

Warriors earn a conference victory at Proviso East

Willowbrook's overall season record drops to 8-10 after Saturday's non-conference loss to McHenry

The Willowbrook boys basketball team, which closed out 2025 by winning four games and claiming the championship plaque at the 16-team IC Catholic Prep/Westmont Christmas Classic, began 2026 by losing two of three games.

The Warriors opened last week's schedule with a 61-50 non-conference loss to York in Villa Park on Jan. 6. Three days later, Willowbrook earned a 72-55 West Suburban Gold Conference victory at Proviso East. After beating the Pirates on Friday, the Warriors concluded their week with Saturday afternoon's 74-67 non-conference loss to McHenry in Villa Park.

Willowbrook's overall season record stood at 8-10 after Saturday's loss.

York held a 15-10 lead over Willowbrook after one quarter of last week's meeting. The Dukes led the Warriors 26-23 at halftime and 44-34 after three quarters.

Senior Otis Powell scored 21 points for the Warriors in their Jan. 6 loss to York. Senior Antwan Walker provided nine points, while senior



Senior Jaylen Griffin (No. 1) of Willowbrook's boys basketball team scored a team-leading 24 points during Saturday's 74-67 home loss to McHenry. Senior Otis Powell (No. 2) added 22 points for the Warriors, whose overall record dropped to 8-10 with the loss. Willowbrook concluded a stretch of three games in a five-day span with Saturday's loss to McHenry. The Warriors earned their first West Suburban Gold Conference victory of the season on Friday, when they defeated Proviso East 72-55 in Maywood. Willowbrook raised its conference record to 1-2 with Friday's victory.

Jory Crocker supplied eight points; Juniors JJ Miulli and Michael Garner added five and four points, respectively. Senior Evan Kase scored

three points. Powell piled up 26 points in Friday's conference victory at Proviso East. Senior Jaylen Griffin poured in

23 points for the Warriors, while Crocker and Garner scored seven points each. Miulli added five points. Walker and junior Dylan

Borkowski contributed two points each. Willowbrook moved its conference record to 1-2 with Friday's win over the

Pirates. Willowbrook held a 32-31 halftime lead over McHenry in Saturday afternoon's contest. McHenry owned a 54-50 lead at the end of the third quarter, and went on a 7-0 run early in the fourth quarter to boost its lead to 61-50. A 3-point basket from Griffin cut the lead to 64-57 with about 4:45 to play. Griffin delivered another basket to reduce McHenry's lead to 64-59 with about 3:40 remaining. A basket from Garner trimmed the lead to 67-63 with 1:27 on the clock. McHenry then scored three straight points to take a 70-63 advantage.

Griffin scored 24 points for the Warriors in Saturday's loss. Powell provided 22 points. Borkowski contributed eight points and nine rebounds. Miulli added five points, while Crocker and Garner scored four points each.

The Warriors' schedule this week includes conference games against Downers Grove South and Addison Trail. Willowbrook will face Addison Trail this Friday in Villa Park.

CHRIS FOX PHOTOS: Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors bounce back from a one-point loss to beat Addison Trail

Proviso East edges Willowbrook 44-43 on Friday; the Warriors beat the Blazers 47-25 on Saturday

The Willowbrook girls basketball team played its first two games of the new year last week. After suffering a one-point loss on Friday evening, the Warriors earned a decisive victory on Saturday afternoon.

Willowbrook lost 44-43 to Proviso East in Friday's West Suburban Gold Conference contest in Villa Park. The Warriors defeated Addison Trail 47-25 in Saturday's conference game in Addison.

The Warriors held an overall season record of 6-11 and a conference mark of 3-4 after Saturday's victory.

Willowbrook led Proviso East 11-9 after one quarter of Friday's battle. The Warriors owned a 26-20 halftime lead, and a 33-29 advantage at the end of the third quarter. Senior Joely Maciejewski scored a basket to give Willowbrook a 40-38 lead with about one minute to play. The Pirates sank a shot from 3-point range to take a 41-40 lead with 50 seconds left in the game.

