

Addison Trail alum Aaron Ozee sends book into space

Telling stories through writing has been a passion for Addison Trail alumnus Aaron Ozee (class of 2014) since he was 5 years old.

And he has developed that passion into a career. Ozee's two children's books, "My Darling Child Shiloh" and "Regulus," were published in 2016 and 2017, respectively.

According to a press release, "Ozee knew the sky was the limit for his prized creation, ("Regulus"), or so he presumed, until inspiration struck, encouraging him to explore options to send a printed copy ... above the clouds to drift blissfully among the glistening stars."

Through extensive research, Ozee learned how tricky sending objects into space can be using professional technologies, let alone collecting materials required for achieving such a feat. Ozee finally found a motivated space enthusiast, Thom-

as Niedballa, who had the means of turning his dream into reality. Niedballa is the founder of Orbit Pics, a private institution holding expertise in the art of high-altitude photography, which uses weather balloon devices to send payloads into the furthest extent of the atmosphere.

On June 18, Ozee partnered with Niedballa to launch a printed copy of "Regulus" into space from Ontario, Canada (from the shores of Lake Huron). Outfitted with a GoPro 4K video camera, along with a quality GPS tracker, Niedballa coasted the printed copy of "Regulus" into the upper atmosphere, reaching 100,000 feet.

"Regulus" tells the story of three tiny mice, who represent innocence and youth, as they cross paths with the titular character, Regulus, who represents the more troubling moments in life.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Public

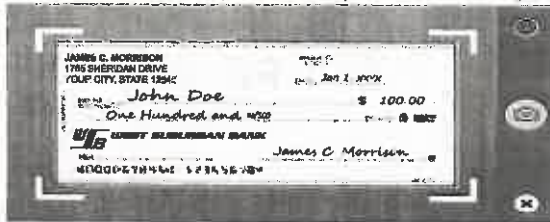
Addison Trail alumnus Aaron Ozee (class of 2014) is pictured with his published children's book "Regulus," and a stuffed animal of the book's titular character. On June 18, Ozee partnered with Thom Niedballa, founder of Orbit Pics, to launch a printed copy of the book into space.

ON STAGE

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A memorable season as a swimmer and a coach

Willowbrook graduate enjoyed a busy summer before heading to Purdue University

By Chris Fox
VILLA PARK REVIEW STAFF REPORTER

Elissa Haake completed her Lombard Waves swimming career by piling up victories in the recent DuPage Swim and Dive Conference Red Division "A" Meet.

Haake, who swam with the Waves for seven seasons, won two individual events and swam on two winning relay teams in the 15-18 girls division at the July 27 meet. She helped Lombard win the championship in the four-team meet. The Waves accumulated 817 team points at the meet. Roselle finished second with 779 points.

In addition to swimming with the Waves in 2019, Haake spent the season as one of the program's assistant coaches.

"I forgot how much I love swimming," said Haake in reflecting on her first season as a coach. "You can get caught up with times and cuts and the results on the scoreboard. The younger kids do it because they love it. This year made me remember that swimming is supposed to be fun."

In recent years, Haake and Lombard head coach Pam Forsberg discussed the possibility of a future coaching opportunity. This spring, Forsberg informed Haake that a position was available during the Waves' 2019 season. Haake interviewed for the position and was offered the job.

"I was just so excited," said Haake, who graduated from Willowbrook High School in May. "It was a crazy summer. There were some really hard days, but I loved every second of

it." Haake, who recently departed for Purdue University, where she will be a member of the women's swim team, would typically be in the pool by 4:30 a.m. this summer. She practiced with her club team—Hinsdale Swim Club—from 4:30 to 7 a.m. before heading to Paradise Bay Water Park for the Waves' 7:30 a.m. practice.

In addition to swimming for and coaching with the Waves this summer, Haake taught swim lessons at Lombard's Paradise Bay Water Park. Her hectic summer days also typically included cross training and an evening workout with her swim club.

"I was able to relate my personal swimming experiences with them," said Haake of coaching some of the Waves' younger swimmers this season.

Some of Haake's most rewarding summer moments came when a young Wave made a personal improvement or swam his or her best race of the season.

"Just seeing some of their faces was so much fun," she said. Haake recalled one first-year swimmer who wasn't sure if he could complete his race. Cheered on by his teammates and coaches, the boy made it to the end of the pool to achieve his goal.

"He finished the race; that was all he wanted," recalled Haake. "Coach Pam said, 'You did it.' He had the widest smile. It was the sweetest thing."

