

# Suburban Life

## MVA – MALE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**NATE SHOCKEY**

YORK  
Senior | Basketball

### Why Shockey was selected:

Shockey scored 26 points, including a tying 3-pointer at the end of regulation, in York's 51-41 overtime win over Lyons.

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

**Welge:** What happened on the shot to force overtime?

**Shockey:** Coach drew up a play to get me open coming off a screen. I knew once I got that play I was going to make that shot or make a play to get that shot. I'm glad I got an open look.

**Welge:** You guys were down late in that game. Do you feel somewhat fortunate to get the win?

**Shockey:** We definitely were struggling offensively. But so far this season our defense is something we've been priding ourselves on. We knew we had that going for us. We turned defense into offense and everybody got rolling in the fourth quarter and overtime.

**Welge:** How has the dynamic been different this year, graduating so many key guys off a 29-win team?

**Shockey:** It's been a lot different. I've had to take a different leadership role, which I feel I've embraced. It's a nice challenge to lead this young group of guys. A lot of people are counting us out, but we have a lot of talented guys. We are shocking a lot of people, but it's not a shock to us. We know we can hang with anybody.

**Welge:** How did your commitment to North Dakota come together?

**Shockey:** They saw me play in one of the summer league shootouts at Ridgewood. They liked how I played, and they offered me after a big game. They showed a lot of love, showed they like me through the ups and downs.

## MVA – FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**MEGHAN STAPLETON**

DOWNERS GROVE SOUTH  
Junior | Basketball

### Why Stapleton was selected:

Stapleton scored a career-high 34 points to lead Downers Grove South past Leyden.

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

**Welge:** What was your previous career high?

**Stapleton:** I had 24 in a game last year.

**Welge:** How did this game come together?

**Stapleton:** I had five 3-pointers – most of it was toward the end of the game. I got fouled a lot and had a lot of free throws in there, too.

**Welge:** Did you realize how many points you had?

**Stapleton:** It was funny, at the very end of the game, when I had 32, my teammate Lily Ross high-fived me and said 'make it 34' and she was

laughing. I didn't realize what I had at the time.

**Welge:** How is the start to the season going in general?

**Stapleton:** We've been getting a lot better. We went 1-3 at the York Tournament and played some pretty good teams, but we've been getting better. We've worked really hard on taking care of the ball more and figuring out how to work together and build team chemistry.

**Welge:** Outside of basketball, what do you like to do?

**Stapleton:** I like being outside. Me and my family go camping a lot. We've gone to a lot of national parks. A couple years ago we made a road trip. We've been to Yosemite, Zion, Rocky Mountain, Mesa Verde, the Joshua Tree.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Isaac Gaines, Willowbrook ride fast start past Metea Valley

By KEVIN SCHMIT  
Daily Herald Media Group

VILLA PARK – Playing fast doesn't necessarily mean playing clean.

As the boys basketball season progresses, though, Willowbrook aims for both.

On Dec. 10, the Warriors settled for one of the two – playing fast – in a 71-59 nonconference victory over Metea Valley in Villa Park.

"We like to play fast, get steals and get out and run," said Warriors guard Isaac Gaines, who scored eight of his 13 points in the first quarter. "We've been trying to figure each other out early in the season, but I feel like we're starting to get some chemistry together."

For now, Willowbrook (4-2) will accept 15 turnovers if it comes with 25 forced turnovers by Metea Valley (3-5). Thirteen in the first half allowed the Warriors to build a double-digit lead.

Once the Mustangs started taking better care of the ball in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter, they made a run. Three times they pulled to within six points, but a 13-2 Willowbrook burst put the outcome to rest.

Playing fast also means playing on the fly for Willowbrook football players Everett Stubblefield III, Sam Tumilty and others. Last week was their first full week of practice together and also marked the return of fellow football player Deandre Holliday, who missed the Thanksgiving tournament because

of injury.

With 6-foot-7 sophomore Sean Paige growing accustomed to varsity speed, it's been a lot to take in for the Warriors early in the season.

Still, Stubblefield and Tumilty scored 17 points apiece and Paige had 14 points and seven rebounds. Myles Leavy led Metea Valley with 17 points and Tahj Morgan added 10 points for the Mustangs.

"We prefer to get in a track meet, but obviously you're more likely to turn over the ball when you're playing like that," Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins said. "As long as we're forcing other teams to do it at a higher rate, that gives us a better opportunity to pull out wins."

## GIRLS BASKETBALL Willowbrook

Stephanie Dasbach's 17 points and 15 rebounds led Willowbrook to a 50-48 overtime win over Downers Grove South. Annemarie Knudtson added eight points for the Warriors.

## York

Sydney Molis scored 16 points and Carley Schwartz added 15 points, hitting five 3-pointers, to lead the Dukes past Oak Park-River Forest 69-40.

## Glenbard West

Taylor Huff scored 15 points to power the Hilltoppers past Hinsdale 46-40. Renee Seaney added nine points.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Addison Trail recognizes Students of First Semester

Pictured are Addison Trail students who were recognized as Students of First Semester during a breakfast in their honor on Dec. 3. Those students include In Art: Junior Sara Wallis; Career and Technical Education (CTE) business: senior Hesseey Gonzalez; CTE family and consumer: senior Destiny Medina; CTE industry and technology: Junior Javier Castillo; English: Junior Tiffany Cuevas; Literacy: Junior Mallyn Martinez; Math: Junior Sherya Bhati; Music: senior Ernesto Garcia Rodriguez; Physical education: sophomore Glada Alessi; Science: senior Jaelene Vargas; Social studies: Junior Emily Stevenson; Student services: freshman Abraham Segura; and, World languages: sophomore Mateo Gomez.

### Junior Achievement visits District 4 schools

Junior Achievement volunteers spent time in Lake Park and Lincoln Schools last week, instructing District 4 students about business and economics through the "JA in a Day" program. Fellowes Manufacturing provided the volunteers who worked with the students at Lake Park and those at Lincoln School were from the Crowe Horwath Company.

Volunteers worked with a curriculum that included information, reinforced with games and a variety of activities. Students in the lower grades learn about economics in their families and communities. Lessons for the upper grades broaden the scope to economics at the city and regional level.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

A volunteer from Fellowes Manufacturing gets a smile from a student at Lake Park School, where he took part in a program through Junior Achievement. The visitors offered valuable information reinforced by games and other activities.



Junior Achievement volunteers came to Lake Park and Lincoln Schools recently to offer new ways of learning through games and activities. These Lake Park students take part in the curriculum about economics at home, in the community and at upper levels of government.



As part of a Junior Achievement program that brought volunteers to Lake Park School, this student (seated, far right) rolls a giant die and then colors in a section of a picture of a piggy bank that corresponds to the number she rolled.

## Community calendar

### Saturday, Dec. 14 and Sunday, Dec. 15 Giving crafts at the Library

From 2-4 p.m. each day at the Addison Public Library, stop by and create a project that will be donated to a local organization. All ages. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

### Sunday, Dec. 15 Winter-themed paint-along for adults at the Library

From 2-4 p.m. at the Creative Studio of the Addison Public Library, paint a stunning winter landscape with the guidance of an experienced artist. No experience necessary. Please bring a smock or apron. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Monday, Dec. 16 Early science stations at the Library

From 10-10:45 a.m. for children 18 months to 5 years old with a caregiver, join us at the Addison Public Library for preschool science fun. Rotate through different stations filled with science experiments and hands-on activities. Registration is now open. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

### Crafty Crew at the Library

From 7-9 p.m. at the S10 First Floor Study Room of the Addison Public Library, why craft alone? Bring your own project to work on and meet other crafters. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Monday, Dec. 16- Tuesday, Dec. 19 Art studio for teens at the Library

From 3:15-4:30 p.m. each day at the Addison Public Library, stop by after school and make something beautiful in our pop-up studio. We'll bring out all our art supplies so you can work with whatever tools you want or follow along with a daily project. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3320.

### Tuesday, Dec. 17 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.

### Book a trip: Holidays around the world at the Library

Explore the world from 4-5 p.m. for grades K-5 at the Addison Public Library. In this special edition of Book a Trip, we will learn about how countries around the world celebrate during the winter. Info: [addisonlibrary.org](http://addisonlibrary.org) or call 630-458-3338.

### Wednesday, Dec. 18 Ornament decorating at the Library

From 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, decorate a traditional Polish ornament with local



## SPORTS

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## Willowbrook girls gymnastics team competes against Downers Grove co-op

## Warriors girls basketball team wins two games

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team dropped last week's 136.0-118.6 West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet to the Downers Grove co-op team.

At the varsity level of the Dec. 4 meet, sophomore Tess Placek took third on vault with an 8.95 score. Junior Riley Wieringa was seventh at 8.30.

Placek took third on bars at 8.20, while Wieringa was sixth at 7.75. Placek was fifth on beam at 8.00, while junior Alexis Fitzgerald was seventh at 7.10.

