

## SPORTS

JUNE 6, 2019 • 17

## Addison Trail girls track team wraps up season

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls track team concluded its 2019 season with a pair of postseason meets.

The Blazers competed in the Class 3A Glenbard North sectional. Junior Kate Diego finished 11th in the 100 with a time of 13.39. She also took 14th in the 200 dash with a time of 27.84.

Jessica Garcia took 25th in the 400 with a time of 1:14.76. Sophomore Vivian Sanfilippo was 19th in the 800 with a time of 2:43.68.

Freshman Maddie Ford took 15th in the 1,600 run with a time of 6:03.88. Ford also was 10th in the 3,200 with a time of 12:18.44. Her seed time going into the sectional was 12:29.63.

Sophomore Mia Johnson took 12th in the 100 hurdles with a time of 17.60, which was lower than her 17.76 seed time. Senior Lizbeth Balbuena took 17th in the 300 hurdles with a time of 54.44 (seed time of 55.61).

Addison Trail's 400 relay took ninth with a time of 52.67 with Julia Swierzb, Diego, Francesca Scarabaggio and Paulina Stachura.

The 800 relay team took 11th with a time of 1:55.65 with Stephanie Avila, Diego, Stachura and Scarabaggio. The Blazers' 1,600 relay was 12th in 4:33.53 with Balbuena, Juliana Tamayo, Sanfilippo and Ford.

Stachura took fifth in the high jump at 4-11. Scarabaggio was seventh in the long jump at 17-00 3/4. Her seed was 15-2.

Monika Poniatowski was 22nd in the triple jump at 28-8. Alaisa Hunt took 23rd in the shot put at 27-11 (27-3 1/2 seed). Maggie O'Connell placed 21st in the discus at 81-1.

Earlier, the Blazers competed in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet at Morton.

Diego was 10th in the 100 at 13.56. Jade Campos took sixth in the 100 frosh-soph at 14.61.

Diego was seventh in the 200 at 27.87. Quiana Birmingham was eighth in the frosh-soph 200 at 30.79.

Claudia Molina took eighth in the 400 at 1:15.44. Sanfilippo was fourth in the 800 at 2:28.01. She also took third in the 1,600 at 5:23.92. Ford was fifth at 5:42.85.

Natalie Diaz took seventh in the 3,200 at 14:14.24. Johnson was third in the 100 hurdles in 17.76, while Julia Swierzb was fourth at 18.08.

Laila Teague won the frosh-soph 100 hurdles title in 18.88. Jasmine Eduards was fourth at 21.08.

Campos took fourth in the 300 frosh-soph hurdles at 58.38. Addison Trail was second in the 400 relay at 53.41. The Blazers were fifth in the 400 relay at the frosh-soph level with a time of 57.83.

The Blazers took second in the 800 relay with a time of 1:56.22 and were fifth in the 800 frosh-soph relay in 2:09.83.

The Blazers were fifth in the 1,600 relay at 4:48.53 and fifth in the 1,600 frosh-soph relay in 5:13.03.

Addison Trail took second in the 3,200 relay with a time of 10:15.71. The Blazers were fourth overall in

the 3,200 frosh-soph relay.

O'Connell was fifth in the shot put at 28-11. Eduards was fifth at the frosh-soph level in the shot put with a throw of 25-6.

O'Connell won the discus title with a throw of 96-11. Hunt was fourth at 83-4. Stephanie Arreguin was fourth in the discus at the frosh-soph level with a throw of 72-6.

Stachura was second in the high

jump at 5-0, while Scarabaggio was fifth in the long jump at 14-9 1/4. Monika Poniatowski was ninth at 13-8 1/2. Natalia Poniatowski was fifth in the frosh-soph long jump at 12-5 1/2.

Stephanie Avila was eighth in the triple jump at 29-7 1/4. Teague won the triple jump frosh-soph title at 28-11 3/4, while Nimrah Ahmed was third at 26-4 3/4.

