

Suburban Life

MVA – MALE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



BEN VANDERWAL
TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN
Sophomore | Basketball

Why VanderWal was selected:

VanderWal had 17 points and 17 rebounds and hit the game-winning 3-point shot in a 43-40 win over Wheaton Academy.

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

Welge: What happened on that shot?

VanderWal: The original play was to look for a guy on the back door. They defended it well, the whole side of the court was empty, pick and pop, it was a wide-open look. Jack Baldridge gave me a nice pass; I got the shot off in time and was fortunate enough to knock it in.

Welge: Had you ever hit a game-winner?

VanderWal: That was definitely something new for me. I've made big shots in a game before but never

a game-winning shot, especially in a varsity game. It was amazing. I made the shot in front of our bench, my teammates instantly got to me. It turned into a little bit of a mosh pit on our side. So cool to be a part of that.

Welge: What did you take out of your experience playing varsity as a freshman last year?

VanderWal: Last year I was pulled up with 12 games left in the season. I got some end-of-the-year experience, got to see what it's like to win regionals, but also got the feeling of what it's like to lose in the sectional. That stuck with me. I don't want that to happen to us again this season.

MVA – FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



STEPHANIE DASBACH
WILLOWBROOK
Junior | Basketball

Why Dasbach was selected:

Dasbach had 17 points, 15 rebounds and four blocked shots in a 50-48 overtime win over Downers Grove South.

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

Welge: It seems like the team has gone on a nice run since conference play started, right?

Dasbach: We're doing good. We're starting to connect more and it shows on the court. We're getting more confidence.

Welge: You are off to a great start to the season personally. How can you get better?

Dasbach: Most of my points so far are just on putbacks. Hopefully

later on the season I can show off my moves that I've been working on in the offseason. Coach keeps telling me to shoot more – I might try.

Welge: Were you always one of the taller girls on teams?

Dasbach: I'm 6-foot-1 with shoes on. I actually had a growth spurt freshman year. I was 5-9 or 5-10 going into high school. A couple extra inches helps. I'm starting to grow into my body; I used to be really clumsy.

Welge: What's the best Christmas present you ever received?

Dasbach: My parents surprised me with a trip to Disney World once.

CROSS COUNTRY

Glenbard West's Katelynne Hart takes fourth at Foot Locker nationals

By JOSHUA WELGE
jwelge@shawmedia.com

"To have the opportunity to race here and finish off the way I did was great."

Katelynne Hart
Glenbard West senior

Katelynne Hart didn't get caught up in the reality that this was her last high school cross country race.

She was just pleased with the result. Hart, a Glenbard West senior and four-time state champion, took fourth place in a competitive field at the 41st annual Foot Locker cross country national finals Dec. 14 at Morley Field in Balboa Park in San Diego.

"Overall, I'm really happy," said Hart, who will run collegiately at Michigan. "Last week, I had a rough week. To have the opportunity to race here and finish off the way I did was great. It was definitely a competitive race but very good."

Hart, last year's runner-up, pressed the early pace with an opening-mile

split of 5:09. Eventually it settled into a four-girl race between Hart; Zofia Dudek of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Taylor Ewert of Beavercreek, Ohio; and Marlee Starliper of Pennsylvania.

Starliper and Dudek surged ahead when the field hit the course's signature hill for the second time, and Starliper took the lead. But Dudek went back ahead and won the race in 16:45.0 – the fifth-fastest time in race history.

Hart came in fourth in 17:14.4. "They had a little more left than me at the end," Hart said. "It was very similar to last year here in that I got out strong, took the lead early. When going up the large hill the second time is when I dropped a little bit. Overall, it was a very good race."

Hart will now take a short break before getting ready for indoor track season.

"I don't think I've totally realized that this is my last high school cross country race, but I'm sure it will hit me soon," Hart said. "I'm probably going to take a little break now, spend some time with family. I'm definitely looking forward to indoor track."

In the boys race, St. Charles East senior Bob Liking took 24th in 15:52.6. The race was won by Hersey's Josh Methner in 15:08.8.

For Liking, a Wisconsin recruit and member of the Saints' first state championship in November, it was his first time competing at Foot Locker nationals.

"Kind of hoped I would have done better, but I wasn't mad about it," Liking said. "The hill kicked my butt the second time. Super excited to be here. It was an awesome experience. The weather's a lot better than Chicago."

Liking's finish came on the heels of taking 19th at Nike Cross Nationals in Oregon.

"It's been a nice way to end the high school cross season," Liking said. "These meets are so nice and they treat us so well. I'm not quite ready for track, not really thinking about that. Cross country has a special place in my heart. It's hard to see it end but super excited about collegiate racing."

2019 SPORTS STORIES OF THE YEAR

State titles – and plenty of Hart

By JOSHUA WELGE

jwelge@shawmedia.com

With the calendar about to flip over to 2020, there is no better time than now to look back on the top stories from 2019, to recognize the sensational performances of area athletes and more. Here is a look at some of those top stories.

Katelynne Hart adds to her legacy

When it's all said and done, Glenbard West's Katelynne Hart will be remembered among Illinois' all-time great runners.

She added to that legacy in 2019.

Hart in November won her fourth Class 3A state cross country championship at Peoria's Detweiller Park.

With a finish of 16 minutes, 5.81 seconds over 3.0 miles, Hart became the fourth four-time girls champion and first in the largest class since Wheeling's Dana Miroballi from 1984-87.

Include Hart's three state track titles for 3,200 and 1,600 meters and the Michigan recruit arguably is Illinois' greatest girls high school distance runner.

"I would contend that she is," Glenbard West coach Paul Hass said.

"The athletes have gotten so much faster and to have her so far ahead despite that is really incredible."

Hart in May became the second runner in state track meet history – and the first among the larger classes – to win the 800, 1,600 and 3,200 at the same state meet.

"It's always been on my mind for my whole career," Hart said. "Today I decided to throw myself a new challenge."

Willowbrook football breaks through

Willowbrook football, which enjoyed a renaissance this decade, broke through to make history.

Deandre Holliday's 65-yard pick-six in the final two minutes was the pivotal play as Willowbrook in November beat Lake Zurich 28-10 in a Class 7A state football quarterfinal.

Willowbrook, which made the quarterfinals for the fourth straight year, finally broke through to the semifinals for the first time since 1975.

Eric Ginnard - eginnard@shawmedia.com

Glenbard West's Katelynne Hart celebrates after finishing first in the Class 3A 1600-meter run May 18 at the girls track and field state finals in Charleston.

Sandy Bressner - sbressner@shawmedia.com

Glenbard West's Maddie Diab competes on the floor exercise during the state finals Feb. 15 at Palatine High School.



Gary E. Duncan Sr. for Shaw Media

Montini baseball players celebrate their Class 3A state championship game victory over St. Laurence on June 8 in Joliet.

Leading the way was senior quarterback Sam Tumilty, who enjoyed a spectacular year with more than 4,000 yards of total offense and 42 touchdowns.

"It feels great. It's great to know that it's for Willowbrook," Tumilty said. "These past few years, what we've done, this is for all those guys that came before us."

Maggie Bair, Glenbard South basketball take second at state

Glenbard South girls basketball, riding the back of All-Stater Maggie Bair, went all the way to second place in Class 3A, losing to Morton in the final in March.

The Raiders, a year removed from graduating three four-year starters from a team that took third at state, did it one better.

Glenbard South won 11 straight games before the final and didn't allow a playoff opponent to score 30 points until Morton scored 35 in the final.

"Every playoff team we played, we came in with the underdog mentality. We came in with nothing to lose and everything to gain," Bair said. "It kind of takes the pressure off you sometimes. It makes it incredible that we worked hard to get here when nobody thought we would."

It was a memorable year for Glenbard South girls and boys basketball.

On the boys side, Cole Hardtke, the son of head coach Wade Hardtke, led the Raiders to their first sectional championship since 2000.

"My goal coming in freshman year was I wanted to win one regional with him [my dad] and try to win one sectional," Cole Hardtke said. "There was a long shot of going downstate. But we were right there."

Maddie Diab, Glenbard West are state champs

After winning the state's all-around competition, Glenbard West senior Maddie Diab won three of the four event finals – vault, uneven parallel bars and balance beam – and missed sharing first on floor exercise by five hundredths of a point at the state gymnastics finals in February.

Her extraordinary performances helped the senior-dominated Hilltoppers secure the team state championship for the second straight year.

"It's my last time competing as a Hilltopper. I just wanted to finish my high school gymnastics career on a good note," Diab said. "I'm very excited that all of that success happened, but all of my individual success was just icing on the cake."

Montini baseball wins first state title

Rocco Catalano's two-run double was the big hit as Montini's baseball team beat St. Laurence 6-3 in June to win the program's first state championship.

Montini starting pitcher Michael Koszewski, a junior, tossed a complete-game effort, allowing four hits and three walks while striking out two over 97 pitches.

"I can't even describe it with words," Catalano said. "It's an amazing feeling and to know that I had a big part in that [celebration] ... I can't even describe how I feel right now."

On the same weekend, the St. Francis softball team took second place in its first state appearance.

"Everybody wants to win first place, but you're so happy because you never made it this far," said Caroline Caesar, St. Francis' senior catcher. "I'm just so proud of this team. We made history for our school. What more can you ask?"

Live video online

For live broadcasts, replays and highlight clips of events from area high schools, visit www.13newsnow.com.

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Addison INDEPENDENT



2.52

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THURSDAY, DEC. 19, 2019



HR IMAGING PARTNERS PHOTOS Addison Independent

International dancers set the scene

International Fest Week at Addison Trail culminated with the school's annual International Dance Show, which featured 17 dances that represented various countries and cultures. Proceeds from International Fest Week will benefit UNICEF, which provides health care and immunizations, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief and more to vulnerable children in more than 190 countries throughout the world. Story and another photo inside.



Trail boys basketball plans for those with pediatric cancer

Addison Trail Boys Basketball Team invite everyone to y, Dec. 20, and Feb. 7 to raise funds for Go4theGoal, an e mission is "... to improve the lives of children battling g financial support, developing and implementing unique funding innovative research and granting personal wishes." partnering with Leyden High School District 212 to heGoal's Lace Up 4 Pediatric Cancer® program, through and coaches will wear gold shoelaces during the games. laces and a Split-the-Pot raffle will be donated to the e tickets will be sold during all games on Dec. 20 at Addison 3 p.m., sophomores at 4:30 p.m., and varsity at 6 p.m. The ounced at the end of the third quarter of the varsity game. ation, contact AT Head Boys Basketball Coach Brendan lupage88.net or 630-458-4380.

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Addison Trail hosts International Fest Week

In late November, Addison Trail hosted its annual International Fest Week, during which 34 presenters spoke with 2,771 students in 142 classes about their experiences while traveling throughout the world.

Through the presentations, students were able to learn about more than 30 countries and a variety of cultures, topics and perspectives such as environmental engineering, mission trips, refugees and immigrants, peace corps, college internships, travel adventures, military experiences and more.

Addison Trail partnered with Junior Achievement of Chicago to coordinate and organize the speakers.

During the week, Addison Trail's International Club hosted a Dec-A-Door event, where resource classes chose a country and decorated their door to represent that location and culture.

The goal was to show that while Addison Trail encompasses many

nationalities, it is One Blazer Nation.

The decorations were judged, and the top three selections were announced. Brazil, the Behavior Resource Center door, took first place; second place went to Spain, the door of the Dean's office; and, in third, France, on the door of social studies teacher Alex Serrano's resource class.

International Fest Week culminated with the school's annual International Dance Show, which featured 17 dances that represented various countries/cultures.

Proceeds from International Fest Week will benefit the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which works in more than 190 countries and territories to save and protect the world's most vulnerable children by providing health care and immunizations, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief and more.



DANIEL CARVER / TIFFANY CUEVAS PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail's International Club hosted a Dec-A-Door event during its annual International Fest Week in late November. Decorations were judged and winners were named. In first place was [above left photo]: Brazil, the Behavior Resource Center; in second place [top right]: was Spain, the Dean's Office; and, in third place [top middle]: France, social studies teacher Alex Serrano's resource class.

• Grants

(Continued from page 4)

awareness and participation in DuPage County by increasing the Center's capacity and patron use.

Elmhurst Symphony Association — \$2,500

Funded by the JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund, the grant will support the writing and performance of an original piece of chamber music about monarch butterflies as a way of reaching a broader audience through nature-themed music.

Spirito! Singers — \$5,000

This grant will support a day of choral instruction and growth for female singers in grades 4-12 and professional music educators.

SCARCE — \$20,000

School & Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education, or SCARCE, was awarded a grant to support programs which reduce waste and educate people of all ages on how to conserve natural resources and prevent pollution.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Students earn ASE entry-level certifications

The following 16 Addison Trail students recently earned Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Entry-Level Certifications. They are: junior Konrad Nowak, engine repair, electrical/electronic systems; senior Daniel Ma' Tar, heating and air conditioning; sophomore Giovanni Sanchez, engine repair; senior Alexander Dlugon, heating and air conditioning; senior Ramon Romero, brakes; senior Brenda Perez, brakes; senior Victor Robles, engine repair; senior Connor McNally, heating and air conditioning; junior Sebastian Ruiz, heating and air conditioning; junior Javier Castillo, heating and air conditioning, electrical-electronic systems, engine repair; junior Ivan Jaimes, automatic transmission-transaxle, maintenance and light repair, electrical-electronic systems, brakes, engine repair, heating and air conditioning, drive train; senior Misael Tellez, automobile service technology, engine performance, maintenance and light repair, electrical-electronic systems, suspension and steering, heating and air conditioning, brakes; senior Erick Viveros, electrical-electronic systems, heating and air conditioning, engine performance, suspension and steering, drive train; senior Guillermo Diaz, electrical-electronic systems, engine repair, drive train, heating and air conditioning; senior Daniel Svancara, heating and air conditioning; senior David Glinkowski, heating and air conditioning.

Addison VFW hosts Turkey-Ham Spin

The Addison VFW Post #7446, members who are pictured here, would like to thank Costco in Bloomingdale and Walmart in Addison for their generous donations for a very successful evening on Nov. 16 when the Post held its annual Turkey Ham Spin. Thanks to the staff for all their help, as well as the senior and veterans who attended.

Young Fenton girls basketball team finding its way

Bison down Elgin by 30 points in UEC clash

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

With youth on an athletic roster come ups and downs.

And that is holding true for the young Fenton girls basketball team thus far. But it's something Fenton coach Dave Mello is using as a building block.

"We are really working to try and be more consistent," he said. "Being a very young team, we know that there will be a lot of ups and downs. We will continue to work to make sure that our downs aren't so low. We need to raise our floor."

