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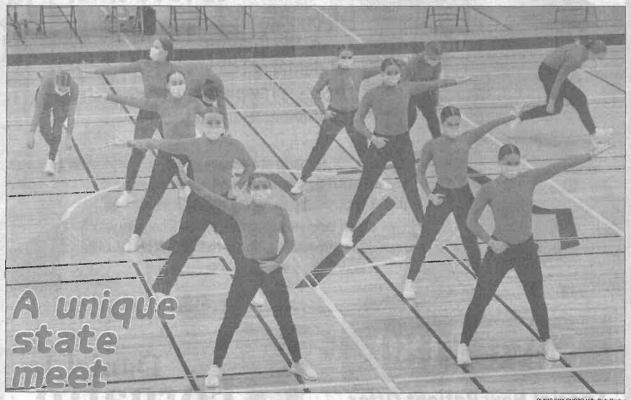
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March 27 HODY

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THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021



The Willowbrook High School dance team qualified for the 2021 IHSA Competitive Dance State Meet by placing among the top six teams in its 14-team level at the re-cent Mascoutah Sectional. That sectional took place virtually, with each team recording its performance at its own school and submitting the recording to a panel of judges. Willowbrook received a score of 79.95 in the sectional to earn a fourth-place finish in

its level. The state meet was also a virtual event. The Willowbrook team recorded its state-meet performance in the school's main gymnasium on March 2. The photo shows members of the team during that performance. The results of the state meet were anounced on Saturday, March 6. Willowbrook earned a score of 82.84 and placed 16th out of 30 teams in the state meet's 2A division. For more about the dance team, see page 12.

INSIDE. Police Reports.......6 Sports........12 & 14

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CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Senior Warriors

Willowbrook's badminton team defeated Addison Trail 15-0 in last week's dual meet in Villa Park. The Warriors honored their senior players at the March 3 meet. The team's seniors include Katy Abbott, Cara Burns and Lana Gallagher. Abbott teamed up with junior Becca Lopez Egan for a 21-17, 21-8 victory in the No. 1 doubles match. Abbott also posted a 21-3, 21-4 victory in the No. 2 singles battle. The photo above shows Gallagher during her 21-6, 21-7 win in the No. 4 singles contest. Gallagher contibuted to another win by joining junior Allison Harr to claim a 21-7, 21-13 victory at No. 3 doubles. Also pictured below is Burns, who is shown during her 21-10, 21-10 victory at No. 9 singles. Burns and junior Kall Becker delivered a 21-13, 23-21 win in the No. 5 doubles match. The Warriors' other singles winners in the meet against the Blazers included Lopez Egan (No. 1), freshman Lily Caron (No. 3), junior Amelia Gesicki (No. 5), lunior Annabelle Romero (No. 6), Harr (No. 7), Junior Molly Williams (No. 8) and Junior Molly Brewer (No. 10). Gesicki Johned Junior Emma Rattana to post a win in the No. 2 doubles match. The duo of Caron and Romero earned a victory at No. 4 doubles.



Slices of life

Stepping forward means living, n Pm still struggling, but I know us. We will be there fore

I'm still struggling, but I know I have to step forward on a path I wouldn't have considered six months ago. Because it didn't exist six months ago. The rest of the world is business

The rest of the world is business as usual. People all around me are walking on the paths of their choosing. I feel like half the time I'm desperately searching for mine. The other half I'm desperately afraid I'll actually find it.

I'll actually find it.

I would give anything, anything to have my dear, sweet, loving husband back, but that isn't possible, and that leaves me with a choice: to step forward or to stay stuck in the past.

I can stay in this cycle of grief; I can give up and only look backwards. Or I can decide that grief 24/7 — forever — isn't for me or for anyone. I can decide to take they steps forward. For myself. For our kids. For our grandkids.

I choose the latter.

I will never (not ever) forget the years we had together. I will always (as in the infinite always) love you. I will see you and be with you again. You will be there to greet me. I have no doubt about that. You are watching over me now. I trust you are. I talk to you daily. Our love continues to grow. I feel your

you are. It also to you daily. Our love continues to grow. I feel your presence and I know you are near. But I can't live in the past. It hurts too much, for myself and those here who still love me.

We had a great run, you and I. (I take delight now knowing that you

understand I why chose I over me in the previous sentence. Grammar gurus we both were. I loved that

By JILL PERTLER

Columnist

about you.)
I'd live my life with you a second time in a heartbeat, even if I knew the outcome. You were my everything. You still are. You always will be.

But now I have to step forward, into the unknown. The path we'd chosen, the path we'd planned on, the path I thought was cemented in stone no longer exists. It is gone.

I have to create a new path, even

I have to create a new path, even a new me. I have to forge new relationships and do the things you always used to do for me. I have to push myself and challenge my comfort zone.

comfort zone.
You were the second half of my whole; that will never, ever change, but there is room for more living.
And I have to pursue a life that goes forward.
Oh my goodness do I wish it

Oh my goodness do I wish it included you. With my whole heart, I wish that. But wishes are for the foolish. Faith is for the goodhearted

foolish. Faith is for the goodhearted.

I have faith. I have faith in the future. In my future. I have faith in

us. We will be there fore long haul. Forever and al believe that to the core o

But there is a reason where and you are there-probably many reasons., am to fulfill my own desi purpose, I have to continhere on this earth. Fully I not just existing, which is grief wants me to do. I he forward, sometimes inchand find my new nath

and find my new path.