## Fenton softball team wins 23 games, conference title

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton softball team had one of those seasons to remember.

The Bison finished with a 23-13 overall mark, coming within one victory of tying the school record for most wins in a season. Fenton also won the Metro Suburban Conference Red Division title with an 8-2 record. It was Fenton's first conference title in 11 years.

Fenton lost to Evanston 5-0 in a Class 4A regional semifinal game.

Individually it was a memorable season for Fenton as well particularly for Isa Lozada. She set new school records for batting average at .579, on-base percentage at .654 and hits with 62.

She also had a .981 slugging percentage to go with 13 doubles, six triples, six homers and 44 RBI, as well as 61 runs scored on 28 stolen bases. All those numbers led the team. She shared the team lead in RBI with Gianna Saldana.

Ashley Milano led the team with 26 walks.

Pitching wise, Cynthia Ibarra led the way with 58 1/3 innings pitched, 66 strikeouts, 10 wins and a 3.24 ERA.

Lozada, Saldana, Milano, Alyssa Texta, Ibarra and Clair Panos earned all-MSC Red honors. Lozada also earned team MVP honors.

So why did Fenton excel this season? "What impressed me the most with this group was their desire to work hard and want to be the best they could be," said Fenton coach Dave Mello. "They invested a lot into this season."

Mello saw great improvement at the plate. "The biggest strides this season were made with our offense," he said. "We put up team numbers that we haven't really seen with our program. I know we ended the season by being shut out, but we really felt that we could score a lot of runs and make things happen no matter where we were in our lineup."

Mello said depth also was a key cog for the Bison this season. "I'm

going to remember how close this team was and how everyone on the roster played a key role in our success, and how this team never looked for an excuse to not work hard."

The 23 wins and conference title will be cherished, Mello explained. "After losing in the regionals last season, we talked about getting to the school record of 24 wins this season," he said. "We even put that on our summer T-shirts. It was something the girls would openly talk about. It was great to see them chase that win total. Even though we came up one short, it was great to know they talked about it, went after it and almost achieved it."

"As for the conference title, that will always be celebrated. It's the first one in 11 seasons and only the third one ever for the program. We didn't really talk about winning conference until we were an inning away from doing it. We lost our first conference game of the season and were chasing from then on. We entered the next-to-final week with three conference games and needed each of those. The girls knew we had a chance. They put together three really good performances and then were able to really enjoy winning the title under the lights on what also was our senior night."

Fenton joins the Upstate Eight Conference next season. "That will present some new issues," said Mello. "We tried to play as many of those teams this year just to get the feel. We are very excited to be joining that conference and are looking to the challenges we will face. We return 10 of the 13 from our regular-season roster and then 15 of the 18 from our regional roster."

"Each season is very different, however. We feel we will certainly be very competitive in all our games. Just as we did last season when we talked about 24 wins after the regional loss, this time we talked about winning a regional title. It has been seven seasons since the last regional title and we are ready to get another one."

## Willowbrook softball team turns in successful season

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Willowbrook softball coach Rachel Keros has plenty to be excited about following the 2019 season.

Her Warriors went 20-10 overall and finished 9-3 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play. Willowbrook advanced to a Class 4A regional championship game where it lost to Sandburg.

"I was impressed the most with our perseverance and athletic ability," said Keros. "We have a combination of multisport athletes and a couple softball-only athletes. We play against some teams full of travel ball players, and with a lot of experience, athletic ability and ability to improve throughout the year, it allows us to compete with some of the best around."

Willowbrook made major strides on defense as the season wore on. "We had some games early on where our defense resulted in a loss," said Keros. "This was a goal to improve on throughout the year and gradually we kept becoming more and more consistent."

Sophomore Annemarie Knudtson led the team both on defense and at the plate where she belted a team-high eight home runs and batted .461. "Annemarie continues to get better and better because of her work ethic," said Keros.