Sophomore Leah Piper drained a 3-point shot to give the Warriors a 43-41 lead with 25 seconds to play. Proviso East regained the lead by sinking a long 3-point shot with 11 seconds remaining to seize its 44-43 advantage.

After taking a timeout, the Warriors missed a last-second shot.

Freshman Claire Edison made four 3-point shots and scored a team-leading 20 points for Willowbrook during Friday's game. Piper, who made three 3-point attempts, provided 14 points. Maciejewski contributed six points,

while junior Jada Langston supplied three points.

The Warriors led Addison Trail 13-2 after one quarter of Saturday's game. Willowbrook led the Blazers 17-11 at halftime, and 29-19 at the end of the third quarter.

Edison scored a team-high

19 points in Saturday's win. She poured in 10 points during the fourth quarter, when she made three baskets, including a 3-point shot, and sank three straight free-throw attempts. Edison drained eight of nine shots from the free-throw line during the victory.

Langston made nine field

goals to pile up 18 points in Saturday's triumph over the Blazers. Maciejewski contributed six points with three inside baskets. Sophomore Charlotte Baker made a 3-point shot in the fourth quarter to provide three points. Senior Rachel Vish added one point with a fourth-quarter

free throw.

The Warriors' season continues with this week's conference games against Downers Grove South and Hinsdale South, along with a non-conference matchup against IC Catholic Prep. Willowbrook will face Hinsdale South this Saturday, Jan. 17.



Freshman Claire Edison (No. 4) of the Willowbrook girls basketball team is pictured while shooting and making a 3-point shot during the Warriors' 47-25 West Suburban Gold Conference win at Addison Trail on Saturday. Edison scored a team-leading 19 points in the victory. Junior Jada Langston (No. 0) provided 18 points for the Warriors, while senior Joely Maciejewski (No. 25) added six points. Willowbrook improved to 6-11 overall and 3-4 in conference with Saturday's victory over the Blazers.

CHRIS FOX PHOTOS: Rock Valley Publishing

Current Warrior, future Hawkeye



Willowbrook High School hosted a College Signing Day for senior Jae Newman last month. Newman, a gymnastics standout, recently signed a National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Iowa and be a member of the Hawkeyes' men's gymnastics team.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

LEGAL NOTICE

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD - MEETING DATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2026

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provision of "Meetings of Public Agencies, 42.03" of the meeting dates of the following regularly scheduled meetings for calendar year 2026.

BOARD, COMMISSION OR GOVERNMENTAL BODY	REGULAR MEETING DATE	TIME OF MEETING	LOCATION OF MEETING
Board of Building Appeals	1st Wednesday Feb/May/Aug/Nov	6:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Board of Fire & Police Commissioners	4th Friday	8:00 A.M.	Village Hall
Firefighters Pension Fund Board of Trustees	Jan 21/Apr 15/ July 15/Oct 21	8:30 A.M.	Village Hall
Historic Preservation Commission	3rd Tuesday Jan/Apr/July/Oct	7:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Liquor Commission	Upon Call		Village Hall
Plan Commission	3rd Monday	7:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees	Jan. 5/Apr. 6 July 6/Oct. 5	1:00 P.M.	Police Facility
Village Board of Trustees *	1st/3rd Thursdays	8:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Zoning Board of Appeals	4th Wednesday	7:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Glenbard Wastewater Authority	Upon Call	6:00 P.M.	Glen Elytr/ Lombard V.H.
VILLAGE BOARD COMMITTEES			
Community Promotion/Tourism	1st Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Community Relations	2nd Monday	6:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Economic/Community Dvlp.	2nd Monday	6:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Finance & Administration	4th Monday	6:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Pub. Safety & Transportation	1st Wednesday	6:00 P.M.	Village Hall
Public Works & Environmental	2nd Tuesday	6:00 P.M.	Public Works

Foreign Fire Insurance Upon Call Fire Station

* First Village Board Meetings in June, July and August (June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th) are cancelled.
* January Meetings changed to January 8th and January 22nd

