

Addison INDEPENDENT



**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 11TH
9AM-2:30PM
CENTENNIAL PARK
ADDISON, IL**

**ADDISON, ITASCA, & ELMHURST POLICE
DEPARTMENTS PLAY FOR A GOOD CAUSE!**
Proceeds towards Community Market (Addison Township
Food Pantry) and the Police Departments' Fundraising Initiatives

WWW.ALLIANCE4AT.ORG

VOL. 23 • No. 42

WWW.ADDISONINDEPENDENTNEWS.COM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026

Man accused of bringing loaded gun into hospital emergency room

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berio and Winfield Chief of Police David Schar have announced that Judge Robert Walsh granted the state's motion to detain pre-trial a Glen Ellyn man accused of bringing a loaded firearm into the Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital waiting room.



Michael
Vangarsse

Michael Vangarsse, 38, appeared at First Appearance Court and was charged with three counts of aggravated unlawful possession of a weapon, a Class 4 felony.

On Sept. 27 approximately 1 a.m., Winfield police officers responded to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital for a subject with a gun. Upon their arrival, officers allegedly observed Vangarsse disarmed and restrained by security guards. Following an investigation into the matter, it is alleged that Vangarsse arrived at the hospital emergency room and was directed by a nurse, who told him to change into a hospital gown, to the back area of the hospital.

It is alleged that when he refused to change, a security guard told him to change into a gown at which time Vangarsse shoved the security guard and began to walk towards the interior of the hospital. It is alleged that two additional security guards arrived to assist, and a struggle ensued during which one of the security guards observed Vangarsse reaching for his waist. It is further alleged that during the struggle, Vangarsse repeatedly reached for the firearm but was unable to retrieve it. It is alleged that after security guards disarmed and detained Vangarsse, they located a loaded Baretta 92 9mm handgun with one round in the chamber and

See GUN, Page 8



ABC7's Val Warner interviews District 88 Superintendent Dr. Jean Barbanente during the Sept. 25 feature. (Submitted photo)

Addison Trail featured on ABC7 Chicago series

On Sept. 25, Addison Trail was featured on ABC7 Chicago's Friday Flyover series.

Addison Trail students and staff showed their school spirit and Blazer Pride as ABC7's Val Warner showcased the school. The piece highlighted Addison Trail's strong tradition in academics, athletics, performing arts and more. It also recognized and celebrated the school's 60th anniversary this year.

Warner joined students, staff, coaches and activity sponsors in the auto shop, behind the kitchen in the culinary lab, on the auditorium stage (to highlight the school's upcoming fall play "Charlotte's Web")

in the field house and on the football field. The segment also showcased Addison Trail's strong commitment to honoring the cultural diversity of the community through performances by Mariachi de Addison Trail and Addison Trail Ballet Folklórico Estilo México.

Warner spoke with members of the school's Student Council and HOLA Club. She also interviewed Principal and Addison Trail alumnus Jack Andrews and District 88 Superintendent Dr. Jean Barbanente about district successes.

View the full feature, and check out some behind-the-scenes photos and videos at <https://www.dupage88.net/site/page/17729>.

Glowiak Hilton-sponsored law expands protections for Illinois seniors

In an effort to stamp out cases of caregiver abuse and exploitation, criminal liability will be expanded to voluntary caregivers who look after seniors and individuals with disabilities under a new law sponsored by state Sen. Suzy Glowiak Hilton.

"Seniors should not be taken advantage of, especially by the people caring for them," said Glowiak Hilton (D-Western Springs). "We are taking important steps to address abuse, neglect and exploitation so our seniors and individuals with disabilities can live with the dignity, safety and respect they deserve."

House Bill 4676 will expand protections for seniors and individuals with disabilities by ensuring Illinois' caregiver abuse and neglect laws apply to people who voluntarily assume care of an elderly person or individual with a disability.

Additionally, the new law will expand criminal abuse or neglect to include acts that create the substantial likelihood that the person's life will be endangered, health will be injured, or pre-existing physical or mental condition will deteriorate.

House Bill 4676 was recently signed into law and takes effect Jan. 1.

INSIDE:

Opinion	4	Sports	10-12
Speak out	5	Puzzles	13

*****3-DIGIT 601
DUPAGE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 88
2 FRIENDSHIP PLZ
ADDISON, IL 60101-2787
F 4.



ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Your Hometown
Newspaper

Main Phone 630-834-8244

The Addison Independent is
published every Thursday by
O'Rourke Media Group,
PO Box 237,
Kiel, WI 53042

Display Advertising:
630-834-8244

Classified Advertising:
630-834-8244

News:
630-834-8244

General Information:
630-834-8244

Betty Jesensky
Office Manager
bjesensky@orourkemediagroup.com

Chris Fox
News Coordinator
cfox@orourkemediagroup.com

Jim O'Rourke Publisher
jorourke@orourkemediagroup.com

Chad Richardson VP News
crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com

Joe Paul VP Digital
jpaul@orourkemediagroup.com

Jade Lewandowski VP Sales
jlwandowski@orourkemediagroup.com

Subscriptions:

In town \$45.00
Out of Town — \$59.00
Digital Access — \$30.00
For home delivery information
call 630-834-8244

Reprints:

Content appearing in the
Independent may not be
reprinted without permission
of the publisher or editor.
Requests should be directed to
independent@orourkemediagroup.com
or 630-834-8244

Postmaster: Please send
address changes to:
ADDISON INDEPENDENT
PO Box 237,
Kiel, WI 53042

Business Hours:
Monday-Friday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.



District 88 recently hosted its Parents of Black Scholars family dinner, giving black families from Addison Trail and Willowbrook an opportunity to build relationships with staff members, connect with one another and learn about the programs available at each school. (Submitted photo)

District 88 hosts annual Parents of Black Scholars family dinner

District 88 parents, guardians, students, staff members and community supporters gathered recently for the district's annual Parents of Black Scholars Family Dinner. Led by District 88 Student Success Coordinator Dr. Valerie Humphrey, the evening welcomed families into the PBS88 Village and set the tone for a year filled with connection, preparation and opportunity.

The Family Dinner gave black families from Addison Trail and Willowbrook an opportunity to build relationships with staff members, connect with one another and learn about the programs and experiences available at the schools.

A central message of the evening was "Prepared and Ready." Families were reminded that being prepared means being made ready in advance for a particular purpose, event, or situation. Students were encouraged to take advantage of every opportunity offered throughout the school year, so they can develop the confidence, skills and experiences needed for life after graduation.

Humphrey shared information about the Beyond BOSS Community, which empowers black students through meaningful experiences that celebrate identity, build leadership, strengthen connections and prepare students to thrive academically, socially and personally. Families also learned about monthly meetings and other student programs, including the Talented Scholars Network (District 88's Black Scholars Honors Network) and Reign (which aims to empower female students through a series of work-

shops and activities focused on academic excellence, self-empowerment, issue resolution and more).

The presentation highlighted a year filled with experiences, exposure and opportunities. Students will have access to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities College and Career Fair, Black Energy Awareness Month, career pathway exploration, financial literacy instruction, stock market competitions, workforce behavior training, mock interviews, leadership development and opportunities to teach younger students through the High School Heroes Program.

Families also received information about the district's BLACKtopia event (an annual conference focused on leadership, learning and legacy); Student African American Conference; U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program (led by MSG William E. Jones, JROTC Instructor at Addison Trail, and Lieutenant Colonel Mike Reardon, Senior Army Instructor/JROTC Instructor at Willowbrook); and the new graduation requirement for students to complete at least one career-related experience (presented by District 88 Director of Student Career Development Iridia Nevarez).

District 88 Superintendent Dr. Jean Barbanette shared updates, successes and future plans (including information about the board approving the placement of a referendum question on the Nov. 3 ballot to address facility needs at Addison Trail and Willowbrook; see details at www.district88.net/Proposal).



Montini Catholic senior class celebrates leadership at special Commissioning Mass

Montini Catholic seniors — including Addison resident Nishika Karthi (pictured on the left) — gathered for a special Commissioning Mass and reception on Sept. 16. The high school's Commissioning Mass is a tradition that celebrates seniors and their new roles as leaders of the Montini student body. The ceremony reminds seniors that they are supported and trusted as they begin their final year at Montini, preparing for graduation and all that lies ahead. (Submitted photo)

Bensenville Park District sets lineup of fall, holiday workshops

Get ready for a season of hands-on fun, creative challenges and farmyard adventures at Fischer Farm, 16W680 Old Grand Ave. in Bensenville.

The Bensenville Park District invites families and participants of all ages to explore a lineup of engaging fall and holiday programs, from exploding pumpkins and pumpkin carving to animal elections, escape rooms and sewing workshops.

Young scientists ages 7-13 can experience the thrill of Exploding Pumpkins from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 17, adding rubber bands to a pumpkin until it splits in two while learning about physics and pressure.

From 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, Pumpkin Palooza invites all ages to embrace pumpkin season with creative carving. Pumpkins and some carving supplies are provided, and participants are welcome to bring personal tools from home.

Both programs require pre-registration and cost \$15, or \$10 for in-district patrons.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, through Tuesday, Nov. 3, visitors can cast their ballots in The Face of Fischer Farm Elections, a free, all-ages experience. Meet the animal candidates, vote for a favorite and receive a farm-themed "I Voted" sticker. No pre-registration is required. Follow @BvilleFischerFarm on social media for election results. On Nov. 14-15, the Turkey Trouble Escape Room challenges participants ages 6 and older to find a missing turkey and save Thanksgiving dinner. Junior and senior versions are available, with groups of two to 10 welcome.