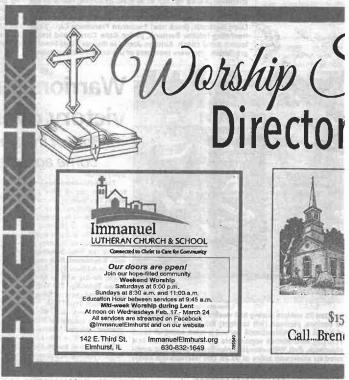
I know I have your sur know you will walk alon every step of the way. I k visit me at night when I s

Extended to end for sor

By Sarah Mansur

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Benefits for some unem
residents provided under
gram targeting mostly se
and gig workers will be
50 weeks instead of 57, t
nounced March 3. The st
riod for benefits under th
Unemployment Assistant
was triggered by a decline
unemployment rate.

The PUA program, whi established by Congress offers benefits to indept tractors, self-employed gig workers and others not



Warriors outscore two conference rivals in three-team virtual meet

Ball, Placek and Franczak land in a three-way tie for first in the all-around standings

STAFF REPORT
The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team defeated Addison Trail and Morton in last week's virtual meet.

Each of the three teams performed simultaneously in their respective gyms during the virtual meet on March 4. The Warriors outscored both of their West Suburban Gold Conference opponents in the event. Willowbrook posted a team total of 131.3. Addison Trail earned a score of 122.45, while Morton tallied a

Sophomore Molly Morris of the Warriors delivered the meet's best score on the vault (8.4). Another Willowbrook sophomore-Sarah Ball—delivered the top score on the balance beam (8.7).

Addison Trail freshman Nicolette Franczak earned the first-place score on the uneven bars (8.6). Senior Francesca Scarabaggio of the Blazers turned in the highest individual

score in the floor exercises (8.8).
Ball, Franczak and Willowbrook junior Tess Placek shared first-place honors in the meet's all-around competition. Each of the three gymnasts earned an all-around total of 33.35.

In addition to her first-place score of 8.7 on the balance beam, Ball finished third in floor exercises (8.35). third on the uneven bars (8.1) and tied for sixth on the vault (8.2). Placek compiled her all-around total of 33.35 after her second-place efforts on the balance beam (8.6) and in floor exercises (8.6), along with a tie for third on the vault (8.25) and a fourth-place score of 7.9 on the uneven bars.

Franczak's all-around total includ-ed her first-place score of 8.6 on the uneven bars, as well as second-place effort on the vault (8.3), a third-place showing on the balance beam (8.25) and a fourth-place performance in floor exercises (8.2).

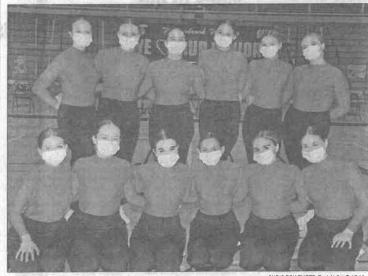
Willowbrook sophomore Hanna Mitrick earned fourth in the meet's all-around competition with her to-tal of 32.0. Mitrick's meet included a fourth-place finish on the balance beam (8.2), a tie for fourth in floor exercises (8.2) and a fifth-place showing on the uneven bars (7.45).

Scarabaggio wound up fifth in the all-around standings with her score of 31.8. In addition to her firstplace score of 8.8 in floor exercises, Scarabaggio's meet included a thirdplace tie on the vault (8.25).

Junior Bella Naumovsky of the Warriors earned a second-place finish on the uneven bars (8.2). Willowbrook senior Maeve Costello tied for sixth on the uneven bars (7.4) and tied for eighth on the vault (8.0).

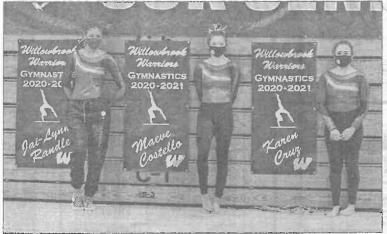
Several Willowbrook parents at-tended last week's action in Villa Park to watch the gymnastics and help the team honor its seniors— Costello, Karen Cruz and Jai-Lynn Randle

The Warriors will complete their abbreviated season by competing in this Saturday's West Suburban Gold Conference Meet at Hinsdale South.



Willowbrook dance team competes in virtual state meet

Willowbrook High School's dance team competed in the recent IHSA Competitive Dance State Meet, which took place virtually. Teams that qualify for the state meet normally travel to Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington for the event. This year's competition, however, was held virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead of competing at the same venue, the state-qualifying teams recorded their performances at their own schools and submitted the recordings to a panel of judges. Willowbrook's dance team recorded its state-meet performance in the school's main gymnasium on March 2. The IHSA announced the results of the competition on Saturday, March 6. Wilsowbrook's closed 16th out of 30 etch qualifying teams in the state meet's 2A division. The members nasium on March 2. The IHSA announced the results of the competition on Saturday, March 6. Wil-lowbrook placed 16th out of 30 state-qualifying teams in the state meet's 2A division. The members of Williowbrook's team (pictured left to right on March 2) are: (front row) sophomore Gianna Wiegel, senior Natasha Daum, senior Katle Kramme, junior Nelly Irlon, junior Sabrina Corso and junior Coco Bernardi; (back row) freshman Francesca Cico, junior Ava Cappitelli, junior Olivia Ehrhardt, freshman Tabitha Bernardi, junior Katle Corsini and freshman Kira Gamble. Maggie Porter is the team's head coach. Autumn Jones is the assistant coach. Both Porter and Jones are Willowbrook graduates who were members of the school's dance team.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing
The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team recognized its seniors during last week's virtual meet against Addison Trail and Morton. Willowbrook's three seniors, pictured (left to right) following the March 4 meet, are Jai-Lynn Randle, Maeve Costello and Karen Cruz. Willowbrook earned a team score of 131.3 to beat both Addison Trail (122.45) and Morton (105.3). Willowbrook sophomore Sarah Ball finished in a three-way tie for first in the meet's all-around standings. Ball, Willowbrock junior Tess Placek and Addi-son Traif freshman Nicolette Franczak each posted an all-around score of 33.35. The Warriors will finish their season, which was shortened by the COVID-19 pandemic, at this Saturday's West Suburban Gold Conference Meet at Hinsdale South.

