

Band Day...

THE WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL music department welcomed musicians from Albright, Jackson and Jefferson middle schools for Friday's 20th annual Band Day. The grade-school students spent time at Willowbrook during the school day. They then joined the Marching Warrior Band and Willowbrook's freshman band on the field shortly before Friday night's varsity football game against Addison Trail. The picture on the right shows a few of the grade-school bands played patriotic selections, including "America the Beautiful" and "You're a Grand Old Flag."

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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 54 No. 44

Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Price 60¢

Inaugural Trick or Trot event attracts colorful runners

The Villa Park Junior Women's Club held its inaugural Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk on Saturday morning. The event also included a 1-kilometer kids run. Both races began and ended on the Illinois Prairie Path near Park Boulevard and Cornell Avenue.

All participants were encouraged to wear a Halloween costume for the event, which offered prizes to the adults and children with the best costumes.

Dan Ingolia of Naperville—who dressed as Snoopy—was the winner of the 5-kilometer (about 3.1-mile) race, which he completed in 19 minutes, 20 seconds. Tom King of Villa Park finished second.

Dominic Kurkjian of Westchester won the 1-kilometer kids dash. Dominic, who is 8 years old, attends St. Louise De Marillac School in La Grange Park. Several members of that school's running club took part in the kids race.

About 200 people (approximately 125 adults and 75 children) participated in the Trick or Trot event. The walkers in the 5-kilometer event included Villa Park Village President Deborah Bullwinkel. All of the proceeds from the event benefit the Villa Park Junior Women's Club Scholarship Award. The award annually recognizes the efforts of an outstanding female high school student from Villa Park.



Photos by Chris Fox

Young runners...

THE VILLA PARK JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB'S inaugural Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk and 1-kilometer kids race attracted a total of about 200 participants. The 5-kilometer race began at 8 a.m. on the Illinois Prairie Path near Park Boulevard and Cornell Avenue. The above photos show a few of the contestants in the kids race. The above left photo shows 3-year-old Savannah Rathbun near the finish line. The above right photo shows 8-year-old Hayden Roscoe and his sister, 8-year-old Grace. Their mother Lizzie is a member of the Villa Park Junior Women's Club. The far right photos show (left to right) Catherine Janetsas and 8-year-old Dominic Kurkjian. Dominic finished first in the kids race.



Villa Park's Halloween trick-or-treat hours: Thursday from 3 to 8 p.m.

The Villa Park Village Board has adopted Thursday, Oct. 31, between 3 and 8 p.m. as the official hours for Halloween trick-or-treating. All local schools have been notified of the hours and will be encouraging their students to comply with the trick-or-treat time period. In addition, Villa Park Police Chief Robert Pavelchik stated that additional police personnel will be available to assist residents during the trick-or-treating period. Pavelchik encourages parents to make sure that their children trick-or-treat only during those hours.

Chief Pavelchik recommends that parents take a few simple steps to help ensure their children's safety during Halloween.

• Young children should be accompanied by a responsible adult. No child should ever trick-or-treat alone. Children should walk only in

well-lighted areas and avoid backyards, alleys, empty lots and parks.

• Make sure that any masks that are worn do not block a child's vision. They should be able to see well both in front and to each side.

• Children who trick-or-treat after dark, please use reflective tape on costumes and carry a flashlight.

• Parents of older children should know the routes they are planning to take and set a time for kids to be home. It is strongly recommended that children go out in groups rather than by themselves.

• Parent should review the contents of all their children's treats. Remove any suspicious treats. If any treats show signs of possible tampering, call the police department at 630-834-7447.

Public meeting on Nov. 11 about village's agreement with Comcast

The Village of Villa Park announced that the village president and board of trustees will hold a public hearing to consider the renewal of the village's cable television franchise agreement with Comcast of Illinois Inc. on Monday, Nov. 11. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the board room of Villa Park Village Hall, located at 20 S. Ardmore Ave.

According to a release issued by the village, "At said hearing the following shall be considered: (1) the cable operator's substantial compliance with material terms of the existing franchise and with applicable law; (2) the cable operator's service quality, including as it relates to signals, response to consumer complaints, and billing practices.

but without regard to mix, quality, or level of cable services or other services provided over the system, with the quality shown to have been reasonable in light of community needs; (3) the cable operator's financial, legal, and technical ability to provide the services, facilities, and equipment as set out in the operator's proposal; and (4) the cable operator's proposal in view of reasonability to meet future cable-related community needs and interests, taking into account the cost of meeting those needs and interests."

Residents who attend the meeting will have an opportunity to speak about the matter. A copy of the proposed franchise agreement is available for public review in the office of the village manager.

VP Cable Commission seeks contestants for TV game show

Applications for "Everyone Smarter" due by Friday at 5 p.m.

The Villa Park Cable Commission invites eligible residents to try out for a new educational game show — "Everyone Smarter." The show, which will begin in November, is a series of academic bowl-style games the cable commission will televise on its local outlet — TV VP Style. The contestants will be Villa Park area students and senior citizens.

The program's first season will include three groups — fifty-graders, eighth-graders and seniors 55 and older. The students must attend area schools, while the seniors must be Villa Park residents. The contests will take place on one Saturday in November for each age group.

The deadline to apply to compete in the first season of "Everyone Smarter" is 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 1. Prospective contestants can fill out an online application by visiting www.every1smarter.com.

The commission will randomly select up to eight players in each group and invite the

players to a practice session at its studios in Villa Park Village Hall. The practice sessions will not be televised. The commission will then determine who will be eligible to compete in the championship tournament, which will be a double-elimination event that will last up to four weeks.

All contestants under 18 years of age must be accompanied to each appearance by an adult with authorization as the parent or guardian of the minor contestant.

Contestants in each group will compete in a question-and-answer contest. Each contestant who is selected to appear on the program will have the opportunity to compete in at least four games. A champion will be crowned in each group at the end of the season. Local businesses and community groups will award prizes to the top finishers.

For more information about "Everyone Smarter," call Al Stasch of the Villa Park Cable Commission at 708-254-0676.

The village's unlimited fall leaf collection runs through November

Yard waste stickers are not required from now through Nov. 30

The Village of Villa Park's fall leaf collection program will allow residents to dispose of an unlimited number of Kraft paper bags of leaves without affixing yard waste disposal stickers. The program will be in effect during a seven-week period ending Nov. 30.

Brush must be tied in bundles no longer than 4 feet and not larger than 18 inches in diameter. No limits over 4 inches in diameter will be accepted.

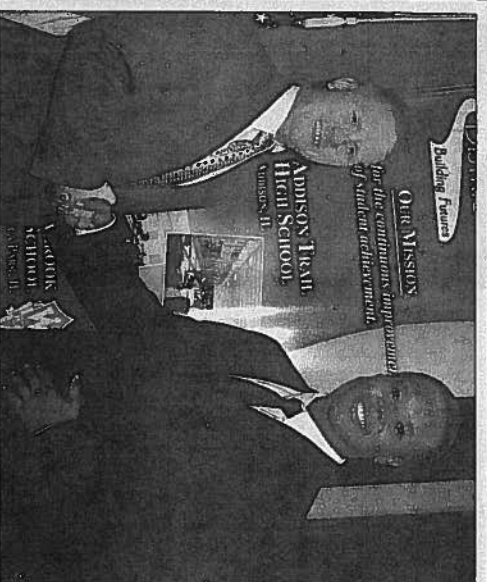
Yard waste stickers are not required for the disposal of brush bundles. Since all brush and yard waste are transported to a composting facility for processing, plastic bags may not be used. Residents should use only biodegradable twine or string for binding brush.

It is unlawful to deposit yard waste of any kind into public streets. For more information, call the village's public works department at 630-834-8305.



The village's newest firefighter...

BRANDON SANTIAGO (above, center) is the Villa Park Fire Department's newest full-time firefighter/paramedic. Santiago successfully completed the one-year probationary period earlier this month. His full-time appointment was recognized during Monday's Villa Park Village Board meeting. The above photo shows Santiago at the meeting with Villa Park Deputy Fire Chief Steve Stapleton (left) and Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakocik (right).