Placek took second on floor at 8.25, while Fitzgerald was sixth at 7.35. Placek finished third in the all-around scoring at 33.4, while junior Maeve Costello was fourth at 28.8.

At the JV 1 level, Willowbrook freshman Molly Morris won the vault competition at 8.40. Freshman Hanna Mitrick was second at 8.00.

Freshman Sarah Ball won the bars competition with a score of 7.70. Ball also was fifth in the all-around scoring at 28.6.

In the JV 2 meet, Willowbrook sophomore Alyssa Lorann was third on vault at 7.20.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls basketball team opened the West Suburban Gold Conference season with three home games last week. The Warriors lost 60-42 to Proviso East on Dec. 3. Willowbrook defeated Addison Trail 48-19 on Friday. The Warriors then beat Leyden 68-41 on Saturday to move to 5-4 overall and 2-1 in the conference. Senior K'Aliyha Herron (No. 15-above) poured in 23 points in Saturday's win over Leyden. Junior Abbey Spada (No. 4-right) scored 10 points against Proviso East. Spada tallied nine points against Addison Trail and five points against Leyden.

Junior Stephanie Dasbach recorded a double-double with 14 points and 15 rebounds to pace the Warriors. Junior Abbey Spada, who made all four of her free-throw attempts, added 10 points. Junior Annemarie Knudtson provided six points, three assists and four steals. Senior K'Aliyha Herron scored six points, grabbed six rebounds and made five steals.

Willowbrook was a 48-19 WSC Gold winner over Addison Trail on Friday in Villa Park. The Warriors led the Blazers 10-6 after one quarter and 29-10 at halftime.

Herron totaled 11 points, eight rebounds and four steals, while Dasbach had another double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Spada contributed nine points and seven re-



bounds. She made a pair of 3-point shots.

Junior Olivia Sobieszczyk finished with seven points and six rebounds.

In a 68-41 WSC Gold victory over Leyden on Saturday in Villa Park, Willowbrook registered 20 points in each of the first two quarters. The Warriors held a 20-10 lead over the Eagles at the end of the first quarter. Willowbrook's lead grew to 40-27 by

halftime.

Herron provided 23 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals. She scored 10 of Willowbrook's 14 third-period points. Dasbach finished with 12 points, 15 rebounds and four blocked shots. Sobieszczyk, who made two 3-point shots, supplied 10 points and nine rebounds. Knudtson had eight points, five assists and five steals.

## Addison Trail-Willowbrook boys swimming team loaded with returnees

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail-Willowbrook boys swimming coach Neil Wahlgren likes what he sees on his roster.

That roster is filled with returning talent, particularly in the stroke events, from an AT-Willowbrook team that took third in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division last season.

Back for AT-Willowbrook are seniors Aidan Nichols (breaststroke, print freestyle, Willowbrook), Eric Hoda (freestyle, backstroke, Willowbrook), Marco Chadez (butterfly, freestyle, Addison Trail) and Raymond Brisbois (sprint freestyle, Willowbrook), along with

juniors Sean Pienkos (200, 500, Willowbrook) and Cole McGinnis (freestyle, Willowbrook), and sophomores Michal Niemirski (freestyle, Addison Trail) and Matthew Burrow (individual medley and diving).

From that large group, returnees Nichols, Niemirski, Pienkos, Hoda and Chadez were all-WSC Gold performers last year.

Freshman Connor Craddock (Addison Trail) is new to the squad. He will compete in the backstroke and freestyle events.

"Connor has looked real strong," said Wahlgren. "We're excited to see what he will do."

Wahlgren noted AT-Willow-

brook swept the 50 freestyle at conference at all three levels with the varsity finishing first and second last year.

"Our team is a lot of sprinter guys," he noted. "I'm excited to see what this year holds with that, especially seeing the frosh-soph took first place in that overall in the whole conference. It will be fun seeing a bunch of young guys grow throughout the year."

Wahlgren said depth throughout the lineup will be another strong suit.

"We cover all the strokes," he said. "We are able to use each of the strokes. We have no real blanks. We have distance guys and sprint-

ers and then each of the strokes. I also think our medley relay team will be fun to watch."

That medley team includes Craddock in the backstroke, Nichols in the breaststroke, Chadez in the butterfly and Niemirski in the freestyle. Hoda could figure into the relay as well, Wahlgren pointed out.

Nichols continues to improve in the breaststroke.

"I look forward to seeing what Aidan does in the breaststroke," Wahlgren said. "He's probably the strongest guy on the team. We're hoping Aidan has a chance to go to state in the breaststroke. He worked hard in the offseason. He looks good."

Wahlgren said the WSC Gold again will be competitive with Downers Grove South and Hinsdale South sporting younger talent.

"Hinsdale South is going to be pretty dominant," he said. "We want to beat those teams. Our goal is to do better than last year's third-place finish. This team has shocked me in the past. Three years ago we won the conference. It would be awesome to get that same feeling again. Together, I think we have guys who will lead this team to do some good things. Overall, it's a fun group. This year is going to be fun."

AT-Willowbrook opens conference action Friday at Morton.

## Hard work pays off for Warriors' Dasbach

### Junior putting up big numbers

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Putting up double-digit numbers in points and rebounds is no easy feat in the game of basketball.

For Willowbrook junior Stephanie Dasbach, that feat is starting to become commonplace—her active nature around the basket helping make her a key cog for coach Terry Harrell's Warriors squad.

In a three-game stretch last week, Dasbach totaled 14 points and 15 rebounds in a game against Proviso East. She then provided 11 points and 11 rebounds in Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference win over Addison Trail. Dasbach completed the week with 12 points and 15 rebounds in Saturday's conference win over Leyden.

Those double-doubles came on the heels of some impressive outings at the Warriors' own Thanksgiving tournament, including an impressive 34-point, 22-rebound performance in a win over Plainfield Central.

Dasbach scored 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds against East Aurora, 17 points and 12 rebounds against Lockport, 11 points and nine rebounds vs. Stevenson, and 10 points and 11 rebounds in the Warriors' season-opening non-conference win against Glenbard North. "I worked a lot in the offseason in practice and during the summer with my coaches," Dasbach said. "They really helped me develop new skills and work on old ones."

Dasbach also played this summer with the Illinois Rockets AAU team that practices out of Glenbard South.

"That helped me, too," she said.

When asked to assess the strongest part of her game, Dasbach replied: "My rebounding and my put-backs," she said. "My teammates shoot a lot, and I get the rebound and put it back up so we can get the points. I box out and jump toward the rebound. I try and get the ball as many times as I can. I try and get a body on someone and make sure I box out and go for the ball."

Dasbach said the crazy numbers she put up against Plainfield Central weren't completely her own doing.

"Against Plainfield Central my teammates helped me out with great passes and took good shots, which helped me get some rebounds and put-backs," she said. "We all played well that game. We played good defense and that helped us win, not just our offense. Defense matters."

Dasbach, who used to play three sports at Willowbrook but now concentrates on volleyball and basketball, likes basketball for a variety of reasons.

"I think I have more of a future with basketball," she said. "I like it so much because I started at a younger age. I've been playing it all my life. It's fun and such a great feeling when you win a game or when you get a basket with your teammates."

Speaking of her teammates, Dasbach, who would like to play basketball in college, is having a blast this season.

"We all are really close on and off the court and that helps give us good chemistry," she said. "We work well together, we are close and we love each other. It's going to be a good year."

"We need to keep practicing hard, keep working on our skills and our communication on the court. We know if we work together, we can be really strong and win a lot of games. We have a lot of great talent on the team."



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Willowbrook junior Stephanie Dasbach provided double-digit outputs in scoring and rebounding in all three of the Warriors' West Suburban Gold conference games last week.

## Warriors open conference season by crushing Addison Trail

Balanced scoring attack in decisive 65-42 victory

The Willowbrook boys basketball team began the West Suburban Gold Conference season with Friday's 65-42 win over Addison Trail in Villa Park.

The Warriors, who improved their overall season record to 3-2, held a 20-7 advantage after one quarter. Willowbrook led the Blazers 32-20 at halftime. The lead grew to 52-30 by the end of the third quarter. The Warriors built a 65-34 lead by the middle of the fourth quarter. Addison Trail scored eight straight points to finish the game.

Senior Isaac Gaines scored Willowbrook's first eight points of the night with four driving baskets. His fourth field goal gave the Warriors an 8-4 lead about three minutes into the game. Senior Everett Stubblefield's layup gave the Warriors a 10-4 lead.

Senior Sam Tumilty's offensive rebound and basket pushed the lead to 12-5. Senior Deandre Holliday sank a jump shot to extend the lead to 16-7. Senior Mike Hay's inside basket gave the Warriors a 20-7 lead and closed out the first-quarter scoring.

Holliday's 3-point shot early in the second quarter gave the Warriors a 23-7 lead, but Addison Trail responded with a 10-0 burst to cut the lead to 23-17. Senior Sam Bruns of the Warriors ended the Blazers' scoring run by connecting on a 3-point shot that gave his team a 26-17 lead.