Fenton was 5-6 overall through its first 11 games and was 1-6 in its first seven games as a new entrant in the Upstate Eight Conference.

Recently, Fenton scored a 51-21 UEC win over Elgin, but then lost conference games to Glenbard East (69-42), Bartlett (73-50) and West Chicago (51-34).

Mello was encouraged by what he saw in the game against Bartlett.

"In our loss to Bartlett, which will win the Upstate Eight, it was the best shooting night we have had in our three seasons running our system," he noted. "We shot 50 percent on 2-point shots and 36% on 3-point shots. Unfortunately, we turned the ball over way too many times and couldn't get enough shot attempts to stay closer."

Mello would like to see more

consistently, in particular, on the offensive end.

"Like our season as a whole, our offense has been very inconsistent," he said. "Against the two best teams we have played in Glenbard South and Bartlett, we shot the ball really well. Those teams are just better than us at this point. Against some of the lesser teams on our schedule, we have really struggled with our shooting and turnovers. We feel that the more game experience we get, the more consistent we will become."

On defense, Mello has noted a bit of a leveling off in recent times.

"We aren't getting nearly enough deflection, which help lead to the steals, which get our offense off and running," he noted. "Also, we're looking to really increase our

defensive rebounding."

Mello lauded the recent work of sophomore Elizabeth Aguirre and senior Ashley Milano.

"Elizabeth has really started playing well on both ends of the court," the coach said. "She has started knocking down 3-point shots and is all over the court on defense. Ashley also is everywhere on defense. She is a key component of our defense, and she always is making things happen. Offensively, she has rediscovered her 3-point shot recently and is back to scoring

like in the past two seasons."

Fenton is playing in the Chicago Collins Academy tournament to close out this week.

"We have struggled more than anticipated in getting our offense to play at the pace we expect," said Mello. "We know with our youth it would be a work in progress, but we really didn't think we would struggle to put up numbers like the past two seasons. However, we are only a third of the way through the season and know this team will continue to improve every day."

Addison Trail-Willowbrook boys swimming team defeats Morton

Relays fare well at Rolling Meadows Invite

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook coop boys swimming team turned in a pair of strong outings recently.

AT-Willowbrook notched a West Suburban Conference Gold Division dual meet win against Morton on Dec. 13, and then had a pair of relays swim well at the relay-oriented Rolling Meadows Invitational at Elk Grove High School on Dec. 14.

"The guys looked good against Morton," AT-Willowbrook coach Neil Wahlgren said. "We took down a lot of events there. And then we had a good, fun relay meet (Rolling Meadows) where we got to experience a lot of different things. We saw guys swim a bunch of different strokes and get a bunch of different times."

Wahlgren, who noted the team has been battling illness recently, saw plenty he liked against Morton, starting with Addison Trail senior Marco Chadez.

"Marco looked really good," he said. "He did really well in the butterfly. With his freestyle, he's looking like the strongest guy so far."

Addison Trail freshman Connor Craddock also is progressing nicely, Wahlgren noted. "He's looking really good with his sprint freestyle and backstroke."

Willowbrook senior Aidan Nichols has been excelling in the breaststroke, while Addison Trail sophomore Michael Niemirski is another strong freestyle swimmer on Wahlgren's lineup sheet.

"Those four guys (Chadez, Craddock, Nichols and Niemirski) are the medley relay and they are doing really well with it," said Wahlgren. "I'm excited to see what happens with that relay throughout the season."

Wahlgren also had high praise for Willowbrook junior Sean Pienkos, Addison Trail sophomore Matthew Burrow and Willowbrook junior Cole McGinnis.

"Sean is consistently strong for us," Wahlgren said. "He's a really good leader in practice. He and Marco are good leaders in practice and at meets. Matthew is another really good guy for us. He's in more of a utility role in different events. Cole McGinnis is another guy we can put in many different spots and he goes in there and helps out the team."

Wahlgren noted that sprinting continues to be a team strong-suit. "That's the thing that we did the best at in the relay meet," he said.

At Rolling Meadows, the Warriors were fourth in the 100 sprint relay. That group included Pienkos,

Niemirski, Nichols and Craddock.

The 400 medley relay team finished sixth with the usual grouping of Chadez, Craddock, Nichols and Niemirski.

"That's a college [format] event and the guys had a lot of fun," said Wahlgren.

As the team heads to winter break, Wahlgren has seen plenty of positives.

"This is a fun group to work with," he said. "The guys are out there supporting each other. It's just a good group of guys to be around. They are a strong group of guys and like to be together."

Addison Trail-Willowbrook returns to action Friday, Jan. 10, at Downers Grove South.

"We'll get after it over the holiday break at practice," Wahlgren said.

Sudoku Puzzle Answers

9	7	5	1	3	8	6	4	2
2	4	1	9	6	5	7	8	3
3	6	8	2	4	7	1	9	5
4	8	3	7	9	6	5	2	1
6	5	2	4	8	1	9	3	7
7	1	9	5	2	3	8	6	4
8	3	7	6	1	4	2	5	9
5	2	6	3	7	9	4	1	8
1	9	4	8	5	2	3	7	6

The Don of A New Day in Sports



DON FIGARELLI

Hey, Bears fans! The Bears should have never traded running back Jordan Howard; he was a 1,000-yard rusher for two years that started their problems. They should have thrown more short passes and screens to Tarik Cohen, their play-calling was suspect, and Trubisky should have rolled out and run more often. On the defensive side of the ball, they should have blitzed more often. Do you agree with me?

Win a T-shirt, answer these trivia questions:

What is Dan Hampton's nickname?

What college did Steve McMichael attend?

Call Don at 630-530-7061 if you have the answers.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Friday, January 10, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., in Suite 501 of the office of Hart, Southworth & Witsman located at One North Old State Capital Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701, a public hearing will be held before the Executive Director of the Illinois Finance Authority (the "Authority"), or his designee, regarding a plan of finance to issue one or more series of the Authority's tax-exempt and/or taxable revenue bonds (the "Bonds") in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$15,000,000. The proceeds of the Bonds will be loaned to Roosevelt University, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation (the "University"), to provide all or a portion of the funds necessary to (i) pay or reimburse the University for the costs of acquiring certain assets of Robert Morris University, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation ("RMU"); (ii) pay or reimburse the University for the costs of acquiring fixtures, furniture and equipment, making improvements to leased and/or owned facilities and relocating staff and programs; (iii) fund capitalized interest; and (iv) pay certain expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds (collectively, the "Financing Purpose"), all as permitted under the Illinois Finance Authority Act, 20 ILCS 35/1801-1 et seq., as supplemented and amended (the "Act").

The educational facilities to be financed from the proceeds of the Bonds are or will be (i) owned and operated by the University; (ii) located on land owned by the University at or near 421-425 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; 430 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; 509 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; and 1400 North Roosevelt Boulevard, Schaumburg, Illinois; and (iii) located on land leased to RMU (which leases will be assigned to the University) at or near 1507 Waukegan Road, Waukegan, Illinois; 206 S.W. Adams Street, Peoria, Illinois; 2121 South Goebert Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois; 12 South Center Street, Bensenville, Illinois; and 17130 Prime Boulevard, Lockport, Illinois.

The Bonds are special, limited obligations of the Authority, payable solely out of the revenues and other funds pledged and assigned for their payment in accordance with one or more loan agreements each between the University and the Authority and the indenture or indentures pursuant to which the Bonds are issued. The Bonds do not constitute a debt of the State of Illinois within the meaning of any provisions of the Constitution or statutes of the State of Illinois or a pledge of the faith and credit of the State of Illinois or grant to the owners thereof any right to have the General Assembly levy any taxes or appropriate any funds for the payment of the principal thereof or interest thereon.

The above notice of public hearing is required by Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. At the time and place set for the public hearing, residents, taxpayers and other interested persons will be given the opportunity to express their views for or against the financing and refinancing of the costs of the above-described facilities and the issuance of the Bonds. Written comments may also be submitted to the Executive Director of the Authority via email at publiccomments@il-fa.com or (i) at his office located at 160 North LaSalle Street, Suite S-1000, Chicago, Illinois 60601-3124 (overnight delivery), or (ii) at P.O. Box 641249, Chicago, Illinois 60664 (mail) until Wednesday, January 8, 2020. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), if any person with a disability (as defined by the ADA) needs special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, he or she should contact the Authority at (312) 651-1300 not later than Thursday, January 9, 2020.

Dated: December 20, 2019.

/s/ Christopher B. Meister

Executive Director

Illinois Finance Authority

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Review Dec. 26, 2019)

364458

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 4-0 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 6-0 run that tied the score at 35-35 with about five 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 63-37 with about two minutes left in the game.

Warriors closed the gap 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 over Hinsdale South, West Chicago and Larkin to even their overall record at 5-5. The Hinsdale South girls put Addison Trail at 1-2 in the Suburban Conference Gold Division.

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 letting 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.

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 letting 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 to 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 Balslew 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 Pub

The Willowbrook and Addison Trail girls gymnastics teams competed in their annual District 88 match. 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'Allyha Herron made two free

throws during the extra period.

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

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

The Warriors' schedule this week includes conference games at 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 has a 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 offseason makes a difference."

Ortiz said one characteristic that

has stood out thus far with his is their toughness.

"They are gritty," he said. "I have a gritty toughness to them. They are gelling as a group working well together as a team. They are understanding that this is an individual sport to a 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 a save point. It's still a team sport and every match counts. It's exciting to see their progress."

Willowbrook faces Morton week in WSC Gold action and heads to the Hinsdale Central tournament.

"Hinsdale is one of the pre-top tournaments in the state," Ortiz said. "It will give us a chance to see how we are against some of the guys in the state. It will show us fast 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 help us get to where we want to be later in the season and come to tournament time."



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 offi-

cers 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 con-

trol 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 monetary terms but is life-changing for our residents."

"Clients who completed workNet DuPage job training programs earned more than \$5 million in wages," said workNet DuPage Career Center Executive Director Lisa Schvach. "spending power is currently being re-injected into the community. Businesses, too, strengthened their workforce and simultaneously strengthened the regional economy. As we reflect on our 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.

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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 Olascoaga (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 real 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 19-15.

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

Fenton scored wins against Niles West (47-27), Elmwood Park (50-4), Chicago Mather (65-15), Chicago Kelly (60-6) and South Elgin 14-27.

Through those first six matches, junior Ricky Saucedo was 6-0 at 12 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 Dickson 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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Willowbrook girls basketball team records two conference wins

By Mike Miazga
REPORTER
The Willowbrook girls basketball team racked up two West Suburban Gold Conference victories last week to improve its conference record to 5-1.

In a 69-10 rout of Hinsdale South on Dec. 17, Willowbrook led 22-0 after the first quarter and 29-5 at halftime.

The Warriors scored the Hornets 0-10 in the third quarter to increase the lead to 53-5. Senior K'Allyha Herron led the warriors with 19 points. Junior Stephanie Dasbach added 15 points. Junior Lindsey King added 10 points by making three shots from point range in the fourth quarter. Juniors Olivia Sobieszczyk and Abbey Spada both scored seven points. Herron had seven steals in the home game against Hinsdale South.

The Warriors proved their conference record to 1-1 with Friday's 59-17 win at Morton.

Herron scored 19 points and made four steals. She shot 8-for-12 from the field. Dasbach provided 18 points and pulled down 10 rebounds. She made eight of 10 field-goal attempts. Junior Annemarie Knudson added seven points to go with six assists and three steals. Spada scored four points and handed out seven assists.

The Warriors dropped to 8-5 overall after Saturday's 53-40 non-conference loss at Elk Grove. Willowbrook held a 14-13 lead after a quarter, but trailed 26-23 at halftime. Elk Grove led the Warriors 38-30 after three quarters.

Dasbach finished with 15 points and 11 rebounds. She made six of eight attempts from the field. Herron, who made six of 11 field-goal attempts, scored 14 points. She also contributed seven rebounds and three steals. The Warriors are playing in this week's 16-team Bill Neibich Holiday Classic at Wheaton North High School.



Wrestling

The Willowbrook wrestling team had a good showing at the Rex Whitlatch Invitational, which took place Friday and Saturday. Hinsdale Central hosted the invitational, which is regarded as one of the strongest tournaments in the state.

Eight of 11 Willowbrook wrestlers made it to the second day of competition.

Zach Seymore took fourth for the Warriors, while Elijah Brockie was fifth and Wyatt Borri ended in seventh place.

In earlier action, Willowbrook fared well at the Conant Invitational. John Peterson finished first, while Samantha Williams also finished first in the girls division of the tournament.

Other top Willowbrook finishers included Gabe Yu, Seymore, David Kapica and Borri each logging second-place finishes. Brockie took third, while Vinny Suehiro and Nick Mabutas both finished fourth. David Arrowsmith took fifth.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Senior K'Allyha Herron (No. 15-above) and junior Stephanie Dasbach (No. 30-left) led Willowbrook's girls basketball in scoring during last week's three games. Herron and Dasbach scored 17 and 15 points, respectively, in last week's 69-10 West Suburban Gold Conference win over Hinsdale South. The two Warriors are pictured during that victory. Herron scored 19 points in Friday's 59-38 conference win at Morton. Dasbach added 18 points and 13 rebounds. The Warriors finished the week with Saturday's 53-40 non-conference loss at Elk Grove. Dasbach scored 15 points, while Herron provided 14 points. Saturday's loss sent the Warriors' overall record to 8-5. Willowbrook finished the first half of the conference season with a 5-1 record. The Warriors are playing in this week's holiday tournament at Wheaton North.

Warriors fall to 4-5 after losses to Morton and York Mustangs and Dukes pull away with second-half surges

The Willowbrook boys basketball team lost a pair of home games in successive nights last week.

The Warriors dropped an 84-72 West Suburban Gold Conference decision to Morton on Friday. York defeated Willowbrook 70-58 in Saturday's non-conference game.

The Warriors dropped to 4-5 overall after Saturday's loss. Friday's setback left Willowbrook with a conference record of 1-2.

Friday's game was close until Morton unleashed a barrage of 3-point shots during the fourth quarter.

The visiting Mustangs led the Warriors 39-35 at halftime and 58-56 through three quarters. Morton sank six shots from 3-point range during the fourth period.

The Warriors led Morton 62-61 after senior Everett Stubblefield made a pair of free throws with 5:59 to play. Stubblefield made an acrobatic driving shot to tie the score at 64-64

with about five minutes remaining.

Morton drained a 3-point shot to take a 67-64 lead, but senior Deandre Holliday responded with a 3-point shot to tie the Mustangs at 67-67 with about 4:40 to play.

