ADDISON Suburban Life

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Photo provided

Scoring Olympic glory

The Addison Trail Special Olympics basketball team earns third-place honors in Division 4 on Jan. 12 at the 2014 Special Olympics District C Basketball Tournament. Team members included senior Anthony Corona (left), coach Jessica Sokolowski, sophomore Alejandro Bueno, junior Johnny Rodriguez, junior Michael Andejeski, coach Melissa Morales and junior Julian Madden.

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Addison Trail Assistant Principal Doug Wildes (left) poses with Addison Trail ACHIEVE guidance counselor Iridia Nevarez-Niewinski, who will succeed Wildes on July 1 when Wildes moves over to Willowbrook High School to assume that assistant principal role.

New assistant principal named at Addison Trail

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - Twenty-two years after graduating from Addison Trail, Iridia Nevarez-Niewinski is going to be her alma mater's newest assistant principal.

Nevarez-Niewinski graduated from Addison Trail in 1992. She returned to the school as dean from 2007 to 2012 and has been a guidance counselor for the school's ACHIEVE program since 2012, according to a District 88 news

The District 88 Board of Education approved Nevarez-Niewinski's new position during its Jan. 13 meeting and will join the administrative team July 1.

During her time at Addison Trail, Nevarez-Niewinski has

started a club called LADIES, which aims to assist Latina students, and has sponsored the INTERACT Club and the International Dance Show. She also helps with the Padres Latinos en Acción meetings. Nevarez-Niewinski began her career as a juvenile probation officer and later became a bilingual teacher in School District U-46 in Elgin. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Benedictine University in 1996 and has three master's degrees in education, educational administration and school counseling, according to the release.

Nevarez-Niewinski takes over for Doug Wildes, whom will move across the district to work as Willowbrook High School's assistant principal.



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21 PERCENT: I'm making an effort to do it less

13 PERCENT: It's difficult

THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION: What's your biggest bill each month? Vote online at mysuburbanlife.com.

Members of District 88 community invited to upcoming events

One of the great things about being part of a school district is getting to give back to students.

Each and every day, our staff, Board of Education, parents/guardians and community members work together to achieve one goal – to build futures for our students. Throughout the

school year, we host various events to help accomplish that goal. Below are upcoming events we would like to share with you.



COMMUNITY VOICE

Scott Helton

Dennis Doyle 3-on-3 Classic

We invite you to participate in the Dennis Doyle

3-on-3 Classic District 88 Foundation Basketball Tournament on March 8 at Willowbrook High School.

All ages are welcome to participate, and transportation will be provided from Addison Trail High School. The tournament supports the District 88 Foundation, and proceeds will benefit District 88 students. For more information, including how to register, go to www.dupage88.net/foundation.

Dennis Doyle came to Willowbrook in 1994, after several years of coaching basketball. He was the head basketball coach from 1994 to 2006, as well as a guidance counselor until his death in 2011. Doyle believed each person should have a passion and must compete each day to achieve his or her goals. For those who had the opportunity to know Coach Doyle, he truly was a Warrior in every sense of the word. The tournament is a wonderful way to remember his commitment to District 88, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Realtor luncheon

We're excited to invite local Realtors into our schools to show them firsthand the true spirit of District 88.

We know Realtors are the ones promoting our communities, and we want to share with them the successes of District 88. On Jan. 30, Realtors will enjoy a luncheon and a tour at Willowbrook. On Feb. 5, they will enjoy a luncheon and a tour at Addison Trail. We know District 88 flourishes because of the support we receive from our communities, and we're thrilled to initiate this program to continue building relationships.

Thank you for your continued support of District 88!

Scott Helton is the superintendent for DuPage High School



Di-d- -- 14

Addison Trail senior Morgan Pirtle sings during a show at the high school. Pirtle's song "Pushin'" recently received third place in the Illinois Music Education Association Composition Contest in the Jazz Vocal/Instrumental category.



Congratulations to Morgan Pirtle for breaking new ground in the music department at Addison Trail High School. The senior recently became the first student from her school to win an award for song composition from the Illinois Music Education Association. Pirtle earned third-place honors in the Jazz Vocal/Instrumental category for her song "Pushin'." Keep hitting those high notes, Morgan.



It's good to see Addison Trail High School's recent graduates showing an interest in their alma mater. A group of former AT students returned to their old stomping grounds for the school's Young Alumni Day. Welcome back!

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.



District 88.

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"Teaching and coaching are synonymous," Parpet said. "If you enjoy teaching, you're going to enjoy coaching. Being nominated for and receiving this award is a great honor. Any time you're recognized by your peers, it's pretty neat. This award isn't just for me -

SPORTS,

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

Parpet gets IHSBCA Hall of Fame call

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON - For more than 30 years, Paul Parpet was a fixture of Addison Trail High School athletics.

He joined the AT staff in 1976 as a physical education

teacher, and later taught driver's education and served as the Physical Education Department Chair. During his time Paul Parpet at Addison Trail,



Parpet coached baseball, football and basketball. He was named as head baseball coach in 1990 and held that position until he retired in 2010.

In honor of his long and successful coaching career, Parpet will be inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association (IHS-BCA) Hall of Fame Saturday.

"He has been an inspiration to both the students and athletes of Addison Trail." AT Principal Adam Cibulka said in a release. "He has made a positive impact on countless students, both in the classroom and on the field. Coach Parpet's enthusiasm and love for his school and students are unrivaled. I am honored to have worked with him, and his legacy lives on [at our school]

Although he retired three years ago, Parpet continues to coach the varsity girls bowling team at Addison Trail as well as football at Downers Grove North and baseball at Downers Grove South.

bleed Addison Trail navy blue, and that school will forever be Football Coaches Association Fame dinner on Jan. 25. The

it's for the school and the com- a huge part of my life." munity as well. I will always Parpet was also inducted into the Illinois High School

(IHSFCA) Hall of Fame in 2002. Parpet will be honored during the IHSBCA Hall of

dinner is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. at The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center in Lom-



Former Addison Trail baseball coach Paul Parpet (right) watches David Ciaglia sign a college letter of intent in 2007. Parpet will be inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame this weekend.

Tournament tests best prep for postseason

By DAN SANTAROMITA dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

In wrestling, dual meets bring out the best in the team competition, but tournaments are all about testing the individual wrestler.

Dual meets give everyone wrestler an equal chance to impact the team's result. However, at tournaments the top wrestlers are more likely to face off against opponents at a similar skill level.

Wrestling teams can only compete in four tournaments during the regular season, so the key is to maximize their impact. That is why balancing the schedule and picking the right tournaments at the right time is key.

"I love dual meet tournaments where you can really get a chance for everybody on your team to contribute," York coach Terry Clarke said. "In our sport, a lot more people are having those during the year, but the individual tournaments, on the other hand, are just as valuable, if not more so. Your real good guys don't always get good opponents in a dual meet tournament.'

There is no limit on dual team tournaments, but an individual wrestler can only compete in 21 duals during the regular season, so at some point managing numbers comes into play. Some teams will compete in elite dual team tournaments.



York's Noah Fleckenstein (middle) won the 195-pound title at the Mahomet-Seymour invite last weekend. The Dukes' tournament schedule is aimed at getting their wrestlers ready for the postseason state series.

For example, Montini travels amore on Jan. 11 and Mahomto Detroit Central Catholic for a tournament that features some of the best teams in the Midwest and is guaranteed four duals.

Other teams are happier to stick with a traditional dual meet schedule and a handful of tournaments throughout the season. Clarke lined up all four of the Dukes' tournaments in the middle of the season. They went to Prospect on Dec. 14, DeKalb on Dec. 27 and 28, Sycet-Seymour this past Saturday.

"Individual tournaments, you're guaranteed to have two or three other guys in there that are very good," Clarke said. "We always want a variety in terms of seeing guys from all over the state.'

The West Suburban Conference doesn't have a conference tournament, so that opens up the schedule a bit more. Glenbard East in the DuPage Valley Conference can only schedule three tournaments because the DVC tourney, which is Feb. 1 at Naperville Central, counts as the fourth.