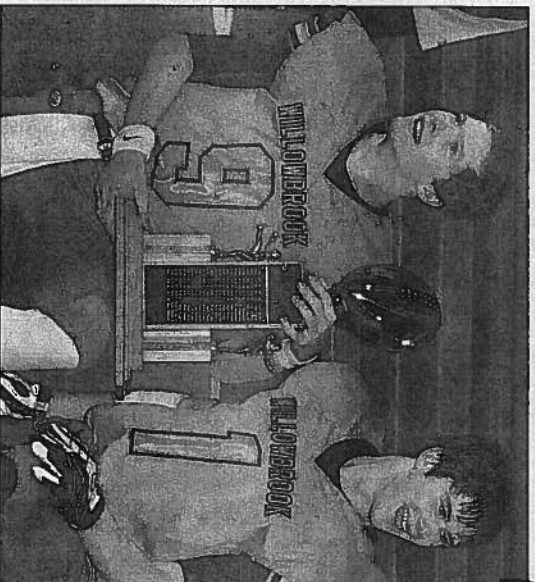


District 88's Best...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL senior Adrian Abrams (above, right) of Villa Park is the school's recipient of the District 88's Best award for the month of October. Abrams, who is pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause, was recognized at the Oct. 21 District 88 Board of Education meeting. Each month of the school year, the board of education presents the District 88's Best award to students from each of the district's two schools—Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools. The award recognizes students for their achievements both inside and outside the classroom. Abrams is enrolled in three Advanced Placement (AP) and two honors courses. He has completed six AP courses and several honors courses. He has maintained a class ranking within the 86th percentile and has been named to the District Honor Roll each semester of his time in high school. Abrams is an inductee of the National Honor Society, the National English Honor Society, Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, the Math Honor Society and Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas. Abrams is a captain of Willowbrook's football team and a member of the boys track and field team. He is also a New Beginnings Advisory Board Leader, a member of the Principal's Leadership team and a member of T.A.L.E.N.T.E.D., Willowbrook's African-American Leadership Group. Abrams has volunteered his time for several causes, including the Lauren Keller Memorial Run/Walk and Special Olympics. Abrams plans to apply to several Ivy League schools. His first choice is Yale University. He plans to earn a law degree.

VP police seek identities of two people; pictures are on Nixle site

The Villa Park Police Department is attempting to identify two people who are pictured in four photos on the department's Nixle Web site. The two subjects may reside on the north side of Villa Park near Division Street. The "photos can be seen online at <http://local.illinois.com/villa-park-police-department>. Anyone with information regarding the identity of the two people are asked to contact Sgt. Dan McCann at 630-592-6117, or at dmccann@javalivelpark.com.



Warriors win District 88 Bowl...

SENIORS BRIAN JOHNSON (left) and Hayden Adams (right) helped the Willowbrook High School football team defeat Addison Trail 48-32 in Friday's battle against District 88 rival Addison Trail in Villa Park. The Warriors and Blazons compete for the District 88 trophy on the football field each year. Willowbrook has won the last two meetings. Addison Trail won four straight contests from 2008 to 2011. Johnson is shown holding the District 88 trophy during the Warriors post-game talk with the team's coaching staff. Johnson threw four touchdown passes—including a pair of scoring throws to Adams—during Friday's game. Johnson also ran for a touchdown. The Warriors completed the regular season with an overall record of 7-2. They will travel to St. Rita in Chicago for Friday's first-round game in the IHSA Class 7A playoffs. For more about the Warriors' regular-season finale against Addison Trail, see Page 14.

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ADDISON INDEPENDENT

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October 31, 2013

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**Elmhurst College's
proposed budget cuts
'spook' students, faculty
tuition could
increase,
faculty benefits
may decrease,
but no changes
to J-Term**

By Dee Longfellow
For The Independent

ELMHURST — The headline of the October 22nd issue of Elmhurst College's student newspaper "The Leader" offered a Halloween theme: "Budget proposal spooks campus."

The story addressed rumors that the College was operating at a \$14 million deficit. The Independent contacted the school to verify if this claim was true, as a deficit of that magnitude could potentially result in a dip into the endowment fund. Higher-learning institutions view their endowments as precious.

Before speaking with college administrators, a student source provided a copy of The Leader, which said campus officials, including EC President Dr. S. Alan Ray, had held a special meeting in the Founder's Lounge of the Frick Center on October 23 to answer questions. In the front-page article, Dr. Ray does mention a deficit,

but does not indicate its size. The rumors of a \$14 million deficit are unfounded, according to Desiree Chen, managing director of public affairs for Elmhurst College, who further assured the endowment fund was still solid.

"The figure that you heard (\$14 million) is very seriously off-base," she said in a memo received at press time. "As we did projections, we could foresee a possible deficit — if we did nothing to address it — about one-fifth of that size. With the measures now in place, the final deficit at the end of the fiscal year will be even smaller."

Chen filled in the details of the all-campus gathering of students, faculty and administration.

The matter of most concern to students was a proposal to charge tuition for the J-Term, which refers to short-term study opportunities often held in other countries. For instance, the 2014 J-Term offers courses in places like Jamaica, Costa Rica, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Prague, Great Britain and others. In a memo issued just before The Independent's press release, Chen confirmed "students, faculty, President Ray and the Board of Trustees all agreed that J-Term policies

See CUS, Page 3



ATHS to perform 'The Odd Couple'

Addison Trail junior Michael Amadeo (left) and senior Alex Ramirez rehearse a scene from Addison Trail's fall play, "The Odd Couple." The school will present a female version and a male version of the play, which will take place Nov. 7-9.

Photo provided

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Addison Trail to present fall play, 'The Odd Couple'

Two casts provide male, female versions of show

ADDISON — When Addison Trail Theatre Director Anna Jakubka Court chose "The Odd Couple" as the school's fall play, she didn't quite realize just how much work was ahead of her and her cast.

"I wanted to do a comedy, and I'm excited to do this play," Jakubka Court said. "We are telling the story with a male cast and a female cast — so we're basically doing two plays. The students have really stepped up to the plate and are doing a wonderful job."

"The Odd Couple" is set in New York and tells the story of Felix (in the male version)/Florence (in the female version) Linger, whose spouse recently

filed for divorce. Unsure of where to go, Felix/Florence ends up at the home of Oscar (in the male version)/Olive (in the female version) Madison, who also is getting divorced. While the two are friends, their differences quickly become an issue and lead to seemingly endless comical situations. They truly are an "odd couple."

"This play brings up life issues such as marriage and roommates, which I've been

able to discuss with the actors and relate to their lives," Jakubka Court said. "We've updated the story to ensure it resonates with today's society."

Junior Michael Amadeo plays Felix and said it was a little difficult to play a character that's so well known, as "The Odd Couple" has appeared on Broadway and was made into a TV show and a movie.

"I watched the movie and TV show to get into my character," Amadeo said. "It has been great to work with my friends on this play."

Playing Oscar is senior Alex Ramirez, who said he has tried to make his character unique. He said it has been a fun challenge with the girls to create the best performance.

In the female version of the show, senior Morgan Pirtle plays Olive, and senior Kalia Keller plays Florence. Although they admit to being the opposite of their characters, Pirtle and Keller said they've enjoyed figuring out where Olive and Florence are coming from.

"I hope the audience has a good time," Keller said. "I want them to forget whatever they're going through and laugh and enjoy the experience."



"Aunt Lu" endorses Diciani for County Board

courtesy photo

Addison Village Clerk Lucille Zucchero (left), known as "The Queen" to her family, shares a laugh with her daughter Lisa and "cousin" Peter Diciani at his Fall Food Fest fundraiser held Tuesday, October 22. At the event, Diciani announced he would seek re-election to his seat on the DuPage County Board in District 2.

Addison Trick-or-treating hours Thursday, October 31 from 3-7 p.m. Within four blocks your residence.

• CUTS

Continued from page 1

should not change."

Student organizes Facebook group

According to the story in The Leader, EC senior Britana Mings organized a Facebook group called "Say No To Paying More for J-Term," but said many students assumed it was a prank. Once they found out it may be true, response was "intense," Mings said.

"Students are outraged," she said. "Most don't know how they are going to afford to attend Elmhurst College if these financial changes are passed. Many are already considering transferring because EC will be too expensive for them."

Another proposed budget item is a 2.3 percent increase in tuition. Others could affect faculty members including changes to health insurance costs, reduction in pension contributions and canceling "free rides" for children of faculty.

Faculty feels shut out of discussion

The Leader further reported that Ann Frank Wake, who

chairs EC's English Department, was among some faculty members to respond to the proposed cuts, claiming they had been "frozen out of the process," apparently not for the first time.

"Why hasn't there been more faculty involvement?" Wake posed. "The process for budget changes yet again precludes input from the stakeholders."