Registration is required. Fees start at \$10 per person, or \$8 in district, with a group discount for 10 patrons.

The holiday season continues with Pie Making from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25. Participants of all ages will create an oven-ready pie, receive a printed recipe card and learn skills to recreate their recipe at home. On Sunday, Dec. 13, ages 7-13 can take part in Cool Digs, using ice cubes to uncover hidden artifacts and create a souvenir necklace or bracelet. The season concludes with the Animal Stuffed Workshop from 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, where ages 8-15 can learn beginner sewing skills while creating a stuffed farm animal. Pie Making, Cool Digs and Animal Stuffed Workshop cost \$15, or \$10 for in-district patrons, and require pre-registration.

Registration is available at the Deer Grove Leisure Center, 1000 W. Wood St. in Bensenville, or online at BvilleParks.org/register. Space is limited for pre-registration programs, so participants are encouraged to sign up early. For more information, visit BvilleParks.org or follow Fischer Farm on social media at @BvilleFischerFarm.

Bensenville Park District offers new youth floor hockey program

Young athletes can hit the floor and develop their hockey skills this fall through the Bensenville Park District's new Youth Floor Hockey program, offered Thursdays, Oct. 22 through Nov. 12, at the Deer Grove Leisure Center (DGLC) Gym, 1000 W. Wood St.

Designed for beginner and intermediate players, the instructional program introduces participants to fundamental hockey skills, including stick handling, passing and shooting. Through a variety of drills, games and scrimmages, players will build confidence, improve their skills and enjoy the excitement of floor hockey in a fun, supportive environment.

"Floor hockey is a great way for young players to develop coordination, teamwork and confidence

while having fun," Recreation Supervisor Jacob Kaplan said. "The program gives participants an opportunity to learn the fundamentals, challenge themselves and enjoy the game with other players."

The program is divided into two age groups. Children ages 4-6 will participate from 4:30-5:15 p.m., with registration fees of \$42, or \$37 for in-district patrons. Participants ages 7-12 will attend from 5:20-6:20 p.m., with fees of \$48, or \$42 for in-district patrons. Class sizes are limited to four participants minimum and eight maximum.

Participants should wear athletic clothing and gym shoes and bring a water bottle to each class. Registration is available at the Deer Grove Leisure Center or online at BvilleParks.org/Register.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Addison Trail's Blazer Battalion program complete leadership challenge

Ten members of Addison Trail's Blazer Battalion U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program recently participated in the JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge. They were selected for their exceptional leadership, esprit de corps and sharp appearance in uniform.

The Blazer Battalion cadets chosen to participate were Chiara Lapitan, Fernando Mender, Janet Arauz, Damian Sigaran, Liam Bourget, Omar Teran, Jayden Parra, Kimberly Lopez Vazquez, Adrian Romero-Hernandez and Kimberly Villegas Desantiago.

The 2026 JCLC took place in June at the Marseilles Training Center in Illinois. A total of 178 cadet candidates from 21 high schools were organized into four platoons (first, second third and fourth).

The demanding training regimen included early-morning wakeups, followed by rigorous physical training. Cadets then tackled the rappel tower, zip line, land navigation, water challenge course, archery, leader reaction course and obstacle course. These training blocks were followed by competitive sporting events, including flag football, soccer, volleyball and frisbee toss.

Key awards and recognitions

Lapitan: Leadership award (1st Platoon), second place female physical training award, first place archery award (1st Platoon). Leadership evaluation: "Cadet Lapitan is a natural leader, with good presentation skills. She was able to come into the

role and perform really well. She motivated, helped and assisted every cadet under her leadership. Although she is a LET 1, she executes on the level of a LET 4."

Arauz: Leadership award (3rd Platoon), certificate of excellence award, most motivated award (3rd Platoon). Led her platoon to earn: best rappelling platoon, best sports platoon, best confidence course platoon, best land navigation platoon and overall best platoon. Leadership evaluation: "Cadet Arauz showed exceptional leadership. A great attitude, consistent motivation. She kept her peers involved and informed. This cadet is the standard; she sets the standard, then lives it. She always displayed a 'give all or give nothing' attitude."

Four total leadership awards were presented, and the Blazer Battalion brought home two of them. Addison Trail was the only school to have multiple Leadership Award recipients.

"I cannot express enough how proud I am of our 10 cadets, who chose to forgo a week of their summer break to participate in this rigorous, demanding and military-structured JCLC," said MSG William E. Jones, JROTC Instructor. "The Blazer Battalion truly leads from the front, with paramount results. The cadets represented District 88, Addison Trail High School and themselves in a manner second to none."

