

THE INDEPENDENT

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Prince of Peace Church presents 'Town of Bethlehem'

ADDISON — It is often difficult in this day and age to remember the true meaning of Christmas -- without commercialization and all the over-the-top displays.

On December 7 and 8 from 2-5 p.m., Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at 1213 W. Army Trail Blvd. in Addison, is presenting an authentic visit to the town of Bethlehem, as it was those many years ago. Come and you will find money lenders, street vendors and peddlers, a rabbi, weavers, begging lepers and excited shepherds - what a story they have to tell!

Your journey will end at the stable where you can reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 630-543-3458.



These members of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Addison are up to the task of cleaning and prepping fish, as they get ready for the upcoming display on the streets in Bethlehem. The event is free and open to the public.

Addison Switchboard presents holiday program to feed the needy

ADDISON — The Addison Community Switchboard is inviting members of the community to participate in its 2013 Christmas Program by sharing food and gifts and needy families and seniors.

Non-perishable food items are needed by no later than December 3. Food drives are

needed year-round and are welcome at any time of the year. By calling 630-628-2698/2699, the Switchboard will arrange a time to pick up your donations.

Gifts for children are also needed. Gift tags showing the age and size of child will be available at various churches and businesses in Addison

beginning November 24. The gifts should be delivered to Good Samaritan United Methodist Church, 960 West Army Trail Blvd., Addison, on Monday, December 9 between 12 and 7 p.m.

Monetary and other donations are also needed to maintain the year-round program. Checks made payable to Addison Community Switchboard may be

mailed to 193 W. Michael Lane, Addison. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, all donations qualify as charitable contributions for tax purposes.

The Addison Community Switchboard has been serving the Addison community since 1970. For more information, please call 630-628-2698/2699 or visit addisoncommunityswitchboard.org.

Addison Trail Orchestis to offer dance clinic

ADDISON — The Addison Trail Orchestis dancers invite girls and boys from kindergarten to eighth grade to join them for a dance clinic from 2 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 14 at the school. Participants will experience a technique class, play games, learn a routine and perform with the Orchestis dance team during the home basketball game that night, which begins at 6 p.m. Each dancer also will receive a T-shirt and pizza dinner.

Fee for the clinic is \$25 and the registration deadline is Nov. 29. Checks should be made out to ATHS Orchestis and given to LeVonne Cescolini-Boyer or Amy Ferraro at Addison Trail. The registration form at dupage88.net/site/public/files/?item=1197 also must be completed.

For questions or more information, call 630-628-3347 or e-mail lcscolini@dupage88.net or aferraro@dupage88.net.

• O'HARE

Continued from page 1

resources."

The federal grants are provided by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program that is designed to improve air quality and mitigate congestion. The program will help fund three construction projects outlined in the Western Access plan, such as:

- \$34 million - Illinois Route 390 Elgin O'Hare/Thorndale Avenue and the I-290 interchange - replacement of the

current I-290 northbound and southbound ramps that intersect with Thorndale Avenue with new ramps that will significantly reduce delays for travelers by avoiding signalized intersections;

- \$23 million - Touhy Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad - construction of a new bridge to carry Touhy Avenue over the railroad, which provides access to the north airfield of O'Hare International Airport and will have an interchange with the EOWA Proj-

ect, linking the communities north of O'Hare to the Jane Adams Memorial Tollway (I-90), Illinois Route 390 portion of the EOWA Project and DuPage County; and

- \$11 million - Touhy Avenue at Elmhurst Road - intersection improvement, including redesign of turns to avoid congestion.

The Illinois Tollway recently broke ground on the EOWA Project to extend the road east along Thorndale Avenue to O'Hare International Airport.

It will also connect to I-90 on the north and I-294 on the south. Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur said the roadway, recently renamed Illinois Route 390, will be the first all-electronic toll road in Illinois.

The EOWA project is also expected to create 65,000 direct and indirect jobs by 2040 when combined with completion of the western terminal at O'Hare Airport and save \$145 million in annual motorist travel costs.

Addison business holds food drive for local pantry

Yumz Frozen Yogurt to collect canned goods from Nov. 21-24

ADDISON — In the spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Yumz Gourmet Frozen Yogurt location at 1600 W. Lake Street in Addison will be collecting cans of food to help fight hunger from Thursday, Nov. 21 - Sunday, Nov. 24. Those who bring in two or more canned food items will receive 15 percent off any purchase. All items collected will

be donated to St. Joseph's food pantry in Addison.

Yumz Gourmet Frozen Yogurt is proud to support our community local food banks this holiday season, helping to give back to the organizations that provide for countless families in need year-round.

For more information, please visit yumzfrozenyogurt.com. To contact the local store manager, please email Raquel Sanchez at raquel@theferrarogroup.com.



Dishing up the good stuff...

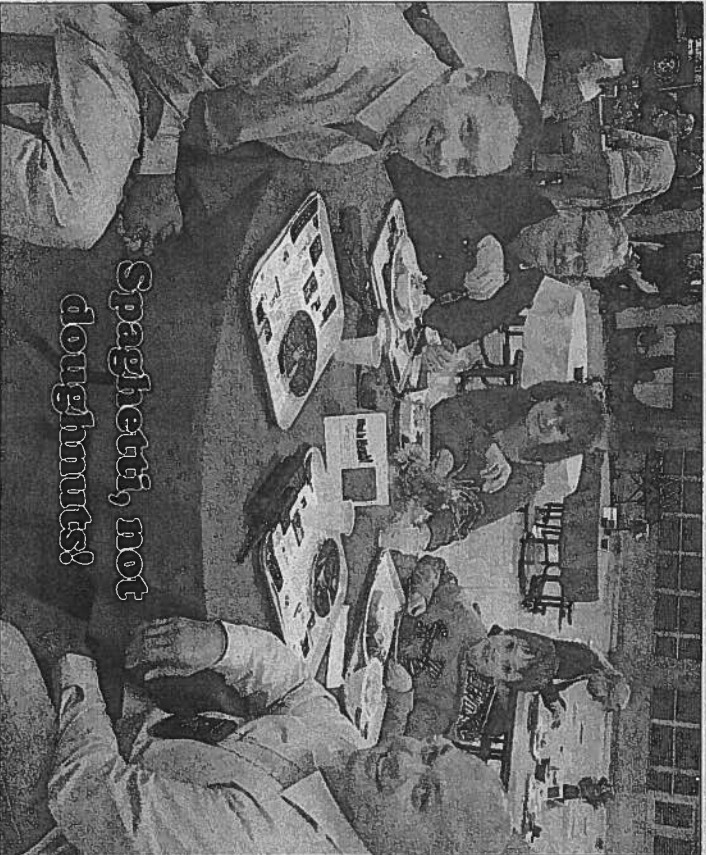


Villa Park Kiwanis host annual spaghetti dinner

By Paul DeGaudice
For The Villa Park Independent

Here are some scenes from the annual spaghetti dinner held by the Villa Park Kiwanis

Club at Willowbrook High School on Friday, November 15. The fundraiser serves to support the various missions, charities and other endeavors of the Kiwanis Club.



Spaghetti, not doughnuts!

WBHS Key Club helps Kiwanis ...