She also questioned the lack of urgency in the discussions with students and faculty. "Imagine how it feels to know there could have been another week to discuss [the proposal], but there's no faculty input, and we get the proposal a week before the Board votes on it," Wake said.

Dr. Ray responds

On October 18, Dr. Ray told the campus community the proposals were "candidate solutions." The Leader read

"Taken together, [the budget proposals] eliminate the deficit," Ray said. "I expect some will be adopted, others will not; some I personally find persuasive, others I don't. New

options may yet emerge."

Ray also said that, if approved, some changes would be "fast-tracked" to make a difference in this financial year, while others will be debated and implemented at a later time.

The Board of Trustees was in a meeting about the proposals late Friday afternoon, October 25, and later emerged with some official information.

When it came to the public forum in the Frick Center, President Ray recognized the passion of the students and, in particular, their opposition to charging for J-Term courses. According to Chen, the forum had appeased the students, helping them feel they'd been heard.

"We feel it speaks to our transparency, that we would even hold such a forum to explain it correctly," Chen said.

"We're a private school, we're not public, so we are under no obligation. But these measures can affect students and we wanted their input and suggestions, as well as from staff, on ideas to increase revenues."

cut expenses and so forth. "Also, it's just a proposal. We don't know what the Board will approve, these are just some ideas that were floated."

Enrollment down at colleges everywhere

According to the interview with Chen, enrollment is down "everywhere," or at least among schools the same size as Elmhurst.

"Elmhurst has grown a great deal in the last 10 years. From 1994 to 2002, our average first-year class was 291. This year it was 506. It's been over 500 for the past seven years. The growth in our student body has been accompanied by expansion in our faculty and programs. Our goal is to maintain the quality and intimacy of the Elmhurst Experience, while meeting increased student demand."

In recent years, shifts in the larger economy of higher education have added challenges to the planning process, according to Chen.

"This year, we faced a rare phenomenon for us, a budget

deficit," she said. "When we face such issues on our campus, we believe in facing them as openly as possible and involving as much of the campus community as possible, and we have addressed the deficit in this manner, with open forums of students, faculty, staff, and trustees."

"The trustees, of course, are ultimately responsible, and over the weekend, they passed a measured approach to addressing a manageable and short-term financial issue while advancing the long-term betterment of the College community."

With the second-largest endowment among the small colleges in the Chicago area, Elmhurst is considered "a strong institution across the board," Chen said.

"We address our issues openly among ourselves and treat the discussions as learning opportunities for all of us — especially our students, who are preparing to become responsible stewards of great institutions like Elmhurst."

District 4 Board, teachers association reach agreement

Mediator helped the process, leaders said

ADDISON — The District 4 Board of Education and Addison Teachers Association (ATA) have ratified a three-year negotiated agreement. The new contract will be in effect through June 30, 2016.

The agreement includes salary guidelines based on two variables—longevity and educational advancement. The longevity increase for the first year of the contract is a flat salary increase of \$1,664 for everyone except first-year ATA members. The second year includes a 2% raise for all members and the third year increase will be based on the Urban Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), with a minimum of 2% and a maximum of 4% increase. Members will also be eligible for an Educational Advancement Increase for graduate level coursework in increments of 15 semester hours. Up to 30 members per

year will be granted a salary increase of \$1,250 for completing 15 hours or \$2,250 for earning their master's degrees.

Beginning in 2014-15, the second year of the contract, ATA members will add an additional three days to their work year. The three days will be divided into six half days and will be used exclusively for the purposes of collaboration, curriculum development, professional learning and growth, and improving professional practice. A reduction was made in some previously required after school in-service meetings and PTA event attendance.

Additional components of the negotiated agreement include requiring the addition of a full time instructional aide when class size guidelines are exceeded by 20%, increasing extra duty pay from \$22 to \$28 per hour, adjustments to the sharing of health insurance premium costs and benefit enhancements, new safety guidelines, and the new teacher evaluation plan and procedures.

"This has been a process that required a great deal of work on everybody's part," said ATA co-President Carol Cisko.

"The ATA negotiations team, chaired by Deanna Johnson and Bob Wojcik, consisted of 12 members, representing each of the District's eight schools. Working with the Board/administrative team that consisted of eight members, we had the same goal, but there were differing outlooks and approaches to reaching that goal."

The first tentative agreement reached by the negotiations team was voted down by a large margin in May. The negotiations committee resumed meetings in summer to work out an agreement with the help of a federal mediator.

"The mediator really helped the process," ATA Co-President Tammy Boggett remarked. "He did a good job of removing personalities from the discussion, stating what each side was looking for while eliminating the emotional elements from the conversation. We're very proud that we were able to come

to a fair agreement while maintaining productive relationships that will take us into the future."

The Teachers Association ratified the three-year agreement in a vote held on Tuesday, October 22 and the Board of Education approved the contract at its regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 23, 2013.

"We are pleased to have reached this agreement," said Superintendent John Langdon. "There is a challenge in trying to meet the varied needs of licensed professionals—which include not only classroom teachers, but also school nurses, resource teachers, social workers and more—while working within our means.

"I feel our success was the result of many years of developing relationships and of the respect we have for each other."

Addison School District 4 is a Pre-school-8th grade elementary school district with 4,400 students and 276 licensed staff members.



photo provided

ATHS presents male and female "Odd Couples"

Addison Trail seniors Kaia Keller (left) and Morgan Pirte rehearse a scene from Addison Trail's fall play, "The Odd Couple." The school will present a female version and a male version of the play, which will take place Nov. 7 through Nov. 9.

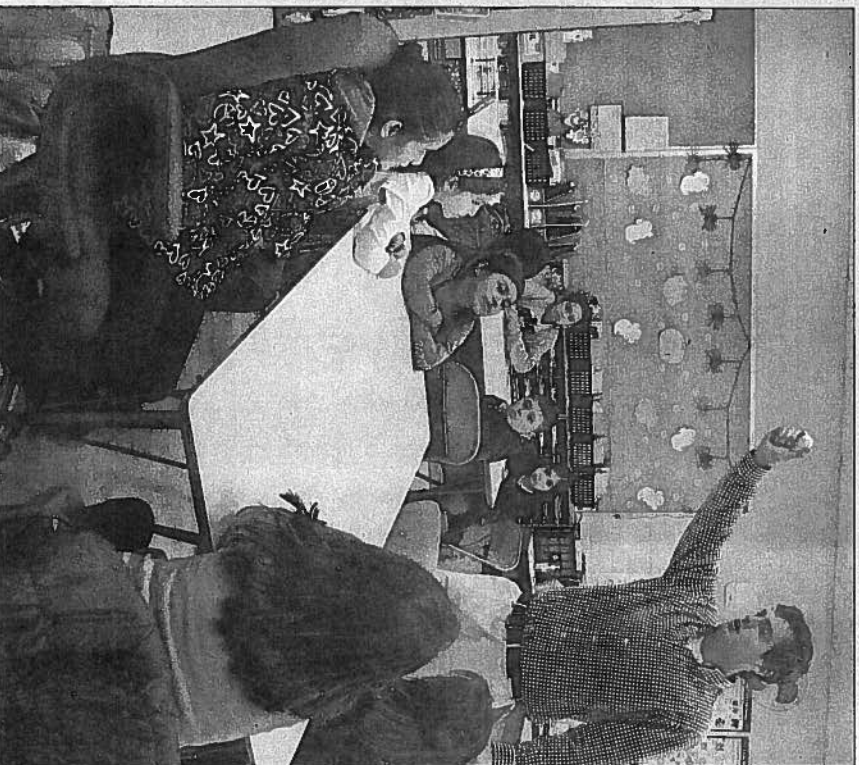


photo provided

Army Trail 4th graders work with college students

Fourth grade students with the Army Trail Science Club got lessons from Elmhurst College students in matter, energy/speed, static electricity and erosion. This week, students worked with golf balls, observing that a ball traveling at a greater speed will make a louder noise when it hits the table as its energy is converted to sound.

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Willowbrook football team to open playoffs on the road

Fenton boys and girls cross-country teams win regional titles

By Mike Mlaaga
Correspondent

The Willowbrook football team will hit the road for the first-round of the state playoffs. The Warriors earned the No. 6 seed in one of four quadrants of the Class 7A playoffs.

