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Warriors keep winning



Senior Colton Gnadt (No. 74), Junior Sergio Ayala (No. 59) and senior John Peterson (No. 55) join their Willowbrook football teammates in celebrating Saturday's 33-24 win over Yorkville in a second-round IHSA Class 7A playoff game in Villa Park. The Warriors, who improved their overall season record to 10-1, will play a quarter-

final game at Lake Zurich this Saturday. Willowbrook has advanced to the quarterfinal round of the playoffs in each of the last four seasons. The Warriors lost in the quarterfinals in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

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Willowbrook presents 'Mamma Mia!' this week

Musical features ABBA hits; performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday

Willowbrook High School is presenting its fall musical—"Mamma Mia!"—this week in the school auditorium. Performances will take place tonight—Thursday, Nov. 14, Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16.

Each performance will begin at 7 p.m. The box office, located in the foyer of the auditorium, opens at 6 p.m. each evening. Seating is assigned.

The show is rated PG, and the running time is two hours with a 15-minute intermission.

Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students with an Activity Pass. Tickets are free with a District 88 Senior Gold Card.

Featuring hits from the Swedish pop group ABBA, "Mamma Mia!" tells the story of a young woman's search for her birth father.

The tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise.

"I hope the audience feels compelled to sing along and have a fun night out," said Willowbrook English teacher Regina Wathier, who is directing the musical. "It's just an entertaining story—and it's ABBA!"

Senior Pearl Hosman portrays Sophie—the young woman searching for her birth father. Senior Emma Cismesia plays Sophie's mother—Donna. Senior Vincenzo Ledonne II portrays Sam — Sophie's possible father — and Donna's main love interest.

The entire cast features about 40 students.



CHRIS FOX/D PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook High School presents its fall musical—"Mamma Mia!"—this Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the school auditorium. Each performance will begin at 7 p.m. The musical features the hits of ABBA. The cast of about 40 students includes senior Pearl Hosman (top row, far left) as Sophie and senior Emma Cismesia (top row, second from left) as Sophie's mother—Donna. Tickets are available at the box office in the foyer of the auditorium. The box office will open at 6 p.m. on the night of each performance.

Kiwanis Club annual spaghetti dinner Friday

The Kiwanis Club of Villa Park will hold its annual spaghetti dinner in the Willowbrook cafeteria from 5 to 6:45 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for teenagers and \$4 for children ages 6-12. Tickets may be purchased on the night of the dinner, which takes place just before Friday's presentation of "Mamma Mia!" Tickets for the musical are sold separately and

will be for sale in the school lobby. Proceeds from the Kiwanis Club's spaghetti dinner will go toward special projects to help families and children of the community. Friday's dinner will include a gift card raffle at 6 p.m.

Duckworth, Durbin announce over \$11 million in federal funding for firefighter resources in Chicago area

Villa Park, Oakbrook Terrace among communities receiving funds

U.S. Sens. Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin recently announced a total of over \$11.1 million in federal funding to communities in the Chicagoland area through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program.

The AFG program provides first-responder organizations access to much-needed emergency

response equipment, personal protective equipment, firefighting and emergency vehicles and training in an effort to create safer, more prepared communities.

"Firefighters risk their lives and run toward danger when others run away," Duckworth said. "We owe it to them to make sure they have the best equipment and training, and I'm proud to join Senator Durbin in announcing this funding to help ensure our firefighters have the

resources they need to keep their communities in the Chicagoland area safe."

"Our nation's firefighters are called-upon day after day to protect our communities and deserve to be equipped with the best training and tools possible to do their jobs," Durbin said.

"Senator Duckworth and I are proud to support these federal grant programs and will continue working to support our state's firefighters

and first responders."

Under this announcement, these departments and districts will receive the following amounts to strengthen fire prevention efforts:

- Bensenville Fire Protection District 2: \$50,590.90
- City of Elmhurst: \$62,636.36
- City of Oakbrook Terrace: \$127,809.52
- Village of Villa Park: \$29,090.90
- York Center Fire Protection District: \$180,970.47

Village's free leaf collection continues through the week of Dec. 2-5

Collection allows for disposal of leaves placed into paper bags

The Village of Villa Park's free leaf collection, which runs through the week of Dec. 2-5, also includes tree branches and bush trimmings.

This year's free fall leaf collection period in Villa Park began during the week of Oct. 21. While the leaf collection period runs through Dec. 5, the yard waste pickup normally runs through Nov. 30. The yard waste

pickup, however, may extend into December. Updates will be provided on the village's website—inwillapark.com—and on the village's social media accounts.

Residents are allowed to dispose of an unlimited number of paper bags of leaves without affixing yard waste disposal stickers during the current free leaf collection period.

The village reminds residents that leaves in garbage cans must have a prepaid yellow yard waste tag. The free leaf collection is only for leaves in paper yard waste bags.

Brush must be tied in bundles, no longer than 4 feet and no larger than 18 inches in diameter. No limbs over 4 inches in diameter will be accepted. Yard waste stickers are not required

for the disposal of brush bundles.

Yard waste is limited to what is generated at the residence being serviced. Refuse, recycling items, leaves and yard waste must be set out at the curb no later than 6 a.m. on collection day. A village ordinance allows items to be set at the curb after 7 p.m. on the evening before collection day.