Photos by Paul DeGaudice

Above right: Willowbrook Key Club members take a dinner break on Friday. The volunteers helped the Villa Park Kiwanis Club organize their annual spaghetti dinner fund raiser. Pictured are (left to right): Junior Alexandra Sexton, Junior Luke Russell, Advisor Lindsey Thomas, Advisor Megan Derricott, Junior Julie Gilson and sophomore Daniel Gehke.

Above left: Villa Park Kiwanians Rich Keelner and Rae Rupp-Sch serve up pasta and sauce at the Villa Park Kiwanis Spaghetti dinner, held in the Willowbrook cafeteria.

Left: Proving police eat more than just doughnuts, Villa Park Officer Billy Lyons, Chief of Police Pavelchik, (with friends Laura & Matthew), and Detective Campos sample some pasta at the Kiwanis' Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 15.

WBHS announces ILMEA musicians

VILLA PARK — The Willowbrook High School music department recently released a list of students who were named ILMEA All-District musicians for 2013. They are: Carington Breckenridge, Tenor II; Matt Bubur, Trumpet; Samuel Cavender, Bass II; Sam Dando, Double Bass; Dana Leigh Degnan, Alto I; Rocco Glase, Tenor I; Jeremy Harris, Tenor II; Sabrina Hill, Bassoon; Jackson Holter, Tenor I; Alex Lapinski, Bass I; Tess Marsh, Violin; Isabelle Martinez, Bb Clarinet; Mathew Tantiila, Bass II; and, Samantha Witkowski, Soprano II.

Also, Sam Dando, String/Electric Bass, was named 2013 ILMEA All-District Jazz.

*We want to print your news!
Is your church hosting a special event?
Community Calendar listings are free!
Send details to QuestPublishing@aol.com*

SPORTS

NOVEMBER 21, 2013 • 22

IC Catholic Prep girls volleyball team wins state championship Knights and veteran coach Field bring home Class 2A crown

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The IC Catholic Prep girls volleyball program is back on top of the mountain.

The Knights defeated Deer Creek-Mackinaw and previously unbeaten Albion Edwards County to win the Class 2A girls volleyball state championship at Red-bird Arena on the campus of Illinois State University in Normal.

IC finished the season 36-6 and won its third state title under 39th-year coach Jean Field. Field directed IC teams to 1981 and 1984 state championships. It's also IC's seventh girls volleyball state trophy. The Knights finished second in 1979, 1980 and 1982 and

took third in 1989. IC also qualified for the state tournament in 1983 and 1993.

In this past Saturday's Class 2A state-championship match, the Knights encountered an Albion Edwards County team that brought a 41-0 record into the contest. That mark dropped to 41-1 after IC recorded a 25-15, 25-19 victory.

Delaney D'Amore led the Knights with 11 kills and seven digs. Rory Manton added 10 kills and nine digs. Claudia Koch and Hannah Hartnett each had four kills.

Kimmy Martino added 25 assists, while Kerry Mulligan had eight digs. IC hit .253 for the match (.190 in the first set and .333 in the finale). The Knights had four service aces in the contest.

Edwards County hit only .113 in the match (.033 in the first set and .304 in the second set) and was limited to just 15 kills in the two sets.

IC reached the state-championship match after

recording a 25-22, 25-17 win over Deer Creek-Mackinaw in the Class 2A state semifinals. Deer Creek-Mackinaw dropped to 36-2 with the loss.

Rory Manton had 16 kills, while D'Amore had eight kills. Martino set the Manton-D'Amore combination 65 times in the match.

D'Amore, whose mother, Nancy, played on Field's 1984 state-championship team and is now an assistant varsity coach, also was a standout on defense with a match-high 23 digs. Martino finished with 23 assists and Mulligan had 11 digs.

IC hit .178 in the first set and .303 in the final set, while Deer Creek-Mackinaw hit only .066 in the contest (.087 in the first set and .033 in the finale).

Field improved her career mark at IC to 885-474-7 with the two state wins. Her teams have not had a losing season now since 2005.

IC finished the year winning its final 15 matches and 19 of its last 20.

Bison powered by veteran leaders and young talents

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Fenton girls basketball coach Tim Anderson has been the team's coach for 26 years. He said he's never quite seen a team like the one he has this year.

"I've never had a team like this one at both ends of the spectrum," he said. "We have senior leaders and freshmen who will contribute for us."

Fenton is coming off a 2012-2013 season where it went 18-12 overall and finished 6-6 in the Metro Suburban Conference.

Anderson returns six players from last year, including two-

time team MVP Tina Guarino (5-4, point guard). The senior is joined by classmate Rachel Leschewski (5-7, post) on the list of returners. Juniors Dana Fritz (5-10, G-F) and Val Andrew (5-9, G-F), along with sophomores Jessica Bango (5-5, G) and Guselle Aguirre (5-3, G) also are back.

Sophomore Courtney Susmarki (5-9, post) and freshman Ellie Wessmann (5-4, point guard) and Krysa Wilson (5-7, G) are key newcomers.

"Tina and Ellie give us a pretty good 1-2 combination with a senior and a freshman," said Anderson. "Those two will be in there a lot together."

Anderson likes the potential he sees in this group.

"We have a lot of growth potential," he said. "We are young, but we have a nice mix

of youth and experience. Tina is a phenomenal leader and we have some young kids who are leaders as well."

Anderson noted the team seen at the holidays and into January might not be the same team that takes the court this week.

"What you see in our first game is not what you may see at Christmas or the end of January," he said. "This team has a very high ceiling, but it is going to take time. Every team right now is in the same boat as far as getting ready for that first game and getting ready for any situation that may occur. Once we figure out who we are and what our real strengths are, I believe we are really going to take off.

We're trying to put all the pieces together right now. What you see in practice isn't always what you see in games. I have no

predictions right now except that this group has a lot of growth potential."

Anderson also has been impressed with how quickly the team has come together in terms of chemistry.

"We have six new kids and six returning players and a diversity of ages," he noted. "They've gelled together extremely well and that starts with the leadership of this group. Our returning kids are such positive influences and all these kids are good kids. It's the X factors that allow you to keep getting better."

Anderson said Glenbard South will be the team to chase in the MSLC.

"A lot of teams in the conference lost a lot of players except Glenbard South," said Anderson. "They will be loaded. I think we can be up near the top."

The Mariners," she said. "That's how I got started. I swim with Westmont in the winter and there's a lot of competition there."

McNamara has especially enjoyed this high school season. "We're all really good friends on the team," she said. "It's easy to get along with each other. The fact we don't have a home pool also makes us work harder than anybody else because we don't get as much practice time in the water. We work well as a team."

McNamara said the team's success this season (it won another conference title) can be traced to the talented lineup it

Junior state-qualifier has enjoys outstanding swimming season Willowbrook's McNamara taking it to next level

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Addison Trail-Willowbrook junior girls swimming standout Kelly McNamara not only set a West Suburban Conference Gold Division record in the butterfly recently, but did so by beating the next closest finisher by some 10 seconds.

It's been that kind of year for McNamara, who has played a key role in the continued success of the AT-Willowbrook team. McNamara will make her third state meet appearance this weekend at New Trier High School in Winnetka.