Willowbrook will head to Chicago to face No. 3 St. Rita either Friday or Saturday. St. Rita finished the regular season with an 8-1 mark. The winner faces either No. 7 Benet Academy (6-3) or No. 2 Mt. Carmel (8-1).

Willowbrook closed out the regular season with a 49-32 West Suburban Conference Division victory over District 88 neighbor Addison Trail. The Warriors finished 5-1 and in second place in the WSC Gold.

Addison Trail closed out the year 2-7 overall and 2-4 in WSC Gold play.

Fenton football

The Fenton football team earned the No. 12 seed in the upper bracket of the Class 6A state playoffs. The Bison will travel to Aurora either Friday or Saturday to face No. 5 seed Marmion Academy. Marmion has a 7-2 record.

The winner advances to play either No. 13 Crystal Lake Prairie Ridge (5-4) or No. 4 Lake Villa Lakes (8-1).

Fenton closed out the regular season with a 43-14 victory over Riverside-Brookfield in Metro Suburban Conference play. The Bison finished in second place in the MSC with a 3-1 record and closed out the regular season with wins in three of their final four games.

Fenton boys cross country The Fenton boys cross-country team won its own Class 2A Fenton regional.

The Bison won the title with 18 points. Chicago Von Steuben was a distant second with 58 points.

Senior Danny Wiggin won the regional title with a time of 16:36. Freshman Jose Perez-Vasquez was second in 16:39. Senior Cristian Silva was fourth in 16:44. Senior Rodrigo Estrada was fifth in 16:53, while junior Joseph Rivas rounded out the Fenton scoring with a sixth-place time

in 17:02. Junior Alex Nava was eighth in 17:16 and junior Leonel Rodriguez was 11th in 17:30. Fenton runs in sectional action on Saturday.

Fenton girls cross country The Fenton girls cross-country team also won its own Class 2A Fenton regional title.

Fenton won the title with 29 points. Chicago Von Steuben was second with 50 points.

Fenton junior Mireille Valois won the regional title in 21:01. Senior Kandy Mora was fourth in 21:32. Senior Diana Morales was fifth in 21:36, while senior Alissa Whyte was eighth in 22:33. Junior Samantha Strandberg was 11th in 23:17. Sophomore Marisol Garcia was 12th in 23:22 and senior Lisa Kubica was 13th with a time of 23:28. Fenton will run in the sectional round of the state series Saturday.

Addison Trail boys cross country

Addison Trail senior Luis Miranda finished 29th at the Class 3A Fenwick regional and earned a spot in Saturday's Class 3A sectional round. Miranda covered the course in 16:04 and earned one of five sectional-qualifying spots based on being one of the Top 5 runners not on qualifying teams. Addison Trail finished eighth as a team in the regional.

Willowbrook boys cross country

The Willowbrook boys cross-country team qualified three

runners for the sectional round out of the Class 3A Fenwick regional.

Junior Jimmy Funteas Jr. finished 11th overall with a time of 15:24 and qualified. Junior Anthony Achilli was 22nd with a time of 15:54, while senior Luke Caron was 37th with a time of 16:26. Willowbrook finished seventh as a team with 175 points. The trio was in the group of the Top 5 runners not on qualifying teams.

Willowbrook girls cross country

The Willowbrook girls cross-country team advanced four runners to the sectional round out of the Class 3A Fenwick regional.

Sophomore Jocelyn Rodriguez finished 29th with a time of 19:19. Sophomore Danielle Velasquez was 32nd with a time of 19:41, while senior Taylor Burton was 36th with a time of 19:56. Senior Kaithe Garcia was 40th with a time of 20:12. They were in a group of the Top 5 runners not on qualifying teams that earned sectional bids.

Willowbrook finished seventh in the regional with 179 points.

Addison Trail girls cross country

The Addison Trail girls cross-country team finished ninth at the Class 3A Fenwick regional and did not advance any individuals to the sectional round.

Week 10 Preview Willowbrook (7-2) at St. Rita (8-1)

What: Opening round of the Class 7A state playoffs

When: Friday or Saturday

Where: St. Rita High School, Chicago

Last week: Willowbrook 49, Addison Trail 32; St. Rita 31, Loyola 19

Outlook: Willowbrook is in the playoffs for the second year in a row. The Warriors won two of their last three regular season games, including last week's District 88 matchup against Addison Trail. St. Rita plays in the Chicago Catholic League Blue Division. The Mustangs tied for the conference lead with Chicago Mt. Carmel and Loyola Academy. All three teams finished with 3-1 records. St. Rita's lone loss this season came to Mt. Carmel (24-3). St. Rita has outscored opponents 327-164 this season. Willowbrook is the No. 6 seed in one of four quadrants in Class 7A. St. Rita is the No. 3 seed in the quadrant. The winner gets either Benet Academy (6-3) or Mt. Carmel (8-1).

Addison Trail girls volleyball team making strides at end of season Blazers starting lineup features numerous underclassmen

By Mike Mlaaga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail girls volleyball team continues to make progress toward the tail-end of the season.

While the Blazers were 10-20 through late last week, coach Dan Styler has seen improvements in a number of areas.

"We look great in spurs," he said. "We're still making strides in terms of playing cohesively and playing well from the beginning to the end of matches. Offensively, we're spreading the ball out better. We're seeing kill production rise

out of specific positions that we didn't see as much from in the beginning and the middle part of the season."

Styler said freshman Sarah Petbok and sophomore Jessica Moll are two players in particular who have made key contributions of late.

"Sarah has started to be more comfortable and more productive the last few weeks," said Styler. "She's a six-rotation player who has pretty much started every match as a freshman. Jessica plays middle blocker for us. We're seeing her start to rise to the occasion against girls who are a little bigger than her and in situations where we need her for quick-tempo sets and blocks as well."

On most nights, Styler noted, Addison Trail starts four underclassmen.

"Throughout the year we knew we would

Girls swimming team extends conference unbeaten streak Squad looking for repeat conference championship

By Mike Maza
Correspondent

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook girls swimming team's dominance in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division continued recently.

AT-Willowbrook won over a 100-70 conference win over host Downers Grove South to conclude another undefeated conference dual-meet season.

AT-Willowbrook, the defending overall WSC Gold champion, has not lost a regular-season conference dual meet since dropping its first meet of the season in 2011 against Hinsdale South.

"It was a good night for us," said AT-Willowbrook coach Paul Anderson. "It

was a real nice way for the seniors to end the dual-meet season."

AT-Willowbrook will shoot for its second WSC Gold title in a row Saturday at the conference meet at Downers Grove South. If AT-Willowbrook wins the meet it wins the title outright. A second-place finish would earn it a share of the league crown.

Anderson said a big difference with this year's group has been the breadth of contributions it has received throughout the roster.

"Depth has been huge for us," said Anderson. "We are bigger than we have ever been. We're able to put up more points across the board. It's not just that we have more people, but our top-end swimmers have been lights out for us. We have girls that are already swimming their sectional times from last year

while we're still in the regular season. That's great to see. We are leaps and bounds ahead of where we were at last year."

AT-Willowbrook honored its 12 seniors before the Downers Grove South meet.

"Those seniors have been such phenomenal and strong leaders," said Anderson. "They push each other and the younger swimmers. It's hard to find weak spots in our lineup and the seniors and the leadership have a lot to do with that. It's been really fun having them on the team."

AT-Willowbrook continues to thrive despite entering no divers in meets.

"We usually swim well enough to overcome that," said Anderson. "We start every meet in the hole, but we fight our way out every meet and keep going."

In the Downers Grove South meet, senior Molly Kuenstler won both the 100 and the backstroke. Freshman Annalise Morroque won both the 500 and the breaststroke and also was part of the medley and 400 relay teams that finished in first place.

"Annalise has really come on. She's been a huge help for us," said Anderson. "We lost some seniors from last year and now the freshmen

are coming in and contributing right away. She has been real tough for us. She's come on like gangbusters."

Anderson said the team is gearing up for the upcoming postseason.

"We're geared up," he said. "We've already set our sectional lineup. The lineup we swim at the conference meet is aimed at getting the most conference points. With the sectional we're focused on getting as many people through to the state meet as we can. If everything goes right, I feel we can qualify people in six or seven events, which would be a program high. That's not a lofty goal, that's something I feel could happen. We're trying to get as many swims on Saturday at the state meet as possible. We should be able to get those Saturday swims, which would be incredible."

Anderson continues to marvel at the progress the program has made in such a short amount of time.