For more information about the Addison Trail JROTC program, go to <https://dupage88.net/site/page/17614>.

Family Golf Night at White Pines



Families took advantage of great weather for the last Jim Gellis Family Golf Night of the season on Sept. 27 at White Pines. The tees were moved in and golfers played at their own pace. The next family events at White Pines include Live at White Pines Cars, Cornhole and Cocktails from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, and Family BucketGolf from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18. Both events are free and have food and beverages available for purchase. (Submitted photo)

•Gun (Continued from page 1)

15 rounds in the magazine as well as three fully loaded magazines with a total of 60 rounds in Vangarsse's waistband.

"The allegations that Mr. Vangarsse brought a loaded gun into a hospital emergency room are extremely disturbing," Berlin said.

"The threat Mr. Vangarsse allegedly posed to patients and their families, doctors, nurses and hospital staff, is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated in DuPage County. Hospitals are no setting for a loaded weapon. They are a place for the sick or injured to go to receive care without having to worry for their personal safety. I commend security at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital for their outstanding work in safely getting

control of the situation and detaining Mr. Vangarsse until authorities arrived."

"Fortunately for everyone involved, the coordination and training of emergency room staff and hospital security at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and their relationship with responding officers from the Winfield Police Department allowed the situation to be resolved successfully and without significant injury or use of force," Schar said. "We are grateful to the employees at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital for their outstanding response which allowed an illegal weapon to be taken off the streets."

Vangarsse's next court appearance is scheduled for Oct. 26 in front of Judge Ann Celine O'Hallaren Walsh.

Police Reports

ADDISON

Addison Police recently reported the following arrests and citations. Persons who are charged with domestic battery are not named in order to protect the victim's privacy. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a conviction, and that suspects are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Juveniles age 17-or-younger are not named.

Sept. 28

Jose M. Ramos Jr., 49, of Addison, was charged with child endangerment, a stop/yield sign

violation and two counts of DUI in the 600 block of Lake Park at 5:02 p.m.

Maximus A. Wyderski, 19, of Bolingbrook, was charged with reckless driving, street side-show and squealing/screeching tires at 9:35 a.m.

Sept. 27

Anuj Pradeep Patel, 31, of Downers Grove, was charged with DUI near N. Addison and S. Lincoln at 5:28 a.m.

Sept. 26

Edgar Hernandez, 59, of Mokena, was charged with DUI and parking where prohibited

near Army Trail and Natalie Lane at 11:39 p.m.

Jonas G. J. Mulus Us, 27, of Carol Stream, was charged with leaving the scene of an accident, no insurance and two counts of DUI in the 400 block of N. Elmwood at 10:35 p.m.

A 32-year-old Addison man was charged with domestic battery in the 900 block of N. Rohlwing at 9:44 p.m.

Sept. 25

A 25-year-old Addison man was charged with disorderly conduct and two counts of domestic battery at 12:45 p.m.

Sports



Senior Malachi Miller (14) delivered a 60-yard touchdown reception on Glenbard East's first offensive play during Friday night's 41-8 victory over West Chicago in Lombard. (Photo by Chris Fox)

Rams run winning streak to five with Senior Night win over West Chicago

Glenbard East tangles with Riverside Brookfield in this week's division showdown

The Glenbard East football team rolled to its fifth straight win when it defeated West Chicago 41-8 in Friday's Upstate Eight Conference East Division game in Lombard. The Rams moved to 5-2 overall and 5-0 in division play with their Senior Night victory over the Wildcats, who dropped to 2-5 overall and 1-3 in the division.

Glenbard East scored three first-quarter touchdowns and held a 20-0 lead over West Chicago after one quarter. The Rams scored a pair of touchdowns in the second quarter to build a 34-0 halftime lead. Glenbard East

scored its sixth touchdown of the game early in the third quarter to boost its lead to 41-0 and trigger a running clock for the rest of the contest, which took place in clear and cool weather.

Shortly after receiving the game's opening kickoff, the Wildcats turned the ball over on a fumble. Glenbard East senior A.J. Triplett recovered the fumble at the Rams' 40-yard line. On the ensuing play, sophomore quarterback

See RAMS FOOTBALL, Page 11

Warriors improve to 4-3 with blowout win at Proviso West

Willowbrook scores five second-quarter touchdowns to build 42-0 halftime lead

The Willowbrook football team raised its overall season record to 4-3 with Saturday afternoon's 42-6 victory at Proviso West in a West Suburban Conference crossover game in Hillside.

The Warriors currently hold a 2-2 record in West Suburban Gold Conference play. Proviso West, which plays in the West Suburban Silver Conference, fell to 1-6 overall with its loss to Willowbrook.

