), calling (847) 427-4430, or faxing results to (800) 675-7708.

## Baseball

### Tuesday's late results

#### WESTMONT 5, KIRKLAND-BRAWATHA 3

2B: W. Best; 2. Dobrovolsky; 3B: W. Schlichter; WP: Dobrovolsky (3-0)

#### WEST CHICAGO 16, LARKIN 7

Larkin 240 001 0 —7-9-6  
West Chicago 003 002 1—16-13-5  
2B: WC: Lopez, Schmidt, Usedom; 3B: WC: Bartlett; WP: Usedom.

## Boys gymnastics

### Wednesday's results

#### LIBERTYVILLE 160.9, GLENBARD SOUTH 42.4

Floor exercises: 1. Richardson (L) 9.7, 2. Kukla (L) 9.0, 3. Faber (L) 8.8. Pommel horse: 1. Richardson (L) 9.1, 2. Faber (L) 8.5, 3. Hasbenger (L) 8.8. Still rings: 1. Faber (L) 9.4, 2. Richardson (L) 9.3, 3. Kukla (L) 9.1. Vault: 1. Richardson (L) 9.2, 2. Faber (L) 9.1, 3. Cartwright (L) 8.8. Parallel bars: 1. Richardson (L) 9.4, 2. Faber (L) 8.8, 3. Kukla (L) 8.7. Horizontal bar: 1. Richardson (L) 9.4, 2. Faber (L) 9.1, 3. Kukla (L) 8.9. All-around: 1. Richardson (L) 58.1, 2. Faber (L) 53.5

#### GLENBARD EAST 126.4, LAKE PARK 193, FENTON 22.5

Floor exercises: O'Hara (SE) 8.7, Miles (SE) 8.7, Ranieri (LP) 8.5. Pommel horse: Ranieri (LP) 8.8; O'Hara (SE) 8.2; Pavone (LP) 5.5. Still rings: Ranieri (LP) 8.0; O'Hara (SE) 7.4; Miles (SE) 7.2. Vault: Ranieri (LP) 9.2; Miles (SE) 9.2; O'Hara (SE) 9.0. Parallel bars: O'Hara (SE) 8.3; Ranieri (LP) 8.1; Pavone (LP) 7.6. Horizontal bar: Ranieri (LP) 7.5; O'Hara (SE) 6.8; Makowski (LP) 6.0. All-around: Ranieri (LP) 46.2; O'Hara (SE) 46.4.

## Boys volleyball

### Wednesday's results

#### ST. FRANCIS D. ST. CHARLES NORTH 25-15, 25-22

St. Francis — Ingold (8 kills, 1 ace, 2 digs); Walker (7 kills, 2 blocks, 2 digs); Blason (4 kills, 2 blocks); Gieb (4 kills, 2 aces, 2 digs); Schulte (25 assists, 2 blocks, 2 digs).

#### GLENBARD WEST D. NAPERVILLE NORTH 25-14, 25-15

Glenbard West — Harrington (11 kills, 1 dig, 5 blocks); Swartz (2 kills, 7 digs, 2 blocks); Williams (2 blocks); Curtis (22 assists, 2 kills, 4 digs); Calvearte (8 kills, 2 digs); Morris (7 digs); Schweigel (3 digs). Naperville North — Driscoll (5 kills); Vuolun (4 kills); Wojcik (20 assists); Aluwinski (8 kills, 0 digs).

### Tuesday's late results

#### GLENBARD EAST D. LARKIN 25-15, 25-10

Glenbard East — Cardot (9 assists); Campuzano (7 assists, 1 ace); Czech (6 kills, 1 block); Wozniak (6 kills, 3 blocks); Iwanicki (4 kills, 3 blocks); Bogan (11 digs); O'Brien (6 digs); Robbins (5 digs, 1 ace).

## Boys water polo

### Tuesday's late results

#### NAPERVILLE NORTH 18, HINSDALE CENTRAL 6

Naperville North 4 7 5 2 —18  
Hinsdale Central 3 1 1 1 —6  
NW — Minardi 4, Lizarlo 2, Gallo, Berg 2, Blake, Grace 2, Horn 4, Coetz 2. HC — Griffin 2, Hamp 3, McManus.

## Softball

### Tuesday's late results

#### WEST AURORA 6, WEST CHICAGO 9

West Chicago 000 012 0 —3-4-3  
West Aurora 270 000 X—9-12-3  
2B: WC: Elzard; WA: Drager; 3B: WC: Cigna; WA: Niles; Erdich; WP: Drager LP: Ludwig.

#### PLANO 19, LISLE 7

Lisle 003 040 0—7-14-2  
Plano 100 510 3—10-15-0  
2B: L: Kinney; Kaiser; L: Stevenson, Gonzalez; HR: L: Casner, Hudgens, P. Read; WP: Lupa LP: Kaiser.

## Girls soccer

### Tuesday's late results

#### CRYSTAL LAKE CENTRAL 2, GLENBARD WEST 1 (WIN PK)

Scoring — GW: Hughes (Hernandez). Goalkeepers — GW: Shellady (9 saves).

## Girls badminton

### Wednesday's results

#### HINSDALE CENTRAL 12, YORK 3

Singles — No.1: Tang (HC) d. Jovic 21-5, 21-5; No.2: Han (HC) d. Tode 21-9, 21-8; No.3: Elorochi (HC) d. Karmen 21-12, 21-14; No.4: Wilton (Y) d. Bart 21-19, 21-16; No.5: Kennedy (HC) d. Jacobsthal 21-10, 21-15; No.6: McCabe (HC) d. Montenegro 21-16, 21-14; No.7: Marich (Y) d. Sharma 15-21, 21-12, 21-19; No.8: Grab (HC) d. Yang 21-6, 21-18; No.9: Shah (HC) d. Covey 23-21, 21-10; No.10: Kim (HC) d. Smith 21-10, 21-15.  
Doubles — No.1: Elorochi/Kennedy (HC) d. Kayman/Wilton 21-15, 21-9; No.2: McCallum (HC) d. Marich/Jacobsthal 21-12, 21-11; No.3: Tan/Han (HC) d. Krauter/Conardy 21-5,

21-10; No.4: Grab/Sharma (HC) d. Tode/Yang 19-21, 21-9, 21-16; No.5: Montenegro/Smith (Y) d. Wada/Hyes 18-21, 21-11, 28-20.

## Girls water polo

### Wednesday's results

#### ST. CHARLES EAST 17, HINSDALE CENTRAL

Hinsdale Central 2 2 1 1 —6  
St. Charles East 2 4 7 4 —17  
HC — Fowler 2, Giesbach 4.

## Girls lacrosse

### Wednesday's results

#### YORK 18, GLENBARD WEST 3

Scoring — GW: Kallies 2, Doran, Y: Hughes 6, O'Donnell 3, Dohig 3, Buckley 2, Bernard, Garbacht, Malchowicz, Rackenstein. Goalkeepers — GW: Greenleaf (5 saves).