The Warriors took a 68-67 lead on a free throw by senior Brenton Jones at the 4:12 mark. Holliday sank a foul shot to tie the score at 69-69 with 3:49 left.

Morton then unleashed a 15-3 run to end the game. A 3-point shot and a driving layup gave the Mustangs a 74-69 edge with three minutes to play. Two more baskets from 3-point range boosted the lead to 80-69 with about 1:55 remaining.

Stubblefield led all scorers with 37 points. He made 14 shots from the field, including six from 3-point territory, and converted three of four free throws.

Holliday and sophomore Sean Paige both scored 11 points. Senior Sam Tumilty added eight points.

Saturday's battle against York was tight at halftime, with the visiting Dukes holding a 30-26 lead. York outscored the Warriors 24-10 in the third quarter to build a 54-36 cushion.

"We competed almost the whole game," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins after Saturday's loss. "In the start of the third quarter, we made some poor decisions. We're having a bad two- or three-minute stretch in these games, and it's kind

of getting away from us and putting too much pressure on us."

Tumilty connected on six of 10 shots from 3-point range and scored a team-high 23 points for Willowbrook. Tumilty made three 3-point shots during the second quarter. He added one more long-range shot in the third quarter and sank two more during the fourth period.

Stubblefield provided 16 points against York. Jones and Holliday scored six and five points, respec-

tively.

The Warriors are playing in week's holiday tournament at Hinsdale Central. Perkins said his team will be striving for consistency against tough competition.

"It's a long season; there's a lot of ebbs and flows," said Perkins whose team will play on its home court in an IHSA Class 4A regional game in the upcoming post-season. "We just got to continue to come to every day and grind it out."



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Pub

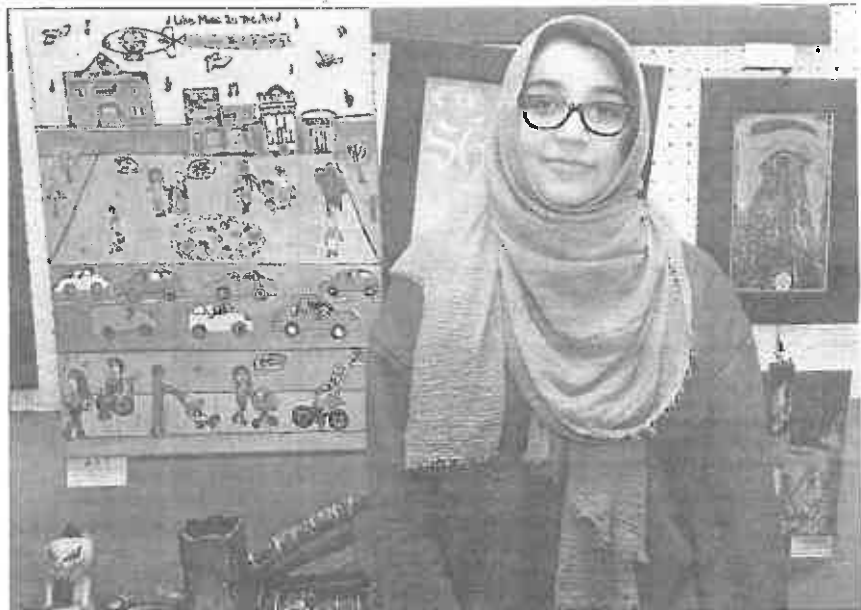
Seniors Everett Stubblefield (No. 3-left) and Sam Tumilty (No. 5-above) led the Willowbrook boys basketball team in scoring in last week's pair of games. Stubblefield scored 37 points in Friday's 84-72 West Suburban Gold Conference loss to Morton. Tumilty scored a team-leading 23 points in Saturday's 70-58 non-conference loss to York. Both players are pictured during Friday's contest. Stubblefield made six 3-point shots in Friday's game, while Tumilty connected on six 3-point attempts on Saturday. Warriors' overall record stood at 4-5 after their loss to York. Friday's loss to Morton sent Willowbrook's conference record to 1-2. The Warriors are playing in this week's holiday tournament at Hinsdale Central.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Student art display

Willowbrook students' artwork recently filled Villa Park's Funky Java Coffee House. Funky Java, located at 40 S. Villa Ave., has hosted a weeklong display featuring the school's artists for 16 years. The artists who created work for this year's display included senior Andrea Mendoza, who is shown above near her ceramic piece of a mermaid. Another photo (top right) shows junior Annika Schramek, who is standing near her computer-generated graphic design highlighting the city of Seattle. Also pictured are sophomore Misbah Kaludi (middle right) and senior Jaqueline Hernandez (bottom right).



Inaugural Winterpalooza held at Salt Creek District 48

Nostalgic event created by alums

From Salt Creek School District 48 alumni fondly remember the Christmas Carnival each year when they were growing up in Salt Creek Schools. It was a time when the whole community came together and where they made lifelong friends.

Now in the present day, the four have re-created the favorite event for the current school community.

"We got to talking and reminiscing, and we just thought 'let's do it' and let's see if we can create those same memories for this generation," said Tracy Schellhorn, who is both a teacher's aide in the District and a current parent.

She and the three other alumni planned Winterpalooza. It was held Saturday, Dec. 7 and featured carnival games, a holiday shop, free prize drawings, an auction and a pancake breakfast. Dozens of parents and staff volunteered and hundreds of alumni, current District 48 families, community members and others attended the event.

"It was everything we had hoped it to be," said Jessica Lindgren, who was one of the four alumni who planned the event.

Lindgren graduated from Albright in 2003 and is now a teacher's aide at Salt Creek Primary School preschool.

"It was amazing to see the District 48 community come together for such a great cause—our kids," she added.

The two other alumni are Laura Miller and Kate Beckwith. Kate works at Albright as an administrative assistant. Kate, Laura and Tracy are also all parents in the District.

In addition, they were aided by an army of volunteers—14 Willowbrook High School sophomores who ran the carnival games, 38 District staff members who made pancakes and volunteered to serve, and dozens of other teachers, staff, parents and community members.

The event raised more than \$6,000 from the breakfast, raffle, auction and holiday shop.



Ongoing event

Lions Park being prepared for ice skating

Villa Park Parks and Recreation staff is preparing Lions Park, 320 E. Wildwood, for ice skating. The weather must cooperate with a minimum of a week of sub-freezing temperatures for the ice to be ready for skating. Skating will also be available at Jefferson Park, 341 N. Harvard; just east of Jefferson Pool. Jefferson Park's ice rink is due to be ready for skating after Jan. 1. Please dress for the cold weather as there are no shelter facilities or restroom facilities. Note the flags flying at the ice rink: green flag flying indicates rink is open; red flag indicates a closed rink. The Parks and Recreation Department owns two sets of "Pond Goals" and one set of Mini-Mite goals available for weekend rental at \$10 per set for a Friday pickup and Monday return. Rentals are done at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa. You must leave a copy of your driver's license or state ID to rent the goals. For more information and for ice readiness updates, call 630-834-8970.



Addison Trail holds holiday concert

This holiday season, Addison Trail has gotten into the spirit with several festive events. On Dec. 4, the sounds of music filled the gym at Addison Trail during the school's annual Holiday Benefit Concert, pictured here. The event featured more than 20 pieces performed by Chamber Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, Concert Choir,

Treble Choir, Beginning Mixed Choir, Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Alumni singers and instrumentalists also were invited to come on stage for a performance of George Frideric Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus. A portion of the proceeds raised during the concert (\$1,000) will be donated to the Reynaga family to help cover medical costs.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 2019



Christmas Kick

CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Willowbrook High School's dance team performed its Christmas kick routine during halftime of Friday night's varsity boys basketball game. The members of Willowbrook's dance program have performed their Christmas kick routine to Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You," annually for 20 years. Pictured (left to right) before Friday's performance are: (front row) sophomore Ava Cappitelli, junior Michaela Meier, junior Katie Kramme, sophomore Nelly Irion, sophomore Se-

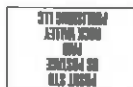
brina Corso, freshman Gianna Wiegel and junior Alexis Venegas; (back row) junior Natasha Daum, sophomore Olivia Ehrhardt, senior Gianna Irion, sophomore Coco Bernard, senior Charlie Wozniak and junior Jessica McEllin. Willowbrook's dance team competed at the 2019 IHSA competitive dance state meet in February. The team will try to earn a trip to the 2020 state meet when it performs at the Geneva Sectional in January.

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SPORTS

JAN. 2, 2020 • 13

Willowbrook girls take fourth at Wheaton North tournament Herron and Dasbach earn all-tournament honors; Warriors tied for first in WSC Gold

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook girls basketball team concluded the 2019 portion of its schedule by finishing fourth at the 16-team Bill Neibich Holiday Classic at Wheaton North.

The Warriors began the tournament with a crushing 73-14 win over Elgin on Dec. 23. They then beat Waubonsie Valley 41-38 on Dec. 26. Willowbrook lost 46-40 to Elk Grove in Friday's semifinal round. Wheaton North defeated the Warriors 45-35 in Saturday's third-place game.

The Warriors' overall season record at the end of the tournament stood at 10-7.

Two Willowbrook players—senior K' Aliyha Herron and junior Stephanie Dasbach—were named to the event's all-tournament team.

Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell was thrilled with the play of Herron against Elgin.

"K' Aliyha had a huge game," he said. "You don't see a high-school triple-double very often."

Herron finished with 28 points (13 of 22 shooting), 12 rebounds and 11 steals in the win over Elgin.

"Those triple-doubles are hard to come by," Harrell said. "She had 17 steals in a game earlier this year. She's averaging five steals a game. She has extremely quick hands. She's one of those kids who keeps her head on a swivel. She's active in the passing lanes. She's just as effective in the half-court sitting down on the ball. She will wait for you to make a mistake."

The Warriors led Elgin 18-6 after one quarter and 42-8 at halftime.

Dasbach scored 14 points and pulled down 18 rebounds against Elgin. Junior Annemarie Knudtson added 15 points.

Willowbrook outscored Waubonsie Valley 14-4 in the third period of the second-round game to take a 36-27 lead with one quarter to play. The Warriors held a 40-29 lead early in the fourth quarter, but Waubonsie Valley rallied in the closing minutes to narrow Willowbrook's lead.

Knudtson, who made four of five 3-point attempts, scored a team-leading 18 points in the win over Waubonsie Valley. Dasbach scored 12 points, and after recording 18 rebounds against Elgin, she grabbed 18 more rebounds against Waubonsie Valley.

Herron provided 11 points and four steals in the second-round win.

Friday's semifinal loss marked Willowbrook's second loss to Elk Grove in less than one week. Elk Grove defeated the Warriors 53-40 in a Dec. 21 meeting.

Willowbrook led Elk Grove 23-20 at half-time of Friday's semifinal. Elk Grove held a 29-26 lead late in the third quarter, but Knudtson made a 3-point shot to tie the score at 29-29. Elk Grove scored the last four points of the quarter to take a 33-29 lead with eight minutes to play.

Herron's rebound and basket cut the lead to 35-31, with five minutes left in the game. Herron delivered another rebound and basket to trim Elk Grove's lead to 36-33 with 3:30 to play.

Herron drained a 3-point shot to cut the lead to 39-36 with about 2:20 left in the game. The



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls basketball team won two of four games and finished fourth in the 16-team Bill Neibich Holiday Classic at Wheaton North. The Warriors opened the tournament with wins over Elgin and Waubonsie Valley. They lost a semifinal battle to Elk Grove before losing to Wheaton North in the third-place contest. Willowbrook's overall record stood at 10-7 at the end of the tournament. Senior K' Aliyha Herron and junior Stephanie Dasbach of the Warriors were both named to the all-tournament team. Herron is pictured at right during the game against Elk Grove, while Dasbach is shown above during the contest against Wheaton North. One more photo from the semifinal game shows junior Annemarie Knudtson (No. 11-top right). Knudtson scored 15 points in the win over Elgin. She provided a team-leading 18 points in the victory over Waubonsie Valley and contributed 11 points in the loss to Elk Grove.

Warriors launched and missed a 3-point shot that could have tied the game with about 1:40 to play.

Herron made a pair of free throws to cut Elk Grove's lead to 40-38 with 52.8 seconds remaining. The Grenadiers made two free throws with 43.1 seconds left to take a 42-38 lead. Elk Grove scored three points over the next 30 seconds to build a 45-38 lead.

Herron, who scored nine of her team's 11 fourth-quarter points, finished the game with 17 points and 12 rebounds. Knudtson scored 11 points, while Dasbach supplied seven points and nine rebounds.

Wheaton North led the Warriors 25-13 at half-time of Saturday's third-place game. The lead grew to 32-13 in the third quarter. Willowbrook trailed the Falcons 42-27 with about two minutes left in the game before closing the gap with an 8-3 run.

Dasbach scored 17 points and snared 14 rebounds in the final game of the tournament. Herron contributed 11 points and six rebounds.

Willowbrook has plenty of momentum on its side heading into the 2020 portion of its sched-



ule. The Warriors are 5-1 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play after the first round.

"We lost that first conference game to Proviso East where we didn't shoot well and then we ran off five in a row," Harrell noted. "We are tied for first right now with Proviso. We are very much looking forward to the second part of the schedule. We have had a pretty good start."

"We lost [junior] Gracie Tumilty to a knee injury before the season. We are pretty happy where we are. It's been a pretty good year so far. We're getting help off the bench and getting deeper over the course of the year. We are a heck of a lot better than we were at the start



of the year." Willowbrook returns to action Saturday, Jan. 11, at home against Downers Grove South in a WSC Gold game. Willowbrook won 50-48 in overtime at Downers South on Dec. 10. Willowbrook faces Proviso East in Maywood on Jan. 25.

"Our schedule is a little tougher this year," Harrell said. "We picked up Montini (part of the Willowbrook Thanksgiving tournament), and that doesn't help your record, and we played Elk Grove, and the second-part of our schedule isn't going to help either. It's going to be tough."

Chris Fox contributed to this story.

Young Addison Trail boys basketball team continues to make strides Carlson, Roszkiewicz leading the way for Blazers

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Addison Trail boys basketball coach Brendan Lyons knew patience would be a virtue during the early part of this season.

"Early in the year we knew we were playing a lot of younger guys and seniors with limited varsity experience," he said earlier last week. "Guys were getting thrown into the fire right away."

Addison Trail started the season with a 2-8 mark in its first 10 contests heading into the Maine East tournament over the holidays. A win in the first game at Maine East against Argo snapped an eight-game losing streak.