Saturday's matchup marked the Warriors' only afternoon game of the regular season. It also marked Willowbrook's only regular-season contest on a grass field. The Warriors and Panthers played Saturday afternoon's game under blue skies in pleasant and calm conditions.

After scoring one touchdown in the opening quarter, Willowbrook piled on five touchdowns during the second quarter to take a 42-0 halftime lead over Proviso West. The two teams played the rest of the game with a running clock.

The Panthers scored their only touchdown of the day on a 99-yard run with about one minute left in the third quarter. Proviso West delivered the long touchdown run moments after intercepting a Willowbrook pass at the 1-yard line.

The Warriors drove 80 yards for a touchdown on their opening offensive drive of the day. Junior Jax Chavez finished the drive with a 4-yard touchdown run.

Senior Ben Swanson then made the first of six successful extra-point kicks of the day to give Willowbrook a 7-0 lead with 3:34

See WARRIORS FOOTBALL, Page 11



Senior Dylan Borkowski (22) scored Willowbrook's second touchdown against Proviso West on an 18-yard reception. (Photo by Chris Fox)

Broncos cruise to dominant win over Meteors, prepare to meet Marmion Academy Friday

The Montini Catholic football team raised its overall season record to 5-2 with Friday's 56-7 victory over De La Salle Institute in Chicago.

Senior quarterback Ismael Abrams of the Broncos completed six of nine passes for 223 yards and four touchdowns in limited action during Friday's dominant win. Montini freshman quarterback Charlie Bliss completed five of six passes for 110 yards and one touchdown.

Senior Eddie Kowalczyk provided two receptions for 97 yards and a pair of touchdowns in Montini's win over the

Meteors of De La Salle, whose record slipped to 0-7 with the loss. Kowalczyk hauled in touchdown receptions of 49 and 48 yards. He also rushed for 57 yards and a touchdown on just two carries. Montini sophomore Patrick Gabriel rushed for 60 yards and a touchdown on three attempts.

Senior Donovan Evans made a 74-yard touchdown reception for the Broncos during Friday's win. Senior Damacio Oregon contributed a 48-yard touchdown reception.

Senior Luca Florio also scored a touchdown reception for Montini.

Senior linebacker Orlando Greco supplied a defensive score with an interception return for a touchdown.

The Broncos face Marmion Academy (3-4) this Friday in Lombard. Montini will finish its 2026 regular season with a Chicago Catholic League (CCL) Green Division home game against St. Francis on Oct. 16. The Broncos and Spartans will both enter that contest with records of 1-1 in the four-team division. St. Rita is currently 2-0 in Green Division play, while Nazareth Academy is 0-2. The Mustangs of St. Rita travel to La Grange Park to meet the Roadrunners of Nazareth on Oct. 16.

Rams, Warriors battle to 3-3 tie during game played in steady rain

Gidcumb scores two goals for Glenbard East; Mueller provides two of Willowbrook's goals

The Glenbard East and Willowbrook boys soccer teams squared off in the rain in an Oct. 1 contest in Lombard. Playing in a steady downpour, the two teams battled to a 3-3 tie.

The Rams took an early 1-0 lead when sophomore Michael Szala scored a goal less than three minutes into the match. Willowbrook evened the score about four minutes later, when senior Ian Mueller netted a goal with a little more than 33 minutes remaining in the first half.

Glenbard East senior Charlie Gidcumb scored a goal with about 18 minutes to play in the first half to give the Rams a 2-1 lead. Senior Ryan Kummer provided an assist on the goal.

Mueller scored his second goal of the match to tie the score at 2-2 with less than two minutes remaining in the first half.

The Warriors took a 3-2 lead when senior Brayden Dotson scored a goal with 26:41 left in the match. Gidcumb provided his second goal later in the second half to deadlock the score at 3-3. Senior Johan Olivero assisted Gidcumb's second goal, which came with 15:48 left in the match.

Glenbard East senior goalkeeper Viktor Navarro made eight saves in the battle against the Warriors.

Willowbrook's season record stood at 4-10-2 after its tie against the Rams.

Two days before facing Willowbrook, Glenbard East defeated Riverside Brookfield 5-0 in an Upstate Eight Conference East Division match in Lombard. The Rams led the Bulldogs 3-0 at halftime of the Sept. 29 meeting.

Junior Isaac Guzman, Gidcumb, sophomore Brandon Garcia, senior Yan Guzman, and Kummer scored one goal each in the victory over Riverside Brookfield. Gidcumb also provided an assist.

The Rams dropped to 7-4-3 overall and 2-1-1 in division play following Saturday's 4-2 loss at Ridgewood. Glenbard East and the Rebels were tied at 1-1 at halftime.

The Rams' schedule this week includes division matches against Elmwood Park and West Chicago. Willowbrook's schedule this week includes West Suburban Gold Conference matches against Leyden and Addison Trail, along with a non-conference contest against Lake Park.