"The butterfly is my best event," the Willowbrook student said. "I've been working hard on my turns and finishes."

McNamara said those turns and finishes are extremely important to her success. "That can be the difference of a couple seconds," she said. "With my finishes, I try and get there fast and finish strong."

McNamara has had her sights set on the WSC Gold record since last year.

"I wanted it last year and missed it," she said. "It's nice to get it this year. I just went all-out (at the conference meet where

puts in the pool.

"We have a lot of good swimmers," she said. "We've never been this good before. People keep coming into this program who are good and Coach (Paul) Anderson is really good."

McNamara got a taste of what it's like to swim on Saturday of the state meet (finals) last year. She'd like to get the opportunity once again this Saturday.

"Last year I wasn't expecting to make the finals," she said. "It's a lot different than anything I've ever done. I want to make it back there again this year. I will be ready for it if I make it."

AT-Willowbrook qualifies four swimmers for state meet

Fenton's Feddersen in contention for state diving berth

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook girls swimming team qualified four swimmers for this weekend's state

meet.
At the Downers Grove North sectional AT-Willowbrook qualified its 200 freestyle relay team for state. AT-Willowbrook finished third with a state-qualifying time of 1:38.89. The 200 relay team features junior Kelly McNamara, freshman Annalise Morrone, junior Molly Hill and senior Molly Kuenstler.
McNamara also qualified for state in the butterfly. She finished fourth with a state-qualifying time of 57.76.

AT-Willowbrook finished seventh in the sectional with 101 points. Downers Grove North won the sectional title with 293 points.

Fenton freshman diver Cassidy Feddersen placed fourth in the diving competition with 376.80 points and is in contention for one of the 32 at-large bids into the state diving finals.

The state meet takes place Friday and Saturday at New Trier High School in Winnetka.

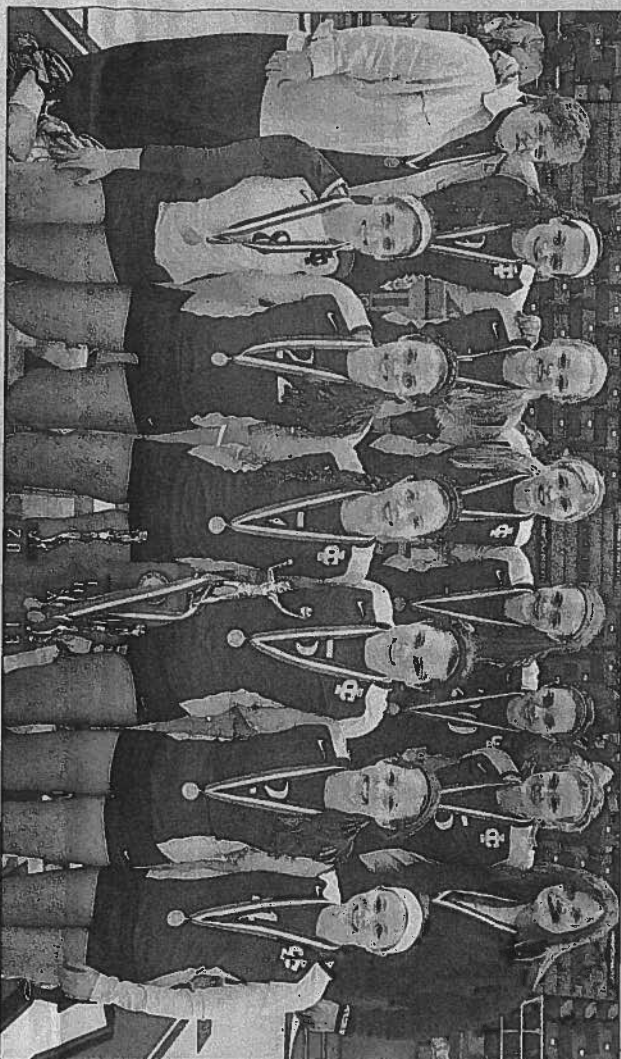


Photo by Steve Dibrino

IC Catholic Prep: Girls volleyball 2013 class 2A Illinois state champions

Front row (left to right) Sophomore Kerry Mulligan, senior Kimmy Martino, senior Delaney D'Amore, senior Rory Manlon, freshman Tess Resardion and Junior Molly Manlon.
Back row (left to right) Head coach Jean Field, Junior Frankie Carvone, Junior Hannah Hartnett, sophomore Emma Hendricks, sophomore Claudia Koch, Junior Brianna Hernandez, Junior Erin West and assistant coach Nancy D'Amore.

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The Independent Newspapers
*Courtesy of Civic Economics study, 2008

\$68

Happy Warriors...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS girls basketball team (right) won the championship at its six-team Thanksgiving tournament. The Warriors defeated all five of their opponents to win the title at the round-robin event. The photo on the right shows the team after its final game of the tournament—a 68-34 victory over Plainfield East on Nov. 27. The Warriors opened the event with a win over St. Francis on Nov. 21 and added victories over St. Joseph, East Aurora, Walther Lutheran and Plainfield East. The five wins gave Willowbrook an overall season record of 8-0. The Warriors begin the West Suburban Gold Conference season this week. The Willowbrook players (pictured left to right) are: (front row) Carrie McCann, Sydney Placz, Micaela Giammarini, Allison Torres and Danielle Velasquez; (back row) Deahly Williams, Alysea Reasinger, Jada Sillis, Melissa Rader, Sam Schmidt, Lauren Carroll, Molly Krawczyk/Kowski and Olivia Dornin. Krawczyk/Kowski scored 18 points in the victory over Plainfield East. Dornin hit a game-winning 3-point shot at the end of the Warriors' closest game of the tournament—a 44-41 win over St. Joseph on Nov. 22.

Photo by Chris Fox



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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

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VP Chamber of Commerce to hold Joyful Traditions

The Villa Park Chamber of Commerce will present its annual Joyful Traditions celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The free community event will take place near the Rugard Gazabo by Ardmore Avenue and Park Boulevard near the Illinois Prairie Path.

Villa Park Village President Deborah Bultwinkel will join Santa Claus for the tree lighting ceremony at approximately 6:15 p.m. Other highlights of Joyful Traditions will include a tasting tent featuring free food provided by local restaurants, a 3rd move station, steaming hot chocolate, horse-drawn sleigh rides and trolley rides to the Villa Park Historical Museum. Members of the Willowbrook High School choir will sing Christmas carols, and children will be able to have a picture taken with Santa Claus.

Residents who attend are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots and a non-perishable item to contribute to a local food pantry.

For more information about Joyful Traditions, contact the Villa Park Chamber of Commerce at 630-941-9133.



Village announces additional day of yard-waste pickup

The Village of Villa Park issued the following release Tuesday regarding an additional day of yard-waste collection:

The Village of Villa Park has negotiated an additional day for free yard-waste pickup for our residents with our garbage collection service. Roy Strom. Residents who have normal garbage pickup on Mondays and Tuesdays will have their yard waste picked up on Thursday, Dec. 5. Residents who have normal garbage pickup on Wednesdays through Friday will have their yard waste picked up on Friday, Dec. 6.

Yard-waste stickers are not required for this special pickup. This will be the last opportunity to have your yard waste picked up until April 1, 2014.