Caitlyn Kulczynski ended the regular season with a 1.40 ERA in the pitching circle and hit .512 at the plate. Emma Barrington hit .450 and had three home runs.

"Emma Barrington had an amazing year behind the plate and had her best hitting year so far," said Keros. "Even more importantly, she was a spark for us. Her energy sometimes determined the outcome of

the game."

Keros enjoyed the atmosphere the team created this season. "They were so much fun, great teammates to each other, and this was the loudest team I have ever coached," she said. "They were engaged in each and every game, regardless of the outcome."

Keros said more good things should be coming down the pike for the Warriors. "The future looks great the next couple years," she said. "We have great pitching with Caroline Dooley, Caitlyn Kulczynski and Kayla Neff. We have some returners in key defensive positions with Shannon Knudtson at shortstop and Annemarie at second. Our pitchers happen to be very talented in the field as well, so they will be contributors to the team regardless of whether or not they are pitching."

Kulczynski hit .512 with 41 hits. She had 12 doubles, three triples, 27 RBI, 30 runs scored and stole seven bases. Annemarie Knudtson hit .461 with an .889 slugging percentage. She had 41 hits, including 14 doubles and eight home runs to go with 33 RBI and 37 runs scored.

Amy Bussa hit .421 with 40 hits. She had three triples, three home runs and scored 35 runs. Dooley hit .449 with nine doubles. Saraanatha Mishlove had seven doubles, while Barrington had three triples, three homers and 33 RBI. Annemarie Knudtson struck out five times in 99 plate appearances, while Dooley fanned three times in 64 plate appearances.

In the circle, Dooley had 56 strikeouts and 15 walks in 38 2/3 innings. She finished with an ERA of 3.80. Kulczynski had 114 strikeouts and 12 walks in 74 innings and finished with a 1.42 ERA. Neff had 66 strikeouts in 58 1/3 innings. She finished with a 3.48 ERA.

## New Villa Park businesses approved

**Board OKs North Avenue gas station, specialty liquor store**

By Paul DelGuidice  
FOR THE VILLA PARK REVIEW

The Villa Park Board of Trustees approved two new businesses at its May 20 formal meeting.

A 10-pump Bucky's gas station, complete with car wash and convenience store, got the go-ahead for construction. A liquor license was granted for a more modest business: Specialty Liquors, which will open on St. Charles Road.

"This won't be a truck stop, correct?" asked Trustee Cheryl Tucker of the Bucky's gas station.

"No, this is a gas station and car wash, though I believe they will sell diesel fuel," responded Director of Community Development Pat Grill.

The Bucky's will be built on the corner of Ardmore and North Avenue. The Midas Muffler shop has been sold to Bucky's and will be demolished to make way for the gas station. The owners of Bucky's also bought the old junkyard property east of the Midas and that land will also be part of the gas station.

The combined properties cover approximately two-and-two-thirds acres. The scrap yard/junk yard has undergone environmental clean-up, according to village staff.

With board approval, the groundbreaking should happen "pretty soon" and the station is scheduled to be completed before spring, 2020.

### Specialty liquors

During the public comments on

non-agenda items portion of the same Board of Trustees meeting, Debra Naguib addressed the dais to ask for reinstatement of her liquor license that had lapsed.

Naguib explained that she had been approved last year for a liquor license to sell packaged beer, wine and hard liquor at her planned "Specialty Liquors" store.

"I have since run into many obstacles, from financing to (interior) construction," she said.

The delays caused her liquor license to expire, as approval for such licenses is contingent on opening the store/bar/restaurant within six months.

"I cannot secure the financing unless I can show the bank I have a liquor license," Naguib said.

Village President Albert Bulthuis, who acts as the Village Liquor Commissioner, said he believes in second chances and would consider reinstating the license. He asked the Board for its input. Trustee Nick Cuzzone quizzed Naguib about her business experience, saying he wanted assurances the business was viable, as there are many liquor stores operating in the area already.