"I spent some time recently going through old results and noticed that we went 2-7 my first year here," said Anderson. "The last few years we've put up some numbers in dual meets and invites and at sectionals and state that are crazy. It's been a slow build in some regards. Every

year we've been able to put together a string of victories because we have a good mix of talent and strong leaders who know our way to do things. It's been fun to watch. We haven't had a dip because we've been able to maintain things because of our attitude toward meets and practices. Everything has paid off. I couldn't be prouder of these kids. It's amazing to see what they've done. The seniors from last year helped out the younger kids and now those girls are helping the younger kids this year. It's so rewarding to see the girls accomplish these things on a meet-to-meet basis and keep going."

Anderson also thanked the staff at Downers Grove South for allowing AT-Willowbrook to hold its senior night before the meet. AT-Willowbrook does not have a home pool.

"They have let us use their facilities for senior night the last three years," said Anderson. "Their coach is fantastic. He's a great guy. The fact they let us do that is great for the kids. They get to enjoy a nice moment. It's about what is best for the kids. We're extremely thankful. This conference has some great coaches that do right by the kids."

Week 10 Preview

Aurora Christian (6-3) at IC Catholic Prep (6-3)

What: First round of the Class 3A playoffs

When: Either Friday or Saturday

Where: Lewis Stadium at Plunkett Park Elmhurst

Last week: IC 56, Chicago Christian 20; Aurora Christian 48, Guern Prep 7

Outlook: IC Catholic is once again in the state playoffs after a torrid finish to the regular season. At one point the Knights were 3-3, but the team won its final three games. In those three wins IC outscored its opponents by a combined total of 145-38. Aurora Christian wrapped up the regular season with a win over Guern that snapped a three-game losing streak (Marmion, IC and Montini). These two teams are no stranger to each other. Aurora Christian downed IC in the playoffs last year. IC returned the favor with a 48-6 win on Oct. 12 in Elmhurst. IC is the No. 7 seed in the top part of the 3A bracket. Aurora Christian is the No. 10 seed. The winner of this game faces either Oregon (5-4, No. 15 seed) or Wilmington (8-1, No. 2 seed).

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from page 16

go through some growing pains with a lineup that has some underclassmen and a few upperclassmen in it," he said. "We're focusing on the process this year. We're seeing progress that doesn't necessarily translate into wins and losses, but we're seeing tremendous gains that point to the future and where we can be. We've made strides. We're enjoying the moment right now and the enjoying the fruits of our labor and we know they will extend

beyond this season."

Styler also landed the contributions of the senior class, which is comprised of Christina Capuani, Juliana Selvaggi and Abby Meinen.

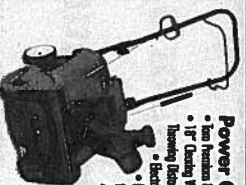
"The three of them played all four years," said Styler. "They all certainly have been great role models for the younger girls to look up to throughout the season."

Addison Trail opened up the Class 4A postseason Monday at home against Bartlett.

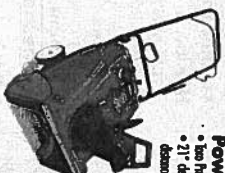
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Addison Trail students claim 'Best' award

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - Students from Addison Trail High School were recognized last week for achieving personal bests.

AT's Best award recognizes students in service, Blazer Pride cooperation, dependability, initiative, leadership, humanitarian spirit or unique contributions.

The students were honored during a breakfast and each

one received a pin or T-shirt for their efforts.

AT's Best students are senior Maria Buttaavoli, senior John Orloff, senior Carrie Castellano, freshman Bilal Ahmed, freshman Nicole Bachmeier, freshman Ganna Sarli, sophomore Junior Sbo, senior Michelle Gonzalez, senior Juan Ramirez, junior Karina Alferez, sophomore Karla Cobos, senior Angelo Amato, senior Brenda

Sypoli, junior Kim Schonder, junior Krystian Greco, junior Ryan Melko, senior Crystal Martinelli, senior Abby Melton and senior Luis Miranda.

Addison Trail students named AT's Best pose with Principal Adam Chulka (back right) after they were recognized at a breakfast in their honor on Oct. 22. Photo provided



Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 | 7:00-8:30am



Image provided

Keynote Speaker,



Christopher G. Kennedy, son of Robert and Ethel Kennedy, is the eighth of their eleven children. He and his wife, Sheila, reside with their four children in suburban Chicago.

Chris has a vast background in investments and management. Involvement as a board member with the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness and experience as founder of Top Box Foods (a non-profit, hunger-relief

organization) throughout Chicago. He is sure to deliver a captivating message at this year's 11th Annual Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast.

Join DuPagePads on Wednesday, November 6th at Benedictine University for a warm breakfast, uplifting message and information about new programs and developments at DuPagePads. Proceeds will support individuals and families who are homeless in obtaining housing, supportive services and employment.

For more information, visit dupagepads.org or call 630.682.3846, ext. 2530.

Addison police begin monthly coffee events

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - The Addison Police Department launched a new program this week.

Coffee with a Cop will be a monthly event that brings community members and police together in an informal, neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships and drink coffee.

The goal is to have community members leave with a more positive impression of their police department.

Police believe the program will be successful because

the coffee shop atmosphere removes the physical barriers and creates situations that routinely define interactions between police and community members.

Instead, it allows for relaxed, informal interactions in a friendly atmosphere.

The monthly event will be held at various coffee shops throughout Addison.

For the next Coffee with a Cop event, visit the Addison Police Department Facebook page or Twitter account.

TO THE OTHER 99 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES: CONGRATS.

We know what it takes to be named among the Top 100 Public Universities by *U.S. News & World Report*. Being top-ranked is an honor reserved for those willing to work tirelessly, put students first, invest in new learning environments and facilities, and attract the best faculty to lead stellar programs. Being in the top 100 is a lot of work and not something we take lightly. So to the other 99 who made the list with us, there's one more thing we'd like to say: keep up the good work.

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Addison Trail senior named 88's Best



Photo provided by Addison Trail High School. Addison Trail Principal Adam Chubka shakes hands with senior Katherine Dziabis who was 88's Best recipient for Addison Trail in October.

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - Addison Trail recognized its October recipient of 88's Best during a recent District 88 Board of Education meeting.

Katherine Dziabis, a senior, will have taken 10 Advanced Placement courses and 10 honors courses by the time she graduates.

She's earned a variety of academic honors, including making the District Honor Roll every semester of her high school career and being

named an AP Scholar with Honors.

Dziabis is also busy with extracurricular programs. She's a four-year member of Addison Trail's Student Council and basketball team.

She's a three-year member of the Pay It Forward committee, volleyball team and soccer team. In the past, Dziabis has also participated in the Lettermen Club, Math Team and Psych Club.

The senior also volunteers to help out at events, including homecoming

decoration, Staff Appreciation Day, the District 88 Foundation 5-on-5 Basketball Tournament, the Hurricane Sandy Relief Dance and Vol-ley for the Cure.

Outside of school, she volunteers at Holy Ghost School, Elmhurst Hospital and Addison Girls Sports Program.

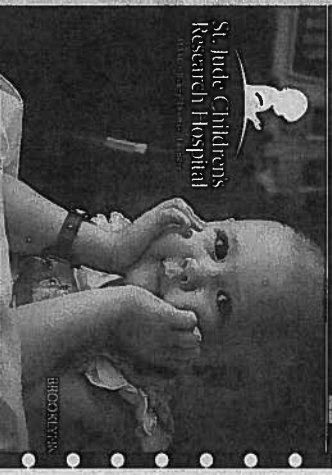
Dziabis hopes to attend University of Michigan, University of Illinois, Purdue University or the University of Notre Dame, where she plans to study biomedical engineering.

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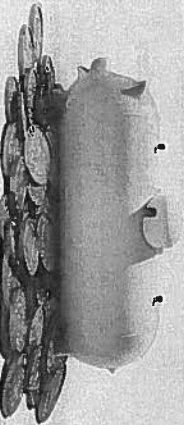
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■ THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION:
How often do you eat a family meal? Vote online at mysuburbanlife.com.

November loaded with chamber events

Summer has gone, which means for most of us vacation is over and the autumn schedule of events is upon us. The Addison Chamber of Commerce & Industry has a variety of upcoming events which you are cordially invited to attend and participate in.