Haake said several Lombard swimmers closed out the season with their best swims of the summer. Those performances helped the Waves win the Red Division. The victory propelled the team into the conference's White Division in 2020.

"I really enjoyed seeing some of the incredi-

ble swims we had at the conference meet," said Haake in referring to the recent Red Division "A" Meet in Roselle. "We had a ton of incredible swims. It was an awesome ending to the season."

Swimming in the 15-18 girls division at the July 27 meet in Roselle, Haake won the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events by decisive margins. She completed the 50-yard race over four seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. Her finishing time in the 100-yard race was more than nine seconds faster than the runner-up.

Haake swam the freestyle leg on the Waves' victory in the 15-18 girls level's 200-yard medley relay. In her last swim as a Wave, she anchored a first-place performance in the 15-18 girls division's 200-yard freestyle relay.

Haake enjoyed a standout high school swimming career with the Addison Trail/Willowbrook co-op team. She competed in four consecutive IHSA state meets. As a sophomore, she earned a pair of top-10 finishes (in the 100- and 200-yard freestyle events) at the state meet. In November, Haake closed out her high school career with a 10th-place finish in the state meet's 200-yard freestyle race.

Haake's success with the Addison Trail/Willowbrook team also included record-breaking efforts in the West Suburban Gold Conference Meet. As a junior, she set the conference meet record in the 100-yard freestyle. As a senior, she set a new conference meet record in the 200-yard freestyle.

"I am so excited to experience the next level," said Haake, who will take part in her first practice with the Purdue team right after arriving at the school next week.

"I am such a learner," said Haake, a self-described "math girl" who will major in actuarial science at Purdue. "I love learning new things."



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook High School graduate Elissa Haake is pictured as she prepares to close out her seven-year career with the Lombard Waves at the recent DuPage Swim and Dive Conference Red Division "A" Meet. Haake is shown before she swam the anchor leg for the Waves' winning 200-yard freestyle relay team in the 15-18 girls division. Haake anchored two winning relays at the meet. She also won a pair of individual races. In addition to swimming for the Waves this season, Haake served as one of the team's assistant coaches. Haake, who graduated from Willowbrook in May, is attending Purdue University. She is a member of the school's women's swim team.

Addison Trail football team looking to take next step

Coach Parpet Jr. likes the makeup of his 2019 roster

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail football coach Paul Parpet Jr. said success for his team will come down to making a play when one is needed to be made.

And Parpet Jr. feels he has those playmakers on a 2019 roster that looks to improve upon last year's 1-8 record.

Parpet Jr. likes the abilities of returners such as AJ Carlson and Sal Napoli. "AJ is going to be a playmaker for us," he said. "And Sal Napoli, if you look up football player in the dictionary, his picture is sitting right there. He'll be a tight end/H-back for us on offense. This kid is a football player and knows everything that is going on all the time. We call him Coach Sal. If you tell him to run through a brick wall, he's going to run through a brick wall."

Parpet Jr. added Damarious Conrad is another key cog for the Blazers, along with junior Anthony Valenti. "Anthony most likely will be our quarterback. He has the skill and he has the tools," the coach said.

Senior Jacob Trippiedi is back

after being sidelined by illness last season. He will play wide receiver and could see time in the secondary. "Jacob is the kind of kid who does exactly what he is supposed to do all the time," said Parpet Jr.

Gonzalo Reyes also will help the Blazers at wide receiver. "He's another kid who you show him how to do something one time and he does it," said Parpet Jr.

Nick Skamra and Xavier Sierra give the Blazers experience back on the offensive line. "Nick and Xavier are big wrestlers," said Parpet Jr. "They weren't around a lot in the summer because they were doing wrestling stuff. They are like Sal. They are football players."

Tom Housley, who played on the varsity as a sophomore last year, will help on the defensive line at defensive end. "Tom has a football body," said Parpet Jr. "He is going to be huge for us."

Junior Eric Reed will team up with Napoli at inside linebacker and could see time in the backfield at tailback. "Eric is a tough-nosed kid," said Parpet Jr.

Senior Jon Chambers will be a presence on the defensive line and perhaps as an outside linebacker,

Parpet Jr. noted. Decorated wrestler Jake Matthews, who had a full summer wrestling schedule, will add to the talent on both offense and defense.