A holiday tradition—Joyful Traditions...

THE HORSE-DRAWN sleigh ride is one of the more popular attractions at the Villa Park Chamber of Commerce's annual Joyful Traditions event. This year's Joyful Traditions will take place this Saturday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. near the Rugard Gazabo. Villa Park Village President Deborah Bultwinkel will join Santa Claus for the tree lighting ceremony at about 6:15 p.m. Santa will then be available for photos with children. The tree event will feature a tasting tent with food provided by local restaurants. Students from the Willowbrook High School choir will perform Christmas carols.



File photo

Art Alumni Day at Willowbrook High School on Dec. 16

Willowbrook High School's art department will hold its annual Art Alumni Day on Monday, Dec. 16, from 9 a.m. to 1:20 p.m. The art department invites all Willowbrook art alumni to present their work to current students. The event allows students to see demonstrations and samples of work produced by published artists, writers, illustrators and creative graphic designers.

The event also includes information about the variety of employment opportunities in the art industry.

For more information about the upcoming art alumni day at Willowbrook, contact Jan Pledra, the school's art department chair, at 630-782-2814, or at jpiedra@dupage88.net.

Hairy situation takes place at Addison Trail—for a cause

ADDISON — Those who have walked through the halls of Addison Trail lately might have noticed there's a hairy situation going on at the school — literally.

Throughout the month of November, 57 staff members and administrators have grown mustaches or supported those growing mustaches as part of a global charity known as November. According to <http://us.movement.com>, Movement's vision is to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health. During November each year, Movement is responsible for the sprouting of millions of mustaches on men's faces throughout the world to raise vital funds and awareness to combat prostate and testicular cancer and mental health challenges.

Addison Trail staff and administrators were sponsored by students, who made donations to the cause. Students also could buy fake mustaches to support the effort. Addison Trail raised \$2,946.73, as well as \$325 in online donations.

The top-finishing staff members are:
Physical Education teacher Steve Gilliam \$338.55
Auto teacher Keith Santini \$282.28
Dean Curtis Tate \$144.65
The top-finishing administrators are:

Principal Adam Cibulka \$359.89
Assistant Principal Mike Bolden \$83.55
Assistant Principal Doug Wildes \$61.98
From Dec. 2 to 5, students and staff members can buy raffle tickets for the chance to

throw a pie at the administrator and staff member who raised the most money. Proceeds from the raffle tickets will be donated to the victims of the recent tornadoes.

Funds raised through November support world-class men's health programs that combat prostate and testicular cancer and mental health challenges. Those programs, directed by the Movement Foundation, are focused on awareness and education, living with and beyond cancer, staying mentally healthy and living with and beyond mental illness.

More than 3.9 million men and women in 21 countries have participated in the cause, and \$446 million has been raised, which is funding 577 projects to improve men's health. For more information about November, go to <http://us.movement.com>.



Pictured are Addison Trail staff members and administrators who grew mustaches to raise money for November, a global charity with a mission to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health. Submitted photo

ADDISON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, December 5
NEDSRA Jr. Bulls wheelchair basketball fund-raiser

At 6 p.m. at NEDSRA's gym at Club Fitness, 1770 W. Centennial off Highway 53, the NEDSRA Jr. Bulls wheelchair basketball team will face the Addison Firefighters in a fund-raising event. The event is free. Info: (630) 527-4032 or contact coach Adam Kramer at akramer@nedsra.org.

Weight Loss challenge
The Community Weight Loss Challenge gets under way at Club Fitness and continues through Feb. 20. Info: (630) 233-7275 or addisonparks.org.

Friday, December 6
• ACCI Networking...
From 7:30-9 a.m., the Addison Chamber of Commerce "Networking" event takes place at Panera Bread on Lake St. Info: (630) 543-4300 or visit addisonchamber.org.

• Village tree-lighting ceremony
From 5-9 p.m., the Village will host its annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony at Village Hall, One Friendship Plaza. Visit with Santa beginning at 5 p.m. (Bring the camera). Entertainment at 7 p.m. includes carolers from Lake Park and Stone Schools, the AITHS Shades of Blue; Prince of Peace Bell Choir. Tree will be lit at 8 p.m., followed by continued visits with Santa.

Free and open to the public.

Saturday and Sunday, December 7-8
Prince of Peace presents "Bethlehem"

From 2-5 p.m., Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at 1213 W. Army Trail Blvd. in Addison, is presenting an authentic visit to the town of Bethlehem, complete with money lenders, street vendors and peddlers, a rabbi, weavers, begging lepers, shepherds and more. Free and open to the public. Info: 630-343-3438.

Sunday, December 8
Church offers free

Gingerbread House Workshop
From 1:30-3:30 p.m., all ages welcome to come to Sunny Place Church, 901 E. Oak St., to build your own little gingerbread house. Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public, but registration required. Call 630-530-1830 or visit sunnyplacechurch.org.

Friday and Saturday, December 13-14
Maylake Holiday Market

From 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County invites holiday shoppers to find unique handmade gifts for their family and friends at Maylake Peabody Estate, 1717 W. 31st Street in Oak Brook at the annual "Holiday Art and Craft Market." Tick-

ets: \$5 each; five for \$20. Info: (630) 206-9566.

Thursday, December 26
Park Dist. hosts sledding social

From 1-4 p.m., the Addison Park District is hosting a sledding social at the snow hill in Community Park. Bring your own sled. Hot cocoa available for 75 cents. A snow-themed movie will be shown. Note: Event may be cancelled if there is not enough snow. Info: addisonparks.org.

Wednesday, January 22
"Shape of Addison" town hall meeting

From 7 to 9 p.m., Itasca Bank will present the 7th annual "Shape of Addison" Town Hall Meeting in the Village Hall Board Room, at 1 Friendship Plaza. Officials from throughout the Village and the school districts will attend. Addison Community Television (Comcast Channel 6 or U-Verse Channel 99) will air meeting live; viewers may call in questions during the broadcast. E-mail questions can be sent either before or during the meeting to ShapeOAddison@addisonadvantage.org.

Ongoing events...

• Upcoming shows at Addison Center For The Arts: Now through Dec. 14 - Addison Art Guild member show. Info: 630-458-4500 or addisoncenterforthearts.org.

forethearts.com

• Now through Friday, Dec. 13, the accomplishments of all students enrolled in fall term art courses will be highlighted in the Fall Student Art Exhibition in the Founders Lounge of the Frick Center on the campus of Elmhurst College. Info: Suelien Rocca at (630) 617-6110 or stoccoa@elmhurst.edu.

• Now through Dec. 10, State Rep. Dennis Reboletti's office is collecting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps annual Toys for Tots campaign at his district office, located at 721 W. Lake St. in Addison, Suite 203. No stuffed animals or used toys will be accepted. Info: (630) 628-0045 or email reboletti@gmail.com.

• Active Adults, ages 55 or better, are invited to Addison Park District's Active Adults Senior Club on Tuesdays from 12-2 p.m. for lunch at Community Rec Center, 120 E. Oak Street. To find out more about special events, programs, trips and club membership, contact Teresa Grodzky at (630) 233-7275.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: GuestPublishing@aol.com. Please include a phone number or e-mail address to contact for information.