SPORTS

Nov. 14, 2019 • 23

Warriors advance to quarterfinals with thrilling win over Yorkville

Program makes its fourth straight trip to the round of eight; Willowbrook riding 10-game winning streak into this week's game at Lake Zurich

By Chris Fox
VILLA PARK REVIEW STAFF REPORTER

The Willowbrook football program earned its fourth straight berth in the quarterfinal round of the IHSA playoffs with Saturday's 33-24 win over Yorkville in a Class 7A second-round battle in Villa Park.

The Warriors, whose season has ended in the quarterfinal round in each of the last three seasons, will travel to Lake Zurich for this weekend's quarterfinal clash. The opening kickoff will take place at 1 p.m.

The Warriors will enter the quarterfinals with a 10-game winning streak and an overall season record of 10-1. Lake Zurich has a record of 8-3. The Bears advanced to the round of eight with Saturday's 14-7 win over Hersey.

Willowbrook has won eight playoff games in the last four seasons. None of those victories were as narrow or exciting as Saturday's win over Yorkville, which finished the season with an 8-3 record. The Warriors led the Foxes 27-24 in the closing minutes of the game.

A late interception of a Yorkville pass helped Willowbrook hang onto its lead. The Warriors padded their margin of victory by scoring a touchdown on the game's final play.

"Our guys never hung their heads," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth after Saturday afternoon's win, which took place in clear and cool conditions. "They're tough

and they always keep battling. They continued to battle and found a way."

Senior Sam Tumilty led Willowbrook to the win with a tremendous performance on both offense and defense. The elusive quarterback threw two touchdown passes and ran for two scores. Tumilty's defensive contributions included the critical interception at his team's 4-yard line with 3:36 to play.

Senior Deandre Holliday, another of Willowbrook's two-way standouts, deflected the Yorkville pass that Tumilty hauled in for the interception.

"I just came down on the ball," said Holliday of the massive play. "Sam was right there. When I tipped it up he was there. It was just a great play by both of us."

"Deandre made a nice break on the ball," said Tumilty. "He made a deflection, and I saw it pop up and went to grab it."

Yorkville took a 7-0 lead after scoring on a 33-yard touchdown pass on its first offensive drive of the game. The Warriors tied the score at 7-7 midway through the second quarter. Tumilty and Holliday connected on three pass plays during Willowbrook's first scoring drive of the day.

Tumilty's 13-yard completion to Holliday on a third-and-seven play from the 14-yard line put the Warriors at the 1-yard line. Tumilty ran the ball into the end zone on the next play. Sophomore Izzy Manning

kicked the extra point to even the score at 7-7 with about seven minutes left in the second quarter.

The Warriors took a 14-7 lead after Tumilty and senior Alessio Battaglia connected on a 16-yard touchdown pass with 2:59 left in the first half. Manning converted the extra-point kick.

Yorkville tied the Warriors at the start of the second half. The Foxes opened the half by returning the kickoff 86 yards for a touchdown. The extra point leveled the score at 14-14 with 11:46 to play in the third quarter.

A long completion to Holliday put the Warriors in position for the go-ahead touchdown—a 1-yard burst by Tumilty on a fourth-and-goal play with 6:38 remaining in the third quarter. Manning added the extra-point kick to give the Warriors a 21-14 lead. Willowbrook maintained the lead for the rest of the game.

Both teams misfired on some key plays in the second half. Yorkville threw a pass on a fake punt play; the pass fell incomplete, giving the Warriors possession at midfield. A short time later, Willowbrook threw an incomplete pass on a fourth-and-one play. The Foxes took possession at their own 28-yard line.

In the closing seconds of the third quarter, Yorkville applied a heavy rush against the Warriors on a punt play. Willowbrook couldn't get the punt airborne, and Yorkville took over at the Warriors' 25-yard line. Moments later, after the start of the fourth quarter, Yorkville kicked a 36-yard field goal to cut Willowbrook's lead to 21-17 with 11:49 to play.

The Warriors needed a little more than one minute to respond. Tumilty heaved a 79-yard touchdown pass to senior Everett Stubblefield on a third-and-five play with 10:38 left in the game. Stubblefield caught the long pass and raced down the sideline as his teammates and coaches cheered him on.

Willowbrook missed the extra-point kick after Stubblefield's touchdown, leaving the Warriors' lead at 27-17.

The Foxes cut into Willowbrook's lead by producing a 58-yard drive that ended with a 5-yard touchdown run with 6:52 to play. The conversion kick trimmed the Warriors' lead to



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review

Willowbrook's football team advanced to the IHSA Class 7A quarterfinals following Saturday's 33-24 second-round playoff win over Yorkville in Villa Park. Senior quarterback Sam Tumilty (No. 6-above) threw two touchdown passes and ran for a pair of touchdowns. He also made a critical interception on defense with less than four minutes to play. Senior Deandre Holliday (also pictured bottom left) is shown while making a reception during Willowbrook's first touchdown drive of the game. Like Tumilty, Holliday plays both offense and defense for the Warriors. Holliday deflected the Yorkville pass that Tumilty intercepted late in the fourth quarter. One more photo (below) shows Willowbrook head coach Nick Hildreth speaking to the team after Saturday's victory. "You guys bounced back; we responded against a very good football team," said Hildreth to the Warriors in his post-game comments.