Warriors earn another victory over Blazers

Both of the team's wins have come against Addison Trail

The Willowbrook boys basketball team won one of three games last week. The Warriors closed the week with an overall record of 2-8.

Willowbrook began the week with an 83-64 loss at Hinsdale South on March 2. The Warriors then played a pair of games on Saturday that were part of the West Suburban Conference Tournament. Both contests took place at Addison Trail. Willowbrook began the day with an 83-63 loss to Lyons Township. The Warriors won

Lyons Township. The warnors won their second game on Saturday, beat-ing Addison Trail 73-53. Willowbrook has earned both of its wins against the Blazers. The Warnors defeated Addison Trail 65-59 in Villa Park on Feb. 19.

Willowbrook trailed the Hornets 46-36 at halftime of last week's game at Hinsdale South. The Hornets in-creased their lead to 68-48 by the end

of the third period.

Willowbrook sophomore Not Campbell poured in 29 points durit last week's loss to Hinsdale Sout Campbell made all seven of h Campbell made all seven of h
3-point attempts. He converted for
of six shots from 2-point range in h
tremendous 11-of-13 performan
from the field. Campbell didn't sho
any free throws during the game.
Junior Marquel Saleek provide
16 points for the Warriors in their lo

to the Hornets. Saleek made three six shots from 3-point territory. Lyons Township built a 22-lead over the Warriors through or

quarter of Saturday's game. The I ons' lead stood at 44-33 at halftim Lyons Township, which scored 'points in each of the first three per ods, held a 66-46 lead at the end the third quarter.

See VICTORY, Page 14



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publish

Saluting the seniors

Willowbrook's girls basketball team honored its seniors after last week's home victories (over Hinsdale tory over Hinsdale South. The seniors on this season's team (pictured left to right) are:

day's games were part of th Kenya Lewis, Hannah Guthrie, Abbey Spada, Gracie Tumilty, Emily Kotcherian (manager), Stephanie Dasbach, Lindsey King and Taris Thornton. The Warriors followed their supposed to begin in Novel March 2 win over Hinsdale South with Friday's victory at Morton and Saturday's pair of the COVID-19 pandemic.

of victories (over Hinsdale Central and Proviso West) at Proviso West. Both of Satu day's games were part of the West Suburban Conference Tournament, which feature 14 teams. The Warriors will finish their abbreviated season this week. The season we supposed to begin in November but was delayed for more than two months because

Warriors reel off four big victories to improve to 9-2

Willowbrook will finish its shortened season this week

The Willowbrook girls basketball team posted four decisive victories last week to improve its overall season record to 9-2.

The Warriors opened the week by crushing Hinsdale South 57-11 in Villa Park on March 2. The War-riors earned a 54-13 wm at Morton on Friday. Willowbrook played a pair of games in the West Suburban Conference Tournament on Saturday at Proviso West. In their first game of the day, the Warriors beat Hinsdale Central 56-20. Willowbook then defeated Proviso West 58-33.

The Warriors will conclude their scoreless in the first half of last

abbreviated season this week. Their busy week includes another game against Hinsdale Central, this Friday's game at Downers Grove South and the conclusion of the conference tournament. The tournament features 14 teams (seven Gold Division teams and seven Silver Division teams). Those 14 teams have played only against conference opponents during

the current season.
Willowbrook's only losses of the season have come against two Silver Division teams—York and Lyons Township.

The Warriors held Hinsdale South

week's contest. Willowbrook held a 21-0 lead after one quarter and a the Homets. Each player received an against the Red Devils in the thi 36-0 advantage at halftime. The Warriors' lead ballooned to 57-4 by the end of the third quarter. The Hornets reached double digits by sinking a 3-point shot in the game's closing

Senior Taris Thornton scored a team-leading 16 points in the win over Hinsdale South, Junior Sophie Sullivan added 11 points. Senior Lindsey King, who made a pair of 3-point shots, provided eight points. Senior Stephanie Dasbach scored six points and pulled down a team-lead-ing 10 rebounds. Freshman Calli Kenny connected on two shots from

3-point range to contribute six points. The Warriors honored their se-

introduction as she walked onto the court with her parents. Head coach Terry Harrell and assistant coach Irene Mason greeted each senior player and her parents when they arrived at the center of the court.
Willowbrook built a 19-3 lead af-

ter one quarter of Friday's game at Morton. The lead grew to 25-5 by halftime and 47-12 at the end of the third quarter. Sullivan drained a pair of 3-point

attempts and scored a team-leading 12 points. Thornton added 10 points,

while Dasbach tallied eight points.
The Warriors held a 29-14 half-time lead over Hinsdale Central in Saturday's game at Proviso West.

against the Red Devils in the thi quarter to push the lead to 50-18.

Sullivan scored 17 points in St urday's first game. Dasbach suppli-nine points and 10 rebounds, whi senior Gracie Tumilty contribut

eight points.

In its second game on Saturda Willowbrook built a 16-4 lead ov Proviso West by the end of the fir quarter. The Warriors led the Pirat 26-15 at halftime and 44-20 aft three quarters.

Sullivan and Thornton both scor 13 points in the win over Provi West. Dasbach amassed 10 poir and a team-leading 15 rebounds. S nior Hannah Guthrie provided eig

• Victory (Continued from page 12)

Saleek scored a team-leading 18 points for the Warriors in their loss to the Lions. He made four of six shots from behind the 3-point arc. Saleek made six of 10 shots from the field and sank two of three attempts from the free-throw line.