SPORTS

DECEMBER 5, 2013 • 21

Addison Trail boys basketball team puts points on board Pupillo gets off to strong start for Blazers

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail boys basketball team demonstrated it can put plenty of points on the board recently. The Blazers scored 67 and 88 points in a pair of games at the West Chicago Thanksgiving tournament.

Addison Trail opened the tournament with a 74-67 loss to West Chicago and scored an 88-84 victory over Marmion.

"As the numbers indicate we can put the ball in the basket," said Addison Trail coach Brendan Lyons. "A lot of it has to do with the officials who are limiting hand checks and are calling games very tight, which is making the games very long. We were 35-for-45 from the free-throw line against Marmion. Our free-throw shooting has been clutch and one thing I've been very happy with is our ability to adapt and bounce

back from some of the changes that have been made. It's affected how we approach games and how we adjust within games."

Lyons was confident of the team's offensive ability heading into the season.

"I knew we could score," he said. "We returned just about everybody this year. One of our strengths is our guard play and our shooting from the 3-point arc. Against West Chicago we shot poorly. We were 5-for-31 from the 3-point line against them and then we were 12-for-24 against Marmion. You have to say it's all as simple as making baskets, but when you have those nights when you are struggling with your shooting, you have to get to the basket and score in transition. We learned a good lesson early on. If we learn from it, that will be a plus for us moving forward."

Veteran James Pupillo got off to a strong start for Addison Trail. He had 27 points in the game against West Chicago and 32 points in the win over Marmion.

"This is James' fourth year on the varsity," said Lyons. "He has really stepped up his game. He was 19-for-20 from the free-throw line against Marmion. When we extended the lead late he was fouled on three straight possessions and made it a two-to-three-possession game with his free throws. That was nice to see."

Joe Kuruncur also had a strong start to the season with 17 points in the opener and 16 points against Marmion. "Joe was 0-for-10 from the 3-point line against West Chicago and then he had four 3's against Marmion," said Lyons. "Guys on the team have a good feel for each other scoring-wise."

Ronald Duling and Taylor White also were cited for strong play.

"Ronald has been good for us and this is Taylor's second year with us," said Lyons. "Taylor had 17 points against Marmion."

Lyons said the team must continue to get better on the defensive end.

"Giving up 70 points a game won't cut it," said Lyons. "There is that emphasis on hand-checking and putting bodies

Willowbrook girls basketball team wins own tournament

Krawczykowski averages 19 points in five games
By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Willowbrook girls basketball coach Terry Harrell has plenty of reasons to be happy.

Harrell's squad started the season 6-0, which included winning its own Thanksgiving tournament with a perfect 5-0 mark.

"We played very well in the tournament," said Harrell.

Harrell noted Willowbrook's closest victory in the tournament was a three-point triumph over St. Joe's. He said the other four wins were each by 28 or more points. Willowbrook opened the season with a non-conference victory over Glenbard North prior to the tournament.

"I didn't think we played extremely well against St. Joe's, but we were able to win," said Harrell.

Molly Krawczykowski was one of three Willowbrook players named to the all-tournament team. Olivia Domin and Melissa Rader also earned all-tournament accolades.

Krawczykowski averaged 19 points per game in the tournament. Junior Sam Schmidt averaged nine rebounds per contest. Rader averaged 11 points per game in the tournament, while Domin starred at the point-guard position.

"Melissa Rader gave us a really solid performance," said Harrell. "Olivia took over the point-guard duties for most of the tournament and hit the winning shot at the buzzer against St. Joe's. She had some really good floor games."

Harrell has seen many different positives through the first six games.

"At this point, we're developing really well," he said. "We have a very different mix of girls this year. We lost five seniors from last year, but we still have four seniors starting for us with Olivia, Lauren Carroll and Melissa along with Molly and then Sam Schmidt also starts for us."

The Warriors have received boosts off the bench thus far from Allison Torres and Alyssa Resinger. Torres provides another outside shooting threat, while Resinger has given Harrell valuable minutes in the post.

"I'm quite happy at this point," said Harrell. "We're

playing very well as a team. This is the first time in a while that since last year we haven't had our whole team together at once, but we came out in our first game and played like we had been together for every game in the summer. I'm pleasantly surprised. I have to admit. The girls really have played well."

Harrell has been impressed with the team's development on defense.

"We're running some good defensive sets and that's been a bit of a challenge with the new emphasis on hand-checking," he said. "The girls have adjusted to it well. They have done a good job of playing defense with their feet and hopefully that continues."

Willowbrook has excelled in the first six games with its screen-and-roll offense. "It's worked very well this year for us," said Harrell. "We've shot well enough so far and we've rebounded offensively extremely well. We're quick off our feet and we have a lot of girls who are good under the basket. Offensive rebounding has helped us. That timely outside shooting and the offensive rebounding has boded well for us against teams playing zone defense."

Willowbrook opened West Suburban Conference Gold Division play Tuesday against Addison Trail and will face Proviso East Saturday. Harrell feels his team can be right there among the top contenders in the conference this season.

"I think we can be very competitive in the conference this

IC Catholic Prep boys cagers excited about 2013-2014 season

Knights out to defend Suburban Christian Conference Gold Division title
By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Last season was a memorable one for the IC Catholic Prep boys basketball team. 22-6 and The Knights went 22-6 and won the Suburban Christian Conference Gold Division title with a 9-1 record. IC reached the regional championship game in the postseason.

Now IC would like to make even more memories. The Knights return five of their top seven players from last year's league-championship squad. Back for the Knights are returning all-conference performers Rhashawn Epling (6-3,

on people. We have to play solid team defense and move our feet and not our hands. We have to keep adjusting and have to adjust in our half-court man defense. As much as we can score, we can create more opportunities by getting to the glass and not letting opponents get second and third chances."

Lyons likes the progress he has seen his team make since last season.

"We knew going in that we would lean on our seniors and they have stepped up," he said. "The outlook is good for us. Our guys have really improved in the off-season. We feel good where we're at, but there always is room for improvement. This tournament is giving us a quick feel for how our guys are responding to different degrees of adversity."

Addison Trail also dropped an 80-67 decision to Chicago King in the tournament and recorded a 41-40 victory over Geneva.

The Blazers open West Suburban Conference Gold Division play Friday at home against Downers Grove South.

petitive in the conference this season," he said. "We're off to a very good start. Hopefully the girls can keep working hard and continue in that direction. There still is a lot of improvement to be made, but I'd rather be teaching from the point of having won games instead of having lost games."

Also back are defensive standout Anthony Taylor (5-10, G, Sr.), Ross Fleming (5-9, G, Sr.) and Sean Sutton (5-10, G, Sr.).

Newcomers that will help include the likes of sophomores Will Lykes (6-3, C) and Troy Burrows (5-9, G), along with freshman Jordan Rowell (6-2, F-G). Burrows is a transfer from South Elgin.

