



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors sweep Morton

The Willowbrook baseball team moved to 14-2 in West Suburban Gold Conference play after sweeping last week's three-game conference series against Morton. The Warriors opened the series with a 13-3 road win on May 5. Willowbrook posted a 5-4 win at Morton one day later. The Warriors completed the series sweep with a 9-2 win in Villa Park on May 8. Willowbrook closed out the week with Saturday's 4-2 home victory over Lyons Township in a non-conference contest. The Warriors' overall season record stood at 22-6 after Saturday's victory. Willowbrook junior Alek Ramey went 3-for-5 with two doubles and four runs batted in during the series opener against Morton. Senior Jesus Torres went 3-for-4 with two RBIs. Senior Sam Marrese went 2-for-5 and drove in one run. Junior Noah Edson pitched six innings and earned the win for the Warriors. Edson recorded seven strikeouts. He allowed two earned runs, three hits and two walks. Senior Vinny Ippolito went 3-for-3 and drove in one run in Willowbrook's May 6 win over Morton. Torres went

1-for-3 with two RBIs. Ramey provided a solo home run in the top of the fifth inning to cut Morton's lead to 3-2. Torres hit a two-run single later in the inning to give the Warriors a 4-3 lead. Junior Bobby Biggs pitched five innings and earned the win for Willowbrook. Sophomore Michael Garner pitched the final two innings and picked up a save. Marrese, Ramey and Torres connected for two hits each in the Warriors' May 8 home win over Morton. Ippolito (No. 14 - above right) went 1-for-3 and drove in two runs. Junior Luke Ranieri (No. 22 - above left) pitched six innings and earned the win in the series finale. Ranieri allowed two runs, seven hits and two walks. He recorded five strikeouts. Senior Ryan Adamczyk pitched a scoreless seventh inning to close out the win. Edson earned the win in Saturday's contest with a complete-game effort. He allowed two runs, three hits and no walks while recording six strikeouts in seven innings. The Warriors will close out their conference season with two games at Leyden next week (on May 19 and May 22).

Warriors' doubles duo qualifies for state meet



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook High School's doubles duo of (left to right) senior Hannah Daly and junior Maisie Thompson will compete in this week's IHSA state badminton meet. The two Warriors earned a berth in the state meet's doubles competition with their second-place finish at the sectional at Naperville Central High School on May 8. Daly and Thompson won their first two matches at the sectional to advance to the championship round. The two Warriors earned their berth in the first-place match with a 9-21, 21-15, 21-19 victory over a Metea Valley tandem in the semifinal round. Daly and Thompson then lost 21-15, 21-18 to another Metea Valley duo in the championship contest. The top four singles players and the top four doubles teams from each of the state's 16 sectionals qualified for the state meet, which will take place this Friday and Saturday, May 16-17, at DeKalb High School.

National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners announced

Two Lombard residents named

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced this year's National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners.

The 2,500 Merit Scholar designees were chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding Finalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners are the finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state's percentage of the nation's graduating high school seniors. These Scholars were selected by a committee of college admissions officers and high school counselors, who appraised a substantial amount of information submitted by both the finalists and their high schools: the

academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT); contributions and leadership in school and community activities; an essay written by the Finalist; and a recommendation written by a high school official.

NMSC finances most of these single-payment National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships. Corporations and company foundations that sponsor awards through NMSC help underwrite these scholarships with grants they provide in lieu of paying administrative fees. Donations made to NMSC's President's Fund also provide funding for some National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships awards. Scholars may use their awards at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university.

2025 National Merit Scholarship Competition

This year's National Merit Scholarship Program began in October 2023 when high school juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Last fall, the highest-scoring participants in each state, representing less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors, were named Semifinalists on a state-representational basis. More than 16,000 Semifinalists had an opportunity to continue in the competition. From the Semifinalist group, over 15,000 students met the very high academic standards and other requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. By the conclusion of the 2025 program, more than 6,930 Finalists will have earned the "Merit

See WINNERS, Page 20

Montini Catholic announces Class of 2025 Valedictorian, Salutatorian

Lombard resident earns Salutatorian honors

Montini Catholic High School announced its 2025 Valedictorian during its 28th annual Academic Awards Banquet on May 1.