Warriors beat Rams in battle of rivals

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team improved its overall season record to 18-4 with its 25-18, 25-22 victory over Glenbard East on Oct. 1 in Villa Park.

Glenbard East's overall season record dropped to 7-19 with the loss.

Sophomore Darcy Hurley provided eight kills, four digs and two aces for the Warriors in their win over the visiting Rams. Senior Maggie Hurley also bashed eight kills for Willowbrook. Sophomore Evelyn Lammers contributed seven kills for the Warriors. Senior Melanie Marinier handed out 15 assists and made five digs, while freshman Paige Marinier supplied nine assists and three digs. Sophomore Lucy Franz delivered three kills and six digs for Willowbrook. Senior Tess Doyle made six digs, while seniors Matea Mockler and Lily Rich added five digs each.

Two days before facing Glenbard East, the Warriors moved to 4-0 in West Suburban Gold Conference play with a 25-5, 21-25, 25-18 triumph at Morton. Melanie Marinier piled up 20 assists in the Sept. 29 victory. Doyle made 14 digs, while Mockler provided 13 digs. Lammers connected for 11 kills, while Darcy Hurley hit nine kills. Franz supplied eight kills. Paige Marinier handed out eight assists and made four digs. Freshman Bryna Meeker provided five digs, three kills, three blocks and two aces.

The Warriors began their successful week with a 25-19, 25-22 win at Fenton on Sept. 28. Lammers hit six kills in the win over the Bison. Franz and junior Ashley Boynton contributed four kills each. Melanie Marinier had nine assists, while Paige Marinier delivered eight assists.

Willowbrook's schedule this week includes a conference match at Downers Grove South, a non-conference home match against Lake Park, and this Saturday's appearance at the Elk Grove Invitational.



TOP: Senior Maggie Hurley (8) provided eight kills in Willowbrook's victory over Glenbard East on Oct. 1 in Villa Park. **LEFT:** Glenbard East senior Bridget Crocker (6) sends the ball over the net during the Rams' match at Willowbrook. (Photos by Chris Fox)

•Rams football (Continued from page 10)

Carter Pohlman flipped a short shovel pass to senior Malachi Miller, who raced into the open field and down the sideline for a 60-yard touchdown reception. Senior Moises Velazquez made the extra-point kick to give the Rams a 7-0 lead with 10:15 left in the first quarter.

Moments after senior Max Stachura recovered another West Chicago fumble, senior Monti Perry delivered a 15-yard run to increase Glenbard East's lead to 13-0 with 7:10 remaining in the opening quarter. The Rams couldn't execute a clean snap and hold on the ensuing extra-point attempt, and Velazquez was unable to attempt a kick.

The Wildcats coughed up another fumble later in the first quarter, shortly after starting a drive at their own 10-yard line. After a few players had a chance to make the recovery, Glenbard East junior Austin Siebert pounced on the loose ball in the end zone to notch the Rams' third touchdown of the evening. Velazquez made the extra-point kick to raise the lead to 20-0 with 2:07 to play in the first quarter.

Pohlman and Miller connected on a 46-yard touchdown pass with 8:05 left in the second quarter. Perry delivered a 20-yard touchdown run with 4:59 remaining in the first half.

"You want to be able to get off to a fast start, and we were able to do that," said Glenbard East coach John Walters after Friday's

victory. "Our defense is pretty good. They've played really well all year."

Junior quarterback Connor LaCount threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to senior Mason Wright to complete the Rams' first drive of the second half. Wright made a leaping catch at the goal line to pull down the pass and score Glenbard East's sixth and final touchdown of the night. Velazquez then made the extra-point kick to give the Rams a 41-0 lead with 8:52 left in the third quarter.

West Chicago scored its only touchdown on a 62-yard touchdown pass with 2:20 remaining in the game. The Wildcats tacked on a successful two-point conversion run to account for the final points of the night.

The Rams will travel to Riverside Brookfield (6-1 overall, 4-0 in the division) this Friday to face the Bulldogs in what amounts to be this year's division championship game. Glenbard East will complete its division schedule with the contest. The Rams will close out their regular season with an Oct. 16 home game against South Elgin of the Upstate Eight Conference's West Division. The Bulldogs will end their regular season with an Oct. 16 division battle at Glenbard South.

"We've won five in a row," said Walters. "Our guys have some confidence. Now we've got to go out and just continue to play good football."



Junior Austin Siebert (9) recovered a West Chicago fumble in the end zone to score a first-quarter TD. (Photo by Chris Fox)

•Warriors football (Continued from page 10)

left in the first quarter. Junior Nate Jerkovic, who shared the team's quarterback duties with junior Niko Vourlos on Saturday, threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to senior Dylan Borkowski with 10:26 remaining in the second quarter to help the Warriors increase their lead to 14-0.