See WARRIORS, Page 24

Moran thrilled with finish to cross country season

Addison Trail junior breaks school record at Class 3A state meet

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

It took Addison Trail junior Dylan Moran a bit to collect his thoughts when told he had qualified for the

Class 3A boys state cross country meet.

"I was more surprised than excited," he said. "It took me a little bit." Moran said the prospect of making it to Peoria and Detweiller Park this past weekend wasn't on the proverbial whiteboard until recently.

"My main goal wasn't to make the state meet until about a week before

when the coaches started talking about it," he said. "When I did it, I was surprised I was able to make it. My biggest goal was to break the school record at the sectional. With how the course was that day, I was not able to do it. Making state gave me another race and another opportunity to break the record."

Moran was able to achieve his goal

and then some at the Class 3A state meet in Peoria where he ran 15:39.20 for three miles, and took 136th place. He averaged 5:13 per mile.

The school record for three miles was 15:52 and had stood since 2013, Moran noted. According to IHSA records, in the history of the school, Addison Trail has had two state meet medalists in John Schafer (10th place in 1966) and Dave Dickow (11th place in 1968).

Moran ran 16:04.3 at the sectional at Lake Park's East Campus. He initially did not make the state-qualifying cut due to the influx of court-ordered Chicago Public League runners into the sectional round of the postseason coming on the heels of the CPS teachers' strike (Because of the strike, those runners had not participated in the regional round and the IHSA had initially ruled them ineligible for the remainder of the postseason once the strike concluded.)

The IHSA later ruled a handful of individual runners (including Moran) and one team that would have originally qualified, now were able to run in the state meet.

"At the sectional, the previous weather issues made it slippery and muddy, especially with the girls having run the course before us," he explained.

In terms of improvement, Moran said he has made some adjustments to his mental game. "I think my mental habits have changed," he said. "I used to have anxiety before races. I

understand running more now and am doing my best to get even better."

Moran has an interesting way of describing how he came to like running. "I am physically better at running cross country than any sport based on aerobics and endurance," he said. "It's easier to run than playing basketball or soccer. I used to play soccer and I would like to take the actual ball out of it and run. It has seemed to work well for me."

Moran, who also runs distance events for Addison Trail's track and field team, would like to run at next level and is thinking about using a physical therapy major.

"I figure I have learned a bit about the body through running. I have been able to help my friend and myself with physical problems. Why not make it my job and make it what I study in college?" he said. "One of my friends started having shin splints. Because I had splints before, I was able to go to him on how he could run and of recovery after each session, make it better while still running it during the track season."

One could call Moran a student runner.

"I like to watch a lot of run videos," he said. "I like to run about running and try to understand it as best as possible," he said. "I have a lot of motivation to learn improve."

Willowbrook away at college report

Haake an immediate contributor to Purdue women's swim team; Fox swimming at Monmouth College

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Former Addison Trail-Willowbrook girls swimming standout Elissa Haake is making an impact during her freshman season with the Purdue University women's team.



Elissa Haake

Haake is a 2019 Willowbrook graduate and Lombard resident who qualified for four straight IHSA state meets and was a seven-time West Suburban Conference Gold Division champion. She helped Purdue claim the team title at the Indiana Intercollegiate meet on Oct. 21. Purdue piled up 802 team points in the event at its home venue in West Lafayette, Indiana. The BoilerMakers outscored nine other teams from Indiana schools.

Haake finished third in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1 minute, 53.63 seconds. She also placed fourth in the 100-yard freestyle, which she completed in 52.84 seconds.

In an Oct. 25 home meet against Notre Dame, Haake finished fifth in the 200-yard freestyle, which she swam in 1:52.96.

Haake, who had three career top 10 finishes at the IHSA state meet while at Willowbrook, is studying actuarial science at Purdue. **Fox at Monmouth:** Another former AT-Willowbrook girls swimmer carrying on at the collegiate level is 2019 Willowbrook graduate Kaitlyn Fox, who is a freshman on the Monmouth (Illinois) College women's team.

In an Oct. 19 triangular meet against Knox College and North Central, Fox finished second in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:22.76, and took second in the 500-yard freestyle, which she finished in 6:27.36.

Fox also was eighth in the 50-yard freestyle, which she finished in 30.21 seconds.

Additionally, Fox was part of the Monmouth mixed 200-yard freestyle relay team that placed fourth. Fox's efforts helped Monmouth's women sweep the meet.

At the recent Halloween Invitational, hosted by Illinois Wesleyan University on Oct. 26, Fox placed fifth in the 100-yard freestyle (1:05.88). She took eighth in the 200-yard freestyle in 2:19.99, and was part of Monmouth's 200-yard freestyle relay team.

Halloran at St. Olaf: Willowbrook product John Halloran is a junior offensive lineman on the St.

Olaf (Northfield, Minnesota) College football team.

Halloran, who graduated from Willowbrook in 2015, has played in two games this season after playing in seven contests last year in an offense that posted its highest points-per-game mark (23.4) since the 2012 season and most rushing yards in a season since 2011.

Halloran was the 2016 West Suburban Conference Gold Division lineman of the year in 2016 and was the Warriors' offensive MVP, in addition to being named academic all-star.