The Rams didn't compete in their first tournament until after Christmas and are backloading their tourney schedule. East has won two of the three invites it has competed in so far (Palatine and Urbana)

The powerhouse Montini program has had no problem



vs/Mark J. Peters for Shaw Media Montini's Anthony Ferraro celebrates after winning the 195pound title at the Class 2A state meet last year. Ferraro and the Broncos compete in some of the top tournaments in the Widwest to get ready for the challenges of the postseason.

finding tournaments since they leave the state on a regular basis. In addition to the trip to Detroit, the Broncos competed in the Iron Man Wrestling Tournament in Ohio and the Cheesehead Tournament in Wisconsin.

They choose to travel, but it's not necessary to leave the state to fine elite competition. Intermatwrestling.com's national high school rankings include four Illinois schools in its top 50.

"Illinois is one of the toughest wrestling states," Clarke said. "There's four or five premier tournaments in Illinois ev-

rea's wrestling contenders come into focus

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

With the wrestling state tournament series just around the corner, the favorites for postseason success from the area have emerged. Four public schools in the area, York, Addison Trail, Willowbrook and Glenbard East are all in the same Class 3A regional (Glenbard East) and sectional (Leyden). Here's a list of some of the top wrestlers from local schools.

York **Top wrestlers** Noah Fleckenstein, 195 pounds: The senior is already a two-time state qualifier and has two tournament titles in the past two weeks.

o Joe Helton, 220 pounds: Helton and his younger brother, sophomore T.J. (285 pounds) are both impressing. Joe is coming back from injury suffered late in football season and still wrestling well.

Glenbard East Top wrestlers

 Six state returners: The Rams brought back a ton of talent and may have the best team in the program's history. Car los Fuentez (106), Anfernee Rodgers (120), Dayton Olson (126), Jake Drew (132), Josh

Martin (145) and D'Andre Johnson (285) all made it to Champaign last year and are looking for more success at state this year

Addison Trail Top wrestlers Bobby Carson, 285 pounds:

After just missing out on state as a junior, Carson is primed for a better postseason run this season. He is 22-1

· Niko Rocha, 170 pounds: After qualifying for state, and winning a match there, last year, Rocha will be hoping to place at state in his senior year. He is currently 24-1.

Willowbrook **Top wrestlers** Jake Kroeger, 182 pounds:

After winning 41 matches a year ago, this senior is hoping to make his first trip to state. A tournament win at Hoffman Estates is among the high points of his season.

Matt Rowland, 152 pounds: Older brother Dan was the state runner-up at 170 pounds last year, and Rowland is maintaining the family name with a strong season as a sophomore. He has tournament wins at Hoffman Estates and Syca-

Top wrestlers Six returning state medalists:

As has been the case for the last several years, Montini is loaded. The Broncos are the favorite to win a seventh straight and 12th overall state title. Three defending champions (Chris Garcia, Xavier Montalvo and Anthony Ferraro) are back along with three other returning medalists (Jimmy Pawelski, Vince Turk and Edgar Ruano). Those six will be expected to do great things at state, and Montini has a stable of other wrestlers that also have a chance to medal, or even win, at state.

Suburban Life ATHLETE OF THE WEFK



JAMES **PUPILLO**

Addison Trail Senior | Basketball

Why Pupillo was selected:

Pupillo scored 30 points to help Addison Trail knock off West Suburban Gold rival Hinsdale South 62-57 on Jan. 17.

Addison Trail senior guard James Pupillo leads the Blazers in scoring and had a big game last Friday. He poured in a game-high 30 points to help AT beat Hinsdale South. a team ahead of them in the West Suburban Gold standings. Pupillo, the Oak Trust Credit Union Athlete of the Week, talked with Suburban Life sports reporter Dan Santaromita about the big win and the season in general.

How big of a win was that? It was a huge win. It was awesome. They were 11-4 coming in. They were a lot bigger than we were. The team played well.

Have you noticed progression with the team this season?

Were definitely a lot better than last year. I think we've

grown together. We've been through ups and downs this year, but were finally realizing how good we are and we're a lot more athletic. We're not bigger, but we're more

Are you under a lot of pressure to score a lot of points to help the team win?

Honestly, it is a tough spot to be in. I know that my team relies on me to score a lot, but I enjoy every bit of it. I like being in a big spot.

This is your fourth year on varsity. What's different about this team from the other three

Our chemistry is just a lot better. We're hanging out more as a team. The past years it's been separated by the different years.

This Athlete of the Week is brought to you by



Pupillo leads AT's progression

By DAN SANTAROMITA dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

ADDISON - Now in his fourth year on Addison Trail's boys basketball team, James Pupillo may have registered the best performance of his career Jan. 17.

The senior guard scored 30 me down [in the past] but I've points to help the Blazers come away with a surprise 62-57 victory over West Suburban Gold foe Hinsdale South.

The Blazers look to Pupillo to be the team's leading scorer and primary ballhandler, which is a lot to ask. He says he loves being in the pressure spot, though, and has lived up to the requirements.

Pupillo averaged 15.9 points per game and 3.2 assists per game last year and is up to 20.2 points and 4.8 assists this season. He also contributes with 4.6 rebounds and 2.5 steals per

"Every year I've improved my stat line," Pupillo said. "I've always been a gym rat. I feel like I've improved. I've had different injuries to slow

Next game

Who: Morton at Addison Trail When: 7:30 p.m. Friday Where: 213 N. Lombard Rd., Addison

WSG records: AT 2-2, Morton 3-1

worked on my ballhandling. I'm trying to be a scoring point guard.

This season he has been healthier, which is notable considering he missed nine games last year and was playing at less than 100 percent for much of the season. A healthy Pupillo has been a key to the Blazers' improved play this season.

AT's 7-11 record doesn't look spectacular, but the team has lost six games by seven points or less. The Blazers have a good chance to surpass last year's nine wins.

"We started off really strong and we've lost four games this year at the buzzer," Pupillo said. "We've had a lot of close games. Our season has been up

and down, but right now we're 2-1 in our last three games."

The latest buzzer beater defeat came at Lane Tech Jan. 11. Sandwiched around that 47-45 defeat were wins over Fenton and the recent Hinsdale South

Upcoming opponent Morton comes to Addison tonight after losing its first conference game to Proviso East last week. The Mustangs have a strong frontcourt, led by junior forward Weisner Perez, that will cause match up problems for the shorter Addison Trail

Pupillo won't shy away from the big moment. It will only give him another opportunity to prove he can play at the next level. His recruiting has picked up during the season.

"There were four or five coaches at the Hinsdale game that talked to me," he said. "I haven't got any offers yet, but I'm talking to some Division III [schools], Division IIs and NAIA. I know I don't pass the eye test, but I would ultimately like to play Division I."

DEP ROUNDUP

3 champs lead Blazers to third at tourney

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

Led by three champions, Addison Trail's wrestling team placed third at the Batavia Invite Jan. 18. Gilberto DeLa Paz (132 pounds), Niko Rocha (182) and Bobby Carson (285) each won titles. Erick DeLa Cruz (126) was a runnerup and Jake Pleckavic (126) was third.

GIRLS BASKETBALL Addison Trail

Morton defeated the Blazers 48-34 on Saturday in a West Suburban Gold game.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS Addison Trail

The Blazers placed fifth on Jan. 17.

at the Neuqua Valley Invitational on Saturday with a team score of 129.85.

BOYS BASKETBALL Willowbrook

The Warriors fell to 0-4 in s' the West Suburban Gold following a 67-38 loss at Leyden

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A COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION





ADDISON



County to host Heroin Prevention Forum on Jar

WHEATON — The DuPage Coalition Against Heroin will host a Heroin Prevention Forum on Thursday, January 23 at 6 p.m. at the DuPage County Administration Building auditorium, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton.

The forum is part of a series outreach efforts sponsored by the DuPage Coalition Against Heroin, which was recently organized by a group of DuPage County officials. DuPage County Judicial and Public Safety Committee Chairman Grant Eckhoff, said the County Board allocated \$100,000 for prevention efforts.

"Heroin is destroying our families as the addiction not only affects the users, but also their family, friends and community," he said. "Understanding that prevention is the key to saving lives, we felt that it was important to provide the tools and resources necessary to stop the epidemic and assist families who are struggling with the effects of the drug.