Tumilty's steal and basket in the closing seconds of the quarter gave Willowbrook its 32-20 halftime lead.

"I think we came out pretty fast on defense," said Tumilty. "We've got a lot of quick guys out there, playing aggressive man-to-man half-court defense. I think that definitely helps get our offense going."

Tumilty finished the game with a team-leading 14 points. Stubblefield scored 13 points on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, while Bruns delivered nine points by making three of five attempts from



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing  
Willowbrook's boys basketball team defeated Addison Trail 65-42 in Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference opener in Villa Park. The Warriors, who improved their overall record to 3-2, held a 32-20 halftime lead. Willowbrook's lead grew to 65-34 by the middle of the fourth quarter. Senior Isaac Gaines scored Willowbrook's first eight points of the game. He is pictured above while driving toward the baskets for one of his four field goals. Senior Sam Tumilty scored a team-leading 14 points for the Warriors. Senior Everett Stubblefield (No. 3-bottom left), who celebrated his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday, scored 13 points. Another photo shows Willowbrook sophomore Sean Paige (No. 35-bottom right) boxing out Addison Trail sophomore Jacob Daniels on a Blazers' free-throw attempt.

3-point range. Gaines and Holliday added eight and seven points, respectively. Sophomore Sean Paige scored six points, while Hay contributed four points.

Tumilty, Stubblefield and Holliday are three of the Warriors who wasted no time moving from the football field to the basketball court. The Willowbrook football team's season ended with a loss in the IHSA Class 7A semifinal round on Nov. 23. Three days later, the Warriors' basketball season began.

Willowbrook opened the season by going 2-2 at St. Charles East's Thanksgiving tournament. The Warriors lost to Proviso East in the championship game. Stubblefield scored 24 points per game in the four contests at St. Charles East. Tumilty also played in all four tournament games. Holliday did not play in St. Charles; he played his first game of the basketball season on Friday.

"We only had one practice together," said Stubblefield of the preparation for the season-opening tournament. "We were a little rusty. We came out kind of slow and were getting gassed pretty fast. Now that we've had a full week of practice, we're able to play full games and play up to our potential."

Willowbrook's schedule this week



includes a non-conference home game against Metea Valley, as well as Saturday's conference contest at Hinsdale South.

"We did a good job," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins after the win over the Blazers. "We just need more time together. It's early in the season. Just like everybody else, we've still got a lot of flaws. We've just got to continue to get better and work together."





# Villa Park REVIEW

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THURSDAY, DEC. 19, 2019

## Willowbrook students' artwork perks up Funky Java Coffee House

Villa Park's Funky Java Coffee House welcomed the artwork of Willowbrook High School students last week. More than 100 creations, including paintings, drawings, digital art and sculptures, filled the coffee house.

This is the 16<sup>th</sup> year that Willowbrook students' artwork has been on display at Funky Java, located at 40 S. Villa Ave. The weeklong display used to take place in the spring before shifting to the winter a few years ago.

Students set up their pieces at the coffee house on Monday, Dec. 9. The weeklong display included a reception on Dec. 11; that event included string music performed by Willowbrook students.

"It's been great," said Larry Poggi, a Willowbrook graduate and the owner of Funky Java. "The parents love it. It's kind of cool to see the kids' art outside of school. These kids are very creative."

Poggi added that several of his regular morning patrons normally stop in, get their coffee and race off to work. When the artwork is on display, several of those patrons linger in the business to observe the students' pieces.

"Larry doesn't have to do this; he's always supportive and accommodating," said John Epple, the chair of the school's art department. Epple said the event started with the hope of making students' artwork more visible.

"We wanted to make an effort to get our work out into the community, outside of school," said Epple. "One of the places we thought of was the local coffee shop. We came in and pitched the idea to Larry. He green-lighted it from the very beginning."

Epple said the display at Funky Java initially started as a "coffee mug show" featuring coffee mugs created in ceramics classes.

"For a bonus, we put some art along the walls," said Epple. "In the first couple of years [of the display], there were coffee mugs, a couple of teapots and artwork on pegboard. We moved away from that and just made it a community art show. It grew from there."



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

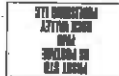
Villa Park's Funky Java Coffee House welcomed the artwork of Willowbrook High School students last week. The display at the coffee house featured more than 100 student creations. The student artists who contributed pieces included the Whiting sisters; pictured left to right are Mary, Sara and Jessica. Sara and Jessica, both seniors at Willowbrook, are twins. Mary is a sophomore. A painting by Jessica is shown on the lower right side of the photo.

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## Willowbrook presents 2019-20 second-quarter Outstanding Students, Outstanding Teacher

Willowbrook students recently were recognized as Outstanding Students for the second quarter of the 2019-20 school year during a breakfast in their honor.

Criteria to be chosen for that award include:

- Demonstrating extraordinary achievement, outstanding effort, commendable attitude and motivation;
- Ability to overcome obstacles;
- Continuous exemplary performance.

During the event, Willowbrook Principal Dr. Daniel Krause and Assistant Principal Yvonne Tsagalis welcomed the recipients and their families, as well as the staff members who nominated them. The students were then recognized and given a certificate in honor of their efforts.

To watch the ceremony, go to <https://www.dupage88.net/site/page/11333>.

The Outstanding Students are:  
Art: Senior Elizabeth McBride  
Career and Technical Education (CTE): Senior Karli Wilson

English: Freshman Kaitlyn Jaskier  
Learning services: Junior Marco Castro-Reyes

Literacy: Freshman Jessica Flores  
Math: Junior Sarah Fairbank  
Music: Senior Emma Cismesia

Physical education: Sophomore Joseph Lajb

Science: Junior Andrew Rugg  
Social studies: Junior Lana Gallagher

World languages: Senior Sandy Orizaba



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured are the Willowbrook students who were recognized as Outstanding Students during a breakfast in their honor held recently. They are (back row, from left): freshman Jessica Flores, junior Lana Gallagher, senior Karli Wilson, sophomore Joseph Lajb, freshman Kaitlyn Jaskier and Junior Andrew Rugg. Front row: senior Sandy Orizaba, Junior Sarah Fairbank, Junior Marco Castro-Reyes, senior Emma Cismesia and senior Elizabeth McBride.

### Outstanding teacher

Willowbrook science teacher Matthew Zaucha received the Outstanding Teacher award and was presented by Willowbrook juniors Lily Morgan and Amina Mohiuddin.

To earn the Outstanding Teacher award, a staff member must treat teaching as a passion—not just a job, create a positive learning environment where students feel encouraged and supported, use a variety of strategies to engage students, be willing to offer extra support when needed, provide prompt and effective feedback to students on their learning and relate to and understand the viewpoints and perspectives of students.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

## Villa Park Lions Club makes holiday donation

The Villa Park Lions Club held its annual Christmas party earlier this month at Mack's Golden Pheasant, 668 W. North Ave., Elmhurst. Guests donated books, toys, stocking stuffers and two new bicycles for the York Township Food Pantry's "Adopt a Family for Christmas" program. The donated items will be distributed as gifts to pantry client families with children. Pictured left to right are York Township Food Pantry Director Angela Tanner and Villa Park Lions Club President Sean Birmingham. "York Township is grateful for the ongoing support of the Villa Park Lions Club," said York Township Supervisor John W. Valle. "The Lions are known for their big hearts. Their generous donation will put smiles on the faces of a lot of children again this holiday season."

## Police make arrests during Thanksgiving enforcement effort

The Villa Park Police Department made one impaired driving arrests and issued 15 seat belt and child safety citations during the recent Thanksgiving enforcement effort.

Villa Park police also took the following enforcement actions:

- 23 cell phone citations;
- 1 illegal transportation of alcohol citation;
- 13 uninsured motorists;
- 4 speeding citations;
- 2 drug arrests

Law enforcement agencies throughout Illinois participated in this effort to save lives by getting impaired drivers off the roads and more people buckled up. The enforcement campaign took place from Nov. 22 through Dec. 2.

During the mobilization, extra emphasis was placed on enforcement during late-night hours, when statistics show the most unbuckled and impaired driving fatalities occur.

This law enforcement effort was made possible by federal highway safety funds administered through the Illinois Department of Transportation and is part of the nationwide "Click It or Ticket" and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaigns.





SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

At the recent crosstown basketball game between Addison Trail and Willowbrook, this group of elected officials, business and community leaders were recognized for their service to the public. Pictured are (from left): Barb Lazzara, ACCI; Dean Stathopoulos and Leslie DeMoss, Addison Park District; Villa Park Police Chief Mike Lay, Villa

Park Village Trustees Cheryl Orlow Tucker, Nick Cuzzone, and Christine Murphy; State Representative Diane Pappas; District 88 Board members Donna Craft Cain and Dan Olson, and Villa Park police officers Richard Boryk, Danielle Heinz, Anthony Blake, and Carlos Cruz.