Campbell added nine points, while juniors Zachary Clements and Terrell Walker both scored eight points.

The Warriors delivered their high-

est scoring game of the season in their second game on Saturday. Willowbrook led the Blazers 19-13 after lowbrook led the Blazers 19-13 after one quarter and 36-24 at halftime. The Warriors' lead grew to 56-37 by the end of the third quarter. Willowbrook's lead grew to as many as 27 points (68-41) during the fourth

Walker made seven of 10 field- season.

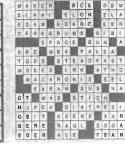
goal attempts and scored a team-high 16 points for the Warriors. Campbell, Saleek and junior Alexander Sim-mons each contributed 13 points. Saleek made two of three shots from 3-point range. Simmons drained both of his 3-point attempts. Simmons converted five of six free-throw attempts.

The Warriors will wrap up their shortened season this week. Their schedule includes games against Hinsdale Central and Downers Grove South, as well as action in the 14-team West Suburban Conference Tournament, All of the conference's teams (seven in the Gold Division and seven in the Silver Division) are playing exclusively within the 14-team conference during the current

Answers

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Addison's Simonides helps raise \$1.4 million for children's hospital

Rachel Simonides of Addison was one of more than 1,400 current University of Iowa students who participated in the 27th annual student-led Dance Marathon which raised more than \$1.4 million for the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital.

The final tally raised by the students who were inspired by the theme of - who were inspired by the interior of this year's Dance Marathon: "Rise with Resilience" - was \$1,422,443, a total which pushed the amount of support generated by Dance Marathon over the course of its history to more than \$31 million.

"A very popular spark word this year has been resilience," DM27 executive director Elizabeth Jackson told the University's Daily Iowan. "But for our families, they've been resilient as they received a diagnosis, got treatment, en-tered remission, or lost their child. The epitome of resilience is to have to go

through all those challenges.

Dance Marathon's "Big Event" is the celebration of UI students' year-round dedication to the children and families who have received treatment at the University of Iowa Stead Fam-ily Children's Hospital. Dancers and Dance Marathon leadership fundraise for 365 days to reach their individual fundraising goal.

Dance Marathon works to create

special projects to provide emotional and financial support to families treat-ed at the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital with an emphasis on pediatric cancer and bone marrow transplant patients. It committed \$5 million of support to the construction of the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital where the 11th floor is named the University of

Iowa Pediatric Oncology Unit.
In addition, Dance Marathon pledged \$2.2 million to fund a Child Life Specialist Position to ensure patients are provided the emotional sup-port they need.

Dance Marathon is the UI's largest student organization. It has raised more than \$31 million since its first event in 1995. In addition to raising money, the event celebrates the lives of survivors and recognizes those lost.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

The bottom line

Addison Township Supervisor Dennis Reboletti and DuPage County Board member Shella Rut-ledge (District 6) show off the diapers and baby Items recently purchased with a \$5,000 Cares Grant secured by Rutledge. Since the onset of the pandemic, Addison Township has assisted more than

ATHS to present 'The Addams Family Quarantined' Friday and Saturday

Addison Trail Theatre will present "The Addams Family Quarantined: A Dramatic Concert Version" on Friday and Saturday, Mar.

12 and 13 at 7 p.m.

The shows will be streamed online at no cost.

Follow the steps below to access

the performances. Go to dupage88.net/ATMusi-

cal2021. 2. Click on "Login" in the upper right corner

3. Click on "Create Account" Enter your information Click on "View Performanc-

6. Select which performance you would like to view and how many tickets you need, and then click on "Purchase Tickets" (NOTE: Tickets are free)

7. Click on "Add to Cart" 8. There is an option to make a donation to support the Addison Trail Theatre Booster Club (en-

ter the donation amount, and then click on "Apply") (NOTE: This is optional)

9. Click on "Checkout Now"
10. Enter your billing information (NOTE: Tickets are free - you won't be charged)
11. Click on "Continue"
12. Click on "Process Order

For more information: contact Anna McSweeney at amcswee-ney@dupage88.net.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Public

"The Addams Family" opens Friday at Addison Trail

Addison Trail students rehearse a scene from the school's upcoming musical, "The Addams Family Quarantined: A Dramatic Concert Version." They are (from left): senior Emily Stevenson (Pugsley Addams), senior Isabel "Izzy" Aramburu (Wednesday Addams), senior Danleila Cassata (Morticia Addams), freshman Jack DiDomenic (Lurch), junior Adam Sakleh (Gomez Addams), Junior Fernando Padua III (Uncle Fester) and senior Anthony Perez (Cousin it). Virtual performances will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 12 and Saturday, March 13. ickets are available are dupage88.net/ATMusical2021

Viewpoint -

American Rescue **Plan Act passes** U.S. House

By U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi

By U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi
I'm proud to relay to you that the
American Rescue Plan Act, which I
supported, passed the House the last
week of February.
This package will provide muchneeded relief to American families
still struggling from the Coronavirus
pandemic. It includes individual stimulus checks up to \$1,400, extended unemployment programs with benefit increases of up to \$400 per week, \$20 billion for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, \$30 billion in

watche distribution, \$50 official in the emergency rental assistance, and \$50 billion for COVID-19 testing.

Within this package, I spearheaded provisions for state and local aid and for health care worker mental wellness. Through my position on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, I championed the inclusion of \$350 billion for state and local governments, territories, and tribes.

This state and local aid will be used to help governments avoid cuts to essential services and staff, including police, firefighters, and teachers.

