

# Historical society exhibit to feature local amusement nostalgia

By Jane Charnelo

VILLA PARK REVIEW STAFF REPORTER

To paraphrase Jeff Foxworthy, you just might be a "local" if you remember this jingle: "Any ride a quarter; six for a dollar."

That's what the commercial for Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom was boasting to attract kids and families to the Oakbrook Terrace amusement park — which has a place in local history that the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society will bring to life in an upcoming exhibit.

According to a history of Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom and Castle of Toys, Italian immigrant Nicholas S. Dispensa worked for the railroad, then became a shoemaker and land-fill hauler before going into the carnival business.

The history describes how Nicholas, known as N.S., played in a circus band and noticed how people were lining up to ride the Ferris wheel.

He and his cousin Nick bought one in 1919 and would haul it from circus to circus in N.S.'s Mack truck.

The Dispensas ended up buying repossessed carnival rides to expand their carnival business, and in 1945 went into the tent and merchandise business to expand even further, the history relates, called Dispensa's Amusement Rides and Dispensa's Merchandising Company. The name changed to Dispensa and Sons Complete Carnivals in 1951.

It was truly a family business: Sons, wives and children worked for the family business in some capacity, among them being N.S.'s son John Dispensa Sr., grandson John Dispensa Jr., and great-grandsons John III, Randy and Bryce Dispensa.

Randy worked in the business, saying although it was fun, "We never had summers off," while working in the carnival business.

The history shows that N.S. retired, and the Dispensas, including John Jr.'s brother Nicholas, began selling merchandise from a building they owned in Hinsdale, and in 1953 moved their operations to Oakbrook Terrace where, according to John III, the family had owned 25 acres

of land — later taken by eminent domain for the construction of a Route 83 interchange between Roosevelt and Butterfield roads.

John III said the business added on to its warehouse in 1956 to store merchandise.

Customers followed the Dispensas to their new location and the origins of Dispensa's Castle of Toys began.

The toy store operated from 1967-85. The amusement park opened in 1975 (John said the carnival business closed in 1977) and closed in 1984.

Randy said by then, the land — just north of Oakbrook Center mall — had become worth more than the business, and operations closed for good.

Bob Shanahan, director of the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society said he saw a recent exhibit about historic amusement parks at the Elmhurst Historical Museum and "They had a little section on Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom."

He said that sparked the idea for an exhibit featuring the iconic landmark, although, "We've always had a small display" on the amusement park/toy store.

John III said the Oakbrook Terrace Park District also hosted a small exhibit as part of the village's 50th anniversary in 2008.

Shanahan said the Elmhurst Historical Society loaned a display case and some memorabilia, as well as connected the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society with John III, who is "really going all out for us" to help organize the exhibit.

"I've always been interested in history," said John III, adding that there is "so much memorabilia our family collected over the years."

When he found out the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society was interested in creating the exhibit, "I was very impressed and excited that they wanted to."

Randy said he knew that many of the amusement park's and toy store's items had been auctioned off, including a 1937 truck that is on display in an Iowa museum, and two trucks he said are "rotting away" in a field in



IMAGE COURTESY OF RANDY DISPENSA, Rock Valley Publishing

Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom and Castle of Toys was what could be considered a destination location in Oakbrook Terrace, just north of Oakbrook Center mall. The toy store operated from 1967-85, and the amusement park operated from 1975-84. Its jingle boasted: "Any ride a quarter; six for a dollar."

Ohio.

However, two of the six tall soldiers that stood guard in front of the store (John III said there were two "spares") are still in the area, thanks to Villa Park resident Rocky Hayes, who related how his former boss found them at a gas station in northwest Indiana roughly 20 years ago, and displayed them at his home in Lake Zurich. Hayes said he bought them about 10 years ago for his parents, who in turn displayed them at their Winfield home. The fiberglass soldiers stand some 16 feet tall and come in three sections.

Hayes took them over last year and brought them out over the Christmas holidays. Although he grew up not too far from Dispensa's, Hayes wasn't quite

sure at first what he had, but "My dad knew right away. He actually started looking them up," Hayes continued. However, "We weren't positive until the Dispensas showed up last year," Hayes said with a chuckle.

Randy remembers being told that someone in Villa Park had two of the soldiers, and when he found out where Hayes lived, he drove to Villa Park and "I knocked on the guy's door!"

"He couldn't believe it," Randy added, with John III saying he, too, visited Hayes' home to verify the authenticity.

Although they have weathered with time, and needed some repairs, "From far away they still look great," Hayes mentioned.

Hayes is loaning the soldiers for

the exhibit, but Shanahan says the exhibit goes beyond artifacts on display, because people who lived in the area like to share memories of the unique castle and amusement park.

Hearing the stories, the director said, just shows how "everybody's got a connection to this."

In talking with Shanahan, his tone of voice gets animated as he describes the upcoming exhibit, commenting, "You can tell we're excited about this!"

"We put a lot of time and effort into the business to make it successful," John III emphasized. "I'm just committed to trying to preserve the family business history ... [some] that people may not know [about]."

His family members, he said proudly, were "famous for being pioneers in the [toy and amusement park] industry."

The exhibit will be on display at the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society, 17W245 16th St., now through Nov. 16. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 3-7 p.m., and Saturdays from 1-3 p.m.

Admission is free but donations will be accepted.

On Nov. 11, from 7:30-9 p.m., John III will speak about the Dispensa history at the Oakbrook Terrace City Council Chambers, 17W275 Butterfield Road.

He said there will be stories of tragedy, joy and humor, in honor of what would have been the 100th anniversary of his great-grandfather's carnival business.

For more information, email obthishistory@comcast.net or call 630-834-8661. For more information about Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom and Castle of Toys, visit [dispensaskiddiekingdom.com](http://dispensaskiddiekingdom.com).

## 2 Willowbrook graduates among After Hours Film Society winners of the 2019 Anim8 Student Film Festival

Students from around the world were recently notified of their winning status in the After Hours Film Society's Anim8 Student Film Festival.

Among the winners are two Willowbrook High School graduates: Maxwell Polanek, who won a Merit award for "The Omnibox," and Maurice Brown, who won an honorable mention for "Derone Jones."

Close to 60 films from 10 countries were submitted by filmmakers of varying ages and diverse backgrounds.

The entrants were given the extra challenge of creating animated and/or experimental films of eight minutes or less in length.

Film educators and professionals were then recruited to judge the entries based on many factors including

originality, technique, and level of education, from high school through graduate.

The top rated films were showcased in a special After Hours program on Oct. 21 at the Tivoli Theatre.

"We will be awarding cash prizes to encourage students to continue with their filmmaking," said Deborah Venezia, founder and executive director of the After Hours Film Society. "Our goal is to support these talented artists and give them an opportunity to further their experience and education."

Venezia indicated that the judges were very impressed with the number and quality of entries this year.

"We were astonished by the technical skills and creativity demonstrated by these aspiring filmmakers," she said.

## Bill to ban vaping in public places passes Senate

### Measure would add e-cigarettes to Smoke Free Illinois Act

By Rebecca Anzel

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

A bill looping electronic cigarettes into the Smoke Free Illinois Act passed the Senate on Oct. 29.

Sponsored by Indian Creek Democratic Sen. Terry Link, the measure includes vapes, e-cigs, e-hookahs and other such devices in the existing ban on smoking inside and within 15 feet of the entrance to a building.

"It's only fair that we treat these products the same way we treat cigarettes," Link said in a news release.

"It's still unclear what the health effects of these devices are and people shouldn't be forced to be exposed to them in public places if they don't want to."

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, more than 150 people have been sickened

with lung injuries resulting from the first-hand inhalation of chemicals from vaping. Two Illinois residents have died.

The legislation, Senate Bill 1864, passed by a vote of 41-11. It received bipartisan support.

Democratic Rep. Ann Williams, from Chicago, is the House sponsor. It is unclear when it will receive a committee hearing or receive consideration by the full chamber.

Vicki Vasconcellos, president of the Smoke Free Alternatives Coalition of Illinois, said last week at a news event the findings in the current law apply only to smoking traditional cigarettes—not vaping.

"The Smoke Free Act has nothing to do with vaping, and it isn't that we do not believe it's rude to vape indoors, because I think most of us would agree that it is, but we would need finding," she said.

Vasconcellos questioned why vaping, which she said presents a lesser health risk than smoking traditional cigarettes, would be put in a bill "that's all about the dangers of smoking."

"It just doesn't make any sense," she said.



# SPORTS

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## Warriors kick off playoffs with a win

*Three touchdowns apiece for Tumilty and Geanes; Warriors will play a second-round home game against Yorkville on Saturday*

### STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook football team opened the 2019 post-season with Friday's 48-21 victory over Moline in an IHSA Class 7A contest in Villa Park.

The Warriors, who have won nine straight games, improved to 9-1. They will play another home playoff game this Saturday. Willowbrook will face Yorkville (8-2) in Villa Park. The kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m. Yorkville advanced to the second round with a 37-0 victory over Thornton Fractional South.

If the Warriors beat Yorkville, they will earn the program's fourth straight trip to the quarterfinal round of the playoffs. Willowbrook would face either Hersey or Lake Zurich in this year's quarterfinals.

"We came out and set the tone right away," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth after the first-round win over the Maroons.

Senior quarterback Sam Tumilty and senior running back Ta'Vion Geanes each scored three touchdowns in the win over Moline (5-5). The Warriors held a 14-0 lead after

one quarter. Their lead stood at 28-14 at halftime. Willowbrook scored the first two touchdowns of the second half to hike its lead to 41-14.

Tumilty piled up 222 rushing yards against Moline. Geanes picked up 138 rushing yards.

"Both of them ran well," said Hildreth of the two seniors. "Sam did a good job improvising when things break down, which he always does. Ta'Vion really came on strong and ran the ball hard as the game went on."

Geanes scored the Warriors' first touchdown on a 7-yard run. About two minutes later, Tumilty broke a 55-yard touchdown run. Sophomore kicker Izzy Manning, who made six of seven extra-point attempts during the game, added the conversion kick after Tumilty's long run to push the lead to 14-0.

Moline scored its first touchdown on an 85-yard pass in the second quarter; the extra-point kick cut the Warriors' lead to 14-7. Tumilty helped the Warriors regain the momentum by breaking his second 55-yard touchdown run of the night.

Moline scored a touchdown with about two minutes left in the first half to cut Willowbrook's lead to 21-14. Tumilty broke a run of about 40 yards on the ensuing drive to set up his third touchdown run of the night—a 1-yard run with about 45 seconds left in the first half. Manning's extra-point kick gave the Warriors a 28-14 advantage.

Tumilty threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to senior Everett Stubblefield with less than five minutes left in the third quarter. Geanes scored on a 1-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter to increase the Warriors' lead to 41-14.

"I think it's great that we have both our run game and our pass game going," said Tumilty following the win. "It all starts on the front line. We have some great linemen setting everything up for us."