## District 88 turns out for crosstown basketball game

**Warriors beat  
Addison Trail 65-42**

On Friday Dec. 6, Addison Trail and Willowbrook high schools of District 88 held "Pack The Gym" night at their crosstown basketball game that took place at Willow-

brook. A large group of elected officials, community leaders, dignitaries, service group members and first responders were introduced and thanked for their support of District 88 as well as the villages of Addison and Villa Park.

The honorees included: Barb

Lazzara, vice president, Addison Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Dean Stathopoulos, park commissioner, Addison Park District; Leslie DeMoss, superintendent of recreation, Addison Park District; Villa Park Police Chief Mike Lay; Villa Park Village Trustees Cheryl Orlow Tucker, Nick Cuzzone and Christine

Murphy; State Representative Diane Pappas, Donna Craft Cain, president, District 88 Board of Education President; Dan Olson, District 88 Board member; and, Villa Park police officers

Richard Boryk, Danielle Heinz, Anthony Blake and Carlos Cruz.

The game resulted in Willowbrook beating Addison Trail by a score of 65-42.

## Police investigating residential burglary in Elmhurst

On Tuesday, Dec. 10, at approximately 3:43 p.m., Elmhurst Police responded to a report of a residential burglary that occurred between 8 a.m. and 3:40 p.m. on the 200 block of Melrose in Elmhurst. Police believe that the offender entered the house by breaking a side window

and entering the home. Once inside, the offender removed collector coins and the cremated remains of a family member.

Police are in the process of reviewing neighborhood videos and ask that anyone with information to please call 630-530-3050.

## Villa Park, Addison departments assist with Elmhurst house fire

Elmhurst fire companies were dispatched to 157 S. Rex at 3:13 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10, for the report of an outside smoke investigation.

Upon arrival, Elmhurst companies found flames coming from the roof of a two-story single family home at 161 S. West Ave.

Along with mutual aid companies from Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, and Addison the fire was under control by 3:45 a.m.

No firefighter or civilian injuries were reported. Every effort was made to revive a family pet that was in the home, however these attempts were unsuccessful.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation. The residence has been deemed uninhabitable. No damage estimates are yet available at this time.

# workNet DuPage: The Year in Review

The workNet DuPage Career Center has released its 2018-19 Year in Review, showcasing the significant impact the organization – funded by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) – makes throughout DuPage County.

All year, the workNet DuPage Career Center enthusiastically supported both job seekers and local businesses. Job hunters included laid-off workers affected by global market forces, as well as return-to-work parents, individuals with disabilities, veterans, young adults, and career changers. In addition, workNet DuPage assisted businesses hoping to develop their existing workforce and recruit talent.

"The progress we've made at the workNet DuPage Career Center has an exponential impact on families, as job seekers are able to find employment," said DuPage County Economic Development Chairman Tim Elliott. "The net benefit for DuPage County is not only measurable in monetary terms but is life-changing for our residents."

"Clients who completed workNet DuPage-funded job training programs earned more than \$15.5 million in wages," said workNet DuPage Career Center Executive Director Lisa Schvach. "That spending power is currently being re-invested into the community. Businesses, too, strengthened their workforce and simultaneously bolstered the regional economy. As we reflect on our clients' achievements, we renew our steadfast commitment to DuPage County and move forward

with great momentum."

With record low unemployment in DuPage County, the center focused on upskilling the existing workforce by awarding local employers nearly \$400,000 in Incumbent Worker training grants – an unprecedented amount.

### New initiatives brings talent to EEHealth

The center spearheaded new initiatives including a healthcare talent pipeline with Northwestern Medicine and Edward-Elmhurst Health to encourage career pathways in the County's fastest-growing industry. And with the national opioid crisis hitting home, the organization extended its impact with the launch of Recovery and Manufacturing – A Path Up (RAMP-UP), a workforce program connecting individuals in recovery with meaningful work and manufacturers with a distinct talent pool. For this effort, workNet DuPage won the 2019 Illinois Workforce Partnership Innovative Solutions Award, honoring exemplary service to the state workforce system.

The report highlights client success stories, providing a snapshot of the more than 300 individuals and many businesses, which benefited from job search support, training, and/or funding assistance. Their compelling stories illustrate the myriad ways workNet DuPage changes lives and contributes to the success of the local economy.

The Year in Review can be read/downloaded at [worknetdupage.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/workNetDuPageCareerCenterYearinReview.pdf](http://worknetdupage.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/workNetDuPageCareerCenterYearinReview.pdf).

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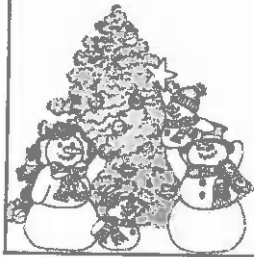
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# speak OUT

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TALK

I attended the tax appeal workshop last Monday with Peter Breen and Rachael Real. The Helen Plum Library auditorium was packed and they added another session. What is that saying, politicians? So many of us are steaming about the way our homes are being assessed and the way our so-called home values have risen this year. And, based on this workshop, many of us will have to jump through hoops just to get our assessment reconsidered, let alone lowered, and probably at personal cost to us. While many will file an appeal, I wish we could also organize and protest how the county is sucking us dry. It's getting too hard to afford to live here. The politicians who ran on a platform of lowering taxes, where are you now? All I hear is silence. Thank you, Peter Breen, for your explanation of how this horrendous assessment system operates.

\*\*\*  
I have to say I did a double-take when I read Speak Out this week (referring to the Dec. 12 issue). I thought the paper mistakenly published my call again from two weeks ago when I stated that I hoped Trump would get impeached so that he would have a trial in the Senate and finally get due process. But that wasn't the case. Instead, someone basically took my original call and

changed some things in it so it ended up being a rebuttal to my call. There's an old saying that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Not in this case. To this particular caller, I'm sure CNN and MSNBC keeps you well-informed. Try coming up with your own Speak Out call to make your points about impeachment instead of hijacking my call.

\*\*\*  
I am hopeful this shame of an impeachment has been an eye opener for people. Whether you like or dislike the current President this has been a miscarriage of justice and a waste of our money. Ask yourself how this all started? Joe Biden went public with his threat to withhold money from Ukraine if they did not fire a prosecutor. Hello? Read Trump's answer. Help the U.S. not me look into this corruption. The past (Obama) administration was one of the most corrupt we have seen. Chicago politics on a national stage.

\*\*\*  
Did you see that Rep. Sean Casten was a member of Nancy Pelosi's delegation to Spain for the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference? This is the ridiculous conference where leftists routinely warn that we are at a tipping point, or the point of no return regarding

the climate. I hope Casten's first term in Congress is his last term in Congress.

\*\*\*  
To those who keep saying teacher strikes are about greed and not about the kids, and suggest the teachers don't take a raise, I believe they are entitled to a raise, just like anyone lucky enough to get one at their jobs, so I don't agree about that. But, how much they get is another story. Guaranteed raises, which we taxpayers who don't get them have to cover. As for the classroom demands, gee, I would like a new desk, a better computer, more access to supplies for the office, etc., but I have to make due with what I have and still do my job. So, too, should teachers, who ought to know what they are getting into

when they go into teaching. If it's really about the kids, you will find a way to make it happen, and stop holding taxpayers hostage, or go on strike in the summer when it will do the least damage to the kids you say you care so much about.

\*\*\*  
I don't know how the kids and teachers at Willowbrook High School do it! A great performance last month of Mama Mia, and last week terrific music concerts. We are very fortunate to have such great instructors and students willing to learn and share their talents with our community. Thanks very much WBHS! I am now going to become a music booster.

\*\*\*  
Those people who are attacking

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Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren need to know the facts. And in this area these facts are very obvious. Wealthy people both domestically and internationally have come to the Chicago area and taken over as much as they can. They go out and eat \$100 meals a night and basically all you see on the landscape in this economy is a restaurant economy because of the top 5 percent using the corporate system to eat free and profit from it. Bernie Sanders needs to tax the heck out of these people and if elected, he clearly would.

And the high income, overpaid people in this region would definitely take a hit and something they should have done in their class warfare on the middle class and working-class Americans.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

## Two Rivers Nation holds Christmas parties

Two Rivers Nation, a parent/child organization which has been active for over 20 years in the western suburbs including Lombard, Villa Park, Elmhurst and Addison, held successful Christmas parties at Enchanted Castle in Lombard. The Guidos Christmas party was held Dec. 3 and the Princesses Christmas Party took place Dec. 4. At the Guidos party, 70 fathers and sons collected 30 toys that were donated to Toys for Tots, and eight large boxes of food that were donated to the Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry. At the Princesses party, 108 fathers and daughters collected 57 toys and 15 large boxes of food.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO, Rock Valley Publishing

## Sounds of the season

Willowbrook's music department presented two holiday concerts last week. The Dec. 10 concert included performances from the concert choir (pictured), the symphony orchestra and the chamber orchestra. The concert concluded with Willowbrook alumni joining the current music students to perform the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's Messiah. The Dec. 12 holiday concert at Willowbrook featured performances from the school's bands.