"In terms of depth, I think we will have a handful of guys playing on both sides of the ball," said Parpet Jr. "It will be an old-school mentality. Addison Trail football was built on kids playing both ways and never coming off the field. Tough kids who never come off the field. We have to play our guys who give us the best chance to win."

Parpet Jr. said his group is more than prepared to jump into the start of this week's fall practices.

"We had a fun summer because the kids worked hard and we have a bunch of good kids," he said.

But Parpet Jr. cautioned his squad now has to execute on its potential. "Everybody at this time of the year says they are good on paper," he said. "Now, it's a matter of putting the puzzle pieces together to be successful on Friday night. We're looking forward to doing just that."

Parpet Jr. said coming out of the gates strong in Week 1 against Conant at home will be critical.

"This is my 26th year at Addison

Trail and when we win the Week 1 game, nine times out of 10 we've qualified for the playoffs," he said.

Parpet Jr. said the team's first goal always is to win the West Suburban Conference Gold Division title. "I want to win the conference championship more than anybody else, but we know Willowbrook is loaded again," he said. "Our No. 1 goal

always is to win the West Suburban Gold. We will not lose sight of that, but our No. 2 goal is to make the playoffs. If we qualify for the playoffs this season, it will be a very successful season. Our kids will be ready. We've gone back to the old-school mentality here. The kids are conditioned and in great shape. We'll see what happens."

Willowbrook's Silver and Blue Community Night set for Aug. 23

School's fall athletic teams will be introduced
Willowbrook High School will hold its fourth annual Silver and Blue Community Night on Friday, Aug. 23, in the school's football stadium.

Gates will open at 6 p.m. Activities will begin at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted, with proceeds benefiting District 88 students. Refreshments will be on sale at the concession stand.

The event will feature introductions of the school's fall athletic teams, as well as a brief scrimmage by the varsity football team. The District 88 Foundation, which raises funds to benefit District 88 students, is sponsoring the event.

For more information, call 630-530-3989 or email Dan Brunk, District 88's director of community relations, at dbrunk@dupage88.net.

Addison Trail football team looks to start hot out of the gates

Blazers open against Conant on Aug. 30

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

In an interview that appeared in last week's Addison Independent, Addison Trail football coach Paul Parpet Jr. said a key to his team's season will be its performance in the early part of the schedule.

Parpet Jr. said he likes the way the first three weeks of the sched-

ule shape up with games against Conant, Downers Grove North and Proviso East. A senior-dominated Conant team went 7-3 last season, while Downers North went 4-5 and Proviso East went 2-7. Conant defeated Addison Trail only 7-0 a year ago.

Addison Trail kicks things off Friday, Aug. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at home against Conant. The Blazers then hit the road for the next two weeks with a Friday, Sept. 6 contest (7:30 p.m. start) against Downers North and a

Friday, Sept. 13 game in Maywood (7:30 p.m. start) against Proviso East.

Then the Blazers encounter Glenbard West, which was one of three teams to finish 5-1 in the West Suburban Conference Silver Division, on Friday, Sept. 20 at home for their annual meeting (7:30 p.m.).

Week 5 sees Addison Trail face defending West Suburban Conference Gold Division champion and District 88 foe Willowbrook in Villa Park. That game happens Friday, Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

The Blazers return home to face Downers Grove South on Friday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m., in a WSC Gold game before welcoming Leyden to Addison on Friday, Oct. 11 (7:30 p.m. start).

Addison Trail visits 2018 playoff qualifier Hinsdale South on Friday, Oct. 18 (7:30 p.m.) before wrapping

up the regular season with a home games this season and will face contest against Morton on Friday, teams that made the 2018 playoff Oct. 18 (7:30 p.m.).

Addison Trail has five home

Register for the Villa Park Youth Soccer League

Villa Park Recreation is accepting registration for the Villa Park Youth Soccer League's fall season. Kids ages 4 and up can register to play in the league, which features a seven-week season.

Practices are held one day a

week, starting next week—the week of Aug. 19. Games are played on Saturday mornings, with the first games on Sept. 7.

The fee is \$62 per child. For more information about the upcoming season, call 630-834-8970.

Willowbrook football team to open season against Providence Catholic

Warriors to play five home games in 2019

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook football team will kick off the 2019 season with a bang.

New on the schedule is a non-conference Week 1 tilt against Providence Catholic High School out of New Lenox. That contest takes place Friday, Aug. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at Willowbrook.

Providence, which now plays in the CCL/ESCC Green conference, went 5-5 and made the playoffs a year ago.