"I have a passion for this," Naguib answered, "We will be different. We will carry wine and specialty whiskeys, European brands."

Only Tucker was against reinstatement of the liquor license.

With the renewed license, Naguib said she could secure the financing and plans to open at 302 E. St. Charles Road. (near 8 to 8 Cigars).

"Hopefully before the holidays," she said.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review

## Carrying the torch

The Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics Illinois passed through Villa Park on Sunday afternoon. About 3,000 officers representing every branch of law enforcement across the state carried the Flame of Hope this week to the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games. The games begin on Friday in Normal. The photo above shows (left to right) Villa Park Police Lt. Marc Bregman, Villa Park Deputy Police Chief Bill Lyons, Villa Park Police Officer Dennis Campos, Villa Park Police Officer Elizabeth Gonzalez and Villa Park Police Officer Bryan Hruby. The officers waited for the Flame of Hope to arrive on Central Boulevard near Ardmore Avenue. A contingent of law enforcement officers arrived from Lombard to present the torch to members of the Villa Park Police Department. Joined by friends and supporters, the Villa Park officers ran north on Ardmore Avenue and east on St. Charles Road to Route 83, where they passed the Flame of Hope off to the Elmhurst Police Department. Gonzalez is pictured carrying the Flame of Hope north on Ardmore. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest year-round fundraising vehicle benefitting Special Olympics Illinois. In 2018, the torch run raised about \$4.7 million. The Villa Park Police Department's fundraising efforts for this year's torch run included the Polar Plunge in March and the Cop on a Rooftop event in May. Those two events raised a total of about \$8,400 for Special Olympics Illinois.



## Villa Park news briefs

### Police to conduct roadside safety check on Saturday night

The Villa Park Police Department will conduct a roadside safety check between 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 8, and 1 a.m. on Sunday, June 9. Police will conduct the safety check to promote the safety and well-being of the motoring public, and to provide a deterrent for those who might violate Illinois Vehicle Code statutes and village ordinances.

According to a statement issued by the police department, police are planning to conduct the safety check at 501 E. St. Charles Road. Police will conduct the check according to legal guidelines.

### Police department invites residents to quarterly SALT meeting on June 12

The Villa Park Police Department's next quarterly Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT) community meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 12. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. at the Wildwood Community Center, 320 E. Wildwood Ave. Residents are invited to arrive at 10:30 a.m. for a reception including coffee and donuts.

Trooper Joseph Rodgers of the Illinois State Police will give a presentation at the meeting. Rodgers will speak about the duties of a police K-9 handler.

The Villa Park Senior Concerns Commission will sponsor a luncheon for all SALT members and guests following the meeting.

The Villa Park Police Department reminds residents to immediately dial 9-1-1 when an incident requires the immediate emergency response of a police unit.

### Summer meals for children available at Willowbrook through June 28

District 88 is providing free meals to children at Willowbrook High School through June 28. The district began providing the free meals this week as part of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for food service.

Meals are being served Monday through Friday from 9:20 to 9:50 a.m. Participants should enter the

school through Door No. 1.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations like District 88 to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer. The program is available for children through the age of 18.

For more information about the Summer Seamless Option at Willowbrook, call 630-530-3972.

### Lauren M. Kiefer Memorial 5K set for June 15

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Lauren M. Kiefer 5K Family Run/Walk will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 15. The run/walk starts and ends outside of Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave. Registration is \$25 per participant. Children 12 and under can participate for free with a paid adult. A child waiver form must be completed. All proceeds from the event benefit the Lauren M. Kiefer Memorial Foundation, which provides funds to local families and groups. The foundation also provides scholarships to Willowbrook students. Registration for the run/walk can be completed online or through the mail. To register online, or to download a registration form, visit [rememberlaur.com/events](http://rememberlaur.com/events). Race day registration—\$25 cash—will also be available, starting at 7:30 a.m.