"We went through a rough stretch there and hopefully we are starting to turn the corner," Lyons said. "We saw what we kind of expected with some inconsistency, especially with taking care of the ball. We are growing from an education standpoint on both ends of the floor. We have seen a lot of peaks and valleys so

far. We are improved in some areas. We are starting, slowly but surely, to find people in certain roles for us. We have done a better job of taking care of the ball."

Lyons said progress has been made on both sides of the ball.

"The defensive end has improved at a quicker rate than the offensive end," he noted. "Traditionally since I have been at Addison Trail we have been a man-to-man team. Over the last few weeks we have mixed in some zone with our man defense. We had some hiccups early on with guys understanding the movements and nuances of the zone. We've been able to transition and use both effectively, and it has worked in our favor to keep us in games."

Lyons added a key of late has been reducing the number of giveaways in games. "I think it starts with limiting turnovers as a team," he said. "We are averaging close to 22 turnovers a

See BASKETBALL, Page 14

Stubblefield's miraculous long-range shots stun the Red Devils

A 3-pointer at the end of regulation sends the game to overtime; buzzer-beating shot from beyond half-court line wins the game

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook boys basketball team played four down-to-the-wire games at the 16-team Hinsdale Central Classic. The Warriors won just one of those four games, but it was an unforgettable victory.

Willowbrook was the victim of a pair of last-second shots in its first two games of the tournament. The Warriors won their third game of the event, beating Hinsdale Central on senior Everett Stubblefield's spectacular shot from well behind the half-court line.

Stubblefield sank a pair of buzzer-beating shots in Friday's 49-47 win over the Red Devils. His 3-point shot from about 35 feet at the end of regulation tied the score at 41-41 and sent the game into overtime. Willowbrook trailed the Red Devils 47-46 when Stubblefield caught an inbound pass with about three seconds on the clock. He took a couple of dribbles between two Red Devils and launched the miraculous game-winning shot.

"They had just made two free throws [with about three seconds to play] to take the lead, and we were out of time outs," said Stubblefield in discussing his game-winning shot. "Sam [Tumilty] inbounded the ball to me. I went through the double-team and just threw it up, and it happened to go in."

Stubblefield's excited teammates ran toward him to celebrate the magical game-winning shot.

"It was a nice feeling," said Stubblefield, who was named to the event's all-tournament team. "We were on a losing streak, and that ended the streak right there, so that felt pretty good."

"I've never been a participant in anything like that," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins of Stubblefield's heroics. "It's difficult to hit a buzzer-beater, but to hit two in one game, that was pretty remarkable."

Willowbrook held an overall season record of 5-8 at the end of the tournament.

The Warriors opened the event at Hinsdale Central with a 61-59 loss to St. Rita on Dec. 23. St. Rita sank a game-winning shot of about 15 feet at the buzzer to break a 59-59 tie.

Willowbrook jumped out to a 12-0 lead early in the game. The Warriors held an 18-8 lead after one quarter. St. Rita sliced Willowbrook's lead to 34-33 by halftime, and took a 46-43 lead by the end of the third quarter.

St. Rita drained a 3-point shot with about 1:10 to play to tie the score at 59-59.

Stubblefield, who made three 3-point shots, scored a team-leading 21 points for the Warriors. Senior Sam Tumilty, who also made three shots from 3-point range, added 11 points. Senior Sam Tumilty and junior Haven Pryor both scored nine points. Senior Deandre Holliday added seven points.

Thornton-Fractional South made a last-second inside basket to beat Willowbrook 55-54 on Dec. 26. The Warriors rallied from a 17-8 deficit after one quarter to cut the lead to 47-45 by the end of the third quarter.

Holliday's layup with about 1:30 to play gave Willowbrook a 54-53 lead. Thornton-Fractional South scored the winning basket after inbounding the ball with about six seconds to play.

Stubblefield, who made six 3-point shots, scored a team-high 30 points. Tumilty added 12 points for the Warriors, who attempted only three free throws in the game. Willowbrook missed all three foul shots. Thornton-Fractional South converted five of 12 free-throw attempts.

Stubblefield drained three 3-point shots and scored 15 points in Friday's victory over Hinsdale Central. In addition to hitting buzzer-beating shots at the end of regulation and at the conclusion of the overtime period, he made a 3-point shot during the first quarter. The Warriors held a 25-23 halftime lead. Their lead stood at 36-34 after three quarters.

Holliday contributed 12 points in the victory over the Red Devils. Tumilty provided eight points.

Willowbrook finished the tournament with Saturday's 48-44 loss to

Lincoln-Way Central. The Warriors trailed Lincoln-Way Central 40-27 early in the fourth quarter. A layup by Tumilty cut the lead to 42-37 with less than four minutes to play. Sophomore Sean Paige sank a pair of free throws to cut the margin to 42-39 with 3:24 remaining.

Stubblefield's 3-point play at the 1:22 mark cut Lincoln-Way Central's lead to 45-44. The Warriors had shots to tie the game or take the lead in the closing minutes, but they were unable to convert the attempts. The Knights made two free throws with 17 seconds to play to increase their lead to 47-44. The Warriors missed a 3-point attempt with a few seconds to play. The Knights made one free throw with a fraction of a second to play to seal their victory.

Paige led all scorers with 17 points. He made six of nine shots from the field and converted five of six shots from the free-throw line. Stubblefield scored 12 points, while Tumilty contributed seven points.

Willowbrook made one of 19 shots from 3-point range during Saturday's game.

"We lost three games by seven points," said Perkins in summarizing the tournament. "All four games came down to one possession. We're right there. We've got to start pulling games out at the end."

The Warriors' season resumes with another game against Hinsdale Central. Willowbrook will face the Red Devils this Saturday in Hinsdale.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Public

Willowbrook's boys basketball team won one of four games Hinsdale Central's holiday tournament. The Warriors suffered three losses by a total of seven points. Senior Sam Tumilty (l 5-above left) and sophomore Sean Page (No. 35-above right) are pictured during the Warriors' final game of the tournament—Saturday 48-44 loss to Lincoln-Way Central. That setback sent Willowbrook overall season record to 5-8.

• Basketball (Continued from page 13)

game. The more we can do to lower that number, the more we can settle into our offense."

Finding consistency in scoring beyond AJ Carlson and Robert Roszkiewicz is another key for the Blazers. "Outside of AJ and Robert, we don't have anybody really scoring consistently for us," Lyons said. "We are looking for someone to fill that void and it doesn't have to be the same guy all the time. We are looking for that third scorer."

Free-throw shooting is another aspect Addison Trail is working hard to improve upon.

"We are finding ourselves losing

by six or seven points," Lyons said. "We have to improve our free-throw shooting. We are at only around 60 percent right now. That's a key thing in close games. As we hit the holidays here, we are hoping to see progress."

Lyons lauded the play of Carlson and Roszkiewicz. "AJ and Robert easily are our two leading scorers," he said. "They account for 70 to 75 percent of our offense. We kind of came into this year expecting them to handle the road."

Lyons also was high on the recent play of Alex Conrad and sophomore Sammy Renc.

"Alex is our senior point guard and

has gotten better at handling the basketball and is reliable on the defense end," he said. "We are going to him to keep growing into that role. Sammy is starting for us and playing well. Against Leyden he played very consistently. Being a sophomore, hope that is something that comes at an even higher rate. He's a 2-guard for us, but sometimes plays the point. Sammy, Alex and AJ pretty interchangeable in our offense. We are working with a lot of different guys to get the ball down the floor."

Lyons said an over-arching goal heading into 2020 is to see continued improvement. "We told the guys, practice we are halfway through season already," he said. "The lacrosse experience card goes out the window. We have to step up into our roles keep getting better."

Addison Trail concluded play the Maine East tournament early this week and will get a rematch with Argo Saturday at 6 p.m. in Sumner. This coming Tuesday, the Blazers experience more Maine East drama when they host Maine East in a 7 p.m. non-conference tilt.

"We have talked to the guys at this being our second season," Lyons said. "We want to continue with improvement. We have found ourselves in similar situations the few weeks against teams such as Downers Grove South and Leyden where we had leads late in games and squandered them. We will have our hat on what we are doing and then improve on the things that are causing these games to get away from us."

Crossword Puzzle Answers

S	A	S	S		L	A	G		C	A	S	E
U	N	I	T		R	I	L	L		S	A	C
V	A	N	E		O	T	T	O		T	R	A
		G	R	I	S	H	A	M		O	T	I
		E	N	T	E	R			S	O	L	
L	A	M	O	U	R			P	I	L	A	F
E	D	O		R	A	D	I	O	S		N	E
M	I	N	C	E		U	T	E		A	D	D
M	O	T	H		H	O	S	T	E	L		U
A	S	H	R	A	M	S			D	I	S	P
		I	S	M			A	M	E	B	A	
	N	E	S	T		F	L	E	M	I	N	G
L	A	T	T	E		A	G	R	A		D	I
S	T	A	I	R		S	E	C	S		A	B
D	O	S	E			T	R	Y			L	E

Sudoku Puzzle Answers

2	6	3	1	5	8	9	4	7
9	7	8	2	4	3	1	6	5
4	1	5	9	6	7	3	8	2
3	8	2	5	7	4	6	1	9
7	5	1	6	8	9	2	3	4
6	9	4	3	1	2	5	7	8
8	3	6	7	9	5	4	2	1
5	2	7	4	3	1	8	9	6
1	4	9	8	2	6	7	5	3

Highlight reel: Willowbrook's Stubblefield drains pair of buzzer-beating 3-pointers



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Senior Everett Stubblefield made a pair of long buzzer-beating shots to lift Willowbrook to its victory at the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic—Friday's 49-47 overtime win over Hinsdale Central. Stubblefield made a 3-point shot of about 35 feet at the end of the fourth quarter to tie the game. His shot from well behind the half-court line at the end of the overtime period lifted the Warriors to the thrilling victory. "When I saw it in the air, going on its way, I was like, that might be going in," said Stubblefield of his game-winning shot.

Senior standout helps Warriors to OT win at Hinsdale Central tournament

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

Willowbrook senior boys basketball standout Everett Stubblefield III had himself not one, but two, ESPN Sportscenter "Play of the Day"-type moments in Friday's game against host Hinsdale Central at the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic.

For starters, Stubblefield hit a pull-up 3-pointer from the right of the volleyball line inside of half court as time expired to send the game into overtime.

"The first one we were down three with about six seconds to go," Stubblefield explained. "Coach had called a timeout to draw up a play. I had about five seconds to take at least two dribbles and get a shot off. I shot it and it went in. It was probably about 35 feet.

"When I felt it leave my hands, it felt like it had the right path to go in. I was pretty confident of it going in. It was a good feeling, but then I realized we still had to play hard to the end because we were going to overtime and the game wasn't over yet."

Stubblefield wasn't done with the highlight-reel-type heroics. This time, with about three seconds left in overtime and the Warriors trailing by one point, he uncorked a running, nearly three-quarters-court shot from the opposite volleyball line on a straight line to the basket, hitting nothing but net to give the Warriors a 49-47 victory.

"They had just made both free throws and we were out of timeouts," Stubblefield noted. "Sam (Tumilty) took the ball out of bounds and I was trying to get open and finally did. I knew I had one or two dribbles there and when I threw it up it was lined up with the basket. It felt like it was going in and it did. That was a great feeling to hit a buzzer-beater to win a game."

Stubblefield said he felt more confident about the game-winner when it left his hands.

"This one felt a little better because it was lined up perfectly with the rim when it left my hand," he noted.

The video of both shots can be seen on the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic Twitter feed (@HINSDALECLASSIC).

Stubblefield finished the game against Hinsdale Central with 15 points and five assists.

He averaged 19.5 points per game and drained 12 three-pointers in the tournament on his way to earning an all-tournament designation.

Being in those types of intense late-game situations is fine by Stubblefield.

"I enjoy those moments a lot," he said. "For my coach [Chris Perkins] to put that kind of trust in me to hit those big shots means a lot. And building off that type of energy helps make our team play better as well."

Willowbrook ended up going 1-3 in the tournament with the win against Hinsdale Central and close losses to St. Rita (61-59), Thornton-Fractional South (55-54) and Lincoln-Way Central (48-44). The Warriors' overall record at the end of the tournament stood at 5-8.

While Stubblefield continues to pour in the points for the Warriors, he feels other parts of his game have taken the next steps forward.

"This year I feel like I have improved more defensively," he said.

"Last year, my man-to-man defense wasn't that great. I am getting more steals this year and helping to rebound the ball better. I'm becoming more of a complete player."

Stubblefield likes Willowbrook's never-say-die attitude this season. "We are smaller this year and we

like to get after it on defense," he said. "We don't give up. We fly around and fight to the end and try to win games. Every game we have played we have always been right there. I like that we never give in."

Stubblefield, who was rated as one of the top 50 players in the Chicagoland area during the preseason, has enjoyed plenty of success the past few years on the football field and basketball court. He was part of Willowbrook's history-making football team that reached the state semifinals this past season.

"The last couple years have been good," said Stubblefield, who is receiving college interest. "We won a lot of football games and made it over the hump this year and got to the semifinal. This year's football season was very exciting and now rolling into the basketball season, it has been pretty good as well."

Stubblefield said the key to the rest of the basketball season for Willowbrook is simple. "To maintain the right and never give up," he said. "We have to crash the boards and tighten up even more on defense so we can get easy points off steals and our transition."

Also of note at Hinsdale Central, Tumilty broke the program record for most steals in a single game with 11 against Lincoln-Way Central.

ON STAGE

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CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Villa Park provides assistance with house fire in Lombard

The Villa Park Fire Department joined other area departments in assisting the Lombard Fire Department's response to a Dec. 26 fire at a Lombard residence at 92 N. West Road. Firefighters responded to the home at approximately 5:45 a.m. According to Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakosnik, who was at the scene, a Villa Park fire engine and ambulance both responded to the fire. Two residents were at home at the time of the fire and were able to evacuate before firefighters arrived. One of the residents was treated at the scene, while the other was transported to Edward-Elmhurst Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. No firefighters were injured. The extensive damage caused by the fire left the home uninhabitable. The Lombard Fire Investigation Unit is investigating the cause of the fire.

Illinois American Water warns customers of utility imposters

Illinois American Water is warning customers about possible utility imposters in the area.

An individual claiming to represent the City of Elmhurst water department recently claimed to need access to a resident's home. According to media reports, the imposter said the home needed to be checked for leaking water.

Residents can prevent utility imposters from targeting them by taking precautions. According to Illinois American Water Senior Manager Jen Thornburg, "If someone comes to your door claiming to be from the local utility and you are not expecting them, do not let them inside without proper photo identification. And if you have a sense something isn't right, do not hesitate in calling 9-1-1."