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Warriors in action

Willowbrook's girls gymnastics team faced Leyden in last week's dual meet between West Suburban Gold Conference rivals. The visiting Eagles outscored the Warriors 126.9 to 125.65 in the team standings of the Jan. 8 meet in Villa Park. Willowbrook junior Lillian Macias delivered first-place performances in two events. She posted the meet's top score on both the vault (8.8) and the balance beam (8.3). Macias, who is pictured during her winning routine on the balance beam, also placed third on the uneven bars (7.7). Junior Farrah Beavers of the Warriors earned a second-place score of 7.85 on the uneven bars. Willowbrook sophomore Ella Paulsen finished fourth in the meet's all-around standings with her total score of 31.3. Paulsen finished third in floor exercises (8.4) and on the balance beam (7.8). She tied for sixth on the vault (8.1) and tied for seventh on the uneven bars (7.0). Paulsen is pictured during her performance in floor exercises. Junior Macy Morris of the Warriors placed fourth in floor exercises (8.05) and tied for fourth on the balance beam (7.6). Sophomore Rebekah Brown of Willowbrook tied for fourth on the vault (8.2) and placed sixth in the all-around standings (29.8). Freshman Brooklynn Stratton of the Warriors finished sixth on the uneven bars (7.05). Willowbrook sophomore Olivia Oskiewicz placed seventh in floor exercises (7.8).



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS
Rock Valley Publishing

District 88 names Deb DeMito as December Business Partner

Last month, during its Dec. 8 meeting, the District 88 Board of Education, along with the administration, named Deb DeMito, owner of De Vine Wine and Cocktail Bar in Villa Park, as a Business Partner.

The Business Partner program recognizes companies, organizations and individuals for their support in building futures for District 88 students and helping to accomplish the district's mission and vision.

The district said DeMito is a prime example of an individual and company working with the district to achieve its goals. She is always willing to support District 88 and goes above and beyond to ensure its events are successful.

In September 2024 and 2025, DeMito allowed the District 88 Foundation to take over much of her facility to host its Gathering at the Grapevine fundraiser. Thanks in large part to her assistance and expertise, both events were successful and raised more than \$26,500 (combined) to fund mini-grants to benefit District 88 students through implementing innovative, teacher-led initiatives that could not otherwise be funded through the district's budget.

But what's most impressive about DeMito is her positive attitude and friendly demeanor. She could be busy preparing for multiple parties, with employees and



SUBMITTED PHOTO: Rock Valley Publishing
Deb DeMito

customers needing her attention, and she never hesitates to chat and help—and she does it with a smile.

Obituaries

JOYCE S. HASTY, 91

Joyce S. Hasty, nee Sible, age 91, of Glen Ellyn, Illinois formerly of Villa Park, Illinois, Beloved wife of the late Richard Hasty; loving mother of Lisa (fiance Donald Jr.) Hasty and Gail Hasty; devoted grandmother of Susan Hayes, Christopher (Laura) Hayes, Matthew (Soleimar De Aza) Hayes,

Andrew (Stacy Corra) Hayes, and the late Michael Hayes; step grandmother of Gabe Hayes; great-grandmother of Lincoln and Finley; fond sister of the late Frank J. (the late Dena) Sible; aunt of many nieces and nephews.

Services were held Jan. 9, Interment Mt. Carmel Catholic Cemetery.

DANIEL ROBERT SARLEY

Daniel Robert Sarley, of Carol Stream, passed away on Jan. 4, 2026. He was the loving son of Sharon and Robert Sarley, brother to Lynn Barstow and Amy Richard, and uncle to Cody Barstow.

Daniel grew up in Villa Park and graduated from Willowbrook High School. He attended Community Congregational Church where he was both baptized and confirmed.

Daniel worked as an electrician for 35 years and was part of the Local Union 701 IBEW.

Daniel was loved dearly by

his family and will be missed by all who knew him.

A Memorial Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 21, from 3-5 p.m. at Brust Funeral Home 135 S Main St., Lombard, Illinois.

Donations would be appreciated to DuPage Animal Friends (for DuPage Co. Animal Services/Humane Society), PO Box 3221, Glen Ellyn, IL 60138, or Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, c/o Northwestern Memorial Foundation, 541 North Fairbanks Court, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Info: www.brustfuneral-home.com or 630-629-0094.