### Summerfest 2019 takes place next week

The Villa Park Summerfest Commission will present Summerfest 2019 on Friday, June 14, and Saturday, June 15. The festival will take place at Ardmore Avenue and Park Boulevard, just south of the Illinois Prairie Path.

The festival will run from 6 to 11 p.m. on June 14, and from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on June 15. The June 14 attractions include a car show, a bags tournament, food, beer and live music. The Villa Park Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the beer tent.

The live entertainment on June 14 includes Hip Pocket (6 to 8 p.m.) and Good Clean Fun (8:30 to 11 p.m.). The performing acts on June 15 include Minors of Rock (1:50 to 2:50 p.m.), Serendipity (4:30 to 6 p.m.), Money Beats Soul (6:30 to 8 p.m.) and CK and the Gray (8:30 to 10:30 p.m.).

Summerfest's attractions for children will take place on June 15 only, until 8 p.m.

## Police provide citation figures during recent seat belt enforcement campaign

**Department issued 55 seat belt citations**

The Villa Park Police Department participated in the annual Click It or Ticket seat belt enforcement campaign from May 10-28.

The campaign provided additional police patrols during one of the busiest holiday travel periods of the year. The Click It or Ticket campaign's mission is to highlight seat belt use through enforcement and community outreach.

The Villa Park department issued 55 citations for seat belt violations during this year's Click It or Ticket patrols. Police also issued 28 cell phone citations during the 18-day campaign. Additionally, the additional patrols produced the apprehension of three fugitives, one felony arrest, one DUI arrest and one drug arrest. Police also issued four speeding citations, 19 citations for uninsured motorists and three child car seat citations. There were also three arrests for suspended/revoked licenses.

According to information provided by the Villa Park Police Department, Illinois' seat belt use rate is nearly 95 percent. Unbelted occupants, however, reportedly account for more than half of those killed in traffic crashes in the state.

"We believe our enforcement efforts save lives and raise awareness in our community," said Villa Park Police Sgt. James Cihak in a statement issued by the police department. "Seat belts save lives. Issuing citations is not our goal, but if that's what it takes to remind people of the importance of such a simple action, so be it."

**"We believe our enforcement efforts save lives and raise awareness in our community."**

—Sgt. James Cihak, Villa Park Police

## Neighbors coordinate 'Salt Creek Trail and Beyond' clean-up effort to be held this Saturday

To celebrate that the proposed development at the northwest corner of Route 83 and St. Charles Road will not be built, citizen Jennifer Veremis, who spearheaded the neighbors' fight against the plan, is now coordinating a clean-up effort of the area on Saturday, June 8 from noon to 2 p.m.