Prevention The Heroin Forum is intended for community members, parents and students. The program will provide details about heroin, its impact on the community and information about local resources. Featured speakers will include Bill Patrianokis of the Hero Epidemic Relief Organization (HERO) and Felicia Miceli of LTM Heroin Awareness and Support Foundation.

DuPage County students will also be recognized for partici-

pating in a county-wide contest that encouraged them to design public service announcements. billboards and videos educating their peers about heroin.

The contest was sponsored by the Coalition and DuPage County Regional Superintendent Dr. Darlene Ruscitti.

"The student contest was a

great way to encourage students to learn about the dangers associated with heroin as they created videos and billboards to educate their peers about the drug," Ruscitti said. "The submissions were extremely creative and will have a lasting

See FORUM, Page 4

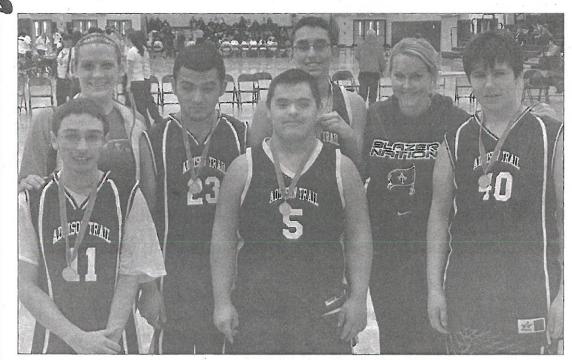


photo provided

AT Special Olympics basketball team take Bronze at Tourney

On January 12, the Addison Trail Special Olympics Basketball Team participated in the 2014 Special Olympics District C Basketball Tournament and finished in third place in Division 4. The tournament took place at Unity Junior High School in Cicero. Pictured are (from left): Coach Jessica Sokolowski, senior Anthony Corona, sophomore Alejandro Bueno, junior Johnny Rodriguez, junior Michael Andejeski, Coach Melissa Morales and junior Julian Madden.

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District 88 welcomes new assistant principals at AT, WB

On July 1, Addison Trail and Willowbrook will each welcome a new Assistant Principal to their administrative team - and they're both familiar faces to the schools.

Nevarez-Niewinski Iridia graduated from Addison Trail in 1992 and never dreamed she would be a leader of the school 12 years later.

She served as a Dean at Addison Trail from 2007 to 2012 and has been a Guidance Counselor for the school's ACHIEVE program since 2012. Starting on July 1, she will take on a new role at the school as an Assistant Principal.

has sponsored the INTERACT Club and the International Dance Show. She also helps with the Padres Latinos en Acción meetings.

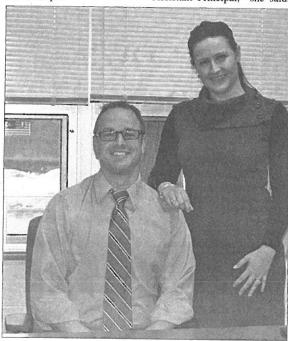
Nevarez-Niewinski began her career as a juvenile probation officer and later became a bilingual teacher in School District U-46 in Elgin. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Benedic-tine University in 1996 and has three master's degrees in edu-cation, educational administration and school counseling.

"Those experiences taught me important skills that have prepared me to become an Assistant Principal," she said. this school year after 19 years with District 88. Wildes said he's looking forward to sharing with and learning from the administrative team at Willowbrook.

"I want to make sure the staff and students know I'm here to support them and to develop into a Willowbrook team member," he said. "I'm excited to work with everyone to continue and enhance all the great things being done here. I want

staff and maintain our focus on putting kids first. The schools are a beacon for the community, and I'm truly excited for this next chapter in my life."

Wildes joined Addison Trail in 2003, serving as the Social Studies Department Chair from 2008 to 2012 and as Response to Intervention Coordinator from 2010 to 2012. He became ball and baseball during his years with the school. Wildes received his bachelor's degree in 2002 from Benedictine University and was a student teacher at Addison Trail before he was hired. He earned his master's degree in educational administration in 2007 from Northern Illinois University, and he's working toward his doctorate in educational admin-



Pictured are Addison Trail Assistant Principal Doug Wildes and Addison Trail ACHIEVE Guidance Counselor Iridia Nevaand Addison Irall ACHIEVE Guidance Counselor Iridia Neva-rez-Niewinski. On July 1, Wildes will join the Willowbrook administrative team and will succeed Assistant Principal Ann Kimpton, who will retire at the end of this school year after 19 years with District 88. Nevarez-Niewinski will join the Addison Trail administrative team as an Assistant Principal.

"In my previous positions, I've had the opportunity to work with amazing leaders who have inspired me to go for this role," she said. "It's a bit surreal. I never imagined I would return to Addison Trail let alone be an administrator."

The District 88 Board of Education approved Nevarez-Niewinski's new position during its Jan. 13 meeting. She will join the Addison Trail administrative team as an Assistant Principal, and

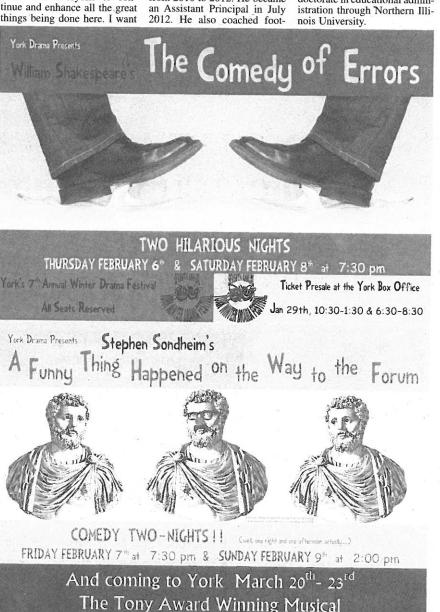
During her time at Addison Trail, she has started a club called LADIES, which aims to assist Latina students, and who will retire at the end of

"I know there will be challenges, but I look forward to working with this wonderful administrative team and offering a different perspective.'

She added her goal is to implement her visions to make sure Addison Trail continues to provide the best services possible to help all students succeed.

More about Doug Wildes...

Doug Wildes, who is currently an Assistant Principal at Addison Trail, will join the administrative team at Willowbrook. He will succeed Assistant Principal Ann Kimpton.



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Former AT baseball coach tabbed for IHSBCA Hall of Fame

Paul Parpet to be honored by HS baseball coaches association

ADDISON - For more than 30 years, Paul Parpet was a fixture of Addison Trail athletics. He joined the Addison Trail staff in 1976 as a physical education teacher and later taught driver's education and served as the Physical Education Department Chair. During his time at Addison Trail, Parpet coached baseball, football and basketball. He was named as Head Baseball Coach in 1990 and held that position until he retired in 2010.

After years of helping student-athletes reach their potential on and off the field, Parpet is being recognized for his own contributions, as he will be inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association (IHSBCA) Hall of Fame. That prestigious award recognizes those who have provided selfless efforts and longstanding commitments to improve high school

"Parpet has been an inspiration to both the students and athletes of Addison Trail," said Addison Trail Principal Adam Cibulka. "He has made a positive impact on countless students, both in the classroom and on the field. Coach Parpet's enthusiasm and love for his school and students are unrivaled. I am honored to have worked with him, and his legacy lives on today.

Although he retired three years ago, Parpet continues to coach the girls bowling team at Addison Trail, the football team at Downers Grove North and the baseball team at Downers Grove South. Parpet said coaching and teaching students will always be a part of who he is and that he is honored to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"Teaching and coaching are synonymous," Parpet said. "If you enjoy teaching, you're going to enjoy coaching. Being nominated for and receiving this award is a great honor. Any time you're recognized by your peers, it's pretty neat. This award isn't just for me – it's for the school and the community as well. I will always bleed Addison Trail navy blue and that school will forever be a huge part of my life.'

And this won't be Parpet's first hall of fame recognition. He was inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association (IHSFCA) Hall of Fame in 2002.

Parpet will be recognized during the IHSBCA Hall of Fame dinner at The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, 70 Yorktown Shopping Center in Lombard, on Saturday, January 25, beginning with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner. Tickets are \$50 each. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the IHSBCA, and reservations must be made by Jan. 18. To RSVP. or for more information, contact Don Sutherland at dsutherland@d155.org or 847-639-3825.