Moline scored its third and final touchdown of the night with about three minutes left in the game. Moments later, after senior Alessio Battaglia recovered Moline's onside kick, Geanes broke a 45-yard touchdown run down the middle of the field.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Seniors Sam Tumilty (No. 6-above) and Ta'Vion Geanes (No. 5-below left) led the Willowbrook football team to Friday's 48-21 win over Moline in the opening round of the IHSA Class 7A playoffs. Tumilty and Geanes each scored three rushing touchdowns in Friday's victory in Villa Park. Tumilty rushed for 222 yards, while Geanes ran for 138 yards. The Warriors earned their ninth straight win with Friday's victory and improved their overall season record to 9-1. Willowbrook will play a second-round playoff game against Yorkville this Saturday in Villa Park.

### Second-round playoff preview

#### Yorkville (8-2) at Willowbrook (9-1)

**What:** Second round of the Class 7A football playoffs

**When:** Saturday, 1 p.m.

**Where:** Willowbrook High School, Villa Park

**Seeds:** Yorkville is the No. 12 seed in the Class 7A bracket; Willowbrook is the No. 5 seed

**Last week:** Yorkville 37, TF-South 0; Willowbrook 48, Moline 21

**Outlook:** Willowbrook took care of business in the playoff opener against Moline thanks to racking up 507 yards of total offense.

Senior standout quarterback Sam Tumilty ran for 222 yards and three touchdowns and passed for 135 more yards and one touchdown. Senior Ta'Vion Geanes ran for 138 yards on 17 carries and scored three times. Willowbrook averaged 10.9 yards per carry against Moline.

Tumilty has now passed for 2,039 yards (21 TDs, 5 interceptions) and run for 1,146 yards (15 rushing touchdowns). Geanes is up to 631 yards and eight scores. Tumilty's two favorite receivers are seniors Everett Stubblefield III (46 catches, 934 yards, 11 TDs) and Deandre Holliday (33 catches, 649 yards, 7 TDs).

The Yorkville Foxes play out of the Southwest Prairie Conference West Division. The Foxes did not win the conference, finishing third behind champion Minooka and second-place Oswego. Of the Foxes' eight wins, five came against teams with regular-season winning records. In fact, their last five games have been against teams with winning records (3-2 record in that span).

Thornton Fractional South, Yorkville's first-round opponent, was 6-3, but had only played three teams with winning records during the regular season.

**Up next:** The winner of this game heads to the 7A quarterfinals against either No. 4 seed Hersey (9-1) or No. 20 seed Lake Zurich (7-3). Either way, if Willowbrook wins this contest, it will head to Arlington Heights or Lake Zurich in the quarterfinals. Hersey will have hosted only once and would be the higher seed (4 vs. 5) and Lake Zurich will have hosted only once compared to Willowbrook's two home playoff games. Lake Zurich upset No. 13 Andrew 14-7 in the first round. Hersey steamrolled No. 29 Rockford Auburn 49-0.



# Willowbrook girls volleyball team wraps up 2019 season

**Warriors win 20 games; Ceh reaches 500-dig mark; future bright**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team concluded its 2019 season after a 25-20, 25-14 setback to Hinsdale Central in the semifinals of the Class 4A York Regional in Elmhurst on Oct. 29.

"We started off great," said Willowbrook coach Irene Mason. "We were winning all of the first set until about point 19. They had a little run and won 25-20 and then we came out flat in the second set. Hinsdale is a strong team. We came out and got behind and tried to make a comeback."

Willowbrook finished the season with a 20-16 record.

"I'm absolutely happy," Mason said. "We had a lot of girls improve throughout the season."

One in particular was junior Stephanie Dasbach.

"She's a middle for us and is a good athlete," Mason said. "At the beginning of the season she was a little raw when it comes to volleyball skills, but the more she worked the better she became. She had a lot of growth to the point she is someone we can very much count on."

Senior libero Payton Ceh had an outstanding season, finishing with an even 500 digs out of the back row.

"Payton was a standout for us," said Mason. "To finish with an even 500 digs is amazing, plus she also had 105 kills as a libero."

Mason also lauded the development of junior Grace Reckamp.

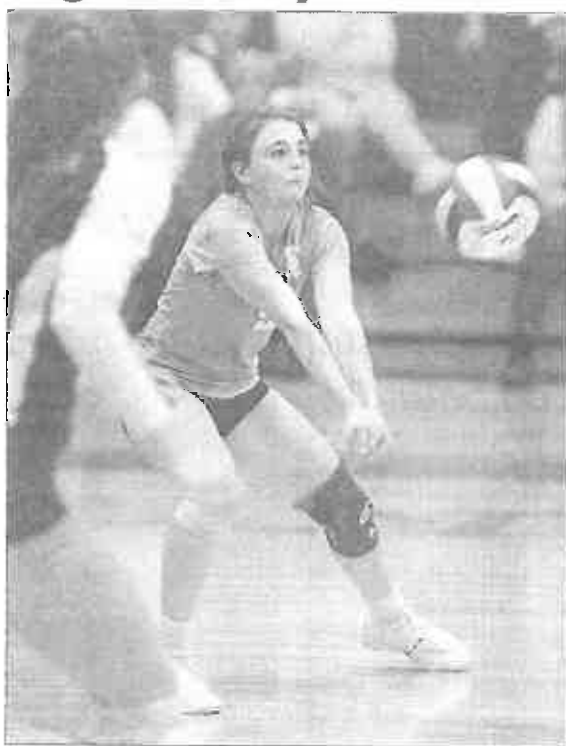
"Grace Reckamp not only showed a lot of improvement from last year, but also became a leader. She led us in multiple areas. She led us in kills, assists and service aces and with her natural leadership ability through her personality. She's back for us next year and that will be huge."

Mason said the Warriors will be in a good place next season with a key core of experienced players returning.

"The future for us is very strong," she said. "We do lose four seniors, including Ceh and Alondra Mendoza, who played very key roles for us. Payton is a huge loss and someone will have to step up and fill those shoes, but we do have a lot of returners. I expect they will play a lot of volleyball, condition and work hard over the next few months. They will continue to improve. We're very hopeful for next year. We lost eight seniors last year so four doesn't seem so bad."

Mason pointed out sophomore Elizabeth Bruschnik will return after missing the entire 2019 season due to injury.

"Elizabeth will be completely healed and will return," she said. "She started practicing with us at the end of the season. She will be ready for her club season and come back as a junior next fall with us. We expect big things next year. When Payton went down last year, Lizzie stepped



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley P

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team's season ended with last week's 25-20, 25-14 loss to Hinsdale Central at the IHSA Class 4A Regional. The Warriors finished the season with a 20-16 record. Senior Payton Ceh (pictured above left) provided 19 digs in the last of her four-year varsity career with the Warriors. Sophomore Katie Linnig (No. 4 above right) made eight digs and handed out four as in the Oct. 29 match.

**"The future for us is very strong. We're very hopeful for next year. We lost eight seniors last year so four doesn't seem so bad."**

— Irene Mason,  
Willowbrook coach

up and played libero in Payton's absence. We were looking forward to having her on the court with us this year, but she was injured before we even had our first match. We're looking forward to seeing her on the court next year."

Also back will be sophomore setter Katie Linnig.

"Katie will only be a junior next year," Mason said. "She's a setter who is very knowledgeable. You can tell that by the decisions she makes on the court."

Kyla Ostrowski, a sophomore, was Willowbrook's No. 1 outside hitter this season and returns as well. Freshman Natalie Cipriano finished second on the varsity in kills and also is back for the 2020 campaign.

"Natalie did great for us," said Mason. "We have a lot of kids returning in key roles."

In the Hinsdale Central contest, Reckamp finished with six kills, eight assists and two digs. Cipriano collected four kills and Dasbach had three. Ceh totaled 19 digs, while Linnig racked up eight digs and four assists. Ostrowski had three digs.

## Sanfilippo becomes first Addison Trail girl cross country runner to qualify for state

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail's Viviana Sanfilippo made history.

Sanfilippo, a junior, became the first Addison Trail girls cross country runner to qualify for the state finals meet.

Sanfilippo was one of seven individual state qualifiers out of the Class 3A Lake Park Sectional held at Lake Park East Campus in Roselle. She covered the East Campus layout in 18:30.5 and kept a 6:11-mile pace.

She will run Saturday in the Class 3A state finals meet at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

Sanfilippo was 11th at the Glenbard West regional and was the top individual qualifier there. Addison Trail sophomore Maddie Ford finished in 105th place at the sectional with a time of 21:34.5.

### Addison Trail-Willowbrook girls swimming

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook co-op girls swimming team placed second at both the varsity and junior varsity levels at the recent West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet held at Downers Grove South.

AT-Willowbrook was second in the 200 medley relay (2:02.48) with Delaney Gayon, Carly Zaprzal, Nancy Obrzut and Jessica Pocięcha.

Pocięcha took fourth in the 200 at 2:11.58. Caitlin Brennan was eighth in the 200 IM at 2:53.63. Obrzut ended

fifth in the 50 with a time of 26.58. Zaprzal grabbed fourth place in the butterfly in 1:07.18.

Gayon was third in the 500 with a time of 5:52.45, while Pocięcha was fourth in the same event at 5:57.53. Kaitlyn Jaskier placed sixth in the 100 (1:01.68).

AT-Willowbrook took second in the 200 freestyle relay with DeAnna Tate, Cara Burns, Zaprzal and Obrzut swimming 1:51.36.

Gayon ended up fourth in the backstroke at 1:08.77. Zaprzal swam to a third-place finish in the breaststroke with a time of 1:13.66.

AT-Willowbrook was second in the 400 relay with Tate, Burns, Gayon and Pocięcha going 4:05.27.

The squad finished with 216 points at the varsity level. Host Downers South won the conference title with 351 points.

In the athletes with disabilities division, AT-Willowbrook's Mary Hassler took first in the 50 (41.96), 100 (1:34.82) and breaststroke (2:20.95).

### Willowbrook girls and boys cross country

The Willowbrook girls cross country team completed its season at Saturday's Class 3A Lake Park Sectional.

The Warriors ran to a 10th-place finish in the team standings. The top five teams at the sectional advanced to the state meet, which takes place this weekend in Peoria.

Freshman Amelia Barrington: Willowbrook at the sectional with 59th-place time of 20 minutes, 4. seconds in the 3-mile race. Junior M Martinez (20:06.3) and senior Elaine Wilkie (20:07.06) finished 62nd, respectively.

Sophomore Madeline Barrington (20:25.5; 71st) and senior Mia Villalobos (20:45.3; 83rd) delivered Warriors' fourth- and fifth-best times at the sectional. Sophomore Lily V (21:19.2; 99th) and junior Dayleeden (21:43.7; 110th) completed Willowbrook's sectional lineup.

The three Willowbrook boys who qualified for the Lake Park Sectional as individuals also completed their season on Saturday. Junior King negotiated the 3-mile course in an 81st-place time of 16 minutes, 51.5 seconds. Senior Brandon elton completed the race in a 93rd time of 17:08.2, while junior Ben nee (17:39.2) finished in 116th place.

### Addison Trail boys cross country

Addison Trail junior Dylan H took 36th at the Class 3A Lake Park sectional in Roselle. Moran on the East Campus course in 16:04, averaged 5:22 per mile.

Teammate Alex Martinez, a sophomore, was 90th in the race in 17 and kept a 5:42-mile pace.

Chris Fox contributed to this n

# The second chapter

## Senior Brian Dilger contributing on both sides of ball for Willowbrook football team

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

During home football games last fall, Willowbrook senior Brian Dilger heard a loud voice while in his bedroom.