A short time later, after Willowbrook junior Carter Holland recovered a fumble at the Panthers' 38-yard line, Vourlos threw a 27-yard touchdown pass to senior Josiah Marlowe. Swanson's extra-point kick gave the Warriors a 21-0 lead with 7:37 to play in the second quarter.

Willowbrook sophomore Lucas Stringini scooped up a Proviso West fumble on a punt attempt and raced about 30 yards into the end zone for his team's fourth touchdown of the day. The ensuing extra-point kick from Swanson pushed the Warriors' lead to 28-0 with 4:29 left in the first half.

Moments later, senior Christopher Allen of Willowbrook recovered a Proviso West fumble on the kickoff return. Allen made the recovery at the Panthers' 33-yard line. After Jerkovic and Borkowski connected on a 24-yard pass play, Chavez delivered a 9-yard touchdown run with 4:10 remaining in the opening half. Swanson's extra-point kick moved the lead to 35-0.

Junior Kamron Greenhow scored the Warriors' sixth and final touchdown of the afternoon on a 1-yard run with 1:27 left in the first half.

The Warriors' season continues with this Friday's conference home contest against Proviso East (1-6 overall and 0-5 in the conference). Willowbrook will conclude its regular season with a conference home game against Addison Trail on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Warriors, Broncos battle in Lombard

Pesola edges Yurich in girls race; Warriors' Alka motors to win in boys race

Willowbrook High School's girls and boys cross-country teams squared off against Montini Catholic during the Warriors' Sept. 29 meet at Lombard Common. Competitors from Fenton and Morton joined the Warriors and Broncos in the girls race, while runners from Fenton and Proviso East ran with Willowbrook and Montini in the boys race. Both afternoon races took place in sunny and pleasant conditions.

Montini sophomore Natalia Pesola won the individual title in the 3-mile girls race by surging in the closing stretch to edge Willowbrook senior Bethany Yurich at the finish line. Pesola, who is a Lombard resident, completed the race in 19 minutes, 29 seconds. Yurich, who is also a resident of Lombard, finished the race in 19 minutes, 30.8 seconds.

The Warriors won the team title in the four-team race with their total of 36 points. Montini placed second with 46 points, edging third-place Fenton (47), Morton (119) placed fourth.

Fenton senior Susanna Malinowski (20:27.5) finished third in the individual standings of the girls race. Fenton sophomore Molly Adamczyk (20:27.8) crossed the finish line just after Malinowski to place fourth. Willowbrook sophomore Kate Borbo (20:36.4) delivered a fifth-place finish. Montini sophomore Fiona Felten (21:04.7) claimed a sixth-place finish. Fenton sophomore Amy Kroupa (21:26.7) posted a seventh-place finish. Willowbrook sophomore Rachel Simek (21:28.6; eighth), Montini junior Gia Csoke (21:46; ninth) and Willowbrook sophomore Vivian Little (21:47.5; 10th) rounded out the top-10 finishers.

Junior Juliet Oddo (22:06.3) completed the Warriors' scoring lineup with her 11th-place finish. Sophomore Paige Simek (22:13; 12th), sophomore Peyton Petrine (22:31.2; 13th) and senior Genevieve Kling (22:39.9; 14th) also provided top-15 finishes for Willowbrook.

Junior Ella Chico (22:40; 15th) and sophomore Katherine Paradis (23:00.7; 18th) rounded out Montini's scoring lineup. Freshman Ellie McGady (23:12; 20th) turned in a top-20 finish for the Broncos.

Willowbrook junior Legend Alka delivered a strong effort in his first-place performance in the 3-mile boys race. Alka covered the course in a victorious time of 15 minutes, 28.8 seconds. He finished more than 47 seconds ahead of Montini senior Nino Pesola, who completed the race in a second-place time of 16:16.3.

Montini senior Owen Ferris (16:21.1) ran to a third-place finish. Fenton senior Matt Andersen (16:22.1) placed fourth, while Montini senior Adriel Garcia (16:24.6) landed in fifth place, just ahead of Willowbrook senior Thomas Thimo (16:24.9), who landed in sixth place. Montini senior Gavin Conway (16:25.2) finished seventh, just behind Thimo and a fraction of a second ahead of Willowbrook senior Jacob Alexander (16:25.6; eighth). Willowbrook senior Ryan Quinney (16:26.5; ninth) and Montini sophomore Matthew Ferris (16:27.4; 10th) also delivered top-10 finishes.

Senior Kyle Johanson (17:06.9) posted an 11th-place finish to complete the Warriors' scoring lineup.