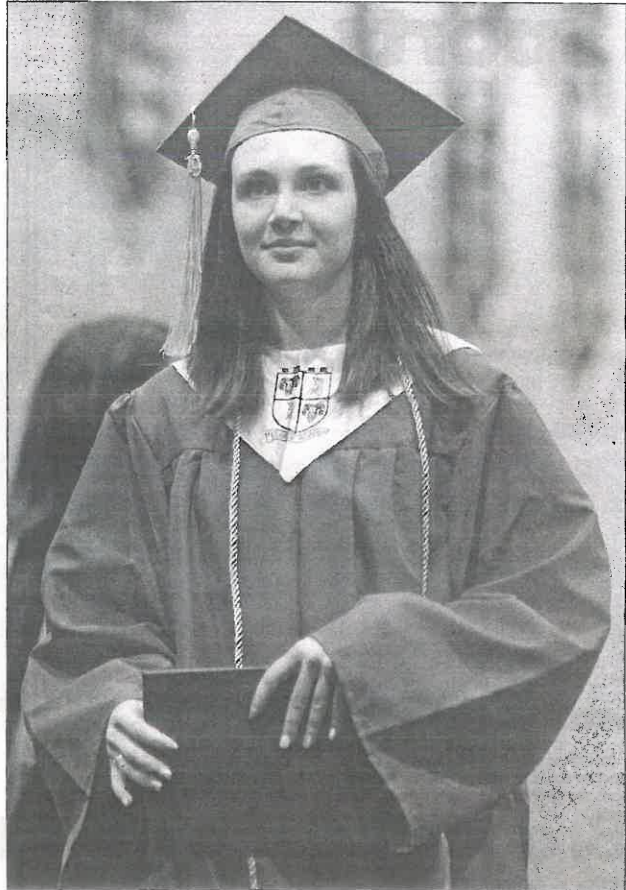
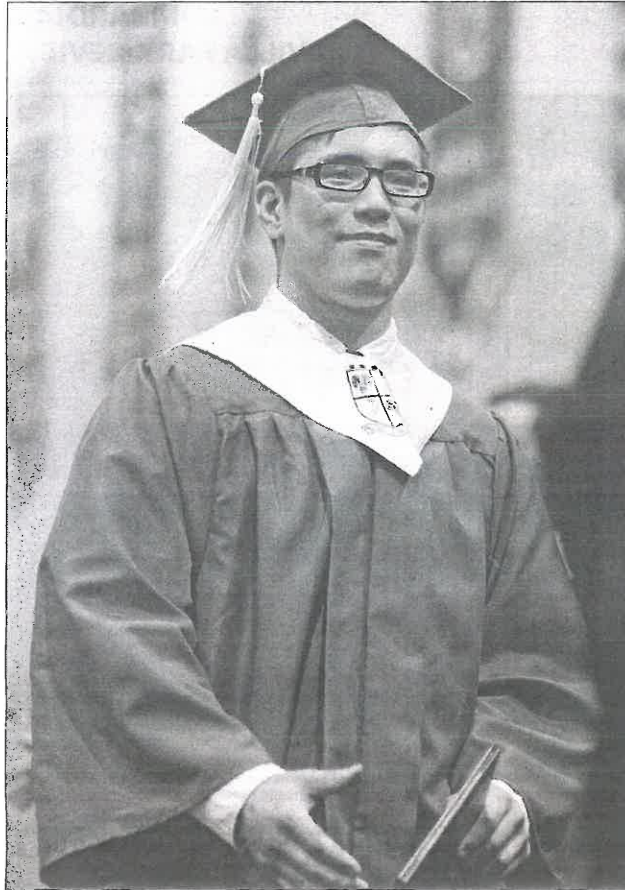
Called "Salt Creek Trail and Beyond," participants are asked to meet at Rotary Park at 600 E. Wildwood Ave. in Villa Park.

Residents of Elmhurst and Villa Park are invited to lend a hand, since the development would have seriously impacted both communities, especially those in the Pick Subdivision.

The plan was for a 16-pump gas station-convenience store complex that was expected to have at least one 24-hour restaurant, possibly more. Veremis and her neighbors want to give back to the community and demonstrate appreciation for the nature that is enjoyed in the Salt Creek area.

Supplies and water will be provided. Attendees should dress appropriately, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and bring your own gardening gloves. Kids 12 and younger are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

To sign up, visit [cleanuppgeviback.org](http://cleanuppgeviback.org) or register on site on June 8. For more information, Veremis can be reached via email at [keepelmhurstvibrant@gmail.com](mailto:keepelmhurstvibrant@gmail.com) or call 630-758-0667.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

## Distinguished student-athletes at Glenbard East

Kat Furst (at right) and Ben Pham (at left) are two of the standout student-athletes in Glenbard East High School's Class of 2019. The school's graduating class of about 580 students celebrated its commencement on May 24 at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Furst and Pham are both pictured on the stage accepting their diplomas. The two students are members of a select group of this year's graduates who earned a Highest Honors grade-point average (5.0 or above), were named Illinois State Scholars and received the President's Award for Educational Excellence. Both students enjoyed successful athletic campaigns during the 2018-19 school year. Furst recently qualified for the IHSA state badminton tournament by placing third in the singles flight at the Naperville Central Sectional. Pham was a stand-out member of Glenbard East's football and wrestling teams.