Addison co-sponsors award-winning mystery wri

Novelist Bryan Gruley to present "De-Mystifying Mysteries"

VILLA PARK - Edgarnominated mystery novelist Bryan Gruley will speak on "De-Mystifying Mysteries" at the Villa Park Public Library on Tuesday, February 4 at 7 p.m.

Gruley will discuss how he planned (or didn't plan) his accentual trilogy based in the fictional northern Michigan town of Starvation Lake. He will answer questions about whether or not to outline, how to employ dialogue and why he names his characters the way he does.

The free program, which is co-sponsored by the Addison Public Library, is one in a series of seminars featuring Chicago-area authors named Inside Writing & Publishing, DuPage Branch.

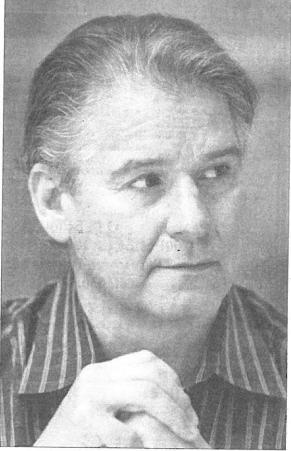
Bryan Gruley is the critically acclaimed author of Starvation Lake: A Mystery, and the sequel, The Hanging Tree. The paperback version of his third Starvation Lake mystery, The Skeleton Box, will be published June 4. Bestselling author Sara Paretsky calls Bryan "a gift-

ed writer" who in The Skeleton Box has "turned his gifts to the secrets and lies which ultimately rip apart Starvation Lake.'

Starvation Lake was nominated for an Edgar Award for Best First Novel by the Mystery Writers of America, and won the Anthony, Barry, and Strand awards. The Hanging Tree was a #1 Indie Next pick and was named a Michigan Notable Book for 2011 and a Kirkus Reviews Best Mystery of 2010. It was also nominated for Barry and Anthony awards and has been optioned for a movie by writer-director John Gray.

Bryan is a reporter-at-large for Bloomberg News, writing long-form features for Bloomberg Business Week magazine. He previously spent nearly 16 years with The Wall Street Journal, where he shared in the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

For more information, visit vppl.info or call 630-834-



BRYAN GRULEY

Fenton wrestling team defeats Ridgewood and Nazareth ranked wrestlers. Senior Jiven

Delgado and Cowan earn state rankings

By Mike Miazga

The Fenton wrestling team scored a pair of recent wins to move to 9-6 overall.

The Bison downed Ridgewood 44-25 in Metro Suburban Conference action and scored a 51-27 win over Nazareth in a non-conference dual. The win over Ridgewood pushed Fenton to 3-0 in conference play.

"We have been plagued by injuries all season, but we are slowly getting healthier," said Fenton coach Brian Hastings. Fenton does have two state-

Correspondent

at 126 and earned a No. 6 state ranking. Sophomore heavyweight Marshawn Bunch sported a 10-5 mark and scored pinfall wins against Ridgewood and

Delgado is 21-4 and is ranked

eighth in the state at 106

pounds. He won the Geneva

"Jiven has been improving

tremendously," said Hastings.
Alex Cowan, a senior, is 18-4

Newbill tournament recently.

Nazareth. Junior Oscar Ledezma (132) also scored pinfall wins over Ridgewood and Nazareth and was 15-9 overall.

Junior Antoine Bess sported a 16-10 mark at 120. "Antoine has been an extremely solid producer for us throughout the

year," said Hastings.

Junior Juan Alfaro was 15-12 at 182. "Juan is very tough and has wrestled great competition throughout the season," said Hastings.

Sophomore Eric Lonergan was 11-9 at 195 pounds.

"The guys have responded well and different wrestlers have stepped up throughout the season," said Hastings. "We are hoping to continue to do well in conference and expect to have a number of individuals perform well in the post-season tournaments. Like always, we anticipate seeing continued improvement in terms of technique, conditioning and mentality.

Fenton girls bowling The Fenton girls bowling

team has only one senior on the roster this year.

"We have a young team this year," said coach Lee Cassidy. "We have had some ups and downs.

Fenton sported a .500 mark in dual meets through late last week. The Bison finished first in their bracket at the Mt. Prospect tournament.

"We need to continue to work on picking up spare shots. to become more successful," said Cassidy. "The entire team works well together and continues to work toward developing good habits. We are looking forward to a successful push at regional time and working hard to get to the state meet."

Fenton boys swimming The Fenton boys swimming team features four competitors on the varsity and 14 juniorvarsity swimmers.

"Our young JV team is a strength for us," said Fenton coach Jim Janota.

The JV team scored a win over Elgin recently.

Promising swimmers on the team include the likes of Mike LaPorte (breaststroke, 200 IM), Adrian Nevarez (50, 100), Cole Bush (butterfly) and freshman Mike Natiello (500 and breaststroke).

Fenton graduated seniors from last year's team.

This basically is a rebuilding year with a shortage of varsity swimmers," said Janota.
"The guys are working hard in practice and are continuing to drop their times at each meet.

Willowbrook girls basketball team continues winning ways Warriors go undefeated through seven conference

games By Mike Miazga Correspondent

The wins continue to pile up for the Willowbrook girls basketball team.

The Warriors were 16-2 overall and a perfect 7-0 in West Suburban Conference Gold Division play through late

Willowbrook is in the midst of a big week of games. The Warriors played Providence Catholic in the McDonald's Shootout at Willowbrook on Monday. The Warriors also had games slated

this week with Glenbard South, Proviso East and Addison Trail.

"It's a big week for us," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell. "If we can come through this week unscathed, it will be a good week for us. We know we'll need all hands on deck. As long as we play hard and focus on each game, I think we will do fine.'

Harrell said one big key for the team this year has been it's defensive prow-

"We're playing good defense," he said. "We're able to turn teams over and we're able to run out on teams. Our two losses this year we weren't able to run on teams."

Molly Krawczykowski is the team's

leading scorer at 16.5 points per game. "Molly is having a very good year,"

said Harrell. "Molly could play basketball at the college level but she's going to run track at Illinois State."

Willowbrook also has benefited from balanced scoring beyond Krawczykowski.

"Everybody else in the lineup is averaging between seven and nine points a game," said Harrell. "We're very good defensively and we're getting balanced scoring. We're not a big scoring team. We're averaging just under 60 points a game. We don't have that one girl who is going to score 26 or 27 point every

Harrell also has been pleased with the team's rebounding.

"We've been very good on the glass and we're a pretty short team," he said. "That boils down to hustle because

we're not that tall. It's up to the girls to hustle and put a body on people and control the glass. Because we're so quick, we've been able to run down a lot of balls."

Harrell also cited strong recent play from Olivia Domin and Lauren Carroll.

"Olivia leads us in steals and Lauren takes on the other teams' better offensive players," said Harrell. "Overall, we've been a very good defensive team."

Harrell said this year's success is a product of building the program.

"A lot of kids on this team have been in our youth program since they were in the fifth or sixth grade," he said. "They have matured as basketball players and it's paying dividends."

Willowbrook wrestling team battling through injuries

Rowland 31-2 at 152 pounds for Warriors

By Mike Miazga Correspondent

The Willowbrook wrestling team has had its share of setbacks this season.

"We've had illnesses and injuries. It's been a tough year," said Willowbrook coach Bryan Murphy. "We're forfeiting three or four weight classes each meet. We're giving up as many as 24 points every time out."

The Warriors were 0-3 through their first three West Suburban Conference Gold Division meets.

"The positive thing is we've been in those matches," said Murphy. "We lost 34-26 to Downers South and that came down to the last match. We lost 43-33 to Leyden and that came down to the last match. We lost to Morton 41-32 and that could have gone either way. We have a lot of young guys in the lineup right now who are helping us. We have as many as seven sophomores in the lineup at some time or another."

On the individual front, Willowbrook sophomore Matt Rowland was 31-2 through late last week at 152 pounds.