On Nov. 9, the Addison Chamber of Commerce & Industry joins the other participating community organizations at the 2013 Mayor's Community Charity Ball at Alta Villa Banquet, where attendees will enjoy a special (black tie optional) evening of dining and entertainment, and at the same time help support the good works of the organizations. When purchasing your tickets to attend, if you designate our organization as the one you would like to support, you will be helping us continue our scholarship program and service to our members.



COMMUNITY VOICE
Bernadette LaRocca

The month has three multi-chamber events, starting with the Multi-Chamber Health Care Forum on Nov. 6 at Glendale Lakes Golf Club. The informative panel of participants at this luncheon event will be Dr. Joe Shanahan, Adventist Glen Oaks Hospital Emergency Department physician and executive community liaison; Elisabeth Lively, Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council vice president of government relations and external affairs; and Dr. George Mayzell, Adventist Midwest Health senior chief medical officer and chief clinical integration officer. They will discuss the impact of healthcare reform on small to medium size businesses, as well as the consumer.

The "Polka Dot" Luncheon on Nov. 20 at the Carol Stream Holiday Inn is a progressive lunch where attendees switch tables with each course, so you get to meet and network with a lot of people.

The second annual "Kick-Off Your Business" themed luncheon Nov. 21 at the Pyramid Club is an opportunity for each business to introduce itself and its business in an imaginative football-related manner.

Our calendar year will end with our Annual Holiday Cocktail Party. The date, location and details are currently being finalized. To make reservations or for more information, contact us at 630-545-4500 or addisonchamber@atc-global.net or visit www.addisonchamber.org.

We always welcome new members and are happy to recognize new businesses, so if you're new to the area or just haven't joined our chamber, please contact us and we will provide you with any information you may need.

Bernadette LaRocca is executive director of the Addison Chamber of Commerce & Industry.



Matthew Pridmore - mpridmore@addisonchamber.com
Addison Teachers' Association Co-Presidents Carol Cielo (left) and Tammy Bognetti and District 4 Superintendent John Langton discuss proposed contract details Oct. 23 at Addison Elementary School.

👍 The District 4 Board of Education approved last week a new contract for the Addison Teachers Association after a nine-month negotiation. Now all involved can get back to focusing more energy where it matters most – with the students.

👍 Addison Trail High School senior Aime Zuniga produced her first art showing last month. Twelve pieces of Zuniga's artwork were displayed in the front window of state Sen. Tom Cullerton's Villa Park office through the month of October.

Write to us

We want to hear from you. Letters must be no more than 300 words. They must include your first and last name, town and a phone number for verification. We may edit them for clarity, accuracy and style. Email letters to letters@mysuburbanlife.com. The deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday for the following week's paper.

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Addison Trail students host Italian counterparts

By MARI BRIGALUANA
mbrigalunas@shawmedia.com

ADDISON - Tears welled up in Alexandra DiSilvio's eyes when she's asked how it feels to say goodbye to the Italian students Addison Trail hosted for a week.

"We all meshed together well," said DiSilvio, a junior.

The Italian students from Il Cardinale High School visited as part of the Addison-Trigigliano Sister Cities program.

Students from Trigigliano lived with Addison Trail students and their families for a week in October. The group visited Chicago and sites like Millennium Park, Navy Pier and Walter Tower Place.

"In America everything is bigger than in Italy," said Arianna De Benedetti, 18, of Trigigliano.

She also explained that in Italy, Halloween is a one-day event mostly for young children. During their visit, the

"You think we're completely different, but once you actually spend time with them, we're exactly the same, we just speak a different language."

Stephanie Diaz
Addison Trail junior

high school students ventured to Six Flags Great America for Fright Fest and to Disturbia Torment of Fears haunted house in Addison. De Benedetti said she did have fun even though she was scared.

"You think we're completely different, but once you actually spend time with them, we're exactly the same, we just speak a different language," said Stephanie Diaz, a junior at Addison Trail. Trigigliano students spoke

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Photo provided
Addison Trail student Brianna Sitkowski (left), 16, huge Arianna De Benedectis, 16, who visited for a week from Triggiano, Italy as part of the Addison-Triggiano Sister Cities Program. Sitkowski and other Addison Trail student will visit Italy in March.

English and Addison students needed to be in Italian class to apply for the program, but there were still cultural differences.

"They made a comment about the yellow school bus and how they've only seen that in the 'High School Musical' movie," said Enza Spilotto, an Italian teacher at Addison.

The movie comparisons went both ways. Diaz said she is looking forward to spring break when Addison students will visit the same Triggiano students because she's wanted to ride on a Vespa ever since she saw "The Little McCuthe

Movie."

De Benedectis said she's looking forward to showing her new friends the beach near her hometown, the famous trail homes of Alberobello and Grotto.

"The buildings are completely different, the streets are different, the smells, everything," said Spilotto about what Addison students have to look forward to in Italy.

They plan to travel to Venice, Florence, Rome and Triggiano during their week-long visit. Italian teacher Jude Vitellio-Lynch will accompany the students this time.

She's been to Italy many times before.

"The biggest thing I like seeing is standing back and seeing their faces," said Vitellio-Lynch about introducing students to Italy for the first time.

Addison Trail student Brianna Sitkowski hosted De Benedectis during the visit and can't wait to meet her family in Italy.

In the meantime, the students plan to stay in contact through technology like Facebook and Skype.

"These are such good people, and we've bonded with them," said Diaz.

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Debra Laskov

After 20 years in the construction business, an illness often put me out of commission. I was determined to do something so I went back to school and started working. At Elmhurst I've found the support I need to reach my goals.



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Christina Roman

As an adult student, you don't really know when to expect from college. You worry that you might not be able to keep the material, and that you might not be in for an Elmhurst, going back to school is a lot of fun.

▶ SOUND OFF

Against apartments

La Grange, it's time to get it right. The YMCA property is now sold. The new buyer says they want to have mixed use, with some apartment building involved. Don't let them do it. The village does not need more people, the schools are overrun. Whoever owns the building is only interested in renting out the units. It'll be Section 8 housing and transients which will really bring down the school system, and look at your crime rate, too.

La Grange needs more retail

That space there was sold from the YMCA to a developer at the corner of La Grange Road and Ogden Avenue, they should make sure that it's all retail because towns need sales tax revenue. And there's this influx of physical therapy places that are taking up valuable retail spaces everywhere. They get reduced tax rates. That's not good. Make sure that it's stores or restaurants that give the full sales tax revenue to the village.

In defense of CFLs

From time to time I read about the hazards of mercury continued in CFL bulbs. True, there is a small amount of mercury, but far less than what people may think. A serving of albacore tuna has 700 times more. Let's put aside political agendas for a moment and consider that CFLs are reliable, safe and long-lasting, especially the Energy Star-rated bulbs. We have them in our home and have been happy with them, despite a few limitations. Yes, we also have incandescent bulbs in some locations, and we are also installing high-tech LED bulbs;

How to Sound Off

Want to contribute to Sound Off? Call 331-461-6089 or email msuburbanlife@shawmedia.com

Indeed the newer LED bulbs are very good. As time goes on, the old Edison technology just seems so "19th century." It's time to move on and save energy quickly and painlessly.

What about LED bulbs?

There is an alternative to the incandescent light bulb, and it doesn't contain mercury. It's called the LED bulb. You've probably seen LED bulbs in a traffic light or the tail lights of newer cars. Unlike a CFL, it can be readily used for outdoor purposes. It doesn't need to warm up like some fluorescent light bulbs. In fact, an LED bulb illuminates faster than an incandescent bulb. And it doesn't give off the slightly purple light that many CFLs do. While they are expensive, they last quite a long time. Unlike an incandescent bulb, which will only last several months, when used outside from dusk until dawn, an LED will last several years. A bulb in the 7- to 12-watt range easily replaces a 60-watt bulb, meaning lower energy bills.

Trucks should get their own lane

Traffic is a part of our everyday lives, and I get that. However, roadways and traffic can be improved with the appropriate rules of the road enforced or initiated. I travel round trip on Route 83 from Main Street, Lemont, north to 22nd Street in Oak Brook, Monday through Friday during main drive time. This past summer and continuing into the fall, I have seen an

extraordinary amount of semi-truck traffic – perhaps due to the Tollway increases? Let's share the road, but let's also have some weight limits and some lane rules. It's a daily occurrence when two semi-trucks are side by side on Route 83, heavily weighted down so they can't go the speed limit and the traffic lights are not timed for these slow moving beasts. Local officials, we need some truck lane and weight rules on Route 83; no study needed, ask those of us who travel this roadway each day, including the truck drivers. Or get some money from the ISTHA – they take and take but don't seem to be assisting the perimeter towns.