"Will was up all summer with us on the varsity and has a great work ethic," said IC coach TJ

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ADDISON

Suburban Life

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PAGE 51

NEW SENSEI-TION

NEDSRA athlete completes 10-year quest for black belt

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COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT



Photo provided

Huddle up with a good book

Addison Trail senior Ryan Petrbok reads to students at Army Trail Elementary School recently as part of the Blazer Football Reading Program. The 9-year-old program sends five football players to each of Addison's seven local elementary and junior high schools. For the first three Fridays of the month – from September through December and February through May – Addison Trail athletes read to students at District 4 schools. The same athletes try to visit the same school each week to establish familiarity.

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Don't know where to turn for help? Call the DuPage County Crisis line at 630-627-1700. The phone line is open 24 hours a day. Individuals in need can set up an interview either by phone or in person. You also can visit the crisis line on the web at www.dupagehealth.org/access-and-crisis-center.

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"Serving our communities to make them better places to live."

Addison Trail hosts theatre challenge

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON – More than 30 students will participate in Addison Trail's first 24-Hour Theatre Challenge this weekend.

Today, participants will create five short plays including everything from the script to the set to production. Students will perform the shows free of charge for the public.

While the event is free, donations will be accepted for the upcoming theatre trip.

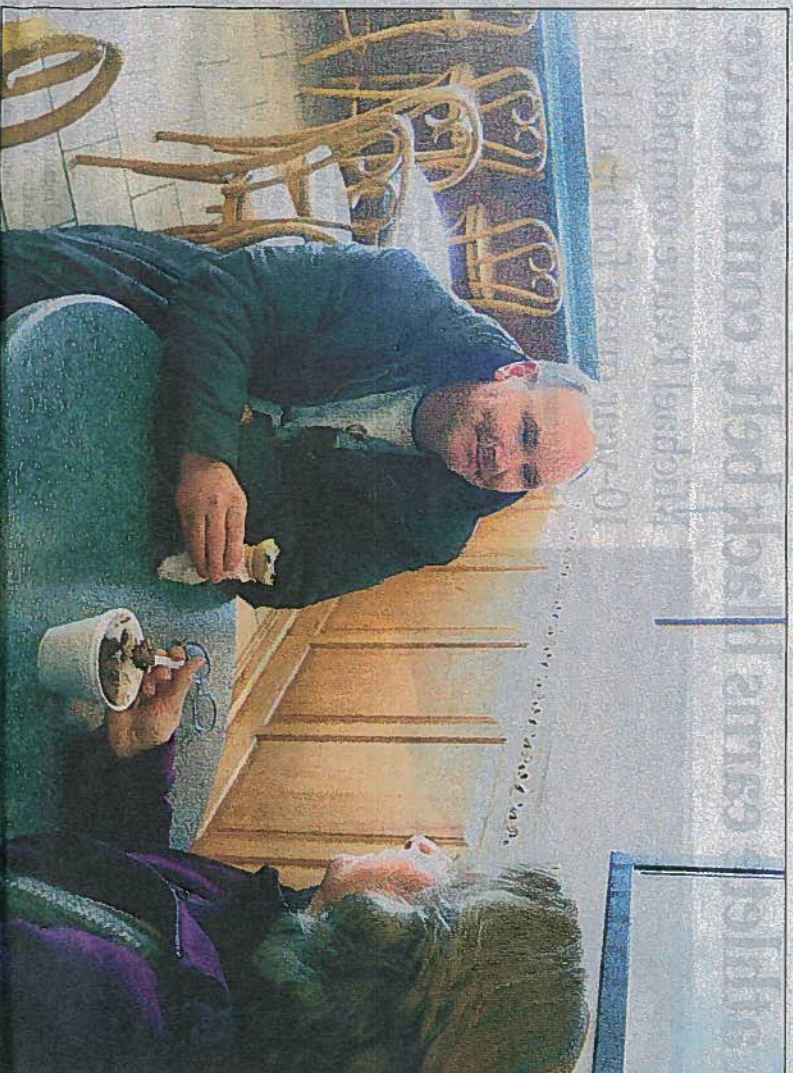
From April 1 to 4, a group of 24 students will travel to New York City where they will have the opportunity to see a Broadway musical, an off-Broadway show and visit the 9/11 Memorial. Students will also participate in workshops on Broadway stages in addition to touring New York University and Columbia University.

Students applied and were selected for the trip.

The 24-Hour Theatre Challenge shows begin at 7 p.m. Saturday at Addison Trail.

If you go

What: 24-hour Theatre Challenge
When: 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: Addison Trail, 213 N Lombard Road, Addison
Cost: Free



Mar Grapalunas - mrg@addisontribune.com
Dan Ferrill (left) and his wife, Carole, enjoy ice cream at one of their old haunts, Uncle Harry's Ice Cream and Coffee, Saturday in Addison.

Ice cream lovers stress small business value

By **MARI ERIGALUNAS**

mrigalunas@shawmedia.com

ADDISON – While small business Saturday shoppers weren't prevalent on Addison streets Saturday, one couple valued the role small businesses play in the community.

Hubbard and wife Dan and Carole Ferrill found a seat at one of their old haunts, Uncle Harry's Ice Cream and Coffee at 48 W. Lake St. to enjoy a treat.

"[It's] definitely not too cold for ice cream," said Dan with a cone of Bordeaux Cherry ice cream in hand on the mild

winter afternoon.

The shop's owner, Laif Nelson, has been serving ice cream in Addison for 16 years and knows the value of loyal customers to a small business.

"Most of our employees are from this area," Nelson said. "Everything we do kind of stays in this area."

Carole Ferrill who grew up in the neighborhood thinks its important to remain a member to shop locally.

"It helps the community," she said.

Her husband expressed appreciation for more than the ice cream. He said small businesses have more to offer than corpo-

rate chains in some aspects.

"I think that there's a uniqueness to small businesses," he said.

Nelson credited that uniqueness to his flexibility as an owner with complete control and responsibility for his store.

"I don't have a board of directors or shareholders to report to," Nelson said.

Even though the Ferrills were his only customers in the shop around 1 p.m. that day, Nelson enjoys his location and patrons. They've kept him in Addison for more than a decade.

"[It's] just a great community to do business in," Nelson said.

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► ON THE COVER

Michael Pearce of Wood Dale demonstrates his karate skills Tuesday in Addison with NEDSRA Recreation Coordinator Paul Fasano.

Eric Benson - ebenson@shawmedia.com



MADE IN THE U.S.A.



Local officials react after pension bill approved

By MARI GRIGALUNAS
mrigalunas@shawmedia.com

Officials aren't certain of what impact the pension reform bill approved by Illinois lawmakers Tuesday will have in Elmhurst.

The bill affects four different pension funds including teachers, universities, state employees and the General Assembly.

The more than 300-page bill provides \$160 billion in savings over the next 30 years in an attempt to fix what is considered the worst public pension problem in the nation.

The bill passed 62-53 in the House and 30-24 in the Senate. Gov. Pat Quinn has said he will sign it.

"This landmark legislation is a bipartisan solution that squarely addresses the most difficult fiscal issue Illinois has ever confronted," Quinn said in a statement.

The bill raises the retirement age for current workers 45 and younger, on a sliding scale, and workers will contribute 1 percent less to the plan.

The Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) plans to join other union partners in an "aggressive challenge" to the bill in court, according to a statement written by IFT

President Dan Montgomery on the group's website.

State Sen. Kirk Dillard, R-Hinsdale, voted against the bill.