Another provision I authored

within this bill provides \$40 million for health providers to create or enhance programs that provide mental health care for their workers. This provision is similar to my Coronavirus Health Care Worker Wellness Act, which I introduced last Congress, Fundamentally, we need to

support our healthcare heroes as they face the challenges of fighting the pandemic on the frontlines, with all

the stress and risk of burnout that come with it.

Oversight Committee hearing on the U.S. Postal Service Recently, I questioned Postmaster General Louis DeJoy in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform hearing on the delays in USPS

According to USPS data, the performance of the USPS declined upon the arrival of Postmaster General DeJoy in June 2020. In January 2020, 90 percent of two-day local first-class mail was delivered on time, declining to 70 percent in December 2020. Similarly, 80 percent of 3-5 day nonlocal first-class mail was delivered on time in January 2020 but declined to 40 percent in December 2020.

Mr. DeJoy did not have an explanation for this decline in service and refused to commit to preserving the current two-day delivery standard for local first-class mail.

I was troubled by the responses I received from my constituents through social media citing instances of delayed mail, such as medication, which caused real-life consequences for them. I will continue to investigate and provide oversight on the USPS so that every family can continue to rely on this American

Raja Krishnamoorthi represents the 8th Congressional District, which includes Addison, Wood Dale, Bensenville and parts of Elmhu



From birth to career, Illinois students deserve an equitable and adequate education system

Editor's note: This op-ed was signed by Robin Steans, president of Advance Illinois; April Janney, acting president and CEO of Illinois Action for Children; Mini Rodman, executive director of Stand for Children Illinois; Kyle Westbrook, executive director of Partnership for College Completion; and Diana Mendley Rauner Ph.D. president of Mendley Rauner, Ph.D, president of Start Early.

COVID-19 has upended the lives and education of children and young people throughout Illinois. We will need new ways of thinking and

working to ensure our state's education system emerges from the pan-demic able to serve kids better and more equitably.

As a first step, state funding and policies must extend beyond tradipoincies must extend beyond tradi-tional silos— reschool, K-12 and higher education—and instead ad-dress our educational system as a single, interconnected journey that provides equitably and adequately for our extensive statements. for our students at every step.

All children and youth in Illinois

deserve a high-quality education regardless of their race/ethnici-

ty, ZIP code or family income. We know quality experiences, from birth through college, make a dramatic difference in one's success in school, career and life. Beyond this, a well-educated citizenry and workforce is vital for Illinois' economy, now more than ever.

Illinois has made significant strides in recent years in funding education. In K-12, the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act (EBF) has made Illinois a national leader.

Letter to the editor Addison Township appreciates PIE donations

personal care and cleaning products for local food pantries. PIE is a notfor-profit organization that serves public school students in District 88, Addison School District 4, School District 45 and Salt Creek District 48. PIE generously shared donations with the Addison Township Food

Since the start of the pandemic, the Addison Township Food Pantry

Recently, the Partnership For Inspired Education (PIE) held a Poptine-Trunk donation drive to collect the age of 18. These donations from PIE will help the Addison Township Food Pantry meet the needs of these

> On behalf of the Food Pantry and our families, thank you for your generosity and hard work to help our neighbors when they need it the

> > Dennis Reboletti Addison Township Supervisor

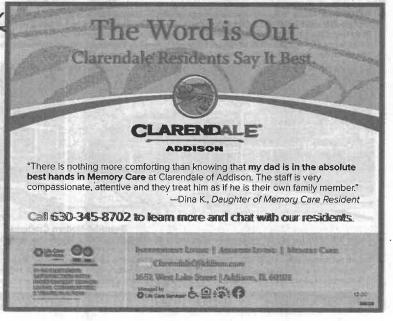
Cullerton: Local hospital to receive additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine

As COVID-19 vaccination distribution ramps up, State Senator Tom Cullerton (D- Villa Park) is pleased ce that the AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center in Glendale Oaks is set to receive 300 to 500 more doses of the vaccine per week thanks to a new pilot program to reach underserved communities.

"I'm pleased to see that AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center in

the 23rd District is one of the bosnitals receiving additional doses of the COVID-19 vaccine," Cullerton said. The pilot program is a strong step in the right direction to ensuring people across our communities have access to this vital vaccine to help end this awful pandemic."

The new pilot program comes



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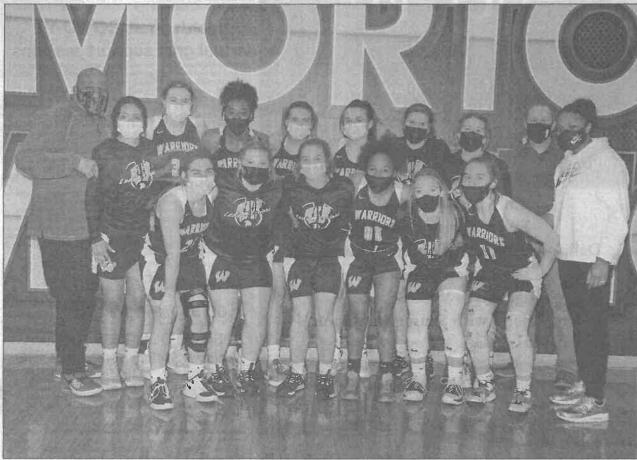
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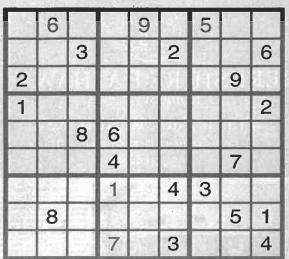
CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

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Warriors win conference tournament

Willowbrook's girls basketball team wrapped up its season by winning the championship in the West Suburban Conference Tournament. The Warriors won two tournament games at Morton High School's west campus on Saturday. They defeated York 56-50 in a semifinal game. Willowbrook then beat Lyons Township 52-46 in the championship contest. The Warriors are pictured after their victory over the Lions. Willowbrook avenged both of its regular-season losses on Saturday; the team's only two losses came against York and Lyons Township. The Warriors won their last nine games to finish the shortened season with a record of 13-2. The West Suburban Conference's 14 leams played exclusively against each other during the abbreviated season. Restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the start of the season for more than two months. The Warriors defeated Downers Grove South 59-33 on Friday to post a perfect 6-0 record against their rivals in the conference's Gold Division. For more about the Warriors, see pages 14 and 17.