Congested air traffic above town

Over the past two weeks Westmont has gone from relatively quiet skies to a daily average of seven noisy jet flights per hour, which can start at 6 a.m. and go beyond 10 p.m. Is Westmont seeking ways for some agency to pay for soundproofing our houses?

Problems with Obamacare

President Obama said everyone could keep their health insurance and doctors. He lied. Thousands have lost their health insurance. Obama has since exempted big businesses, his union cronies and the idiots in Congress who passed Obamacare from being subject to it. Is Ted Cruz the only senator, fighting so we can all

be exempt from Obamacare?

Cups a fitting tribute

Regarding the person who complained about the plastic cups over 294, perpetuating the memory of their friend, I disagree. I would like to commend all the friends and family of Kelly, the young girl who was taken away so quickly and tragically two years ago. They continue to keep her memory alive with those plastic cups over 294 and at LT, the school she attended. It must bring great comfort to her parents and loved ones knowing that the memory of their daughter lives on because she was so loved. I know I think so every time I drive by and see those cups in the fence.

Root of marriage dispute

I agree with the Oct. 24 "Sound Off" message that was in favor of marriage equality and urged that we end restrictions on same-sex marriage. Opposing same-sex marriage indeed is irrational. But what we must realize is that opposition to same sex marriage is biblically based, and that makes it difficult to move forward. Thus in Leviticus 20, Verse 13, we read that if a man lies with another man as he does with a woman, both have committed an abomination, they shall both be put to death.

and their blood shall be upon them. Though we may not often hear that referred to, that's where opposition to marriage equality originally comes from. All we can do is hope that over time we have evolved spiritually, and let us look past these biblical verses, proceed from the common sense of love and kindness, and approve marriage equality and same-sex marriage.

• HOMELESS

Continued from page 5

her income in rent. She has paid off more than \$8,000 in debt and begun saving to purchase a home when she graduates in May 2015.

"I want to be able to experience how people in poverty around Addison live," said eighth grader Angela Addante, who plans to participate in this year's sleep out on Saturday.

Nick Baker, a freshman at Mountl Catholic High School, slept out at a St. Philip the Apostle event in April and plans to participate in the national sleep out this weekend. He shared his experience with eighth grade students.

"I actually expected it to not be as tough as it was," said Baker who spent the 34-degree night in a tent. "I thought it was going to be OK, but as the hours passed my hands and feet started getting colder."

The St. Philip group has already met its fundraising goal of \$2,500 for Bridge Communities, but hopes to raise more after the event by sharing its experiences with other church members.

"When we wake up in the morning from Sleep out Saturday, we get to go home," said Nancy McKnight, director of faith formation at St. Philip the Apostle. "People who are truly homeless wake up and they don't have that luxury."

Rodriguez plans to get her ESL certification to help students who immigrate to the United States with little English like she did when she moved from Puerto Rico at 7 years old. She also wants to keep giving back to Bridge Communities by sharing her story.

"It feels good that I get to be a part of this and letting the world know that this program exists," Rodriguez said.

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SPORTS

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Addison Trail's Christian Grabowski tries to break free from the grip of a Willowbrook defender after making a reception during Friday's game in Villa Park. Sarah Meyer / smeyer@mynewsline.com

Building blocks in place for Blazers

By DAN SANTAROMITA
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VILLA PARK — Addison Trail football coach Paul Parpet Jr. said the final game of the season at Willowbrook was a good summary of the season.

Despite a 2-6 record, the Blazers went into the game with plenty to play for considering the Warriors are A's District 86 rival and the teams play for The Lady Trophy. The Blazers scored first and hung with Willowbrook for a while, but came up short in a 49-32 loss.

Willowbrook 49 Addison Trail 32

AT leaders
Passing: Mike Rybarczyk 8-for-20, 79 yards
Rushing: Rybarczyk 18-130, 2 TDs; Jim Wisiek 18-98, 3 TDs
Receiving: Christian Grabowski 2-47, Jaavon Bradley 2-18; Jake Atyeh 3-17

"It was the same thing we've dealt with all year," Parpet said after the game. "We didn't make plays when plays were there to be made."

Too many blown assignments, too many mental mistakes, not tackling very well, not converting on offense.

"That was the story of our year."

Senior running back Jim Wisiek ran for 98 yards and three touchdowns for the Blazers, which finished 2-7 overall and 2-4 in the West Suburban Golf. AT had a lot of juniors playing in key spots all over the field, but Wisiek was a key leader for the team.

"Seniors always mean a lot to a program," Parpet said. "Like I said to them, wins are great, but it's more about

the type of people and type of individual that you develop and that come out of your program. We got a classy bunch of seniors and they're going to do great things."

After starting the season 0-5, AT played four games at the end of the season with no hope of making the playoffs. The Blazers' reopended by winning two straight games before losing to playoff teams Glenbard West and Willowbrook in the final two games of the season.

The team entered the fall with higher hopes, and will again have reason to believe

improvement will come next year.

Junior quarterback Mike Rybarczyk will have a year as a starter under his belt. He showed the ability to beat teams with his legs as well as his arm. Rybarczyk ran for 130 yards and two touchdowns against the Warriors.

Rybarczyk's main receiving threats, Jaavon Bradley, Jake Atyeh and Christian Grabowski, are all juniors that could make for the kind of experienced and dynamic passing game that has made Willowbrook such a tough team this year.

FINAL CONFERENCE STANDINGS

West Suburban Gold

Team W-L Conf W-L	
Downers Grove S. 6-3 6-0	
Willowbrook 7-2 5-1	
Hinsdale South 4-5 4-2	
Addicks Trail 2-7 2-4	
Leyden 2-6 1-4	
Morton 1-8 1-5	
Proviso East 0-9 0-6	

Suburban Christian Blue

Team W-L Conf W-L	
Montini 9-0 7-0	
Marian Central 7-2 5-2	
Marian 7-2 5-2	
Aurora Christian 6-3 4-3	
St. Francis 5-4 3-4	
St. Edward 5-4 3-4	

WEEKEND WATCH

Willowbrook at St. Rita

When: 7 p.m., Friday
Where: Doyle Stadium, 7740 S. Western Ave.
Records: No. 6 WHS 7-2; No. 3 St. Rita 8-1

Outlook: Willowbrook's offense put up huge numbers throughout the year and is good enough to give them a chance in every game, but facing St. Rita is an extremely difficult draw for the Warriors. The Mustangs shared the title in the powerful Chicago Catholic League Blue by losing only to Mt. Carmel and beating previously unbeaten Loyola in Week 9.

Morgan Park at Montini

When: 2 p.m., Saturday
Where: 19W070 16th St., Lombard

Records: No. 1 Montini 9-0; No. 16 Morgan Park 5-4
Outlook: The real season starts now for the Broncos. After an impressive 9-0 regular season, none of it will matter if they don't win a fifth straight state title. The first postseason opponent is Morgan Park, which went 5-2 against Chicago Public League opposition and lost big to Thornton and Mt. Carmel in its first two games.

Familiar foe waiting for Knights

By DAN SANTAROMITA
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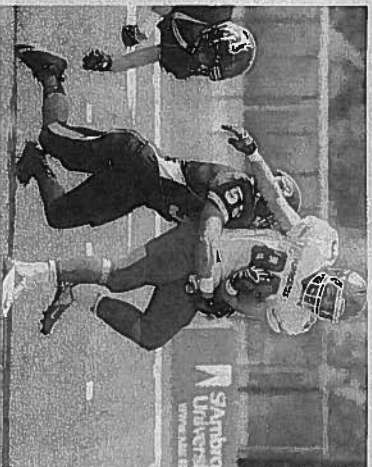
ELMHEURST - Sometimes the IHSA playoff pairings machine does some funny things.

IC Catholic locked up its playoff spot with a 66-20 win last Friday at Chicago Christian and a day later learned its Class 8A first-round opponent was an all-too-familiar opponent.

The 6-3 Knights will host a 6-3 Aurora Christian team that they know all too well. The rival Eagles knocked IC out of the playoffs last year in the second round en route to a second straight 8A state title.

In Week 7 the Knights blew out an AC squad missing several key players, 48-6. Those players, including quarterback Austin Bray, are expected to be in the playoffs.