'Matt is the real deal," said Murphy. "He's going to move into the No. 7 spot all-time in school history in takedowns and he's only a sophomore. That covers more than 50 years of school history. He's a takedown machine. He had 28 takedowns and won the Sycamore tournament. Think of what he'll have after four vears here."

Sophomore Andrew Verr was 13-6 at 113 pounds. He's won his last four matches.

Senior Jake Kroeger is 10-3 at 182. He's been sidelined in recent times by illness.

Both Rowland and Kroeger won titles at Hoffman Estates, while Rowland also won the Sycamore tournament and took seventh at the tough Dvorak tournament.

Junior Christian Chavez is 20-8 at 220 pounds.

"He's been solid for us in conference," said Murphy. said Murphy. "He's a junior who doesn't have a lot of varsity experience yet. He wrestled once for us as a sophomore last year and helped us win a big meet. He's really solid."

Willowbrook has conference dual meets upcoming against Proviso East and Addison Trail. The match against Proviso East on Friday will be senior and alumni night at Willowbrook. It also will mark the final home meet for longtime coach Murphy, who is retiring at season's end.

"Team-wise, we've had a lot of injuries and illnesses, so it hasn't been a big team sea-son," said Murphy. "We're trying to finish strong. We'd like to get three guys to the state meet and come home with a couple of place-finishers."

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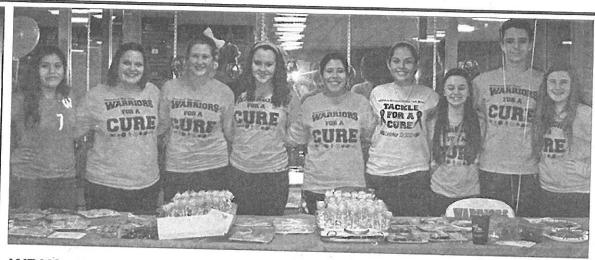
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WBHS raises over \$1,000 at Paint the Gym Pink event

photo provided

Pictured are Willowbrook Relay For Life Committee members (from left) freshman Rosalinda Hernandez, Willowbrook teacher and faculty adviser Kate Wilson, freshman Allie Santelli, freshman Jamie Chiappetta, senior Alison Aguilar, senior Perla Hernandez, freshman Kiana Gleason, freshman Michael Dembowski and freshman Julia Holden. On Jan. 10, the committee hosted its fourth annual Paint the Gym Pink event, which included raffles and a bake sale. The event raised \$1,002 to benefit the 2014 Relay For Life of District 88 All Youth.

WB Relay Committee 'Paints Gym Pink'

VILLA PARK — On Jan. 10, the Willowbrook Relay For Life Committee hosted its fourth annual Paint the Gym Pink event during the Varsity Girls Basketball game.

Students decorated the gym pink and hosted raffles and a bake sale, which raised \$1,002 to benefit the 2014 Relay

For Life of District 88 All Youth event. "It has been wonderful to see Relay

For Life grow the past three years, said Kate Wilson, Willowbrook Relay For Life faculty adviser. "Watching our students learn about giving back and building a relationship with the American Cancer Society is really inspiring.

I can't wait to see what our students do next!

The 2014 Relay For Life of District 88 All Youth event will take place March 15 at Willowbrook. For more information, or to make a donation, contact Wilson at kwilson@dupage88.net or 630-782-2863

• STUDY

Continued from page 1

that area

"I would like to see the whole Village studied," said Trustee Don Kase. "It makes sense to cover the whole town.

The Board agreed to consider a revised proposal covering the entire Village. Burke will update their proposal and include the cost of studying Sugar Creek.

The subject of flooding is complicated, according to Juskelis, because the problem is not localized to just Villa

WASHINGTON — Last week, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) released the following statement regarding the 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act. which passed the House by a vote of 359-67:

"In my first year on the Appropriations Committee, I've been proud to fight for infrastructure and public safety programs that will strengthen the Chicago area economy, create jobs and increase safety in our local communities. The 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act represents the bipar66 I would like to see the whole Village studied. It makes sense to cover the whole town."

"The challenge is to find out where the water is coming from and figure where it can be put with no harm to others,' he said.

Christopher B. Burke, Ltd., has performed similar studies in neighboring towns and throughout the area. The most

- Trustee Don Kase recent such study was commissioned in Elmhurst, which experienced severe flooding during the last five years. The cost of engineering studies to determine recommended repairs, including drainage basins, retention ponds and sewer updates, was nearly \$70 million.

"We will look at a fiveyear plan," Juskelis said. "We already have drainage and will perform hydraulic analysis of sewers. We will also look at the proposed solutions and costs involved in the (Burke) summary report.'

The Board of Trustees promised further discussions on the proposed study before a first reading/vote at the Monday, January 27 Village Board meet-

Quigley speaks out on 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act

tisan compromise needed to move Chicago and America forward, providing some relief from the devastating sequester cuts that have harmed our economic growth and recovery. While I am encouraged by the bipartisan precedent this bill sets for next year's appropriations process, this bill is far from perfect, and I will continue fighting for increased invest-

ments in Chicago's future." As the only Illinois member of the House Committee on Appropriations, Rep. Quigley used his position during the 2014 Appropriations process to advocate for several programs including the following, which may could affect the residents in the Independent's readership

· Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants: \$600 million will be available for a variety of infrastructure projects in the Chicago area, including the Elgin-O'Hare Western Access Project.

 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grant: \$214 million will be available for local communities to increase police officer

hiring. Rep. Quigley fought for increased COPS funding in the FY14 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Act, and Chicago secured nearly \$1.9 million in COPS funding last

· Firefighter Hiring Grants: \$680 million will be available for local communities to increase firefighter hiring. Just this month, the Franklin Park Fire Department secured a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant totaling \$461,724

See QUIGLEY, Page 6

LOMBARDIAN VILLA PARK REVIEW

Sports

Warriors return to action with an impressive win

The Willowbrook girls basketball team played its first game in nine days when it faced the Providence Catholic Celtics on Monday morning at the 24th annual McDonald's Shootout, an event that featured a total of 18 games on Friday, Saturday and Monday. The Warriors cruised to a 67-51 homecourt victory in Villa Park to improve their overall season record to 17-2.

The Warriors, who did not play any games last week—exam week at Willowbrook—held a 12-4 lead over the Celtics at the end of the first quarter and a 27-16 edge at halftime. The Willowbrook offense kicked into high gear during the third quarter, when the Warriors outscored Providence Catholic 23-14.

Senior Molly Krawczykowski scored a team-leading 20 points for Willowbrook. Krawczykowski, the team's leading scorer in 16 of 19 games this season, made eight of 12 shots from the floor, including one of two attempts from 3-point range. She also converted three of four shots from the foul line and dished out a team-high five assists. She scored her final two points of the game with a pair of free throws that gave Willowbrook a 50-28 lead in the closing seconds of the third quarter.

"We've been practicing a lot," said Krawczykowski after Monday's victory. "We haven't had any games, but we've been ready to play."

Senior Olivia Domin, who made a pair of 3-point shots in the second half, contributed 15 points and four assists. Domin's first 3-point shot gave the Warriors a 44-26 advantage with about two minutes to play in the third quarter. Her next 3-pointer gave the Warriors their largest lead of the day—a 61-37 edge with about five minutes remaining in the game.

The Willowbrook-Providence Catholic battle was the first of Monday's eight games at the McDonald's Shootout—a showcase event featuring several of the top programs in the Chicago area. The competition also attracted two teams from Indiana and one team from Ohio, as well as numerous collegiate coaches who are constantly searching for talented players. The shootout also included eight games on Saturday. The Warriors did not play on Saturday, but they helped out during the day and had a chance to watch plenty of basketball.

"They got pumped up watching games on Saturday," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell after Monday's game, which tipped off at 9 a.m. "The energy was good today. They played a really good game."

Sophomore Josie Zabran, who moved up to the varsity in December after averaging 28 points per game for the sophomore team, provided 13 points and a team-leading 11 rebounds.

"If I call somebody up, they're playing; I don't call them up to watch," said Harrell in speaking of Zabran, who delivers most of her scoring with inside baskets. "Josie has a Crayola box full of post moves," added Harrell. "She puts pressure on the interior defense, which helps us on the perimeter by freeing up our outside jump shooters."