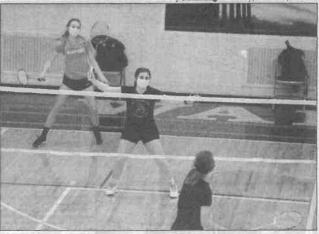
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Level: Advanced

SUDOKU **Fun by the Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzie! Answers on page 18



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO Rock Vailey Publishing

Warriors beat the Mustangs

The Willowbrook badminton team improved its dual-meet record to 6-4 with last week's 12-3 victory at Downers Grove South. The Warriors won seven of 10 singles matches and delivered victories in all five doubles contests during their March 9 triumph over the Mustangs. Junior Becca Lopez Egan of Willowbrook prevailed 22-20, 21-18 in the No. 1 singles match. Senior Katy Abbott of the Warriors claimed a 21-17, 21-17 victory at No. 2 singles. The duo of Lopez Egan (foreground) and Abbott (background) teamed up to post a 21-17, 21-14 win in the No. 1 doubles match. Willowbrook's other singles winners in the meet at Downers Grove South included freshman Lify Caron (No. 4), junior Amelia Gesicki (No. 5), junior Allison Harr (No. 7), junior Kall Becker (No. 8) and junior tzabelle Manning (No. 10). Willowbrook's No. 2 doubles team of junior Emma Rattana and Gesicki battled to a 17-21, 21-9, 24-22 victory. Senior Lana Gallagher Joined Allison Harr to earn a 21-11, 13-21, 21-14 win at No. 3 doubles. Caron and junior Annebelle Romero earned another three-game doubles victory for the Warrfors by defeating their opponents 22-20, 16-21, 21-19 in the No. 4 doubles match. Willowbrook's No. 5 doubles team of juniors Claire Harr and Mary Whiting contributed a 21-16, 21-15 victory.



Warriors finish unique season with a tournament title

Team wins its last nine games to end the year with a 13-2 record

STAFF REPORT
The Willowbrook girls basketball team completed its abbreviated season with a championship performance.

The Warriors won a pair of games on Saturday to claim the title in the season-ending West Suburban Conference Tournament. Willowbrook avenged both of its regular-season losses in the day's two games at Mor-ton High School's west campus in

In their first game on Saturday, the Warriors beat York 56-50 in a semifinal contest. That victory over the Dukes propelled Willowbrook into the event's championship game against Lyons Township. The Lions defeated Glenbard West in Saturday's other semifinal game.

The Warriors rallied to beat Lyons The warnor ramed to bear Lyons Township 52-46 in the championship battle, which was played in a nearly empty gym. No spectators were al-

"The girls came to play," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell, whose team tipped off its game against York at 5 n.m. After a brief rest the Warand Lions began the champion-

ship clash at 7 p.m.
"They were tired, but they turned right around and played extremely hard in the second game," Harrell

Freshman Calli Kenny scored a

team-leading 22 points for the War-riors in the championship game. Senior Taris Thornton provided 10 points. Junior Sophie Sullivan scored seven of her nine points during the fourth quarter. She sank five of six free-throw attempts during the final

"I just knew I that I had to come out here and play for our seniors," said Kenny after the victory over the Lions. "We knew it was the seniors' last game, so we gave it everything we

Two of those seniors-Stephanie Dasbach and Gracie Turnity—both provided five points in the win over Lyons Township. Dasbach's three-point play broke a 41-41 tie and gave the Warriors a 44-41 lead with 2:57 to

Freshman Elle Bruschuk scored one point with a second-period free throw. Bruschuk also supplied a key defensive play when she blocked a Lyons Township shot with less than 20 seconds remaining.
The Warriors finished their season

with a 13-2 record. Willowbrook won its final nine games. The team's season began with a 51-50 loss at York on Feb. 12. Willowbrook won its next four games before dropping a 57-48 decision to Lyons Township in Villa Park on Feb. 24. The Warriors proceeded to reel off nine straight wins, including four games in the 14-team conference tournament. Willowbrook opened that event with wins over Hinsdale Central and Proviso West on March 6. Those two wins sent the Warriors to Saturday's semifinals at Morton.

The Lions controlled the regular-season meeting with the Warriors on Feb. 24, building a 37-17 halftime lead. Willowbrook cut into the lead during the second half of that game, but never pulled any closer than nine points during the final two periods.

Lyons Township took an early 7-0 lead over the Warriors in Saturday's rematch. Thornton then scored five straight points to cut the Lions' lead to 7-5. Lyons Township closed the quar-

Typis rowsing closed the quarter with a 6-0 run to take a 13-5 lead at the end of the opening period.

The Lions held a 21-10 lead midway through the second period.

Turnilty contributed a burst of four points in the quarter to cut Lyons Township's lead to 23-16. Kenny's nine-point spark in the period included a 3-point shot that cut the Lions' lead to 26-19. Lyons Township led Willowbrook 26-21' at halftime.

Kenny added nine more points in the third quarter. One of her baskets cut Lyons Township's lead to 33-30.