Matthew Silveyra earned Valedictorian honors and Conor Kaefer of Lombard earned Salutatorian accolades.

Both young men have been very academically accomplished students throughout their four years at Montini, with each receiving the President's Award for Academic Excellence and Illinois State Scholar honors during their senior year.

Earlier in the school year, both Matthew and Conor were named Advanced Placement Scholars with Distinction (scoring a 3.5 or higher on all AP Exams taken) and both earned Na-

tional Merit Commended Student honors. Conor was also named a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist.

Both seniors are members of Montini's National Honor Society (NHS) with Conor serving as president and Matthew, treasurer of the 2024-25 chapter.

Both also dedicate their service to fellow students as NHS Peer Tutors. Matthew and Conor are members of the Spanish Honor Society and Matthew earned an Commendation Toward Bilinguality Award this spring. Both achieved admission into Montini Catholic's Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society—Matthew is president and Conor is vice president of the society.

Both are also members of Montini's Math Team, helping the Broncos secure a sixth-place state finish this spring.

Matthew is a member of Montini's Robotics team and Conor was a member up until his senior year.

Both Matthew and Conor traveled to Dallas, Texas, last spring to represent Mon-

tini at the VEX Worlds Robotics Championship.

Conor, a graduate of Sacred Heart Catholic grade school in Lombard, earned academic all-conference honors and the IHSA Scholastic Recognition Award for his participation in cross country and track and field.

He also serves his fellow students as a Peer Minister and is a member of the Spanish Club, History Club and Lasallian Youth.

Matthew, a graduate of St. Isidore Parish School in Bloomingdale, is also a member of the Spanish Club. He also is or has been a member of Montini's Chess Club, Flight Club, Computer Club and History Club during his time at Montini.

Matthew will be majoring in mechanical engineering at Northwestern University in the fall and Conor will be majoring in mathematics at Marquette University.

Montini Catholic will honor Matthew and Conor at its 56th annual commencement Mass and celebration on Sunday, May 18 in the school's field house.



CONOR KAEFER (left) of Lombard and Matthew Silveyra (right) were recently named Salutatorian and Valedictorian, respectively, of Montini Catholic's Class of 2025.

McKenna named 88's Best for April

Willowbrook High School senior Natalie McKenna was recently honored as her school's recipient of the 88's Best award for the month of April. McKenna, who is a Lombard resident, was recognized during the District 88 Board of Education's April 28 meeting. She is pictured (right) at that meeting with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (left). During the meeting, Krause read comments from some of McKenna's teachers, who described her as thoughtful, diligent, reflective, engaged, respectful, kind and compassionate. McKenna is an academic standout in Willowbrook's Class of 2025. She has completed 12 Advanced Placement (AP) courses. She is an AP Scholar with Distinction and an Illinois State Scholar. McKenna has been named to Willowbrook's Distinction Honor Roll during each semester of her time in high school. She is a member of multiple honor societies, including the National Honor Society and the English, math, science, world language honor societies. She's also a co-president of the Tri-M music honor society, and the president of Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas. McKenna was a four-year member of Willowbrook's orchestra as a violist. She was also a member of the school's Scholastic Bowl, Science Olympiad and Econ Challenge teams. As she continues her academic career, McKenna will study neuroscience. She plans to eventually go to medical school and become a neurologist.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Receive an eSubscription of your hometown newspaper!



Receive a digital copy of your hometown newspaper every week with an eSubscription for only \$35 a year.

There's no waiting for your home delivery.

Your link to the weekly newspaper will be emailed to you every Thursday. The digital version of the newspaper can be read on a computer, laptop or tablet.

For an eSubscription, visit rockvalleynews.com or call 627-7010.

**The Lombardian,
Addison Independent,
Bensenville Independent
and Villa Park Review**

Published by

Rock Valley Publishing
240 N. West Ave., Suite B
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone: 630.834.8244

Affordable health screenings coming to Elmhurst

Residents living in and around the Elmhurst area can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening.

Clarion Inn Hotel will host this community event on Friday, June 6.

The hotel is located at 933 S Riverside Drive in Elmhurst. Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque build-up in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular

health.

- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels

- Diabetes risk

- Kidney and thyroid function, and more

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors.

Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.