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## Willowbrook softball team turns in successful season

### Warriors won 20 games and advanced to regional championship

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

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Her Warriors went 20-10 overall and finished 9-3 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play. Willowbrook advanced to a Class 4A regional championship game. The Warriors lost 9-1 to Sandburg in the championship game of the Hinsdale South Regional on May 25.

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Sophomore Annemarie Knudtson led the team both on defense and at the plate where she belted a team-high eight home runs and batted .461. "Annemarie continues to get better and better because of her work ethic," said Karos.

Freshman Caitlyn Kulczynski ended the regular season with a 1.40 ERA in the pitching circle and hit .512 at the plate. Senior Emma Barrington hit .450 and had three home runs.

"Emma Barrington had an amazing year behind the plate and had her best hitting year so far," said Karos. "Even more importantly, she was a spark for us. Her energy sometimes determined the outcome of

the game." Karos enjoyed the atmosphere the team created this season. "They were so much fun, great teammates to each other, and this was the loudest team I have ever coached," she said. "They were engaged in each and every game, regardless of the outcome."

Karos said more good things should be coming down the pike for the Warriors. "The future looks great the next couple years," she said. "We have great pitching with Caroline Dooley, Caitlyn Kulczynski and Kayla Neff [all freshmen]. We have some returners in key defensive positions with [junior] Shannon Knudtson at shortstop and Annemarie at second. Our pitchers happen to be very talented in the field as well, so they will be contributors to the team regardless of whether or not they are pitching."

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Senior Amy Bussa hit .421 with 40 hits. She had three triples, three home runs and scored 35 runs. Dooley hit .449 with nine doubles. Senior Samantha Mishlove had seven doubles, while Barrington had three triples, three homers and 33 RBI. Annemarie Knudtson struck out five times in 99 plate appearances, while Dooley fanned three times in 64 plate appearances.

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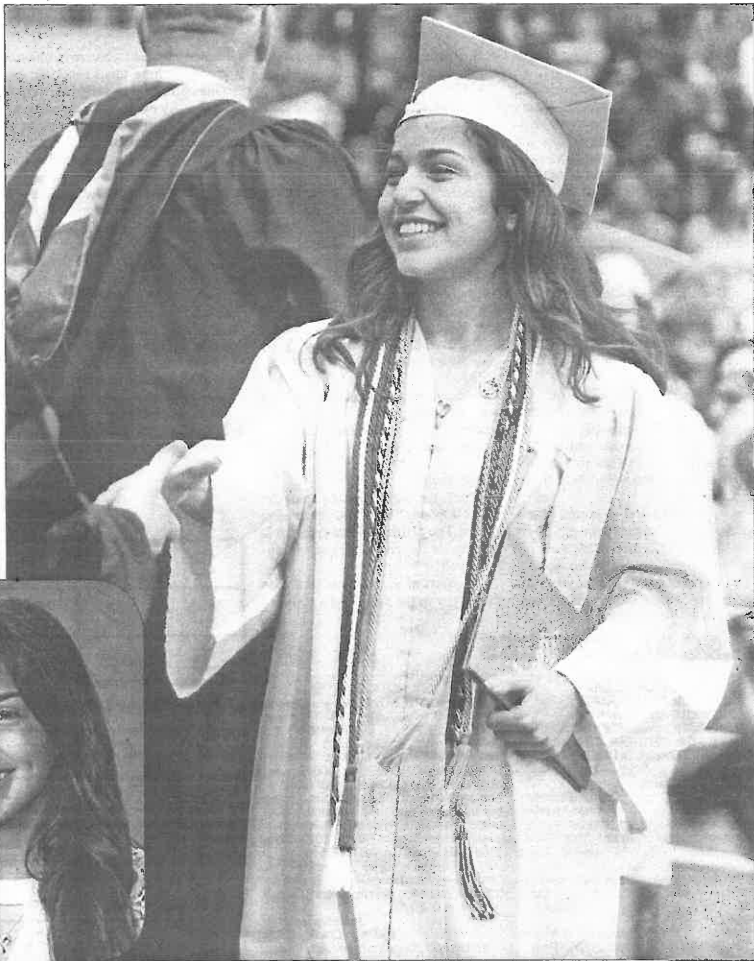
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# Decorated students