Moments later, another field goal from
Kenny trimmed the lead to 33-32. Sullivan's basket with about 15 seconds to play in the period gave the Warriors their first lead of the game—a 34-33 advantage that they held going into the

fourth quarter.

The Lions regained the lead ear-In the Loins regamed the lead ear-ly in the fourth period, but Kenny's basket cut Lyons Township's lead to 38-37. The Lions responded with a 3-point shot to take a 41-37 lead, but Thornton's basket and a pair of free

A couple of months ago, we were having Zoom workouts, and we were just trying to hold the girls together. Then the COVID-19 numbers turned. and we got to get on the court, and the girls had a lot of excitement. I was happy to have the opportunity to coach them."

- Coach Terry Harrell

throws from Kenny tied the score at 41-41.

"I was finishing my layups, and I knew that if they kept passing me the ball, I had the confidence to keep finishing them," said Kenny after her

22-point output against the Lions.
"I have a football history as well," stated Harrell in referring to Kenny's standout performance in the season finale. "Here's what you do in football—if they don't stop it, you keep running it. Calli was the one making shots. She was catching and finishing. We kept running it until they stopped

it, and they never stopped it. Then they fouled us and we made the free

Dasbach's three-point play gave Willowbrook its 44-41 lead—a lear it would maintain for the rest of the game. Sullivan's driving basket with just under two minutes to play bumped the lead to 46-41. Sullivan made one free throw with 1:08 remaining to complete a 10-0 run and give the War-

riors a 47-41 advantage.

The Lions made a 3-point shot to cut Willowbrook's lead to 47-44. Sullivan made four free throws in the final minute, including two shots with 11.2 seconds on the clock. Tumilty made one free throw with 19.1 seconds to

play.
Sullivan and Thornton both scored 20 points in Saturday's semifinal vic-tory over York. Thornton, who made eight of 11 free-throw attempts, also contributed 14 rebounds. Sullivan, who drained three 3-point shots, sank seven of 10 shots from the foul line.

Kenny scored five points against the Dukes, while Turnilty and Brus-chuk both scored four points. Dasbach provided three points and a team-lead-ing 15 rebounds.

Willowbrook held a 17-10 lead over York after the first quarter. The Warriors led the Dukes 29-23 at halftime. York grabbed a 40-36 lead by the end of the third quarter.

The Warriors completed a perfect 0 record against West Suburban Gold Conference opponents on Fri-day, when they traveled to Downers Grove South and earned a 59-33 win Thornton scored 17 points for Willow-brook, which built a 33-19 halftime lead. Bruschuk and Dasbach scored

lead. Bruschuk and Dasbach scored
15 and 14 points, respectively.
The Warriors played one game
against each of their West Suburban
Gold rivals during the shortened season. The Warriors beat those rivals—
Addison Trial Benjic East Lud. Addison Trail, Proviso East, Leyden. Hinsdale South, Morton and Downers Grove South—by an average of 33 points. The closest margin of victory in those six games was 24 points—a 57-33 win over Addison Trail on Feb.

The unique season, delayed and shortened (Willowbrook played 29 games during the 2019-20 campaign, going 15-14) by the COVID-19 pandemic, with no state series, almost didn't happen. In early January, with all IHSA winter sports on hold, it seemed no one knew if the state's high school boys and girls basketball teams would be allowed to play any games during the current school year,

"A couple of months ago, we were having Zoom workouts, and we were just trying to hold the girls together," recalled Harrell. "Then the [COVID-19] numbers turned, and we

got to get on the court, and the girls had a lot of excitement. I was happy to have the opportunity to coach them."
Willowbrook began its final week of the season with a 67-48 home win over Hinsdale Central on March 9.
Theoreton and Twellit het season 4. Thornton and Turnilty both scored 12 points for the Warriors, who held a 35-27 lead at halftime and a 51-33 adsolution and a street three quarters. Sullivan provided 11 points, white Dasbach contributed 10 points. Kenny and Bruschuk added nine and seven points, respectively. See photos on page 17.





CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Guest speakers

Villa Park Chief of Police Michael Rivas introduced himself to some village residents during last week's Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT) quarterly meeting at the Community Recreation Building at 320. E. Wildwood Ave. Rivas has been the village's police chief since December 2020. "I feel very blessed to be the chief of police," Rivas told the audience. "I've always liked solving problems, and I joined a group of people who also love doing the very same thing." Rivas told the residents at the meeting that they are the eyes and ears of the community. He warned them that as the weather gets warmer, they may receive visits from scam artists who offer to provide some type of home repair work. Rivas told residents to call the police to report those visits. Additionally, Rivas told residents they should never give out any personal information over the phone to unknown callers. Two other guests at last week's meeting were Villa Park Police Officer Matt Rol vel Rul and the department's K-9 officer—Luke. Rol vel Rul is Luke's handler. Luke, a German shepherd who joined the department in June 2020, works and lives with Rol vel Rul. "He's with me 247," the officer told the audience. Rol vel Rul added that Luke is a dual-purpose K-9 officer who is trained in narcotics detection and patrol. In addition to detecting narcotics, Luke's duties include tracking criminals and people who are missing. Luke is also trained to track various articles. Those articles could include weapons that a suspect might discard while being pursued by police.

SPORTS

MARCH 18, 2021 •

Warriors wrap up season with a victory over Leyder

36-point third-quarter explosion highlights Saturday's win over the Eagles

The Willowbrook boys basketball team concluded its season with a pair of home games on Saturday. In their first game, the Warriors lost 74-66 to Downers Grove South. Willowbrook ended the day on a winning note by defeating Leyden 84-68.

The Warriors finished their abbreviated season with an overall record of 3-11.