He is an economic major at St. Olaf with a concentration in statistics.

Taylor at Carroll College: John Taylor, a 2018 Willowbrook graduate, is a member of the Carroll College (Waukesha, Wisconsin) football team.

Now a sophomore quarterback, Taylor has appeared in one game this season. He completed three of five passes for 62 yards and ran the ball seven times for 23 yards and one touchdown in an Oct. 26 victory at North Park University.

Chris Fox contributed to this report.

Away at College wants your help: Send information and/or statistics on Willowbrook graduates and Villa Park residents playing collegiately to Mike Miazga at mjm890@gmail.com.

Full sports submissions are encouraged.

Willowbrook football playoff preview Willowbrook (10-1) at Lake Zurich (8-3)

What: Quarterfinals of the Class 7A state football playoffs

When: Saturday, 1 p.m.

Where: Lake Zurich High School, Lake Zurich

Seeds: Willowbrook is the No. 5 seed in the 32-team Class 7A bracket. Lake Zurich is the No. 20 seed.

Last week: Willowbrook defeated Yorkville 33-24, Lake Zurich defeated Hersey 14-7.

Outlook: Will the fourth time be the charm? Willowbrook is in the state quarterfinals for the fourth year in a row, an extremely impressive feat for any high school football program. The Warriors now look to take the next step forward and get to next weekend's state semifinals after losses in the previous three quarterfinal contests.

Willowbrook encounters a Lake Zurich team that beat No. 4 seed Hersey at home in Saturday's second-round game. Lake Zurich, who won its playoff opener on the road 14-7 at Andrew, plays out of the North Suburban Conference, where it finished second with a 6-1 record.

The Bears' three losses have come to Palatine Fremd, Chicago Marian and NSC champion Geneva Warren, all with winning records. Mount (7-4) and Warren (11-0) are both in the Class 8A state quarterfinals this weekend, while Fremd lost in the second round to Warren in 8A. Lake Zurich has held its last four opponents to a total of 21 points.

No team has scored more than 24 points on the Bears this season, while Willowbrook hasn't scored fewer than 32 points since the second week of the season. The Warriors have scored 383 points in 11 games. Yorkville's 24 points against Willowbrook were the most the Warriors have given up this season.

Up next: The winner of this game heads to the Class 7A state semifinals next weekend against No. 1 seed Chicago Mount Carmel (11-0) or No. 8 seed Chicago Phillips (9-1).

If Willowbrook wins Saturday, it will host the state semifinal game. The other upcoming quarterfinal games in the Class 7A playoffs include a matchup between No. 2 seed Nazareth Academy and Batavia, the No. 7 seed Batavia beat Willowbrook in overtime in last year's quarterfinals. The winner of the Nazareth-Batavia battle will face the winner of the game between No. 3 seed Rolling Meadows and Wheaton Warrenville South, the No. 22 seed.

Warriors (Continued from page 23)

27-24.

The Warriors faced a fourth-and-one play from their own 29-line on their subsequent drive. Willowbrook lined up to punt the ball, but instead tried a pass on a fake punt play. The pass was incomplete, and the Foxes took over at the Warrior's 29-yard line with 5:17 to play.

Yorkville was in range for a game-tying field goal when it tried a pass on a third-and-13 play from Willowbrook's 21-yard line. Holliday made the deflection of the pass. The ball sailed straight up into the air and came down into Tumilty's hands. The interception gave the Warriors the ball at their own 4-yard line with less than four minutes to play.

Tumilty raced 17 yards on the Warriors' first play of their subsequent offensive series. Senior Ta'Vion Geanes then contributed a pair of big rushing plays, both of which gave Willowbrook a first down. The Warriors advanced the

ball to midfield and drained the clock.

Yorkville called its final timeout with the Warriors facing a third-and-long situation with 1:18 to play. Willowbrook ran the ball after the timeout, and the clock wound down to less than 30 seconds to play before the Warriors punted the ball. Yorkville took over near its own 30-yard line with just 17.4 seconds left. After two incompletions, the Foxes made a short completion to set up a fourth-down play with just 4.5 seconds to play.

Yorkville completed a pass on the final play; the Foxes tried a few desperation laterals on the last play. One of those laterals hit the turf, and Willowbrook junior Haven Pryor picked up the loose ball and ran 25 yards into the end zone to end the game and push his team's winning margin to nine points.

"We came out with a lot of intensity," said Tumilty. "We banded but we never broke. We stuck

through it the whole time. There was some adversity but we fought well. That's our mentality. We keep trusting and keep grinding it out."

The Warriors lost in the quarterfinal round of the Class 7A playoffs in 2016 and 2018. The lost in the Class 6A quarterfinals in 2017. Could this be the year that Willowbrook breaks through and advances to the semifinal round?

"I feel like this is a different team," said Holliday, who's in his third season with the varsity team. "We want it a lot. We've got to get past the quarterfinals. I think this is the team to do it. We'll always play for one another."

The Warriors suffered their only loss of 2019 during their season opener against Providence Catholic. The visiting Celtics beat Willowbrook 14-7 in Villa Park on Aug. 30. Providence Catholic has advanced to the Class 6A quarterfinals. The Celtics (8-3) will face undefeated Glenwood this weekend.