Thornburg added, customers can always call Illinois American Water's customer service center at 800-422-2782 to confirm if a service visit is legitimate.

According to Utilities United Against Scams (UUAS), scammers can be very convincing and often target those who are most vulnerable, including senior citizens and low-income communities. They also aim their scams at small business owners during busy customer service hours. However, with the right information, customers can learn to detect and report these predatory scams.

Illinois American Water reminds customers that its service personnel drive company-branded vehicles, and wear photo identification badges with the company's logo. Customers are urged to take time to examine the photo identification tag whenever an Illinois American Water employee arrives at their home or business. Also, the Company does not accept payment at a customer's house or business.

If customers suspect someone is trying to scam them, they should hang up, delete the email, or shut the door. They should then call their utility company

at the number on their monthly bill or the company's website, not the phone number the scammer provides. Illinois American Water customers would call 800-422-2782.

If customers ever feel that they are in physical danger, they should call 9-1-1.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

District 88's Best

Willowbrook senior Stacy Caelro (left) was recently honored as her school's recipient of the 88's Best award for October. Caelro, who is pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (right), was recognized at the District 88 Board of Education meeting on Dec. 16. She was unable to attend the board meeting on Oct. 21. The district's board and administration created the 88's Best award to honor students for their achievements in and out of the classroom. Caelro has consistently pursued the most rigorous courses available at Willowbrook. When she graduates from high school, she will have completed 10 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses, as well as several honors courses. Caelro has been named to the Distinction Honor Roll each semester of her high school career. She is an AP Scholar with Honors, a State Scholar and an inductee of Willowbrook's National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, National English Honor Society and Civitas—the school's social studies honor society. Caelro also serves as president of Willowbrook's Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) Honor Society. Beyond the classroom, Caelro is a member of the school's choir and band, including the marching band, pep band, pit orchestra and the CenterStage show choir. She is also a two-time state qualifier for the school's math team. Caelro plans to apply to the University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Middlebury College and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She intends to major in environmental science and pursue a career as a conservation biologist.

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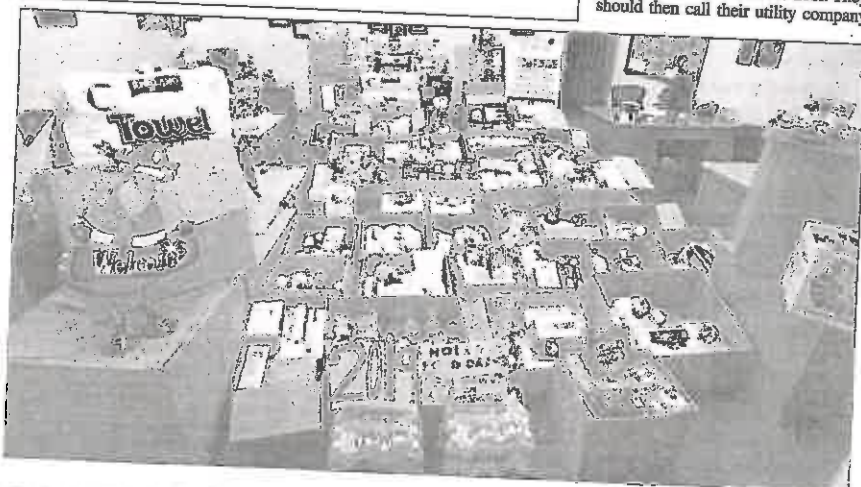
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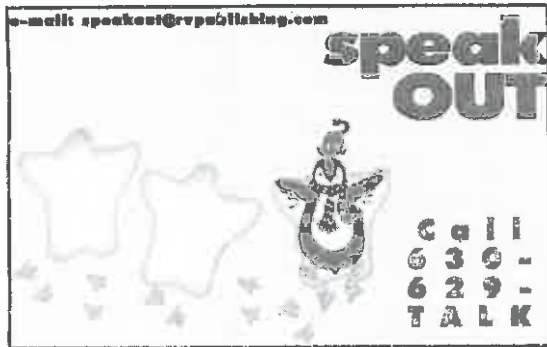
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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

G.M. Smith & Son Realtors food drive a success

G.M. Smith & Son Realtors, 203 S. Villa, would like to thank everyone that helped to make this year's holiday food drive a huge success. This was definitely the best year yet. Everything collected was delivered to two local food pantries on Dec. 21 and will go a long way in helping to feed those in need. G.M. Smith & Son Realtors can't thank the community enough for its donations and support through the years. Happy New Year.



I would like to give a shout out to the Hughes family in Lombard and the Fillipp family in Villa Park whose holiday displays were not only enjoyable to see but who were taking donations for a good cause. Those are examples of a community at its finest. Thanks for sacrificing your time—and electric bill—to create these displays!

This is in response to a Dec. 19 Speak Out call: List of climate scientists: Richard Alley, Penn State College of Earth and Mineral Science, American, Earth's cryosphere and global climate change. Kevin Anderson, director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and is

an adviser to the British government on climate change. James Annan, British climatologist with Blue Skies Research, U.K. Scientists, not leftists. When you call someone names, you are a bully. Much like the bully-in-chief!

The conservatives who complain about any Democratic effort need a reality check. No global climate change. (How about the) day before Christmas in the 50s in Chicago! A Democratic Congress doing its constitutional duty of oversight is a waste of money but over dozens of Republican investigations of Benghazi isn't! Chicago teachers fighting to restore aides and nurses to schools we have

that they don't! Turn off Faux News and use your own brains.

Since the left has it in for billionaires, they should make an example out of our esteemed governor, J.B. Pritzker. His net worth is around \$3.4 billion. Why not tax Pritzker's \$3.4 billion at 70 percent or higher? Better yet, take it all from him because he inherited it.

So this is Trump's America. Not a week goes by without fresh proof of his total disregard for the rule of law. He pardons war criminals because Fox News tells him to. He profits from domestic and foreign interests who book his hotels. He shakes down foreign leaders in exchange for personal favors, calls on foreign adversaries to meddle in our elections, incites violence among his supporters. Trump thinks he is the law, an all-knowing untouchable sovereign. He stands in front of the American people and tells them to believe the opposite of what they see and hear. He believes he is

king of America. Vote him out next election or face horrors you cannot imagine. Thank you.

OK, how about a moratorium on all this Republican, Democrat, Trump, impeach/don't impeach, blah blah blah. Let's get back to some of the local issues affecting us here like our water bills, the library and things that are really important to us people in Lombard and Villa Park. Bye bye.

From all that I have seen and all that I have heard, there is a real problem for Americans in Washington, D.C. President Trump is correct about the swamp in our nation's capital. It exists, as does a shadow government. The rulers in the House of Representatives want to rule the presidency, the Senate and ultimately the American people. The Congress, who quest for power, absolute power, is unquestionable. They would destroy, not defeat but destroy, all who oppose them. Rules mean nothing. The constitution is just a scrap of paper to

them. Americans, beware of people like Pelosi, Schiff and their followers. We are in danger.

I'm looking forward to what these two geniuses, Ryan Pace and Matt Nagy, have to say after this disastrous Bears season. I'm sure they'll have a million-and-one excuses for Trubisky and why this team was so bad this year.

I'm glad Trump basically told this 16-year-old climate change alarmist from Sweden propped up by the left to get a life. This angry, whiny little girl is Time's Person of the Year? What a joke! I wish AOC, another climate change alarmist, would get a life, too. AOC predicted that the world would come to an end in 12 years if we don't address climate change. Yeah, let's take our marching orders from a former bartender and some high school girl from Sweden. In the late 1970s, everyone was predicting a new Ice Age within 30 years. How did that turn out?

Community calendar

Friday, Jan. 3 Kindermusik® storytime returns to Library

The Villa Park Public Library is pleased to welcome Kindermusik® back to town. Presented by certified instructor Leah Egan, it involves singing, instrument play, movement, storytime and more. Kindermusik® is open to children ages infant to 5 years old, accompanied by an adult. Attendees can choose one of two sessions: 10-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:45 a.m. Registration is required. For more information, visit the library's website at vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Ongoing events Library introduces new Book Club

The Villa Park Public Library is pleased to offer its new Active Adults Book Club at the Oakbrook Terrace Park District, located at 15325 Ardmore Ave. Upcoming sessions will be held on Thursdays, Feb. 6 and March 5 from 10 to 11 a.m. Visit the library to check out copies of the discussion books. Titles will be available approximately one month before their discussion dates. Registration is not required. For more information including book titles, visit the library's website at vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Lions Park being prepared for ice skating

Villa Park Parks and Recreation staff is preparing Lions Park, 320 E. Wildwood, for ice skating. The weather must cooperate with a minimum of a week of sub-freezing temperatures for the ice to be ready for skating. Skating will also be available at Jefferson Park, 341 N. Harvard; just east of Jefferson Pool. Jefferson Park's ice rink is due to be

ready for skating after Jan. 1. Please dress for the cold weather as there are no shelter facilities or restroom facilities. Note the flags flying at the ice rink: green flag flying indicates rink is open; red flag indicates a closed rink. The Parks and Recreation Department owns

two sets of "Pond Goals" and one set of Mini-Mite goals available for weekend rental at \$10 per set for a Friday pickup and Monday return. Rentals are done at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa. You must leave a copy of your driver's license or state ID to rent the goals. For more information and for ice readiness updates, call 630-834-8970.

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 invalpark.com or call 630-834-8970.

VFW Friday Fish Fry

From 5-7 p.m. every Friday evening, the Villa Park VFW Post #2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road, holds the best fish fry in town. All dinners come with a choice of a baked potato, fries or sidewinders mashed fries, homemade coleslaw, a slice of rye bread and dessert. All prices include tax and are subject to change.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warrior Project adopts 18 families from York Township for Christmas

Students and faculty members from Willowbrook High School Student Council representing the "Warrior Project" recently hand-delivered Christmas presents and over \$1,000 in gift cards to York Township Hall. Every holiday season, York Township brings together families through its "Adopt a Family for Christmas" gift program with the help of local individuals, companies and organizations, such as Willowbrook's annual "Warrior Project." This year the Project adopted 18 families with a total of 40 children. Back row from left to right: York Township Supervisor John W. Valle, student Elizabeth Martynenko, teacher Malcom Ross, students Talhah Waheed, Samantha Williams, Lily Morgan and Eric Veal, and teacher Ashley Anderson. Front row: Students Alma Flores, Alycia Cameron, Eille King, Noelle Faulk, Priscilla DelValle, Penelope DelValle and Max Hirsch.

•Bail (Continued from page 4)

vehicle that brought the men to the Hawkins Street address. A friend of the victim had observed the alleged carjacking and followed the stolen vehicle. It is alleged that when the stolen vehicle was stopped in traffic, the victim's friend approached the vehicle at which time the occupants, allegedly the juvenile and Embry, exited the vehicle and fled the scene.

It is further alleged that as the victim's friend moved her vehicle off the roadway, one of the defendant's entered the victim's friend's car and drove away.

An investigation conducted by the Downers Grove and Warrenville Police Departments led to Embry, Washington-Davis and the juvenile as suspects in the carjackings. Through the course of their investigation, authorities were able to apprehend the

juvenile who was taken into custody on December 13. On December 17, authorities took Washington-Davis into custody from his apartment and several hours later authorities apprehended Embry in Chicago.

"It is alleged that for two weeks, Mr. Embry, Mr. Washington-Davis and their juvenile accomplice traveled to DuPage County on multiple occasions, threatened innocent people, one of whom is pregnant, at gunpoint and stole their vehicle. In DuPage County, we will not put up with this type of random, violent behavior."

Embry has been charged with two counts of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking, a Class X Felony. Washington-Davis has been charged with three counts of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking (Class X Felony) and one count of Possession of a Stolen

Motor Vehicle (Class 2 Felony). The juvenile has been charged with one count of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking (Class X Felony), one count of Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 4 Felony) and one count of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle (Class 2 Felony). The State has informed the Court of its intention to file a motion to transfer the juvenile's case to Adult Court.

If found guilty, Embry and Washington-Davis face a penalty of between 22 and 45 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. If the juvenile is prosecuted as an adult and found guilty, he faces the same penalty.

Members of the public are reminded that this complaint contains only charges and is not proof of the defendants' guilt.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 2019

Arrest made in Elmhurst home burglary Infant's remains released to parents following bond hearing

By Dee Longfellow
FOR THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Last week, the Independent reported on a residential burglary that took place on the 200 block of No. Melrose on Tuesday, Dec. 10. At that time, it was reported that the offender had removed collector's coins and the cremated remains of a family member. It was later reported that the ashes were of the deceased infant son of the homeowners, who had died when he was just 10 days old.

On Saturday, Dec. 21, authorities arrested a Harvey man who was then charged in the incident. With the arrest, the ashes were recovered and have now been returned to the family.

Glenn Addison, 66, is charged with one count of residential burglary. Addison was already on parole for a burglary that occurred in 2014 and, due to his criminal history, is eligible for Class X sentencing.

On Saturday morning, DuPage County Judge Jeff MacKay set bond at \$750,000 and also signed an order releasing the urn with the ashes to the family.

According to reports, Elmhurst police were called about 3:43 p.m. Dec. 10 to the home on the 200 block of Melrose Street, where it appeared an intruder broke a side window to gain entry sometime after 8 a.m. The victims reported that a coin collection and an urn containing the ashes of their infant son, Billy, who died when he was 10 days old, were miss-

ing. Investigating officers were able to gather enough information to charge Addison with the crime, DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Ber-

lin and Elmhurst Chief of Police Michael Ruth said in a news release. On Wednesday, Addison was arrested at his home.

Berlin credited "the truly outstand-

ing work of the Elmhurst Police Department" for the return of the urn to the family.

"It is our sincerest hope that reuniting the child's remains with the

family will bring them peace and closure," Ruth said in the news release.

Addison's next court appearance is scheduled for Jan. 6.



Glenn Addison



SUBMITTED PHOTO Addison Independent

LINK students sell handmade ornaments

On Dec. 13, Addison Trail students in the school's LINK program displayed and sold handmade holiday items made from recycled products.

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Addison Trail to host Young Hearts for Life free cardiac screenings

District 88 and Addison Trail are committed to ensuring the safety, health and well-being of students.

As part of that mission, the district has partnered with the Young Hearts for Life® (YH4L) Cardiac Screening Program, a not-for-profit organization affiliated with Advocate Charitable Foundation, to offer free electrocardiograms (ECGs) to identify high school students at risk for heart conditions. District 88 and Addison Trail highly encourage parents/guardians to register their student for this event, and details are listed below.