"I live close to the school and could hear the football announcer while I was in my room," he said. Being in his bedroom on Friday nights last season was something different for Dilger, who had stepped away from the team during the start of camp.

"I felt at the beginning of camp that I didn't love the sport," he said. "The feeling for it was not there anymore. I thought, at the time, that not playing would be best for me."

But then he heard the Willowbrook public address announcer when sitting in his bedroom.

"I missed it," he said. So Dilger returned to the program this season and has been a contributor on both sides of the ball for a 9-1 Willowbrook team that heads into the second round of the Class 7A playoffs against 5-2 Yorkville at home Saturday at 1 p.m.

Willowbrook is the No. 5 seed in the 32-team 7A bracket, while the Yorkville Foxes are the No. 12 seed. "Now I question why I left in the first place," said Dilger. "I really missed it. At that moment I felt like I didn't love it. Now, I look back and I can't believe I thought that way. Now, I appreciate all that the sport has done for me."

Dilger said one could deem his return as a second chance, but he's more thankful that he made the decision to sit out his junior year and not a year later. "I just want to have fun now," he said. "I'm glad to have the second chance, and I'm glad that I made that decision to not play my junior year instead of my senior year. If I did that my senior year, I would have to live with that regret."

Dilger has been versatile on defense for Willowbrook where he played on the defensive line at the start of the season and now has been starting the past few weeks at inside linebacker after starter Sergio Ayala was injured.

"On the D-line, I got better with the physicality aspect and playing tougher," he said. "It wasn't a big adjustment going to linebacker. Most of my career I had played linebacker. It was more of an adjustment

switching to defensive end. I have been doing pretty well at linebacker. I'm no Division I player or anything like that, but I do my job, and my teammates do their job. That's why we have done well this season."

Through 10 games, Dilger has been credited with 17 total tackles, one pass deflection and a fumble recovery. Dilger pulls double duty on the offensive line where he is the starting left guard.

"I have always played on the offensive line," he said. "Playing on both sides of the ball was an adjustment at first. It took a little getting used to, but now I'm used to it."

Football is not in a post-Willowbrook future for Dilger, who enlisted in the Army on June 14. He will ship out to Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri on June 9, 2020.

"My ultimate goal would be special forces," he said. "If I can make it, I would love to have the opportunity to do that."

But first, Dilger and his Willowbrook teammates have a 2019 postseason to focus on.

"We are all friends on this team," he said. "We are all together in this. We're good friends who will fight for each other. We have a good bond."

With last week's playoff win against Moline, Willowbrook is now 38-5 over the last four seasons and 7-3 in playoff action during that time span. Willowbrook has reached the state quarterfinals in each of the last three seasons.

"It's all about teamwork," noted Dilger when asked why the program has maintained a high level of success in recent years. "Everybody on the team buys into the entire process. We're all coachable and our coaches have played a huge role in this as well. They come up with great game plans. We all buy into that and we all want to succeed. We all have the same goal."

Dilger said the goal heading into the second round of the playoffs Saturday in front of the home crowd is simple.

"We need to keep learning from our mistakes, watch the film and continue to be coachable," he said. "Our coaches know what they are talking about. We're going to lock it in during practice and keep improving our play."

# Addison Trail girls volleyball team reaches regional title match

## Blazers turn in 23-win campaign

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls volleyball team had an exciting finish to its 2019 season.

The Blazers reached their own Class 4A regional title match at home where they dropped a three-set contest to fellow West Suburban Conference Gold Division entrant Downers Grove South.

Downers South won the regional title by a count of 25-20, 15-25, 28-26. DGS won the WSC Gold title this fall with Addison Trail finishing second.

"We had played them earlier in the season and were familiar with their lineups," said Addison Trail coach Dan Styler. "It was a dogfight in the regional. It was an unbelievable match and I say that from the losing side. The victorious side would say the same thing as well. It was back and forth. We lost the first one and then beat them 25-15 in the second and lost in extra points."

"It was an epic battle in the third game. We cannot hang our heads. Our kids played as hard as they could. It was one of those matches that came down to that one extra play or that one extra ball moving a couple extra inches in our favor. Our kids played so hard. I'm very proud of their effort."

Addison Trail opened regional play with a 25-23, 23-25, 25-16 triumph over Wheaton North.

"To Wheaton North's credit they played significantly better than the first time we played them this season," said Styler. "It took us a little time to get settled into the first set and that carried into the second set. We finished with a strong effort in the third set. It was really good to see us put the

pressure on. We served well and that put pressure on Wheaton North. That changed the trajectory."

Addison Trail finished the season with a 23-14 mark.

"We will take it," Styler said. "20-win seasons are not easy to come by and this one was not by accident. We put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into this season."

The Blazers will graduate six seniors off this year's roster, including Amy Reyes, a three-year varsity setter, Jessica D'Ambrose, a four-year varsity starter, Katrina Bielanski, a three-year varsity player, plus back-row anchors Nicole Bartosik and Pauline Wirbicki, along with defensive specialist Rachel Verdi.

"Those six will be missed," Styler said. "It was a great group of seniors and ambassadors for this program."

Styler said Addison Trail will retool for next season.

"The cupboard is not bare," he said. "We have some holes to fill, but we have three starters back."

That trio includes versatile Mia Johnson, a junior who moved to right-side hitter this season, and Ally Severino, another junior who played in the middle. Sophomore middle Diana Villegas also started all year for the Blazers. Johnson and Severino have been on the varsity since sophomore season.

Addison Trail's sophomore team went 25-5 this fall.

"Flexibility will be a key for us next year," said Styler. "We have Mia, Ally and Diana back, plus the sophomores have a great season. There are some nice players on that team. We know they will go through a little bit of a learning curve with the varsity game. We think through hard work and trial and error we have some nice players who will add to the varsity team."

# Fenton's Elizondo headed to state cross country

## Krebasch, Zaggoti earn all-UEC girls volleyball honors

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton boys cross country team will have representation at this weekend's Class 2A state finals meet in Peoria.

Fenton senior Sam Elizondo earned one of seven individual qualifying positions out of the Class 2A Fenton sectional in Bensenville. Elizondo, now a three-time state qualifier, will run in Saturday's Class 2A state meet at DeWeller Park in Peoria.

Elizondo earned his state ticket after finishing eighth overall in the sectional in 17:35. His time was second-fastest of the seven individual state qualifiers. He averaged 5:52 per mile.

Elizondo also qualified individ-

ually for state as a junior where he finished 66th. He also was part of the Fenton 2017 team that qualified for state. He finished 176th in state that year.

As a team, Fenton took eighth with 237 points and did not qualify for state.

Senior Jimmy Palumbo was 30th with a time of 18:18.7. Junior Matthew Sisto finished 57th with a time of 19:00.3, while junior Juan Sosa was 67th with a time of 19:08.

Freshman Victor Vazquez was 79th with a time of 19:27.5 and classmate Emilio Sanchez was 98th with a time of 20:21. Sophomore Konstantinos Papadopoulos finished 106th in 20:53.6.

## Girls volleyball

The Fenton girls volleyball team wrapped up its season with a recent 25-13, 25-19 loss to Trinity in the semifinals of the Class 3A Fenton regional in Bensenville.

Fenton was the No. 8 seed in the Vernon Hills sectional, while Trinity was the No. 8 seed.

The Bison closed out the 2019 season with a 17-17 mark.

Fenton finished the regular season with a 25-15, 25-21 non-conference win against Elmwood Park and lost 25-13, 25-12 to West Chicago to close out Upstate Eight Conference play. Fenton finished 3-6 in UEC action in its first year in the conference.

Heading into the playoffs, Julianna Krebasch was leading the Bison in kills and blocks, while Noha Zaggoti was the team leader in service aces, assists and digs.

In fact, Krebasch and Zaggoti were recently named to the all-UEC team. "We felt really good getting two girls recognized in our first year in that conference. Both are very deserving," said Coach Kelly Torres. "Setting has been a strength of ours all season. We know Noha will be ready to go."

**"We felt really good getting two girls recognized in our first year in that conference. Both are very deserving. Setting has been a strength of ours all season. We know Noha will be ready to go."**

**- Coach Kelly Torres**

Torres added defensive improvement also was a bright spot late in the season. "We have spent a lot of time working on our defense with passing and serve-receive so that we are as

prepared as we can be," she said.

## Girls cross country

The Fenton girls cross country team finished 12th at its own Class 2A Fenton sectional. Fenton finished with 371 points and did not qualify any individuals for the Class 2A state finals.

The race was contested on the Fenton course that was described by the meet manager as very muddy with standing water in places.

Sophomore Ally Durkowski finished 59th for Fenton with a time of 22:39.9 (7:31 average per mile).

Freshman Tania Miranda took 74th in 23:08.9, while junior Guadalupe Honorato was 75th in 23:12.3. Junior Amy Czaundera was 81st with a time of 23:43.4, while junior Audrey Benitez was 84th in 24:04.

Freshman Samantha Matuk (96th, 24:44.7) and junior Lissette Hernandez (100th, 25:14) rounded out the Fenton top seven.



# History says Downers North a tougher foe than it seems

BY DAVE OBERHELMAN  
AND KEVIN SCHMITT  
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kschmitt@dailyherald.com

## Football notes

There's something about a Downers Grove North football team that enters the playoffs with a 5-4 record.

In 2008 the Trojans upset an eight-win Wheaton Warrenville South team. In 2012 they beat unbeaten top seed Batavia and followed up in 2013 with a win over Young, another top-seeded unbeaten.

Last week No. 27 Downers North (6-4) opened the playoffs with a 35-14 upset victory at No. 6 Maine West (8-2). Trojans coach Joe Horen said he doesn't believe the first-round success is a coincidence.

"I think it's the West Suburban Silver," he said. "I don't think you have to look any farther than that."

Downers North won all three of its nonconference games but fell four times in the Silver. Three losses came by a total of 16 points in addition to a learning experience against unbeaten Glenbard West.

The Trojans look to earn their first quarterfinal berth since 2013 in Saturday's second-round Class 7A game at WW South.

"We're battle-tested based on the games we've played," Horen said. "We were 5-4 coming in, but I think we were a good 5-4."

### Royalty:

Glenbard West (10-0), the second seed in Class 8A, is considered one of the top programs in the state.

Still, the Hilltoppers have a victory wish list.

They face playoff royalty

Saturday with a trip to defending state champion Loyola (7-3), a three-time title winner that's reached the final in each of the last four years. Glenbard West has faced No. 18 Loyola only once in the playoffs, losing in the 2016 semifinals, but a win this weekend would stand as a milestone for the program.

Through coach Chad Hetlet's 13 seasons at the helm the Hilltoppers have recorded many milestone wins, starting with Hinsdale Central and WW South, and continuing with Mt. Carmel, Lincoln-Way East and others.

Loyola would be a major addition to the list.

"The kids have had opportunities to beat the big-time programs, and this is another opportunity," Hetlet said. "It's a tough road, but we love games like this."

### Pick a player:

Neuqua Valley is known for its offensive diversity, but Saturday's 44-6 win over Conant was ridiculous.

The Wildcats (9-1), seeded 11th in Class 8A, opened the playoffs with eight players scoring. That included a safety and a 2-point conversion but, still, that's pretty impressive.