IC coach Bill Kretff said after the regular season win that he expected the Knights to play AC again in the postseason. He probably didn't think it would come in the first round, though.



Elmhurst's Conception's Riley McDermott takes down a Marian Central player in a game earlier this season. The Knights host familiar foe Aurora Christian in a Class 8A playoff game tomorrow.

"AC is a good team," Kretff said. "They were a good team last time. They're going to be a better team this time."

Kretff is confident his team will still be able to overcome the Eagles in the playoffs. IC won the battle in the trenches in the regular season and most of AC's absence were at the skill positions.

The question is whether the players that missed the regular season meeting can make up 42 points.

"We're going to prepare for them at 100 percent," Kretff said. "I don't know that that's much different than how we prepared for them last time. A couple kids might be faster and we're going to face some-

IC Catholic 56 Chicago Christian 21

IC leaders

Passing: Jack Copier 3-for-5, yards, TD
Rushing: Randy Leslie 8-204, 3 TDs; Frank Damato 13-50; Ian Hopland 8-50; Leo Guzman 11-4
Breiden O'Brien 5-41, 1 TD; Max Eichhorn 2-31, TD
Receiving: Theobald Epling 1-56, TD

one that has more experience at quarterback."

The Knights enter the playoffs with a three-game winning streak and won't Suburban Christian Gold the outright after Aurora Central Catholic lost to Montini last week with a chance share the title. At this time year it's just about extended the season.

"Our kids are excited to be in the playoffs and competing," Kretff said. "The kids just love being around each other and they're having fun. They're happy to be around each other for another week."

Broncos begin title defense No. 4

By DAN SANTAROMITA
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AURORA - Step one in Montini's season in complete.

The Broncos completed an undefeated regular season with a 47-0 win over Aurora Central Catholic last Friday. It was another dominant win for a team that has rarely been tested despite a schedule that included eight playoff teams and tied Providence Catholic for the most opponents' wins (64) among postseason squads.

Now, the second season begins when Montini hosts Chicago Public League school Morgan Park in the first round of the Class 5A playoffs on Saturday at 2 p.m. The Mustangs enter with a 5-4 record.

"Their record is a little

Montini 47 Aurora C. Catholic 0

Montini leaders

Allen Willis 11-for-13, 140 passing yards, 2 TDs
Tyler Tumpane 2 rushing TDs, receiving TD
Prince Walker rushing TD
Niko Italia rushing TD
Leon Thornton 41 rushing TD
Mike Medsko 47-yard interception return TD

decaying because they lost to some very good teams and they've got a very, very athletic team," Montini coach Chris Andriano said. "Their skill kids are as good as anybody we've seen, a lot of speed. They have the potential for a lot of big plays on both sides of the ball."

Morgan Park lost to

Thornton 84-0 in Week 1 and followed that up with a 48-0 loss to 8-1 Mt. Carmel, the defending state champ in Class 8A. They also lost to conference foes Robeson and Hubbard by one score in both games.

On paper, Montini shouldn't have too much trouble. After all, the Broncos held six opponents to single digit points and scored more than 80 or more points seven times.

However, Morgan Park is a different style team than most of what Montini has seen this season. Andriano hopes the Broncos can minimize the skill players for the Mustangs while utilizing their own assets.

"I really feel that we have an advantage on them in the kicking game so we're going to try to exploit that," Andriano said.

Andriano said, "I think we can be better than them up to so we're going to make sure we're running the ball as much as we can to dominate them physically."

"The game should be front in the trenches."

If Montini gets past Morgan Park, as expected, the Class 5A draw offers it potential for many exciting matchups. Breiden O'Brien Central await the winner of Montini's game. Both teams met and lost to it in the playoffs last year, and any time Montini and Marian meet on the football field there is bound to be fireworks.

Two teams that took Montini to the wire in last fall's postseason, Sycamore and Joliet Catholic, are also the same half of the draw the Broncos.

Sights from Friday's finale

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - Like every football team in the state, Addison Trail started the season with high hopes.

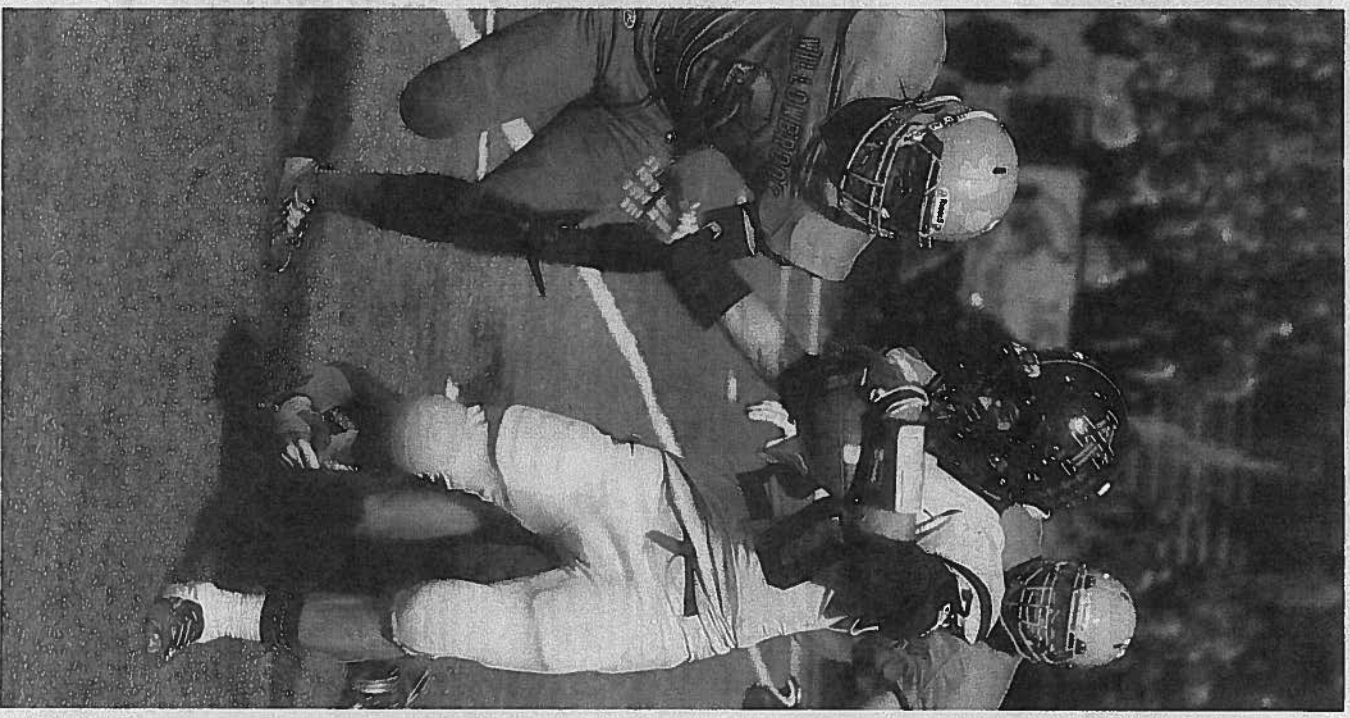
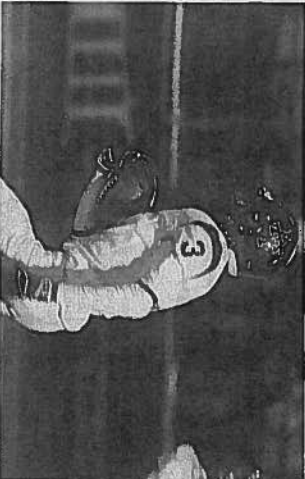
Unfortunately for the Blazers, youth, a few injuries, some untimely miscues and a tough schedule were too much to overcome. AT closed out the season with a loss to District 88 rival Willowbrook on Friday.

Yet there is plenty of hope for the future. Starting quarterback Mike Rybarczyk is a junior, as were his top three receiving targets this season: Jaevion Bradley, Jake Attiyeh and Christian Grabowski.

The offense should be in good hands next season. The key for the Blazers going forward will be shorting up a defense that yielded 329 points this fall.



Quarterback Mike Rybarczyk runs the ball near the sideline.



ABOVE: Senior running back Jim Wislak tries to avoid a pair of Willowbrook defenders and gain extra yardage. **LEFT:** Addison Trail's Dentus Conrad runs the ball upfield during Friday's regular season finale at Willowbrook.

Photos by Sarah Miller - smlife@suburbanlife.com