Parents/guardians and community members also are needed to help run

the event, and details about how to sign up as a volunteer are listed below as well.

The YH4L event will take place on Thursday, Feb. 20 at Addison Trail High School.

To register your student to be screened or for more information, visit tinyurl.com/YH4LRegistration. For answers to frequently-asked questions, visit yh4l.org/faq.

The school with the highest percentage of student participation will win an AED for the school, so be sure to register your student today.

See details at dupage88.net/YH-4LAED2019-20.

Volunteers are needed at this event

• Sign up to be a volunteer and help at Addison Trail's Young Hearts for Life event at sign.com/go/bbtCmqe.

• Volunteering involves:

• Attending a training session on Feb. 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. or from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (A 30-minute training session is available for returning volunteers from 5:30 to 6 p.m. or from 7 to 7:30 p.m.)

• Committing to a shift on Feb. 20 from 7 to 11:30 a.m. or from 10:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers also can sign up for the full day (from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.). A light lunch will be provided

to those who volunteer for the full day. **Event includes video contest**

Students are encouraged to participate in the Young Hearts for Life Video Contest. The best video at each school will receive \$100 and will be entered to win the grand prize of \$500. Entries should be two to three minutes' long and focus on the benefits of receiving a cardiac screening. The deadline to submit videos is April 15, 2020. For details, visit dupage88.net/YH4LVideo2019-10.

Willowbrook High School will host a Young Hearts for Life event on April 23, 2020, and details will be shared closer to that date.

'A Force for Good' exhibit opens at Historical Museum

Chronicles history of Knights of Columbus, Council #650

An exhibit about the Knights of Columbus and the Damen-Hildebrand Council #650 based in Addison titled "A Force for Good" is on display at the Addison Historical Museum now through May 15, 2020. The display chronicles the history of the Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization, which was founded by Father Michael J. McGivney at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Conn., in 1882.

The original principles upon which the Order was founded are Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Later, a fourth principle — Patriotism — was added. To this day, the first principle remains Charity. In 2018, the Knights of Columbus raised nearly \$186 million to national charitable causes and volunteered nearly 77 million hours of time to charitable service.

The history of the Knights of Columbus in Illinois began with the formal affiliation of the Chicago Council #182 in 1898.

The predecessor councils to the Damen-Hildebrand Council #650 of Addison were organized in 1902 (Damen Council #650) and 1904 (Hildebrand Council #852) in Chicago. In late 1962, both councils began merger discussions due to a drop in membership in both councils. In March 1963, the Supreme Council Board of Directors officially approved the merger of the two councils into the Damen-Hildebrand Council #650.

While the merger addressed membership problems, the council began to have difficulty finding a suitable meeting venue.

In January 1969, the Council moved to Addison, at first meeting in the lower level of the Addison Savings and Loan building, but now occupy the lower level of St. Philip's rectory.

The council plays a vital role in the Addison community. Its annual Tootsie Roll Drive has distributed more than \$500,000 to local organizations that assist individuals with special needs. The Council is also very involved in the Comfort Bear program with the Addison Fire Protection District and Addison Police Department, St. Philip's parish school, local veterans' affairs, and the Fr. Michael J. McGivney Center for Hope and Healing.



SUBMITTED PHOTO: Rock Valley Publishing

Two visitors prepare to enter the new "A Force For Good" exhibit on display at the Addison Historical Museum now through May 15, 2020. The exhibit is about the Knights of Columbus and the Damen-Hildebrand Council #650 based in Addison. For information about the exhibit, visit museum@addison-il.org or call 630-628-1433.

Givney Center for Hope and Healing.

The display was curated by Dr. Logan T. Ludwig, who has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus in numerous capacities on the local, state and national level. Most recently, he served as Deputy Supreme Knight,

the second highest-ranking officer in the Order from 2013-2106 and is also the author of definitive history of the Illinois Knights of Columbus.

The Addison Historical Museum is open Wednesdays and Fridays from Noon to 4pm. Admission is free.

Groups can arrange visits by advanced appointment. The museum will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For more information about the exhibit, contact museum@addison-il.org or call 630-628-1433.

Addison Trail hosts art show for seniors

By Elyzabeth Galeana
ADDISON TRAIL SENIOR

From Dec. 2 to 6, works of art created by Addison Trail students were displayed in the Commons area at the school.

The Senior Art Show was open to all seniors and featured 42 pieces in various media such as photography, 2-D and 3-D, including ceramics.

"I think being in an art class this year really made me a better artist,

so I decided to enter an art piece in the Senior Art Show because I was finally proud of my art," said Anahi Estrada.

On Dec. 4, students had the opportunity to vote for the art piece they liked most. There also was a reception, where the artists and their family members and friends were welcome to see the display. During the reception, guests and a judge voted as well.

Winners of the show

Best of Show: Paulina Stachura, "Mother Nature"

Judge's Choice: Elyzabeth Galeana, "In the Mountains"

Principal's Choice: Fabian Hernandez, "Tradition"

People's Choice: Caleb Michaliska, "Beautiful"

"I wanted to do something new this year," Michaliska said. "I am in Introduction to 2-D Art, and I felt surprised when I won the [People's Choice] award."

Seniors, as well as all other art students, have one more chance to enter the Student Spring Art Show that will take place from April 28 to May 1, 2020.

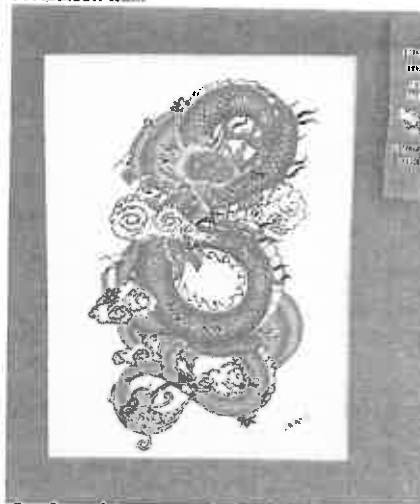


This creation in painted clay is called "Mother Nature" and was made by Paulina Stachura. It was named "Best Of Show."



Seniors displayed their art skills in this year's Senior Art Show, which took place the week of Dec. 2 at Addison Trail.

ELYZABETH GALEANA PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing



Named "Principal's Choice" is this creation made in colored pencil, called "Tradition" by Fabian Hernandez.



This painting is entitled "Beautiful," made by Caleb Michaliska received the "People's Choice" award.



Elyzabeth Galeana's acrylic painting, "In the Mountains," pictured here received the honor of "Judge's Choice."

We want to print your news!
Is your church hosting a special event?
Community Calendar listings are free!
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Community calendar

Friday, Dec. 27 Jr. Inquisitors at the Library

Do you often ask "how?" and "why?" about things around you? Do you enjoy experimenting and making things? Then, this program is just for you. Join other inquiring minds to find out the answers from 11-11:45 a.m. at the Addison Public Library. For grades K-2. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 Family movie night at the Library

From 1-2 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, stop by, share snacks and watch a family friendly movie on the big screen. For all ages. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

Thursday, Jan. 9, Thursday, Jan. 23 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.

Saturday, Jan. 11 Exploration stations at the Library

From 11-11:45 a.m. for children from birth to Grade 5 at the Addison Public Library, join us for a play experience for children of all abilities. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

Monday, Jan. 13- Thursday, Jan. 16 Art studio 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 or call 630-458-3320.

Monday, Jan. 13 Tai Chi at the Library

From 7-8 p.m. at the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, Tai Chi not only improves flexibility and strength, but gives tools for living mindfully and creating a more balanced lifestyle. An instructor from Body & Brain will lead this class. Suitable for all ages and body types. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 Book discussion at the Library

From 7-8 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, discuss Exit West by Mohsin Hamid. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

Cartooning at the Library

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SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail hosts Principal's Cup of Cheer

On Dec. 13, Addison Trail hosted its annual Principal's Cup of Cheer. About 175 people attended this year's event, which provides an opportunity for Addison Trail staff and retirees, District 88 administrators, local officials, Board of Education members, Booster Club members and community members to spread holiday cheer and enjoy light refreshments. Pictured are five of the nine people who have served as principal of Addison Trail. They include (from left): Dr. Scott Helton (current District 88 Superintendent), Dr. Adam Cibulka, Larry Weck, Jim Mortier and Michael Bolden (current Addison Trail principal).

Senior named ILMEA All-State Musician

Alexander Gamino, a senior at Addison Trail, has been named as an All-State Musician by the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA). As an All-State Musician, he will perform during the Illinois Music Education Conference, which will take place from Jan. 29 to Feb. 1, 2020, at Peoria Civic Center. Gamino has been selected as a member of the All-State Chorus. Gamino auditioned in October and was selected as an All-District Musician, and he has now received state-level recognition.



Alexander Gamino

Center for Arts presents School District 4 student art show

The Addison Center for the Arts (ACA) is hosting the Addison School District #4 Student Art Show from Jan. 13-Jan. 31.

Students from District #4 (ASD #4), including elementary and Jr. high schools, will exhibit their artwork in the gallery of the Addison Center for the Arts.

Family, friends, and the community are invited to celebrate their artistic accomplishments with them and their teachers at a reception on Thursday, Jan. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the ACA.

The ASD #4 show is an annual event at the ACA. About 150 students are expected to have their artwork on display for this year's show.

"The Addison Center for the Arts Art Show is an ideal opportunity for our students to be proud of their work displayed in a professional setting that is open to the community," said ASD #4 Superintendent John Langton at a recent School Board meeting. "These experiences remind me of the importance of our relationship with the ACA and the impact they have on our students."

Instructors appreciated

Art teachers from each school chose a wide range of artwork to showcase this month. The following are the schools and art teachers who are participating in the District #4 Student Art Show:

Korinne Ostojic - Lincoln and Ardmore Schools

Kate Musick - Lake Park and Ardmore Schools

Lisa Struc - Fullerton School

Carrie Zatarski - Army Trail School

Denise Ghidori - Stone and Wesley Schools

Heather Pintz - Indian Trail Jr. High School

Brant Biba - Indian Trail Jr. High School

The Addison Center for the Arts is located at 213 N. Lombard Rd., Door 4, of Addison Trail High School. For information call 630-458-4500, or visit addisoncenterforthearts.com.

Ongoing community events

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

Homework help at the Library

Every Tuesday and Thursday

starting Jan. 14 from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, get help in any subject from teachers, librarians, and college volunteers. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

Get your high school diploma

The Addison Public Library is now offering adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online through a new program, Career Online High School (COHS). The library is providing a limited number of free scholarships to qualified adult learners who are looking to advance their careers, prepare for workforce entry, or continue their education. You must live in Addison and be 21 or older. Call 630-458-3334 or visit addisonlibrary.org

Political Discussion Group every first Wednesday of the month at the Library

The Political Discussion Group meets every first Wednesday of the month from 7-8 p.m. at the Board Room of the Addison Public Library. Political conversations don't have to be scary! We talk about the biggest news stories of each month in a safe space. Check the online calendar for monthly topics. Articles can be found two weeks before the discussion either below or at the Adult Services Desk.

Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

North Suburban Carvers Club meetings

Meetings for the North Suburban Carvers Club are held the first and third Mondays of each month at the Deer Grove Nature Center (The Bensenville Park District building), 1000 W. Wood St. from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Beginning and experienced carvers share and learn sharpening skills, techniques and designs in a very informal but informative setting. Visitors of all ages are welcome to attend all meetings, or contact Paul Gratzke at 847-606-2660.

Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) meet each month

Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) of the Western Suburbs will meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 537 S. York Road, Elmhurst, starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$5. Info: (630) 620-4060 or www.cfsites.org.

Active Adults Senior Club

Adults, ages 55 or better, are invited to Park District's Active Adults Senior Club on Tuesdays from noon-2 p.m. at Community Rec Center, 120 E. Oak Street. For more information, contact Teresa Grodsky at (630) 233-7275, option #2.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: Independent@rvpublishing.com. Please include a phone number or e-mail address to contact for information.

Visitors and tourism vital to DuPage County's economy

In 2019, the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau (DCVB) formally developed programs within the organization's strategic plan, titled "GPS: A Tourism Roadmap," designed to generate \$650 million in new visitor spending by the year 2025.

Executive Director Beth Marchetti officially announced those plans at the DCVB's Annual Meeting in Oak Brook back on Sept. 19.

Data shows that for every \$1 invested in tourism marketing, \$9 is generated in return.

Adopted back in 2016, the DCVB's strategic plan is designed to Grow, Prosper and Share (GPS) tourism countywide.

While 2019's economic impact is not yet final, DuPage County generated \$2.72 billion (up 4.6% from 2017) in 2018 tourism revenue—second only to Cook County and the City of Chicago—netting \$174 million (up 8.8%) in tax receipts for the State of Illinois and \$48 million (up 3.1%) benefiting local municipalities, the City of Elmhurst among them.

DuPage's tourism industry also employs some 23,500 workers (up 9% from 2017) earning a total payroll of \$746 million (up 3.7%).

Last April, the DCVB created a Sport Commission, launched a new website, produced new marketing videos and completed Destination Marketing Accreditation Program (DMAP) certification.

The DuPage Sports Commission

(DSC) is responsible for recruiting, retaining and facilitating sporting events. Between 2014 and 2017, DuPage County hosted more than 60 sports tourism events—professional golf tournaments, pro cycling races and youth bowling tournaments among them—attracting 60,000 visitors and generating \$12.5 million in direct spending.

Last August, Product Development and Sport Advisory committees were established "to further strengthen" the DCVB's position within the business travel market and grow awareness of the destination throughout the leisure visit market.

In addition to expanding sports event tourism, DCVB is working to increase the number of meetings. In the past five years, the Municipal Grant Program has become an essential tool in securing business meetings.

DCVB also has developed 11 easily identifiable and memorable nature experiences, branded as Natural Wanderers, to appeal to the leisure visitor.

Adopted back in 2016, DCVB's strategic plan is designed to Grow, Prosper and Share (GPS) tourism countywide.

As certified by the State of Illinois Bureau of Tourism, the DCVB promotes DuPage's multi-billion dollar tourism industry and markets the accommodations, attractions, events, dining, shopping, and sports and recreation for its 38 community and 100-plus business members.

Bail (Continued from page 4)

vehicle that brought the men to the Hawkins Street address. A friend of the victim had observed the alleged carjacking and followed the stolen vehicle. It is alleged that when the stolen vehicle was stopped in traffic, the victim's friend approached the vehicle at which time the occupants, allegedly the juvenile and Embry, exited the vehicle and fled the scene.