He cited questions about the constitutionality of the proposal and concerns about the lack of public vetting of the legislation.

"I don't believe this bill can survive a court challenge," said Dillard, who is running for governor of Illinois in 2014. "It just doesn't meet the constitutional standards for consideration that I believe it must have in order to hold up in court."

Elmhurst Teachers' Council President Katy Padberg

questioned the bill's timing. "I think the process of this bill getting pushed through the General Assembly directly after the Thanksgiving holidays was no accident," Padberg said in an email.

Dave Pruneau, Community School District 205 superintendent, said the bill did not affect the district much in the short term since it does not push pension costs onto individual school districts as has been considered.

He did say that in the long term, the district budget could be affected by the higher retirement age. If teachers work longer before retiring, it could cost the district more

because they will be paying teachers near retirement a higher salary for an extended period before replacing that teacher with a younger, lower-paid teacher.

Pruneau anticipates it could be a year or so before a final ruling is made and the full impact of the bill is felt. "I think we're a long way away from knowing the impact of this legislation," Pruneau said. "We're not going to know...until the courts decide," Pruneau said.

Elmhurst Director of Finance Marilyn Gaston said Wednesday she could not yet comment on how the bill will affect city employees.

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FOCUS ON VISION

by Dr. Mark Skowron

AN OUTSIDE CHANCE

Because myopia (nearsightedness) is much more common now than it was four decades ago, researchers have tried to find possible reasons. Among the most plausible findings came from an analysis of eight carefully selected studies on the association between time spent outdoors and myopia among children and adolescents. After analyzing the behavior and degree of nearsightedness among more than 10,400 youngsters, researchers concluded that the chance of being nearsighted fell by approximately two percent for each additional hour spent outdoors per week. Playing outdoors allows children to focus on distant objects rather than playing with iPads, watching TV, playing video games, and doing near work, which may also play a role in nearsightedness development.

If you are nearsighted, you typically will have difficulty reading road signs and seeing distant objects clearly, but will be able to see well for close tasks such as reading and computer use. Other signs and symptoms of myopia include squinting, eye strain, and headaches. SKOWRON EYE CARE is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life by preserving the precious gift of sight for you and your family. To schedule an appointment, please give us a call today. At Skowron Eye Care, our mission is your vision.

P.S. It is important for their academic and physical development to have children's eyes tested regularly. Refractive errors are easily correctable.



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Addison Trail staff members and administrators show off the mustaches they grew to raise money for November, a global charity with a mission to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health. Photo provided

AT leaders raise nearly \$3K for November

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - The men of Addison Trail High School sported mustaches last month for charity.

Throughout the month, 67 high school staff and administration, grew facial hair or supported those who did for November, a global charity dedicated to raising funds and awareness to combat

prostate and testicular cancer and mental health challenges.

Students purchased fake mustaches and sponsored staff and administration in support of the cause.

The school raised \$2,946.73 in addition to \$325 in online donations.

The top finishing administrator was Principal Adam Cibulka who raised \$359.89

in sponsorships.

The top staff member, physical education teacher

Steve Gilliam raised \$338.55.

This week, students and staff members bought raffle tickets for the chance to throw a pie at those who raised the most money.

Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to victims of the recent Illinois tornadoes.

SPORTS

Comments?

Contact Sports Editor Jason Rossi,
jrossi@shawmedia.com or 630-427-6271

ALL-AREA FOOTBALL MVP

Johnson goes from freshman B to sensational senior



Suburban Life photo - editor@shawmedia.com
Willowbrook's Brian Johnson looks to pass in a game against Addison Trail this season. Johnson put up prolific passing numbers this season, including throwing for a state-record 675 yards against Lyons Township.

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

VILLA PARK - Quarterback is the most mentally demanding position in football.

Not only do the passers need to know their own responsibility, they need to know everyone's responsibility every play. With that in mind, Brian Johnson's staggering statistical season at Willowbrook this fall is unusual because the senior is still somewhat new to the sport.

Johnson began his football career as a freshman in high school and played on the freshman B team for the Warriors. Two years later he had elevated himself to varsity starter. This fall he passed for 3,291 yards and 31 touchdowns in 10 games.

This season, Johnson was honorable mention all-state in Class 7A, the West Suburban Gold MVP and the Suburban Life all-area MVP.

"When we did things right, when we were on, with a guy like that back there it creates problems," Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth said. "At the high school level defending the pass is hard enough when you've got multiple wideouts, and he can make reads and do all those things."

Johnson didn't put up the numbers by himself. He had talented wide receivers Hayden Adams and Devin Childress, who are both 6-foot-2 and reached double digit touchdowns on the season, and quick running back Jeremy Barnes, who had 1,912 rushing and receiving yards combined.

That trio did most of the damage when Johnson threw for a state-record 675 yards against Lyons Township in week 2. The Warriors won a wild game 62-49.

"Obviously for us, LT the

"When we were on, with a guy like that back there it creates problems."

Nick Hildreth
Willowbrook coach

second week was a great game," Johnson said. "It wasn't just me. A lot of the guys after the catch were breaking tackles and making runs."

Despite all of his success this fall, as of last week Johnson said he didn't yet have any offers from colleges, though he has received interest from various programs.

Hildreth believes his quarterback can play as high as the FCS level in college.

"I've been taking calls a bunch lately," Hildreth said. "He's going to be a steal for somebody somewhere."

The best argument for Johnson's college future is that he is still learning the game while playing the most cerebral position.

"His ceiling is so incredibly high moving forward," Hildreth said. "He's not done growing. He's not shaving yet. There is room for him to grow physically and mentally. He's just getting better everyday as far as being around the game."

Since the season ended Johnson has continued to work out. He is focusing on improving his footwork and staying in shape during the winter before playing baseball in the spring.

He plans to go on college visits throughout December, some even with his high school teammates.

"I'm hoping by January or late February that I will know where I'm going," Johnson said. "I'm looking forward to the higher competition level and getting new teammates."



All-area football team

Meet the 2013 Suburban Life all-area football squad



Hayden Adams

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Impact: He was one of the best two-way players in the area this season. He was a top player at safety with three interceptions. At wide receiver he racked up 67 receptions, 1,358 yards and 13 touchdowns as part of a potent offense.



Jeremy Barnes

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Impact: Willowbrook coach Nick Hildebrith often described Barnes as the heart of the offense. The running back had 1,345 yards on the ground, added 567 more receiving yards, finished with 14 total touchdowns and was an all-conference selection.



Isayron Bradley

School: Addison Trail

Year: Junior

Impact: The 6-foot-3 wide receiver is a premier athlete and made some big plays throughout the season. Bradley finished with 562 yards on 42 receptions with four touchdowns this year and was a West Suburban Gold all-conference player.



Joe Catanesse

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Impact: He caught three touchdowns and had 149 yards receiving on the year, but was primarily a key to the defensive secondary. The West Suburban Gold all-conference player had a pair of interceptions and was a leader on the defense.



Devin Childress

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Impact: The 6-foot-2 wide receiver used his size and athleticism to snag 60 catches for 916 yards and 10 touchdowns this fall. Childress, an all-conference wideout, was one of the bery of weapons at Willowbrook's disposal this season.