## Community calendar

### Ongoing events Home visits from Santa available

Tell Santa what you want for Christmas when he visits you in person. Santa will drop in to visit children for a few minutes—just long enough to hear a wish list and pose for a quick picture. Santa cannot visit during parties. Each registered child will also receive a special gift. Please make sure you are home between 4-6:30 p.m. while the sleigh

flies around Villa Park and be sure to leave a light on and shovel the walk and porch—Santa does not usually go in through the front door. Santa visits are for Villa Park residents only, ages 10 and under. The fee is \$10 per child. Call 630-834-8970 with any questions.

### Send a letter to Santa

Bring joy to your child by sending a letter from Santa. Children will receive a personalized letter from Santa

mailed to their home. Just complete a form at the Iowa Community Center or Community Recreation Building and Santa's letter will arrive mid-December. The fee is \$3 per letter resident, \$4 non-resident. Call 630-834-8970 with any questions.

### Indoor swim lessons available through Addison Park District

Do you miss swimming outdoors? Parks and Recreation offers indoor swim lessons in cooperation with the

Addison Park District. Classes are available on Saturday mornings and Tuesday and Thursday evenings for swimmers with all levels of swim experience and include parent/tot classes. Register with the Recreation Department; lessons are held at the Club Fitness Indoor Pool, 1776 W. Centennial Place in Addison. To see the full schedule of lessons and for fees visit [invalapark.com](http://invalapark.com) or call 630-834-8970.

ning, the Villa Park VFW Post #2 39 E. St. Charles Road, holds best fish fry in town. Menu available for purchase includes all-you-can-eat fish or fish plate with either beer battered fried fish or baked fish, shrimp and shrimp combo with choice of fish, weekly meat and chicken tenders with fries for kids. All dinners come with a choice of a baked potato, fries or side of mashed fries, homemade slaw, a slice of rye bread and dessert. All prices include tax and are subject to change.

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### Interplan LLC food drive benefits York Township Food Pantry

Interplan LLC, located at 1 South 280 Summit Avenue in Oakbrook Terrace, provides development solutions for restaurant, retail, hospitality and commercial programs. As a way to give back to the community, employees organized its ninth annual food drive and donated the proceeds to the York Township Food Pantry. The drive ran for two weeks and collected a van-load of non-perishable food items which was delivered to York Township Hall on Nov. 2. Their generous donation will be used to help stock pantry shelves for the holidays. Above from left to right are: York Township Supervisor John W. Valle, Food Pantry director Angela Tanner, associate director Jay Schoneman and vice president Dennis Cabala.



### 6 Willowbrook students named ILMEA All-State musicians

Above are Willowbrook students who have been named as State musicians by the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA). They are (top row, from left) senior Emma Ciamesia, junior Jenna Ola and junior Connor Staunton. Bottom row: senior Emma Staur, sophomore Daniela Trimmer and junior Anna Tymoszenko. They perform during the Illinois Music Education Conference, which takes place from Jan. 29 to Feb. 1 at Peoria Civic Center.

## SPORTS

DEC. 19, 2019 • 23

# Warriors lose conference matchup at Hinsdale South

## Undefeated Hornets pull away in the second half

The Willowbrook boys basketball team fell to 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the West Suburban Gold Conference following Saturday's 65-54 loss at Hinsdale South.

"They have a really good, balanced team," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins of the Hornets, who improved to 7-0 overall and 2-0 in the conference. "There's a reason why they're 7-0. They're pretty good."

Willowbrook held a 14-12 lead through one quarter of Saturday evening's game, which was played in front of spirited student sections from both schools. The student fans from each team dressed in holiday attire.

Hinsdale South outscored the Warriors 14-6 during the second quarter to gain a halftime lead of 26-20.

The game was tied on multiple occasions in the third period. Hinsdale South held a 35-29 advantage, but an inside basket by senior Sam Tumilty cut the lead to 35-31 midway through the quarter. Senior Isaac Gaines then made an acrobatic driving basket to cut the Hornets' lead to 35-33. Tumilty's pair of free throws finished a 6-0 run that tied the score at 35-35 with about three minutes left in the quarter. Senior Everett Stubblefield's basket evened the score at 37-37 with over two minutes left in the period. The Hornets closed the period with a 6-0 run to take a 43-37 lead with eight minutes to play.

Hinsdale South's lead grew as large as 63-45 with about two minutes left in the game. The Warriors closed the game with late 3-point shots by Tumilty and senior Deandre Holliday.

Perkins pointed to the disparity in rebounding as the difference in Saturday's game. Hin-

sdale South outrebounded the Warriors 47-19.

"They [the Hornets] got to the free-throw line a lot," added Perkins. "That didn't help us get into the flow of the game."

Hinsdale South made 15 of 23 free-throw attempts. The Warriors converted four of nine free throws.

Stubblefield scored a team-high 20 points for the Warriors. The senior made nine of 25 shots from the field, including one of seven attempts from 3-point range, and sank one of four free throw attempts.

Tumilty, who made a pair of 3-point shots, added 12 points before fouling out in the fourth quarter. Holliday, who also made two shots from 3-point range, scored eight points. Gaines and sophomore Sean Paige both scored seven points.

The Warriors picked up a non-conference win earlier in the week, beating Metea Valley 71-59 in Villa Park on Dec. 10. Willowbrook led the Mustangs 14-9 after one quarter and 28-21 at halftime. The Warriors pushed their lead to 51-38 by the end of the third quarter. Metea Valley trimmed the lead to 54-48 with about six minutes to play. Willowbrook's lead stood at 56-50 nearly one minute later. Tumilty then provided a 3-point play that raised the lead to 59-50 with 5:06 left in the game.

Tumilty and Stubblefield both scored 17 points in the win over Metea Valley. Paige, who made six of 10 shots from the field and converted both of his free-throw attempts, provided 14 points. Gaines, who made four of seven shots from the field and sank three of four attempts from the foul line, added 13 points.

Willowbrook's schedule this week includes Friday's conference home game against Morton and Saturday's non-conference battle with York.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

The Willowbrook boys basketball team faced Hinsdale South in Saturday's West Suburban Gold Conference showdown in Darien. The Hornets defeated Willowbrook 65-54. Hinsdale South improved to 7-0 overall and 2-0 in conference play. Willowbrook dropped to 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the conference. Senior Everett Stubblefield (No. 3-above left) scored 20 points for the Warriors. Senior Sam Tumilty (No. 5-above right) added 12 points. The teams were tied at 37-37 with over two minutes left in the third quarter. Hinsdale South finished the period with a 6-0 run to take a 43-37 lead.

## Addison Trail girls basketball team goes 3-0

### Blazers defeat Hinsdale South in conference play

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail girls basketball coach Cory Little was more than pleased with what he saw from his team last week.

The Blazers posted three wins against Hinsdale South, West Chicago and Larkin to even their overall mark at 5-5. The Hinsdale South triumph put Addison Trail at 1-2 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play.

In a 39-26 win over Hinsdale South, Little praised the play of Quiana Birmingham. "Q shot the ball pretty well and ran the offense pretty well," he said. "She had a good game."

The Blazers also were bolstered by the efforts of Mia Johnson who had 10 points and 15 rebounds in recording a double-double.

"Mia was all over the boards," said

Little.

Addison Trail also downed West Chicago 50-38 in a non-conference affair. Little stressed the play of senior Demi Koulogeorgas was a difference-maker.

"Demi stepped up big-time on defense," Little noted. "She locked up West Chicago's No. 1 scorer. That girl had 17 points in the first half and Demi held her to five points in the second half. Demi stepped up and that allowed us to pull away and finish the game."

The Blazers made it three wins for the week with a 47-43 victory over Elgin Larkin in non-conference action.

This time, Mary Velez took center stage for Addison Trail with 20 points and 11 rebounds.

"Mary was a force inside to be reckoned with," Little said. "She made our engine go. It came down to locking down on defense and not getting second and third shots. We buckled down on defense, rebounded the ball and took care of the ball at the right time. We also got stops at the right time."

Little said things most certainly are headed in the right direction.

"I'm very happy with the girls," he said. "They have gravitated toward the style of play we want, and they have taken to playing defense, which always is a plus. They are playing better on defense."

Little also likes the energy level on the team. "They get up for games," he explained. "They get in the right mindset and are ready. They go out there and grind. They are grinding out games and learning on the fly, getting better with locking down on defense and getting better with rebounding the ball. We're very happy with the way they are playing right now."

Addison Trail has two conference games this week against Downers Grove South and Leyden. The Blazers open play in the Lisle Christmas tournament against Wheaton Academy.

"We want to play well in these next two games and go into the holidays with momentum," Little said. "If we can do that, I think we can do some things in the tournament."

## Fenton boys basketball team defeats Leyden

### Bison off to strong 5-2 start; upends Glenbard South in overtime

By Mike Miazga, CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton boys basketball team continued its recent strong play with a 45-38 non-conference win against Leyden.

The win pushed the Bison to 5-2 overall.

Andre Reed led the Bison with 18 points, while Ricky Lopez finished with 11 points.