A young man of many interests

Fenton's Palumbo enjoys riches on cross country course this fall

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Fenton senior Jimmy Palumbo has no trouble keeping himself busy throughout the year.

Palumbo was part of the Fenton boys cross country team this season and ran in the Class 2A state meet in Peoria this past weekend along with teammate Sam Elizondo. Palumbo finished 161st in the 2A meet, running 16:47.99 for three miles. Elizondo finished 76th at 16:07.80.

Palumbo also is captain of the Fenton chess team. When asked if he was any good at chess, Palumbo responded: "I'd say so. In terms of high school and the IHSA, I'm probably in the top 50. I've been playing since the eighth grade."

He also bowls for the Fenton boys bowling team where he also is a team captain.

"I started bowling in eighth grade," Palumbo said. "When we moved into our new house, there was an alley close by (Wood Dale Bowl). That's how I picked it up. It was something I liked and ended up making a lot of trips to the bowling alley."

Palumbo said he averages around a 190 in bowling and hopes to make the state meet.

But there's more. He's also pinning to write a novel. "It's a work in progress because I'm busy with high school," he said with a laugh. "There are a lot of moving pieces with it. It's kind of in the realm of fantasy. The book is its own world, but is fantasy related."

Writing isn't anything new to Palumbo.

"I have written a lot of short stories and a lot of more casual stuff," said Palumbo, who enjoys listening to 1990s rap music. "I'm kind of laidback, I guess."

Palumbo just completed his first full cross country season. He ran last year, but competed in three of 11

meets due to injury.

"This year was real big," he said. "I improved my base and I got used to the volume of running. That helped me improve as a cross country runner. I had a good track season in the spring. I was the team's top miler. And then I had a pretty good summer training with the cross country team. That was fun and it prepared me well."

Palumbo is glad he listened to friends' advice freshman year.

"I had never really run before and didn't have a lot of training," he said. "My friends encouraged me to do it and to tap into that talent. I accepted the message. I enjoy it. When I'm around something I enjoy a lot and am interested in something, I will naturally elevate and put in the hard work."

Palumbo did not originally qualify for the state meet out of the Class 2A Fenton sectional that was run on the Bison's home course at the school due to the situation with the influx of runners from the Chicago Public League after the CPS teacher's strike ended.

A judge ruled CPS runners could compete in the sectional despite not running at the regional level due to the strike. The IHSA later ruled that a handful of individual runners (including Palumbo) and one boys team that would have qualified under normal circumstances, were eligible to compete in Peoria.

"I was pretty excited about it," he said earlier this week. "It definitely was a nice surprise. At the sectionals I knew our course and what to anticipate. It was an incredibly difficult course this time because we were racing in the mud. All in all, you can't let yourself get beat by the elements. I knew the course and knew what to expect and was better prepared."

Palumbo ran 17:20 at the sectional and his low time this year was 17:06.

"This season has been a lot of fun," he said. "I didn't think I would enjoy cross country as much as I have. It's been an exciting experience and, all in all, has been a good year."

Sanfillippo makes history this season

Becomes first Addison Trail girls cross country runner to qualify for state meet

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail junior Victoria Sanfillippo put herself in elite company this season.

Sanfillippo became the first runner in the history of the school's girls cross country program to qualify for the state meet. Sanfillippo ran in the Class 3A meet at Peoria at DeWetter Park this past weekend where she finished 106th with a new personal-record time of 18:20:83 for three miles. She just missed the school record of 18:18, which she stood for 12 years.

"It feels really good to be the first one, especially after all the work I have put in for this," she said earlier last week.

Sanfillippo's state qualification path was no walk in the park. She had to endure less-than-ideal course conditions at the Class 3A Lake Park sectional where she finished 12th overall with a then personal-record time of 18:39.

"The course was pretty tough with all the mud and the puddles," she said. "I stayed focused on the race, tried to keep pace and pace people. I was able to keep pace pretty well considering the circumstances on the course were not great."

Sanfillippo said she had an inkling Peoria could be in her future toward the end of the sectional race.

"I started to get the feeling that maybe I would make it about the last 800 meters of the race," she said. "There was a lot of yelling at the girls' booth and that's when I realized I was farther up. That motivated me to pick it up."

"I also noticed a lot of the girls in front of me were on teams that were definitely going to qualify for state (which was a good sign for individual qualification). It was weird in a way. It all happened

really fast. I was happy because my friends, coaches and family were there."

Sanfillippo said her improvement this year boiled down to one key factor. "I feel I basically tried to push myself every this year," she said.

She also had a tad of a change in race strategy. "This year, I tried to stay at a consistent pace," she said. "Last year, I went out really fast and that could affect me in the race later because I was losing more energy. The way I am doing things now, I had more energy for the kick at the end."

Sanfillippo started running in sixth grade. "I joined because a friend was doing it and she said I should do it, too," she recalled. "I didn't notice how much I enjoyed running until I joined cross country in sixth grade. Back then, my coaches and my family noticed I was pretty decent at it."

Sanfillippo said running has two components to it that she greatly enjoys.

"I like how it brings me together with so many amazing people," she said. "I also like how I am able to use the running part of cross country to get out my emotions. Running is very therapeutic. If my mood is sad or happy, running helps me out. It helps me with my emotions."