Saturday's pair of games were part of the 14-team West Suburban Con-Tournament. The Warriors played their first two games of that event on March 6 at Addison Trail. Willowbrook began the tournament with a loss to Lyons Township. The Warriors won their second game on

March 6, beating Addison Trail.
Saturday's game against Downers
Grove South was the Warriors' second matchup against the Mustangs in less than 24 hours. The two teams met in Friday's regular-season game in Villa Park. Downers Grove South earned a narrow 66-63 win in that

The Mustangs led the Warriors 53-43 with 6:45 to play in Friday's game. Willowbrook rallied to take 57-56 lead with 3:35 remaining. Downers Grove South regained the

lead and held on to earn the victory. Willowbrook sophomore Noah Campbell, who made two 3-point shots during the fourth quarter, missed a shot from 3-point range at

Campbell connected on five 3-point shots during the game and scored a team-high 23 points in Fri-day's loss. Senior Amaris Hughes and junior Marquel Saleek both scored 13 points, while junior Terrell Walker provided 10 points. "Our kids could have very eas-ily packed it in," said Willowbrook couch Pyar Tyerkiewicz after Fri-

ily packed it in," said Willowbrook coach Ryan Tyszkiewicz after Friday's game. "They didn't. They came out and turned up the pressure. I'm very proud of the kids. They battled. They gave it 110 percent." Salest'e three-point play cut

Saleek's three-point play cut Downers Grove South's lead to 53-46 with 6:20 left in Friday's game. Campbell's first 3-point shot of the quarter cut the lead to 55-49 with about 5:20 remaining. His next 3-pointer sliced the lead to 55-52 with 4:30 to play.

A driving basket from Hughes cut the Mustangs' advantage to 55-54. Saleek's 3-point shot gave the War-riors a 57-56 lead with 3:35 remain-

the lead about 10 seconds later.

The Mustangs pushed their lead to

62-57, but Campbell's running bas-ket pulled the Warriors to within 62-59 with 1:30 left.

Hughes scored to cut Downers Grove South's lead to 64-61 with one minute to play. Saleek's basket dropped the lead to 65-63 with 35 seconds left.

Downers Grove South scored the game's final point on a free throw with 7.4 seconds remaining. Hughes tried and missed a last-second 3-point shot. The ball went out of bounds, with possession to the Warriors with eight-tenths of a second on the clock. Campbell caught the inbounds pass and missed a desperation 3-point at-tempt that could have sent the game into overtime.

Downers Grove South held a 23-7 lead after one quarter of Saturday's rematch. The Warriors cut the Mustangs' lead to 32-23 by halftime.

Willowbrook junior Alexander Simmons scored a team-leading 17

ing. Downers Grove South regained the lead about 10 seconds later.

points in Saturday's loss to Downers Grove South. Saleek and Walker scored 13 and 12 points, respectively.

The Warriors erupted during the third quarter of their season fina-le against Leyden. The Eagles led Willowbroek 38-26 at halftime. The Warriors outscored Leyden 36-8 in the third period to grab a 62-46 ad-

Walker scored 19 points in the win over the Eagles. Campbell added 17 points, while Saleek supplied 14

While the Warriors struggled to win games during the abbreviated season, Tyszkiewicz noted the joy season, Tyszkiewicz noted the joy and gratitude they felt for having an opportunity to play. A couple of months ago, it looked like the entire season might be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"You can just see with the guys on the floor in practice, in the game, just being around each other, being together, being a team, it really does show how much they appreciate it."

show how much they appreciate it," Tyszkiewicz said.







Willowbrook's boys basketball team finished its season by playing three home games in two of The Warriors faced Downers Grove South on Friday night in Villa Park. Willowbrook trailed by 10 pc early in the fourth quarter before railying to take the lead. The Mustangs regained the lead and hel for a 66-63 win. Sophomore Noah Campbell (No. 25-above) scored a team-high 23 points for the Warr Campbell made five 3-point shots, including a pair of long-range baskets during the fourth quarte is pictured while launching and missing a last-second 3-point attempt. Also pictured are senior An Hughes (No. 10-left) and junior Marquel Saleek (No. 00-top right). Hughes and Saleek both score points in Friday's loss. The Warriors lost another battle against Downers Grove South on Saturda termoon. The Mustangs earned a 74-65 win in that contest. In its second game on Saturday, Willowb defeated Leyden 84-68. The Warriors trailed the Eagles 38-26 at halfitime, Willowbrook outscored Leg 36-8 during the third quarter. The Warriors finished the season with a record of 3-11.

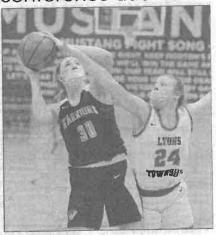
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CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing



Willowbrook's girls basketball team wins conference title

Willowbrook's girls basketball team ended its season by winning the title in the 14-team West Suburban Conference Tournament. The Warriors won two games on Saturday at Morton High School's west campus. They beat York 56-50 in a semiffinal game. They then defeated Lyons Township 52-46 in the tournament's champlonship game. Freshman Calli Kenny (No. 35-left) scored a team-high 22 points in the title contest. Senior Taris Thornton (No. 25-bottom left) added 10 points. Senior Stephanie Dasbach (No. 30-right), provided five points, including a three-point play that gave the Warriors a 44-1 lead with less than three minutes to play. Dasbach is pictured while making the basket that broke the 41-41 tie. She then sank a free throw to complete the three-point play. Willowbrook won the last nine games of its season to finish the campalgn with a 13-2 record. The Warriors' only two losses came against the two teams they beat on Saturday—York and Lyons Township. Willowbrook went 6-0 in its games against each of its six rivals in the West Suburban Conference's Gold Division.





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