"The strength of this team, and we've said it all along, is that we're very balanced," said Wildcats coach Bill Ellinghaus.

Running the show is quarterback Mark Gronowski, who last week threw for 179 yards and ran for 106. Even with leading receiver Sean Larkin missing the game due to injury, the offensive wealth spread throughout the roster.

Neuqua Valley needs to keep the points coming this week at No. 6 Homewood-Flossmoor (9-1) and its high-powered offense.

"We've got different guys running the ball, different guys catching it," Ellinghaus said. "We need to keep that going."

### Their guy:

Assessing the top leaders over his eight seasons, IC Catholic Prep coach Bill Krefft points to two players: former Knights quarterback Luke Ricobene, now a receiver at Dayton; and three-year starting linebacker Kevin Cooke.

"He's the one who leads everybody," Krefft said of Cooke. ICCP's all-time leading tackler is listed with an incredible 467 stops as the Knights (9-1) host Class 4A foe Stillman Valley on Saturday.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound senior has a 4.6 grade-point average and a 33 ACT score. He brings a constant motor and a physical, nasty streak to the field. It equals instant, precise reads resulting in a team-leading 11 tackles for loss and 5 interceptions.

Cooke is the elder statesman of the linebacker corps, providing game-action training to sophomores such as Jadon Mims and Connor McCoy. Lining them up, calling the defense, critiquing their play, Cooke has their back and is a model for the position.

"Kevin Cooke's lines (to the ball), his techniques, his ability to see the game, it's just very different from any kid I've ever seen," Krefft said.

@doberhelman1  
@kevin\_schmitt

# Catching up on big accomplishments

Visiting Champaign last weekend for the University of Illinois' annual Father-Daughter Weekend, a student in the group came to a sudden realization that showed surprisingly advanced comprehension.

"I can't believe how fast time goes by," she said.

It seemingly goes faster as one ages. After watching former Neuqua Valley receiver Donny Navarro help Illinois' football team beat Rutgers for the Illini's third straight victory we returned home to consider this truth.

For these purposes, just three months into the 2019-2020 high school calendar, there's already a backlog of noteworthy accomplishments.

## But first

Regarding current events, few could be more satisfying than Viviana Sanfilippo's accomplishment at the girls Class 3A Lake Park sectional cross country meet last Saturday.

The Addison Trail junior finished in 12th place to qualify for Saturday's state meet at Detweiler Park. In doing so Sanfilippo became the Blazers' first girl to qualify for the state meet. The West Suburban Gold all-conference runner will challenge Addison Trail's school record in Peoria.

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## The hall

On Oct. 18 Wheaton Warrenville South inducted six people into its Athletic Hall of Fame. Alphabetically: three-sport star Albie Harris; basketball coach Rich Jarom;



David Oberhelman  
Sidelines

volleyball player Joe Kelly; basketball coach Don McGee; soccer star Rachel Radcliffe; and three-sport star Pat Welch.

Coach McGee once tried to convince a particular junior to try out for the Wheaton Central varsity boys basketball team. Not to honor a caring coach's confidence remains a great regret.

## The hallmarks

Way back in Week 3 of Wheaton College's football season, Thunder coach Mike Swider earned his 200th victory with a 62-0 win over Millikin. Wheaton North graduate Luke Anthony completed 20 of 28 passes for 251 yards and 3 touchdowns.

In his 24th season leading the team, Swider now has 205 victories, fifth-ranked Wheaton College standing at 8-0. Swider ranks eighth among active Division III football coaches in victories. He entered the season with 197 wins, tied with University of Redlands coach Mike Maynard, who now has 204.

(Here's an interesting aside. Though Redlands is in California, Maynard is an Illinois Wesleyan graduate. His father, Marvin, or "Bud," is a member of the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He coached at since-closed Moore Township

High School in Farmers City. Thanks, Illinois High School Glory Days!)

High School in Farmers City. Thanks, Illinois High School Glory Days!)

Addison resident Erick Baumann is the athletic director and men's soccer coach at Dominican University in River Forest, his alma mater.

On Oct. 12 in a 10-0 win over Lakeland his Stars delivered Baumann's 400th victory. He became the 21st coach in Division III men's soccer history to reach that mark and is one of eight active Division III coaches with at least 400 wins. As of Tuesday he was up to 405.

Baumann has never had a losing season in 25 years; his team hasn't dipped below a collective 3.0 grade-point average since 2006.

## Well-earned respite

Led by Neuqua Valley graduate Jack Vercautren's fourth tournament win of the fall, on Oct. 5 the College of DuPage men's golf team won the Region IV tournament by 66 strokes at PrairieView Golf Club in Byron. The Chaparrals' lineup also includes Naperville North's Nick Sullivan and Lake Park's Jake Dianovsky.

Coach Jason Hyatt, the NJCAA Division III national champion in 1998 for College of DuPage, won his sixth regional title and eighth regional coach of the year honor.

He's a teaching pro at the Chaparrals' home course of Cantigny in Wheaton. His team will have plenty of practice time there. With its regional performance COD advanced to the NJCAA Championship in Chautauqua, New York — June 2-5, 2020.

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# WW South's 'musketeers' ride again

BY BILL STONE  
Daily Herald Correspondent

## Girls volleyball

When senior Kalleigh Ammons arrived freshman year for Wheaton Warrenville South girls volleyball tryouts from Hubble Middle School, she soon met Sarah Burau and Annika Barron from Edison Middle School.

They became known as "The Three Musketeers."

"We came up with it freshman year so it has a reason to be lame," a laughing Burau said.

They have faced many challenges as four-year varsity starters, but the tri-captains and the Tigers lived to fight another day by beating Downers Grove North 25-15, 25-13 Wednesday in the Class 4A Glenbard West sectional final in Glen Ellyn.

After winning just the second sectional title in program history, the top-seeded Tigers (31-8) must beat Huntley (34-5) at 6 p.m. Friday at

Streamwood to reach the state semifinals.

Juniors Zayna Meyer and Lizzie Chelsea each had 7 kills and Burau 18 assists. The Tigers have won seven straight, the last five in straight sets.

Downers North (22-17), which had only three seniors from last year's state runner-up roster, was led by sophomore Gwendolyn Wolkow's 7 kills and senior setter Grace Malone's 12 assists. The Trojans were making their third straight sectional final

appearance.

The Tigers' only other sectional championship was their Class AA fourth-place state finish in 2002 — Bill Schreier's second season as coach.

"It's fun. You never, ever look past any of this stuff," Schreier said. "It's actually been refreshing because it has been a lot less fundamentals and a lot more game (strategy) and what do we have to do. The nice thing is I get back to the drawing board and I have 48 hours to come up with something to do on Friday."

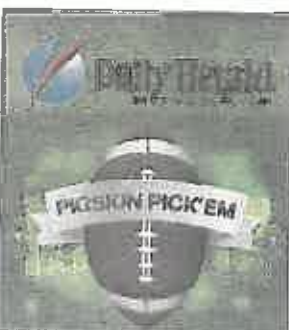


PATRICK KUNZER/pkuner@dailyherald.com  
Wheaton Warrenville South girls volleyball players celebrate a two-set victory over Downers Grove North at Glenbard West on Wednesday night in a Class 4A sectional final.

Friday also will be a challenge for the "musketeers," especially Ammons, in charge of team themes. For Wednesday the Tigers wore bathrobes

around school to promote their match.

"I wore a green bathrobe and Christmas tree pajama



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# Addison INDEPENDENT

VOL. 16 • NO. 45

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THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 2019

## District 88 among recipients at 'Those Who Excel' program

On Oct. 19, District 88 was recognized with two awards during the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) 2019-20 Those Who Excel Awards Banquet at the Blooming-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center.

Former District 88 Board of Education member Sharon Kucik received an Award of Merit (the second-highest award level) in the category of Board Member.

Kucik served on the Board from 2007 to 2019 and was Board Secretary from 2011 to 2019. She was honored for her tremendous commitment to the Board through her service on numerous Board Committees, as well as her work on the Building The Future referendum project, leading as Chairperson of the District 88 Foundation and being a member of the Willowbrook Athletic Hall of Fame Committee and the Willowbrook Distinguished Alumni/Distinguished Service Recognition Program Committee.

Members of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team received an Award of Excellence (the highest award level) for their work in creating and participating in several safety activities and programs. The Team is comprised representatives of the Village of Addison, the Village of Villa Park, the Addison Police Department, the Addison Fire Protection District, the Villa Park Police Department, the Villa Park Fire Department, the DuPage Regional Office of Education, state representatives and senators, Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from the Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND), AT social worker Jorge de Leon and WB social worker Erik Engel.

Those programs include a School Safety Forum held in March 2018, when about 400 student leaders from

28 Chicago-area high schools came together at Willowbrook for a day of conversation and planning regarding school safety; a Safety and Security Tabletop Exercise in April 2018; the implementation of ALICE (Alert,

Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training for District 88 held in August 2018; and, for earning a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for the School Violence Prevention Program. The grant

funding, allowed District 88 and Addison School District 4 to install pull stations similar to fire alarms, strobe lights and mobile panic buttons. These will be placed throughout the

schools and outside the buildings through BluePoint Alert Solutions. This provides another layer of protection and allows the schools to contact local authorities quicker in the event of an emergency.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

## All Aboard the StoryBus

Lincoln School students pictured here enjoyed a visit from the StoryBus on Friday, Oct. 25. A children's museum on wheels, StoryBus gives more than 15,000 Chicago area children the opportunity to 'step into' a favorite story each year. This year, the StoryBus arrived at Lincoln School outfitted with play-based learning activities to the story of the "Three Little Pigs." The storyteller engaged the students with a dramatic reading of the pigs' tale. Students then built straw, stick, or brick houses, played in the pig's kitchen, fish pond, or apple orchard, and used a "wolf" bellows to blow down pictures of houses.

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# Nair honored as '88's Best' for October

Parvathy Nair has been named as Addison Trail's October recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments. Nair, a senior, was recognized during the Oct. 21 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

Nair has excelled in all subject areas and classes she has taken at Addison Trail. She has received As in all courses to date and will have completed 11 Honors courses and 12 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses when she graduates.

"Nair constantly strove for success in AP European History as a sophomore," said Laura Magnavite, social studies teacher. "She wholly encompassed what an AP student should be; mature, motivated and meticulous. Her class participation and enthusiasm for learning made her a role model for her peers. She was truly a joy to have in class!"

English Department Head Amy Ferraro agreed.

"Nair is an extraordinary student, whose dedication to academics and determination to make a difference at Addison Trail are unparalleled," she said. "She is a curious young lady, who devours books and consistently extends her own learning by seeking additional resources and materials beyond those presented in class. She is particular about her writing and revises her work tirelessly in her quest for perfection. As a member of the student body, Nair works to spread understanding and acceptance through her work with International Dance. Her kindness, compassion and positive nature make her a role model for her peers and an absolute pleasure to be around each and every day."

World language teacher Kathleen McColaugh said Nair's empathy toward others is what makes her stand out.

"In the four years I have known her, Nair has distinguished herself as a mature and responsible student, who sets high academic and personal goals for herself," she said. "Nair has maintained Distinction Honor Roll status all four years and has demonstrated tremendous academic potential. As her rigorous academic sched-

ule illustrates, Nair is a young woman of commitment and intelligence.