It is further alleged that as the victim's friend moved her vehicle off the roadway, one of the defendant's entered the victim's friend's car and drove away.

An investigation conducted by the Downers Grove and Warrenville Police Departments led to Embry, Washington-Davis and the juvenile as suspects in the carjackings. Through the course of their investigation, authorities were able to apprehend the juvenile who was taken into custody on December 13. On December 17, authorities took Washington-Davis into custody from his apartment and several hours later authorities apprehended Embry in Chicago.

"It is alleged that for two weeks, Mr. Embry, Mr. Washington-Davis and their juvenile accomplice traveled to DuPage County on multiple occasions, threatened innocent people, one

of whom is pregnant, at gunpoint and stole their vehicle. In DuPage County, we will not put up with this type of random, violent behavior."

Embry has been charged with two counts of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking, a Class X Felony. Washington-Davis has been charged with three counts of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking (Class X Felony) and one count of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle (Class 2 Felony). The juvenile has been charged with one count of Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking (Class X Felony), one count of Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 4 Felony) and one count of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle (Class 2 Felony). The State has informed the Court of its intention to file a motion to transfer the juvenile's case to Adult Court.

If found guilty, Embry and Washington-Davis face a penalty of between 22 and 45 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. If the juvenile is prosecuted as an adult and found guilty, he faces the same penalty.

Members of the public are reminded that this complaint contains only charges and is not proof of the defendants' guilt.

December recipient of 88's Best recognition named

Cindy Pham has been named as Addison Trail's December recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments. Pham, a senior, was recognized during the Dec. 16 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

Pham is driven by a passion to succeed. She has challenged herself by taking 11 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses and eight honors classes, some of which are the most difficult in the AP offerings. Pham said her parents have inspired her to work hard. They moved to the U.S. from Vietnam to have a better life, and Pham tries every day to make sure she takes full advantage of the opportunities she has been given. She also finds inspiration from her cousin (an Addison Trail graduate), who has pushed her to do her best. Her cousin was the first in her family to go to college, and Pham sees how hard her cousin has worked to continue her education in pharmacy school.

"I am thrilled (Pham) is being recognized as one of AT's best for academics, as she truly embodies what all students should strive for," said Carolyn Erwin, science teacher. "Her work in AP Biology is thorough, meticulous and reflective of her incredible intellect. Given that she also is very involved in extracurricular activities and sports, her academic record becomes even more impressive - I am pretty sure she never sleeps! Her poise and maturity, coupled with her fierce

work ethic, will ensure her future success."

Science teacher Kira Bonk agreed. "(Pham) is amazing!" Bonk said. "She is dedicated to academics, but also to making our school a better place. (Pham) is one of the most respectful, humble, kindhearted, bright students I've worked with. I will miss her, but I know she is going to accomplish amazing things after graduation."

Social studies teacher Laura Magnavite said Pham's ability to lead by example is what makes her stand out.

"As a student in Advanced Placement European History, (Pham) was an absolute joy to have in class," she said. "She was intelligent, thoughtful and determined to succeed. She was meticulous about her work, whether it was a daily homework assignment or a research project. (Pham) was always a leader; however, instead of dictating to her group members, she asked questions to move them forward toward achieving their goals. She was a role model of diplomatic, supportive and academically engaged behavior to a class of her sophomore peers, who were still learning these important skills."

Pham's outstanding work ethic extends to her extracurricular activities as well. She serves as President of the school's National Honor Society, Historian for Orchestras, Secretary for Key Club and is a member of Class Board and Student Council. She also is involved in theatre and music. Through her participation in clubs and activities, Pham said she has loved seeing the diversity that epitomizes Addison Trail.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured here with Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden is senior Cindy Pham, who has been named as the school's December recipient of 88's Best recognition for her outstanding academic accomplishments.

Pham has spent a significant amount of time this fall applying to colleges;

her top choices are The University of Texas at Austin and The University of Iowa, and she also has applied to Saint Louis University, Loyola University Chicago and The Ohio State University. She plans to study nursing, in hopes of becoming a nurse practitioner.

Community calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 8 Family movie night at the Library

From 6-8 p.m. at the Addison Public Library, stop by, share snacks and watch a family friendly movie on the big screen. For all ages. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

Thursday, Jan. 9, Thursday, Jan. 23 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.

Saturday, Jan. 11 Exploration stations at the Library

From 11-11:45 a.m. for children from birth to Grade 5 at the Addison Public Library, join us for a play experience for children of all abilities. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3338.

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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 or call 630-458-3320.

Monday, Jan. 13 Tai Chi at the Library

From 7-8 p.m. at the Adult Programming Room of the Addison Public Library, Tai Chi not only improves flexibility and strength, but gives tools for living mindfully and creating a more balanced lifestyle. An instructor from Body & Brain will lead this class. Suitable for all ages and body types. Info: addisonlibrary.org or call 630-458-3320.

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Warm, dry December in Illinois concludes a cold, wet year

Temperatures in Illinois were well above average and precipitation was below normal in December, according to Illinois state climatologist Trent Ford at the University of Illinois' Illinois State Water Survey. More than 100 daily maximum temperature records were broken by month's end.

The preliminary statewide December average temperature was 35.2 degrees, about 5 degrees above the 1981-2010 normal and the 18th warmest on record. Average temperatures in December ranged from the low 30s in northern Illinois to the mid-40s in southern Illinois.

Temperatures during the first half of December were very close to average, followed by a brief period of well below average temperatures caused by cold air from the north. On Dec. 20, the predominant wind direction changed to southwesterly,

bringing warm, dry air into the region. Temperatures between Dec. 20 and 29 ranged from 5 to 25 degrees above normal across the state.

All told, 104 daily high maximum temperature records and 27 daily high minimum temperature records were broken over this time period, including a few dozen records on Dec. 25.

This was the warmest Christmas day at 68 stations across the state. The daily average temperature in Decatur in Macon County on Christmas was nearly 20 degrees above the 30-year normal.

The station in Elgin in Kane County broke its previous Christmas day high maximum record by 10 degrees. The highest temperature recorded in the state was 70 degrees on Dec. 26 in Wayne County and again on Dec. 29 in Pope County.

The lowest temperature was -4

degrees on Dec. 15 in Rock Island County.

December's warm weather was an aberration in an otherwise colder than average 2019 in Illinois. Only three months this year—July, September, and December—exhibited a statewide average temperature above the 30-year normal.

December precipitation was below the long-term average for the entire state.

The statewide average total December precipitation was 2.03 inches, approximately 0.66 inches below normal.

Areas in far southern Illinois received 2 to 3 inches less than average in December, approximately 50 percent of normal December precipitation.

This was the 50th driest December on record in Illinois and marked the second straight month of below average statewide precipitation.

Preexisting moisture and reduced evaporative demand, typical for this

time of the year, have prevented impacts from the prolonged dry conditions. Despite two straight months of well below average precipitation, streamflow and soil moisture were both near normal across the state.

Snowfall totals ranged from less than a tenth of an inch in far southern Illinois to over 10 inches in south-central Illinois. A strong system came through in mid-December and brought several inches of snow to an area spanning the St. Louis Metro East to the Champaign-Urbana area.

The highest 24-hour snowfall total was 5.6 inches in Lovington in Moultrie County on Dec. 17, although Mascoutah in St. Clair County and Columbia in Monroe County both recorded 7.5 inches on Dec. 17.

The December snowfall glut in south-central Illinois turned into snowfall deficits of 8 to 10 inches in northern Illinois. This was only the 10th December with 1 inch or less of snowfall in Stockton in Jo Daviess

County.

Despite the small snowfall to the seasonal total snowfall was at average for most of the state between interstates 80 and 64. A broad between Peoria and the St. L metro east received over 4 inches above average snowfall, whereas Chicagoland region has so far season experienced a snowfall of 4 to 6 inches.

Short-term 8-14-day outlook from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Prediction Center show strongly elevated odds of both above normal precipitation and above normal temperatures.

Thirty-day outlooks show elevated odds of wetter and warmer than normal conditions to persist through January in southern Illinois.

Outlooks for January through March and March through May continue to show elevated odds of at normal precipitation for the entire state.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook speech team places third at home meet

The Willowbrook speech team competed in a home tournament last month and finished in third place out of 13 competing schools. The Willowbrook team's award winners at the Dec. 14 meet (pictured left to right) included: junior Carolyn Burns, junior Caitlin Brennan, senior Letisha Sepulveda, junior Michael Poirier, senior Chloe Devens and sophomore Elizabeth Michael. Devens won second-place honors in extemporaneous speaking and sixth in original oratory. Elizabeth Michael placed second in humorous interpretation, while Burns and Brennan teamed to take fourth in dramatic duet acting. Poirier, Sepulveda and Brennan placed third, fifth and sixth, respectively, in dramatic interpretation. Sepulveda also earned fourth in poetry reading, while Poirier placed fifth in prose reading.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Trinity Lutheran Church 'Giving Tree' benefit York Township Christmas program

Trinity Dorcas Guild members set up a "Giving Tree" at Trinity Lutheran Church of Villa Park, 300 S. Moore Ave., for parishioners and fellow Guild members to help children in need celebrate the holiday. Guild members Debbie Thompson and Carol Edwards recently hand-delivered 50 gifts including to stocking stuffers, books, and games to York Township. Donated gifts will be distributed to food pantries and families with children as part of York Township's "Adopt a Family for Christmas" program. Above from left to right: York Township Supervisor John W. Valle with Trinity Dorcas Guild members Deb Thompson and Carol Edwards.

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SPORTS

JAN. 9, 2020 •

Hinsdale Central gains revenge against Warriors

Red Devils win rematch by 28 points

The Willowbrook boys basketball team fell to 5-9 overall after Saturday's 67-39 non-conference loss at Hinsdale Central.

Eight days before Saturday's game, the Warriors beat Hinsdale Central 49-47 in an overtime thriller at the Red Devils' holiday tournament.

Senior Everett Stubblefield of the Warriors made a pair of buzzer-beating 3-point shots in that game. His 3-pointer at the end of regulation tied the game at 41-41. Stubblefield drained a shot from behind the half-court line at the end of the overtime period to give the Warriors the victory.

Willowbrook held a 12-10 lead after one quarter of Saturday's rematch. The Red Devils stormed to a 23-14 lead in the second quarter. Sophomore Sean Paige made a 3-point shot at the end of the second quarter to cut Hinsdale Central's lead to 23-17 by halftime.

The Red Devils dominated the third and fourth quarters. Their lead grew to 46-28 by the end of the third period. Hinsdale Central made three shots from 3-point range in the third quarter. The Red Devils connected on three more 3-pointers in the fourth

quarter.

"It was not one of our better nights," said Willowbrook coach Chris Perkins after the game. "We just couldn't knock down enough shots to make a game out of it."

Stubblefield, who made a pair of 3-point shots, scored a team-leading 17 points for Willowbrook. Paige, who connected on all five of his free-throw attempts, added 12 points. No other Warrior scored more than two points.

Willowbrook won one of four games at Hinsdale Central's tournament, which ended on Dec. 28. The

Warriors beat Hinsdale Central and suffered narrow losses to St. Rita, Thornton-Fractional South and Lincoln-Way Central. Saturday's game marked the Warriors' first contest since the end of the tournament.

The Warriors are playing non-conference games against Sandburg, Proviso West and Mundelein this week.

Willowbrook will play its next West Suburban Gold Conference game on Jan. 14, when it takes on Hinsdale South in Villa Park. The Warriors will enter that contest with a conference record of 1-2.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's boys basketball team played its first game of 2020 on Saturday—a non-conference game at Hinsdale Central. The Red Devils defeated the Warriors 67-39. Willowbrook's overall record dropped to 5-9. The Warriors beat Hinsdale Central 49-47 in overtime when the two teams met at the Red Devils' holiday tournament on Dec. 27. Senior Everett Stubblefield sank a pair of buzzer-beating 3-point shots to lift the Warriors to a victory in that game. Stubblefield is pictured above as he launches and makes a 3-point shot during the third quarter of Saturday's game. Stubblefield scored a team-high 17 points in Saturday's contest. Sophomore Sean Paige (No. 35-left), who made all five of his free-throw attempts, added 12 points.



Addison Trail girls basketball team records three wins during recent stretch

By Mike Mrazga, CORRESPONDENT

The Addison Trail girls basketball team packed six games into a recent holiday stretch and came out of it with three wins.

In addition to going 2-2 at the Little Christmas tournament, the Blazers scored a West Suburban Conference Gold Division win against Hinsdale South and dropped a tough one-point contest to Glenbard East in non-conference action.

Addison Trail stood at 10-8 overall and 4-2 in West Suburban Gold play through late last week.

"Glenbard East was a great game," said Addison Trail coach Cory Little. "We were down 10 at halftime and then scored 19 points in the third quarter and 13 more in the fourth. We struggled a little with rebounding again and we shot 6-for-15 from the free-throw line."

"We didn't shoot free throws well down the stretch. The girls played well. We fought back, but we missed free throws and Glenbard East had a game plan. They were able to get second and third opportunities. If we knock down free throws and get one or two rebounds it's a different game."

Little was pleased with Addison Trail's outing against Hinsdale South. "We talked about setting the tempo and being able to score baskets inside," he said. "That worked out pretty well. We were able to take them out of everything. It was a comeback game for us. We got back to what we do and that's grind it out on defense, control the boards and limit our turnovers and be more poised. Those are the things we have to keep doing to get ready for the postseason."

At Little, the Blazers split their first four games there and ended up finishing fourth overall. Addison Trail started the tournament with wins against Wheaton Academy and Little and then lost to Rosary and Chicago Christian. "These first two games we showed that we can grind out games," Little said. "We talked about executing and against Wheaton Academy we executed well. We had our stuff and had great inside play, which opened up our outside game. On half-court pressure against Little took them out of everything they wanted to do."

"Q" (Quanaa Birmingham) and Demi (Koulogeragas) swarmed them guard to the point that they couldn't run their offense. Mia Johnson and Mary Velez did a great job inside and with their rebounding. We were able to play everybody in that game and we didn't move a boat. We took them out of everything they used to do."

Little noted Rosary abandoned man-to-man defense in Addison Trail's third game in favor of a 1-2-2 zone. "We lost by eight and we didn't shoot the ball well," he said. "Rosary has a game plan and they stuck to it. Our girls stepped up, but we couldn't hit a shot when we needed it."

Little felt fatigue may have come into play in the final game against Walther Christian. "We were coming off three games in three days and our legs probably were a little tired," he said. "Walther Christian played a great game. They pushed the ball, hit shots when they needed to and their pressure was good. We ran out of gas."