"I thought we took their shooters out of the game," said Fenton coach Chaz Taft. "I think they only made three 3s against us. We also did a good job of taking care of the basketball."

Earlier, Fenton won its Upstate Eight Conference debut with a 51-50 victory in overtime against Glenbard South.

Fenton 6-5 junior center Gerrell Wilson won the contest in overtime with a layup with about two seconds to play in the extra session and Fenton trailing by a point.

"It was tight the whole way," said Taft. "It was a one-possession game down the stretch."

Diamon King, a 6-2 senior forward, sent the game into overtime with a layup as time was winding down with Fenton trailing 47-45. Taft also lauded the recent play of Jose Alvarez and Lopez.

See BASKETBALL, Page 24



# Jones rolls 648 series for Willowbrook girls bowling team

## Girls gymnastics team defeats Addison Trail; Girls basketball downs Downers Grove South

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Senior Makaylah Jones has come out of the gates strong for the Willowbrook girls bowling team.

Jones recently bowled a 643 series for the Warriors in their West Suburban Conference dual meet against Downers Grove North.

Jones turned in games of 227, 191 and 225 against North. She's leading the Warriors in average at 193 a game.

Sophomore Molly Williams also has been a key contributor for coach Kevin Allen. Williams is at 165 a game and had personal high games of 210 and 208 during recent conference matches.

The Warriors junior-varsity team recently competed at the Steelman Invitational held at Crest Hill Lanes. Sophomore Megan Beausoleil led the Warriors there, finishing 12th.

Earlier, the Warriors varsity squad took 14th at the Plainfield Central Wildcat Invite. The Warriors finished with a total of 4,630 and a high game of 792.

Jones took 22nd overall with an 1,105. Senior Ashley DeLeon was 36th at 1,022 and sophomore Taylor Balslev was 57th at 926. Jones hit a 589 series before the lunch break with games of 201, 202 and 186.

DeLeon rolled high games of 187, 187 and 186, while sophomore Kaile Scholtens had a 192 high game coming out of the lunch break.

Allen noted the Warriors are hard at work on the skill of spare shooting.

"We talk about how spares are pivotal to our team and that we need to make sure we know how to move our

feet and line in order to make spares easier on ourselves," he explained.

Allen gave plaudits to Jones, Williams and Beausoleil for their work thus far.

"Makaylah, Molly and Megan have really stepped up this season," he said. "These girls always are working their hardest to be the best they can be at every practice. They bring a positive energy to the team that is contagious."

Willowbrook is in the midst of a busy tournament schedule with the Strikefest event at Town and Country Lanes, the Oswego Holiday Invite and the Plainfield South Invite at Town and Country Lanes all on the docket.

"So far, I am excited for what the team has done this season," said Allen. "We are looking at improving every week until we hit our peak toward the end of the season."

### Girls gymnastics

The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team was a 124.05-120.00 West Suburban Conference Gold Division winner against District 88 neighbor Addison Trail.

Sophomore Tess Placek won the vault for Willowbrook with a score of 9.1. Junior Maeve Costello was second at 8.4. Placek also won the floor exercise at 8.35.

Willowbrook's Karli Wilson won the bars at 7.35, while Placek was second at 7.25. Placek was third on beam at 8.2.

Placek, a sophomore, won the all-around scoring at 32.90.

Willowbrook won the JV1 competition by a 104.8-86.95 count. Freshman Sarah Ball won the vault (8.35), while freshman Hanna Mitrick won bars (6.25). Mitrick won the beam (7.4) and freshman Molly Morris won floor exercise (7.45) for the Warriors.

Mitrick won the all-around competition at 28.35, while Ball was second at 27.6.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publish

The Willowbrook and Addison Trail girls gymnastics teams competed in their annual District 88 meet. The Warriors were 124.05-120.00 winners in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division matchup.

Addison Trail took first in the JV2 competition 64.8-56.4. Willowbrook sophomore Allyssa Lorann won the vault (7.9), while freshman Dima Elagha won on the uneven bars. Lorann won the balance beam (6.1) and sophomore Nahomi Castillo won floor exercises (6.2). Lorann won the all-around competition.

### Girls basketball

The Willowbrook girls basketball team improved to 6-4 overall and 3-1 in the West Suburban Gold Conference with last week's 50-48 overtime victory at Downers Grove South.

The Warriors held a 15-13 lead after one quarter and a 27-21 edge at halftime of the Dec. 10 contest. Their lead grew to 38-28 by the end of the

third quarter. Downers Grove South rallied in the closing minutes of regulation. The Mustangs made a basket with about six seconds to play in regulation to tie the score at 43-43. Willowbrook couldn't get a shot off in the closing seconds of the fourth quarter.

Downers Grove South took a four-point lead early in the four-minute overtime period, but the Warriors bounced back to take the lead. Willowbrook's solid defense prevented the Mustangs from launching a shot in the closing seconds of the game.

Junior Stephanie Dasbach scored three points in the overtime period with a field goal and a free throw. Junior Annemarie Knudson provided a basket during the overtime, while senior K'Aliyha Herron made two free

throws during the extra period.

Dasbach finished the game with 17 points and 15 rebounds. She made five of eight shots from the field, connected on seven of nine free-throw attempts.

Knudson contributed eight points and five steals, while junior Abby Spada added seven points and four rebounds. Herron supplied seven points and three steals. Junior Olivia Sobieszczyk scored six points and handed out three assists. Sobieszczyk made a 3-point shot in the fourth quarter to account for three of her team's five points in that period.

The Warriors' schedule this week includes conference games against Hinsdale South and Morton.

Chris Fox contributed to this report.

## •Basketball

(Continued from page 23)

"Jose Alvarez is our point guard and he's kind of the guy who steadies the ship and gets us going in the right direction," the coach noted. "He's the back line of our defense. Another guy who gets us going is Ricky Lopez. He's really tenacious on the defensive end of the floor with steals and deflections. He's a game-changer for us on defense."

Looking at the entire body of work through the first seven games, Taft pointed to Fenton's defensive play as a key catalyst.

"It's our defense," he said. "We are a defensive-oriented team that is playing really good defense right now."

Taft said experience also has helped thus far.

"I'm very happy," he said. "I can't remember the last time Fenton was 5-2. I think this is the first time we've beaten Glenbard South in like eight years. It's about getting the kids to compete every day and getting after it. Our practices are so much more competitive. We have a good group of juniors and seniors. We are looking more like a traditional high school program in the area with juniors and seniors."

"We have the experience now and

we're building it all up. It's important to have those juniors and seniors and having them learn and having them in the gym. We finally have those two classes coming through."

"Next year we'll have 10 juniors coming in and then they will be seniors and then another seven or eight juniors. We're starting to get a nice balance with the varsity and that's what you need to compete with the Yorks, Benets and Willowbrooks out there. Those are senior-dominated teams who on occasion might have a good freshman or sophomore."

"The way those programs are successful is by having a good group of seniors every year and that's what we are trying to do here."

Fenton hosted its own Thanksgiving tournament and went 2-2 there with wins over F.W. Parker and Montini. The Bison lost to Rolling Meadows and Wheaton-Warrenville South.

This week, the Bison have Bartlett and West Chicago on tap in a pair of UEC games. Fenton faces West Chicago Friday at West Chicago. The Bison will then head to the IC Catholic Prep-Westmont Christmas tournament.

## Willowbrook wrestling team crushes Hinsdale South

### Warriors continue to make progress up and down lineup

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook wrestling team got itself in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division win column with a recent 63-16 triumph against Hinsdale South.

The win put the Warriors at 1-1 in Gold action and 7-3 overall.

The Warriors dropped their first conference contest to District 88 neighbor Addison Trail, 42-29.

"Addison Trail was a close one," coach Tim Ortiz noted.

"There were a couple swing matches that could have gone either way. If we win those, we win the dual meet."

The Warriors also squared off against York, Lincoln-Way Central, Wheeling and Machesney Park Harlem at Plainfield North. Willowbrook downed York 51-24, defeated Lincoln-Way Central 38-30, shut out Wheeling 79-0 and then lost 44-34 to Harlem.

"We were right there with Harlem," said Ortiz. "Again, there was a swing match that could have gone either way there. We are showing good growth and getting to where we need to be. The kids are starting

to come together as a team. They are competing and are exciting to watch."

Through late last week, Elijah Brockie was a perfect 10-0 at 220 pounds. John Peterson was 9-1 at 195, while Wyatt Borri was 9-1 record at 170 pounds. David Kapica also was 9-1 at 145, while Zach Seymore was 8-2 at 132. Gabe Yu was 8-2 at 120, while Vinny Suehiro was 8-2 at 126.

Ortiz pointed out that Brockie was ranked in the honorable mention category in the most recent state rankings.

"He should be making a lot of noise and climbing up pretty soon," the coach said. "Elijah is doing very well. Zach Seymore is doing a very good job. David, Vinny and Gabe and Wyatt also are wrestling well."

Ortiz noted Borri went up against a Hinsdale South kid who brought in a state honorable mention ranking.