"But I am more impressed with her genuine desire to use her strengths to help others. Her kindness is a defining characteristic, and Nair perseveres not only for her benefit, but instead with the hopes of helping others. She has demonstrated this time and again in our community through her volunteerism in several organizations that take place here at school and outside of the building.

"Nair also has served as an active tutor in the World Language Resource Lab and accompanied me to Indian Trail Junior High School to help with articulation and bridge the transition from junior high to high school. Her service has been invaluable and is done with graciousness and knowledge. It has been a privilege to know and teach Parvathy Nair - she will be a student I fondly remember in years to come."

## Inspired by parents

Her main inspiration has been her parents, who moved to the U.S. from India before she was born. Nair knows how hard they have worked to provide a good life for their children, and she feels if she doesn't apply herself fully to everything she does, she would be disrespecting what they've given. She also gives credit to her older sisters for paving the way.

Named as "AT's Best" in her sophomore and junior years, Nair has also been the Student of the Semester in the English Department twice, and Student of the Semester in social studies. She is an Illinois State Scholar and an AP Scholar with Honor and has been on the Distinction Honor Roll every semester.

Beyond being a stellar student, Nair also participates in a number of clubs and activities as well. She is Co-President of Key Club and has been on the Key Club Board since her sophomore year.

She also has a large role in the International Dance Show, serves as President of Chamber Orchestra and is a Blazer Ambassador. Nair has participated on the Girls Badminton Team, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Team,



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured is here with Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden is senior Parvathy Nair, who has been named as Addison Trail's October recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments.

Math Team and Student Council as well.

Nair plans to apply to Northwestern University, DePaul University,

Marquette University, Loyola University Chicago and Georgetown. She is looking to double major in economics and international affairs.

# Local youth take part in Sleep Out Saturday

## County-wide event builds awareness of Bridge Communities

By Marisa Mancini

FOR THE INDEPENDENT

Drive past First United Methodist Church in Elmhurst Saturday evening, Nov. 2, and you will see approximately 20 cardboard boxes on its lawn at Church and York streets. Each box contains a teen or young adult participating in Sleep Out Saturday, a DuPage county-wide event that builds awareness and raises funds for the Bridge Communities transitional housing program. Approximately 1000 participants throughout DuPage County will spend this chilly November night sleeping outside to call awareness to homeless families.

Lisa Rodgers, Director of Youth Ministries at First Methodist Church, who has run her youth group's Sleep out Saturday for the past 11 years, feels it is one of their most impactful

programs.

"People don't realize there is a homeless problem in DuPage County - particularly here in Elmhurst where you don't see homeless people out on the street - the hidden homeless," said Rodgers. "Our homeless education includes activities, games, and discussions, which help dispel preconceived notions about the homeless. We learn why families are homeless, what the family may experience, and how Bridge helps homeless families in our communities. Hearing stories from Bridge graduates is a very valuable experience for the group."

## Bridge resident tells her own story

One Bridge graduate, Markeeta, shared her personal story of homelessness and inspired the youth group, and all who hear her story, to donate funds to Bridge. Markeeta became homeless in 2011, after fleeing an abusive home with her two-year-old daughter. Though she

worked as a certified nurse assistant, Markeeta did not earn enough to rent an apartment. For two years, she and her daughter moved from couch to couch, living with friends, boyfriends, and relatives. In 2013, Markeeta's mom told her about Bridge Communities, located in Glen Ellyn.

"I had three interviews with Bridge to see if I qualified. In my first interview (February of 2014) I had to tell my whole life story," she stated.

After telling her story, Markeeta realized she never had a childhood and had always had a hard, unstable life.

"During my second interview, I need to show I could manage a budget - a key factor in being successful in the program," she said. "This included paying my bills and credit card debt, and negotiating bills with my creditors."

See SLEEP OUT, Page 18

# Advice from a 'Scientist For Nones, Nuns And All'

## Father John Francis Kartje presents Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Lecture

With doctoral degrees in both scripture and astrophysics, Father John Francis Kartje brings unique insight to the exploration of how faith and science inform each other.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13 beginning at 7:30 p.m., Kartje will present "How to Engage Mystery: Advice from a Scientist for Nones, Nuns and All," this year's Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Lecture.

Kartje is rector of the University of Saint Mary of the Lake, also known as Mundelein Seminary.

He was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2002 and has served in parish and campus ministry in both Chicago and Washington, D.C. He holds doctoral degrees in scripture from the Catholic University of America, and in astrophysics from the University of Chicago.

The Bernardin Lecture will take place in the Frick Center, Founders Lounge on the campus of Elmhurst College.

Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information, call (630) 617-5186.



Father John Francis Kartje



ADDISON TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL MICHAEL BOLDEN (left) and WILLOWBROOK PRINCIPAL DR. DANIEL KRAUSE.

## District 88 principals honored

During its Oct. 21 meeting, the District 88 Board of Education adopted a resolution recognizing October as National Principals Month and thanked Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden and Willowbrook Principal Dr. Daniel Krause, along with their teams, for their leadership and vision.

As administrators, they put in countless hours to continue to improve District 88 and build futures for students.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the American Federation of School Administrators designate October as National Principals Month to honor the hard work and dedication of America's school leaders.

This year's celebration culminated with Principal Appreciation Week from Oct. 20 to 26 and Principal Appreciation Day on Oct. 25 in Illinois.



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# SPORTS

OCT. 31, 2019 • 10

## Warriors close out another perfect conference season

Three straight 6-0 campaigns; Playoffs begin with this week's home game against Moline

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook football team finished off its third consecutive unblemished West Suburban Gold Conference season with Friday's 44-6 home victory over Proviso East. The decisive win in the regular-season finale gave the Warriors their third straight 6-0 campaign in conference play.

Willowbrook completed the season with an 8-1 record. The Warriors, who have won eight straight games, will open the IHSA Class 7A playoffs with this week's home game against Moline (5-4). If the Warriors beat Moline, they would face Yorkville or Thornton Fractional South in the second round.

The Warriors, who are making their fourth straight playoff appearance, have advanced to the quarter-final round of the playoffs in each of the last three seasons. Willowbrook won a pair of playoff games in 2016, 2017 and 2018 before bowing out of the post-season with a loss in the quarterfinal round.

Willowbrook built a 44-0 halftime lead over Proviso East, which finished the season at 2-7 overall and 1-5 in the conference.

The Pirates began last week with an overall record of 6-2, but in the middle of the week, Proviso East learned it would have to forfeit four of its six victories for using an ineligible player. Three of the Pirates' forfeits came in conference games against Addison Trail, Leyden and Morton. The forfeits, which were announced a couple of days before the game against Willowbrook, flipped Proviso East's overall season record



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Senior Deandre Holliday of the Willowbrook football team tied the program record for career touchdown receptions when he made three touchdown catches in Friday's 44-6 win over Proviso East. The three scoring receptions gave Holliday 17 touchdown catches during his three seasons with the varsity team. Hayden Adams of the Class of 2014 also made 17 touchdown receptions as a Warrior. In addition to his three touchdown catches on Friday, Holliday scored another touchdown on an interception return. The Warriors will open the IHSA Class 7A playoffs with this week's home game against Moline.

from 6-2 to 2-6.

Willowbrook scored its first touchdown on a 44-yard pass from senior quarterback Sam Tumilty to

senior Deandre Holliday in the first quarter. Sophomore Izzy Manning added the first of her six extra-point kicks to give the Warriors a 7-0 lead. The lead grew to 9-0 later in the first quarter following a safety. Willowbrook scored the two points when the Pirates snapped the ball out of the end zone.

The Warriors scored their next five touchdowns in the second quarter. Tumilty scored the first touchdown of the period on a 19-yard run. He then connected with Holliday on a 4-yard touchdown pass. A short time later, the Tumilty-Holliday duo connected on a 22-yard touchdown pass that helped raise the Warriors' lead to 30-0. Holliday tied the program record for career touchdown receptions with his third TD catch of the night. The score gave Holliday 17 touchdown receptions in his career as a Warrior. Holliday matched the mark of Hayden Adams, who graduated from Willowbrook in 2014.

"That last one hit home; I knew I

tied the record," said Holliday of his third touchdown of the night. "It was a great feeling. I thank Sam for all of the touchdowns he's thrown me. He's such a great teammate. He's a team player."

"He's not selfish at all," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth of Holliday. "It's not about him, but there's nothing wrong with having goals."

Hildreth has known Holliday since the senior standout was in grade school. Before coming to Willowbrook, Holliday took part in Hildreth's youth football camps at the school.

"As a player, he's been vital to our success in his three years on the varsity level," said Hildreth of Holliday.

Holliday scored a defensive touchdown to increase the Warriors' lead to 36-0. He intercepted a Proviso East pass and raced 46 yards for a touchdown with about five minutes left in the first half.

The Warriors scored their final

touchdown of the night on Tumilty's 19-yard pass to senior Everett Stubblefield with about two minutes left in the first half.

The Warriors' halftime lead of at least 40 points triggered a running clock throughout the second half. Willowbrook held halftime leads of at least 40 points against four of its conference opponents (Leyden, Addison Trail, Morton and Proviso East) this season.

Proviso East scored its only touchdown with about three minutes remaining in the game.

Hildreth frequently refers to something his collegiate coach at Lake Forest College instilled—that each season is like a heartbeat. Some of the same players and coaches can return from one season to the next, but each season is unique, and the ending can be abrupt and painful.

"That heartbeat goes another week," said Hildreth in his post-game comments to the Warriors. "We get to be together another week."

## Addison Trail/Willowbrook girls swimming team preparing for conference meet

Finished 4-1 in West Suburban Gold regular season

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Things are looking up on multiple accounts for the Addison Trail/

Willowbrook girls swimming team.

AT/Willowbrook finished the West Suburban Conference Gold Division regular season with a 4-1 mark in dual meets, with its only blemish a setback to Downers Grove South. The AT/Willowbrook junior varsity team's only conference loss was to Downers South as well.

AT/Willowbrook will swim in the WSC Gold Division Meet on Friday.

In addition to performing well during the conference season, AT/Willowbrook coach Tara Murphy said he is thrilled about the depth her program has this season. The team features 46 girls, which is a program all-time high.

"We're the biggest we have ever been," said Murphy. "We're a younger team with a lot of freshman and sophomore swimmers."

Murphy noted more than half of her 11-swimmer sectional team are freshmen and sophomores. "That's very exciting for the future," she said.

Murphy is excited about a number of events, including the 100 breaststroke, where Addison Trail sophomore Carly Zaprzal has excelled.

AT/Willowbrook also is strong in the 500 freestyle, with Addison Trail sophomore Delaney Gayon and Addison Trail freshman Jessica Pocięcha, who also does the 200

freestyle and is part of a pair of AT/Willowbrook relay teams.

On the relay front, Murphy said there is a bit of a change in the air this season. While AT/Willowbrook usually is strongest in the freestyle relays, this fall it's the medley relay.

"We usually are pretty good in the freestyles," Murphy pointed out. "We're pretty solid this year in the medley, which is a bit of a change."

The medley relay team picks from the likes of Gayon, Zaprzal, Addison Trail junior Nancy Obrzut, Willowbrook's DeAnna Tate and Pocięcha.