Willowbrook, of course, won the West Suburban Conference Gold Division, and finished with an 11-1 mark, reaching the quarterfinals of the state playoffs for a third consecutive year. Willowbrook is 29-7 over the last three seasons.

The Warriors then start a two-year WSC crossover series with Oak Park-River Forest. Willowbrook heads to Oak Park on Friday, Sept. 6 for a 7:30 p.m. game.

Willowbrook opens defense of its Gold Division title on Friday, Sept. 13 at home against Downers Grove South at 7:30 p.m.

Willowbrook hits the road in Week 4 with a game at Leyden on Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

The annual District 88 battle with Addison Trail happens Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Willowbrook.

The Warriors head to Darien to face Hinsdale South on Friday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Willowbrook's annual game against York occurs on Friday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Villa Park.

The final two weeks of the regular season see Willowbrook head to Morton on Friday, Oct. 18 (7:30 p.m. start), before ending up with Proviso East at home on Friday, Oct. 25 (7:30 p.m. start).

Willowbrook, under the direction of coach Nick Hildreth, played five teams on its 2018 schedule that made the playoffs a year ago, but only two during the regular season. The addition of Providence and the swapping out of Hinsdale Central for Oak Park-River Forest (both made the playoffs last year) puts that number at three on the 2019 schedule.

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2019

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Friday	August 30	Providence Catholic*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 6	at Oak Park-River Forest*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 13	Downers Grove South*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 20	at Leyden	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 27	Addison Trail	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 4	at Hinsdale South*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 11	York	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 18	at Morton	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 25	Proviso East	7:30 p.m.

* = 2018 playoff qualifier

Head Coach Nick Hildreth

ADDISON TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2019

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Friday	August 30	Conant*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 6	At Downers Grove North	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 13	at Proviso East	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 20	Glenbard West*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	September 27	at Willowbrook*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 4	Downers Grove South	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 11	Leyden	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 18	at Hinsdale South*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	October 25	Morton	7:30 p.m.

* = 2018 playoff qualifier

Head Coach Paul Parpet Jr.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: MIND YOUR GRAMMAR

ACROSS

1. Red _____
6. Trigonometric func.
9. Presidential "No!"
13. From this time
14. "General Hospital" network
15. Earth, to Virgil
16. Related to #12 Down
17. Junior's junior
18. Lingo
19. *Noun alternative
21. *Conjunctions
23. Bit of work
24. Sty cry
25. Pendulum's path
28. Liberal pursuits
30. Romani camp formations
35. Not in Impossible Burger
37. Letter before kappa
39. First light of day
40. Without purpose
41. *Ideas separator
43. Part of colliery
44. Gourd musical instrument
46. Flees
47. Flat-bottomed boat
48. *Controversial comma
50. Its motto is "Leadership Excellence"

52. Lt.'s subordinate
53. Barnes & Noble reader
55. Hervey the dentist, e.g.
57. *Person or thing
61. Tactile reading system
65. Earlier in time
66. Color quality
68. Lusitania destroyer
69. Askev, in Scotland
70. *Suffix used when comparing three or more

71. Kick in
72. Rod attachment
73. Pep rally syllable
74. Author Jong

DOWN

1. Bruce Lee blow
2. Infantry's last rows
3. Knowing about
4. Part of a play
5. Mrs. in Spain
6. Jealous biblical brother
7. Kimono tie
8. "The Terminator" genre
9. *Simple predicate
10. Therefore
11. Helen of _____
12. Mares eat it
15. Tibetan religious paintings
20. Finno-_____ language

22. *Suffix often confused with -ent
24. Former East Germany currency
25. Friend, south of the border
26. Updike's "Rabbit _____"
27. Shorter than California
29. Saw or awl
31. Beach do-nothings
32. In the cooler
33. *Like sentence without proper punctuation
34. Gushes
36. Pro's opposite
38. BB's and bullets
42. Daisy-like bloom
45. Crotchety
49. Word processing produc short
51. *Smallest grammatical unit
54. Not the same one
56. Dietary essential
57. Ring practice
58. Encourage
59. Digestive aid
60. "Piano Man" singer
61. Eliza follower
62. "Laughing on the inside" in
63. Flock member
64. Highest volcano in Europe
67. Bruce Springsteen's "Born _____"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13					14			15		
16					17			18		
19					20			21	22	
			23				24			
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48					49			50		52
			53				54		55	
57	58	59	60					61		62
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69							70			71
72							73			74

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