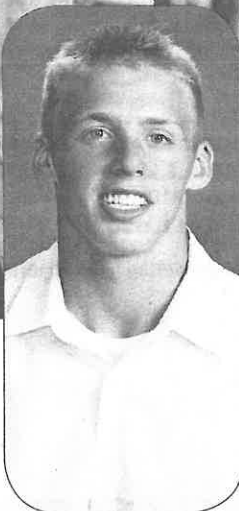
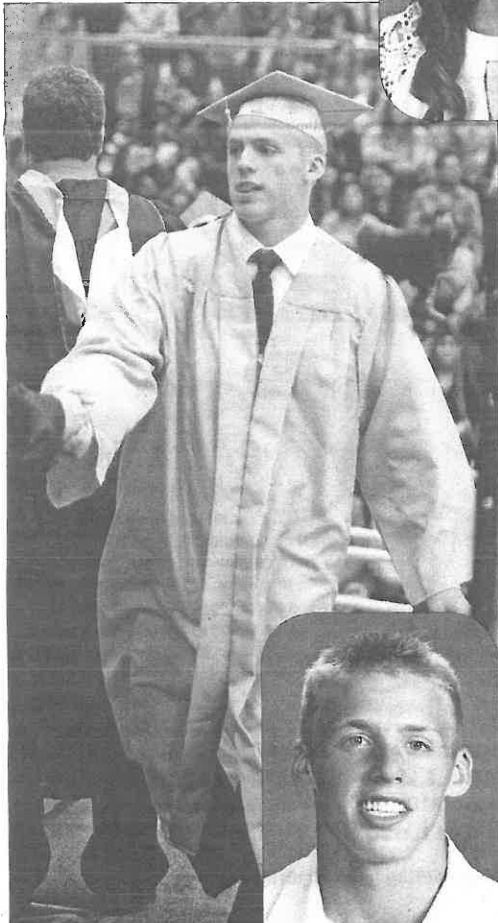


Victoria Palma (at right) and Scott Tumilty (below), who both graduated from Willowbrook High School on May 19, were recently voted as the top two seniors in the school's physical education department. Palma and Tumilty both received the honor at Willowbrook's senior recognition ceremony on May 3. They are pictured while crossing the stage at the May 19 commencement ceremony. Palma and Tumilty were two of the members of Willowbrook's Class of 2019 who scored in the top 10 percent of all seniors who took all four Fitness-Gram tests. All of those students received an orange cord to wear during the graduation ceremony.

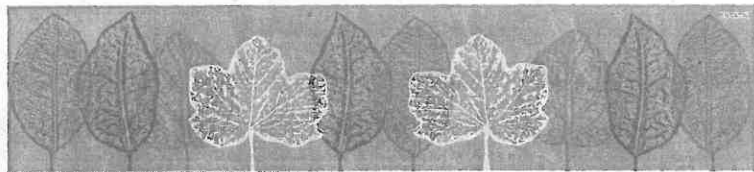


Palma qualified as an individual for the IHSA Class 3A girls state cross country meet in November. In May she qualified to compete in the 1,600-meter run at the IHSA Class 3A girls state track and field meet.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS/CHRIS FOX PHOTOS  
Lombardian/Villa Park Review



Tumilty was a standout receiver and defensive back on the 2018 Willowbrook football team, which posted a perfect 9-0 regular-season record. The Warriors won two playoff games before losing to Batavia in the IHSA Class 7A playoffs. Tumilty was also a key member of Willowbrook's boys basketball and baseball teams.



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