Sanfillippo, who also runs track for Addison Trail, plays the violin in the school orchestra (she's played since sixth grade) and enjoys reading in her spare time.

"I will read basically any book except history and science," she said. "I like mystery books. I'm interested in any book that has an intricate storyline."

For Sanfillippo, this year's cross country season goes against her literary odds.

She made history.

Jaramillo, Madej earn all-conference honors for Fenton boys soccer team

Bison reach Class 2A regional title game

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

A pair of Fenton boys soccer players were rewarded for their fine play on the field this season.

Team captains Konrad Madej and Ivan Jaramillo were named to the all-Upstate Eight Conference team.

This was Fenton's first year in the UEC where it went 3-5-1 overall and finished in eighth place in the 10-team loop.

"Konrad and Ivan, they both really pushed the boys to work hard and work together," Fenton coach Victor Ruiz said.

Jaramillo led the team with 22 goals to go with 14 assists. He also earned an all-area selection.

Madej was second on the squad with seven goals and also tallied two assists.

Fenton finished the season with an 11-11-2 overall mark and reached the championship game of the Class 2A Glenbard South regional. Fenton, which defeated Glenbard South 2-1 in the opening round of the playoffs, also won its bracket of the prestigious Pepsico Showdown tournament this season.

"The boys became champions," said Ruiz.

Ruiz saw his team take key leaps toward the end of the season. "At the end of the season defensive work and scoring were our strengths," he said.

"The team improved in all areas of the field. Our team chemistry improved as well."

That chemistry is what Ruiz liked the most about the squad. "They all got along and helped and picked each other up on the field," he said.

Ruiz said the team was bolstered by many more players beyond Jaramillo and Madej, with individuals such as Chris Hernandez, Ethan Rojas, Alex Lamb and Josh Rutkowski making key contributions throughout the campaign.

Ruiz also had strong praise for goalkeepers Daniel Villanueva (23 saves) and Victor Carmona (37 saves, 1.50 goals-against average, 3 shutouts).

"Daniel and Victor split time in net and both did very well," he said.

Valentin Motta De Castro, Denilson Garcia and Melvin Salas each added three goals for Fenton, while Hernandez had two goals and four assists.

In terms of the future, Ruiz labeled it as quite bright. "I am excited for next year," he said.

"We have a good core returning and they all are hungry to continue their success."

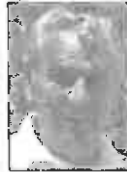
Ruiz added having a year of UEC experience under the belt will also come in handy.

"Now knowing how the competition is in the Upstate Eight, we will prepare for it and set a goal to finish in the top three," he noted.

The Don of A New Day in Sports

One of the most exciting and enjoyable shows I ever did was when Ron Modas and I organized Bobby Hull Day in Addison. Bobby Hull is a Canadian former ice hockey player who played from 1957-80 and is regarded as one of the greatest players of all time.

His legendary skating speed, end-to-end rushes, and ability to shoot the puck at very high velocity together earned him the name, "The Golden Jet." Signed by the Blackhawks in 1957 at the age of 18, Hull began his NHL career, however. In his first two seasons, though he appeared



DON FIGARELLI
COLUMNIST

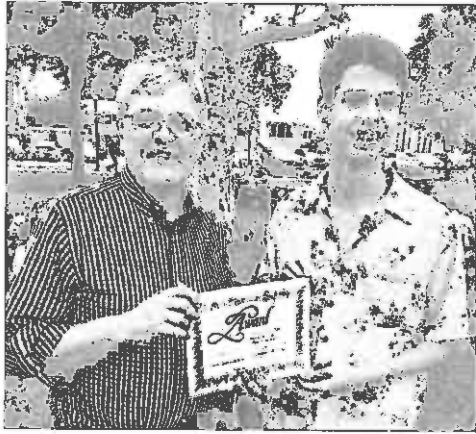
in 70 games each season, he only scored a total of 31 goals. In 2017, he was named one of the "100 Greatest NHL Players" in history.

The list was created by the NHL on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

The Village of Addison renamed Byron Avenue "Bobby Hull Lane" because he lived on Byron for about 10 years.

After the ceremony, Bobby signed autographs for well over 200 people at the Pyramid Pizza and Sports Bar on Lake Street. He would not leave until every fan got a autograph.

Trivia questions to win a t-shirt.
What was Bobby Hull's number?
What was Stan Mikita's number?
Call Don at 630-530-7061.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

ATHS grad receives ACA scholarship

Elmhurst College student Kristopher Kusnierz is pictured here receiving a \$1500 scholarship certificate from Mark Turk, president of the Addison Center for the Arts (ACA). The scholarship is presented annually to an Addison Trail graduate who will study the arts in college. While at ATHS, Kristopher was an exemplary high school student and an Eagle Scout. With his leadership, he will inspire future generations of children to enjoy and create music.

Addison Trail recognizes AT's Best

On Oct. 22, a group of Addison Trail students was named as AT's Best.

The AT's Best award honors students who have achieved a "personal best." The following categories have been used to recognize recipients:

service, Blazer Pride, cooperation, dependability, initiative, leadership, humanitarian spirit or unique contributions.