Tate and Obrzut give AT/Willowbrook two strong entries into the 50 freestyle as well.

"DeAnna Tate is tremendously improved from last year," said Murphy.

Looking ahead to the Nov. 16 York Sectional in Elmhurst, Murphy noted Obrzut in the 50 and Zaprzal in the breaststroke could be in the state-berth contention conversation. "Nancy is a possibility in the 50 and Carly is fairly close to the cut in the breaststroke," she noted.

Murphy said consistency has been one key to the team's success this season.

"We have more girls who are consistently strong, which is a positive," she said. "We are younger and we have more girls who can do more things, and that's helped us be successful."

## Willowbrook first round playoff preview

Moline (5-4) at Willowbrook (8-1)

What: Opening round of the Class 7A state football playoffs

When: Friday 7 p.m.

Where: Willowbrook High School, Villa Park  
Seeds: Moline is the No. 28 seed in the 32-team Class 7A bracket. Willowbrook is the No. 5 seed.

Outlook: Willowbrook, which isn't through the West Suburban Conference Gold Division undefeated for a third year in a row, is back in the state playoffs for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time in program history and fourth year in a row (three 7A appearances and one 6A appearance). The Warriors have reached the state quarterfinals in each of the last three seasons.

Willowbrook's nine regular-season opponents had a combined mark of 32-49 with two of the teams making the playoffs. Only two teams (Maine West and Reavis) had lower opponent win totals in the 32-team Class 7A field. Moline's nine opponents had a 41-40 mark and four of them nine regular-season opponents made the playoffs.

Willowbrook is averaging nearly 34 points a game, while surrendering an extremely stingy nine points a

game, which ranks as the second-best total among the 32 teams in 7A, trailing only Chicago Phillips' seven points per game. Moline is in the playoffs for a third year in a row.

Moline finished fourth in the Western Big 6 Conference, where teams played seven conference games. The Maroons did come out this way in Week 2 and lost 28-19 to playoff-bound Benedict Academy in a game played at Benedictine University. Moline should have been 6-3 and earned an automatic playoff bid, but the Maroons had a win against conference foe Rock Island taken away due to use of an ineligible player who transferred back into the school from Arizona, according to a report in the local *Dispatch-Army* newspaper. That player ran for 227 yards against Rock Island after rushing for 210 yards in the season opener against Alton.

Up next: The winner of this contest advances to play either No. 21 Thornton Fractional South or No. 12 Yorkville in the second round. If Willowbrook wins against Moline, it would travel to south-suburban Lansing to face T-F South or host No. 12 Yorkville given both teams will have hosted a game and Willowbrook is the higher seed.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## District 88 receives two 'Those Who Excel' awards

District 88 was recently recognized with two awards at the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) 2019-20 "Those Who Excel" Awards Banquet held on Saturday, Oct. 19. Former District 88 Board of Education member Sharon Kucik received an Award of Merit in the category of Board Member, and members of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team received an Award of Excellence. Pictured are (from left) AT Principal

Michael Bolden, D88 Superintendent Dr. Scott Helton, Kucik, Joe Maranowicz, Addison Deputy Police Chief, D88 Board of Ed. President Donna Craft Cain, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen Ayala, D88 Asst. Superintendent Jean Barbanente, WB Principal Dr. Daniel Krause, WB social worker Erik Engel, Villa Park Police Chief Mike Lay and Timothy "Bill" Hayden, Addison Director of Police.

## Community calendar

### Thursday, Oct. 31

#### Sewing for very beginners at the Library

Learn how to use our new sewing machines from 3-5 p.m. at the Addison Public Library. We will practice by sewing our very own napkin set. Materials will be provided. For grades 6-12. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Friday, Nov. 1 and Friday, Nov. 8

#### Circle Up for teens at the Library

From 3:15-4 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, we'll use fun games to help you chill out and connect. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Sunday, Nov. 3

#### Word: Review with new project at the Library

From 3-4 p.m. in the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, learn the basics of Microsoft's Word processing software in order to begin, format, save, and share your documents. In this class, we will learn how to use Word to format. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Monday, Nov. 4

#### Cooking demo: Indigenous American Cooking at the Library

From 7-8:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, Kim Sigafus will present on the Three Sisters planting, indigenous ways of processing and storing food, and how to make Wojape, a wonderful spread made of fruit and honey. Samples will be served. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Monday Meditation at the Library

From 6-7 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, Sahaja Yoga Meditation is a simple, time-honored technique to experience inner peace and balance. No physical exercises, postures, or special clothing required. Class participants will meditate while seated on a chair. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Tuesday, Nov. 5

#### Drop-in DIY: Melting plastic (for teens) at the Library

From 3-4:30 p.m. at the Creative Studio of the Addison Public Library, whether it's using our 3D Doodlers or putting together a perler bead pattern, we are melting plastic into awesome 3D objects. All materials provided. No registration necessary. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Senior Social: Game Day at the Library

From 1-3 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, it's all fun and games on this afternoon, so bring your friends or meet new ones. We'll provide games, coffee, tea and treats. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Cartooning for teens at the Library

From 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, professional cartoonist Mark Anderson will help you draw your own cartoons and then bring them to life on the screen. Beginners welcome. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Your holiday job search at the library

From 6:30-8 p.m. in the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, Lauren Milligan will share her holiday job search tips that will keep you engaged and motivated, as well as a Job Seeker Gift Wish List. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Wednesday, Nov. 6

#### Personal career consultations at the Library

From 1-3 p.m. in the Second Floor Study Room of the Addison Public Library, meet one-on-one with a career search professional who will help you formulate a plan and determine the best course of action to secure the best possible position for you. Consultations also available in Spanish. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### #chefmode at the Library

From 3:15-4:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, get started cooking delicious and healthy meals. We've got everything you need to try out a simple recipe and learn how to make fresh food tasty. Everything is provided and no experience is necessary. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Family Movie Night at the Library

Drop in at the Addison Public Library from 6-8 p.m., share snacks and watch a family-friendly movie on our big screen. All ages. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

### Thursday, Nov. 7

#### Beauty parlor pop-up at the Library

From 3:15-4:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, pamper yourself with a DIY face mask or try out a new eye shadow technique. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Knitting 101: Infinity scarf at the Library

From 6-8 p.m. at the Creative Studio of the Addison Public

Library, we'll introduce you to the basics: casting on, binding off, knit, and purl. No experience necessary. All materials provided, but you are welcome to bring your own so that you may finish your project at home. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

#### Peace Corps information session at the Library

From 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Adult Program Room of the Addison Public Library, join us at this information session to learn about volunteer experiences, ask questions about service, and gain tips to guide you through the application process. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Friday, Nov. 8

#### Baby and toddler Play Stations at the Library

From 10-10:45 a.m. at the Addison Public Library, stop by for a sensory play experience. We'll have all sorts of different stations filled with activities for children and caregivers to enjoy together. Birth-3 years with caregiver. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

#### Census 2020 applicant day at the Library

From 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, want to earn some extra income and help your community? The Census Bureau is hiring for temporary jobs! Immediately apply for positions during this session or visit [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs) for information. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

### Saturday, Nov. 9

#### Sensory story time at the Library

From 10-10:30 a.m. at the Addison Public Library, Join us for a story time for children of all abilities. We'll read stories, sing songs, and do a fun sensory activity. Ages birth-grade 5. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

#### Ongoing events

##### Freestyle Fridays

On Fridays Nov. 1, 8 and 22, stop by the Addison Public Library and put your own spin on fun Friday crafts after school from 3:15-4:45 p.m. For all ages. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

#### Toddler storytime at the Library

For ages 2-3 years old with a caregiver at the Addison Pub

See **CALENDAR**, Page 18



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Pu



## D88 students experience 'OUR HOME IMPROVEMENT'

On Oct. 22, more than 50 Addison Trail and Willowb students participated in a hands-on experience at OUR HOME IMPROVEMENT (OHI) in Elk Grove Village, pictured here field trip was the second of a four-part series, where Distri pupils travel to OHI every month through December to al classes on various industry topics and to work on a job First, students learned about design, foundation and fra and received an initial trade presentation. At the second, learned about plumbing, HVAC and electrical work. After pleting the classes and on-site training, the plan is to hav participants apply and interview for a summer apprentice with OHI.





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# Addison Trail cross country runners advance to sectional

**Blazers football team finishes season with win; awarded additional forfeit victory over Proviso East**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Both Addison Trail cross country teams will be represented at Saturday's Class 3A Lake Park sectional. The Addison Trail girls cross

country team finished eighth at the Class 3A Glenbard West regional at Camera Park in Glendale Heights with 230 team points.

Addison Trail advanced two individuals to the sectional round. Junior Viviana Sanfilippo finished 11<sup>th</sup> overall in the race with a time of 18:16. Sophomore Maddie Ford also qualified after finishing 43<sup>rd</sup> with a time of 20:29.

Junior Elizabeth Guerrero was

56<sup>th</sup> with a time of 22:58.87, while freshman Genesis Santacruz took 59<sup>th</sup> with a time of 24:03.28. Freshman Esmeralda Bucio was 61<sup>st</sup> at 24:22.23. Freshman Vanessa Montes and junior Jina Patel also ran for the Blazers in the regional.

## Boys cross country

The Addison Trail boys cross country team placed ninth in the Glenbard West regional at Camera Park with 235 points.

However, the Blazers also advanced two runners to the Lake Park sectional.

Junior Dylan Moran took 31<sup>st</sup> with a time of 16:08 and earned an individual qualifying berth, while

sophomore Alex Martinez will join Moran at Lake Park East Campus Saturday after finishing 38<sup>th</sup> with a time of 16:30.

Junior Cole Greaves was 53<sup>rd</sup> with a time of 17:22.18, while sophomore Paz Aaron was 54<sup>th</sup> with a time of 17:23.10. Senior Jonathan Ramos was 59<sup>th</sup> with a time of 17:39.62. Junior Daniel Alvarez was 61<sup>st</sup> in 18:26.45 and sophomore Max Ojeda was 62<sup>nd</sup> with a time of 18:43.24.

## Football

The Addison Trail football team finished the 2019 season on a high note after a 54-37 win against Morton in West Suburban Conference

Gold Division play.

Addison Trail ended the season winning its final two games after losing the first seven of the season on the field. Addison Trail was awarded a third win when its loss to Proviso East was turned into a forfeit victory. The IHSA recently announced Proviso East had forfeited four victories because of the use of an ineligible player.

Officially, the Blazers finished the season 3-6 overall and finished fourth in the WSC Gold with a 3-record.

Addison Trail scored 80 points in its final two games of the season after having scored a total of 53 points in its first seven contests.

## Blazers boys soccer team falls in regional

**Addison Trail finishes season with 13 victories**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail boys soccer team was on the wrong end of an upset. The Blazers, seeded No. 4 in the Class 3A St. Charles East sectional, were indeed upset by a 2-1 count to No. 13 seed St. Charles North in the semifinals of the Class 3A St. Charles North sectional.

St. Charles North led 1-0. The teams traded single goals in the second half.

Addison Trail finished the season 13-5-3 overall and went 5-1 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play.