"He lost to that kid 6-0 last year and Wyatt beat him," he said. "It shows all the hard work he put in during the offseason and in off-season tournaments and camps. He came back and was able to show everybody what can happen when you put in the hard work. It was nice to see that. These kids are buying in and are seeing their work paying off. That work you put in during the off-season makes a difference."

Ortiz said one characteristic that

has stood out thus far with his group is their toughness.

"They are gritty," he said. "They have a gritty toughness to the way they are gelling as a group, working well together as a team. They are understanding that this is an individual sport to an extent, it's also a team sport."

"Every point matters. Getting a pin, not giving up a pin, getting a major decision, it all matters. They are holding each other accountable and understand that every match is very important. They are coming together well and doing a good job fighting hard for every point. If you are on your back, try and get off to save points. It's still a team sport and every match counts. It's exciting to see their progress."

Willowbrook faces Morton in week 11 WSC Gold action and then heads to the Hinsdale Central Invitational.

"Hinsdale is one of the premier tournaments in the state," Ortiz said. "It will give us a chance to see how we are against some of the top guys in the state. It will show us where we are at and what we need to improve on."

"It's a new tournament for this year and we're real excited to go over there. All of this is going to get us to where we want to be later in the season and come tournament time."

# Addison Trail girls bowling team making strides

## Blazers return two sectional qualifiers

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls bowling team isn't lacking in returning varsity experience.

Coach Steve Gilliam's top three bowlers fall into that category. Seniors Heather Soucie and Kasey Fiermuga both are returning sectional qualifiers, while senior Yuli Macias also is back.

Fiermuga led the team in average last year, while Macias and Soucie were right behind her.

Sophomore Sarah Soucie, fresh-

man Kylie Fiermuga, junior Araceli Olscoga (who was a key bowler on the JV level last year and bowled a 229 against York), junior Cynthia Bruntz and sophomore Maddie Haskell also figure to be in the varsity contribution mix.

"We have 27 girls in the program," said Gilliam. "We have some with experience and a lot with no bowling experience. Already, I am seeing improvement from the girls. The new girls who are just beginning to pick up on it are improving. They are going from shooting 30, 40 and 50 to now already being at 100, 110 and 120. They are improving quickly, which is a good sign."

Addison Trail went 1-2 at the recent

Willowbrook quad. The Blazers beat District 88 neighbor Willowbrook 2,581-2,530. Metea Valley was first at 2,973, while Morton rolled a 2,677.

In that quad, Gilliam noted his 4-6 bowler in the lineup turned in a higher pinfall total than his 1-3 bowlers, another good sign.

"It's nice to see the younger bowlers doing well and the returning girls are doing better," he said. "If we can keep doing that, we should be in pretty good shape."

Gilliam noted he has another strong team in terms of sportsmanship and team chemistry.

"They all are great kids," he said. "They are very respectful and eager to learn. It's a very responsible and fun

group. There is zero drama. They really like each other."

Gilliam said the potential is there for continued improvement and success. "We're hopeful," he said. "We have two girls returning with sectional-qualifying experience. Yuli has been bowling well. That gives us a solid three bowlers on top, and if the younger girls continue to come along, we should have success."

Gilliam noted the West Suburban Conference again will be challenging. "We hear York is outstanding and Downers Grove South bowled a 2,900 against us," he said.

Addison Trail bowls out of Wood Dale Lanes, and Gilliam noted York, Leyden and Willowbrook all call Stardust in Addison home, which puts four of the WSC teams in close proximity to each other.

## Fenton wrestlers off to strong start

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

Another year and another strong start for the Fenton wrestling team. Through the team's first six dual meets, Fenton sported a 5-1 record. The Bison lost to Glenbrook South 1-5.

"Glenbrook South is an experienced and tough team," coach Brian Hastings noted.

Fenton scored wins against Niles East (47-27), Elmwood Park (50-), Chicago Mather (65-15), Chicago Kelly (60-6) and South Elgin 1-27.

Through those first six matches, for Ricky Saucedo was 6-0 at 2 pounds. Senior Danny Ramirez

was 5-1 at 152, while junior Jalen Williams was 5-1 at 170.

"Many individuals are doing well and we all are improving," Hastings said.

Kon Papadopoulos had four wins at 106, while captain John Quinto had a 3-2 mark. Tyler Macias had three wins, while Daniel Carparelli was 4-2 at 126 pounds.

Justin Dickeson was 3-3 at 132. Manny Lozada was 3-2 at 138, while Danny Saucedo was 4-2. Kevin Guevara was 3-2 at 170. Filip Reduta was 3-2 at 220, while Quinn Wilcoxon had a 4-2 mark at 285 pounds.

"I have been really pleased with the effort demonstrated by the

guys," said Hastings. "We look forward to continuing to improve and get our lineup stronger as a couple wrestlers get healthy and down to their weights."

Hastings said Ricky Saucedo and Williams "have both won a lot of big matches for us."

Ramirez only loss through the first six matches, Hastings pointed out, was an overtime loss to the Class 3A No. 6-ranked wrestler from South Elgin.

Fenton hosts Bartlett today in a UEC dual meet and then will host a triangular meet Friday.

The Bison wrap up 2019 at the St. Charles North quad on Dec. 27 at 9 a.m.

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MONDAY, December 16, 2019  
**SIMS; PRIMARIES AND GENERALS**

**THE SIMS FACTOR** Sen. Elgie Sims (D-Chicago) began expressing interest in becoming the next Senate President not long after the current occupant of that office, John Cullerton, announced his pending retirement.

Sims' name hasn't been mentioned very often lately in news accounts, but he continues to meet with fellow Senate Democrats to lay out his agenda. And it's possible that at least some of a loosely aligned group of a half dozen or so independent-minded, younger liberals may wind up backing him for the chamber's top job.

Six votes is far from the number required to win the election, of course, but combine that with Sen. Steve Landek's "X Caucus" votes that I told you about last week, and it might be enough to slow down or even stop the process. Whether the caucus' two wings can learn to fly together is a whole other story. But, one thing at a time.

Sims has only been a Senator since January of 2018, but he was on Senate staff for a decade, rising to the top of the appropriations staff before serving in the House for almost six years. He's a budget expert and knows the process back and forth. Even so, convincing Senators who have "paid their dues" for many years to support somebody who basically just got there for Senate President will be a big ask, no matter how talented Sims may be (and he most certainly is).

**Meanwhile, some members with** primaries and general elections are likely becoming antsy as the Senate President election process enters its second month this week. One way of calming those nerves is to demonstrate fundraising abilities. Sims has reported no contributions in the past month. As I've already told you, Assistant Majority Leader Don Harmon (D-Oak Park) reported raising \$340,000 earlier this month.

Harmon also transferred more than \$300,000 from other campaign committees he controls.

Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford (D-Maywood) held a fundraiser several days ago, but has not yet reported any contributions. I'm told a significant disclosure is scheduled for today.

**Speaking of Lightford**, you'd think with just 38 members (minus Senate President Cullerton and soon-to-be-history Martin Sandoval), the rumor mill would be kept to a low roar in that caucus. Think again.

A rumor has been going around for days that Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot is making calls on Leader Lightford's behalf. I checked with the mayor's team and Lightford's team and was given a very firm "No" by both camps.

Several Senate Democrats have also convinced themselves that they need to be quiet about their choices for the next chamber leader because Lightford could retaliate. Some are so worked up that they're even privately calling for a secret caucus ballot to determine the next Senate President, which would break decades of tradition and is highly unlikely to happen.

Much of this may just be in their own heads, but former Sen. Rickey Hendon (D-Chicago) played right into those fears when he posted a Facebook video after leaving a Lightford fundraiser insulting her rivals with pointed jabs at their integrity and blasting South Side African-American Senators for not supporting a West Sider. Lightford did not disavow Hendon's remarks (although I'm not sure if anyone even asked her to do so), which also didn't go unnoticed.

I dunno. Yes, Hendon was a cudgel for then-Senate President Emil Jones, who often ran his caucus with a firm and retributive hand. But Jones and Hendon are long gone and I don't think anyone currently in the SDEM caucus fits Rickey's profile. Sen. Sandoval would've tried to fill that bully role if his ally Sen. Tony Munoz (D-Chicago) had been elected Senate President, but Marty is on his way out and Munoz isn't running for the top job and isn't personally that type.

Whether these fears are based in reality or not, however, Lightford should probably address it within her caucus because the feeling is pretty rampant - even though, oddly enough, nobody I've spoken with can point to any actual behavior to justify their suspicions.

\*

**MORE PRIMARIES AND GENERALS** We finished the House last week, so let's start our look at Senate races, shall we?

1st Senate - Sen. Tony Munoz (D-Chicago) had been expected to pick up a primary challenge from Congressman Chuy Garcia's organization, but that didn't happen. Instead, Froy Jimenez, who announced his bid months ago, is Munoz's only Democratic challenger.