Jack Copier

School: IC Catholic

Year: Senior

Impact: Copier was an efficient two-way threat for the Knights' offense. He completed 66.5 percent of his passes for 1,494 yards and 10 touchdowns. He also ran for 413 yards and two touchdowns on the ground.



Liam Gaughan

School: York

Year: Senior

Impact: The Ducks used a power running game this season with a number of different rushers, but the constant was York's offensive line. Gaughan, a team captain, was a key part of that line and a West Suburban Silver all-conference performer.



Brian Johnson

School: Willowbrook

Year: Senior

Impact: The all-area MVP was also the MVP of the West Suburban Gold and an honorable mention Class 7A all-state selection. Including setting a state record for passing yards in a single game (675 against Lyons Township in Week 2), Johnson totaled 3,291 yards and 31 touchdowns with five more scores on the ground.



Randy Leslie

School: IC Catholic

Year: Senior

Impact: The Knights' top rusher crossed the 1,000-yard mark on just 144 carries. Leslie ran for 1,022 yards, averaging over seven yards per carry, and scored eight touchdowns for IC as it won a Suburban Christian Gold conference title.



Mike Madlito

School: Monthli

Year: Senior

Impact: The all-state linebacker was limited due to injury in the state championship game, but still had 120 total tackles, including 16 for loss. The Broncos were an elite defense this year and Madlito was an essential part as a Suburban Christian Blue all-conference linebacker.

See ALL-AREA page 52

Blazers make strides at Thanksgiving tournament

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

WEST CHICAGO — It was a wacky opening week for Addison Trail's boys basketball team.

The Blazers had two games go down to the buzzer and also had a comeback from a 15-point

halftime deficit in the first five games of the season, which all took place at the West Chicago Thanksgiving tournament.

AT left with a 2-3 record despite holding fourth-quarter leads in each of the five games. The results showed that the Blazers can play with most every team they face, but they

have some work to do to close out more games.

"Looking back on it, we were in each game," AT coach Brendan Lyons said. "A record of 2-3 isn't where we want to be, but our confidence level and understanding of how good we can be is good."

After losing to the host Wild-

cats 74-67 in the opener, AT came back from 40-26 down at halftime against Marmion and rallied for an 88-84 win. The Blazers shot 45 free throws in that game, making 35.

Lyons said the higher-scoring games are a result of AT

See BLAZERS page 52

AT basketball at West Chicago tournament

- West Chicago 74, AT 67
- AT 88, Marmion 84
- King 80, AT 65
- Geneva 42, AT 41
- AT 60, Lake Zurich 59

• ALL AREA, Continued from page 51

**Emmett McCoy**

School: York
Year: Senior

Impact: If there was a big play made by the York defense, there's a good chance it was made by McCoy. The 6-foot-4 linebacker was a West Suburban Silver all-conference performer for the Dukes this fall.

**Tommy Mogavero**

School: Glenbard East
Year: Senior

Impact: Mogavero was a key player at the back of the Rams' defense and was a senior captain. From the safety position he helped make some big plays and organized East's defense.

**Zach Ray**

School: York
Year: Senior

Impact: The defensive lineman was an all-conference performer and a captain for the Dukes this season. Ray helped York battle in the trenches in the tough, physical West Suburban Silver.

**Ben Sullivan**

School: Glenbard East
Year: Junior

Impact: Glenbard East coach John Walters raved about Sullivan at every opportunity this season. The Rams' coach frequently called the junior his best offensive lineman. In addition, he was also a team captain.

**Nile Sykes**

School: Montini
Year: Senior

Impact: It's no secret why Division I programs are clamoring over Sykes. The linebacker has supreme athleticism for his size. He had 80 tackles, 22 for loss, and 12 sacks this season as he was named Suburban Christian Blue all-conference.

**Sam Symeonides**

School: IC Catholic
Year: Senior

Impact: Symeonides' impact on the Knights' defense cannot be overstated. The senior managed to lead the team in tackles, a rare feat for a lineman, with 121. He also had 28 tackles for a loss with 16 sacks.

**Dylan Thompson**

School: Montini
Year: Senior

Impact: The Ohio State-bound defensive end is a monster at 6-foot-4 and 271 pounds. He had big numbers as well: 13 sacks, 24 tackles for loss and 59 total tackles for one of the best defenses in the state. The Suburban Christian Blue all-conference selection was also named Lineman of the Year in the conference.

**Tyler Tumpane**

School: Montini
Year: Senior

Impact: The all-state and Suburban Christian Blue all-conference wide receiver was a versatile weapon and surpassed 1,000 yards in the Class 5A final. He finished the year with 1,001 yards receiving on 85 receptions. He had 13 touchdowns, 10 receiving and three rushing.

**Alex Willis**

School: Montini
Year: Senior

Impact: Willis showed great improvement from his junior to senior year and was honorable mention all-state in Class 5A while being named Suburban Christian Blue all-conference and MVP in the conference. He finished the season with 3,039 passing yards, 33 touchdowns and five more scores on the ground.

**Jim Wislek**

School: Addison Trail
Year: Senior

Impact: Wislek was the senior leader on a young Addison Trail team. The all-conference running back rushed for 551 yards on 126 carries with 11 rushing touchdowns and one receiving score.

Honorable mention

Addison Trail: Eric Gilliam, Matt Gontarek, Mike Rybarczyk

IC Catholic: Clark Brinkman, Riley

Ricobene

Glenbard East: Drake Rusteri, Dominic Wilberton

Montini: Josh Belt, Derrick Curry, Anthony Ferraro, Edgar Ruano, Leon Thornton

Willowbrook: Adrian Abrams, Irwin-Leon Cervantes, Christian Chavez, Jimmy Marcello

York: Ted Harrold, Charlie Rose

• **BLAZERS**

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pushing the tempo and shooting well from the outside. The new, tighter officiating rules had an impact on the first two games, but it wasn't as noticeable in the last three games, according to the coach.

"We do see us getting up and down [the floor] as beneficial to us against most teams on our schedule," Lyons said.

"Looking back on it, we were in each game. [A

record of] 2-3 isn't where we want to be, but our confidence level and understanding of how good we can be is good."

Brendan Lyons

AT coach

"I think we shot the ball very well from the perimeter and we have three or four guys that can knock down the three."

Senior point guard James Pupillo led the Blazers with 22.2 points per game during the five tournament games.

After the Blazers lost to King 80-65 in the third game, AT took Geneva down to the wire last Friday. Pupillo hit some big shots down the stretch and the Blazers led with 4.5 seconds left, but Geneva scored at the buzzer to win. The Blazers bounced back with a late game-winner against Lake Zurich in Saturday's tournament finale. With 10 seconds left, Pupillo dribbled the length of the floor and scored as time expired.

"It was nice to see we can control a lot of what goes on on

the floor," Lyons said. "If we can play with just a high degree of energy throughout the game, we can be in almost every game we play in."

The Blazers also got big contributions from outside shooter Joe Kurniawar, Ronald Duling and inside-out threat Taylor White. Senior Joe Villaseñor, a 6-foot-5 forward, also stepped up as a rebounder and inside finisher. AT next plays tonight when it hosts Downers Grove South in the West Suburban Gold member Invitational.