The Blazers wrapped up their regular season with a 2-0-1 mark in a three-game stretch. Addison Trail defeated Chicago Mt. Carmel 4-2, tied Hinsdale Central 0-0 in a West Suburban Conference cross-over game and downed Leyden 1-0 to close out WSC Gold Division play.

Heading into the playoffs, junior forward Aaron Sanchez had registered 17 goals and five assists. Junior forward Anthony Hernandez had 13 goals and four assists, while senior midfielder Leo Acosta had six goals and a team-high 14 assists.

During that three-game stretch, coach Ryan Dini was pleased with his squad's defensive performance.

"Our team defense has really improved," he said earlier last week. "We had two shutouts in that span against two very good teams."

Addison Trail finished the season with six shutouts.

"We have been a pretty good defensive team all season," Dini noted. "We have six defenders we rotate for our four spots so this unit has a lot of chemistry. We have played a lot of really good offensive teams as well, so this gives those guys confidence when we play well."

Dini noted senior goalie Ernesto Padua was back after going down with a leg injury recently.

"He looked a lot better in his movements in the net," he said. "Ernesto has been rock-solid all season. He is very consistent in his play and has made some huge saves for us this season. We have worked on improving a few of his weaknesses, so this has helped him clean up some of those things. He is a really good goalie and we are lucky to have him."

Dini also saw a difference in team chemistry down the stretch.

"Our team has become a lot closer the past couple weeks," he said.

"We have done a lot of team bonding events in the past month and team dinners. This has helped our communication on the field and getting everyone invested in our season. Accountability has been a main focus from watching film, working hard in practice and playing for each other."

Dini said the team worked hard on its passing game throughout the season.

"Our offense has been up and down," he said. "We have worked a lot on our passing, which was not very good to start the year. Almost every drill we do, we limit the amount of touches each player can have before they have to pass or shoot. It's really helped our players know what to do with the ball before they receive it and has increased our creativity in the offensive third."

The coach also cited recent strong play from junior left defender Ray Fischer and junior center-mid Eric Viana.

"Ray has been really good all year and he really never comes off the field," the coach said. "We plug him into his spot and he does his job day in and day out. He's also a really good student, which helps in paying attention to details for our accounting report against our opponents."

Dini pointed out that Garcia plays about half of each game and has taken the next step when it comes to winning back the soccer ball when the Blazers are in defensive mode. "Eric is really good at this and helps us get back into the offensive end," Dini said. "He has been a big surprise this year with how fast he has developed at one of the hardest positions on the field."

The Blazers' only loss in conference this season was to Morton, which won a Class 3A regional title last week and is playing in the Class 3A Lyons Township sectional this week.

# Fenton cross country teams qualify for sectionals

**Bison boys soccer loses in class 2A regional championship**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton boys and girls cross country teams are coming home.

The Bison squads both advanced out of the Class 2A St. Viator regional and will compete in Saturday's Class 2A Fenton sectional at Fenton High School where berths in the Class 2A state finals will be up for grabs.

Fenton's boys cross country team was fourth at St. Viator with 86 points and was five points out of the third-place position.

Senior Sam Elizondo finished fourth overall in the race with a time of 16:25. Senior Jimmy Palumbo was 11<sup>th</sup> at 17:07, while junior Matthew Sisto was 14<sup>th</sup> at 17:18.

Freshman Victor Vazquez finished

26<sup>th</sup> at 17:51, while junior Juan Sosa was 31<sup>st</sup> at 18:12. Freshman Emilio Sanchez was 39<sup>th</sup> at 19:10 and junior Chris Kovich was 40<sup>th</sup> in 19:23.

## Girls cross country

The Fenton girls cross country team took fifth at the Class 2A St. Viator regional and also earned a berth in the sectional. Fenton finished with 129 points.

Sophomore Ally Durkowski was 17<sup>th</sup> with a time of 20:49 to lead the way for the Bison. Freshman Samantha Matuk was 21<sup>st</sup> at 21:14, while junior Guadalupe Honorato was 25<sup>th</sup> at 21:44.

Freshman Tania Miranda was 32<sup>nd</sup> at 22:27, while sophomore Carolina Rosas was 34<sup>th</sup> at 22:39. Junior Lisette Hernandez took 40<sup>th</sup> at 23:42 and junior Angelika Gasior was 42<sup>nd</sup> in 25:05.

## Boys soccer

The Fenton boys soccer team

dropped a 4-0 decision to Ben Academy in the championship game of the Class 2A Glenbard South regional in Glen Ellyn.

Fenton advanced to the regional final after recording a 2-1 win against host Glenbard South in the regional semifinals.

The game was tied 0-0 at halftime.

Valentin Motta De Castro hit a goal and an assist for the Bison, while Ethan Rojas had a goal and Ivan Jaramillo added an assist.

Daniel Villanueva made three saves in goal.

Earlier, Fenton closed out the regular season with a 3-1 win against Elgin Larkin in Upstate Eight Conference play.

Senior Konrad Madej had two goals, while Jaramillo had a goal and an assist. Motta De Castro had one assist.

Victor Carmona made two saves in goal.

# Pritzker unveils five-year economic plan, touts 'strong job growth'

By Jerry Nowicki  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Gov. J.B. Pritzker's Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity recently introduced a five-year economic plan, focusing on six industries that can boost the state's economy and a variety of programs to build its workforce and encourage population growth.

It's the first such plan since former Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn released his in July 2014, when he declared, "Illinois is in the midst of a resurgence."

"Over the past five years, the state has battled back from the worst financial crisis in seven decades to put the economy on a positive trajectory," Quinn said in his 2014 plan.

Pritzker had similar sentiments in this year's plan. He touted his first seven months in office and emphasized the passage of a \$45 billion capital infrastructure plan, legalized

recreational marijuana and sports gambling, and the passage of several pro-business reforms.

"For the first time in nearly two decades, we've seen simultaneous strong job growth in every region of the state," Pritzker wrote in the plan's executive summary. "Underlying my vision is the fundamental principle of equity. No matter their zip code, every Illinoisan deserves economic opportunity. Where in the past sustainable and inclusive economic development has been elusive, instead I am committed to reinvestigating the most important foundational element of Illinois' economy: our diverse and talented workforce."

The report, which serves as a loose guiding document rather than binding public policy, also listed challenges to overcome, including outmigration.

"Illinois has experienced a mild outbound migration of approximate-

ly 0.3 percent on average for the past five years," according to the report. "This trend is driven particularly by migration among young people, minorities, and rural populations."

The Illinois Board of Higher Education reported this year that 48 percent of Illinois public high school graduates who enrolled in a four-year institution in 2017 chose an out-of-state institution.

Pritzker's plan calls for a 50 percent funding increase for Monetary Award Program grants from 2011 levels by fiscal year 2023. Those grants go to college students who have a financial need and help them attend college in Illinois.

The report added: "New business creation in communities of color and a downstate revitalization effort undertaken since the beginning of 2011 are intended to reverse outmigration in communities that have historically suffered disinvestment."

# Willowbrook girls cross country team advances to sectionals

**Reckamp notches triple-double in girls volleyball triumph against West Chicago**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls cross country team is off to the sectional round.

The Warriors finished fifth at Saturday's Class 3A Glenbard West Regional and earned a team-qualifying spot in this Saturday's Class 3A Lake Park Sectional at the Lake Park east campus.

Willowbrook finished with 145 team points. Junior Melissa Martinez was the Warriors' first runner through the chute. She took 19th in the 3-mile race with a finishing time of 18 minutes, 55 seconds.

Senior Madeleine Wilkie (19:29) was 26th.

Freshman Amelia Barrington (19:53) placed 31st, while sophomore Madeleine Barrington (20:05) was 34th.

Senior Michelle Villalobos (20:06) finished 35th. Sophomore Lily Weder (20:25) was 42nd; junior Daylee Braden (20:35) claimed 45th place.

## Boys cross country

The Willowbrook boys cross country team placed eighth at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Glenbard West Regional at Camera Park in Glendale Heights.

The Warriors finished with 205 points and missed a team-qualifying spot in the sectional by three points. Glenbard North and Lake Park tied with 202 points; both of those teams advanced to the Lake Park Sectional.

The Warriors did qualify three individuals for this Saturday's Lake Park Sectional.

Junior Tyler King finished 29th in the 3-mile race with a time of 15:59. He earned one of the five individual sectional-qualifying berths. Senior Brandon Heselton took 35th with a time of 16:15. Junior Ben Cunneen (16:42) finished 42nd. Heselton and Cunneen will join King to compete in the sectional.

Junior Thomas Florey (17:17) finished 48th, while freshman Kevin Diederich (17:21) placed 51st. Sophomore Damian Rocha (17:23) placed 55th. Junior Nick Leo (17:30) took 57th.

## Girls volleyball

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team hit the 20-win barrier after a 25-16, 20-25, 25-18 non-conference win against West Chicago on Oct. 24.

Of note in this contest was the performance of junior Grace Reckamp, who recorded a rare volleyball statistical triple-double with 13 kills, 13 digs and 10 assists. She also had an ace and one block.

Freshman Natalie Cipriano added three kills for the Warriors. Sophomore Katie Linnig finished with 13 digs, 10 assists and one ace. Senior Payton Ceh totaled 20 digs, three kills, two assists and an ace. Senior Alondra Mendoza had four kills and one block. Junior Alejandra Lopez had eight digs and one ace, while sophomore Kyla Ostrowski had three kills, five aces and 12 digs. Junior



Stephanie Dasbach had six kills and one block.

The win pushed Willowbrook to 20-15 overall.

Willowbrook wrapped up West Suburban Conference Gold Division play with a 25-12, 25-16 victory over Leyden on Oct. 23.

The Warriors finished 3-3 in WSC Gold play.

Linnig had two aces, six digs and seven assists. Ceh recorded 17 digs and added six kills. Mendoza had four kills. Ostrowski had three kills, four aces and four digs. Reckamp had six digs, six assists and one kill, while Dasbach had four kills, two digs and one block.

Ceh was named to the all-tournament team at the recent Lincoln-Way Central Invite, where Willowbrook went 2-3 with wins against Oak Lawn and the Lincoln-Way Central JV team. Ceh finished the five matches with 49 digs, 19 kills, 13 setting assists and eight service aces.

Linnig collected 47 digs and 37 assists, while Reckamp had 35 digs, 28 kills and 23 assists. Linnig had a double-double against Oak Lawn (10 digs and 12 assists).

Willowbrook opened postseason play earlier this week against Hinsdale Central at the York Regional. The Warriors are the No. 10 seed in the Class 4A Glenbard West Sectional. Hinsdale Central is the sectional's No. 7 seed.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team closed out the regular season with last week's 25-16, 20-25, 25-18 victory over West Chicago in Villa Park. The Oct. 24 win over the visiting Wildcats gave the Warriors a final regular-season record of 20-15. Junior Grace Reckamp (No. 14-top left) provided 13 kills, 13 digs and 10 assists for the Warriors. The Warriors recognized their seniors before the contest. Pictured above left to right after the match are seniors Payton Ceh, Alondra Mendoza, Grace Placek and Laine Degnan. Willowbrook opened the IHSA Class 4A post-season with this week's match against Hinsdale Central at the York Regional.