Jimenez is a CPS teacher. He has been allied with Chuy's organization in the past and is the co-chair of the Chicago Teachers' Union Political Action/Legislative committee. But he is, so far, on his own. Munoz has plenty of money and there's more where that came from. The question will be if the incumbent walks precincts. Munoz won his first Senate race partly because the incumbent (Chuy Garcia) was more focused on other campaigns. So, we'll see what Jimenez can do as we go along.

The question becomes whether Ald. George Cardenas plays a role here. Munoz and Cardenas are battling it out for ward committeeperson. Munoz won the first round 4 years ago, and Cardenas supported Chuy Garcia's candidates last year.

10th Senate - Sen. Rob Martwick (D-Chicago) was appointed to this seat in late June, which caused some hard feelings that linger to this day with other local power brokers. The district has lots of retired and active duty police, and one of their own, Danny O'Toole, is running against Martwick in the Democratic primary.

O'Toole hasn't raised much money yet. He started with about \$1,200 and has added \$3,000 since then, including \$1,000 from Donna More, a candidate in the crowded field for Cook County State's Attorney. Martwick has plenty of money and a field operation, although the director of that operation, Dave Feller, is now running for the House and for ward committeeperson. Martwick is reportedly expecting no problems and maybe even some help from the Fraternal Order of Police, which would be a very good thing in that district. O'Toole's people are talking a big game, but they've yet to show they can match their words with actions. Stay tuned.

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# Addison Trail boys basketball team loses to Elgin

## Young Blazers team making strides out of gates

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail boys basketball team came out of the Thanksgiving holiday with a trip to historic Chesborough Field House at Elgin High School, where the host Maroons used a second-half comeback to record a 62-50 non-conference win.

The loss dropped Addison Trail to 2-2 overall.

Addison Trail led 33-22 at half-time.

"We got off to a great start," said Addison Trail coach Brendan Lyons. "They picked up their pressure and intensity in the second half and we were not up to the task. We had 29 turnovers. They took it to us in the second half, scoring in transition. They scored a lot off their defense and we had no answer."

Robert Roszkiewicz led the Blazers with 17 points. AJ Carlson had 14 points, while Alex Conrad added 12. "Elgin is a new game for us," Lyons said. "It was nice to be out there and playing in a unique environment in their gym."

"It was a really good game for us

to have early in the season to kind of understand what we will see a heavy dose of when it comes to the rest of our schedule, particularly our league games where teams will get up and pressure you. We have to handle that pressure if we want to give ourselves a chance in games."

Addison Trail was coming off a strong showing at the Elmwood Park Thanksgiving tournament where it recorded wins against Aurora Central Catholic and Northtown Academy. The Blazers lost to host Elmwood Park in their third game.

"Heading into the year we didn't know what we had," said Lyons. "We graduated pretty much everybody. Elmwood Park was a good tournament that allowed us to plug kids into different spots. A lot of kids got playing time. We found ourselves in a lot of different situations where we could see what roles fit people the best. It was a good tournament."

"We got off to a slow start against Elmwood Park. We were down 10-0 to start the game and that proved to be the difference. Our guys competed and played hard in that tournament. Now, it's getting them to focus all their energy in the right direction."

This year's team features only four seniors on a roster of 14.

"It's going to take time, without a doubt," said Lyons. "We have two

sophomores up with us. Outside of AJ Carlson and to a degree, Robert, we returned no varsity experience really at all. Guys are learning on the fly."

"It's helping us that we are playing a lot of games early. We had three games the first week, three more (last week) and we'll have three this week. By Christmas we're hoping we have a rotation set and that we see some growth in a lot of areas."

Lyons noted Carlson and Roszkiewicz, in particular, have played well at the start of the season.

"AJ has shot it well," said Lyons. "He was all-tournament at Elmwood Park and averaged close to 21 points

a game for the three games. This is his third year on varsity now. We knew he would be able to provide the offense we would be looking for."

"Robert has stepped up his game for us. He was a role player as sophomore last year and was learning the varsity game. He's stepped up and has moved into more of a leadership role the first month of the season. Those are good things to see. Other teams are going to be aware of AJ and Robert. Now, we have to figure out ways for them to be involved, and they have to figure out ways to not let themselves get taken out of games."

Addison Trail traveled to Car-

ol Stream earlier this week to play Glenbard North. The Trojans face Timothy Christian in Elmhurst Friday before heading to Downers Grove Saturday for a West Suburban Conference Gold Division game against Downers Grove South.

The Downers South game will mark the eighth road game of the season already for Addison Trail out of nine total games.

"We know there will be a lot of ups and downs this season," Lyons said. "It's about coming out in the right mindset. We are not looking at wins and losses, especially early. We are looking at progress. I'm excited to see where we can be as a team."

## Fenton girls bowling team off to hot start in new conference

By Mike Miazga  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton girls bowling team likes its new digs.

The Bison got off to a 2-0 start in their first year in the Upstate Eight Conference. Fenton scored dual-meet wins against Elgin and Bartlett out of the gates. Fenton lost a non-conference match to Hinsdale South.

Coch Lee Cassidy has two returning starters back from last year in seniors Emily Sanchez and Samantha Novak. Novak will leave the program this winter as a four-year varsity letter winner, having been with the big club since freshman year.

Novak was leading the team in scoring average through late last week at 168, while Sanchez was close by at 163 per game.

Newcomers include sophomore Marissa Warden and senior Kari Olson.

"We have a bunch of new sophomores trying to break into the lineup," Cassidy noted.

Cassidy lauded the work of assistant coach Ron Janik in streamlining the rapid development of the younger bowlers.

"Coach Janik is doing a great job with the girls," he said. "Most of them have never bowled before. We have three or four sophomores now rolling 120 to 125 averages in three-week's time. They already have improved by about 80 pins."

Cassidy noted he has another quality group of bowlers in the program.

"It's the same thing every year," he said. "The girls work great together. They are a good group. They are there every day, don't miss practice

and are there cheering each other on. They are very dedicated. The new kids are there to learn and they pick it up really quick. It takes a while to get used to where to move and where to throw your shot, but they are picking it up really fast. We should be able to do well, especially in conference."

Cassidy also is excited by the fact this is the first year in about a decade Fenton has been in a girls bowling conference.

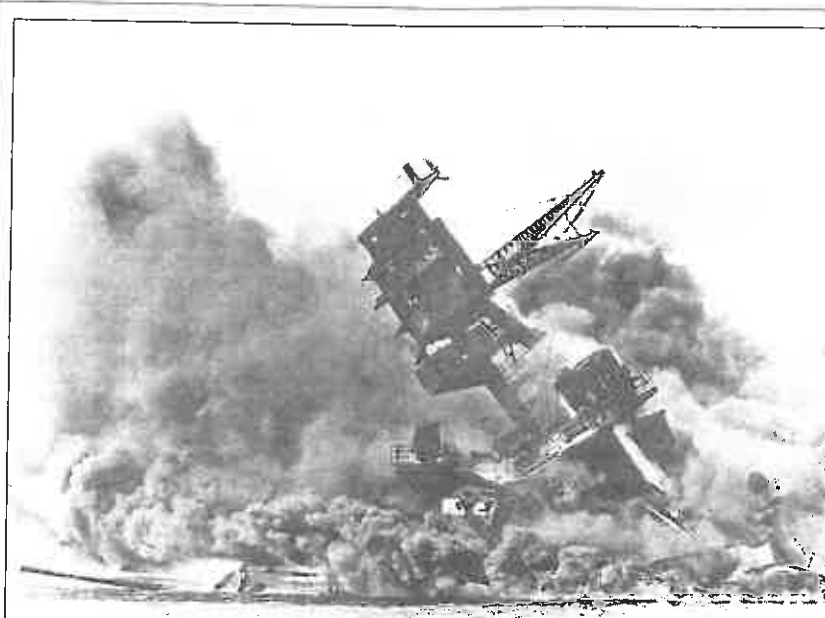
"The last time we were in a conference it had schools such as Morris, Minooka and Batavia in it," he said. "It would be nice to do damage in a conference for a change. Before this, we had been farming out games and going all over the state to bowl people. Now, we know we'll have at least 10 games where we know where to go and what to look for, which is good."

With regard to the UEC, Cassidy noted Glenbard East, a state-qualifier a year ago, has joined forces with Glenbard South to form a co-op team.

"Glenbard East was tough last year and now they can pool from two schools," he said. "Our first goal is to win the conference and that's a realistic goal. The second goal is to get at least three individuals on the all-conference team. Another realistic goal is to make it as a team to sectionals. After that, anything can happen."

The Bison hosted that very Glenbard co-op team earlier this week, as well as Downers Grove South at Wood Dale Bowl.

Fenton heads to Parkside Lanes in Aurora today to face East Aurora in a UEC contest.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

## Survivor recalls attack on Pearl Harbor

In this Dec. 7, 1941, photo, smoke rises from the battleship USS Arizona as it sinks during a Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. See story on page 22.



Declaring Japan guilty of a dastardly unprovoked attack, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war, Dec. 8, 1941. Listening are Vice President Henry Wallace, left, and House Speaker Sam Rayburn.