Students receive a pin or a T-shirt for their efforts and are honored during a breakfast.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail reading teacher Daniela Ariano nominated sophomore Mateo Gomez as one of AT's Best. A breakfast was held to honor Mateo and the other AT's Best nominees.

Community calendar

Thursday, Nov. 7

- **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 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 or call 630-458-3320.

- **Friday, Nov. 8**
- **Baby and toddler playstations 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 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 for information. Info: 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-5. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Monday, Nov. 11**
- **Thursday, Nov. 14**
- **Creative studio pop-up; Gaming Week (for teens) at the Library**

From 3:15-4:30 p.m. each day at the Addison Public Library, all the latest tools from our maker space will pop-up in the large meeting room after school for you to tinker, experiment and create. We'll design our own board games, computer games, and gaming pieces. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Tuesday, Nov. 12**
- **Fantastic Forces at the Library**

From 4-5 p.m. at the Addison Public Library for Grades K-5, learn about gravity with some fantastically fun experiments. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Fall-themed paint-along for adults at the Library**

From 6-8 p.m. at the Creative Studio of the Addison Public Library, paint a soothing fall landscape with

the guidance of an experienced artist. No experience necessary. Please bring a smock or apron. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Book Bunch book discussion at the Library**

From 7-8 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, we'll discuss "This is How it Always Is," by Laurie Frankel. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 13**
- **SCORE roundtable: Marketing strategies for expanding the market at the Library**

From 6:30-8 p.m. at the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, SCORE is a network of mentors and consultants who offer education workshops on a wide range of topics. Learn how to define your target market, understand your customers' buying habits, build your competitive advantage, develop an effective marketing strategy, and more in this discussion facilitated by SCORE mentors. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Thursday, Nov. 14**
- **Chair Yoga at the Library**

From 1-2 p.m. at the Large Meeting Room of the Addison Public Library, a certified yoga instructor will guide you through one of the gentlest forms of yoga, emphasizing breath awareness and relaxation. No prior yoga experience is necessary to participate in this class. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Understanding trusts, wills and power of attorney at the Library**

From 7-8:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, you may have heard the terms "will," "trust," and "powers of attorney," but do you understand the appropriate uses for each document? Pankau Law attorneys will explain and lead a discussion to better understand the terms and provisions of these legal documents. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Friday, Nov. 15**
- **ARTventures at the Library**

From 10-10:45 a.m. at the Addison Public Library, stop by for an art-based story time full of stories, creativity, and fun. For ages 18 months-5 years with caregiver. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Free lunch for students on early dismissal at the Library**

District 4 lets out early, so students are welcome to come by the library from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. for lunch and stick around for games and crafts. Thank you to the Northern Illinois Food Bank for providing meals to our students.

Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Saturday, Nov. 16**
- **Sunday, Nov. 17**
- **Giving crafts at the Library**

From 2-4 p.m. both days at the Addison Public Library, stop by and create a project that will be donated to a local organization. All ages are welcome. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Sunday, Nov. 17**
- **Excel: Pivot tables at the library**

From 3-4 p.m. at the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, learn about pivot tables using Microsoft Excel. We will go over how to make a pivot table and what that can be used to do. Basic Excel skills are required. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

- **Ongoing events**
- **Freestyle Fridays**

On Fridays Nov. 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 or call 630-458-3338.

- **Toddler storytime at the Library**

For ages 2-3 years old with a caregiver at the Addison Public Library from 10-10:30 a.m. every Monday through Nov. 18. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Creative Corner at the Library**

For all ages from 10:45-11:15 a.m. at the Addison Public Library every Monday through Nov. 18, a Polish-English storytime includes books, rhymes, songs and crafts. Everyone is welcome; you do not need to speak Polish to attend. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Homework help at the Library**

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Addison Public Library through Dec. 19, get help in any subject from teachers, librarians, and college volunteers. Grades K-12. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Family story time at the Library**

All ages and caregivers are welcome from 10-10:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library every Wednesday from Nov. 6-20. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **Playing Preschool at the Library**

For ages 3-5 from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the Addison Public Library every Monday through Nov. 18, a class for preschoolers that will introduce your child to school activities. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

- **¡Hola! at the Library**

Join us at the Addison Public Library from 10:30-11 a.m. each Thursday from Nov. 7 through Nov. 21 for our Spanish/English story time. Have fun listening to your favorite stories and enjoy some activities in Spanish. All ages welcome; knowledge of Spanish is not required. ¡Nos vemos pronto! Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

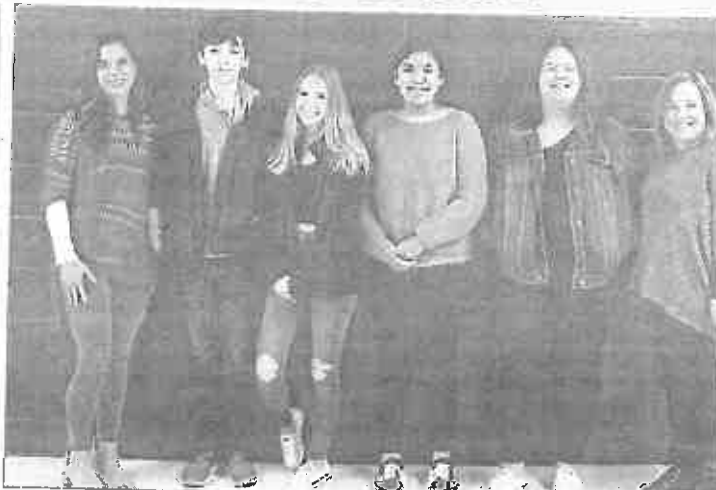
- **Birth to 3 Jamboree at the Library**

From 11:15-11:45 a.m. at the Addison Public Library each Thursday from Nov. 7 through Nov. 21, join us for a story time for babies and toddlers that will include stories, songs, and activities.