(Above) Junior Tyler King (1173) of the Willowbrook boys cross country team heads toward the finish line during Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Glenbard West Regional at Camera Park in Glendale Heights. King finished the 3-mile race in a 29th-place time of 15 minutes, 59 seconds. He is pictured with Glenbard East seniors Aidan Ihms (1122), Nigel Neibel (1126) and Andrew Bylsma (1120). The Glenbard East team advanced to this week's Lake Park Sectional by placing fifth at the regional. Willowbrook tied for eighth in the standings and did not advance as a team. King and two of his teammates—senior Brandon Heselton and Junior Ben Cunneen—advanced to the sectional as individuals.

(Left): Junior Melissa Martinez (1158) of the Willowbrook girls cross country team ran her team's fastest time in Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Glenbard West Regional at Camera Park in Glendale Heights. Martinez finished the 3-mile race in a 19th-place time of 18 minutes, 55 seconds. She helped the Warriors to a fifth-place finish in the team standings. The Willowbrook team advanced to this Saturday's Lake Park Sectional.

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## Costume contest in Villa Park

Businesses in the Villa Avenue Business District welcomed trick-or-treaters on Saturday afternoon. A costume contest followed the trick-or-treating. The contest was supposed to take place at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park, but was moved to DeMito's Saloon because of inclement weather. The contest's first-place winner in the family division (pictured) was the Villa family of John and Melanie Borkowski. They are pictured with Brooke (age 4-Batgirl), Dylan (age 10-Robin), Shane (age 8-The Joker) and Lay-



la (age 3-Harley Quinn). Also pictured (left to right) are Villa Park Village Trustees Kevin Patrick and Christine Murphy, who served as two of the contest's judges.

## Vaping industry opposes flavored product ban

Conroy legislation scheduled for hearing Monday has stakeholder opposition

By Rebecca Anzel  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Vaping and other industry stakeholders opposing legislation banning flavored products said Oct. 24 the bill would have negative health and economic impacts.

Democratic Villa Park State Rep. Deb Conroy's Flavored Tobacco Ban Act would outlaw the sale or distribution of nicotine products with a "distinguishable taste or aroma."

It applies to cigarettes, cigars, hookahs, chewing tobacco, vape pods and other products. The bill was set for consideration when lawmakers returned to the statehouse Monday for the fall veto session.

Members of the Smoke Free Alternatives Coalition and vape business owners said during a news event at the Capitol that prohibition would "drive well over 100,000 Illinois adults back to smoking traditional cigarettes" and devastate their businesses.

"We are not big tobacco. We started this business to keep adult smokers off combustible cigarettes, and flavored e-liquid makes up 98 percent of our business because adult smokers prefer flavors," said Tim Teml, co-owner of That 1 Vape in Joliet. "Our biggest fear is that the temptation of easily-available cigarettes will drive them back to smoking without

flavored e-liquid options, not the loss of revenue."

When Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed a gambling expansion bill into law, it included language that enacted a 15 percent wholesale tax on e-cigarettes. It took effect July 1, and is the first time the state taxed the product. The revenue collected will be used to help fund a new capital infrastructure plan.

Also included in that law is a \$1 hike in the cigarette tax, to \$2.98 per pack. Josh Sharp, executive vice president of the Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association and Association of Convenience Stores, said the money Illinois collects from that tax increase is earmarked for the same improvement projects.

The Department of Public Health allocates other revenues collected from the tobacco usage tax toward a cessation program and Medicaid.

Banning flavored tobacco products, Sharp said, is a "tremendously bad deal financially" for the state.

He added this legislation is a product of lawmakers attempting to address the growing number of severe respiratory illnesses related to vaping.

"I don't really think it fixes the problem it's intended to solve," Sharp said. "If you want to fix vaping, fix the vaping issue."

According to the Department of Public Health, 153 people in Illinois have been sickened with lung injuries resulting from the inhalation of chemicals from vaping. Forty-one others are being examined to see if their illnesses are related. Two Illi-

nois residents have died.

Each of them reported using either an e-cigarette or other product such as THC. There are more than 50 products and devices linked to the state's cases, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control.

Teml said he does not think lawmakers are "educated" on this issue.

"I think it's our job, and that's exactly why we're here today. ... It's not that they're overreaching—it's that a lot of them just don't know what's going on," Teml said. "They don't know our industry."

The Smoke Free Alternatives Coalition made its plea to lawmakers the same day U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, a Democrat, called for an update from the Food and Drug Administration on its pending flavored e-cigarette product ban.

The administration issued a news release Sept. 11 about its plans to publish a compliance policy to "tackle the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use." It has not distributed an update since.

"Six weeks ago, FDA finally announced a ban on e-cigarette flavors, including mint and menthol—a move that I have called on the FDA to make for years," Durbin said in a news release. "It is past time for the FDA to put into effect what they announced weeks ago, and what they should have done years ago."

Conroy's House Bill 3883 was scheduled for a committee hearing Monday. Fifteen bipartisan lawmakers have signed on in support of the measure.

## Willowbrook students named as ILMEA All-District Musicians

Addison Trail High School recently hosted auditions for District 9 of the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA).

About 2,500 students, teachers and parents/guardians participated to audition for the ILMEA All-District Band, Orchestra, Chorus and Jazz. The students represented about 55 area high schools.

Below are the Willowbrook students who were named as ILMEA All-District Musicians.

**Senior Band:** Senior Collin Chuk, junior Kyle Haake, junior Connor Staunton, sophomore Daniela Trimmer.

**Senior Orchestra:** Senior Logan

Rattana.

**Senior Chorus:** Senior Emma Cismesia, sophomore Katie Corsini, junior Siobhan Heneghan, senior Vincenzo Ledonne II, junior Jenna Meola, senior Emily O'Brochta, junior Michael Poirier, junior Sean Shepherd, senior Emma Staunton, junior Anna Tymoszenko.

**Senior Jazz Band III:** Junior Connor Staunton.

The Senior Festival will take place Nov. 2 at East Aurora High School, the Junior Festival will take place on Nov. 9 at Huntley High School and the Jazz Festival will take place on Nov. 23 at Oswego High School.



# Willowbrook boys soccer team pulls off playoff upset

**Warriors defense up to task in win against Wheaton-Warrenville South**

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook boys soccer team was rewarded for its improved play during the second half of the season.

The Warriors were 2-1 upset winners in penalty kicks against Wheaton-Warrenville South in an Oct. 19 quarterfinal match at the IHSA Class

3A Lake Park Regional.

Willowbrook came into the game as the No. 18 seed out of 18 teams in the St. Charles East sectional.

Wheaton-South was the No. 14 seed.

Norman Deci had Willowbrook's only goal in regulation. The Warriors scored four goals during the penalty kick phase with Ruben Valle earning the game-winner for the Warriors. Isai Aparicio earned the win in goal for the Warriors.

"We came in as a major underdog," said Willowbrook coach Dan Riskind.

"We really worked hard defensively the last five or six games. The last few games we have been very tough defensively."

The two teams played to a scoreless tie at halftime. Riskind noted he changed the lineup from a 4-2-3-1 formation to a 3-5-2 with five midfielders and two forwards.

"We were in a desperate situation so we put in five midfielders and moved to two forwards," Riskind explained. "Dorian Mahone set up that goal and Norm put it in."

Riskind lauded the efforts of many in the win. "Isai played great in goal for us," he said. "Brian Fuentes and Kevin Kapica, our two center backs, shored everything up. Alex Kuban is a sophomore outside back who has really come on strong. Ruben played well and so did our two CDMs (central defensive midfielders), Kalep Martinez and Devin Gualipa."

Willowbrook's season then came to a close with a 3-0 loss to St. Charles East in the regional semifinals on Oct. 23. St. Charles-East was the No. 2 seed in the sectional and recently lost to York in a regional title game.

"We were tied 0-0 at half against St. Charles East," Riskind pointed out. "We had a chance to win it. We didn't have enough possession in the game to pull it off."

Willowbrook finished the season with a 7-13-1 record.

"We saw a lot of improvement," said Riskind. "In early October we got crushed by Glenbard West and after that we really focused on things defensively."

Riskind said the team played well in recent games against Hinsdale South (3-2 loss in overtime), plus wins

against Montini and Proviso East.

"We played West Chicago early in the season and they crushed us 8-0 and then we lost to them recently 4-1," Riskind said. "We started to put the results together and really made some progress. Beating Wheaton-Warrenville South was a good result for us."

Riskind noted this year's team was senior-heavy. "We have a lot of strong seniors on the team who are graduating," he said. "They are good leaders. We are going to need to replenish after they leave."

"Norm had 16 goals for us. Dorian is a great player. Devin Gualipa was one of our captains and was really

strong. He was a CDM player who held everything together. Brian Fuentes was a center back and another on our captains who calmed things down for us. We had a lot of good play. Franny Perez was an outside midfielder who has great skills. We will miss all of them."

Riskind noted Deci and Mah were nominated for all-West Suburban Conference Gold Division honors.

"We're looking forward to next season," Riskind said. "We had a lot of fun with this group. The kids worked hard. They were fun to coach. Our record might not have been great, but it was a rewarding season, for sure."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## 2 Willowbrook seniors named Commended Students in 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program

Pictured are Willowbrook seniors Grace Placek (left) and Emma Staunton, who have been named as Commended Students in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program, conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the U.S. are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of the approximately 1.6 million students who entered the 2020 competition by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

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## Obituaries

**Phillip L. Dvorak, 82**

Phillip L. Dvorak, of Lombard, formerly of Villa Park, passed away on Oct. 23, 2019, at the age of 82. Beloved husband of the late Louise. Loving father of Karen (Fred) Unverzagt, Michael (Maureen), Kristen (Bill) Unverzagt, Mark (Sherry) and Matthew (Linda) Dvorak. Cherished grandfather of Annie (Austin), Nora (Abraham), Eric, Mitchell (Elizabeth), Andy (Tammy), Katlyn, Allison, William, Bryan, Tori, Adam and Sarah. Great grandfather of Luke, Liam and Raidyn. Dearest son of the late Joseph and Lillian Dvorak. Interment to follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside. For information, call 1-630-832-4161.

**Deborah Lynn Hastings, 48**

Deborah Lynn Hastings, age 48, of St. Charles, IL, and formerly of

Villa Park (Wil-

lowbrook High School Class of 1988). After proudly working in various local Walgreens Pharmacies for 25 years, she retired to a grueling five-year battle with colon cancer, which ultimately took her life. She is survived by a loving son, Alex Juliano; her father, 1 Hastings; her brothers, Scot Hastings (Deb) of Phoenix, AZ, Steve Hastings (Laura) of Jacksonville, NC, uncles, aunts and many other friends/family. We cordially invite all family/friends to a "Celebration of Deb's Life" to be held Nov. 7, 7 p.m. at the Villa Park VFW Hall, E. St. Charles Road, Villa Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to favorite charities of your choice.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Collage concert at Willowbrook

Willowbrook High School's music department recently held a collage concert at the school's Dr. White Auditorium. The concert included performances from the school's guitar ensemble, beginning mixed chorus, symphony orchestra, concert and symphonic bands, treble choir, percussion ensemble, chamber orchestra, concert choir and wind ensemble. The photo shows members of the concert choir performing "Alleluia" by Jacob Narverud. The concert choir also sang "Paper Crane" by J. Reese No and "Ezekiel Saw the Wheel," arranged by Stacey Gibbs.