TOP: Montini Catholic's Natalia Pesola (right) and Willowbrook's Bethany Yurich (left) head for the finish line during the closing moments of last week's race in Lombard. Pesola won the race, while Yurich finished second. **LEFT:** Willowbrook junior runner Legend Alka delivered a first-place finish in last week's boys race in Lombard. (Photos by Chris Fox)

The Broncos won the team title in the boys race after placing five runners among the top-10 finishers and posting a total score of 27 (2+3+5+7+10). Willowbrook earned second with its total of 35 (1+6+8+9+11). Fenton (71) and Proviso East (115) placed third and fourth, respectively.

Broncos' boys capture team title at Niles West

Montini's boys squad won the team title at Saturday's Pat Savage Invitational at Niles West High School in Skokie. The Broncos ran to a first-place score of 108 in the competition, which included 39 teams. Oswego East finished second in the team standings with its total of 128.

Pesola led Montini's boys team to Saturday's victory with his fifth-place finish in the 3-mile race, which he completed in 15 minutes, 19.8 seconds. Matthew Ferris (15:52.1) placed 17th, while Garcia (16:03.1) landed in 24th place. Conway (16:05.5) claimed 26th, while Owen Ferris (16:12) posted a 36th-place finish to complete the Broncos' scoring lineup.

The Willowbrook and Montini girls teams also competed at the Pat

Savage Invitational on Saturday. The Warriors delivered a fourth-place finish in the team standings of the 34-team competition, while the Broncos turned in an 18th-place performance. Yurich led Willowbrook with her sixth-place finish in the 3-mile girls race, which she covered in 18 minutes, 26.3 seconds. Borbo (18:57.4) ran to a 17th-place finish.

Pesola (18:39) led Montini's girls team with her ninth-place finish.

Willowbrook's boys team raced to a victory at Saturday's Solonio Sun Warrior Invitational at Marquette Park in Chicago. Alka delivered a dominant effort in his first-place run in the 3-mile boys race, which he completed in 15 minutes, 9.6 seconds. Alka finished more than one minute ahead of the second-place finisher.

Quinney (16:20.7) finished fourth for the Warriors. He crossed the finish line just before Thimo (16:21.9), who placed fifth. Johanson (16:51.2) and Alexander (17:04.7) finished 15th and 18th, respectively.

The Warriors compiled a first-place total of 43 points in the meet, which featured 18 teams.

Yopchick, Vercruysse advance to Class 3A sectional in Elgin

The Willowbrook and Glenbard East boys golf teams competed in last week's IHSA Class 3A Wheaton North Regional, which took place Friday, Oct. 2 at Boone Creek Golf Club in Bull Valley in McHenry County. Willowbrook senior Kyle Yopchick and Glenbard East junior Mike Vercruysse advanced to this week's Burlington Central Sectional at Elgin Country Club by placing among the top 10 individuals who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams.

Yopchick fired an 18-hole score of 82 on the par-71 course. Vercruysse carded an 18-hole score of 84.

The Warriors earned a seventh-place finish in the regional's team standings. Glenbard East landed in eighth place. The regional's top three teams (Glenbard West, Lake Park, and Wheaton North) advanced to this week's sectional.

Senior Ryan Frauz, junior Ryley Spears, and sophomore Danny Dragovich all posted scores of 87 for the Warriors at the regional.

Willowbrook earned a fourth-place finish at the seven-team West Suburban Gold Conference Meet, which took place Sept. 22 at Prairie Bluff Public Golf Club in Crest Hill. Yopchick shot an 18-hole score of 75 on the par-72 course to finish third in the conference meet's individual standings. Spears and Willowbrook senior Cooper Coulter turned in scores of 82 to tie for 12th place. Yopchick, Spears, and Coulter all earned All-Conference honors.

Cotcamp qualifies for Class 2A girls sectional

Senior Angelina Cotcamp of the Glenbard East girls golf team earned an IHSA Class 2A sectional berth with her 18-hole score of 90 at the Glenbard West Regional, which took place on the par-71 course at Glendale Lakes Golf Club in Glendale Heights on Sept. 29. Cotcamp secured the sectional berth by placing among the top 10 individual finishers who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams. She advanced as an individual to this week's Prospect Sectional at Mount Prospect Golf Club.

Glenbard East's team finished seventh in the regional's team standings. Willowbrook placed eighth, while Montini Catholic wound up ninth.

Broncos top Loyola



Montini Catholic improved to 17-6 with last week's 25-19, 25-17 home victory over Loyola Academy. Senior Avalyn DeKeyser (18) provided 16 assists and 12 digs for the Broncos in the Sept. 29 win over the Ramblers. Sophomore Victoria Reed contributed six kills and six digs, senior Moira Quirk bashed six kills, junior Hope Gartland had 10 digs, four kills and two aces, and Junior Micela Haggerty made seven digs. Montini's schedule this week includes matches at Hinsdale South and St. Francis. (Photo by Chris Fox)