District 88 to hold ACT preparation course for juniors at Addison Trail and Willowbrook

Course will meet on Thursdays in February and March at Willowbrook High School

District 88 will offer a test-preparation course to help Addison Trail and Willowbrook juniors achieve success on the ACT exam.

The course's sessions will take place on Thursdays, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., from Feb. 5 to March 26, at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., Villa Park.

According to District 88, this course will support students in improving their ACT skills and strategies to prepare for the ACT exam, which will be administered on April 15.

The course will be taught by District 88 math, science

and English teachers, and will use direct instruction and the online ACT resource ChalkTalk. Students will have access to ChalkTalk in class and at home.

The cost is \$140 per student.

To sign up for the course, visit go to <https://dupage88.revtrak.net/wbbs-exams>.

For questions or more information, contact Willowbrook Assistant Principal Jamie Gourley at jgourley@dupage88.net or at 630-530-3444, or Addison Trail Assistant Principal Michael Warren at mwarren@dupage88.net or at 630-628-3306.

An Intimate Evening with the Plain White T's, presented by ECPA, takes place Jan. 30

Special event to be held at Willowbrook High School; tickets are now on sale

Encore Center for Performing Arts (ECPA) is excited to bring the Plain White T's home for a special one-night show on Friday, Jan. 30. The event will begin at 8 p.m. at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., Villa Park.

Hailing from Villa Park, front man Tom Higgenson, along with Tim G. Lopez, Mike Retondo, and De'Mar Randall Hamilton, will take the stage in Willowbrook's Doris E. White Auditorium for a night of music and heartfelt stories.

According to ECPA, the intimate evening will be filled with the hits you know, the stories behind the songs, a live audience Q&A, and a chance to win an autographed guitar.

"This isn't a typical concert," ECPA noted in announcing the Jan. 30 event. "It's an up-close, hometown experience you won't want to miss."

Tickets are on sale now. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.encorecenterforperformingarts.org> and click on the link.

District 88 invites residents to join Citizens Task Force

Meetings will take place on Jan. 26 and Feb. 19

District 88 invites district residents to serve on a Citizens Task Force composed of parents and non-parents, business and civic leaders, educators, and other community stakeholders.

According to District 88, the Citizens Task Force will play an important role in evaluating a funding proposal that could appear on the November 2026 ballot to address facility improvements at Addison Trail and Willowbrook high schools, including safety and security upgrades, addressing aging infrastructure, ADA accessibility and improvements to Career and Technical Education (CTE) spaces. The

potential proposal would fund these essential updates at both facilities without a net tax rate increase.

The Task Force will meet twice to gather information, ask questions, provide feedback and help shape a proposal to share with the broader community.

The first meeting will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26, at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., Villa Park. The second meeting will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 19, at Addison Trail High School, 213 N. Lombard Road, Addison.

It is requested that partici-

pants attend both meetings.

"At this stage, no final decisions have been made regarding the possible funding proposal," related the district in announcing the Citizens Task Force meetings. "District 88 is committed to developing and implementing a process that enables local taxpayers to take a leading role in the planning effort."

To join the Citizens Task Force, and to RSVP to attend the two meetings, visit www.dupage88.net/TaskForceForm.

For questions or more information, contact District 88 Director of Community Relations Dani Brink at dbrink@dupage88.net or at 630-530-3989.

DuPage County Health Department reports increase in respiratory illnesses

The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) is urging residents to take precautions as respiratory illnesses are on the rise. According to the latest Respiratory Illness Surveillance report, influenza (flu) activity is high and increasing, while COVID-19 and RSV remain at lower levels but are trending upward.

What's trending in DuPage County:

- Influenza—high and increasing
- COVID-19—moderate and increasing
- RSV—Low and increasing

For the current flu season, an earlier and higher rise in emergency department (ED) visits is being observed compared to this time last year. Already, 51 DuPage County residents have been admit-

ted to the intensive care unit (ICU) to date due to flu-related illness and complications, tragically including 3 deaths; 14 ICU admissions were reported for the most recent week, Week 53 (Dec. 28, 2025-Jan. 3, 2026). View the full weekly respiratory illness weekly reports and interactive dashboard at www.dupage88.net.

See ILLNESSES, Page B

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