"I just came up to help out," said

Zabran. "The girls are so nice. They help me out a lot and made me feel a lot better."

Senior Melissa Rader provided six points and eight rebounds.

The Warriors' busy week continues with three more home games—a non-conference battle with Glenbard South and West Suburban Gold Conference contests against Proviso East (on Thursday) and Addison Trail (on Saturday). Willowbrook enters the week with an unblemished 7-0 conference record. The Warriors opened the second half of their WSGC schedule with a 69-32 victory at Leyden on Jan. 11.

Last season's Willowbrook team posted a 22-6 record and lost to Schaumburg in an IHSA Class 4A regional final. The 2013-14 Warriors are on pace to produce more victories than last year's team, but the current team isn't focused on its overall record."

"We had a couple of goals [going into the season]—to go undefeated in conference and to win our regional," Krawczykowski said. "We didn't really have any goals for our record."

"To be honest, I expected to win 20 games this season," said Harrell. "But I didn't expect us to be 17-2."

Montini

The Broncos posted a 56-40 victory over Bolingbrook in Monday's sixth game of the McDonald's Shootout Montini, which improved its overall record to 21-1, built a 15-3 lead by the end of the first quarter. The Broncos led the Raiders 30-15 at halftime and 44-26 by the end of the third period. Montini

(Continued on the next page)



Top scorer...

Photos by Chris Fox

SENIOR MOLLY KRAWCZYKOWSKI (above) of the Willowbrook girls basketball team scored 20 points to lead the Warriors to a 67-51 victory over Providence Catholic in a game at the McDonald's Shootout in Villa Park. Krawczykowski led all Willowbrook scorers for the 16th time in 19 games this season. The win gave the Warriors a record of 17-2.

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LOMBARD FALCONS

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Lombard Junior Football League Secretary at 630.495.0587 or secretary@lombardfalcons.net

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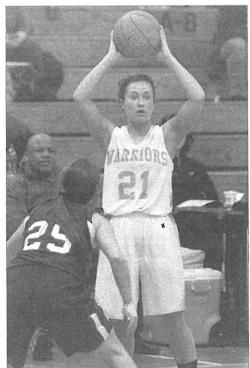
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The Lombard Falcons is a franchise of the Bill George Youth Football League. The Falcons are a volunteer, not-for-profit organization funded by participation fees, fundraisers, donations and sponsorships The league offers boys and girls, ages 5-14, the opportunity to participate in an organized football and cheerleading program.

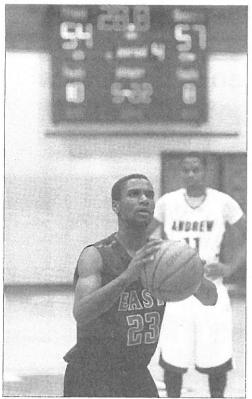
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Parents, we need your assistance. Help support your child by becoming a Lombard Falcons volunteer. Opportunities are available for football, cheer, field, spirit wear, and concessions.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Senior leadership...

WILLOWBROOK SENIOR Olivia Domin (above) looks to pass to a teammate during Monday's girls basketball game against Providence Catholic. Domin scored 15 points and handed out four assists to help her team to a 67-51 victory. Domin's 15-point output included two 3-point shots during the second half. The photo shows Willowbrook head coach Terry Harrell (left) watching the action from the sideline.

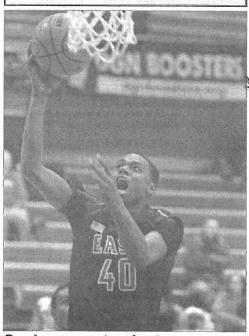


A strong finish...

Photos by Chris Fox

GLENBARD EAST SENIOR JaRon Hall (above) prepares to shoot a free throw in the closing seconds of Saturday's boys basketball game against Andrew at the Downers Grove North High School Winter Classic. Hall made two free throws to give the Rams a 59-54 lead with 28.8 seconds to play. The Rams defeated Andrew 60-54, Hall scored 13 of his 21 points during the fourth quarter. He converted six of seven throws during the last 64 seconds and scored his team's last eight points.

Please send sports-related e-mail to: sports@lbvpr.com



Sophomore standout...

SOPHOMORE PATRICK PETERKIN (above) of Glenbard East's boys basketball team drives to the hoop for a fourth-quarter basket during Saturday's game against Andrew. Peterkin's basket tied the score at 42-42 early in the fourth quarter. Peterkin scored a team-leading 24 points to help the Rams to a 60-54 victory over the Thunderbolts at the Downers Grove North Winter Classic.

Hall's late surge lifts Rams to a win

Glenbard East's boys basketball team rebounded from Friday night's DuPage Valley Conference loss at Lake Park to pull out a 60-54 victory over Andrew on Saturday afternoon at the Downers Grove North High School Winter Classic—a one-day event featuring one girls game followed by four boys gaines.

Senior JaRon Hall carried the Rams to the victory by scoring 13 of his team's last 16 points of the game. Hall's 13-point barrage in the final quarter included six free throws in the final 64 seconds. He scored Glenbard East's last eight noints.

Saturday's victory gave the Rams an overall record of 4-13.

"We're struggling just to get wins," said Glenbard East coach Scott Miller after the win. "To get to that point, you have to learn how to win. Overall, we played really well. We just had two stretches when we let them back in the game."

The Rams held a 27-12 lead over Andrew with about three minutes left in the second quarter. The Thunderbolts cut the lead to 27-21 by halftime. Glenbard East's lead grew to 35-25 midway through the third quarter, but Andrew closed the Rams' advantage to 38-37 by the end of the period. Andrew seized a 40-38 lead following a 3-point shot at the beginning of the fourth quarter. Sophomore Patrick Peterkin provided Glenbard East's next two basketsone tied the game at 40-40, while the next evened the score at 42-42 with over six minutes to play. Freshman Michael Finley made two free throws for the Rams to tie the score at 44-44

with 5:10 left in the game. Hall then caught fire, scoring with 4:48 to play to give the Rams a 46-44 lead and adding a 3-point shot at the 4:12 mark to propel his team to a 49-45 advantage. Andrew scored the game's next basket to cut Glenbard East's lead to 49-47. Peterkin's 3-pointer with 2:48 remaining gave the Rams a 52-47 lead with 2:48 to play.

Andrew made a free throw with less than two minutes to play and added a 3-point shot at the 1:13 mark to cut Glenbard East's lead to 52-51. Hall drove to the basket on the ensuing possession and scored with 1:04 remaining. He was fouled and made the free throw to increase the Rams' lead to 55-51.

Hall returned to the line with his team holding a 55-53 edge with 43.5 seconds to play. He made both free throws. Hall sank two more foul shots with 28.8 seconds left to extend the Rams' lead to 59-54. Hall made one of two free throws with 14.8 seconds to play to close out the day's scoring.

"That's what you want from your senior," said Miller of Hall. "We want the ball in his hands at the end of the game. He stepped up."

Peterkin led the Rams in scoring with 24 points. Hall added 21 points—eight in the first quarter and 13 in the fourth quarter. Finley contributed seven points, while sophomore Jack Grigat scored five points.

The Rams were unable to deliver a strong finish in Friday's 44-35 conference loss at Lake Park. Glenbard East and the Lancers were tied at 20-20 at halftime. The Rams held a 30-28 lead with eight minutes to play, but eight fourth-quarter turnovers and a one-of-five effort from the foul line in the final period helped to drop Glenbard East's conference record to 0-6. The Rams made four of 14 free-throw attempts throughout Friday's game.

Hall made six field goals, including a pair of 3-pointers, and finished with 14 points against Lake Park. Peterkin added 11 points.

The Rams will complete the first of the DuPage Conference season with this Friday's home game against Wheaton Warrenville South. Glenbard East will play another home game on Saturday, taking on Palatine in the third annual "When Sides Collide" shootout. The first contest of the three-game event features Plainfield East against Sandburg. That game will tip off at 4 p.m. The Glenbard East/Palatine game will begin at about 5:30, followed by a battle between Stevenson and Marian Central Catholic (of Chicago Heights) at around 7:30 p.m. The third game will feature Stevenson junior Jalen Brunson, one of the top players in the country, and Marian Central senior point guard Tyler Ulis, who will play for the University of Kentucky.