Little added Johnson, Velez, Koulogeragas and Birmingham were constants on the scoreboard in the Little tournament. "They did a lot of scoring and played good defense," he said. "They came in night in and sag out and really grinded it out."

Birmingham, Koulogeragas, Velez and Ally Severino scored in double digits against Glenbard East.

"We try to spread the wealth. It's not a one-girl team," said Little. "They support each other and play as one. On any given night it's a matter of who gets going. That's a bonus."

Koulogeragas was cited for her continued strong leadership. "Our senior leadership with Demi has been phenomenal," Little said. "She's out there guarding the other team's best player and running the show when 'Q' is not running the show, and she's knocking down big shots when we need them."

Addison Trail plays Maine East and Proviso East this week.

"These girls are trying," said Little. "They have bought into what we are teaching. They are out there grinding games out and believing in each other. If they lose, they know what they can do better at because they get to the locker room after the game. They take it upon themselves because they believe in themselves."

Willowbrook wrestling team plenty busy over the holidays

Warriors go 3-0 on second day at Don Flavin DeKalb Invite

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Willowbrook wrestling team had some successes over the holidays as a team and on the individual front as well.

Coming off a tough West Suburban Conference Gold Division loss to Morton, the Warriors competed well at the Don Flavin Invitational hosted by DeKalb High School Dec. 27-28.

Willowbrook was 3-3 in duals at DeKalb, going 3-0 the second day of competition.

"We built our schedule to make it tougher upfront and get us ready for the end of the year," said Willowbrook coach Tim Ortiz. "We had some down matches the first day but we came back strong the second day and took care of business. It was a little rough the first day. I think we were getting the rust off after having a couple days off at Christmas. We got right back into it the second day and competed well."

Earlier, the Warriors dropped a close 32-31 WSC Gold dual to Morton Dec. 19.

"That one was tough," Ortiz noted. "We were right there with them in a conference dual in a hostile environment. We are getting there. The team is coming together."

At the Rex Whitlatch Invitational,

held Dec. 20-21 at Hinsdale Central, Willowbrook had eight wrestlers advance to the second day of competition, with three of them placing. Senior Zach Seymore finished fourth, junior Elijah Brockie took fifth and senior Wyatt Borri was seventh.

"Hinsdale is one of the top tournaments in the state," said Ortiz in referring to the Whitlatch Invitational.

Heading into the new year, Brockie, Borri, Seymore and junior David Kapica were leading the way in the win-loss ledger.

"It's a very coachable group," said Ortiz. "They pay attention to the little details. When we point out improvements that need to be made, they are willing to fix them. When they get themselves in tough positions, they work through them. Instead of hang-

ing where they are most comfortable, they work through problems.

"They are working hard in the wrestling room so when they get into these tough positions, they can use that knowledge and figure things out. They are coachable kids who work hard and that translates on the mat. They are making it work."

Ortiz has been thrilled with the progress the team has made given the changes made to the team's schedule this season.

"The schedule is stronger," he said. "That is going to get us ready for the state series where we will be ready to compete. It's great to see the kids buy in and be coachable and adjust."

Ortiz also has been pleased with the recent progress sophomore Nick Mabutas has made.

"Nick is coming on strong," he said. "He's growing into a 152-pound body. As a freshman he was at 138. At 152 pounds, you see a lot of strong guys in that class. He's growing into his weight and class. He will go up to 160 if we ask him. He buys into everything. He's has a work ethic that is second to none. He played both ways in football and he didn't miss a beat coming in here. He puts the team first, he listens and he buys in."

Willowbrook was 10-5 overall through late last week and 1-2 in WSC Gold action. The Warriors wrestled Elk Grove in a non-conference dual earlier this week and head to the Sycamore Invitational on Saturday.

"That's another big tournament for us," said Ortiz.

Vince Doran to be inducted into IBCA Hall of Fame

Veteran coach starred as a player at now defunct Driscoll and Elmhurst College

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

York boys basketball coach Vince Doran can add hall of famer to his resume.

Doran will be inducted this coming spring into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame as a player.

Doran, now in his eighth season as York's head coach, starred at the high school level at now shuttered Driscoll Catholic High School in Addison and then went on to have another stellar run on the hardwood at Elmhurst College.

"It's a really cool honor," Doran said.

Doran noted York athletic director Rob Wagner arranged to have Mark Kleeman, his coach at Driscoll, surprise Doran during a recent player-parent meeting he was conducting at the Elmhurst school. The announcement and revelation of Kleeman occurred during the meeting.

"Our AD put it together and my

high school coach came up and was introduced while we were doing a thing on program expectations with the parents and players," Doran explained. "It was special and certainly very surprising. I've gone from a coach to friend relationship with him. He drove up three hours from Peoria to do it. This is very neat. I'm very excited and honored. It's something I am looking for."

Doran is a 1988 graduate of Driscoll, where he played on the varsity for three years. At the time, he left the school as its all-time leading scorer with just shy of 1,100 career points.

"If you talk to Mark he will say I held every record, but I know that is not true," Doran said with a laugh. "I have had a lot of friends reach out to me about this and guys I have played against. I've met a lot of people and made a lot of friends through the game and have maintained those friendships over the years."

Doran graduated from Elmhurst College in 1992 and is in the school's athletic hall of fame. His senior year he helped lead Elmhurst to the program's first appearance in the NCAA Division III tournament.

He finished his career there with

1,032 points and left holding the career records for steals and assists (He now ranks second in both categories). He currently is tied for second for games played all-time at the school.

Prior to York, Doran was the head

boys coach at Hinsdale South for 10 years. He also was the head coach at Driscoll for two of the four years he was on the boys staff there.

He also had assistant coaching stints at De La Salle and Reavis (3 years) and spent time on college

sidelines at Lewis and Benedictine. Doran is in his 18th year as a business teacher at Hinsdale South.

He will be enshrined into the IBCA Hall of Fame Saturday, May 2, at Redbird Arena on the campus of Illinois State University in Normal.

Willowbrook student-athletes earn all-academic honors

Meyer commits to Triton baseball

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

In addition to excelling on the field and court this past fall, the Willowbrook athletics program had an abundance of high achievers in the classroom.

In boys cross country, Raymond Brisobis, Brandon Heseltin and Jake Jagiello earned all-academic honors.

Madeleine Wilkie, Michelle Villalobos and Isabel Willett earned all-academic honors in girls cross country.

On Willowbrook's record-breaking football team, Sam Tumilty, Elijah Brockie, Mohammed Ayeshe, Nick Mabutas, Anthony Yamotti, Tyler Piehl-Haymes and Alessio Battaglia were all-academic award recipients.

Logan Rattana, Utah Keehner and Joey Zopel were all-academic for boys golf, while Alexis Massee and Julianna Paulsen were honored in girls golf.

Isai Aparicio, Brian Fuentes and Eric Hoda were all-academic in boys soccer, while Emy Hayes, Kelsey Fitzgerald and Ellie Hassler were all-academic in girls swimming.

Maddie Brown, Priscilla DelValle, Ryley Goles, Ellie King, Emily Jarosz, Natalia Murgas and Ava Stratton were all-academic in girls tennis.

All-academic recipients in girls volleyball included Peyton Ceh, Laine Degnan, Grace Palcek and Alondra Mendoza.

All-conference recipients in the fall included Tyler King in boys cross country, Melissa Martinez, Daylee Braden and Wilkie in girls

cross country.

Tumilty, Deandre Holliday, Everett Stubblefield, Ryan Ranieri, Brian Dilger, Travis Moore, Enrique Cruz, Brockie, Ayeshe, Mabutas, Josh Brown and Isabelle Manning were all-conference in football.

Tumilty was the West Suburban Conference Gold MVP. Holliday and Stubblefield shared the WSC Gold co-offensive MVP honor. Ranieri was named the WSC Gold most valuable lineman, while Manning was named the WSC Gold most valuable special teams player.

Tumilty received all-state accolades from multiple outlets, including the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association, Edgy Tim and the Champaign News Gazette. Stubblefield was an all-state honorable mention by the coaches association.

Keehner was all-conference in boys golf, while Dorian Mahone and Norman Deci were all-conference in boys soccer.

Carolyn Burns, DeAnna Tate and Hassler earned all-conference in girls swimming. Hassler won three sectional events and was all-state in three events in the athletes with disabilities category.

Brown, Goles, King and DelValle captured all-WSC Gold honors in girls tennis, while Ceh and Grace Reckamp were all-conference in girls volleyball.

Meyer commits to Triton

Willowbrook baseball player Dax Meyer recently announced his commitment to continue his career on the diamond at Triton Junior College in River Grove.

Meyer, a senior at Willowbrook, is ranked No. 167 in the state by Prep Baseball Report. He struck out 25

batters in 20 innings of work last season for coach Vic Wisner's squad.

Willowbrook football by the numbers

How impressive was the Willowbrook football team last decade? The program's Twitter account recently pointed out that after starting the decade 2-16 overall, the Warriors went 60-27 with six playoff appearances, three state quarterfinal trips, one semifinal appearance (this past season) and three (and counting) West Suburban Conference Gold Division titles.

During the last decade, Willowbrook had five West Suburban Gold MVP award winners and 14 all-state players.

Jessen at Northwestern

Willowbrook wrestling great Jack Jessen is wrestling at 184 pounds as a redshirt first-year member of the Northwestern wrestling team. Jessen picked up his first win of the season by major decision over North Dakota State's Noah Cressel on Nov. 24.

He also had two wins at the Cliff Keen Las Vegas invitational with a 53-second pin over Hofstra's Charles Small and win by technical fall over Kent State's Tyler Bates.

Last season, Jessen wrestled untied at 184 pounds as a true first-year wrestler. He took first place at the Last Chance Open, winning all three of his matches there.

He also won three of four contests at the Cleveland State Open and two matches at the Lindenwood Open, including one by technical fall. In his first college competition, Jessen took third at the Michigan State Open where he had three straight wins, including one by major decision.

Fenton's Miller, Haska named all-tournament at Collins

Bison ready for second half of the season

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

The Fenton girls basketball team received some good news over the holidays.

A pair of Bison players recently were named all-tournament at the recent Collins Academy Christmas tournament in Chicago.

Fenton's Hailey Miller and Sophia Haska, both sophomores, were named to the all-tournament team at Collins where Fenton went 2-3 in the field.

"The amount of talented players in the tournament was impressive and it is a great honor that both of them were recognized for what they did,"

Fenton coach Dave Mello said. "Hailey played more minutes than any of our girls are used to and had to deal with an endless amount of pressure from other teams. Sophia was an absolute terror on the glass and played strong under the basket against some high-level girls."

Fenton recorded a 71-42 win against Chicago Crane and then ended up playing an impromptu game when North Lawndale's foe failed to show. Mello was asked if his team wanted to play Lawndale and he accepted. Fenton lost that contest 52-51.

"We trailed 36-10 with 11 minutes left," Mello pointed out. "We then outscored them 41-16 and had the ball with a chance to win with

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Resolve to be prepared in 2020

Each year, millions of people around the world welcome the start of a new year by making personal resolutions. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Illinois Department of Insurance (IDOI), Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local emergency management agencies throughout Illinois are encouraging people to 'Resolve to be Ready' for emergencies in 2020.

The National Weather Service suggests that abnormally moist ground

conditions and unseasonably higher river levels in the upper Midwest could lead to a considerable risk for repeat flooding this spring. With this in mind, state officials are encouraging Illinois residents to consider flood insurance before the next flood occurs.

"Anywhere it rains, it can flood. You do not have to live in a river community to experience the devastating effects of flooding," said Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau.

"What is important to remember about flood insurance is that this policy takes 30 days to take effect. That is why it is important to purchase and review your plan today in order to protect your family for the future."

Looking back at 2019, the biggest disaster to impact our state was the devastating river flooding that occurred in more than 33 counties, impacting 2.1 million residents. While the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) denied the State's

request for Individual Assistance to help residents get back on their feet following this historic disaster, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has provided more than \$19.7 million to Illinois homeowners who submitted flood insurance claims.

Managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the NFIP enables homeowners, business owners and renters in communities that participate in the program and adopt local floodplain regulations to

purchase federally-backed flood insurance. Although nearly 90 percent of communities in Illinois participate in the NFIP, a few communities in Illinois have not adopted local flood regulations and have not enrolled in the NFIP. In these communities, private flood insurance is available through licensed insurance agents. The agency who writes your homeowners property insurance should be able to assist you in determining your eligibility and coverage options.

• All-tournament (Continued from page 17)

four seconds left. It was amazing to watch the girls in the second game of a back-to-back find the fight to come back like they did. It certainly was one of the highlights of our three seasons so far.

Fenton then defeated Chicago Al Raby 49-16, lost to Rockford Christian 61-46 and lost to Chicago Westinghouse 73-46.

The Bison brought a 7-9 overall record into the new year and were 1-6 in their first seven Upstate Eight Conference games.

"Our level of 'compete' has been a strength," Mello said. "It has been really fun to watch this very young

team learn what it takes to compete at a high level. They really seem to up their 'compete' level against the tougher teams. Against Westinghouse, we outrebounded them by eight and fought for every ball the entire game. Regardless of the score, these girls compete. Early in the season we weren't sure what it took to compete at a high level. Now, I feel we understand what it takes."

Mello noted Fenton must continue to work on trimming the number of turnovers it commits. "We are still turning it over way too many times," he said. "Now, at the holiday tournament at Collins, we did face

teams with a lot of speed and aggression. However, we need to take better care of the ball, which will allow us to get the number of shots we are aiming for."

That being said, Mello continues to see progress on both ends of the floor.

"Minus the turnover issue, our offense is starting to look more like the last two seasons. We are pushing the ball at a nice pace and are crashing the offensive glass to earn those extra shots. On defense we are doing a nice job forcing turnovers, but are still allowing too many easy baskets. We need to do a better job sprinting

back once the press is broken and also work to take more charges."

Mello said progress with his group can't be measured on wins and losses.

"We are pleased with a lot of what has happened in the first half of this season," he said. "We don't base our success off just winning and losing. We have a lot of other measurements we use. To be honest, we have probably been happier with our performance in some of the games that we have lost compared to some of our wins."

"We want to see continued improvement on a daily basis in prac-

tice and in games. We don't have girls who only play basketball. They play other sports as well, that's what we encourage. However, with that being said, that automatically puts us a little behind when it comes to basketball skill and recognition."

"We are trying to drill all of in practice and are telling them that it is OK to try something new and not have it work. That's a moment they can learn from and grow as a player. Lastly, like every season, we want to be fully prepared to compete at a high level when time for the playoffs."

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