Addison Trail's Best

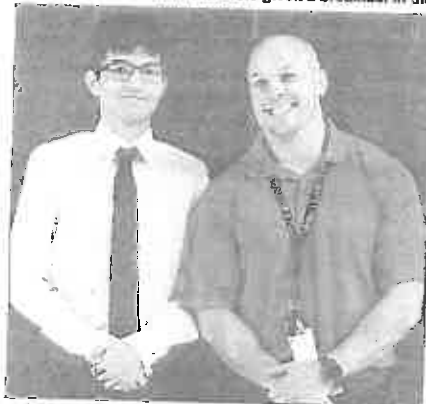


Among those named AT's Best were (back row, from left): senior Teagan Whitaker, AT theatre director Anna McSweeney, sophomore Antonio Bruno, sophomore Erza Ciaccia; (front row): junior Elizabeth Bernar and sophomore Ruben Ramirez. (Not pictured: junior Kelly Barzykowska.) The students were given a breakfast in their honor.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley

Pictured here at the 'AT's Best' breakfast are (from left): AT social studies teacher Christina T. Diego De La Rosa, Megan Sowa, Leilani Nevado, Angela Power and AT English teacher Hannah E. (Not pictured: Alexander George, Sean Mackey.) All students are freshmen.



Addison Trail senior Marcos Puebla is joined by AT special education teacher Anthony Gebhart, who nominated Marcos as AT's Best. Marcos and the other nominees were honored for having achieved a "personal best."



Addison Trail Orchestra Director Alex Stombres is flanked by seniors Ernesto Garcia Rodriguez and Monika Poniatowski, whom he nominated for the AT's Best recognition. AT's Best nominees are those who have achieved a personal best.



AT social studies teacher Christina Trapani (left) is pictured here with senior Emily Diaz and junior T. Maghett Jr., whom she nominated to be among AT's



Pictured here at a breakfast held in honor of AT's Best are (from left): AT science teacher Laura Garcia, Maddie Muccianti, Arjella Campos, Ruby Noriega and AT special education teacher Anna Grice. (Not pictured: Jimmy Hernandez, Evelyn Giannopoulos.) All students are freshmen.



Pictured here at the breakfast for AT's Best are nominees (back row, from left): Lilliana Padlo, Phillip Sitkowski, Miabella DiGrazia, Victor Graciano; (front row): Anna Penn, Constantinos Rodriguez, Sofia Angiulo and Anna Olsen. All are freshmen.

SPORTS

Nov. 7, 2019 • 21

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, adided the conversion kick after Tumilty's long run to push the lead to 14-0.

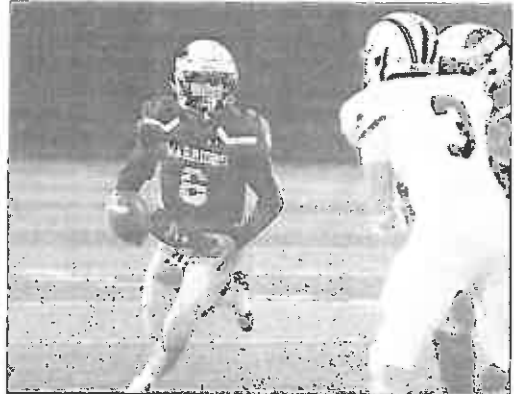
Moline scored its first touchdown on an 85-yard pass in the second quarter; the extra-point kick cut the Warriors' lead to 14-7. Tumilty helped the Warriors regain the momentum by breaking his second 55-yard touchdown run of the night.

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 muddle 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 Bruschuk 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



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 m 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

ed 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, 4.1 onds in the 3-mile race. Junior Mi Martinez (20:06.3) and senior I eleine Wilkie (20:07.06) finished 62nd, respectively.

Sophomore Madeline Barr (20:25.5; 71st) and senior Mic Villalobos (20:45.3; 83rd) delivered Warriors' fourth- and fifth-best in the sectional. Sophomore Lily W (21:19.2; 99th) and junior Dylee den (21:43.7; 110th) completed lowbrook's sectional lineup.

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

Addison Trail boys cross country

Addison Trail junior Dylan M took 36th at the Class 3A Lake sectional in Roselle. Moran co the East Campus course in 16:04.1, averaged 5:22 per mile.

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

Chris Fox contributed to this re

The second chapter

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

By Mike Miazza
CORRESPONDENT

During home football games last fall, Willowbrook senior Brian Dilger heard a loud voice wailing 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 8-2 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 and 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 when 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 38-8 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 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 Miazza
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 25-3 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 Miazza
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 Detweiler 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 Czuderna was 81st with a time of 23:43.4, while junior Audrey Benitez was 84th in 24:04.

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