Tickets for Saturday's three-game shootout are available at Glenbard East during the week for \$6 per person. Tickets will be \$8 per person at the door. For more information, call the Glenbard East athletic office at 630-424-6700.

Rams win team title in Urbana

The Glenbard East wrestling team captured six individual titles on its way to winning the overall team championship at Saturday's Urbana Invitational. The Rams amassed 253 total points in their first-place performance at the event, which included 15 teams. Jacobs High School of Algonquin finished second with 195.5 points, while Marion High School (181 points) claimed third place.

Senior Carlos Fuentez was one of the six Rams to win an individual title in Champaign. Fuentez won four straight matches to earn the title in the 106-pound weight class. The four victories gave Fuentez an

overall season record of 27-2.

Senior Dayton Olson won the 126-pound title in Urbana, winning four straight matches to improve his season record to 25-2. Senior Jake Drew, who, like Olson, won four matches to move his record to 25-2, secured the championship in the 132-pound division.

Senior Josh Martin earned the title in the 145-pound weight class with four straight victories. Martin's season record improved to 22-2. Sophomore Bryan Andrews, who has had limited varsity experience this season, won the title in the 195-pound division. Andrews captured first-place honors

following his 6-4 overtime win in the championship match. Junior D'Andre Johnson earned the title in the 285-pound weight division with a dominant performance. Johnson, whose record now stands at 28-2, won his first match in Urbana with a bye. He pinned his next three opponents.

Sophomore Drew Fugiel, who competed in the 113-pound division, and senior Anfarnee Rodgers of the 120-pound level both earned second-place finishes. Junior Sean Corey (170 pounds) placed third, while senior Zach Wehde took fourth place in the 138-pound division.

Basketball...

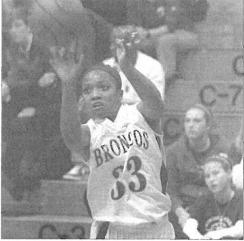
(Continued from the previous page) led by as many as 23 points—a 42-19 lead late in the third quarter.

Senior Kateri Stone provided a team-leading 13 points for Montini. She also grabbed 10 rebounds. Stone converted two of eight attempts from 3-point range and three of four shots from inside the 3-point arc. The Broncos connected on four of 19 attempts from 3-point territory. They made 17 of 35 shots from 2-point range and sank 10 of 20 free throws.

Senior Sara Ross and junior Rainey Kuykendall both scored 10 points. Ross pulled down a team-high 11 rebounds for the Broncos, who earned their 16th consecutive win. The team's only loss of the season is a 48-43 decision against Wheaton Warrenville South on Nov. 29.

Montini coach Jason Nichols was not thrilled with the way the Broncos closed out the game against Bolingbrook.

"We have a tendency to just get complacent and go through the motions," said Nichols in his postgame comments. "You saw that happen. I was very discouraged by how we played after being up [early in the game]."



The Broncos win again...

SENIOR SARA ROSS (above) of the Montini girls basketball team launches a shot during the fourth quarter of Monday's game against Bolingbrook at the McDonald's Shootout at Willowbrook High School in Villa Park. Ross delivered 10 points and 11 rebounds to help the Broncos to a 56-40 victory. Montini earned its 16th straight win and improved its overall season record to 21-1.

Relay For Life...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL'S Relay For Life Committee held its fourth annual "Paint the Gym Pink" event during the Jan. 10 varsity girls basketball game. Students decorated the gym pink and hosted raffles and a bake sale, raising just over \$1,000 to benefit the upcoming 2014 Relay For Life of District 88 All Youth event That event, which will benefit the American Cancer Society, will take place at the school on March 15. The photo shows members of the committee at the bake sale just outside of the main gymnasium. Pictured from left to right are: freshman Rosalinda Hernandez Willowbrook teacher and faculty adviser Kate Wilson, freshman Allie Santelli, freshman Jamie Chiappetta, senior Alison Aguilar, senior Perla Hernandez, freshman Kiana Gleason, freshman Michael Dembowski and freshman Julia Holden. "It has been wonderful to see Relay For Life grow the past three years," said Wilson, the Willowbrook Relay For Life faculty adviser. "Watching our students learn about giving back and building a relationship with the American Cancer Society is really inspiring." For more information about the 2014 Relay For Life of District 88 All Youth event, contact Wilson at kwilson@dupage88.net, or at 630-



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Cullerton looks back on his first year in the state senate

by Chris Fox

Illinois State Senator Tom Cullerton recently completed his first year representing the residents of the 23rd District in Springfield. The 44-year-old Democrat spent eight years on the Villa Park Village Board from 2005 to 2013. He was elected to the board as a trustee in 2005. Four years later, he won election to serve as village president.

Cullerton, who was elected to a four-year term in the state senate in November 2012, took office on Jan. 9, 2013. The 23rd District includes Villa Park and more than one dozen other municipalities in DuPage County. Cullerton had about 22,000 constituents when he served on the Villa Park Village Board. As a state senator, he has more than 10 times as many constituents—roughly 230,000 people. Cullerton is one of 59 members of the Illinois State Senate. Democrats hold 40 of the 59 seats, while Republicans hold 19 seats.

Last week, Cullerton reflected on his first year in the senate during a conversation at his district office, located at 338 S. Ardmore Ave., in Villa Park.

"It's been a whirlwind of issues, topics and legislation," said Cullerton, who is preparing for another legislative session, which normally runs from January through May. "In addition to passing a budget, there was medical marijuana, conceal and carry, marriage equality, fracking and pensions, on top of all of the other bills out there."

Cullerton estimated that he cast approximately 1,000 votes—including votes on committees—during his first year in the senate. As for the passed legislation on the aforementioned issues, he noted that he voted against the final pension bill that was passed. He voted in favor of the legislation regarding conceal and carry, medical marijuana, samesex marriage and fracking.

Another law that Cullerton voted for

Another law that Cullerton voted for requires drivers to use a hands-free device while talking on their cell phones. That law went into effect on Jan. 1.

"I wasn't sure about it when it was first brought up," said Cullerton. "Then I started talking to people in the district. You'd be amazed at how many people get so upset when they drive behind people or next to people who are talking on their cell phones. It turned our nearly everybody I talked to said it [the law requiring hands-free devices] was a great idea."



One year in office...

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR Tom Cullerton (above) posed for a picture in his Villa Park office last week. Cullerton, who spent eight years on the Villa Park Village Board, including four years as village president, was elected to the state senate by voters in the 23rd District in November 2012. He entered the senate on Jan. 9, 2013. There about 230,000 residents in the 23rd District (shown below in a map from the Illinois State Board of Elections, which includes Villa Park and several other DuPage County municipalities. The state's annual legislative session runs from January through May. Cullerton, who resides in Villa Park with his wife Stacey and their three sons, plans to run for re-election in 2016.

Cullerton said that constituents regularly contact his Villa Park office seeking help or information about a variety of topics. "We answer phone calls all day, and people

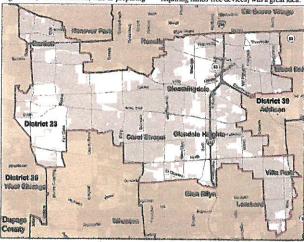
"We answer phone calls all day, and people come in with questions," he said. "I lost my job; who do I talk to? My house is being foreclosed on; who can I talk to? My grandmother is sick; we need help putting her into a nursing home. Why are the state police taking so long processing my FOID [firearm owner's ID] card? Most of the time, we are able to get them to where they need to be. We'll make the calls. Our goal is to be a resource for people and to help them."

There are two full-time staff members in Cullerton's Villa Park office. He also has an office in Springfield, where he can rely on a legislative aide and staffers who serve the entire senate and aren't assigned to work for a particular senator.

In addition to talking with constituents, Cullerton holds frequent discussions with many other people who are interested in his services, and his vote in the state senate. He regularly speaks with village managers and elected officials from municipalities in the district. He also talks with his colleagues in the state senate and the state house, as well as employees of various state agencies. He also hears from representatives of companies regarding a variety of issues.

"There was a constant stream of people introducing themselves to me," said Cullerton in recalling the weeks after his election to the state senate. "I met the department head of

(Continued on the next page)



Villa Park's Roosevelt Road Walgreens hit by lone gunman

by Bonnie MacKay _

A male subject, reportedly armed with a gun, brought his own plastic bag to a Villa Park pharmacy Saturday night and left with the bag filled with an undetermined amount of cash.

Police reports show that a male subject, entered Walgreens, 200 E. Roosevelt Road, where there were a number of customers in the store, and reportedly implied he had a gun. The subject told the cashier to empty the register drawer and place the cash in his plastic bag. The subject fled on foot northbound on Summit.

Police responded to the store at about 7:28 p.m. on Jan. 18, where they processed the scene and conducted a canvass of the

A K-9 unit also responded to the scene. According to Villa Park Police Detective Sgt. Dan McCann, the K-9 tracked footprints to an area on Summit, where a vehicle apparently was parked. The sergeant said investigators believe that the suspect may have left in this vehicle, which apparently was parked just north of the store.

The subject was described as a white male in his 40s, about 5 feet 10 inches tail. He is shown in a picture from a surveillance tape at right.

McCann said he is unaware of any other robberies of a Walgreens store in the area.

Anyone with information on the robbery or the subject is asked to contact Villa Park police at 630-834-7447.



THE SUBJECT wanted by police for the alleged armed robbery of a Walgreens store in Villa Park is shown in a picture from a surveillance video. Anyone with information on the subject or the robbery is asked to contact Villa Park investigators at 630-834-7447.

Cullerton...

(Continued from the previous page)

every state agency. Also, every corporation in the state has a legislative affairs office. I heard from people with information about Comcast, about AT&T, NICOR, coal mining, fracking, garbage disposal, just about anything. It's beneficial to know a lot of people."

Cullerton says that while lobbyists for companies and issues are often viewed in a negative light, they can help lawmakers by providing pertinent information.

"Lobbyists talk to us about an issue and give us the facts," he said. "There is a lobbyist on each side of the issue. Their jobs are to advocate for their sides."

When considering an issue, Cullerton said he frequently consults the mayors, village presidents and village managers from the district that he met while he was a member of the Villa Park Village Board.

"I rely a lot on those relationships I established," he said. "I'll call them and ask them what's going on and find out how something will help us or hurt us."

Cullerton said that while the state has a poor record of paying its bills on time, the amount of unpaid back bills has dropped from \$9\$ billion to \$5.5 billion in the last year. In discussing the past year, Cullerton also referred to his role in passing a resolution to open I-390, which will provide western access to O'Hare International Airport. Cullerton attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the project late last year. He said the project, which will take several years to complete, will be highly beneficial to freight traffic into and out of O'Hare. He said he hopes that the project will eventually lead to travelers using western access to O'Hare to access airport terminals.

Reviewing his first year in the senate, Cullerton also noted his work with Democrats and Republicans on legislation to consolidate units of government in DuPage County.

"There are 7,000 units of government in the state, and a lot of them aren't working well together," said Cullerton, who mentioned mosquito abatement districts, fire protection districts and lighting districts. "All of those bodies were formed down in Springfield. We're going to start working to merge some units or partner them with other agencies. We're trying to find a more efficient way to deliver services without reducing the quality of service to residents."

Less than two weeks after he was elected to the state senate, Cullerton's job with Hostess Brands vanished when the company announced it would close. Having won the election, Cullerton had already stated he would have left his job with Hostess. Each state senator in Illinois earns an annual salary of about \$67,000, plus per diem pay for each day the senate is in session. From January through May, Cullerton said he will be in Springfield three or four days a week while the senate is in session. While in the state capital, Cullerton stays in a hotel. Cullerton and his fellow senators will spend almost the entire month of May in Springfield.

"This is my job," said Cullerton, who added that he intends to run for re-election in 2016. "My job is to listen to the people of the 23rd District and get their feedback on how they would like me to vote down in Springfield. You're never going to make everybody happy. There's no way you can do that, but what you can do is make sure everybody knows where you stand. If you can take a position and explain it, and if you are always straightforward with people, they will understand where you're coming from."

To contact Cullerton's Villa Park office, call 630-903-6662. His official Web site is www.senatortomcullerton.com.

Library offers career tips

The Villa Park Public Library will hold a Career' Re-launcher Workshop (The CREW) on three upcoming Saturdays. The three sessions will take place on Feb. 1, March 15 and April 5. Each workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the library, which is located at 305 S. Ardmore Ave.

The morning-long workshop is designed to provide practical, actionable and relevant advice to those who are attempting to revive an old career or begin a new one. The session is perticularly helpful for those who have been laid-off, reorganized or fired.

Tom Somora, an employment services representative with the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), will participants with tools to re-enter the job market and find a rewarding and fulfilling career.

Space is limited. For more information, or to register, call the library at 630-834-



Environmental club's contributions to continue in 2014 ...

MEMBERS OF THE WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL Environmental Club are pictured picking up litter during the fall of 2013 at York/High Ridge, which is located just west of the school grounds on Highridge Road. York/High Ridge is part of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. This spring, the Willowbrook Environmental Club will help the forest preserve district remove invasive species from local preserves. Pictured above (left to right) are: junior Matt D'Alessandro, junior Howard Rauenzahn, senior Veronica Palma, senior Kevin Monaco, sophomore David Sanchez, sophomore Jorge Saenz, senior Omer Raza, senior Colton Flak, senior Trevonta Diggs, Senior Ranger Daniel Hebreard, Willowbrook teacher Justine Bryers, junior Adriana Garcia, junior Kayla Denwood, freshman Kyla Denwood and senior Tuba Altaf.

Village releases information on snow and ice control on streets

The Village of Villa Park recently issued this release and list of arterial streets. For more information, call the public works department at 630-834-8505.

The Village of Villa Park's Public Works Department is responsible for snow and ice control on all streets within the village's corporate limits. Exceptions are North Avenue, Roosevelt Road and Route 83 (maintained by the Illinois Department of Transportation) and Villa Avenue north of North Avenue (DuPage County).

The public works department's snow plowing operations start upon the accumulation of the first 2 inches of snow. Refer to the list [right], which indicates the arterial streets. No parking is permitted on these "snow route" streets after a snowfall of 2 inches or more until after the storm has ended and all the snow route streets have been completely cleared. Violators will be subject to ticketing and/or towing.

The village revised its salting policy for secondary streets several years ago due to skyrocketing salt prices, and to control the cost of manpower and equipment. The village does not routinely salt secondary streets unless warranted due to icy conditions. Snow plowing begins after the accumulation of 2 inches of snow during normal business hours (4 inches at night). Secondary stop intersections are salted on an as-needed basis.

We urge motorists to use caution when navigating secondary streets. All residents are within two blocks of main arterial streets that will be plowed and salted for safe travel. When a 2-inch or more snow accumulation is predicted, keep garbage cans 4 feet back from the curb to eliminate or prevent garbage spills. In the case of a major storm (when snowfall is predicted to exceed 8 inches) it may only be possible to keep a center lane open on secondary streets for emergency vehicles until the snowfall stops.

On-street parking is a major factor preventing effective snow removal. Therefore, the village is enlisting the residents' cooperation in planning ahead to remove their cars from the street when 2 inches or more of snowfall occurs.

ARTERIAL STREETS

These arterial streets and highways are those that are cleared first by snowplowing crews. Villa Park residents are advised to use these routes in preference to other local streets.

STREET	FROM	To
SUNSET	Lincoln	Harvard
PLEASANT	Westwood	Westmore
VERMONT	Westmore	Villa
PLYMOUTH	Westmore	Villa
St. Charles	Westmore	Route 83
SCHOOL	Addison	Ardmore
HIGHLAND	Ardmore	Route 83
WASHINGTON	Addison	Route 83
MADISON	Addison	Route 83
JACKSON	Addison	Summit
WESTMORE	Terrace	North Avenue
ADDISON	St. Charles	Sidney
HARVARD	St. Charles	Jackson
ARDMORE	North Avenue	13th Street
SUMMIT	Kenilworth	Harrison
VILLA	North Avenue	Roosevelt